



PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**January
2025
Newsletter**

**Volume 31
Issue 1**

From Pastor Joel Skindlov

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

O Morning Star how fair and Bright! You shine with God's own truth and light/ aglow with grace and mercy! (O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright, LBW 76/ ELW 308).

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Blessed Epiphany! The Christmas trees have been taken down, maybe? The wrapping, tinsel, and lights placed in a box for next year. Christmas is in the books! We've moved to Valentines Day! Wait, let us pause, ponder, and wonder. Could it be that Christmas continues? That the sounds of infant holy, infant lowly play softly in the background? I know, it's probably a stretch, a reach, a snowball rolling down hill in the march to the next holiday or special occasion.

On the one hand, I don't want to put "another thing" on your plate. A to-do list that needs to become a to-done list in the next couple weeks. On the other hand, How might we celebrate and acknowledge the birth and growth of the Christ-child as we expect Epiphany in early January! How might we mark time a little differently as God reveals the Saving One in human form, as a baby born in a manger? The Christ child visited by Wise ones, seeking the Light for all the world?

We enter January, 2025 with expectation, longing, excitement, worry, surprise.....The whole gamut of emotions, thoughts, and feelings that are part and parcel of being human. Where might we notice Christ's presence in our world during the end of the year and into 2025? Where might God be revealed in our lives and the lives of those around us?

The apostle Paul writes to the church in Ephesus concerning the mystery of Christ and how Paul bears witness to God's work in, with and through Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. The radiance of Christ makes known Christ's boundless riches. Paul proclaims that this mystery remains, yet, we also reveal God's work through our lives, through the good news that Jesus continues to show up in our lives as the source of strength, support, and joy.

"In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 3:5-10, NRSV).

Jesus reveals that no place remains off limits to the life-giving presence and purposes in our midst. Jesus pierces the hidden, secret and covered places, in our lives, to reveal a God rich in mercy, kindness and forgiveness. Where might the church, the followers of Christ, reveal God's presence and life through us as we enter 2025?

This little light of ours, Where might it shine?

Peace,
Pastor Joel

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**POP Pantry Needs
For January**

Food:
Small peanut butter jars,
jelly/jam, pancake mix, syrup,
cereal, canned tuna/chicken,
individual trail mix, meat sticks,
granola bars, soup, & boxed
meals.

Necessities:
Toothpaste, wrapped
toothbrushes, deodorant, little
lotions and dish soap

Hate shopping? Cash Donations can be placed in the offering plate or dropped off at the office in an envelope, marked "Caritas Pantry" and a volunteer will do the shopping for you!



Thoughts From The Council President

"So we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace that God has given us. If our gift is to speak God's message we should do it according to the faith that we have; if it is to serve we should serve; if it is to teach, we should teach; if it is to encourage others, we should do so. Whoever shares with others should do it generously; whoever has authority should work hard; whoever shows kindness to others should do it cheerfully." (Romans 12:6-8)

Dear Friends at Prince of Peace,

I've come to realize that there are so many "gifted" people in our congregation and we are very lucky that they share those gifts with us. Romans 12:6-8 talks about gifts that the Lord has given to us. Sometimes we fail to remember the many positive ways that our church is blessed and we concentrate on the problems that need to be solved. If we reflect on the bible verses in Romans and look around us as we sit in church we'll see that Prince of Peace has been blessed with:

- the gift of teaching and preaching – Sunday school, bible studies, small groups
- the gift of serving – being able to do things that are essential to the functioning of the church; Altar guild, ushering, choir, lay readers, committees, council
- the gift of encouragement – to counsel, comfort or console others in ways that strengthens their faith; bringing communion to shut ins, prayer list, fellowship after church service
- the gift of giving – tithing and giving money or resources that are necessary for use by the church; special offerings, in kind donations, doing needed jobs around the church, Tree of Sharing
- and the gift of mercy – feeling empathy and compassion for our church members who are suffering and for those outside our church walls. Prayers for those who can't be with us in worship

I've just mentioned a few ways that I've witnessed the "gift-ability" of our church members and wanted to say **thank you** to everyone for all that you do.

Have a very Blessed New Year – Sue Parrish

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church publishes a monthly newsletter for members, friends and churches in the area. News articles, address changes, questions or comments should be addressed to:

Newsletter Editor

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
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STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Joel Skindlov
Office Manager: Ami Elliott
Music Director: Janet Robel
Custodian: Mark Smith
Preschool Directors:
Sue Cole & Stephanie Perreiah

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Service – 9:00 am
Worship currently also streamed on FB at
"Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane"
Fellowship– 10:15 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Office closed on Fridays
Memorial Day-Labor Day Weekends



