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Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

455 Missouri Avenue North

Largo, FL 33770

Tel: 727-585-9969

info@poplargo.org

www.poplargo.org

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NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT

The afterglow of a strong time of serving our Lord together can be especially warming. Each year I hear stories from folk about our Health and Safety Fair and other large serving events that stir my heart. This year I have heard from several youth about their experiences over the summer with Matthew, Monday, Mission, Meal [not sure if that's the exact name, but you know what I mean].

The excitement and exhaustion that comes from serving together, worshipping together, being together in Christ our Lord inspires us all.

What about asking someone to be a part of it all with you...us?

So many opportunities in the months ahead! Just check the newsletter. Special worship times together as we Pray Around the Cross September 13. Women, join other women in retreat September 30. Be a part of the fun when we 'Guess' Who's Coming to Dinner October 7.

October 31 marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing 95 Theses to the church door—what we observe as the beginning of the Reformation. In adult learning times on Wednesdays and Sundays, we are witnessing how this reformation took more than Luther. Courageous individuals from many different countries called for change. Come see!

Our middle school youth will be learning more about reformation in retreat with youth from all over the Synod later in October.

All of these opportunities and many more [from choirs to quilt tying to...] are not just for those who call themselves members of PoP. They are for everyone, just like worship on Sunday morning – for everyone. Bring a friend. Tell others about how we are trying to live as God's people in Christ. As our Lord's friends said to their friends about Jesus, "Come and see!"



Come visit our Peace Garden!

PEACE GARDEN AND COMMEMORATIVE WALKWAY UPDATE

We are grateful for an anonymous donation which was recently received to encourage anyone who has not yet placed an order due to personal financial constraints to do so. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact Bernadette in the Church Office at 727.585.9969.

Our second order of engraved pavers has been received and the pavers are in place in the walkway. We are now working on our third order which will be placed at the end of September. Special thanks to Tom Loesch and our Gardening Angels for putting together a small sitting area between Morack Hall and the COC. Our Peace Garden has become a welcoming addition to our campus and a lovely place for conversation, meditation and prayer. What a wonderful blessing.

How Did You Learn to Give?



It's a question that arose naturally in a meeting of church folk discussing what God has given us. Have you ever thought about it?

Are we talking about money? Yes, but really, anything we have that we consider "ours," whether money, our time, abilities or elbow grease.

Scripture brims over with examples of how God gives so generously. But, for all of us who give, it's good to turn aside and consider how we learned to do so. It is also good to hear one another's stories, because God's work in each of our lives can be inspiring for all of us.

Did a relative teach you – overtly or by example? Was it a friend? How did that happen? Could have been a Sunday school teacher, youth leader, a teacher from school or your neighbor. How old were you? Was it an epiphany? Are you still learning? Why is it memorable for you?

Oh, and as you are pondering, here's one more question...

What do you know about giving that you wish you had known when you were younger?

Inspire us all. Jot down your story and send it to Kari Sheppard at ksheppard@me.com. Or, drop it by the Church Office.

Your Stewardship Task Group, Kim Adams, Frankie Rogers, Kari Shepherd and Pr. Joe, will be sharing these stories with everyone during October.

How Did You Learn to Give?

"...they gave themselves first to the Lord and, then by the will of God, to us..."

II Corinthians 8:5

GET INVOLVED WITH PRINCE OF PEACE PRESCHOOL

PRINCE OF PEACE PRESCHOOL 
Making Learning Fun!

The new school year is well underway at Prince of Peace Preschool. This past summer, a preschool support committee was formed to determine ways in which our congregation can become a more integral part of this vital ministry. Conversations with Kelly Mende, the Preschool Director, teachers, and parents took place to determine the needs and opportunities for congregational support. Numerous ways were suggested for small group ministries and individual members to become involved.

Some of these opportunities include:

- adopt a class
- volunteer in a classroom
- assist with special events like holiday parties
- send birthday cards to students
- read a story, prepare a craft project
- provide and serve morning coffee and donuts once a month for parents
- teacher appreciation activities
- provide wish list items (paper goods, art materials, cot sheets, or contributions to buy what is needed)

As a congregation, we have the opportunity to provide a ministry of love to children, to support parents, and to serve our community. To find out more about how you can use your God-given talents and gifts to assist young children and their families, contact Margo, 727.421.7030 or margo.wallbolt@mac.com



Don Rolander to Retire

The news came to your mailbox just recently. Our brother in Christ, Don Rolander, has announced his retirement. After 42 years supporting our song to the Lord, he has decided to change gears. While his last Sunday in the choir loft is All Saints Sunday November 5, we are planning a celebration to honor our friend a little later.

