



THE PROCLAIMER

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
4155 PICKLE ROAD + OREGON, OH 43616

CHURCH PHONE 419-691-9407
PRESCHOOL PHONE 419-693-8661

WEBSITE: WWW.PRINCEOFPEACEOREGON.COM



December, 2020

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9:6-7

"Be Prepared!" is the well-known Boy Scout motto. (Full disclosure: I was never a Boy Scout, but my mom was a Den Mother when my brother was a Cub Scout.) Whether or not you have ever had connection with the Scouts, "Be Prepared" is a good way to be. As we approach December each year, it seems that everyone is preparing. We string up lights, make lists, and shop. We prepare to decorate, which, in itself, is preparation to celebrate. Usually, we are either preparing our homes to receive guests or preparing ourselves to travel.

This year, we ask, "How do we prepare?" We have our preparation traditions (1st Wednesday in Advent – eat chili and decorate the church... but what about this year?) Preparation has more unknowns this year. How can we have our traditional parties and concerts? Even if we do, should we prepare for less people (because people are being safe) or more (because something is happening)? What will the celebration of Christmas look like? How can we possibly be prepared?

In our wonderings of how to prepare for this unusual year, we are in good company. As Zechariah was performing his traditional priestly duties, God's messenger Gabriel brought him news to prepare for a baby in the house. Zechariah asked how this could possibly happen as he and his wife were old. (Luke 1:5-25) As Mary was preparing for the wonderful role of traditional wife, Gabriel told her to prepare to be mother to the Son of God. She wondered how this could be as she was not yet married. (Luke 1:26-38) After months of silent reflection, Zechariah praised God for his son's role as prophet of the Most High. Mary answered simply, "*let it be to me according to your word.*"

Our traditions will look different this year. Most of the parties, concerts, and events we look forward to will be virtual or missing. Many of our family gatherings will be smaller, by zoom, or a simple telephone call saying "see you next year." But God's preparations are the same. We may or may not clean our homes to prepare for guests, but God's cleansing in baptism remains. We may or may not prepare large meals, but God continues to feed us in His Supper. Our celebrations may look different, but the focus remains. God the Father, in His mercy has sent His Son to be born, die, and rise again for you. The message of the angels given to the shepherds remains for you: *Unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.* And nothing can change this good news.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor John

BIBLE READINGS FOR WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

November 29	First Sunday in Advent	Joshua 1:1-9	Colossians 3:15-17	Luke 1:26-38
December 6	Second Sunday in Advent	Psalm 141:1-2	1 Timothy 2:1-6	Luke 1:5-25
December 13	Third Sunday in Advent	Psalm 138:1-8	Philippians 4:4-8	Luke 1:39-56
December 20	Fourth Sunday in Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11		Luke 3:1-9, 15-18
December 27	First Sunday after Christmas	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40

WORSHIP THEMES IN DECEMBER

Sermon themes: Prepare

November 29: Prepare: Ponder like Mary

December 6: Prepare: Pray like Zechariah

December 13: Prepare: Praise like Elizabeth

December 20: Prepare: Proclaim like John

December 27: Prepared and Waiting

BIBLE STUDY IN DECEMBER

*Ordinary People – Extraordinary God
In the Scriptures and through The Nativity Story*



Hungry for the Word of God? “Zoe” means “life” and Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life” (John 6:35). Come enjoy time together digesting the Word. 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. and Facebook Live around 7:20. Resumes in January.



CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve (December 24th) Services:
(all services the same with variety in music)
4:00 – with hymns
6:00 – acoustic
7:30 – praise band
9:00 – with hymns
11:00 – praise band

Members are encouraged to sign up as a family so we may ensure proper space for guests at all services. Through our website, princeofpeaceoregon.com, go to the sign-up. There are slots for 10 families at each service, which allows guests to sit at the other end of pews with smaller families. Overflow seating will be available in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. All services will also be on Facebook live (Prince of Peace Luth Church).

Advent Wednesday Devotions and Family Activities

“O Come, Emmanuel – the Way, the Truth, and the Life”

December 2 – 6:30 PM - Devotion

7:00 - Decorate the church

December 9 – 6:30 PM - Devotion

7:00 - Family Advent Craft

December 18 – 6:30 PM - Devotion and Christmas Carol Sing

NATIVITY EXTRAVAGANZA

December 19th, at 7:00 p.m. Enjoy numerous Nativity displays and the Living Nativity!

