



# BLUEPRINTS

## Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Newsletter

Volume 85, Number 2

February, 2021

Dear Disciples at Prince of Peace,

The season of Lent will soon be upon us. (February 17, 2021.) This is the season that we struggle with greater intensity against everything that pulls us away from loving God and our neighbor. It is the time we intentionally and purposefully join in with God's work in the world.

Here is the rub for many of us though. We often struggle to see God at work in our world, our lives. We know what God did: God created the world and then came to save it through the death and resurrection of Jesus. We know what God will do: God will take each of us to heaven when we die, and Jesus will come again to usher us in to the kingdom of God. We have down fairly well the past tense and the future of God's work, but we often are not as clear or confident about saying what God is doing right now.

It is often in the present that we struggle to recognize God at work. But Jesus's ministry is focused heavily on living now, and he spends much of his teaching time helping us to worry less about the future and engage more in the present. The stories the church tells during Lent make this clear. And the adult studies (Bible Project, Binge Reading the Gospel of Mark, etc.) we offer will also provide ample evidence of God sighting in our world today.

"Follow me", says Jesus, "and I will send you out to do things you never before dreamed of. I will make it possible for you to follow, to invite, to tell Good News stories not only in church but also to your neighbor, your co-worker, your spouse, a stranger. I will make it possible for you to not only recognize my work in the work but to be part of it. I will make it possible for you to fish for people. I can do this."

Wow. Makes you wonder where this Lent will lead us. This I know - if God is the one doing the calling then our actions will always draw us together, towards the kingdom, as God makes possible that which we never even imagined or anticipated, in our world, our lives, right here and right now.

Let's get ready to recommit to follow this amazing Lord – in worship, study and service (See the My Preparation for Easter 2021 on the next page for ideas). Let's be eager to join in the work God has called us to in the world this season.

Yours on the journey,

The Rev. Paul Lutz, Pastor

# MY PREPARATION FOR EASTER 2021

Lent is a time to prepare for Easter. It is a necessary prelude. The death and resurrection of Christ are true whether or not I prepare for Easter. However, without my heart and life being ready, I may not experience the depth and power of Christ's death and resurrection. So, with my brothers and sisters, I commit myself to disciplines for conversion from sin and death to love and life in Jesus Christ in order that God may "create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me." With the aid of the list below, I make the following commitments to discipline and growth for the next six weeks:

(Check the ones you desire or feel prompted to do; circle the ones you then decide to do.)

## Inward and Personal Disciplines

- Spend time in solitude each day - possibly 9:00 a.m. Daily silent prayer in the chapel.
- Read through the weekly *Creating Community* e-mail devotion  
(sign up at <https://princeofpeacebrookfield.org/>) or use the *Taking Faith Home* insert as a family (found on our website).
- Read twice through the Gospel of Mark, the primary gospel source this year.
- Begin to keep a journal of prayer concerns, questions, reading.
- Focus on thanksgiving, rather than on asking, in prayer.
- Give myself a gift of three hours to do something I always say I don't have time to do.
- Get and use your Lenten journey pack - including ashes. (See page 5)**
- Make a list of people with whom I need to be reconciled. Pray for them and let Jesus guide me in my thinking and feeling toward them.
- Participate in Midweek Lent activities each Wednesday beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a Soup and Bread Supper as a way to stop and give thanks.
- Participate in all of the Holy Week services as an act of love and waiting with Jesus.
- Take one hour to inventory my priorities and plans, and, if need be, consider how I will reorder them.
- Give up a grudge or a rehearsal of a past event.
- Forgive someone who has hurt me.
- Other promptings:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Outward and Social Disciplines

- Take on some loving task, such as \_\_\_\_\_.
- Plan to call, write a letter, or visit a "homebound" neighbor or church member; consider becoming a Member Caller or post-hospital stay visitor.
- Participate in one of the Zoom Faith formation opportunities.
- Listen and respond to Christ's call to a ministry of service through: Camp Calumet, Loaves and Fishes, Danbury Food Pantry, Brookfield Food Pantry, others.
- Go to coffee or dinner with someone you want to know better.
- Call the Red Cross to schedule a blood donation.
- Say "NO" to something that is a waste of money and time.
- Pray to God to help you resist racial prejudice and to give you courage in opposing it.
- Decide to recognize the benefit of joining Prince of Peace and speak to a pastor or leader about what is involved in becoming a disciple.
- Find a way to live out the baptismal promise to "resist evil, injustice, and oppression" in the power and liberty God gives us by \_\_\_\_\_.
- Become a Secret Prayer Partner.

