



BLUEPRINTS

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Newsletter

Volume 86, Number 4

April, 2024

Good Tidings! ...from Rev. Michael Anderson

Christianity means community through Jesus Christ and in Jesus Christ. No Christian community is more or less than this. Whether it be a brief, single encounter or the daily fellowship of years, Christian community is only this. We belong to one another only through and in Jesus Christ.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

35The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, 36and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" 37The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" 39He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

John 1:35-39

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Easter blessings to you all, dear church. Praise the Lord, it is so GOOD to be with you in these holy days steeping in our shared enthusiasm for this new ministry beginning and the wonder of what gospel work the Holy Spirit might call forth from us. The path of discipleship and mission exploration that lies ahead of us is a true joy. Along this path there are (at least!) two discoveries awaiting us: 1) God and 2) the church that we will grow into through our collaboration inspired by the Holy Spirit. Maintaining space to listen for God's voice as a community is a necessity worthy of attention and cultivation as it is our common ground and source of community life.

A beauty of being the church is that there is no one way to be the church, there is simply openness to being the church we discern God calling us to be. It can be a challenge to trust this amid the immediate demands and challenges we encounter, but even so, these do not affect the underlying reality that the local church's character is expressed by the particular people of that place gathering in Christ's name. To paraphrase Mary Oliver's poem, Wild Geese, we are only called to love what we love. The source of our inspiration for all we do is the gospel of our Lord and those good tidings are more than sufficient to form us, invigorate us, and inspire our connection with the community we seek to serve.

In the above quotation from the Gospel of John two curious disciples approach Jesus and ask him, "where are you staying?" He responds to them, "Come and see." On one level Jesus calls these two disciples to follow him. But the full force of the encounter is not about these new disciples seeing Jesus' housing situation, rather it is for them to learn that where Jesus "stays" (lives) is with those he serves in love and with those on whom his Spirit has breathed. The calling of these curious disciples is our calling as well: to become curious about the dwelling place of God which is no less than humanity itself. Embarking on this collaborative gospel journey together is about how we learn together to name the presence of Christ in the world around us and share in that love.

It is so, so good to be with you, Prince of Peace. May God be glorified in our ministry.

In Christ,
Rev. Michael Anderson

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN



We continue to worship together Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the building, in-person or on Zoom, Facebook Live, or webpage (princeofpeacebrookfield.org).

Please sign in upon arrival.

We have a seasonal bulletin to be used each week and most weeks a colored insert for each Sunday. Please return the seasonal bulletin to the tall table to be used again.

The offering plate is passed during the anthem. Please help the ushers by passing the plate down your row.

Sunday's service is at 10:00 a.m. and it will also be on Zoom and streamed to our Facebook page.

Attendance in March

	In Person Attendance	On-line Attendance	Total
3/3/24	56	6	62
3/10/24	70	8	78
3/17/24	80	8	88
3/24/24 Palm Sunday	78	11	89
3/28/24 Maundy Thursday	33	0	33
3/29/24 Good Friday	40	0	40
3/31/24 Easter Sunday	175	10	185

Financial Summary for February

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church				
	February 2024		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	30,286.15	30,408.83	51,872.82	60,817.66
Expense	35,705.17	20,499.56	51,214.43	43,229.87
Net	(5,419.02)	9,909.27	658.39	17,587.79

Need to contact Pastor Michael?



Pastor Michael's office hours each week are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and in the afternoon by appointment. His day off each week is on Friday.

You can contact him by calling the church office at (203) 775-9070 or call/text his cell phone at (203) 794-4694. His email address is pastor@princeofpeacebrookfield.org. Please feel free to call/text or email if you have an immediate concern or question.

POP COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Council Meeting March 5, 2024

Present Pastor Ned McMillen, Paul Adam, Nan Carlson, Liz Davies, Laura Duffy (ZOOM), Lorraine Lavery, Meg McLoone, Heather Pontonio, Jim Sharp and Donna Vitetta
Excused: Meegan Lepler and Monica Walsh.

