



PRINCE OF PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

LIVING OUR FAITH

(203) 775-9070



PrinceOfPeaceBrookfield.org



119 JUNCTION RD, BROOKFIELD, CT

IN THIS ISSUE

- * From Pastor's Desk
- * Stewardship Campaign
- * Sunday School Schedule
- * Holiday Craft Fair
- * Preschool Updates
- * Daily Bread Food Pantry
- * And so much more!!!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct 12 – PoP Ladies Night Out
- Oct 14 – Evening Prayer
- Oct 25 – Oktoberfest/Giving Sunday
- Oct 18 – Youth Group meet-up
- Oct 20 – WELCA Bible Study
- Oct 27 – Book Club
- Oct 28 – Evening Prayer



Members preparing meals on Gods work, Our hands Sunday

Save the Date!

Sunday, October 25 is Reformation Sunday, our Oktoberfest fellowship event and Giving Sunday, the culmination of our seasonal stewardship emphasis.

Join in a day of all-around celebration for the good things that God gives us in love, that we care for in love, and that we share in love as disciples learning the way of Jesus.



15 minutes in the Bible

Life is busy. It's hard to set aside 5 minutes let alone an hour. But... what if you found 15 minutes this month to pause and reflect on a story in the bible.

Don't have 15 minutes now?

Write a post-it reminder or put it in your calendar.

If you write down a goal, you are more likely to do it!

Reading **Matthew 20: 1-16**

Reflection

This parable about a vineyard owner paying laborers the same wage for different amounts of time working challenges our notions of fairness and grace. Can you think of a time when unexpected mercy was an experience of God's grace for you? Can you think of a time you had a strong reaction against someone being treated graciously that you didn't agree with? Pray: That all people encounter God's mercy through their neighbor's generosity and care.

Financial Summary

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church				
Aug 2026		Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	43,276.39	22,132.00	270,318.77	240,564.00
Expense	26,961.89	36,412.04	240,729.13	269,013.28
Net	16,314.50	(14,280.04)	29,589.64	(28,449.28)



Financial Narrative for August 2026

- Contributions in August were up from budget by about \$21,134 and the year-to-date revenue is up from budget by over \$29,000.
- Expenses continue to be significantly under budget, resulting in a surplus of approximately \$16,314.50 for the month and \$29,590 year to date, with underspending spread across most areas. The only two noticeable line items over budget continue to be Office Supplies and Parish Life.



Church Attendance

	In Person	Online	Total
9/6/26	70	5	75
9/13/26	47	5	52
9/21/26	69	6	75
9/27/26	63	4	67

GOOD TIDINGS!...FROM PASTOR MICHAEL ANDERSON

There's a turn in our Sunday readings this time of year that just totally knocks me out and it has to do with their reminding me of my desperate need for God.

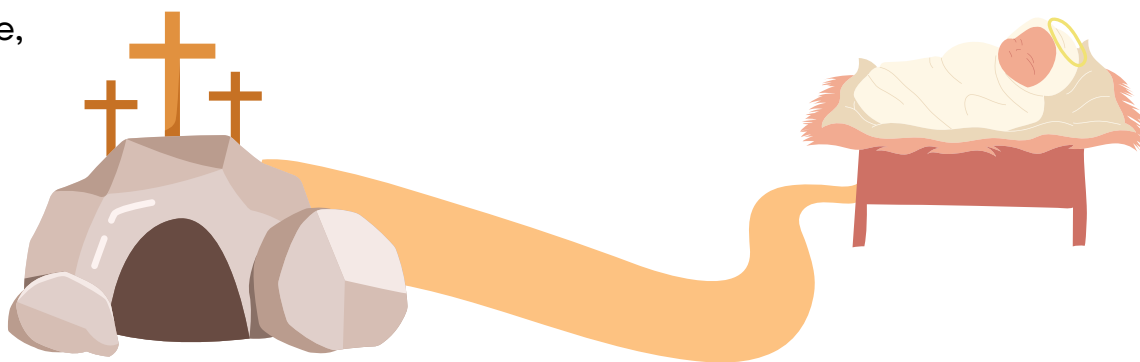
The arc we're following starts at Easter and goes through Advent. (I know we're not in Advent yet, but the readings' turn is underway). The readings takes us from Jesus' resurrection to our empowerment by and through the Holy Spirit to be the church, the body of the risen Christ in the world, to a disorienting reckoning with the limits of our own powers, our own challenges with the meaning of Jesus and of the kingdom of God, and terror at world's capacity for renewing violence and destruction. Talk about drama! The arc ferries us from elation at being included in the new thing God is doing through the Holy Spirit to despair that what we want to happen is not only not happening but, in fact, even moving backward or unraveling altogether.

