



PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

From Pastor Joel Skindlov

February
2025
Newsletter

Volume 31
Issue 2

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

"Listen, Listen God is calling/ through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort and joy!" (Listen God is Calling, WOV # 712). (Check out Luke 5:1-11) What do you notice? What surprises you?

Christ invites us into a relationship with him. God chooses to work through faithful, flawed, and fallible people like me and you. Epiphany continues to reveal and disclose the way God calls people to love and serve others, whether across the pew, across the street, or the world. Do you think of yourself as a called follower of Christ?

The Bible offers many call stories. Isaiah, the prophet and messenger of God, encounters the Lord through a vision as the Lord sits on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe fills the temple. Seraphs, heavenly beings in the form of snakes with wings, hover within the temple! It's a veritable divine heavenly host chorus, singing, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory" (Isiah 6:1-3, NRSV). What a calling from God! Magnificent, majestic, otherworldly, fearfully and wonderfully glorious. If you have not had a call from God in this manner, fear not! The Lord works in many and various ways! If you have, I'd love to hear the story.

Overwhelmed, Isaiah exclaims, "I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips; and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Host!" (Isaiah 6:5-6, NRSV). Isaiah recognizes his separation from God. He confesses, and a seraph touches Isaiah's lips with a hot coal to cleanse him,

This call story's whole event speaks to God's mystery, majesty, and awe-inspiring intensity and power that draws and encompasses Isaiah, revealing God's glory that will equip Isaiah for his task! Here I am, Lord!

Great news, and then you keep on reading Isaiah 6, and the prophet gets to proclaim the truth of God's people in ways that will sting.

Many times, I wish the call of Christ wouldn't be such a bumpy and wandering path that God's call contains a path with few twists and turns, with no troubles, travails, or trials. Discipleship, the witness and activity of God through us remains challenging, but not impossible. The call of God invites us deeper into our relationship with the Triune God. It challenges us to follow Jesus, listen to Jesus, notice Jesus' activity in his earthly ministry, and discern what Christ calls us into in 2025 and beyond.

(continued on page 9)

8441 N. Indian Trail Rd.
Spokane, WA 99208
509.465.0779
Email:
officemanager@popspokane.org
www.popspokane.org

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POP Pantry Needs For February

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

"Take it to the Lord in Prayer"

As I write this article the background is filled with the noise from the TV airing the devastation of the fires raging with fury throughout California. I'm saddened when I think about all the lives that have been turned upside down in just a few days. Dear Lord, why did this happen?

I'm at a loss of what to say in my prayers – my mind just goes to the families that don't have a home to go to anymore. How can I reconcile the feelings of sadness with the anger I feel? As I was thinking about what to say, I found an article titled: Jump Start Your Prayer Life (written by Glen VanderKloot). This article gave seven ways to focus on prayer. Sometimes, practical guidelines can help us focus; a way to get our mind in the right place so prayer becomes comforting and healthy. I'd like to share some ideas from the article and hope that they will be useful to you.

Set aside a time and place for daily prayer. It is very important to establish a regular routine for prayer to make sure that our prayer life is a way of life.

Begin prayer by being quiet – take a deep breath. It is difficult to hear God if we are agitated or tense.

Have a prayer conversation with God as if you are talking to your best friend.

Pray the Bible. Take a few moments to read something from the Bible and direct your attention to God. Use a familiar passage or read a verse from the Sunday Bible readings.

Write out your prayers. Name what is going on in your life – sometimes just writing it down and giving it to God can be an empowering ritual.

Recall how God has helped you in the past so we can remember the loving presence of God in our lives.

Develop a Prayer List. Write a short list of the names of people you want to remember in your prayers or situations you are concerned about and focus on one person or issue each day. This will allow you to go deeper in prayer for each person and yet keeps all your concerns in your prayers every day.

I hope this was helpful.

Yours in Christ,

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
8441 N. Indian Trail Road
Spokane, WA 99208
Phone: (509) 465-0779
Website: www.pospokane.org
Email: officemanager@popspokane.org

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, February 15, 2025

POP Fellowship Hall

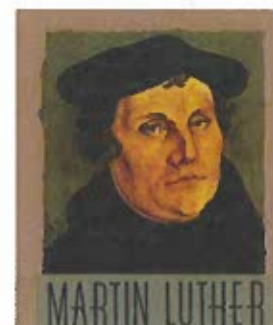
**7am- Start cooking
7:30am-Enjoy breakfast & discussion**

Serving You This Month

Feb	Altar Guild	Worship Assistants	Altar Flowers	Media	Ushers	Communion Servers	Fellowship
2	Holly Christoff	Susan Ames	Gilliam	Erica & Lee Salkin	Joe Rock & Doug Elliott	Holly Christoff	Gilliam
9	Rebecca Hendrickson	Kathy Fleiger	Elliott	Bernie Polikowsky		Rebecca Hendrickson	Marie Tamura
16	Karen Heimbigner	Cliff Hendrickson		Matt Christoff		Karen Heimbigner	Sanborn
23	Sue Parrish	Julie Tramp		Bernie Polikowsky	John & Peggy Renford	Sue Parrish	Ames

Luther's Prayers

Dear Father in heaven,
 For the sake of your dear Son Jesus Christ grant us you Holy Spirit, that we may be true learners of Christ, and therefore acquire a heart with a never-ceasing fountain of love
 Amen.



Bible Readings for the Month

Sunday, February 2

1st Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm: 71:1-6

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30



Sunday, February 9

1st Reading: Isaiah 6:1-13

Psalm: 138

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, February 16

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalm: 1

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

Sunday, February 23

1st Reading: Genesis 45:3-11,15

Psalm: 37:1-11,39-40

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

News from POP

To Ponder:

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6: 19-21

"Only if Jesus is your treasure are you truly rich, for he is the only currency that cannot be devalued. And only if he is your Savior are you truly successful, for status with him is the only status that can't be lost."