Devotions Jim read a devotion from 8/23 Christ in Our Home: Hardship and Hope.

Motion to Approve today's agenda made by Meg and second by Liz. All are in favor.

Motion to approve minutes of the February 5, 2024 meeting made by Nan and Meg second. All in favor.

Cleaning company Paul had a question regarding the cleaning company contract. Paul is interested in evaluating the contract.

Pastor's moving expenses came to \$16,000.00. It was budgeted at \$10,000.00.

What can leadership do to prepare for the transition?

How to make him feel supported:

-New Picture Directory- to include birthdays and anniversaries.

GOAL: getting acquainted and familiar.

-Different council members can be with him on Sundays to see if he needs anything.

-The best time to contact Pastor with questions is after the service or some other time. Not before the service when he is preparing for the service. Someone else will give the announcements.

- If something comes up with a member, talk to executive so they can address the question.

-FNL once a month. It would be good for Pastor to be there.

-A good book "Pastor and People" about leadership responsibilities.

Faith Formation and Youth Group

-New family has one preschool child. She knows another family that used to come here.

-The youth group will meet in April.

-Palm Sunday normal Sunday school. Easter the kids will be in church.

Worship and Music

Motion to start a donation of \$20.00 to offset the cost of hymnals made by Heather and second by Liz. All were in favor.

-An organ pipe sticks

-Readers need to use the microphones. They can be moved closer to the person.

-The organ starting to go. We need to think about fundraising.

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS *(continued)*

Caring Committee

- Louise Reilly is in a nursing home in Purdys, NY.
- Maimo's last treatment was today. She has a few weeks off. Gene and Maimo are doing o.k.
- Meegan's mom, Rita, had Gall bladder surgery. It went well and everything is ok.
- June Ginand is still in Haddam.

Parrish Life

- No Easter Egg Hunt this year. We will have the community Easter Egg Hunt next year.
- Easter breakfast is 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday Lenten soup.

Property

- has been very busy.
- They have 2 quotes for hooking up to municipal water.
- Steve Murphy is looking into air conditioning.
- Need a professional to evaluate heating system.

Communications-

- New directory is in the works.
- Brookfield Living-community outreach, grass roots approach. For example, putting Church info on stickers and attach them to Jesus figurines and leave them around the area.
- Press Release in Newtown Bee.

Pre School

-Open house for prospective new families is next Thursday, March 14 at 10 a.m. They are using the fellowship hall.

Motion to Adjourn made by Donna and Heather second. All were in favor.

Next executive meeting is on April 2 at 6:00 p.m. in person

Next council meeting is April 9 at 6:00 o'clock.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.





FAITH FORMATION

Prince of Peace, Brookfield, CT

PO Box 5184, 119 Junction Road, Brookfield, CT 06804

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00-10:45am during the service

kids start in class and join parents in church by Communion.

No advanced registration required!

Have sports conflicts? Attend class when you can.

Spring focuses on Jesus' teachings.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

11:15-11:45pm in the Green Room

Parents - send your kids to Youth Music Ministry while you are in Bible Study!

Two thousand years ago, Jesus told a simple story about a father and his two sons. This tale stands out because it is a story about each of us and our struggle with sin. Whether we identify with the rebellion of the younger son or the self-righteousness of the older brother, we all are in need of our Father's grace, mercy, and forgiveness.



In this five-session video-based Bible study, pastor and bestselling author John MacArthur provides fascinating new insights into this parable as he takes you step-by-step through each part of the tale. You will explore not only the shocking actions of the younger son in his rebellion but also the cold-hearted attitude of the older brother toward his family. You will find a reflection of yourself in each of these two sons—and come to understand, in a fresh and new way, what God does to find you where you are and bring you back to Him.

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taking
faith
home

Included on our website each week, these flyers are a simple, yet effective, tool to help your family extend your faith formation practices in your home.



