



Tidings of Peace

September 2023

Volume XXV1V Number 9

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church ♦ 1747 W. Milham Avenue, Portage, MI 49024 ♦ 269-343-3453 ♦ popportage.org

Pastor's Page

*"Touched by
the Gospel,
we seek to be
instruments of
God's Peace,
for the sake
of the world."*

I love the changes fall brings! The beautiful, bright leaves; the cooler temperatures in the air; the way all creation bursts forth in fruitfulness before preparing for a long winter's nap.

This fall brings some changes for us at Prince of Peace, too. We're changing our Sunday morning schedule to better meet the needs of many of our families with younger children. We're experiencing changes to our staff as Scottie and Megan have transitioned off and Em begins picking up more hours with us. And, like any community of faith, we experience all the changes happening in each other's lives and the world around us. All this change can feel scary!

When it comes to change, we can either listen to our fears and resist doing anything new in hopes that the change will just go away or we can trust God to work through that change and greet it as an opportunity to follow Jesus in a new way.

When we choose to trust God, we might still feel some fear. That's natural. Trusting God means we listen for Jesus' voice over the voice of our fear and strive to discern what Jesus wants us to do, not what seems least scary. It's holy, faithful, fruitful work – especially when we do it together.

There are many ways we do this work of listening for Jesus together (also called *discernment*) at Prince of Peace:

Church council meets monthly to share God Moments, receive reports from committee and staff leaders, and make important decisions for our congregation's life and future. Council members wear gold lanyards with their nametags on Sundays and their pictures are on a bulletin board in the main hallway on the office side of the building leading back to the classrooms. You can talk with anyone on the council about anything concerning our life together.

Church staff members are available throughout the week to answer questions and offer help. You can also reach us most Sundays after worship and by e-mail. If you desire a long conversation about something, calling during the week or scheduling a time to talk with us is usually best.

Committee leaders, whose names are often in the newsletter along with articles or announcements about upcoming events, are available for conversation in their particular areas of ministry. They'd love to welcome you to a meeting if you have an idea or question for a larger group. If you're not sure who leads a particular committee, a staff member can help you connect.

Continued on page 3

Staff

Pastor: Ext 13

Rachel Laughlin

pastorrachel@popportage.org

Administrative Assistant: Ext 10

Tamara Preston

secretary@popportage.org

Accountant Ext 17

Marilyn Storch

accountant@popportage.org

Technology Manager Ext 15

Mike Whately

technology@popportage.org

Engagement & CYF

Em Wittween

engage@popportage.org

Director of Music:

Janet Hill

Custodian:

Steve Haddix

custodian@popportage.org

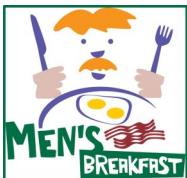
 September 

What's Happening at POP!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Meets **Friday, September 1 at 10 AM** in the Social Hall.

If you or someone you know would like a shawl, or for more information about becoming a prayer shawl creator, please contact Dianne Hellman, 323-9392.



Men's Breakfast!

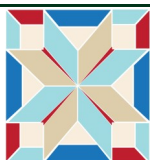
8:00 AM, Wednesday, September 13
Michelle's on Romance Rd. in Portage.

Join Pastor Rachel for breakfast, prayer, and conversation.

Tell them you're with Prince of Peace. We've got the back room reserved.

Quilters

Tuesdays, September 5 and 19 at 9:30 AM
Where: POP Social Hall



Not sure you can sew well enough to participate? Don't worry! Many of our quilters learned their skills from others in the group because they wanted to contribute to this ministry that provides warmth, security, and shelter to people around the world. They're happy to teach you, too. Contact Sheryl for more information: 267-6274.

Ladies Lunch Bunch meets Tuesday, September 19

Meet at 11:45am at Fletcher's Pub,
6946 W Q Ave., Kalamazoo

Questions? Car pool? Need a ride?
Contact Dianne Hellman, 323-9392.

