

POP NEWS BLAST







Reminders



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OLYMPIC SIZED DREAMS

I freely admit that the Olympic games captivate me. Winter or summer, Tokyo, Rio or Timbuktu, I watch with baited breath. I love the national pride, the thrill of competition and the unpredictable displays of emotion at the medal ceremonies. This month I will watch the most obscure events from Beijing (biathlon, moguls skiing, even curling) while chanting "USA!" However, what I love most are the stories of the athletes themselves. While a handful are well known stars who have been successful at prior Olympics (or in Tik-Tok videos), many more have trained in obscurity for years to get one opportunity to achieve greatness. Inevitably a few will earn surprise trips to the medal stand and be introduced to the world. We will learn about their families, their training methods and the challenges they have overcome to wear the uniform of an Olympic athlete.

The one thing that will bind them all together is a laser-like focus on their shared goal of turning potential greatness into achieved success. This type of drive leads to strict diets, thousands of hours of training, time away from family and friends and the mental toughness to overcome doubt. No Olympic athlete takes a casual stroll to the medal stand. They fight to get there. For those of us who cheer at home, it is pure inspiration.

As followers of Jesus living in a culture that increasingly devalues what Jesus actually taught (extreme grace, devotion to God and our neighbors, caring for the poor, cultivating thankful hearts, trusting God in all circumstances, etc.), we need constant inspiration.

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It is difficult to keep going when there are empty seats in the sanctuary, when friends and family turn away from faith and when many of our fellow believers seem intent on promoting hate instead of love. Thankfully, the inspiration we need is readily available, even in non-Olympic years:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1-12

Our "cloud of witnesses" includes heroes of faith from the bible, parents and grandparents who blazed the trail of faith for us and friends and colleagues who capture our attention by living faithfully. Most of all, we find inspiring stories in the people who worship with us on Sundays — that's one of the greatest joys of being a part of a Christian community.

And whenever we are on the verge of losing hope, we always look to Jesus. Always.

Enjoy the Olympics in Beijing and please pray for safety for all who participate. At the same time, never forget that your POP family can be a constant source of inspiration every day.

Peace,

Pastor Rick

What's Happening at POP!



THANK You



Thanks to your generous donations for the Andre House (the January Outreach recipient), we were able to donate OVER 20 bags of clothing and blankets to them! At the time of donation their shelves were very bare so the items were very needed for the hundreds of homeless that they serve. Thank You!

February Outreach

February Outreach recipient is Magical Star Preschool which serves low income families. We collected new and gently used toys, books, dress up clothes, infant toys, instruments, toddler push toys and fine motor skills toys. Thank you for your





















POP's Marathon
Water Station 2022
Amazing Volunteers!

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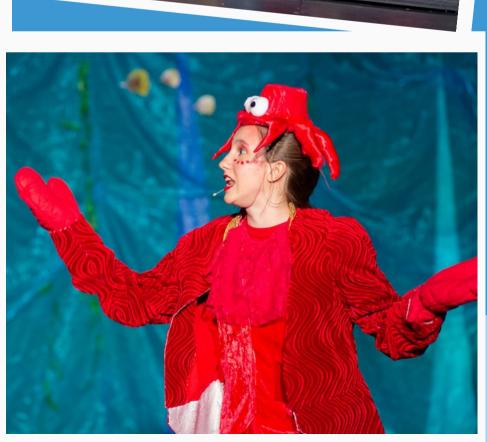
CANVA STORIES

Temple Music and Performing Arts and Prince of Peace presented



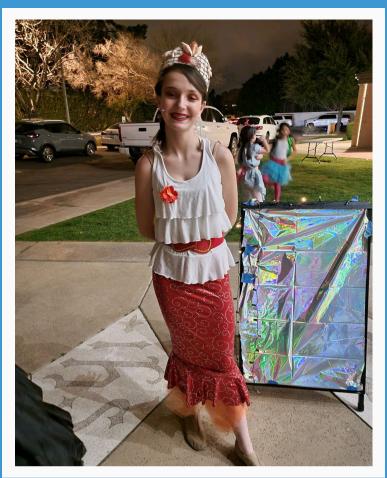
There were 70 kids total in the shows combined. They came from all different parts of the Valley. Close to 900 tickets for the show were sold.





It was the first time on stage for approximately 50% of the actors. The next show will be Annie, Jr. and auditions will be held early April.







Valentine's Day acts of Love



About 20
Valentines baskets
were assembled
and delivered to
our home bound Sr
Saints by Janet and
Dave DeJonge!