### **As a way of being accountable, I will either:**

- Share my intentions for Lent with my Committee, Team, or small group at its next meeting, or
- Share my plan with at least one other person and share with that person my experience of Lent during Holy Week.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

# WORSHIP IN



Continuing through February 2021 worship will remain at 9:30 a.m. (over Zoom). Each service can also be watched at 9:30 a.m. on Facebook Live or viewed at another time or day using the link on our website. See the PoP weekly emails for the Zoom link. There are additional worship opportunities listed on the next page.

**There are three options (Four, if you count not participating at all. Not a recommended option.)**

1. You are invited to join us for Zoom worship and stay after for some fellowship time. You'll need to provide your own coffee or morning beverage of choice. There is no need to leave the zoom worship meeting and enter the zoom coffee hour meeting. Worship will flow into Fellowship. And, you can stay for as little time or as long of a time as you like.
2. You are invited to join us for Zoom worship and leave when the worship has concluded.
3. You are invited to join us for Fellowship/Coffee Hour without participating in worship, where we catch up with each other, talk about PoP, and share in Christian community.

The same Zoom invite will be used for both worship and Fellowship. You will be admitted at 9:30 a.m. for worship. If you click in close to 10:15 a.m. you will be admitted as soon as worship is concluded. Again, you can stay for as little time or as long of a time as you like. See the PoP weekly emails for the Zoom link. We will use the same link through the season of Lent.



## **Reminder - Fellowship/Coffee Hour Goes Earlier**

The consensus of the Coffee/Fellowship Hour participants was to add this social time immediately following worship. The Fellowship/Coffee Hour will begin at the conclusion of the worship service (approx. 10:15 a.m.).

# OTHER UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## FM Communion in the Parking Lot

There will be four services of the "***FM communion in the parking lot***" experience (based on our Christmas day service).

They are all the *second* Sunday of the month.

- **February 14<sup>th</sup>**
- **March 14<sup>th</sup>**
- **April 11<sup>th</sup>**
- **May 9<sup>th</sup>**

## Ashes to Go

### **Get Your Lenten Journey Pack – including Ashes**

Each envelope includes a variety of options for children, youth and adults to support your five-week journey of faith from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday.

Including **packet of ashes** (enough for up to 6 individuals), coloring pages, activities, a craft, conversation cards, and a holy week reading guide.

**Pick up your packet at church starting Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> or call the office and we will arrange to have it delivered to you!**

A pre-recorded ***Ash Wednesday*** service in the sanctuary. The service can be watched anytime convenient on Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Wednesdays in Lent – suitable for the entire family – all over Zoom

- 6:30 p.m. Soup and Bread Supper
- 7:00 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer
- 7:30 pm A Thirty-minute Bible Project Zoom class

## **INDIVIDUAL COMMUNION IS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT**

Time is available during the week when you can come in, hear the words of institution, community prayers, eat and drink the bread and wine and meditate on this spiritual gift in solitude. Please contact Pastor Lutz if you would like to receive communion at Prince of Peace.





## COUNCIL UPDATE

The Congregational Council met on Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

Here are some of the items they discussed:

- We welcome the new members into the POP Congregation.
- Need to do some Spring Cleaning? In April, we will be collecting items to bring to Savers to collect a donation to go towards the Daily Bread. More information to come.
- Ashes will be provided for the Ash Wednesday Service on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> and Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Council retreat is Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> from 8 to 12 noon. The topic is “Finding our Why”, with help from the Forward Leadership Team.
- During Lent on Wednesdays there will be the following over Zoom - 6:30 p.m. congregational Soup and Bread supper, 7:00 p.m. Holden Evening prayer, and 7:30 p.m. a Bible Project video series discussion.
- There will be parking lot communion services on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month starting in February.

