

## **BLUEPRINTS**

### Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Newsletter

Volume 84, Number 7

**July 2020** 

### When will the Building be Open for Worship?

Short answer: We will probably aim for a September soft opening using the weeks before to determine necessary actions, assign responsibilities, purchases supplies, have a test run, and watch the number of virus cases.

Detailed answer: On the back of this page is a list of things that need to happen before we can open our doors for worship. (FYI - The Preschool has their own list of what needs to happen in their rooms before they can open).

Please review the list and see where you can help. In addition to seeking individuals to take responsibility for the items listed, we are also looking for a person or two to take oversite of the entire project.

Please speak with Pastor Lutz or a member of the Council for more information.

The Rev. Paul Lutz

### AN APPROACH TO RE-OPENING THE BUILDING (FOR WORSHIP ONLY) AT PRINCE OF PEACE, BROOKFIELD, CT

	ACTIVITY	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?
1. BEFORE WE ENTER		
а	Communication in advance with Congregation	
b	Signage (mask, distance, one person per restroom visit, etc.)	
С	Mark interior space to encourage 6 feet distancing - taping/marking/removal of chairs both in worship space and narthex, remove hymnals, etc.	
d	Register in advance of worship (online, email?)	
е	Clean/disinfect surfaces, furniture, and spaces before worship	
f	Create one-time paper bulletin	Rene
g	No Childcare, Sunday School or Adult Forum Activities	
2. AS WE ENTER		
а	Only registered worshipers/households may attend	
b	Stagger entrance time	
С	Assign Greeters/Welcome Ambassadors (need to train and supply with PPE)	
d	Temperature taken and entrance interview (like Doctor's office)	
е	Masks required (distribute as needed)	
f	Maintain 6 feet (canon, loveseat) of separation	
g	Pick up own bulletin (no usher) - service of the word (no singing, no Communion, no Peace, etc.)	
h	One person in bathroom at a time	
i	No food, beverages or water from cooler	
j	Hand sanitizers available for worshipers	
3. AS WE LEAVE		
а	Synchronized leaving for social distancing	
b	Place offering in designated basket	
С	Drop worship bulletin in recycling bin, if desired	
d	Clean/disinfect surfaces, furniture and spaces after worship	

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING UPDATE**

Congratulations and Welcome Aboard to the New Council!

The following individuals were elected to serve on the Congregational Council at the June 28, 2020 Congregational meeting: Susan Lehmann, Lorraine L. Lavery, Phil Curatilo, Casey Johanson, Kevin Peterson, Tina Giubileo, and Nancy Carlson.

They join the following disciples already serving as Council members: Andrew Confortini, Doug Berendsohn, Rich Mercado (Acting Treasurer), Julie Parker, Jerry Nabozny and Elizabeth Davies.

The first meeting of the new Council will be Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. over Zoom. At that meeting Congregational Officers (President, Two Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer) will be elected and council terms will be clarified.

The Council will be officially installed during worship in July.

### THANK YOU POP

**Wow!** Over 70 confirmed members of Prince of Peace, Brookfield, CT. participated in our first ever Zoom Congregational Meeting! (We took up three whole screens)!

Thank you for all of your patience and efforts to get online and experience this new technology serving our ministry and our Lord. (We missed those unable to connect. Next time).

FYI - Paper ballots will be accepted (in the snail mail, fax and email) through July 7<sup>th</sup> only from those who participated in the meeting.

Thank you again. I am impressed with your dedication, commitment, and willingness to try new ways of being the church. God is good!

~ Pastor Lutz

#### We Predict the Winner!

With 75% of the ballots turned in, we predict\* that both motions PASSED at the Jun 28, 2020 Congregational Meeting.

Welcome new Council members. It's time to get busy finding a buyer for Misty Hollow.

\*We are still accepting mail-in ballots to July 7. If the final count suggests otherwise we will let you know.

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, the church office hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. (other than federal holidays or when Rene is on vacation).



### REPORT FROM COUNCIL

The Congregational Council met on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 over Zoom.

Here are the highlights of the final meeting for this Council membership:

- Heard reports from the Re-formation Teams on their work with the ministry of Worship, Faith Formation, and Social Ministry.
- Confirmed a Congregational Meeting for Sunday June 28, 2020 over Zoom at 11:00 a.m. with voting only done using paper ballots. Only members of Prince of Peace that are present (online or phone) at the meeting will be able to vote. A quorum of 35 church members is required. Information on the voting process will be communicated to the congregation prior to the meeting, via email or snail mail. (see other article for Congregational meeting update.)
- Agreed to reduce salaries by 20% starting in July and for the foreseeable future. In addition, affirmed that any "new" spending must be approved in advance by the Executive Committee.
- Agreed to spend \$1700.00 to remove and clean ceiling in Youth room.
- Affirmed that effective July 1, 2020 Pre-School Director (Debbie Nobes) and Assistant Director (Heidi Riddle) will switch roles and compensation. They are working to prepare for a fall reopening.
- Hear that Grant Underwood will begin as our Church Musician with the worship recording for the first Sunday in July.
- Affirmed the recent survey of the Forward Leadership team (see elsewhere in the Blueprints for more information).
- Heard about the first Black Lives Matter gathering in Brookfield on Saturday June 20, 2020.