On November 5 we will, of course, hold a reception following 11AM worship. It will give us time to talk and share stories, even while the music of the day's worship still echoes. However, we are waiting to say our "thank you" and "thanks be to God" until after the busy-ness of November and December.

On Sunday January 21, we have planned a luncheon at 1:30 PM to honor our friend. Festivities will take place at the Clearwater Country Club. In order to accommodate everyone, the planning team asks that you make reservations as soon as possible (seating is limited). The cost per person is \$10. The actual cost is more, but the congregation is paying that additional amount.

Soon Lois Joldersma and Marian Wurertz will be outside the sanctuary on Sunday mornings to greet you and receive your reservation. You may also contact the Church Office.

We look forward to this special day in our life together—to share some laughs, see some ancient photos [yes, he did indeed have a curly hairdo at one time!] and celebrate the ministry of our brother in Christ.

We are grateful to the Planning Team for their diligent work: Lois Joldersma, Carol Millspaugh, Frankie and Don Rogers, John and Marian Wuertz.

POPARTS VISIT SOUTHEASTERN GUIDE DOGS CAMPUS!

September 29th, 8:45AM

Let's meet at the church at 8:45AM and carpool for a 10:00AM program, "Creation of A Super Hero." We'll be seated for an hour and a half presentation.

The cost is \$10 each, to be given to Faye prior to September 29th. We will travel up to Ellenton Mall for a luncheon. The restaurant will soon be selected.

JIM & JUDY PIOTTER

Recently, we received a letter in the mail from InFaith Community Foundation, the organization where we have our Prince of Peace Endowment Fund invested. We thought it was just a routine communication. However, when we opened it, we discovered a letter bearing the names Judy and Jim Piotter. Some of you will remember them. Judy served on Congregation Council, with our WELCA group, as a reader at worship and more. Jim struggled off and on for years with many health issues.

As it goes, Jim died in 2012 six years after Judy. And yet just this month we received a gift from them, arriving at a time of year when our giving is a little lower. It came because of an amount they had set aside to make annual gifts to Prince of Peace. I wouldn't be surprised if they did that for other ministries, too. What a blessing!

QUICK CONNECTIONS

Together On Our Own

Labor Day Cookout
September 4th | 3:00pm at Vivian's

Naomi Circle Update

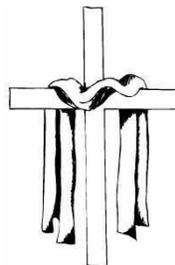
September 6th | 10:30am in Parish Hall

Ruth's Promise Advisory Board

September 11th | 4:30pm in Parish Hall

PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

Last year we began periodically coming together on Wednesday nights for a time of prayer. We call it Prayer Around the Cross. We gather near the steps of the chancel. You can sit in pews or in chairs on the side. Laid on the steps is a large cross with candles all around. The lights are a little lower. As we pray, sing softly, listen to scripture and just sit in silence, you may choose to light a candle and set it beside the cross. The pastors will lead us in prayer for our world, nation and leaders. We pray for what is happening with our families, dear friends, workmates and strangers. We pray for ourselves – decisions, challenges and joys.



Join us on Wednesday September 13 at 7:07PM for Prayer Around the Cross.

LOOK WHAT'S AHEAD! POP HAPPENINGS & MORE...

GRANDS WEEKEND AT LUTHER SPRINGS SEPTEMBER 8-10, 2017



Bring your grandchildren for a weekend of spiritual growth & fun! Each day includes worship, intergenerational Bible study, sharing stories and growing together in Christ. Enjoy campfires, canoeing, hiking, archery and more! Children may stay with grandparents in motel style rooms or cabins with Luther Springs counselors. RV sites are also available.

Cost includes lodging, meals & programming.
Adults \$105 | Youth \$70 (4th child free!)

WAYS TO REGISTER

- Telephone: 828.209.6329
- Web: novusway.com (click on yellow Register button)
- Email: registration@novusway.com

??GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?? SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 AT 6:30PM

A fun evening of delicious food, delightful conversation and a room full of "mystery guests!" Everyone who signs up (singles & couples!) will be paired with 4 to 6 other people for a dinner party. Here's how it works:

Guess
WHO'S
coming
to Dinner

BE A HOST: Welcome people to your home, and cook the main course (only the number that fit at your table).

BE THE COOK: Go to someone's house and bring a vegetable or a side dish to coordinate with the main dish.