February 10<sup>th</sup> Executive Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

February 17<sup>th</sup> Full Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

## BINGE READING THE GOSPEL OF MARK

You are invited to join with others in a binge reading of the Gospel of Mark. Mark is the primary source of our Sunday Gospel stories during this liturgical year. This will be a one time event during the season of Lent. You can get a head start by reading it through the gospel yourself. It takes about 90 minutes. But don't give away any spoilers.

Please let Pastor Lutz know if you have an interest in any or all of these special congregational events.

# CAN WE FEED THE LEAST OF THESE?

In Matthew 25, beginning with verse 35, we remember the all too pertinent thought that to inherit the Kingdom of God....we need to feed him and give him something to drink. God says, "I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me...." The righteous will answer, Lord when was it when I saw you hungry and gave you food? The Lord answers, "Truly, I tell you , just as you did it to the least of these, who are members of my family, you did it to me".

So, God tells us to feed and give something to drink to those who need it along with all the other essentials of survival. Those needy people are increasing as we speak. The pandemic has taken jobs from workers. They have elderly parents and children to feed and care for.

## The Plan:

We can have a fundraiser with Savers. We can accumulate gently used and usable goods and Savers will weigh them and donate the money which we raise to **the Daily Bread Food Pantry in Danbury**. Spring cleaning is always a good time to get rid of our excesses.

We can store the things in the Misty Hollow garage until April and we can then deliver it at a designated time to Savers and the money will go to a direct deposit for the Food Pantry.

We will need gently used and clean clothing and shoes, housewares like table clothes, bedding, blankets, and small appliances, some furniture. If you have been there, you know what they have at Savers.

Items must be contained in yard sized leaf bags or plastic garbage bags.

## The Outcome:

Savers receives a bunch of stuff and Daily Bread Food Pantry receives money to buy food at wholesale cost. A nice outcome is that our cabinets, closets, and storage areas get relieved of unneeded stuff

It is a win-win-win!

A New Fairfield church recently raised over \$1,000. Can you help match this?

Feeding so many people is such a good thought. It is what God told us to do.

Nan Carlson

203-778-1171

nancsew@gmail.com



# Fundraiser Progress Report

Prince of Peace is now officially registered for the fundraiser for the **Daily Bread Food Pantry** with Savers. Husband Ken has declared war with the mouse patrol in the garage at Misty Hollow. Two mice proved that they like peanut butter and subsequently met their demise. I am sure that there are many more around and we will investigate mouse deterrents. Let us know if you have a favorite as we would like to prevent damage to the goods which we will store in the garage. One sure deterrent is to protect items in plastic bins. That worked well for craft fair supplies in the past.

We will have the garage cleaned up this week and will start collections on Saturday mornings or by appointment. The key is in the church office so you may pick up the key from Rene and bring it back to her when you are finished. Let me know if you need to have your donations picked up.

We will need many bags or boxes to make a substantial donation so start saving now. Mention to your friends and neighbors. Spread the word!

We **cannot** take books, Cd's, DVD's, furniture, luggage, or golf clubs.

We **can** take clothing , shoes accessories, cloth housewares (bedding, spreads, curtains, tablecloths towels). We can also take kitchenware, nick knacks, picture frames, holiday decorations, toys, board games. Children's stuff is very popular.

Items must be gently used and clean and in resaleable condition. If you think it is garbage, it probably is, so do not bring it. If you or someone else might like it, bring it.

Working small appliances must fit into a copy paper sized carton, or similar size. Certain things like drapes and large blankets can be donated in **yard bags** which are meant for yard cleanup.

Clothing and similar items can be brought in **white garbage bags**. Items should be in the garage before Easter, which is April 4 this year. Things need to be contained for a weigh in and this will occur on April 22. At that time, we will need help to load up and deliver to Savers.

In the meantime, see if you can loan some plastic bins to us for a few months. We will return them if your name is on them.

Nan Carlson

203-778-1171



# FAITH FORMATION

Prince of Peace, Brookfield, CT

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

## LENT ACTIVITIES

**Join us every Wednesday on Zoom  
(Feb. 24 – March 31)**

6:30 pm Soup and Bread Supper  
7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer  
7:30 pm Bible Project Conversation

Adults, youth, and children will enjoy each activity, even as they help prepare us for the celebration of Easter.