This is a great time for good food and fellowship.
Hope to see you there.



BREAD AND BREAKFAST SATURDAY, September 9

Bread construction will begin at 7:00 a.m. and breakfast will be served at about 9:00 a.m. Come and bake bread, or just come for the breakfast and conversation...it's all good!

For more information, or to be included on the mailing list, talk with Wade Lawrence at church, email him at wade.b.lawrence@gmail.com, or call him at (269) 353-9885. We hope to see you there!

When: Tuesday, September 12 at 1 PM
Where: POP Social Hall

Just a few rolls of the dice and you'll have this fun game mastered!

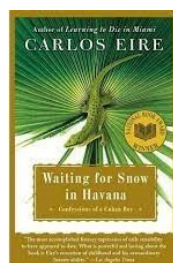
Bunko is easy to learn and offers wonderful opportunities for conversation and connection with others.

Call Carla Hannemann at 269/216-3498 for more information.



Prince of Peace Book Club

The POP Book Club will meet **September 20 at 10:00am.**



We will have a guest speaker who has a personal history of coming to the US from Cuba as a child like the boy in "Waiting for Snow in Havana" (our book for Sept).

Anyone is welcome to join us.

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP

Welcome Fall 2023 - New Beginnings!!

Meeting Monday, September 7, 7:15 pm, Social Hall

We begin our discussion on **Poverty, By America** by Matthew Desmond

Would love to have **YOU** join us!!
We need **YOU!!** Should be an interesting discussion!!

All women welcome!!!

Pastor's newsletter article cont.

On occasion, we will seek input through a **congregational survey** (this is how we discerned the specifics for our new Sunday schedule). These are most often sent out online so it is easy for people to send in responses. *Make sure you're signed up for our e-mail list* or let the office know you don't have e-mail access so we can send you a paper version.

I am excited for all the signs of God at work among us that I get to witness in this community. The Spirit is on the move in teenagers who can run the livestream and serve on the altar guild. Jesus rejoices in the voices of children happily coloring and singing during worship, knowing they are loved when they are in this community. God speaks through the voices of our elders who share their stories and experiences during Bible studies and book groups. The world learns the peace and love of God through countless acts of generosity and kindness that you share each and every day. The harvest is plentiful indeed!

Shalom,
Pastor Rachel

Thank You's

To Prince of Peace, my family in faith, thank you.

There are really no words that can adequately contain my feelings of gratitude and love for you. You are an incredible and supportive community. Over the years, you have encouraged me to prayerfully discern the gifts God gave me and how God might be calling me. You supported my discernment even after it became apparent that, eventually, I would have to step away to continue honoring those gifts and answering God's call.

As I go, I carry with me the lessons and love collected from all the various retreats, service projects, mission trips, Sunday school classes, worship services, conversations over coffee, and even the disagreements that we worked to resolve. These, and all the other ways we have built community will stay with me because, through it all, you have been Christ for me, as I hope I have been Christ for you.

I am bolstered by your support and encouragement as I take this next step in faith. I know that the Holy Spirit surrounds us both, and while I cannot know fully what God has planned for me, I do know that you will continue to thrive as a faith community, sharing God's love with others.

Finally, I am comforted in my assurance that we will always remain connected through Christ – we are one body, and we belong to each other. You are a blessing to me, now and always.

With love and gratitude, Megan



A big thank you to the individuals who donated welcome baskets to the young adults who enter the Samaritas Independent Living homes in Kalamazoo.

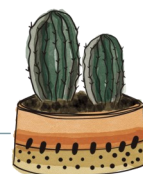
There are two homes (boys and girls). These young adults have aged out of the foster care system and the homes provide a place for them to live as they start the next phase of their lives. Thanks to Sherry Webster, Idy Stemely, Micki Holder, Lori Hannemann, and Claudia Lee for filling these baskets to get the lives of these young people off to a good start.