Saturday, January 18, 2024

POP Fellowship Hall

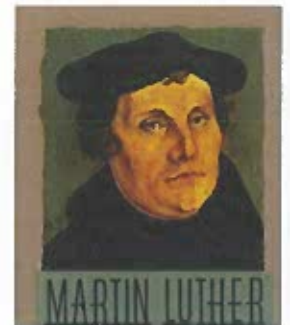
7am- Start cooking
7:30am-Enjoy breakfast & discussion

Serving You This Month

Jan	Altar Guild	Worship Assistants	Altar Flowers	Media	Ushers	Communion Servers	Fellowship
5	Holly Christoff	Rebecca Hendrickson	Elliotts	Bernie Polikowsky	Doug Elliott & Joe Rock	Holly Christoff	
12	Sue Parrish	Curt Froscheiser	Ames	Erica & Lee Salkin	Mel Nebelsieck & Dick Hawley	Sue Parrish	Tamura
19	Rebecca Hendrickson	Mike Sanborn		Matt Christoff	Paul & Sue Parrish	Rebecca Hendrickson	
26	Holly Christoff	John Renford		Bernie Polikowsky		Holly Christoff	Executive Committee

Luther's Prayers

Grant us blessed unity and peace among all nations. Preserve us from all strife, hatred, and warfare, that we may eat our daily bread and receive bodily nourishment undisturbed and to your praise. Give understanding and a loyal will to all kings, princes, lords, and councils and to all in positions of government, that they may rule their people in a happy and peaceful way. Guard all citizens against rebellion and disobedience. Amen.



Bible Readings for the Month

Sunday, January 5

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm: 72:1-7,10-14

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

Gospel: 2:1-12

Sunday, January 12

1st Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm: Luke 29

2nd Reading: 8:14-17

Gospel: 3:15-17, 21-22



Sunday, January 19

1st Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm: 36:5-10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

Sunday, January 26

1st Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10

Psalm: 19

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

News from POP

To Ponder:


Lean on, trust and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind, and do not rely on your own insight or understanding.

Proverbs 3: 5 Amplified Bible

When Jesus demanded voluntary poverty of the rich young man, the latter knew that there were only two choices: to obey or not to obey. When Levi was called from his tax collecting and Peter from his nets, there was no doubt that Jesus was serious about his call. They were to leave everything and follow him. When Peter is called onto the rolling sea, he has to get up and venture forth. In all of this, only one thing was demanded: to rely on the word of Jesus Christ and accept his word as a more secure foundation than all the securities of the world.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Birthdays	Anniversaries
January 1– Doug Elliott January 7– Jimmy Lasswell January 8– Lisa Lasswell January 11– Bill Dupuis	January 23– Curt & Mary Froscheiser 

Financial Update

On Sunday, December 15, I invited you to "Come Live in the Light" as part of a campaign to support our Benevolences. Our commitment to our Benevolences is built into our budget. In February, we approved supporting a monthly budget of \$26,629 per month. Our offering matched that amount in March, July, and September. During those months when our general offering is short of the \$26,629, we are only able to cover expenses like salaries and utilities; we are not been able to support our commitment to our Benevolences.

\$16,000 is our goal to cover Benevolence payments for the 3rd and 4th Quarters. How did I calculate that amount:

$\$26,629 \times 10\% = \$2,662.90$ per month

$\$2,662.90 \times 6$ months = \$15,977.40

\$16,000 would cover our 3rd and 4th Qtr Benevolence payment

Remember, Benevolences are part of our general offering; it is not in addition to our monthly giving.

Thank you for your commitment to serving our community with your generosity. If you have questions, please ask me.

Marie Tamura, POP Treasurer

rmtamura83@gmail.com / 509.263.8083

She's not as scary as she looks or sounds!

Upcoming January Events

*****Church Office will be closed January 1st.**

POP Pantry Sunday- Sunday, January 12th
Needed items on the front page of Newsletter



*****Church Office will be closed January 20th for MLK Day**



Congregational Budget Meeting: Sunday, January 19th
Following Worship Service

Congregational Meeting: Sunday, January 26th
Following Worship Service

Women ^{of the} ELCA

Bible Study: 9:30 am Wednesday, January 8, 2025



Quilts for Kids: 9:00 am Tuesday, January 14, 2025



Charity Quilters: 9:00 am Tuesday, January 28, 2025



Please join the women for these monthly events.

Also, before leaving any fabric, speak with a quilter about what they could really use to complete quilts.



Community Events

Save the DATE

WORLD PREMIERE
THE GARMENT OF PRAISE
An opera composed by Martin Woldson
on the marvelous original of John the Baptist

Ticket Pricing
\$35 Adult
\$25 Senior
\$10 Student

7:00-8:30 p.m.
Myrtle Woldson
Performing Arts Center
Gonzaga University
Friday, February 7, 2025



Friends at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,
Wishing you a holiday season filled with peace, joy, and love. As I reflect on the year, I feel immense gratitude for your steadfast support of LCSNW. Your generosity & partnership bring hope to countless individuals & families in our community. Because of supporters like you, we're able to continue providing vital services to our neighbors in need. Thank you & Merry Christmas!