Look for more information and the Wednesday's in Lent Zoom link in the Friday Weekly email blast



## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Weekly Zoom "Everyday Spirituality" discussion will take a break during Lent and resume in the season of Easter.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



The monthly WELCA Women's Bible study will take place on the **3rd Wednesday of each month.**

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.

**For more information on these and other learning opportunities, contact the church office, Pastor Paul or check out the weekly update email.**

Don't miss the weekly **CreatingCommunity** email devotion to help you and your household prepare for worship by dwelling in the word, responding to questions, praying and signing together. Sign up to have the devotion arrive in your email box every Monday.

## **TWO EASY WAYS TO ENHANCE YOUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

Do you shop at Amazon? Have Amazon Prime? Well the next time you shop go to Amazon Smile and select “Prince of Peace Lutheran Church”. Be certain to select the one in Brookfield CT. There are many others.) Then each time you make a purchase Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Prince of Peace. Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. But now you can support Prince of Peace by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).



Are you a member of Thrivent Financial? If so, you have two ways to exercise your financial stewardship. The first is that your account is earning “Choice Dollars” that you can direct to Prince of Peace several times a year. There is no cost to you and any Choice Dollars not distributed from your account are lost. Second, you have up to \$500 available to you in a Thrivent Action Team kit. There is an application and the funds must be used to help others in the church or in the world but it’s yours for the asking. For more information talk to your Thrivent Associate or Joe Tucciarone, Financial Associate, New Milford, 800-972-5716.

## **REMEMBER PRINCE OF PEACE IN YOUR WILL**

As Christians, what we leave behind is much more than a track record of daily events. A meaningful legacy enables the gospel’s message to ring clearly and ensures those who follow us will discover what it means to be church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

A gift in your will or other type of legacy gift can provide Prince of Peace with the opportunity to explore and develop ways of undertaking ministry differently. Support that continues beyond your lifetime lays the foundation for a stable and exciting future that will continue to bring Christ’s vital and vibrant message of community, compassion, and hope to others.

Speak to Rich Mercado, Treasurer or to your financial advisor for more information.

# PRINCE OF PEACE PRE-SCHOOL

The Prince of Peace Pre-School has begun registration for the 2021/2022 school year. We have been giving tours after school hours, to many interested families. We are looking ahead to the coming school year with excitement.

Registration forms can be found on our website below.

<https://www.princeofpeacepreschool.org/family-info.html>.

The Pre-School is having a lot of fun celebrating snow and snowmen.

Families have begun submitting fun photos of their children in the snow. This school wide bulletin board is serving to connect families during this challenging time. A virtual Valentine's Day event is being planned for the month of February. This will provide engagement for the children and help to join our families.



*Heidi Riddle*

Pre-School Director



Prince of Peace Pre-School

119 Junction Rd Brookfield CT 203-775-0140

# **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 their most needed Non-perishable items:

**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**

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.





## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Patrick McRedmond
- 6 Amelinda Manka
- 9 Daniel Hall
- 10 Anthony D'Ausilio
- 11 Melissa Bernardez, Erik Zimmitti
- 20 Gottfried Perbix
- 21 Fred Herpel, Steven Kleppin,  
Mary Peters
- 29 Cheryl Hallock

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Gayle & Ken Schulz
- 12 Christine & Fred Buzzell
- 15 Lisa & Emil Manka

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

Our thoughts and prayers are with Christine Buzzell and her family on the death of her mother, Florence Ruth Wilson Baker of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Please keep her family in your prayers during this difficult time.

## NOTE OF THANKS

Laurie and Kevin Fay would like to thank everyone who has reached out to express condolences for the loss of Laurie's mom in December. We are grateful that she is no longer suffering, yet deeply saddened that she is no longer here with us.

*Laurie & Kevin Fay*

## NOTE OF THANKS

January 20, 2021

To our friends at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your participation and support in our Angel Tree Program. We appreciate all your time, effort and kindness during these challenging times. Together, we were able to make sure the children in our wonderful community had a gift to open on Christmas morning. We wish you and yours a very happy new year.