FAITH 5



When modeled every week at church and practiced every night at home, FAITH5 carries the power to enrich communication, deepen understanding, and promote mental, and spiritual health. Learn more at <https://faithink.com/about-faith5>



formerly The Women's Center of Greater Danbury

February 29, 2024

Reverend Michael Anderson
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
PO Box 5184
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Reverend Anderson,

Because of you - domestic violence and sexual assault victims have the safety net of resources and services to turn to in a time of need. Thank you so very much for your thoughtful donation of \$455.00 received on 2/20/2024 from your "super Bowl of Caring" fundraising event.

The Center for Empowerment and Education is the leader in our region in helping victims of domestic and sexual violence navigate traumatic situations, become empowered to find their voice, and choose their path toward healing as they rebuild their lives from interpersonal violence. In addition, we are leading the way to prevent violence from manifesting in the first place through our Prevention Education efforts.

We are building communities through collaboration with people like you. Your support allows us to provide all our services at no cost to every individual and family in crisis. Your gift will help us deliver on our promise of being there daily, answering every call.

All of us -staff, volunteers, and clients - appreciate your generosity as we teach, and empower. Thanks to YOU we will continue to break the cycle of interpersonal violence in our community.

Once again, our sincere thanks,

Ashley Dunn, MS, MFT, NCC
President and CEO

Samantha Flynn, MPA
Chief Development Officer

Your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent allowed by the Internal Revenue Service.
Goods or services were not provided in return for this contribution.
Please retain this letter for tax purposes.

TheCenterCT.org

Headquarters
2 West Street Danbury, CT 06810
p: 203-731-5200 f: 203-731-5207
thecenter@thecenterct.org

**Sexual
Assault
Hotline**
203-731-5204

**Domestic
Violence
Hotline**
203-731-5206

**The
Center
Helpline**
203-731-5200

Prince of Peace

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

Friday, April 12th 6:00 p.m.

At the home of Donna & James Vitetta

143 Kohanza Street Danbury, CT

A little about Friday Night Live...

FNL is an evening consisting of adult couples and individuals, with good food and fellowship. We usually meet the 2nd or 3rd Friday evening of the month. We usually meet at a host home, or the host can decide to have it at church.

If you would like to attend, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex at the church or you can e-mail the host. Couples bring an entrée to serve eight and either an appetizer, a side dish or a dessert.

Individuals bring one item.

Please sign-up at the church or e-mail Donna at donnaavitetta@gmail.com if you would like to attend and what you will bring.

Please join us for an enjoyable evening!



CAMPUS CONTACT MINISTRY

We'd like your help collecting items to go into care packages for our college students participating in our campus contact ministry. Please bring any of these items that you can collect to church with you on or before **Sunday, April 28th** so that we can get the packages out to the college students in time for exams.

There are approximately 10 students who are participating in our Campus Contact Program this year. We will be packing up the items on **May 1st** at 1:00 p.m. if you would like to help. Many hands will make the packing go faster!!!!

microwave popcorn
single packs of hot cocoa
microwavable soup cups
microwavable macaroni and cheese
cold drink mixes
single packs of tea and instant coffee
candy and gum
packaged snacks

Please leave the items on the window seat under the sign in the narthex.

Thanks,
Marci Sharp
marcisharp703@gmail.com



Attention Knitters...

If you are making baby blankets and caps, please have them to the church by **Wednesday, May 8th**. We will be blessing them before sending them off to Global Health Ministries to be sent where needed in the world. Please just leave them under the mail boxes in a bag with my name on it. Thanks!

Marci Sharp



APRIL BIRTHDAYS	
3	Peter Fegley
6	Steve Davies
8	Ginger Coogle, Julie Parker
14	Doug Diefenbach
16	Matthew Adam
18	Pam Hohenshelt, Michael Staub
19	Jon Schroeder
20	Bill Schroeder
24	Keena Martel, Debbie Nobes
27	Steven Hohenshelt, Margaret Nicolais
28	Patty Fecarotta, Christopher Walsh

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES	
7	Dory & Ron Kutz
20	Melinda & Dennis Schroeder
23	Monica & Russell Walsh
25	Nancy Humphreys & Anthony D'Ausilio
30	Kim & Tom Maier Ginger & David Coogle

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

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

To the family and friends of Dee Omasta, a long time Prince of Peace member. She was 101 years old! There will be a funeral for Dee on Monday, April 22 at Prince of Peace. There will be a visitation in the "Green Room" from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The service will be at 11:00 a.m. and the cremation burial will follow in the PoP cemetery.