The season's turn: my awakening to how I routinely and predictably turn the gift of grace given in Jesus Christ into an enterprise for my own glory and return to trusting my own self rather than God. I misunderstand that the gift of Christ and the Holy Spirit are not the culmination of my need for God, they are the true beginning of my availability for love.

As they say, "old habits die hard." None harder than self-interest, self-justification, and self-righteousness. Rediscovering my desperate need for God is really, really frustrating - I never quit dreaming of a day when I'll be free from the need for help. Above all though, reawakening to the need for God is a profound gift - and a relief at that. One does not need God in order to be free from need. One needs God in order to realize that God is the only path to true freedom. For us, that means Jesus.

The good news emerging for us right now is a call to repentance. It's time to start over. Thank God! This is the pilgrimage we're meant for - the baptismal pilgrimage in which we remember that this, all of this, is God's and that Jesus will teach us what that means with his life, death, and resurrection.

Be of good courage,
Pastor Michael





I WILL FULFILL TO YOU MY
PROMISE AND BRING YOU
BACK TO THIS PLACE.
FOR SURELY I KNOW THE
PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,
SAYS GOD, PLANS FOR
YOUR WELFARE AND NOT
FOR HARM, TO GIVE YOU
A FUTURE WITH HOPE.

+ JEREMIAH 29:10-II

A future with God is always a future with hope.

Jesus is God's Word on it.

Giving Sunday - **October 25** - Prince of Peace





Scan this QR code to let us know you're attending. Lunch will be provided, but please bring a dessert, if you'd like! A sign up sheet will also be available in the Narthex.

Our Monthly Sunday School Schedule

Learn ♥ Grow ♥ Serve Together



We are excited to try this new monthly schedule and see how it goes for our children, youth, and families!

1st & 2nd Sundays

**Sunday School +
Parent Faith Formation**

9:00–9:45 a.m.



Children and youth will begin with music, followed by a Bible lesson and activities.



At the same time, parents are invited to gather with Pastor for Parent Faith Formation.

3rd Sunday

Sunday School

9:00–9:45 a.m.



Children and youth will begin with music, followed by a Bible lesson and activities.

4th Sunday

**Sunday School
During Worship +
Family/Youth Service Project**

10:00 a.m.



Children and youth will attend Sunday School during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Immediately following worship, children, youth, and their families are invited to participate in our monthly Family/Youth Service Project.



Weekly Faith at Home

Each week, families will receive a simple Sunday School activity by email so everyone can stay connected and continue growing in faith at home.

*Let's learn,
grow, and serve
together!*



FAITH
FAMILIES
BRIGHTER
TOMORROWS



YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will meet on Sunday, October 18th, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service!

Join us as we get creative and work together on crafts to sell at our upcoming Craft Fair. We'll spend time making handmade items while enjoying fellowship and fun together.

All youth and families are welcome—we hope you can join us!

Share Your Gift of Music!

Sanctuary Choir & Handbell Choir

No experience required — everyone is welcome!

Have you ever wanted to sing or play handbells?
Whether you're experienced or completely new, we'd love to have you join us!

Come be part of a welcoming group where we make music, build friendships, and share our gifts in worship.

You don't need to be a musician.

You just need a willingness to learn, participate, and have fun!