Joyce Stout

Thank you all for your prayers, support, and encouragement as I prepared for and went through surgery to have my gallbladder removed. I appreciate every card, kind word, story shared in empathy, all the meals, and the lovely prayer shawl!

I am truly blessed to have such a loving, compassionate, and generous community of faith around me.

Shalom, Pastor Rachel



THANK YOU



Social Concerns Spotlight on . . . September Update -

September 10 is God's Work.

Our Hands. Day!!

As you know it's the 10th Annual
ELCA Celebration of the event.

Here is the important information
you'll need to participate.

1. EVERYONE is welcome to come and serve. Bring your family, your kids, no matter the age (front carriers are great for the littlest ones), and your neighbors and friends. Age is not an issue, we have jobs. Dress appropriately, especially if you will work in the Garden or on the Refugee team.

2. Sign up for jobs you'd like to help with on GWOH's day (or don't sign up and just join a group).

- Work Groups include:
- Jubilee Garden work with Mark Clyne
- LWR Quilt Tying with Joeline Pederson & Martha Irons
- Plyarning with Claudia Lee and friends
- Prayer Shawl knitting and crocheting with Diane Helman and friends.
- Assembling LWR School Backpack Kits with Sheryl Swodzinski and Tamara Preston
- Assembling Health Care Kits with Laura Bovenkerk and Family.
- Refugee project work with Paul MacNellis.
- Packing and Labeling with Marti Haug and Thom Cooper

3. Lunch will be ready right after worship, so eat and power up before we begin to work.

Fellowship will be serving sloppy joes, chips, veggies, watermelon, cookies, and other goodies.

4. This is our main opportunity to serve those in need all over the world through Lutheran World Relief.

Will you help our neighbors?

It takes 4-5 people to help this ministry.
Please sign-up and **arrive by 12:30 to help set up. Sign up is on the website.**
<https://popportage.org/pages/food-distribution-signup>



Our goals for GWOH 2023 are:

400+ Health Care Kits

200+ School Backpack Kits

115+ Quilts

Preparing our Jubilee Garden for Fall and Winter

Restoring/repairing our refugee supplies

Securing prayer shawls and plyarn mats for those in need.

Additional SAVE THE DATES:

1. October 5 - Discover Open Doors Luncheon - noon to 1pm - Radisson, Kalamazoo Free

2. October 11 - Project Connect 2023 - PoP sponsors a Free Store - Kalamazoo Fairgrounds -noon-3pm

If you would like to attend/or help at either of these events, contact any Social Concerns Team member or Claudia Lee.

Team Members:

Marti Haug, Yvonne Gatz, Joyce Stout, Mark Clyne, Betsy & Dennis Stalker, Sheryl Swodzinski, Paul MacNellis, Lynne Wathen.



CHANGES IN OUR REFUGEE MINISTRY PROGRAM

Since we have settled the Afghanis, the incoming refugees are fewer and farther between. As are the donations from the community.

So Prince of Peace will shift its focus to the furniture end of the ministry. We will still accept some household items, but mostly we will be looking for sofas, end tables, coffee tables, dining room tables, lamps and dressers.

Paul MacNellis will still manage the space and help with pick ups and deliveries as he is able .



Fellowship News



*"For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own;
and we magnify its strictness with a zeal
God would not own."*

Fredrick Faber

Happy September from the fellowship committee!

We have a lot coming up, so plan to join us for one of our activities to share some time with your POP family!

God's Work, Our Hands day is coming up Sunday, September 10th! Stay after service to help lend a hand to various projects that POP is involved in that help send support throughout the world. This is an uplifting day where just a small amount of time can make a huge difference in the lives of others and spread the reach of God's love! Lunch will be provided .

Take a peaceful river float on Saturday, September 23 at 10:00AM at the Foster's House. Grab a kayak, canoe or other flotation device of your choosing for morning of laughter and fun! Then stay for lunch after at 12:00PM. For further details, please contact Sandy Foster.



