

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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POP NOTES

May 2024 Volume 62 Number 5

Funding Our Mission

The mission of the church is to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ into the world. That mission takes many forms and uses the gifts of each person who is called into this work. Our gifts are our time, our talents and our treasures. We have been embarked on a review of how we can use our time and our talents to serve the mission that God is calling us to. The team the Council has tasked with this work has made some recommendations to the Council and they are reviewing those recommendations.

The harder thing for me as a pastor to talk about is how we fund not only this new endeavor that the congregation is called into, but also the day to day work of the congregation. Over the last few months, with the increases in costs, having to rekey the building, and increased expenses for goods and utilities, we have found ourselves in a place where your giving to the mission of the congregation is of the utmost importance. In addition, repairs to the parsonage furnace, the lawn tractor and other capital projects loom on the horizon. All of these things have taxed our reserves.

It is in this vein of thinking that I ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your monetary gifts to the congregation to help to defray these costs and fund the mission of the congregation. I will be the first to pledge to prayerfully increase the gifts that I give to the church. This work that we are engaged in is of the utmost importance to me and my family. I see the work we are doing and I am filled with hope in the gospel. I am filled with hope in each of you to give of yourselves, your time and your treasures so that the Word of God is spread through the work of the congregation. We are called to continue to do the work of Jesus here in Lawson Heights. Join Jen and I in funding this work.

I am blessed to continue to be called to serve in this place as your pastor. You all bless me more than you know. Thank you for your prayers for me and this ministry we share together. Let us walk together in faith in where God is leading us and how we can begin to work together to make sure the gospel is heard and lived from this place.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

Finance

TREASURER'S REPORT – March 2024

CURRENT FUND	
Beginning Balance	\$ 7,219.39
Receipts	\$ 13,801.58
Disbursements	\$ 16,996.88
Ending Balance	\$ 4,024.09
BENEVOLENCE	
2024 Pledge	\$ 14,000.00
3 months Pledge	\$ 3,500.00
Received as of 3/31/24	\$ 3,707.38
Difference Over/(Under) YTD	\$ 207.38
Paid out as of 3/31/24	1,128.00
BUILDING FUND	
Beginning Balance	\$ 22,292.92
Receipts – Offering	\$ 1,566.64
Interest	\$.19
Total Receipts Plus Balance	\$ 23,859.75
Less Disbursements other	
Insurance	\$ 1,179.40
Ending Balance	\$ 22,680.35

March Worship Attendance			
Mar 27 th	27	Mar 28 th	26
Mar 31 st	(7am) 14	Mar 29 th	29
April 7 th	41	(10:30am)	87
April 14 th	61		
April 21 st	7 (8am)	43 (10:30am)	
April 28 th	xx		
Please bring a friend!			

Monthly Bible Quotes

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up; You know my every thought when far away. You chart the path ahead of me and tell me where to stop and rest. Every moment you know where I am. You both precede me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head. I can never escape from your spirit. ~psalm 138:1-7

My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip – he who watches over you will not slumber.
~ Psalm 121:2-3

STEWARDSHIP

Zack Davis, Betsy Naggy – Ministry Chairs

Guided by the Tithe

God has demonstrated His love for us by creating and redeeming us. A meaningful way we express our gratitude to God is through our faithful giving. By God’s grace, we can make giving important, and, when we do, we give Him the glory and honor that He deserves. Faith enables us to give freely and generously. Our giving can have no greater foundation than the Gospel of forgiveness and God’s promises.

In His Word, God gives us giving principles. We are called to give cheerfully, regularly, sacrificially, and proportionately of our first fruits. Even with all these giving principles, one question that all of us have likely asked is, “How much should I give?” In the Old Testament, God answered that question. God’s people were commanded to tithe, which meant they were to give one-tenth of their crops, livestock, and gold and silver. The tithe does not answer the question, “Why give?” However, it does help to answer the question, “How much should I give?”

The Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 16:2, “On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper...” According to the income that we receive, we are to give proportionately. The tithe acts as a Biblical guide to calculate the dollar amount to give. Because Abraham, Jacob, and Moses tithed even before the law was given, could the tithe be a benchmark for us to consider as well?

In the New Testament, Jesus affirms the tithe when He told the Pharisees to continue tithing but not to neglect “the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness” (Matthew 23:23). It is interesting that, other than the tithe, the only giving referenced in the New Testament exceeded the tithe. Jesus asked His disciples to follow Him and leave everything they owned behind. He directed the Rich

Young Ruler to give all His money away. Jesus commended the widow when she gave her last two mites. When He changed Zacchaeus' heart, Zacchaeus gave half of his wealth to the poor. Jesus said, "Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8 NIV), and, in Acts 20:35, He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

When we examine what we give, remember that God wants our hearts more than our gifts. May God grant us hearts of faith that give freely and generously.