Sanctuary Choir: Use your voice to help lead our congregation in worship.

Handbell Choir: Discover the joy of making beautiful music together—one bell at a time!

Come as you are. No auditions.
No experience necessary. All are welcome!

Interested?
Come join us and make a joyful noise!

Starting September 9, 2026

Handbells: Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

Sanctuary Choir: Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm

More information? Contact Brian

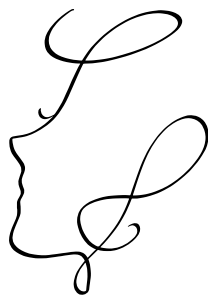
music@princeofpeacebrookfield.org

POP into Ladies Night

Join the ladies of POP every
2nd Monday of the month at
Michael's Tap Room in Bethel @ 7pm
FOOD * FELLOWSHIP * FUN

**Monday,
October 12**

Text/Call Lorraine
with questions
845-416-0900



OCTOBER EVENING PRAYER OCTOBER 14 & 28

Demands on our attention are endless. But whether the demands are due to life responsibilities, a night out with friends, a get together with family, or another hour scrolling social media we can still feel strained. God has a word for you in your joy and in your need.

We will rest in silence, give our attention to the one who always attends to us, listen with our hearts for God's voice, and share with God what is on our hearts and minds.



WELCA BIBLE STUDY

There will be a
WELCA Zoom Bible Study
on October 20 at 10:00 a.m.

Please contact
Pastor Michael for study
materials and the Zoom link.



BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study on the
Gospel of Matthew
will be held
after worship
services on
October 4, 11 & 18.

MEET A MEMBER

STEVE DAVIES

How long have you been a member?
22 years

What's your favorite event or worship service?
Easter & Christmas Eve!



What brings you joy?

Faith, family, friends, and recognizing God's presence in my life.

What's a fun fact that others don't know about you?

I love classic Russian literature: Tolstoy, Chekov, Dostoevsky, Gogol, and Pushkin.

PoP Holiday Craft Fair

**Saturday, November 7, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Crafts, Books, Christmas Decor, Jewelry, Bake Sale & Lunch

Our annual Craft Fair will be on November 7, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. To make it a success we need donations of food, bakery items, crafts, gently used Christmas items, used jewelry and **YOUR** help the day of the fair. Below you will see a QR code and a button to sign up for donations and also for a time you can work a 2 hour (or longer) shift at one of the booths. Use either one to sign up!

If you can't sign up on-line you can call Rene in the church office and she will sign you up.

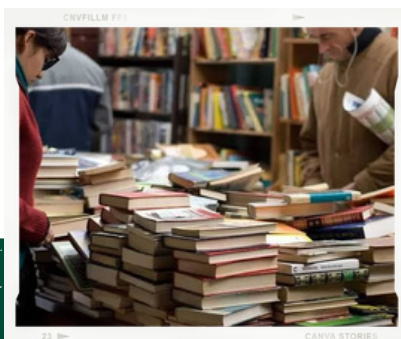
[Sign up Here](#)



We will be setting up the craft section on Friday, November 6 at 10:00 a.m. so if you can help with that, please let Marci Sharp know. (marcishapr703@gmail.com)

Thanks in advance for all of your help...Many hands make work go faster.

Marci Sharp



POP BOOK CLUB

Prince of Peace Book Club will meet the last Tuesday of the month, October 27, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. We will meet in the church office reception area to discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. The main character chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. The book is set in the early 1960's. All Elizabeth's colleagues of scientists have a unscientific view of equality for women. Forced to leave her job at the science institute, Elizabeth finds herself the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show. Not everyone is happy, because Elizabeth isn't just teaching women to cook. Elizabeth is daring women to change the status quo. One molecule at a time.

Everyone is welcome to attend and discuss our book choice. We welcome your opinions. Reading the book choice is not a requirement.

Our November date is 11/17/2026 at 1:00 p.m.

