

DEC 2021

THE LATEST @ PRINCE OF PEACE

Advent & Christmas at Prince of Peace



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ADVENT AT POP

Let us prepare our hearts for the Season of Advent

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Upcoming ministry and serve opportunities.

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CHILDREN & YOUTH

What's upcoming for Children and Youth at PoP.

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

THE LEGEND OF ST. LUCIA

With the arrival of Advent comes the anticipation of our traditional Lessons and Carols worship that ends with the legend of St. Lucia and a marvelous time of refreshment and conversation. Because the virus has prevented our choir from rehearsing earlier in the fall, this year's lessons and carols will include more songs of the season for all of us to sing together.

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ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

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The joy of the Church Year is that we look to scripture to set our course through this season. Rather than celebrate Christmas now, we wait.

We ponder and hope in the coming of our Lord—in the Christmas season that lies ahead; in the day when he comes in glory; and in our lives right now.

Through song, scripture and prayer, our Lessons and Carols time together thrills us to experience our Lord's grace as we anticipate his Advent. And hearing again the legend of our sister Lucia reminds us once again of all the sisters and brothers whose example has given us courage to live the faith.



Invite friends, and let us celebrate this stop along the Advent journey.

FRI DEC 24

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

“The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it,” so writes John the Gospeller in his first chapter—a gospel that has no record of our Lord's birth. That familiar story, complete with shepherds in their fields, angels singing “Glory to God!” and Jesus' parents making a birthing room out in a stable, can be found in Luke. Even so, there was light piercing darkness in that account, too. The light of love determined to come to us; the light that opens our minds to faith; the light that gives us hope for living each day. We have experienced much

distance from one another in the past 20 months due to the virus. For Christmas Eve 2021, we say “Come! Let us join in worship together.” Invite family, friends, workmates! Some may wear masks, some may not. Let us lift our voices in song and our candles to remind ourselves and all around us that the Light of our Lord does indeed shine in darkness, and that there is no darkness that can overcome it.



Worship Times
4, 7, & 9:30pm

Come, let us gather in hope, faith & love.



SUNDAYS THRU JAN 2

THE LIGHT WILL SHINE

Through Advent to the doorstep of Epiphany, we will study passages that ground this blessed season. We will delve into prophecies and ponder the New Testament accounts of what transpired as Jesus' earthly parents gave their lives over to this good news coming into the world. Join us for this joyful exploration of the season!



NOON WEDNESDAYS DEC 1, 8, 15, & 22 IN THE CHAPEL

ADVENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP

These brief moments of worship in the middle of the week this month give us respite from the rush of the season. Bring a friend on your way to lunch and join us as we experience a quiet time together, offer prayers, hear God's word for us, raise our voices in song, and share in the Meal together.

WED JAN 5 AT 7PM

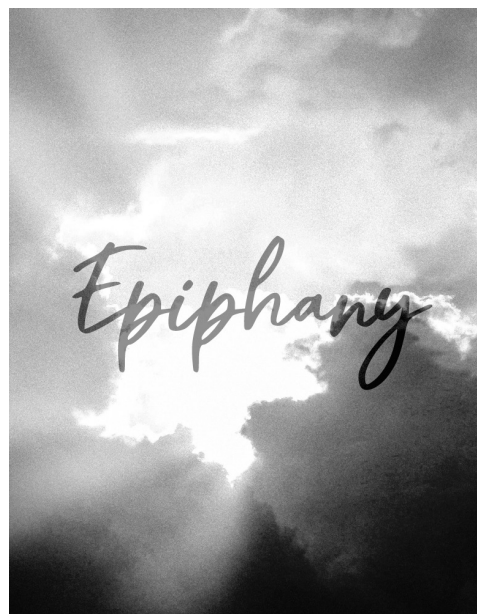
EPIPHANY – 12TH NIGHT CELEBRATION

Epiphany is a day to recall this marvelous and mysterious account of magi from the East [as in very far away] following a star at its rising has fascinated us for generations. They were seeking one born king.

At Prince of Peace we mark this day with seasonal songs, readings that capture the whole experience of our Lord's earthly parents, and music that stirs our hearts to praise from a trio

of marimba players from the University of South Florida.