It isn't too late to get on the POP summer reads!

Sharon Mondragon, the author of the *Unlikely Yarn of the Dragon Lady*, will be joining us VIA Zoom on Wednesday, October 4th at 7PM. The meeting will be hybrid, you can join us in person in the Social Hall or online. This charming book has even inspired some POP members to start knitting! Grab a copy on your favorite reading platform and see what all the fuss is about!

Also in October, **our all church retreat has finally been rescheduled to October 14!** POP and Immanuel Lutheran will be welcoming Janene Ternes as a facilitator for a wonderful program entitled "Nourishing Your Soul." In these difficult times, take some time for God and learn how to fill your spiritual cup through reflection and peace. This will be an event that will provide spiritual tools to guide us through the world and our own lives. Do not miss it! Lunch will be provided.

The Fellowship committee is establishing a regular meeting time on the fourth Monday of the month at 5:30PM. The meetings will be hybrid so you can attend whichever way is more convenient for you. We are looking for new faces and new ideas as well as ways to continue to organize our annual events that encourage our relationships and friendship here at POP! Even if you can only help with one event a year, please consider joining us. Everyone is welcome!

As always, keep a look out in the Gathering Space for sign ups for all of our events! Any questions, please feel free to reach out to Tammy Cooper, Tamara Preston or Gail MacNellis.

Lastly, just a note about this month's quote. You may find this quote a bit familiar if you attended service recently, this was the 3rd verse of the hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" that we sang on August 20th. *God's love is all around us, and one of his greatest gifts is the gift of friendship!*

Big thanks to Trivia Master Wade

and our Fellowship Committee leaders who put together a wonderful evening of brain-busting fun last night! We had over 60 participants and raised over \$1000 for our Good Samaritan Fund!



Thanks also to our team of youth who provided snacks and drinks and helped the evening go so smoothly! We hope the Table 1 winners enjoyed their grand prize cookies!

More pictures from
Trivia Night on
page 11.



Educational Opportunities

Kaleidoscope in Christ

Five-week Study with the NWLM Synod

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, Sept. 20

Join Samuel Brink and Pastor Bruce Thorsen for a five-week study focusing on resources that educate and deepen cultural competency regarding racial equity, our indigenous neighbors, and the LGBTQIA+ community. *This study will be held via Zoom on Sundays from 4:00-5:00pm ET. It will run for five weeks from September 24 - October 22, 2023.*

If you'd like to participate via Zoom from home, go to <https://www.mittensynod.org/event/kaleidoscope-in-christ/> to register as an individual.

If you'd like to participate by joining an in-person Zoom watching group at Prince of Peace, sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Space or by contacting the church office to be registered with the group.

Eucharistic Minister Training

Eucharistic Minister Training

Each week at the end of the communion liturgy we bless the home communion kits that our Eucharistic Ministers carry to those who are sick and homebound. These ministers extend God's table of grace beyond our building and into the homes of members who cannot always join us for worship in person. The both the ministers and the recipients of this ministry tell me they are grateful for the fellowship, hope, and love they receive through the sharing of God's holy meal.

If you've got transportation and an hour or two in a month, you can experience the joy of sharing Jesus' love with your siblings in Christ!

Join Pastor Rachel after worship on **Sunday, Sept. 24**, for a brief training. She'll take you through the whole process from signing up to make a visit, finding the supplies, visiting with those in need, and reporting back to the church office so we can keep accurate records. Visits can even be made in pairs or by whole families. All are welcome at Christ's table!