We met on September 29th to discuss *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. Theo arrives in the Southern town Golden, Georgia and begins a mission to buy portraits of the towns people from a local coffee shop. Theo arranges a meeting to gift the portraits back to the subjects asking only for their stories in return. The book has many relatable and exciting characters. The characters lives are intertwined in unexpected ways. I would highly recommend *Theo of Golden*, if you are looking for a positive and captivating read.

Looking forward to a great discussion,
Anita Stolle, Laura Duffy, Nancy Tolmoff



PRESCHOOL

monthly newsletter

OCTOBER

The new school year for the Pre-School began on Thursday, September 3rd. We currently have 89 students enrolled, 17 Staff members and are operating 7 classes.

We have scheduled Preschool Open House for the evening of Thursday, October 8th. The staff is enjoying getting to know their students and building their classroom communities.

We will be hosting a holiday pie and cookie fundraiser starting on October 5th. These delicious goodies will arrive in time for Thanksgiving! Order forms will be left in the church hall for anyone interested. We are looking forward to a great year!

Best,
Heidi Riddle





COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FROM SEPTEMBER

For Information/Discussion:

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor thanked the committee for a busy few days including the Saturday Retreat and Sunday "God's Work Our Hands" service project.
- Stewardship Campaign begins in October.
- Confirmation Class began with an orientation meeting with the 4 confirmands and their families. Confirmation will be a two year program, the format will include parent at home participation, an annual retreat at Camp Calument and Confirmation to be celebrated on All Saints Sunday 2028.

Next Council Service Sunday and 5 Sunday months:

- On months with 5 Sundays, Council will serve on one of those Sundays - potentially inviting youth to shadow Council members, pairing a Council member with a child or a confirmand during the 5 Sunday months
- Also on that Sunday, include music that touches all generations
- expanding the sandwich making for Dorothy Day and Loaves and Fishes to include more youth

Votes

- Approved allowing Confirmation to use the Christian Education Fund to cover expenses for the Calument Retreats through 2028.
- Approved Pastor's medical benefit expenses for 2027 to align with Synod recommendations and continue with equivalent election as 2026 - roughly a 15-20% increase over 2026.
- Approved spending up to \$1,000 for Octoberfest on Sunday, October 25, 2026. Attendees will have the opportunity to contribute to a good will offering.
- Approved continuing our participation in the Salvation Army Christmas giving tree - organized/managed by Ernie.
- Approved Council ability to vote by electronic response to actions needing decision between Council meetings through June 2027.

Communication of October 2026 Meeting Dates and Times

- Executive - Tuesday, October 20, 2026 5pm in person prior to Council
- Council - Tuesday, October 20, 2026 6pm in person



Daily Bread Food Pantry Update

FOOD • COMMUNITY • CARE



Most of you know Daily Bread Food Pantry in Danbury. Their super pantry is open six days a week and welcomes between 900 and 1,000 struggling families to shop free of charge in their dignified supermarket-like facility next to the Danbury mall. The pantry wants our congregation to know how grateful it is for our support over the years and shares here a few updates about its recent activities.

First, a bit of information about Daily Bread's new local food purchase program made possible through a competitive grant award from the state of Connecticut: the pantry is now supplementing fresh fruits and vegetables donated and purchased through its food bank partners and area wholesalers with direct purchases from nearby growers. Over the past few months, the agency has been purchasing beautiful freshly picked and harvested apples, green beans, eggplants, tomatoes, peppers, squash, lettuces and more from almost a dozen farms in Fairfield and New Haven County; a great way to support area farmers while supplying families in need with healthy fresh food.

In a separate new initiative, the pantry is buying culturally appropriate food items like plantains and chayotes in bulk; their goal, to not only provide healthy food for shoppers but to meet their food preferences. Offering familiar foods shows clients that their heritage is respected, after all food is deeply tied to identity and family tradition.

And personal care products – such as toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, soap – have become part of the pantry's everyday lineup too, paid for with the proceeds from a charitable grant along with the pantry's own funds. These items are typically quite expensive, are not covered by SNAP dollars, and can be beyond reach for those on tight budgets. Yet these hygiene products are key to general well-being, productivity and success at work and at school, and, even, good health.