While Epiphany actually falls on January 6, this year, because we are used to gathering on Wednesday evenings, we will make it a 12th Night Celebration—January 5 at 7pm. We look forward to a festive reception following worship, so that we can share stories of the joy of this blessed season as the new year begins.



SHARING LOVE & HOPE TO CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

ANGEL TREE FOR 30 FOSTER CHILDREN

Let us work together to brighten the lives of children in need from our Community.

Our Angel Tree will be all set for our Thanksgiving Eve service. We will sponsor 30 children who will each have 4 separate wishes/angels on the tree.

Please remember ALL gifts must be returned UNWRAPPED with the original paper angel that you took from the tree SECURELY attached to them! Consider taking a picture of the angel when you

grab it. We don't have a date for pick up yet, so please keep an eye out in the weekly bulletin for updates. For all of you non-shoppers, we will graciously accept gift cards to anywhere and

in any amount to shop or give in place of hard to find gifts. If you would like to help be a part of this ministry or if you have questions please contact Angie Pryor at 727-768-9961!



SEE YOU AT THE LARGO STROLL / SAT DEC 4

NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

Each year, thousands come to the Largo Stroll to see over one million beautiful Christmas lights, displays, and various activities throughout the park. Prince of Peace will tell the story of Christ's birth through our Live Nativity and our Bethlehem marketplace. Below are the times for those helping out at the Stroll this year. If you are able come check out the Live Nativity and Bethlehem marketplace from 6-9pm in Largo Central Park.

Costume Fittings

+ Sunday Nov 28, 9:45-10:45am
+ Wednesday Dec 1, 6-7pm

Saturday Dec 4

+ 4:30pm decorating team arrive at the park
+ 5:30pm actors for live Nativity and Market Place arrive
+ 9pm begin tear down/pack up
+ 9:30pm transport back to PoP





BENEFITTING THE REZ HOUSE / COLLECTING THRU DEC 5 FOOD COLLECTION

Through Sunday, December 5, the monthly food collection will be for the Resurrection House Mission in Dade City. The REZ House is brings God's word to the farm laborers in Dade City and provides food and skills training for families in need. For more, email Kristen at kristen@poplargo.org.



VOLUNTEERS TO WELCOME AT UPCOMING RECEPTIONS SERVING DISCIPLES NEEDED

Creating welcoming experiences for everyone is a core value of PoP. We need volunteers to serve, set up, plate cookies, and aid with tear down on Sat., Dec. 11 from 9am-12pm and help with the reception on Sun., Dec. 12 (opportunities to serve in the afternoon and evening). If you would like to help, e-mail Kristen Theile at kristen@poplargo.org.



FRI DEC 17 / 10AM / COC PEACE

CARD PRAYER MINISTRY

The holidays can be lonely and isolating, we invite you to bring some joy to others this season. We will be putting together Christmas cards to deliver messages of hope. We will meet at 10am on December 17. For more information, email Kristen Theile at kristen@poplargo.org.



SUN DEC 19 3PM / COC PEACE

CHRONIC ILLNESS & GRIEF SUPPORT

When a loved one is battling a chronic illness or when we experience grief that burdens us, it is good to meet with a supportive, encouraging and prayerful small group. Join Jane Corcoran and Susan Wood for conversation and meaningful support in difficult days. Contact Kristen in the Church Office or at kristen@poplargo.org for more information.



RESUMES THURS JAN 27 AT 7PM / CHURCH HALL

BOOKED FOR DESSERT

Booked for Dessert will take a break in December to celebrate Advent and Christmas. The selected reading for January is "Hag-Seed," written by Margaret Atwood. Join us for lively conversation and fellowship, whether or not you have read the book. Contact Linda Zachow with questions or additional information at: lm.zachow@me.com.



IN-PERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL 10AM

FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Elementary students gather in the Learning Center in a Pre K-2 class and a 3rd-5th grade class. Middle school youth meet upstairs in the Community Outreach Center. The high school youth meet in the youth room (upstairs in the COC). Students and teachers are strongly encouraged to wear masks during class.