Adult Theological Education -

Luther's Small Catechism When Luther wrote that familiar question, "What does this mean?" he meant it! He wanted Christians to understand their faith and to see how God was at work in their lives, in the church, and in the world. Join the Rev. Dr. Kit Kleinhans, Dean of Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University, for a six-week study of Luther's catechisms. Let's dig deep into what God means for us! Before she was Dean at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Dr. Kleinhans taught religion, including Lutheran Confessions and History of Christianity, at Wartburg College for 25 years. A fifth-generation Lutheran pastor and a brilliant theologian and Luther scholar, Dr. Kleinhans cares about her students, the Church, and what it means to be Lutheran today. She has a pastor's heart and is capable of both the deeply esoteric and the foundationally concrete. The class will meet on six consecutive Tuesday evenings: October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28 from 7:00 - 8:15pm ET. This course is open to all adults, both lay-people and rostered ministers, and is free of charge. Sessions will be recorded and available to registered participants. Registration is required and will close on October 19, 2023. Register now: <https://forms.gle/DQu3F2QicSDrPjWp8> Additional information, including Zoom links, will be sent via email closer to the start of the course. If you have additional questions, please contact communications@mittensynod.org.



Eucharist Minister Training

Justice and Diversity

New Resources from the Prince of Peace Justice and Diversity Team

One way to be welcoming is to take the time to learn about the people we are welcoming. This month the POP Justice and Diversity (JD) Team is glad to have new resources to share.

Understanding LGBTQIA+

"Lutheran Introduction to Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Gender Expression," by Reconciling Works.

Have you wondered about the many terms being used around persons identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual/aromantic (LGBTQIA+)? Maybe you are familiar with some concepts, but not others. This short booklet introduces many terms and concepts used by folks in the LGBTQIA+ community. Copies are available in the Gathering Space. If you would like a copy sent to you, please reach out to Laila (Laila.Poisson@gmail.com).

"Reconciling Scripture for Lutherans: Sexuality and Gender Identity," by Austen Hartke and Emmy Kegler, published by Reconciling Works. Have you heard folks quote scripture to exclude or shame persons identifying as LGBTQIA+? How about scripture to welcome them? This little book was written by two people who are trained in theology through Lutheran seminaries. It looks at 8 "clobber passages" used to exclude people and 8 passages that show the "inclusive and expansive" welcome from God. Copies are available to borrow from the POP Library. If you need help accessing books from the library, please reach out to Micki Holder.

A note on the Reconciling Works program:

Designed by and for Lutherans they "advocate for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans." There were representatives from Reconciling Works at the synod assembly this year and Don Jones brought back some of their material for us to consider. The JD Team, Youth Ministry, and others reviewed the material and chose these two as a starting point for the people at POP. For more information and resources, check out: <https://www.reconcilingworks.org/>.

Understanding Homelessness and the Unhoused

A group of POP members who are passionate about the issue of housing met this summer. These folks were identified from the JD Team survey last fall, where housing was selected as an issue of interest for POP. A top priority for the group was to identify resources to help us understand issues around homelessness and what it means to be unhoused. They also wanted to call out groups in the Kalamazoo area that support people with housing concerns and groups that advocate for policy change around housing. You can find their resource list on our website <https://www.popportage.org/ministries/social-concerns/pages/justice-and-diversity>. Thank you to Dick Hewitt, Sue & Don Jones, Sue Stapleton and organizer Kathy Eklov, who worked on this resource list. If you are interested in joining this team, please reach out to Kathy Eklov.

This and That

Save the Date!

Youth Grades 8-12!

The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will be taking place July 16-20 in New Orleans, LA

Please contact Sarah Erdmann saraherd-mann@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in participating in this exciting event!

More info for newsletter

Deposit of \$100 deadline is October 1st

Watch your email for more details

Be on the lookout for a Mardi Gras themed fundraiser as well!



The church office will be closed on **Monday, September 4** for Labor Day.

We will reopen on Tuesday, September 5.

We will also begin our fall office hours that week.

M-Th 9-4, F 9-noon.

Council and Committees



Pastor Rachel noted how special POP is with two teens in key roles during worship on

Sunday, August 13. Verity Poisson served on Altar Guild and Alex Zimmerman did the video.

Deacon Call Committee: The Call Committee met recently. They have developed interview questions and are putting together a welcome packet. They are still waiting for candidate names from the Synod Office.