POPPING kids made Valentine cards for the hardworking construction workers at HOV!



Listen to guest Pastor Rick Sherrill on The Glow Show with Pastor Sarah Stadler.

click --> to listen link can also be found on our website



200

Tomlin Family Meal Train and Prayers



We are writing to ask for help. The Tomlin family (who attends Prince of Peace Preschool) has recently received the terrible news that Eli's dad (Nate) has been diagnosed with brain cancer. We would like to see if anyone would be willing to help with dinners for the kids and mom. Nate is on a very strict diet and not able to eat the food we bring, but Megan Eli, and Amelia would be so appreciative for some help!

Due to doctor visits, chemo, and the craziness of life Megan is asking that we only bring food on Mondays and Tuesdays and that we leave it at the front doorstep (there is a patio we can leave the food on) due to the increased COVID risk for Nate. The best time for drop-off is around 5pm, give or take 30 minutes.

We set up a meal train at the link below so you can sign up for days that will work for you. The Tomlin family provided a list of some of the foods they eat/like, but feel free to drop off what you are willing! https://mealtrain.com/nq9no6

Please keep the Tomlin family in your thoughts and prayers.

Blessings,
Jessica Wernau
Prince of Peace Preschool





POPPING IS OPEN!!!!



Ms. Shara Jones, POPPING Director, Ms. Nicole Hilden POP Director, Lead Teachers Ms. Cornelius, Ms. Schorr & Teacher Ms. Santiago

After many, many months of work and perseverance, we are so excited to share that we have opened the doors to our new families at our new campus! As a reminder, POPPING, is a fun acronym for Prince of Peace Inter-Generational program. We are thrilled to be in this beautiful new space, and we are anxiously awaiting the other HOV(Hospice of the Valley) buildings on campus to open to welcome their residents and day campers.











The sweet children in our two POPPING classrooms, have spent their days exploring their new campus, and getting to know their new teachers and friends.

We do still have limited space available in both classrooms! This program will run year-round, so once it is full, it will be very difficult for new families to get it. If you have any friends or family who may be interested in this awesome program, please have them email me at Preschooloffice@popphoenix.org attention Shara.

We would love to provide them with a tour and answer any questions they may have.





Ministry Partner of the Month

Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission, Rock Point, AZ

More than sixty-five years ago, Lutheran Christian missionaries arrived in Rock Point, AZ, a remote, isolated village near the Four Corners area where Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah meet. They were leased 5 acres of land on which to build the Mission. Today the Mission campus includes Navajo Mission Preparatory School, a K-2 private Christian school, a clinic operated by Tachiinii Nursing Services, Inc. home healthcare services, and an ELCA congregation, House of Prayer.





THE NEW CLINIC
WILL USE STATE
OF THE ART
"TELEMEDICINE,"
CONNECTING
WITH DOCTORS
REMOTELY FOR
DIAGNOSES AND
PATIENT CARE.



Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission, Rock Point, AZ

To support the ongoing work of the Mission, Prince of Peace recently made a \$5,000 donation, in part to sponsor an entire an entire grade-level classroom in 2022. This much needed-funding will help to provide the children transportation, religious education, sports and other after-school extra-curricular activities. We are blessed to continue our long-standing partnership with the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission in this new way.











Youth Mission Trip - Summer '22

July 24-29, 2022 in San Diego, Ca





Scan for more info!

Students in 6th - 12th Grade Join us for this amazing mission event

Fun. Service. Games. Faith. Laughter. Friends are welcomed to join us!

\$250 per person/\$100 deposit due May 31st

Chad Diegle | chaddiegle@popphoenix.org | 480.437.4977

Mark Your Calendars...



Congregational Meeting 10:30am on February 27 in the Sanctuary

Ashes To Go

Ash Wednesday, March 2

6:00 am- 9:00 am

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

6:30 pm Service at

Shepherd of the Hills

Holy Week 2022

Palm Sunday April 10

Maundy Thursday April 14

Good Friday April 15

Holy Saturday April 16

Easter April 17

New Member Class Sunday, March 20

Details soon – see Pastor Rick for info

BG's at O.H.S.O.

Friday, February 25 4:00 pm O.H.S.O. Arcadia

There's a chair waiting for you

Arcadia Cares - Food for Kidz Packathon March 26, 2022

Signups start February 25– link will be on our website. Our goal is to pack 122,000 meals. Donations and Sponsorships available and greatly appreciated! www.popphoenix.org and click on the Packathon banner or 'Online giving' to donate. Contact Steve Edgar to help setup the event 602.618.3364 or sledgar@gmail.com.





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