Additional expenses have been incurred during the past few months due to the cold water line leakage and increased water and sewage bills. We are going to have the hot water line replaced in May before it leaks as they are the same age and in the same state of disrepair.

Misc entries into the church causing vandalism have required having all of the locks re-keyed and new keys issued only to those that currently have a need.

As with any home these repairs are needed to keep things in working order. There are repairs needed at the parsonage; furnace and flooring, that have not been updated in several years and we will need to replace the roof on the social hall. All of the utilities have increased both at the church and parsonage just like they have at your home. We need to protect our investment, pray for guidance.

PROPERTY

Lee Semasko, Mark Lucas, Kevin Spangler, George Walter – Ministry Chair

We are going to need to replace the furnace at the parsonage as the heat exchanger has quit working. We have received bids for the flooring that needs replaced but will see to furnace first. The roof at the church can wait a year if needed.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Pam Yuhaniak & Pat Maatta– Ministry Chair

We will continue to post the 10:30 am worship service on Facebook at www.facebook.com/poplatrobe and as a link on our website www.princeofpeacelatrobe.com

The 8:00 am early service returns for the summer Memorial Day Weekend.



	<u>Communion Assistant</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Counters</u>
May 5th	Ann Frye	Betsy Naggy	Vickie Onusko & Bob Woller
May 12th		Betsy Naggy	Kellie Douglas & Pat Maatta
May 19th		Kevin Spangler	Betsy Naggy & Ann Frye
May 26th		Kevin Spangler	Pam Yuhaniak & Lee Semasko

Altar Care: Pam Yuhaniak/Janie Hayden

Usher: Kate Petrill

Yom Hashoah Service – Holocaust Remembrance – May 5th at POP at 3pm. We will have a small reception after the service and will need cookie donations and help to set up and clean up. Talk to Vickie Onusko or Carol Fannie.

EVANGELISM - FELLOWSHIP

Carol Fannie, Ann Frye & Vickie Onusko – Ministry Chairs

The TNT meeting for May will be on the 2nd at The Boulevard in Greensburg, There is a max of 30 people so please sign-up! Sheet is on the bulletin board in the gathering space.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Amy Schultz – Ministry Chair

Bible Study is going well on Wednesdays at 1pm, please join us.

Vacation Bible School will be here at Prince of Peace this August, on Mon-Tues-Wed 12-13-14. Combined with Trinity, Latrobe. Pam Yuhaniak will be looking for helpers; please talk to Pam if you are interested in helping.

OUTREACH

Janie Hayden, Amy Schultz – Ministry Chair

- MEETING is scheduled for May 30th at 6pm, please plan on attending if you'd like to be part of this committee.
- Continuing to collect toiletry items, socks, and t-shirts for the veterans.
- **Food Bank Collections** –The Latrobe food pantry at Trinity in Latrobe will begin taking non-perishable food items again. PLEASE MAKE SURE THE ITEMS ARE NOT EXPIRED—the items cannot be given out if they are past the expiration date. We will continue to collect non-food items that food stamps do not cover. The item for April is tissues.



Thank you from the Kaylor Family – There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt gratitude to POP. The prayers, the beautiful shawl, cards, and comforting words meant so much to us during our loss of my brother Buckey. Thank you so much, George & Debbie Lindsey.

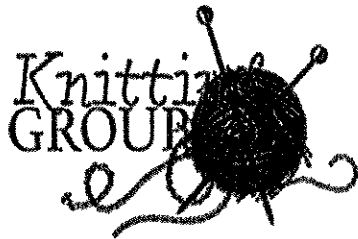
I would like to say, "THANK YOU!" to everyone who took their time to send me a card or saw me at the Easter Sunday service and asked me how I'm doing. I appreciate the well wishes as I continue to recover from surgery. I am doing well, but still have a way to go. I appreciate the kind words, thoughts, and prayers as this has been a long road to recovery which began 2 years ago from Covid. You are an amazing group of people and constant source of support and love. Thank you again ~ James Schultz

The sympathies of the congregation – are extended to Betsy Naggy and her family on the passing of her mother Leona Lewis. Leona has been on our prayer list for quite some time and she entered into eternal rest On April 8th.

The 75th Annual Men's Communion Breakfast will be held on Sunday, June 16, 2024, 7:00AM, at Legion Keener Park. We are thrilled to announce that Bishop Emeritus Donald McCoid will serve as our guest preacher for this anniversary occasion. More details will be released and ticket sales will begin in May.