Audit Committee: The Audit Committee met and found our records to be in good order. They have made recommendations regarding computer password updates and turning off computers at the end of the workday. These two items are being addressed.

Outdoor Storage Barn: Paul MacNellis and Ray Isakson joined the August meeting to provide information and answer questions about building this storage facility. Paul recommended the 30x40 size as he estimates there is at least 600 sq. feet needed just for the things currently stored in the church. This will give us room to expand. The lawn equipment, grill and gas tanks would be stored in the back of the barn in a separate room. Ray explained that they are looking at approximately 24 solar panels on the barn. Concerns raised by Council included: a) the cost and how we will pay for it; b) can we obtain any grants to help cover expenses; d) how we protect the barn and its contents from vandalism; and e) will the City of Portage approve building in the desired location.

It was moved and seconded that Paul MacNellis establish a committee to finalize recommendations and costs for the outdoor storage barn, with and without the solar panels, tying in possible grants for the Refugee Resettlement program. Motion carried.

LED Bulbs in Sanctuary: Paul Swodzinski reported that this work is completed. He thanked Ray Isakson for leading that effort.

Outdoor Security Cameras: The cameras have arrived. They have been powered up and configured. However, the WiFi signal is not strong enough on the front of the church. Mike Whately is working with World of CD Rom to resolve this issue.

Sanctuary Chair Update: Pastor reported that the fabric for the new chairs has been selected. It is a different color from our current chairs so the armed chairs are clearly visible in the sanctuary.

Faith Formation Update: Lee shared that most of the teachers for PreK through 12th grade have been identified. Claudia Lee will continue with High School. They are doing a book study. Lee and Karen Clyne will continue with confirmation. Idy and Judson Stemaly are teaching a new curriculum to the later elementary kids. At this point, no one has been identified to teach the PreK/early elementary class. Pastor said that the adult class will consist of speakers focused on elder care issues. Sunday School classes will begin on September 17 at 9:15 am. Worship will be at 10:30 a.m. that same week.

Building Security: Dick Hewitt reported that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) provides workshops from the Office of Community & Faith Engagement. There was a session on Thursday, August 24, at 10 a.m. that addressed *Active Shooter: Securing Places of Worship*. There is another session on Thursday, September 21, at 10 a.m. – *Understanding the Legalities About Protecting Houses of Worship*. If you are interested, the link for this workshop is below. You must register to attend.
<https://ocfe-events.com/2023-workshops/understanding-the-legalities-about-protecting-houses-of-worship/>

September Council Meeting: Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, at 7 p.m. Council members will be surveyed to determine whether we will meet in person, via Zoom or a combination of both.

Financial Audit Thank You

The Finance Committee would like to thank Sarah Bierema, Joan Ford and Dave Grinder for their excellent work in auditing our 2022 financial records. The audit was long overdue since we had not had an audit done since prior to the pandemic. These three did a comprehensive review that produced several recommendations on how we can do things better moving forward. Next time you see them, please thank them for the valuable work they have done for Prince of Peace.

Impact Giving

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO OTHERS

- *Dear Pastor Rachel, We are so grateful to you and our friends at Prince of Peace for your partnership with us – **Samaritas**. We appreciate your members' commitment to serving people through faith, as an expression of the love of Christ. – David Morin, Interim CEO*
- *On behalf of **Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes**, I would like to express our deepest appreciation for your generous donation. Our support makes a significant impact on our mission and helps us provide nutritional food to those in need – Jennifer Johnson - Executive Director*
- ***Housing Resources, Inc** gratefully acknowledges your generous donation. Because of your generosity, we continue to provide housing solutions to some of the most vulnerable residents in our Kalamazoo County. – Michelle Davis, Executive Director*

On-Line Giving

On-line Giving Has Never Been So Easy!



You can click or copy and paste the link
<https://tithe.ly/give?c=2250097>
 or use the QR code.