The pantry is always working to fine tune it's operation to better meet the needs of the community. It certainly takes a village....including caring communities like ours. The pantry's leaders invite us all to reach out anytime and to visit to see firsthand the impact of our ongoing support.

Nan Carlson





GIVE ONE, TAKE ONE PRAYER ACTIVITY

Write a prayer request for yourself or someone you care about on an index card and place it on the bulletin board by the Green Room. Then take a different card, pray for that person, and continue to keep them in your prayers throughout the week.

Give a Prayer

Take an index card from the holder.

Write your prayer request on one side of the card. Place the card on the bulletin board with your prayer facing the back and "Please pray for..." facing outward.

Take a Prayer

Choose an index card from the bulletin board that has "please pray for..." facing outward. A prayer request will be on the other side of the index card.

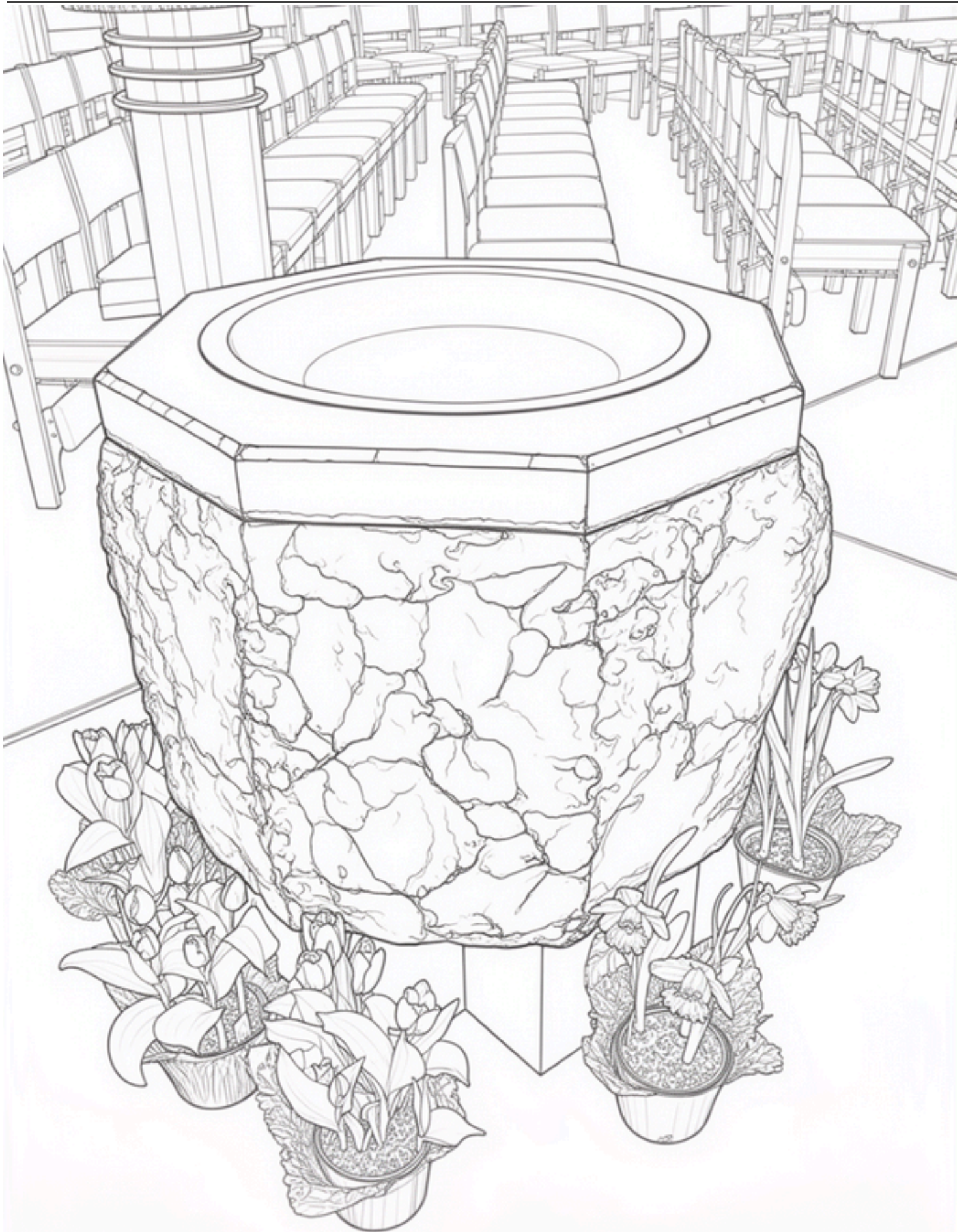
Spend a few moments praying for the person whose card you received.