-megan

Annual Meeting Ballot Item - Proposed Change of Worship Time

Our church council has been asked to consider rescheduling our worship service to start at 10 am. This will be on the ballot for our next annual meeting.

Some suggested benefits for the proposed 10 am Worship service time:

Most liturgical churches in Spokane with a single service typically start at 10, 10:30, or 11 am. Those with two services generally have the early service around 9 am and the second service closer to 11 am.

A good compromise for Prince of Peace's single service would be to start at 10 am which is still on the early side of average.

A later start time would have stronger appeal to more people and better serve the broader community. Our mission statement includes "to serve the community". Conversations with some visitors also have expressed that they would prefer a later start time. This should help to grow our membership.

Families with young children may prefer a later start time as well as those who are not early risers, take more time to get ready as they get older, or have a significant commute time.

Some ideas for remaining at 9 am:

Members are used to the 9 am time. For some attendees, the earlier service provides momentum for the rest of the day.

Considerations for discussion include:



What is the advantage to the community of a 10 am service and what is the advantage to our church?

Who benefits from a 9 am service?

Do you think the later time would attract more participants?

How would the proposed change affect your worship attendance?

January 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Church Office closed	2	3	4
5 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane "	6 10:00 am Executive Council	7 5:30 pm Praise Group 7:00 pm Committee Night	8 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:15pm Men's Choir 7:00pm Adult Choir	9 1:00 pm Bible Study	10	11
12 POP PANTRY SUNDAY 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane " Sunday School	13 6:30 pm Council Meeting	14 9:00 am Quilts for Kids 5:30 pm Praise Group 	15 6:15pm Men's Choir 7:00pm Adult Choir	16 1:00 pm Bible Study	17	18 7am Men's Breakfast
19 BUDGET MEETING 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane "	20 Church Office closed for MLK Day	21 5:30 pm Praise Group	22 6:15pm Men's Choir 7:00pm Adult Choir	23 1:00 pm Bible Study	24	25
26 ANNUAL MEETING 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane " Sunday School	27	28 9:00 am Charity Quilters 5:30 pm Praise Group 	29 6:15pm Men's Choir 7:00pm Adult Choir	30 1:00 pm Bible Study	31	

Dear Lutheran Campus Ministry Alumni,

Deacon Karla Neumann Smiley (WSU and U of I), Pastor Emily Kuenker (EWU and Greater Spokane), their boards, and I have an ambitious goal of raising \$50,000 this winter for the Wells Campus Ministry Endowment.

LCM at the University of Chicago grounded me spiritually and relationally in my first few years of graduate school and I am forever grateful for an amazing ministry internship year with LCM at Eastern Washington University in Cheney. Each of you receiving this letter could tell stories about the impact made on you by participation in one of the three LCM sites in the Northwest Intermountain Synod.

Our three established Lutheran Campus Ministries continue to serve students, faculty, staff and others on the campuses of Washington State University, University of Idaho, and Eastern Washington University. As you may know, the latter ministry is part of Greater Spokane Campus and Young Adult Ministry, a new venture seeking to expand ministry to students and young adults across campuses and communities throughout the Spokane area.

The Wells Campus Ministry Endowment was created in 2017 to honor the 18 years Pr. Martin Wells served as bishop of the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod. Pr. Wells had served in campus ministry and was passionate about having a Lutheran presence on state university campuses. The Synod Council and Synod Assembly voted to establish the Martin D. Wells Campus Ministry Endowment in 2017. Those gathered at the 2017 Assembly contributed financially to establish and support the Endowment.

To date, the principal has grown to \$268,724. It disperses interest quarterly, currently in the amount of \$2,454 shared with our three campus ministry sites. \$50,000 more dollars would get us over \$300,000 and increase distributions. The Wells Campus Ministry Endowment is part of the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust which provides greater earning power.

We anticipate funding from the ELCA continuing to step down, so our hope is for the Wells Endowment to step up, all so our campus ministries can continue to build community, deepen faith, expand minds, and inspire service.

You can help us keep sharing the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ, create spaces of love and belonging, be a voice of Lutheran Christian faith in academic communities, and plant seeds in future leaders of the church.

Here is how you can donate today:

- Give online at nwimsynod.org, go to Donate, select Wells Campus Ministry
- Send a check to the synod office with Wells Campus Ministry in the memo line
- Direct your Charitable IRA Transfer (QCDs) to Wells Campus Ministry
- Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars to Wells Campus Ministry

If you would like to make an impact toward the Wells Campus Ministry Endowment through a future legacy gift, please contact Josh Kerney, Interim Director of Gift Planning for the ELCA Foundation and partner of the NWIM Synod: (530) 520-0142 / josh.kerney@elca.org

Bishop Meggan Manlove