(Costumes and practice Sunday, December 13th at 12:00)

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

December 19th, beginning at 8:00 a.m. **Help shop, pack, and deliver Christmas baskets for local families in need.**



Advent Sunday theme:

Prepare: Ponder, Pray, Praise, Proclaim

Sunday Morning Bible Study:

Ordinary People – Extraordinary Plan

Advent Wednesday Devotions:

O Come, Emmanuel

We are now gathering for all services indoors.

As with many things in life today, this decision was met with great joy and great concern. The decision to move inside was made with much conversation and even more prayer - especially considering our brothers and sisters who should not or will not meet indoors at this time.

Please continue to follow safe procedures in Christian care for others:

- If you are not feeling well, stay home and join in worship online
- If you are in a higher-risk health category, stay home and join in worship online
- If you gather in person for worship, wear a face covering
- If you gather in person for worship, engage in fellowship keeping a safe distance
- Above all, keep your brothers and sisters in prayer

Please respect others' level of comfort with gathering, wearing face coverings, etc. There are many reasons for each person's choices. As we continue in this process, we live together in God's grace. Freely you have received, freely give. (Matthew 10)

Each week, bulletins are available to download from the website for those worshipping online or gathering in person.

Throughout the past months, we have been in prayer and discussion about the Lord's vision for Prince of Peace. Our God continues to be at work in 2020! The Overall Vision Plan has been given to Elders and Mission and Ministry Council. As our Leadership refines the vision and takes the first steps, continue to keep them and the process in your prayers. Your input and conversation over the past many months have been invaluable! This is the Lord's Vision for all His people at Prince of Peace -- watch for even more ways to participate as the Vision is narrowed and the work increases!!



The mini food pantry at the southwest corner of the parking lot has been open for the past 4 weeks. It has been stocked 2-3 times a week, so it is definitely getting used! Once, while stocking it (the last week of October), an older lady stopped to get a few items. This was her second visit and she related how grateful she was for the pantry. "I am on a limited income and can't drive very far, so this helps me out."

The most popular food items in the pantry seem to be cereal, canned tuna, canned chicken, Spaghettios, peanut butter, jelly, baby food, fruit cups and juice boxes. Toiletry items are always in demand! Popular items are diapers, toilet paper, shampoo, deodorant, laundry soap, dish soap, toothpaste and body soap. Thank you, POP family, for your contributions!

Catechism – Same God, Same Faith, New Process

Last year, we have started a new process for Catechism (First Communion and Confirmation) at Prince of Peace. All students entering 4th-8th grade who have not yet completed First Communion Instruction and/or Confirmation are encouraged to attend with a parent.



Student Confirmation classes are on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Families meet once a month. Confirmation/Family meetings resume in January.

First Communion classes – contact Pastor John to schedule a class for your student.

POP Vision Coordination Team: You may contact Seth Alder, 419-509-9888, mr1alder@gmail.com; Wendy Alder, 419-346-1684, wdalder69@gmail.com; Levi Halka, 567-377-7278, Levi.Halka@rockets.utoledo.edu; Richard and Linda Stanley, 419-450-0392, sillysally@bex.net; Erin Stine, 419-450-9749, Erinlynn584@yahoo.com; Lyle Stine, 419-340-7818, Steamfitter2010@yahoo.com and Lauren Roe, 419-654-2736, laurenroe89@gmail.com.

Cherry Street Mission Team:

Collections are suspended – please feel free to drop off needed items directly to CSM.



Knit and Pray:

Do you know someone who is going through a hard time and would appreciate knowing that Jesus is with them? Please give them one of the prayer coverings and a printed prayer paper to let them know they are not alone. **Knit and pray is suspended for now. Next meeting is tbd.**

MISSION UPDATES:

As we missed several months of being together for regular worship, we also missed time with our missionaries. We look forward to the times when regular travel resumes and our world-wide missionaries are able to join us more regularly to share God's work.

This time of pandemic has been especially difficult and uncertain for missionaries. As we all rely on God for all needed things in life, please consider a special gift if you are able to help support one or more of our missionaries.

Some updates:

We enjoyed a visit from Becky Kuelker in October and Joe Boway in November. We pray for the Lord's continuing work through the Kuelkers in Mexico and Liberian Children's Ministry!

We look forward to the possibility of hosting more of our missionaries soon. Pray that the Lord will continue to open doors for His Word for all nations!

Miguel and Rachel Gonzalez are back in St. Louis for their final year of seminary. Keep them in prayer as they prepare for public ministry!