SUN DEC 12 AT 11AM

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Join us as we celebrate the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism of **Alex Leonard and Livia Pryor** on the third Sunday of Advent. It is a fitting day for them to affirm their baptisms as we hear Paul's encouragement to "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice." We will rejoice as we witness their affirmation of the work God began in their baptisms.

70 FOOD BASKETS DONATED TO FAMILIES FOR THANKSGIVING

THANK YOU FOR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

We give thanks to our generous congregation who donated food for families. With your help and a wonderful team of disciples, we made 70 bags- glory to God!

We are grateful that we were able to provide a basket of food as a reminder of hope and love. May we continue to share God's hope, peace, joy, and love with our neighbors.



UPCOMING CONCERTS



JANUARY 16, 2022

ASTRALIS CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Music for flute, trumpet, and harp



FEBRUARY 20, 2022

THREE ORGAN SPECTACULAR!

Music for choir, handbells, and three organs



MARCH 20, 2022

RING SARASOTA

Florida's premier handbell ensemble

BEGINS DEC 1 AT NOON

HOMEBOUND DELIVERERS NEEDED

Some folks in our community are unable to attend worship due to living at an ALF or having a medical illness. We would love to share with them a poinsettia from our sanctuary, a candle representing the ones we use on Christmas Eve, a bulletin from our Christmas Eve service, and a special treat. This is an opportunity to rejoice with others as we celebrate Christ's birth and share Christ's love. We will have a list for you with their address and information. If you would like Mapquest directions please let us know. The deliveries will take place on Sunday December 26



after the services. If you would like to participate, sign up on the attendance sheet or email Kristen Theile at kristen@poplargo.org

SUN DEC 5 12:30PM / PARISH HALL

WOMEN OF THE ELCA ADVENT LUNCHEON

We welcome all the women of POP and their guests to the annual Advent Luncheon. Due to Covid restrictions, a lunch will be provided consisting of a box meal for each attendee. There is no charge for the lunch, but a freewill offering will be accepted at the luncheon. Our program on "Gratitude" will be presented by Kristen Theile.



We will also have a business meeting discussing the 2022 budget and an election of officers will be followed with an installation of the new officers. For more information, contact Jean Zoller at 727-517-9357.

WED DEC 1 AT 7PM

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IN DECEMBER

At this year's annual meeting, along with our usual business of leadership elections and consideration of the 2022 Spending Plan, we will hear from our newest leaders, Preschool Director Diana Schultz and Ruth's Promise Director Sharon Flynn.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL NOVEMBER 15

- + Received update on repair work for vandalized sign; work still on hold due to supply issues
- + Approved First Fruits gift for assistance to Largo Middle School families for Thanksgiving
- + Heard reports of Commissions' latest actions
- + Approved Council nominations, nominees for Endowment Board and Nominating Committee
- + Received further information regarding property insurer dropping our coverage effective mid-Jan.
- + Heard 3 week update for Time/Talent and Estimate of Giving information



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DECEMBER BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

Shirley Acker
Ryan Aurie
Linda Baker
Kim Beringer
Maxine Bignotti
Sherita Buckner
Terri Carmody
Cooper Casasnovas
Alex Delarosa
Amriana Delarosa
Signy Elmore
Lynette Hartmann

Nelson Hawkins
Dylan Iusi
Mark Iusi
Debra Jaramillo
Kylee Lane
Ausma Mackus
Phyllis Majer
Brenda Mason
Rodney Mason
Christopher Mateo Jr
Tyler Metz
Wilmette Morris

Nancy Pappas
James Patton
Stefanie Porta
Ridgely Potter
Ridgely Potter Jr
Margi Prater
Calob Pryor
Doug Pryor
Jacob Pryor
Livia Pryor
Rich Rayner
Jane Rubinic

Billie Jean Sachs
Bonnie Sterry
Cindy Taylor
Carol Turrell
Jack Zachow
Chloe Zitzelberger
Jaida Zitzelberger
Jean Zoller



WEB poplargo.org | **FACEBOOK** @POP_Largo | **ON YOUTUBE**

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