### GIVING STATEMENTS SENT OUT THE WEEK OF 6/29

(Statements are for activity period January 1– May 31)

Hopefully you recently received as an email or will receive in the snail mail soon, your current Giving Statement from Prince of Peace.

If you would like to receive an electronic statement instead of in the regular mail, please email Nicole Cable, Financial Secretary, and she will update the system.

In addition, she can run a statement at any time you may need it. Please contact her at: <a href="mailto:andcable03@yahoo.com">andcable03@yahoo.com</a> or home phone 203-775-8358.

I thank you for your returning to God a proportion of your income through the ministry of Prince of Peace. Your giving, especially during this pandemic, makes possible the continuation of our primary ministries as well as the introduction of new ministries.

Thanks to you we are providing weekly worship and learning opportunities, reaching out to members and friends with care and compassion and helping our neighbors in need through support of the Our Daily Bread Food Pantry, the Loaves & Fishes Hospitality center and the much used PoP Love/Discretionary Fund.

New ministries your giving made possible included music licenses for online worship broadcasting, Zoom and Constant Contact subscriptions for meetings, bible studies, and communications, as well as the ongoing Youth Room repairs, to name a few.

And while it may be easiest to see your offering as helping to keep us afloat, that would be misleading. It is only after you reflect and respond to the many blessings in your life by directing a portion of your financial resources to the ministry of Prince of Peace that such an accounting can be provided. In other words, what is done with your generous gifts is secondary.

Our first priority as Christians is to return to the Lord a proportion of what we have been given. It is for that Christian act that I thank you. It is that Christian act that I encourage you to maintain all summer long. As a favorite Offering Prayer of mine reminds us: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. LBW.

~ Pastor Lutz

#### VIRTUAL WORSHIP

Please join us whenever convenient for your household for virtual worship. Each Sunday service is posted by 8 a.m. on



our website. The abbreviated virtual worship experience including hymns you can sing along with, a gospel story worth telling, a sermon that speaks to our current reality, prayers for the community and world and community announcements about what's happening at PoP. Check your email for the link or go our website (<a href="http://princeofpeacebrookfield.org/">http://princeofpeacebrookfield.org/</a>) and click on the date of the service you would like to experience.

### OFFERING AND TITHES

Please help us stay current with our financial obligations during this difficult time.

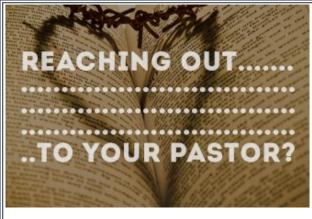
We say "Thank You" to all who have mailed in their offerings.

We are now able to offer online giving here.



Now you can give a one time gift or a reoccurring gift through a checking account or a debit/credit card.

Please use this link to set up. https://princeofpeacebrookfield.org/giving/



### HOW TO REACH THE PASTOR

And as always, Pastor Lutz is easily accessible. You can e-mail him

(<u>poppastorpaul@sbcglobal.net</u>), call him on his cell (609.578.7921) or post on his Facebook page (<u>https://www.facebook.com/plutznij</u>). Although there will be no regular office hours, the church phone is checked every couple of days for messages.

# "Creating Community" Email Devotions sent on Mondays



Creating Community is an email devotion to guide your preparation for worship next weekend.

Imagine how much more clear and relevant God's Word will be if you have had an opportunity to read, reflect, and dwell in the Word prior to worship. You may do this devotion as an individual, with others, as a family or over Zoom as a small group. Each devotion arrives on Monday and can be engaged in anytime before Sunday's worship.

The devotion includes three simple steps:

- 1. Read through the text (provided)
- 2. Respond to the questions (select one of the sets of questions from the three possibilities)
- 3. Offer a Prayer (one is provided)

If you would like to receive these devotions please sign up on our website.

### DAILY BREAD FOOD PANTRY IS SEEKING DONATIONS.



Please consider a food or monetary donation to the DAILY BREAD FOOD PANTRY during this pandemic.

Your food-insecure neighbors will benefit from your donations of: Black beans or any kind of canned or bagged beans; Rice in 1,2 or 3 lbs. bags: Pasta any kind: Cereal - Cheerios, Corn Flakes. Rice Krispies (no sweet cereals); Tomato sauce in cans; Tuna; Chicken in cans; Peanut butter: Pork & beans or meals in cans; Canned vegetables, especially corn.

Drop off your food items or checks (payable to DAILY BREAD FOOD PANTRY) to the church's freshly painted front door anytime. Your neighbors thank you.



### THE LOVE FUND IS LOW

If you would like to help replenish the love fund in order that we may continue to assist those struggling, please make your check payable to Prince of Peace and write "Love Fund" in the memo. Our neighbors in need would really appreciate it.