BE A GUEST: Go to someone's house and bring an appetizer or a dessert.

THE TWIST | You won't know who's 'coming to dinner' until everyone shows up at the hosts home – not even the host! You'll receive directions to your host's home, info on the main course, and the number of people to prepare for.

Sign up by October 1st at the red & white checked box, at www.poplargo.org, or by contacting one of the following:

Dorothy: 727.223.5534, jdluetzow@msn.com

Faye: 727.585.9969, faye@poplargo.org

WELCA RETREAT: A PATH OF FOLLOWING JESUS SEPTEMBER 30 IN THE PARISH HALL | 9AM - 2PM, \$5.00

Are you ready to discover the meaning of your own personal journey through life? Are you walking a path of following Jesus? Our WELCA retreat will center on using different ways of walking both literally and metaphorically as we follow Jesus. We will have the portable Labyrinth from the synod to use for our retreat. Denise Barringer will be the facilitator.

Coffee & pastries served at 8:30am. Lunch is included. The sign-up sheet will be in the Portico.

SEPTEMBER BAPTISMS

Renae Barth	Dillan Crevier	Doris Jensen	Sue Mendenhall	Nils Sheppard
Robert Beattie	Amelia Dahlvik	James Kaufman	Roger Murray	Chloe Tyner
Lisa Beck	Anthony Davis	Janice Kish	Kendra Neter	Yvonne Wahl
Michael Belskey	Marion Dinsmore	Barbara Krueger	Christine Pettibone	Geraldine Watts
Debbie Broman	Ruth Fleisher	June Lankenau	Gary Pikka	Karen Webb
Pastor Adam Buff	Scott Grassick	Melony Leidy	Wayne Pointen	Robert Yohn
Cara Carmody	Barry Herter	Rene Lowry	Spencer Rumbaugh	Linda Zachow
Carson Carmody	Megan Holland	Adele Luxa	Betty Schlotterbeck	

Hospital Stays/Surgeries

Dave Tarras Mark Shankle Dottie Tralins Carol Turrell
Maxine Bitting Addison Potts Donald Anderson

Deaths

Tracy Hammer

Fall Learning & Education for All

ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN SEPTEMBER

We continue our journey through the Reformation period both on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. While we Lutheran Christians are partial to learning more about Martin Luther's work in that turbulent time, there were many other powerful servants of God calling attention to the changes that must take place in the Lord's church. *Here is what's going on in this month:*

SUNDAY

The Reformers

We will continue our study of other reformation era personalities as we discover more about John Calvin and William Tyndale. Then we will pick up where Wednesday evenings left off and plunge into the rest of the study about Martin Luther. It is a blessing to see the depth and breadth of the Reformation, as we learn the power of Luther's influence and the work of God's Spirit through so many zealous individuals. Come to the COC after 8:45AM worship!

WEDNESDAY

Reformation Roots

We will have one more session about Martin Luther and then hand over that portion of the study to Sunday mornings. Then we'll explore other "reformations." Did you know that history has come to refer to what was going on in other corners of Europe as the Swiss, Radical, English and Catholic reformations?

Let's get together and learn more. See you on Wednesdays.

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING – FIRST SERVICE EVENT

Our high school youth will be heading to Houston in June of 2018 to be a part of the ELCA Youth Gathering. This is an opportunity which occurs once every three years for youth from all across the ELCA to gather for five days of worship, service, learning, and community. In preparation for the Gathering our youth will be learning and serving together here in Florida.

This trip to the Gathering will be a great experience, but it will also be expensive. In the past the youth have hosted a number of events to raise funds for the trip within the congregation. This year we are trying something a little different. We are asking the congregation to sponsor our youth as they go out and serve in our community. Donations to the youth ministry fund will help the youth to meet their goal of \$10,000 to go to Houston. Our youth will be planning and participating in service opportunities here in our community throughout the year as they prepare for the event. The congregation is invited to support our youth financially while our youth support our community with their time and energy. The youth are hoping to plan five or six of these events throughout the year in addition to the service they normally do as a group. They will be inviting you at those times to make a gift to the youth ministry fund.

For the first event, our youth will be going to the Homeless Empowerment Program (HEP) **where they will be serving in HEP's Learning Center's afterschool program on September 22.** They will be working with children who are a part of HEP's residential program. Check out HEP's website to see more about the great work that this organization does for our community: www.HEPEmpowers.org. Keep an eye out in the narthex for more information about the youth's effort to head to Houston next summer!



PRAYING WITH THE REFORMERS

As we enter late summer and early fall, we will be learning more together of that tidal wave change in the Church that took place 500 years ago. History calls it the Reformation.