Mark and Dana Renner conclude their time in St. Louis and look forward to Mark's first call to Hosanna Lutheran Church in Columbia Station, Ohio. We pray for the Renner family and God's family at Hosanna.

For updated news on all our missionaries and Adopt-a-Students, check the Missions Wall at Prince of Peace.

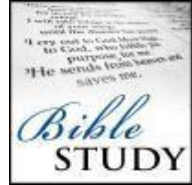
We are supporting two Seminary students – Mark (Dana) Renner and Miguel (Rachel) Gonzalez. If you would like to send them a personal note of encouragement, please contact the office and we will get you their address!



We are taking orders for pavers for the Memorial Garden. There are two sizes - 4x8; 2 lines; \$75 and 8x8; 2 lines; \$125. Additional lines can be added for \$10. You can do up to three lines on the 4x8 and 4 lines on the 8x8. All proceeds will go into the Memorial Fund. Questions? Contact Cathy Reichow at creichow@danrsauto.com.

Adult Bible Studies:

- ✦ **SUNDAY** Adult Bible Study – Sundays, 9:20 a.m. – “Ordinary People – Extraordinary God” – in the Scriptures and through the Nativity Story
- ✦ **ZOE BIBLE STUDY** – at 7:00 p.m., the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month – Zoe Bible Study – resumes in January.
- ✦ **TUESDAY WEEKLY READINGS STUDY** – 9:00 a.m. at PoP – and on Facebook Live
- ✦ **THURSDAY MEN’S BIBLE STUDY** at 7:00 p.m., the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month – resumes in January
- ✦ **THURSDAY WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** at 7:00 p.m., the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month – Love Rules resumes in January
- ✦ **NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS** – for those wishing to learn more about being a Christian, Lutheran, and member of Prince of Peace. A new class will begin soon. Questions or sign up – talk with Pastor John.



Men of the Church:

MEN’S PRAYER BREAKFAST MONTHLY

Plan to get your weekend started on the right foot on the first Saturday of each month by attending the Men’s monthly Prayer Breakfast.

- ✓ Each month enjoy a good breakfast (our cooks are great).
- ✓ Pray for each other and for Prince of Peace

Congregation.

- ✓ We hope to see more men join us for this great time of fellowship.

Men’s Bible Study is on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Resumes in January.



Women of the Church:

THURSDAY WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY is on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m., the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. The Women’s Bible study is Love Rules and resumes in January. Contact Jodi Halka or Amy Genszler for information.



MITE COLLECTION

Please remember to bring in your MITE boxes at any time and drop them in the “big Mite Box” at the Information Table in the lobby! A supply of new Mite Boxes will be here soon. Watch for them on the table next to the large mite box in the narthex.



OLD GLASSES and CASES [an LWML project]

There is a box on the table near the entrance in which you can place any old eyeglasses and cases that you would like to discard. (One person’s junk is another person’s treasure.) These items are donated to MOST [Mission Opportunities Short Term], a LCMS Ministry working with many congregations in Michigan and Ohio, who fit them with new lenses and take thousands of pairs of glasses giving them to many folks, in countries where optical services are non-existent. This is an opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

November 22nd: Congregational Meeting - THANK YOU to all of our Ministry Team Leaders for your faithful service over this strange year. Your continuing service and leadership helps us all focus on Christ and the work the Holy Spirit calls us to. THANK YOU to our staff whose tireless efforts have continued in many more ways often unseen. The faithful work of our leaders and staff has ensured that the Prince of Peace family continues Sharing Jesus - Living His Love through discipleship at home and in community! THANK YOU!!!!



FLOWERS!!! WE HAVE MANY OPEN FLOWER DATES!!! PLEASE SIGN UP! *Flowers are \$30 per weekend.* Thank you!

FLOWER VASES: When you take your Sunday altar flowers home, please return the plastic cup liners to the church so that we can use them again. Thank you!

Please be sure to pay for altar flowers if you signed up to provide them. The cost is \$30.00 per Sunday and is payable to Prince of Peace. Use a pew envelope and indicate it is for altar flowers. Thanks for your cooperation. If you haven't paid, and it's been at least 2 weeks since your flowers were on the altar, Julie will place a reminder envelope with the date of your flower placement in your mailbox.

