



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



January, 2021

*Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.*

*²³ They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.*

*²⁴ I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion;
therefore I will wait for him." Lamentations 3:22-24*

"5...4...3...2...1...*Happy New Year!*" Do you enjoy the familiar sights and sounds of the Crystal Ball dropping in Times Square on New Year's Eve? This year, more than most, many people have expressed a desire to begin the new year. For most of this year we have heard, "Is it 2021, yet?" I have concerns, however, that people have unrealistic expectations. Some seem to think that January 1, 2021 will see the skies clearing, masks disappearing from faces, creation returning to 2019 as if 2020 were a bad dream.

But time does not work that way for us. We cannot go backward, only forward. And one new day is really not any different from the next new day. 12:01am January 1 is really no different from 12:01 December 31.

At this point, you may be saying "Pastor, that's very pessimistic. Are we doomed to just repeat each year like Groundhog Day? Where is the hope? Where is God's gospel?"

But recognizing January 1 as no different from any other day is actually not pessimistic at all – it is the farthest thing from it. Stop and think about 2020 with open eyes and heart. Was every day bad? No! God gave great blessings to us (individually, as His family, and in the world). Our days and certain events may have turned out different from what we planned, but that is no different from any year. "*Many plans are in a person's mind, but the Lord's purpose will succeed.*" Proverbs 19:21

God has never been held to our plans or our calendar. January 1 is a new year only as we mark time. For God, New Year's Day is no different from any other day, so there is no need to wait for it. You do not need to wait for 2021. You do not need to wait for that other person to do or say.... You do not need to wait until... You do not need to wait. We wait only on the Lord because *His mercy is new each morning.*

Do we face troubles in our days, yes. And 2020 was no different. And 2021 will not be, either. But God says to us (as He did to Paul), "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." II Corinthians 12:9 There is no promise that 2021 will be a perfect year. But we do not look to the year to be made perfect. There will be good days and bad days – and in them all, we have a perfect God who promises His presence, His love, and His mercy. Therefore, every day we are able to say "*This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it!*" Psalm 118:24

Happy New Day,

Pastor John

BIBLE READINGS FOR WORSHIP IN JANUARY

January 3	Second Sunday after Christmas	Isaiah 60:1-6	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
January 10	Third Sunday after Christmas	Genesis 1:1-5	Romans 6:1-11	Mark 1:4-11
January 17	Fourth Sunday after Christmas	1 Samuel 3:1-10	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
January 24	Fifth Sunday after Christmas	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (32-35)	Mark 1:14-20
January 31	Sixth Sunday after Christmas	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28

WORSHIP THEMES IN JANUARY

Sermon themes: Prepare

December 27: Prepared and Waiting

January 3: Epiphany

January 10: Called – John the Baptist

January 17: Called – Samuel (Life Sunday)

January 24: Called – the Disciples

January 31: Called – to Preach

BIBLE STUDY IN JANUARY

December 27: The Star of Bethlehem

*January 3: The Star of Bethlehem and Beyond
Beginning January 10: Freedom in the One Gospel
– the Book of Galatians*

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. Beginning January 7th – Romans II.



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). Questions? Contact Pastor John or Julie.

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 2021! 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:

The POBLO missionary team in Columbus celebrated their first baptism in November. Praise God for His work! 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!

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 ordination in January and first call in February 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.

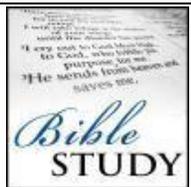
We are supporting two Seminary students – Mark (Dana) Renner and Miguel (Rachel) Gonzalez. If you would like to send them a personal note of encouragement, please contact the office and we will get you their address!



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. – “Star of Bethlehem and Beyond” and, beginning January 10th – Freedom in the One Gospel – the Book of Galatians
- ✝ **ZOE BIBLE STUDY** – at 7:00 p.m., the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month – Zoe Bible Study – Romans II
- ✝ **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
- ✝ **THURSDAY WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** at 7:00 p.m., the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month – Love Rules
- ✝ **NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS** – for those wishing to learn more about being a Christian, Lutheran, and member of Prince of Peace. **A new class starts in January.** 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.