You can also go to the Prince of Peace website
 & click on the giving button.

For questions contact either Marilyn or Tamara.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

9/1	Kathryn Ott Sarah Beuker Bruce Mills	9/9	Joelyn Rich Liam Jensen James Morgan	9/18	Larry Wentzel	9/26	Amelia Maurer Allison Dumler Alexis Maurer
9/2	Karen Knapp Andrew Poisson	9/10	Stacey Henry	9/21	Michael Whately Jocelyn Steinke	9/27	Jack Jones Janet Hill Sue Grinder
9/3	Emily Witteveen	9/11	Nathaniel Scaglione	9/22	Kenneth Tabor	9/28	Julie Cartier Kelly DeRango
9/4	Karen Clyne Valerie Flagler	9/12	Bob Drafta	9/23	Andy Anderson Heather Maurer Gary Bischof	9/29	Brent Palarz
9/7	Natalie DeVries	9/14	Louise Berdahl	9/24	Gordon Hare	9/30	Mitchell Eldridge Kaya Ottesen
9/8	Chris Poisson Nancy Mason	9/16	KC Copeland	9/25	Jennifer Gatz Paula Kana'an		
		9/17	Morgan Schuhknecht Korday Arntson Bette MacKenzie Julia Zaleski				

Anniversaries

Ray & Sandra Williams	9/1
Kevin & Jennifer Jawahir	9/2
Joelene & Kevin Pedersen	9/3
Mitch & Heather Maurer	9/3
Dwain & Barbara Leaser	9/7
Greg & Lori Hannemann	9/10
Duane & Fran Bushfield	9/15
Sue & David Grinder	9/15
Brian & Karen DeVries	9/16
Mark & Gail Brown	9/17
Brian & Kris Rieck	9/18
Thomas & Sharin Noall	9/22
Dave & Lorri Walch	9/24
Carol Stezowski & Cheryl Yingling	9/24
David & Karen Josuns	9/25
Cassandra & Martis Pone	9/28



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Farewell and Godspeed Megan!



The laying on of many hands!



A travelling Eucharist kit, a gift from the Congregation.

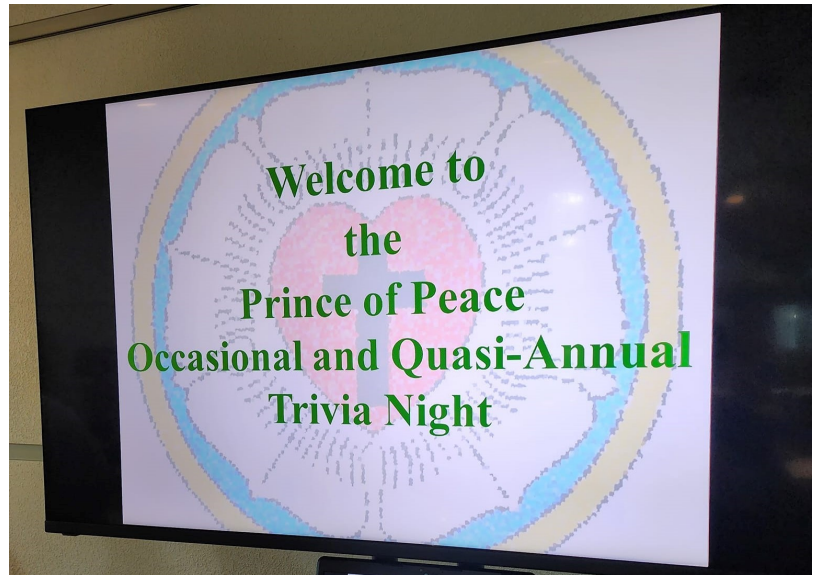


Food, Flowers and Fellowship!

Trivia Night



Wade Lawrence, our Trivia Master!



A good time was had by all!
See article on page 5 for more details.



Kara and Bette race to take snack orders.
Duran and Kaya discuss the merits of popcorn.