**Official Acts November:
None**

Properties Team: We need volunteers for the Properties Team to do minor repairs. Please contact Dan or Cathy Reichow with any questions at 419-392-1470 or danrsauto@aol.com



ELDERS IN TOUCH.... our Elders Ministry Team is organized to be in touch with our members. They are working at contacting all of our members on a regular basis. Here is a listing of our elders and the alphabetical groups to which they are assigned. Feel free to contact Pastor John, or one of our elders if we can serve you.

a. Tom Smith	419-343-8553	(Alder > Coffey)
b. Bob Roe	419-266-5426	(Cornell > Geldien)
c. Mark Sattler	419-699-7723	(Genszler > Sam Jones)
d. Lyle Stine	419-340-7818	(Sue Jones > Kate Mayer)
e. Gary Garbers	419-693-7651	(Mays > Peters)
f. Jim Bragg	419-690-2608	(Pfefferle > Sarns)
g. Don Halka	567-377-2248	(Sattler > VanCamp)
h. Phil Miller	419-691-7727	(Vanderhorst > Zieroff)

*****As we prepare our newest directory, we need information! There are person and household forms in the office. Please take the time to fill these out so we have accurate records for statistical reporting, as well as for updated contact information. Turn into the office or give to Pastor John when you have completed. Thank you!!*****



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A DIGITAL COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER INSTEAD OF THE PAPER COPY BEING SENT TO YOUR HOME, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE SO WE CAN ADD YOU TO THE LIST WHO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR SAVING US COST – POSTAGE, PAPER, INK, MACHINE USE – AND TIME TO ASSEMBLE! ADDITIONALLY, PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR ADDRESS HAS CHANGED. THIS WILL ALSO SAVE US EXTRA POSTAGE COST.

Check out the website (www.princeofpeaceoregon.com):

- For more devotions
- For Bible Studies
- For worship materials
- Sermons, songs, and each week – bulletins to download



As we near the Christmas season, we remember the best present of all. God's gift of His Son, Jesus. This is one of our favorite months in the classroom. We want our preschoolers to understand the true meaning of Christmas. Some are un-churched. Some are hearing this story for the first time. We will tell the story in many ways. Story books, acting out in our dramatic play, songs and finger plays. What a gift it is to share the story of our Savior. But it is a joy to watch them understand and share the story in their own words. How blessed we are. Many blessings to all of you in the New Year! Merry Christmas!

Director/Teacher – Wendy Kelly
Teachers – Marianne Kelly and Jamie Campbell
Sub – Erin Stine
Preschool Phone: 419-693-8661



Sign Up Sheets on Bulletin Board:
Altar Flowers

Save Your Aluminum Beverage Cans and put them (crushed) in the bin by the church garage at the north end of the parking lot. This recycling project provides funds for our AGAPE FUND. **(No plastic bottles please – only aluminum!)**



Spread the News!!! We are pleased to announce that Prince of Peace has received thousands of dollars through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice* Program. By directing Choice Dollars®, eligible Thrivent members can recommend which nonprofit organizations they feel should receive charitable grant funding from Thrivent.

If you are an eligible member, please consider us when directing Choice Dollars.

To learn more about Thrivent Choice, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

Or call Thrivent at **800-847-4836** and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted.

IF YOU ARE A THRIVENT MEMBER, PLEASE LET US KNOW. YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO HELP US RECEIVE ADDITIONAL MISSION MONEY!!



God at Work

How has God been at work in your life?

God is at work in your life in big ways and small ways, through everyday occurrences and miracles. Let's encourage one another in God's work. Share a story of God's work in your life – maybe it's how God brought you to faith, maybe it's a "small" event recently or years past. Write a note or email. Put the story in Pastor John's mailbox or email him at pastorjohn@princeofpeaceoregon.com. (Your story will not be shared without your permission.)

Remember in Your Prayers:

+for healing – Russ Bell, Marilyn Brown, Delia Mestousis, Kate Mayer, Deb Hartke, Bob Roe, Mike Thanasiu, Rocco Donofrio, Sue Jones, Glendora Boway, Dwight Griffin, Kym Snyder, Carol Cicak, Tom Bragg, Jason Rhuland, Chris Peters, Sue Pfefferle, Bill Kelly, Carol Rigg, Paige Ozanski, Chuck Brinkman, Michael Wells, Becky Kuelker, Fred Bordner, Jean Newman, Vicki Melms, Steve Jones, Pat Miller, Pam Downour, John Danford, Joyce Smith, Barbara Camp, Deanna Snyder, Don Williams, Lyle Brinkman, Richard Stanley, Jim Fennewald

(Please contact the office if you would like someone added to the prayer list, or no longer would like your name on the list.)