Timothy Keller, Every Good Endeavor, Connecting Your Work to God's Work



Birthdays

February 6– Judy Reihman
February 7– Lindy Moeller
February 9– Paul Parrish
February 25– Seth Feist
February 26– Janice Hodneland
February 28– Janet Robel
February 29– Mike Sanborn

Anniversaries

February 10– Frank & Holly Christoff



Financial Update

Thank you for your financial support in December 2024. Your offering far exceeded what was needed for us to pay our Benevolences. We are starting the New Year with a little extra money in our savings. We are also moving forward with a new budget that will continue to sustain the mission of Prince of Peace.

If you have questions about the finances, please contact me and we can discuss.

Marie Tamura, POP Treasurer
rmtamura83@gmail.com / 509.263.8083



Upcoming February Events

Souper Bowl- February 9th!!

Since the Super Bowl falls the same day as our monthly POP Pantry Sunday, let's add a twist. You can donate food items from the needs list provided, bring a can (or 2 of soup), or put some spare change.



Change to Church Office hours-

Thursday, February 13th- 9am-11:30am

Friday, February 14th- closed

Monday, February 17th- closed for Presidents Day

Tuesday, February 18th-9am-11:30am

Bible Study: 9:30 am Wednesday, February 5, 2025



Quilts for Kids: 9:00 am Tuesday, February 11, 2025



Charity Quilters: 9:00 am Tuesday, February 18, 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.

Preschool 2025-2026 Registration

Fall Registration for Church and Preschool families begins Monday, February 3rd. Registration forms are available in the Church Office. Or on the website. Registration for the public begins Monday, March 3rd. Remember we cannot hold spaces unless you enroll. Our classes fill up quickly.





Community Events

Save the DATE

WORLD PREMIERE
THE GARMENT OF PRAISE
 An opera composed by Kevin Waters, S.J. on the miraculous arrival 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

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY
 Gonzaga University - School of Leadership Studies - The Promised Future - Mission and Imagination


WE INVITE YOU TO

SHARE YOUR LOVE

A NIGHT OF FESTIVITY IN SUPPORT OF BITE2GO + WEST CENTRAL ABBEY + FAMILY PROMISE OF SPOKANE + LIBRARIES FOR ETHIOPIA

REGIONAL WINE
 LOCAL BEER
 APPETIZERS
 MUSIC
 SILENT AUCTION

\$40/TICKET
 AVAILABLE ONLINE



FEBRUARY 14 | 6-9

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 STSTEPHENS-SPOKANE.COM | 509.448.2255

It is with a full heart that I say "Thank You" for the holiday help to Cooper Elementary school this season. The appreciation from all the families is hard to put into words. Your generosity means everything to our community.

Warmly,
 Sarah Hansen
 School Counselor



Luke's gospel shares the story of the disciples, the fisher folk on the lake of Gennesaret, also called the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had taught in his hometown synagogue, read from the scroll of Isaiah, and proclaimed that God's word had been fulfilled in the people's hearing. The conversation continues as the townspeople try to run Jesus over the side of a cliff (see Luke 4:20-30).

By this time, Jesus' activity had become known around the area, and Jesus was looking for a place to pray and rest. After teaching the crowd, Jesus invites Simon, also known as Peter, to "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch" (Luke 5:4, NRSV).

Like most call stories, the person receiving the invitation, instruction, direction, or call instantly responds in the affirmative, "Yes! Whatever you say! Here I am!

NO! Instead, and with good reason, Simon tells the truth about the previous 8 or 10 hours of fishing,

"Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets" (Luke 5:5, NRSV). Many times when I read this story, I often wonder how long Simon's "if you say so" response takes in real-time. Immediately, a few minutes, a day?

Simon does respond, I will let down the nets, but is there more apprehension, fatigue, and tiredness between the two sentences? Throughout the Gospels and other calls stories in the Bible, there is a wide range of encounters with God, Jesus, and God's Holy Spirit. They don't all happen in the same manner. This can create an unintended hierarchy.

God calls you, the living Christ invites us, even here and now and into the future with the promise of God's everlasting presence and power, a presence that can seem as ordinary as water, as every day as the people that we work with, as the toddler we parent, the assignment(s) that seem never-ending, or the challenging relationships that you have to navigate.

It also includes the love of family, the bond of friendship, and the overlooked and overwhelmed among and around us, where God chooses to connect with and among us. We are called to love God and care for one another. We are also encouraged to care for ourselves. Even Jesus went to find a quiet place, a life-giving place so that he could return to lead and guide the first disciples and now us.

We are invited to share our hopes and dreams, as well as our fears and concerns, with God. Christ's call is an ongoing dialogue, words not always necessary, listening and responding. Jesus invites us into the deep waters, knowing full well that there will be a wide gamut of responses;

"Yay, Great! I love lakes and seas!" "Hold on, let me take a minute; I've been, we've been out fishing all night; let me circle back around after reflecting on this call." "Did Jesus really mean that? I haven't been in a boat for a while; I need to consider my options".

What do you mean by deep water?



And yet, Simon responds, "If you say so, I will let down the nets" (Luke 5:5b, NRSV). How might you respond? What do you think and feel when you hear and read this story?

What might God in Christ be inviting us into? What might Jesus' call encourage and inspire in us? Where have you seen the "catch of fish"?

I know that Christ continues to call us, inviting and challenging us to listen, notice, and participate in God's activity for the sake of our neighbors, our community, and the world! Who knows, maybe it involves a tasty piece of fish?

Peace,
Pastor Joel

February 2025

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