Prince of Peace Calendar — September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:00am Worship - Farewell & Godspeed to Megan 11:00am Fellowship Time	28 <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> <i>10:30am Literacy Tutoring - Library</i> <i>1:30pm WMU Center for Disabilities</i> <i>5:30pm AA "Promises" Support Group</i> 5:30pm Fellowship Committee Meeting - Hybrid Meeting 6:00pm Justice and Diversity Meeting	29 9:15am Staff Meeting 9:30am Quilters - Social Hall	30 <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> 11:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Zoom	31	1 Office Closed 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry - Social Hall	2
3 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship Time	4 Labor Day Office Closed in observance of Labor Day <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> <i>5:30pm AA "Promises" Support Group</i> 6:30pm CLO Housing Group	5 9:15am Staff Meeting 9:30am Quilters - Social Hall <i>5:30pm Great Lakes Adventure Club - Social Hall/Flex</i>	6 <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> 11:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Zoom	7 1:00pm Food Distribution 1:00pm Free Store 6:30pm South County Fiber Arts 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	8 Office Closed 10:00am ESL Open Tutoring	9 9:00am Bread & Breakfast
10 God's Work, Our Hand's Day 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship Time	11 Patriot Day <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> <i>10:30am Literacy Tutoring - Library</i> <i>1:30pm WMU Center for Disabilities</i> <i>5:30pm AA "Promises" Support Group</i> 5:30pm Finance Committee mtg. - Zoom 6:00pm Social Concerns Meeting - Zoom 7:15pm Women's Small Group - Social Hall	12 9:00am ESL 9:15am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Senior Bunko - Social Hall 6:00pm Personnel/Executive Committee - Zoom	13 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Michelle's <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> 11:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Zoom	14 9:00am ESL 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	15 Office Closed 10:00am ESL Open Tutoring	16 9:00am Sunday School Teacher Training
17 Rally Day 9:15am Faith Formation All Ages 10:30am Worship 11:45am Fellowship Time 12:15pm Middle and High School Youth Group	18 <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> <i>10:30am Literacy Tutoring - Library</i> <i>1:30pm WMU Center for Disabilities</i> <i>5:30pm AA "Promises" Support Group</i> 6:00pm Master Gardeners - Sanctuary 7:00pm Worship Committee Meeting - Zoom	19 9:00am ESL 9:15am Staff Meeting 9:30am Quilters - Social Hall 11:45am Ladies Lunch Bunch @ Fletcher's Pub	20 10:00am Book Club - Gathering Space <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> 11:00am Library Committee - Library 11:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Zoom 7:00pm Church Council meeting - Zoom	21 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am ESL 1:00pm Food Distribution 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	22 Office Closed 10:00am ESL Open Tutoring	23 First Day of Autumn 10:00am River Float and Picnic at Fosters
24 9:15am Faith Formation All Ages 10:30am Worship 11:45am Fellowship Time 12:00pm Eucharistic Minister Training	25 9:30am Ruth Circle <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> <i>10:30am Literacy Tutoring - Library</i> <i>1:30pm WMU Center for Disabilities</i> <i>5:30pm AA "Promises" Support Group</i> 5:30pm Fellowship Committee Meeting - Hybrid Meeting - Youth Room 6:00pm Justice and Diversity Meeting - room 7 7:15pm Women's Small Group - Social Hall	26 <i>Open Doors Men's Shelter Meal</i> 9:00am ESL 9:15am Staff Meeting	27 <i>10:00am Literacy Tutoring - Room 7</i> 11:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Zoom 1:00pm SERA	28 9:00am ESL 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	29 Office Closed 10:00am ESL Open Tutoring 6:00pm In House Progressive Dinner	30



Legend:

AA—Alcoholics Anonymous

ESL—English as a Second Language

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

269/343-3453

www.poppottage.org

Facebook: Prince of Peace, Portage, MI-ELCA