+ for those dealing with the reality of the pandemic for friends and family

+for your church – our vision and leaders and the commitment to follow God's will

+for those serving in the armed forces – Ty Garbers, Ricky Pratt, Cole Pollex, Andrew Genszler

+for our missionaries –

- Pastor Tim Heiney, Global Lutheran Outreach in Guinea, West Africa
- Pastor Dave Erber, LCMS missionary in Nigeria, West Africa
- Mike and Becky Kuelker, IAM missionaries in Mexico
- Joe Boway, New Life Lutheran Church missionary to the children in Liberia
- POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach), a mission to Muslims
- Cherry Street Ministries, Toledo
- The Pregnancy Center, Toledo
- Rachel Meyer, LCMS missionary in Uganda, East Africa

+our 'adopted' seminary students –

- Miguel and Rachel Gonzalez
- Mark and Dana Renner



December Activities at PoP

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Every Saturday/Sunday Schedule 5:30 PM (Saturday) Worship 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Youth Time 2:00 PM A.A.						
		1 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	2 6:30 PM – Devotion and Decorate the Church (7:00 PM)	3	4	5 8:00 AM – Men's Breakfast
6	7 7:00 PM – Youth Praise Team Practice	8 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	9 6:30 PM – Devotion and Family Advent Craft (7:00 PM)	10	11	12
13 12:00 PM – Nativity Extravaganza practice	14 7:00 PM – Youth Praise Team Practice	15 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	16 6:30 PM – Devotion and Christmas Carol Sing	17	18	19 8:00 AM – Christmas basket prep and delivery 7:00 PM – Nativity Extravaganza
20	21 7:00 PM – Youth Praise Team Practice	22 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship – 4, 6, 7:30, 9 and 11 p.m. *****Sign up online for services*****	25	26
27	28 7:00 PM – Youth Praise Team Practice	29 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	30	31		

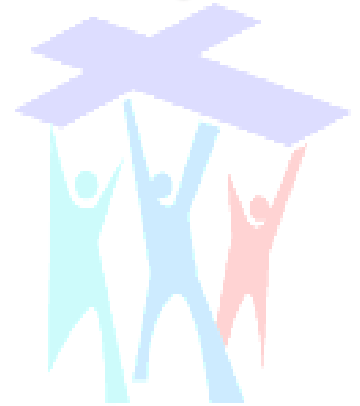
December Birthdays and *Anniversaries*

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 <i>Dan and Cathy Reichow</i>	2	3 Vicki Dupke	4 Bob Young	5
6 Diana Miller	7 Colton Repp Marilyn Brown	8 Ron Blausey Sam Jones	9	10 Don Halka Jennifer Zeh Samiah Henneman	11	12 Kay Garbers Phoebe Lants
13	14 Ethan Stine Kathy Fletcher	15 Bob Roe Paige Ozanski Paul Pagel	16 Floyd Rose	17 Mike Thanasiu Quin Richards	18 <i>Paul and Kelly Pagel</i>	19
20 Alexandra Spears	21 Randy Ames	22	23 Judy Young	24 Marcia Breier	25	26
27	28	29 Andy Hartke	30 Leah VanCamp Matt Disher	31 Cathy Reichow	1	2 Nathaniel Miller

Volunteer Schedule for December 2020	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Greeters	*	*
Ushers	*	*
Readers	*	*
Acolytes	*	*
Communion Servers (Bread)	*	*
Communion Servers (Wine)	*	*
Altar Guild	*	*
Pew Care	*	
Goodies:	As we gather indoors for worship again, if you are willing to serve, please contact Julie or Pastor John.	



Discipleship at Home and in Community



We have many faithful people at Prince of Peace willing to serve in many ways. If you have served or are willing to serve in worship, please turn in an I/T survey. Encourage others in the ways they can serve, too. If you do not fill out a sheet, we have to assume you are no longer able to serve in that capacity. Let's encourage one another in the many ways we can serve the Lord together gladly!

***If you would like to help in any of these areas, contact Pastor John. Thanks!!**

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
4155 Pickle Road
Oregon, OH 43616

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Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

4155 Pickle Road
Oregon, Ohio 43616
(At the corner of Pickle and Lallendorf Roads)
Phone: 419-691-9407

Saturday Worship: 5:30 PM
Sunday School: 9:15 AM
Sunday Worship: 8:00 and 10:30 AM
"Discipleship at Home and in Community!"

Check us out on the web at: www.princeofpeaceoregon.com