### Where is Prince of Peace?

During this pandemic Prince of Peace's doors may be closed, but God's work continues through our hands! Our Social Ministry has sprung to the task of bringing Prince of Peace to our community and the world.

Here is a sample of what is happening:

- -Prince of Peace Community Sewing Group- a group of both POP members and community members worked together to respond to the needs of those who were working closely with COVID patients. These items were donated to Danbury Hospital (Emergency Room, 8th and 12th floors), Greenwich Hospital, Bridgeport Hospital, and Danbury Visiting Nurses. Also face masks are being made for church members, family and friends and any community member who was in need. The group's sewing machines are still humming with face masks being made for Nursing homes and Food Banks (Filosa/ Hancock Hall, Bethel Health Care, Brookfield & Bethel Food Pantry, & Daily Bread Food Pantry). Approximately 1,500 scrub caps and face masks have been created by this talented group!
- -Loaves and Fishes- small groups of 2 are serving food on the 2nd Sunday of each month following state guidelines for safety. Meals are being prepared and handed out in bags.
- **-Daily Bread** members provide food and monetary donations to support those in need of food at this time
- -Naomi Circle- blankets, quilts, baby blankets and hats created by POP members and then shipped to those in need in the world.
- **-LOVE fund-** monetary donations that Pastor Lutz can pass onto those in the community in need.

Alleluia! POP is alive and well, serving those in need!

~ Monica Walsh







### THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO COMPLETED OUR RECENT 4 QUESTION SURVEY.



We appreciate your responses. There are lots of good stories about PoP. They will help the Forward Leadership Team as we attempt to better understand the unique mission and ministry of our great faith community.

It's not too late. You can find the survey by going to the web address below.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FNVTHVD

### **Prince of Peace Pre-School**

The past few months have been challenging for the Pre-School as we've been navigating these uncertain times. We have been in weekly meetings with the State to help understand the required changes for opening and operating for the 2020-2021 school year. We are confident we will be able to create a plan to support the families in our community. Between the new state mandated class size parameters and parent unease, our enrollment is a bit down. We currently have 69 children registered, with openings in our 3's and 4's Tuesday/Thursday classes.

Best.

Heidi Riddle Pre-School Director



### **SEEKING PHOTO ALBUMS**

I am in the process of archiving photos for the church. If anyone has a photo album that they would like to donate please contact me at (203) 775-4657 or email me at bowmanrae@aol.com. They can be dropped off in the plastic bin in front of the church doors. Thanks.

~ Marcí Sharp

### **JULY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Louise Riley
- 2 Jacob Johansen, Dory Kutz, Joyce Rannestad
- 3 Frieda Braun, Gene Passarella
- 7 David Coogle
- 9 Johnna Fettinger
- 10 Alie Weis
- 13 Daniel McLoone, Amanda Keith, Ryan Keith
- 15 Polly Groff, Mike Hallock, Jennifer Keith
- 17 Kim Maier
- 18 Megan Shaw
- 19 Pam McMillen, Ryan Zimmitti
- 20 Patrick Fettinger,Carolyn Palmer, Russell Walsh
- 23 Al Morey, Dennis Schroeder, Cole Conley
- 24 Caleb Coogle, Andrew Confortini
- 25 Madeline Neeb
- 26 Laura Duffy
- 28 Madeleine Sanger
- 30 Laurie Fay
- 31 John Fegley



### **JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 5 Laura & Bill Duffy
- 10 Donna Wright Murphy& Stephen Murphy
- 12 Joyce & Harold Rannestad
- 13 Cheryl & Michael Hallock Jennifer & Richard Keith
- 21 Gail & Ernie Lehman
- 22 Josh & Megan Shaw
- 23 Matt & Chris KlauckCynthia & Jerry Nabozny
- 25 Debi & Bill Neeb
- 26 Eva & Andrew Koehm Michael & Kristen Mattera

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

### **NOTE OF THANKS**

Thank you for all of the sympathy cards and messages that you sent me on Don's passing. It was greatly appreciated to know that I have such a loving and caring congregation sharing their concern and drawing us together during these difficult times.

~ Mary Peters



### Virtual Worship Services

We are online for worship, study, giving and fellowship!

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

Zoom confirmation happens on Tuesday evenings and a Zoom Women's Bible Study happens on the third Wednesday (7.15) at 10:00 a.m.

Join us each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. for a Zoom Fellowship/Coffee Hour.

For more information and a secure invite, please contact Pastor Lutz.

#### **Contact Us**

Pastor: The Rev. Paul Lutz

Website: www.princeofpeacebrookfield.org

E-mail: poplutheranchurch@sbcglobal.net

Phone: (203) 775-9070

Fax: (203) 775-9573

#### Our vision...

"Prince of Peace is a loving and caring family of Christians. We gather to hear the Christian story in word and song and to experience that story through the sacraments. The members of our family are involved in a mission of Christian unity. Through worship and Christian fellowship we are empowered to commit our talents in a way that makes a difference in our lives and the lives of those we touch."

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

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**July 2020**