Throughout the week, continue to remember that person and their needs in your prayers.

"

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:2



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 2	Luke Lacey
October 3	Bill Hubric
October 5	Saverio Bruno, Emma Cable
October 9	Edith Sherman
October 11	Ashleigh Fegley
October 12	Caroline Dore
October 13	Colin McLoone, Kristina Wagner
October 17	Maggie Mattera
October 19	Tina Giubileo
October 26	Ken Carlson

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

October 4	Barbara & Peter Dulko
October 10	Elizabeth & Steve Davies Margaret & Kevin McLoone
October 15	Heidi & Paul Adam Angela & Anthony Reich
October 16	Kristen & Peter Schretzenmayer
October 22	Kristen & Jim Lacey
October 26	Winifred & Rich Mercado
October 27	Diane & Al Morey

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed and you would like it to be please contact Rene at the Church office.

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

If you have a question about finances please contact
Priscilla Rivas
203-830-9016 or
guanacaste@snet.net

Back row (L-R): Pastor Michael Anderson, Tim Brumbaugh, Meg McLoone, Heather Pontonio (President), Christine Buzzell, Deb Nobes (Secretary);
Front row (L-R): Paul Adam, Kim Gerardi, Karen Frank, Monica Walsh (Vice President), Johnny Halas, Jim Sharp
not pictured: Chris Ostergard

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00 a.m. Women's AA 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts	2 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	3
4 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Bible Study	5 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	6 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	7 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	8 10:00 a.m. Women's AA 6:00 p.m. Pre-School Open House 7:00 p.m. Worship & Music	9 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	10 Private Event Fellowship Hall
11 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Bible Study	12 10:00 a.m. Women's AA 7:00 p.m. Ladies Night Out	13 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	14 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	15 10:00 a.m. Women's AA 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts	16 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	17
18 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Youth Group	19 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	20 10:00 a.m. Women's AA 10:00 a.m. WELCA Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Executive 6:00 p.m. Council	21 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	22 10:00 a.m. Women's AA 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts	23 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	24
25 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Oktoberfest	26 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	27 10:00 a.m. Women's AA 1:00 p.m. Book Club	28 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	29 10:00 a.m. Women's AA 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts	30 10:00 a.m. Women's AA	31

CONTACT US

princeofpeacebrookfield.org
www.facebook.com/popbrookfield
rene@princeofpeacebrookfield.org

Phone: (203) 775-9070

Fax: (203) 775-9573

Email for Rev. Michael Anderson:
pastor@princeofpeacebrookfield.org.
Cell phone: (203) 794-4694

Prince of Peace PreSchool: (203) 775-0140

The church office is open most weeks Mon-Fri, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please call first.

OUR VISION: Centering ourselves in God's word, we are open to the Holy Spirit's call to inspire faith in our changing world. As children of God we strive to share and spread God's love in the world.

MISSION: A welcoming community gathering together in God's Word to serve others.

CORE VALUES:

- Building & sustaining relationships
- Being accepted
- Engaging with others in Christ
- Contributing to a greater purpose through social ministry
- Being grounded in the teachings of Jesus



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P.O. BOX 5184
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PLACE
STAMP
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