Kids Who Love To Sing – You are invited to participate in the POP children's choir this summer. Practices begin in June. Parents can contact Garnet (724) 832-0419 for details. Friends are welcome, not limited to church members.

Directory – Vickie is working on updating addresses and phone numbers for the directory. The pages are in the gathering space for your review. Please make any changes on the page in the red pens provided. If you are not able to make it to worship to check your information, please give Vickie a call in the office on Tuesday or Friday @724-537-7273. The new directory will be printed mid-May.



Cathie Schall has graciously offered to take over the leadership of the prayer shawl knitting group. **THANK YOU!**

**** If you are interested in joining please give her a call 724-309-6011. If anyone would like a prayer shawl or knows of someone who would like one please let one of the members of the knitting group know! ****

Prayer Chain – If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain, there are three easy options for you to choose from to be a part of this important group. For text messages: text @popprayer to 81010.

For email: go to rmd.at/popprayer and sign up for messages there.



Prayer is an essential part of who we are as a people of God. Below is a list of people from our congregation to keep in your daily prayers. If you know of others who should be added to these lists, please contact the church office with the names. If you or someone you know from the congregation is in the hospital or is at home and sick and needs a visit from Pastor Bill, please call the office so that he can schedule a visit. The Pastor is only told by the hospital when a person is a patient if they ask for the church to be notified.

From our congregation: Audrey Spangler, Debbie Lindsey, Esther Toth, Ginger Warren, James Schultz, Kevin Spangler, Roy Nelson, and Verna Frontz.

Our Shut-in members: Dorothy Myers (Ridgeview Residential Care), Ken Lloyd (Loyalhanna Suites), Raymond Fry (Loyalhanna Suites)

Others in need of our prayers: Bill Bangor, Christine Reiss, Dee Pritts, Jean Civis, Jodi Fill, Judy Long, Judy James, Julanne, Laurie Semasko, Linette, Mike Dupre, Stan, Stanley Emery, and Scott Thompson.

Those in the Military: Michael Clevenger, Matt Mickinak, and Jacob Hay

A house united

When President Lincoln declared in 1858, “A house divided against itself cannot stand,” he was echoing Jesus. Scribes thought Jesus was casting out demons by Satan’s power, so Jesus responded, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ... If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand” (Mark 3:23-25, NIV). There are countless modern examples: Civil wars. Families torn apart. Business partners going separate ways. Even churches splitting.

Jesus used the “house divided” image to point out the nonsense of the scribes’ words. It takes someone *other than* the “strong man” (v. 27), or demon, occupying a space to cast that demon out. Evil can’t drive out evil. Sin isn’t stronger than sin. Hate doesn’t solve hate. Violence doesn’t end violence. Two wrongs don’t make a right.

Jesus came to “bind” evil with goodness, conquer hate with love and teach us the same. Throughout the gospels, Jesus treats *all* people with love — even those who oppose him — so that, in the end, we all will be a house *united* by God’s goodness.



Baptisms



2	Pam Ray
5	Josh Mentch
7	Bev Guyer
9	Linda Tepley Susan McWilliams Zach Zavatsky
10	Michael Thompson
11	Becky Frankowski
14	Ruth Hay
20	Anthony Wano
23	Janie Hayden Noah Ankney
24	Debbie Koontz
25	Matthew Wano
26	Carla Wano
29	Bob Woller
31	Amanda Bangor Best

4	Benjamin Douglas
10	Rachel Douglas
12	William A. Smith
23	Lucas Ray Mark Ray
30	Terry Onusko

22	Josh & Lisa Mentch
24	Dennis & Bev Guyer
26	Mark & Pam Ray



PLEASE NOTE: If you do not see **your** Birthday or Anniversary listed, please let us know in the church office. We apologize if you were missed and we will make the necessary corrections so that it does not happen again



Mother — and more

Though I've primarily known God as Father — along with metaphors such as rock, eagle, shepherd, potter — I also learned of Scripture passages portraying God as mother. For example (all NIV):

- “For a long time I have kept silent. ... But now, like a woman in childbirth, I cry out, I gasp and pant” (Isaiah 42:14).
- “As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you” (Isaiah 66:13).
- “Like a bear robbed of her cubs, I will attack them” (Hosea 13:8).
- In others, God is pictured doing traditional “women’s work”: making clothes (Genesis 3:21), sweeping (Isaiah 14:23), preparing and hosting a meal (Proverbs 9:1-6), baking bread (Luke 13:21).