Many blessings,

*Major Giselle Acosta  
Corps Officer*

The Salvation Army - Danbury Corps

# **WE THANK GOD FOR SENDING NEW DISCIPLES INTO OUR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ON JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>.**

**Here they are:**

Don Groff

Brian and Jackson Kurth

John, Meegan, Sam and Noah Lepler

William (Bill) and Renate Nalley

James (Jim) and Donna Vitetta

Alan, Nicole, Jackson and Luke Werner

**Please see some of our new members on the next page. We look forward to getting some more information and photos of some of our other new members.**

If you would like contact information on any of our new members, please contact the church office. A digital copy of the church directory is available upon request.



We are the **Werner Family**. We live in New Milford CT and are excited to be joining Prince of Peace. Alan is a water systems contractor working for Werner Well and Pump Service. Nicole is a nurse. Our boys are Jackson age 3.5 and Luke age 1.5 and we have one more on the way! Also, can't forget about our two dogs Chloe and Mac.



**Don Groff**

Hello, we are the **Lepler Family** - Meegan, Jonathan, Sammy (age 7) and Noah (age 4). We live in Brookfield. Sammy is in 1st grade and enjoys building Legos, practicing Taekwondo and playing soccer. Noah is in pre-school and he enjoys doing whatever big brother is doing, oh and loves all matchbox and hot wheels cars! Meegan is very grateful to be home with the boys while Jonathan works in excavation.





# BROOKFIELD CARES

Promoting social and emotional wellness in our community.

## Brookfield Cares Annual Report: 2020

### Background

The purpose of this report is to inform the public about Brookfield Cares and its efforts to address public health concerns. Our focus has been and remains the health and welfare of the community as a whole.

Brookfield Cares is a 501c(3) organization, which enables us to solicit funds to allow us to expand the work that is being done in the community.

### Mission

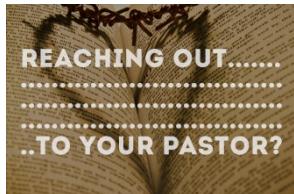
Our mission is clear:

*Brookfield Cares is a community based organization dedicated to promoting awareness and education by focusing on the impact of substance abuse, depression, suicide, and other public health concerns.*

We continue to work hard to reach the entire community on issues that have an impact on our daily lives including addiction, drug and alcohol use and abuse, anxiety and depression, eating disorders, suicide, mental health issues, smoking/vaping, and bullying. In this regard we make an attempt to work with all factions of the community through their representation on the coalition. We have initiated a variety of programs to further our mission and goals. The more our community can be informed and engaged, the healthier our community will become.

## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Phone Number	E-mail Address
Doug Berendsohn	(860) 799-0552	dougberendsohn@gmail.com
Nancy Carlson	(203) 778-1171	nancsew@gmail.com
Phil Curatilo	(203) 312-0268	pcuratilo@gmail.com
Liz Davies	(203) 241-7818	elizdavies15@gmail.com
Tina Giubileo	(715) 797-6858	tinagiubileo@yahoo.com
Casey Johansen	(860) 350-8152	casey.johansen71@gmail.com
Lorraine Lavery <b>Secretary</b>	(845) 416-0900	marc.lorrainelavery@gmail.com
Susan Lehmann <b>Vice President</b>	(203) 744-2033	lleh45@sbcglobal.net
Rich Mercado <b>Acting Treasurer</b>	(203) 775-0185	rpm1348@aol.com
Gerry Nabozny <b>President</b>	(860) 355-2052	gnabozny6868@gmail.com
Julie Parker <b>Vice President</b>	(203) 313-0600	jksp66@gmail.com
Kevin Peterson	(203) 740-8261	kevinrpeterson@gmail.com
You?		



### HOW TO REACH THE PASTOR

Pastor Lutz is easily accessible. You can e-mail him ([poppastorpaul@sbcglobal.net](mailto:poppastorpaul@sbcglobal.net)), call him on his cell (609.578.7921) or post on his Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/plutznj>).

# Worship Services

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

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

Join us for Sunday's worship over Zoom on February 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 9:30 a.m.

Ash Wednesday, February 17 - Pre-recorded worship service to be watched at any time that day. Zoom Women's Bible Study happens on the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

Join us each Sunday at 10:15 a.m. for a Zoom Fellowship/Coffee Hour (immediately following zoom worship no need to call back in).

## Contact Us

Pastor: The Rev. Paul Lutz

Website: [www.princeofpeacebrookfield.org](http://www.princeofpeacebrookfield.org)

E-mail: [poplutheranchurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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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February 2021