In various ways over the past year, we have been pondering this period and its influence on us today. And yes, during our adult learning time soon, we continue with a study of Luther and his day. But we will also be learning about other brave grandparents in the faith from that period.

What better way to learn more of other participants in that Church change than to pray **with** them. In the coming weeks we will be offering on Sundays a small paperback book of prayers written by John Calvin, Thomas Cranmer, Martin Luther, John Wycliffe and many more. You can use it in your personal devotion time, share it with a friend, as you wish.

Each prayer includes a scripture reference. There are also brief descriptions of each reformer.

We will have these books near the sanctuary. The cost is \$7.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS *At Luther Springs*

Our Middle and High school youth will be heading to Luther Springs' *God's Work, Our Hands* day of service.

We will be clearing trails, chopping wood, painting, cleaning, sorting and organizing, or will be participating in a special building project on September 8 & 9 at Luther Springs. Please keep our youth in your prayers as they participate in this weekend of service.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM CONGREGATION COUNCIL

August 17, 2017

- Approved gift from First Fruits Fund to Clothes-to-Kids, a clothing ministry for school-aged children in Clearwater
- Voted to approve most recent changes to the congregation's constitution to be consistent with changes passed by the Churchwide Assembly in 2016
- Discussed and approved salary range for new Parish Musician
- Approved purchase and installation of word art for rooms in the Community Outreach Center
- Reviewed financial statements for June and July including projections for the remainder of this year
- Selected Tony Hanson and Margo Walbolt to serve as delegates to the Florida Bahamas Synod Assembly to be held in Kissimmee on October 12-14
- Approved bid to refinish all doors in the COC
- Received various reports from Commissions regarding future worship and serving events

MORE HAPPENINGS FOR YOU

Booked for Dessert – September 21st at 7pm in the Parish Hall
This month we're reading *Britt-Marie Was Here: A Novel by Fredrik Backman*

THINKING OF PURCHASING A HOME – DONATE!

Thrivent Federal Credit Union is offering its members a \$1,000 donation to the church or charity of their choice when they finalize a new home loan by the end of the year. If you are considering a home purchase, visit Thriventcu.com/mortgage-offer for details on how our church could receive this gift in your name.



HEALTH & SAFETY FAIR PRAISE REPORT!

We have been blessed to host this event for our community for 17 years, and we'd like to share this year's **Praise Report** with you:

673 total in attendance, including 70 PoP volunteers
387 school bags given away -- 34 physicals -- 51 haircuts
107 children ID'd (fingerprinted) -- 4 bikes & locks raffled
42 bike helmets given out by Suncoast Epilepsy – 30 vendors & 5 doctors participated

Hundreds of books were given away, and many faces were painted. Many of our providers gave an abundance of backpacks and other back-to-school goodies – “and...we gave them something to eat!”

What a Blessing - Thanks be to God!

LIVING IN CHRIST SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

Wednesdays Together *Join Our Team*

We're looking for new people to join our team. We'll need cooks and helping hands for setup and breakdown – *many hands make light work*. Volunteer as your time allows. Contact Faye: 727.585.9969

Gardening Angels

7am-9am, Tuesdays at PoP

Help plant, trim, cut back, weed, and pick up debris on our church property. Join this co-ed group for a little work, lots of laughs, fun and fellowship. Call Tom: 727.244.3373.

Walking in Faith

8am, Thursdays at Taylor Park

Take an early morning stroll in the park – walk at your own pace with a lively group of friends! Meet us at Shelter 1. The walk takes just under an hour, then we're off to Panera Bread on West Bay for bagels and coffee! Put on your walking shoes, and join us! Call the Church Office for more info: 727.585.9969

Grief Support

3pm on 3rd Thursdays at Denny's

Folks find meaning in this shared experience of getting together monthly. All are welcome. Contact Jane: 727.585.9969.

Habitat for Humanity

8am on 1st Saturdays

Love to serve? Volunteer on first Saturdays! Contact Charlie: 727.559.1131.

Men's Bible Study

8am on 2nd & 4th Saturdays

The men gather in the Community Outreach Center for coffee, conversation & study. Contact Tom Olson: deuchtlo9@frontier.com.

Homeless Empowerment Prog.

11:15am on 4th Saturdays

PoP assists HEP and serves in the buffet line. No special skills are needed – just come and serve! Contact the Church Office for more: 727.585.9969.