Dear Prince of Peace,

Thank you for your pledge of mission support to the New England Synod for 2024. It has been such a joy to work with you through the transition process and I am excited to see you welcome your new pastor. I hold you in prayer as you do that. Know that we continue to be a partner with you in ministry. Thank you for your commitment to our shared ministry across New England and beyond.

Peace,

Steven Wilco

Associate to the Bishop

Daily Bread Food Pantry Update

Please consider a tax-deductible donation today and periodically. Your contribution will help us serve the many hungry people in our community into the future and ensure that nobody gets turned away without food. As we've said before, food is available through state food banks at reduced prices and this can greatly increase the availability of food. To donate scan the code with your mobile device or visit dailybreadfoodpantry.com/donate-1 or mail a check payable to Daily Bread Food Pantry at P.O. Box 2, Danbury, CT 06813-0002.

The items that are listed below for the pantry tend to be the most nutritious and are easy to distribute.

Avoid glass jars and fragile packaging.

- Canned tuna, salmon or chicken
- Beans (canned or dry)
- Peanut butter
- Meal-in-a-can (beef stew, spaghetti & meatballs, etc.)
- Soup (especially chicken noodle)
- Rice (1, 2 or 3 pound bags)
- Pasta
- Macaroni and cheese
- Canned corn
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Breakfast cereal (hot or cold)
- Marinara sauce and canned tomato products

Toiletries:
Shampoo
Deodorant
Toothpaste

Thank you for your donations and prayers.

Nan Carlson and Mary Weisensee

PRINCE OF PEACE YOUTH GROUP

The Prince of Peace youth group will be meeting for a gathering on April 21st 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Any questions? Please contact Monica Walsh at mwalsh21@sbcglobal.net.



CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL 2022-2023

Name	Phone Number	E-mail Address
Paul Adam	203-797-1950	
Nancy Carlson	203-778-1171	nancsew@gmail.com
Liz Davies Vice President	203-241-7818	elizdavies15@gmail.com
Laura Duffy	203-270-8644	l.duffy@charter.net
Lorraine Lavery President	845- 416-0900	marc.lorrainelavery@gmail.com
Meegan Lepler	203-482-6993	meegan.lepler@gmail.com
Meg McLoone Vice President	203-775-1724	mkloon@yahoo.com
Heather Pontonio	203-947-9744	heather.pontonio@gmail.com
Jim Sharp	203 775-4657	jbsharpjr@gmail.com
Donna Vitetta Secretary	914-672-1209	donna vitetta@gmail.com
Monica Walsh	203-512-1166	mw Walsh21@sbcglobal.net

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

Church Contact Information:

By email – poplutheranchurch@sbcglobal.net

By phone – (203) 775-9070

Facebook Message – <https://www.facebook.com/popbrookfield>



The church office is open most weeks Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Please call first.

Worship Services

Go to our website to experience our virtual worship and giving opportunities.

Sunday's April 7, 14, 21, 28

10:00 a.m. in person inside worship

10:00 a.m. Zoom service and streamed to Facebook.

All holy week services will also be a Zoom service and streamed to Facebook

Contact Us

Website:

www.princeofpeacebrookfield.org

E-mail:

poplutheranchurch@sbcglobal.net

Phone: (203) 775-9070

Fax: (203) 775-9573

Email for Rev. Michael Anderson:

pastor@princeofpeacebrookfield.org

Cell phone: (203) 794-4694

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

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 5184
119 JUNCTION ROAD
BROOKFIELD, CT 06804

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

DATED MATERIAL, PLEASE DELIVER
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

April, 2024