One of my favorite images of God is tucked in Hosea. While many modern dads nurture their toddlers this way, the tender words surely call to mind a mama’s care: “It was I who taught [Israel] to walk. ... To them I was like one who lifts a little child to the cheek, and I bent down to feed them” (Hosea 11:3-4). Most importantly, God — however known — is loving and good.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

Puzzle!

Fill in the horizontal rows using the clues. Then, using the number codes, complete the squares below to read three Beatitudes from Luke 6:20-21, NIV.

- Grassy area behind a house
- Blooms that have petals
- Spring precipitation
- Puffy and white in the sky
- Soil
- Lawn
- Must be weeded and tended
- Tiptoe through these
- Baby sheep
- We need food and this
- God made this from nothing
- A sign of God's promise
- These, in April, bring May flowers

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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PUZZLE

UNFADING BEAUTY

Peter says beauty shouldn't come from outward adornment. How does a godly woman adorn herself on the inside?

Directions: From each list, write the word that doesn't belong. Then insert the circled letters in order below to complete 1 Peter 3:4, NIV.

- flower, stem, bee, leaf
- pink, red, yellow, blue
- mother, sister, brother, aunt
- purple, dress, skirt, blouse
- necklace, ring, bracelet, braid
- diamond, emerald, heart, ruby
- orange, cherry, potato, lime
- my, out, she, you
- faith, family, love, hope
- sunny, rainy, snowy, temperature
- cookie, cake, pie, sandwich
- silver, white, gold, bronze

"Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a g..... and go..... which is of great worth in God's sight." 1 Peter 3:4, NIV

a fun Flower Frog

A flower frog sits atop a vase to help arrange flowers and hold stems in place. This personalized frog will become a favorite!

What you need:

- Air-dry clay
- Roller
- Vase (or jar)
- Plastic knife
- Straw
- Acrylic paint and brushes



- What you do:**
1. Roll out a portion of clay to about 1/2 inch thickness.
 2. Cut out a circle that's slightly larger than the vase opening. (This will allow the finished frog to sit securely on top.)
 3. To make holes for stems, use a straw to punch out circle shapes. If you make more than one frog, try arranging the holes in different patterns.
 4. Let dry completely. Then personalize your work with acrylic paint.
 5. When dry, place the frog atop the vase. Arrange flowers and greenery to make a Mother's Day Bouquet.




"I was a first-grade teacher. What did you do?"

Bible Quiz

What two rivers that we still know today are named in the Creation account in Genesis 2?

- A. Nile
- B. Yangtze
- C. Jordan
- D. Tigris
- E. Ganges
- F. Euphrates



May 2024

May 2024							June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Apr 28</p> <p>10:30am Sunday Worship</p> <p>3:00pm Yom Hashoah service</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00pm Miracles at Work</p>	<p>May 1</p> <p>Philip and James, Apostles</p> <p>1:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>6:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria</p> <p>6:00pm Thursday Nights Together (TIND)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00pm A New Beginning</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Monica, mother of Augustine</p>
<p>5</p> <p>10:30am Sunday Worship</p> <p>3:00pm Yom Hashoah service</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00pm Miracles at Work</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church, died around 1:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>6:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church, hymnwriter</p> <p>6:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00pm A New Beginning</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY</p> <p>10:30am Sunday Worship</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Matthias, Apostle</p> <p>10:00am Prayer Shawl</p> <p>2:00pm Memorial Comm</p> <p>7:00pm Miracles at Work</p>	<p>15</p> <p>1:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00pm Congregation Council</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00pm A New Beginning</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Erik King of Sweden, martyr</p>
<p>19</p> <p>NO 8:00 am worship</p> <p>10:30am Sunday Worship</p> <p>2:00pm Margy's Piano</p> <p>6:00pm Confirmation</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Helena, mother of Constantine</p> <p>7:00pm Miracles at Work</p>	<p>22</p> <p>1:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Nicolaus Copernicus, Leonhard Euler scientists</p> <p>7:00pm A New Beginning</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>8:00am Early Worship Begins</p> <p>10:30am Sunday Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>John Calvin, renewer of the church</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00pm Miracles at Work</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Jiri Tranovsky, hymnwriter</p> <p>1:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:00pm Outreach committee meeting</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Visit of Mary to Elizabeth</p> <p>7:00pm A New Beginning</p>	<p>Jun 1</p>

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Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/poplatrobe

Our Mission Statement

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church is a loving family, forgiven by Jesus Christ, who through prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit are called to be actively living, learning, and growing in the Word of God and are being sent out to share the Gospel with our neighbors through our words and deeds.

We are a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod.

We serve the Greater Latrobe community as part of the Greater Latrobe Ministerial Association.