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 December:

Baptism:

Kasen Elden Lorah, infant son of Glen Lorah and Kelly Keiser

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



Hope you all had a Happy Christmas. A big thank you to our prayer pals, your prayers for our sick families, nurses on the front lines, and gifts. Your generosity never ceases to amaze me. We are hoping to return to school this month. Stay safe and healthy and have a new year full of many blessings.

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

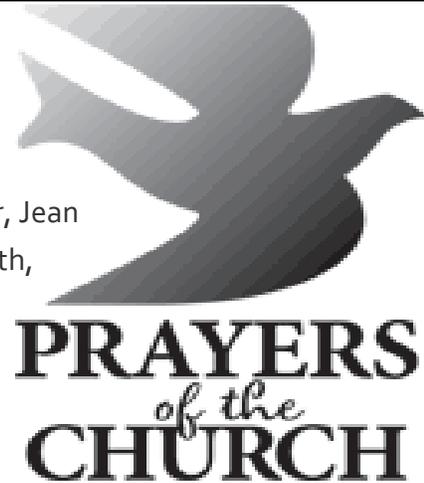
How has God been at work in your life? God is at work in your life in big ways and small ways, through everyday occurrences and miracles. Let's encourage one another in God's work. Share a story of God's work in your life – maybe it's how God brought you to faith, maybe it's a "small" event recently 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, Stacy Galla

+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

January 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	2 8:00 AM – Men's Breakfast
3	4 7:00 PM – Youth Praise Team Practice Elders Meeting	5 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	6	7 7:00 PM – Zoe Bible Study	8	9
10	11 7:00 PM – Youth Praise Team Practice	12 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	13	14 7:00 PM – Men's and Women's Bible Studies 7:00 PM - Confirmation	15	16
17	18 7:00 PM – Youth Praise Team Practice MM Council	19 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	20	21 7:00 PM – Zoe Bible Study	22	23
24/31	25 7:00 PM – Youth Praise Team Practice	26 9:00 AM – Weekly Readings Study 7:00 PM – Praise Team Practice	27	28 7:00 PM – Men's and Women's Bible Studies 7:00 PM - Confirmation	29	30

January Birthdays and *Anniversaries*

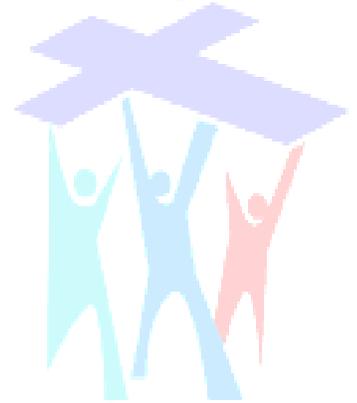
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2 Nathaniel Miller
3 Karen Coffey Samantha Smith	4 Emily Hartke	5	6	7 Ben Genszler	8 Christopher Hoover	9
10 Laura Roe	11 Mason Shafer Tom Jones	12 Heidi Christy	13 Lydia Maletich	14 Sierra Vanderhorst	15 Brandon McCoy Deanna Snyder Sue VanCamp	16
17 Judy Brower	18 Dolly Ames	19 Cathy Workman Jay Pollex	20 Andy Laurell	21 Jacob Stine	22	23
24 Kattie Richards	25	26 Ron Wells	27	28 Kevin Pfefferle	29	30
31 Alyssa Disher Demetris Mestousis <i>Tom and Denise Wells</i>						

2021

Volunteer Schedule for January 2021	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Greeters	*	*
Ushers	*	*
Readers	*	*
Acolytes	*	*
Communion Servers (Bread)	*	*
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

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
CURTICE, OHIO

PERMIT 1126

Address Service Requested

"Proclaimer"

Volume 76, No. 1

January 2021



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