2017

September



Keep up with all Prince of Peace events with your Pop At-A-Glance Calendar! Questions? Just call the Church Office: 727.585.9969.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

MY SEPTEMBER NOTES:

LEGEND:

- **HC: Holy Communion
- **AA, OCP: Alcoholics Anonymous; Our Common Problem
- ***CodAnon: Codependents Anonymous
- ****TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

03	13th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 & 10:30 Parish Choir 8:45 & 11:00 HC* 10:00 Education Hour	04	3:00 Together On Our Own's Labor Day Celebration 8:00 AA, Alanon Labor Day Church Office Closed	05	7:00 Gardening Angels 9:00 Staff Planning 9:30 Ruth's Promise 6:00 TOPS**** 6:30 AA, OCP**	06	9:15 Preschool Chapel 10:30 Naomi Circle Wednesdays Together 5:30 Supper Together 6:15 Education Hour 6:15 Children's Choir 7:30 Parish Choir	07	8:00 Walking In Faith 6:30 AA, OCP** 7:00 Commission Meetings 7:00 Girl Scouts Service Team 7:30 Codanon***	08	9:00 Prayer Partners 6:30 AA, OCP**	09	8:00 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Craft Time
10	14th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 & 10:30 Parish Choir 8:45 & 11:00 HC* 10:00 Education Hour 7:00 Compassionate Friends	11	8:00 AA, Alanon 4:30 Ruth's Promise Adv. Bd. 6:00 Planning Team 6:30 Girl Scouts / Juniors 7:00 Girl Scouts Governance Meeting	12	7:00 Gardening Angels 9:00 Staff Planning 9:30 Ruth's Promise 6:00 Stewardship Task Grp 6:00 TOPS**** 6:30 AA, OCP**	13	9:15 Preschool Chapel Wednesdays Together 5:30 Supper Together 6:15 Education Hour 6:15 Children's Choir 7:07 Prayer Around the Cross 7:30 Parish Choir	14	8:00 Walking In Faith 4:30 Endowment Board 6:30 AA, OCP** 7:00 Girl Scouts Service Team 7:30 Codanon***	15	9:00 Prayer Partners 6:30 AA, OCP** 6:30 Girl Scouts / Brownies	16	
GRANDS WEEKEND @ LUTHER SPRINGS													
17	15th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 & 10:30 Parish Choir 8:45 & 11:00 HC* 10:00 Education Hour 3:00 Donald Jacks Memorial	18	6:00 Preschool Board 8:00 AA, Alanon	19	7:00 Gardening Angels 9:00 Staff Planning 9:30 Ruth's Promise 6:00 TOPS**** 6:30 AA, OCP** 7:00 Bells Angels Resume	20	9:00 Quilt Tying 9:15 Preschool Chapel 4:00 PopTARTS Meeting Wednesdays Together 5:30 Supper Together 6:15 Education Hour 6:15 Children's Choir	21	8:00 Walking In Faith 3:00 Grief Support 6:00 Girl Scouts / Sandpiper 6:15 Executive Committee 6:30 AA, OCP** 7:00 Booked for Dessert 7:00 Congregation Council 7:30 Codanon***	22	9:00 Prayer Partners 3:00 Youth Gathering Service Day at HEP 6:30 AA, OCP**	23	8:00 Men's Bible Study 11:15 Homeless Emp. Prog
24	16th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 & 10:30 Parish Choir 8:45 & 11:00 HC* 10:00 Education Hour 10:00 Inquirers' Class Begins	25	6:30 Girl Scouts / Juniors 8:00 AA, Alanon	26	7:00 Gardening Angels 9:00 Staff Planning 9:30 Ruth's Promise 9:30 Practical Grace 6:00 TOPS**** 6:30 AA, OCP** 7:00 Bells Angels	27	9:15 Preschool Chapel 3:00 WELCA Board Wednesdays Together 5:30 Supper Together 6:15 Education Hour 6:15 Children's Choir 7:30 Parish Choir	28	8:00 Walking In Faith 4:00 Prayer Shawls Ministry 6:30 AA, OCP** 7:30 Codanon***	29	8:45 PopTARTS Visit Southeastern Guide Dogs 9:00 Prayer Partners 6:30 AA, OCP**	30	9:00 WELCA Retreat





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Worship at Prince of Peace

We celebrate Holy Communion each Sunday at 8:45AM and 11:00AM. We have a fully-staffed childcare center for infants, toddlers and children under 4 years old available on Sundays from 8:30AM to 12:15PM. Coffee and fellowship follows 8:45AM worship, with Sunday School from 10-10:50AM. Visit us online: www.poplargo.org.