

A Newsletter of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & Preschool

"WORSHIP *** CONNECT *** SERVE"

June 2018

Immediate, Specific and Unequivocal Attention

ne of the things observers noticed about Jesus was his deep concern for people. We know this because each of the four Gospel writers included multiple accounts of Jesus' interactions with friends, strangers and challengers. In almost every case, Jesus gives his immediate, specific and unequivocal attention to those who cross his path. From blind men to lepers to those invaded by demons to his disciples, Jesus never missed an opportunity to show people that they mattered to him. Remember this scene:

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. Mark 10:13-16

Jesus didn't make the children wait until his schedule was clear but gave them his attention immediately. He focused on each child specifically; how else would he take them up in his arms? He was unequivocal in his welcome, even giving his closest friends a healthy serving of indignant words when they attempted to keep the children away. Jesus made his point so



often that those who observed his life and ministry could not miss it; people mattered to him and thus mattered to God. Simply put, Jesus prioritizes people over anything else.

We are called, equipped and challenged to do the same. Most of us do this well in certain settings on certain days with certain people. When we get busy or stressed, our ability to prioritize people over tasks decreases rapidly. I get so task-oriented sometimes that I am barely present to the people around me. I can count on one hand the number of people I have encountered who effortlessly prioritize people in almost every setting they find themselves.

Gene Stevens was one of these remarkable people. From his seat on the north side of the sanctuary, fourth row from the back, on the aisle, Gene held court. He was almost always early for church, thus creating moments for people to come into his orbit, and they did. If you've hung out at Prince of Peace, there is one immutable axiom on Sunday mornings: people sit on a certain side of the sanctuary and almost never travel to the other side. Except for those few minutes after Gene sat down. People quite literally crossed the aisle for Gene. Sometimes I would be forced to wait in line to greet him. He had many friends at Prince of Peace, some his age, some who were just learning to drive, some who were just learning to walk. And he blessed them all. Gene let them know that they mattered to him. Sometimes with a smile. Sometimes with a joke. Sometimes with encouragement. Always with immediate, specific and unequivocal attention.

As we move into the blazing heat of summer, we have multiple opportunities to hone our skills in prioritizing people. We can do it on Sunday mornings, at the dinner table, in the grocery checkout line. Perhaps this should be our summer challenge: have a meaningful interaction with another person once a day. And however we do it, in our very own ways, make it our goal that the other person walks away knowing that he/she matters to us and also to God.

Blessed summer,

Pastor Rick

Grand Canyon Synod Assembly June 14-16, 2018

Highlight: Elect a New Synod Bishop

"We Are Church Together" is the focus for the Thirty-First Annual Assembly of the Grand Canyon Synod. The voting members of the assembly will gather late Thursday afternoon, June 14, at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Oro Valley, Arizona.

During the course of the plenary sessions running from Thursday evening through early Saturday afternoon, key decisions will be made, including the calling of the sixth bishop to serve the Grand Canyon Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Please visit the 2018 Bishop's Election Informational Page (www.gcsynod.org/2018-bishops-election-information/) for more information on the Grand Canyon Synod process of electing a synodical bishop.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton will be with us for this highly strategic assembly in our life together. Through her presentations, voting members and visitors will gain a magnificent picture of the ways we are changing the world together by the power of the Gospel at work throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Pastor Rick, Jack Ranby and Martha Weld are the voting members who will attend from Prince of Peace.

Congregational Meeting

The congregation met on May 20 to elect new council members and to vote on a proposal to expand the preschool to include infants and toddlers and to accept the dedicated gifts for financing this endeavor. The proposal was overwhelmingly approved and plans will now move forward.

A full council was elected by the congregation. These persons have taken a leap of faith to represent the POP community to do God's work! Thanks to the selfless work of the nominating committee in presenting this slate.

Congregation Council 2018-2019

• President	Gwen Jacobs	Year 2 of 2
• President-Elect	Debbie Nelson	Year 1 of 2*
• Treasurer	Tony Hammond	Year 1 of 2*
• Secretary	Kris Kainass	Appointed by council to fill term of Anita Thorne through April 2019
• VP (Personnel)	Jack Ranby	Year 2 of 2
• VP (Preschool)	Janet DeJonge	Year 1 of 2*
• At-Large	Carrie Goodman	Year 2 of 2
• At-Large	Steve Edgar	Year 2 of 2
• At-Large	Martha Weld	Year 2 of 2
At LargeAt-Large	Marilyn Schmidlin Les Holland	Year 2 of 2 Year 1 of 2*

^{*}Elected at the special Congregational Meeting on May 20, 2018

(See bios on the new members on page 5.)

THE MESSENGER is printed monthly for the purpose of informing members and friends of upcoming events, for sharing good news about our members and for sharing the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through word and action.

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CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Gwen Jacobs, President
Debbie Nelson, President-Elect
Jack Ranby, Vice President/Personnel
Janet DeJonge, Vice President/Preschool
Kris Kainass, Secretary
Tony Hammond, Treasurer
Nancy Stevens, Financial Secretary
Steve Edgar, Carrie Goodman,
Marilyn Schmidlin, Martha Weld,
Les Holland, Members-at-Large

Please see the website for individual staff e-mail addresses.

Father's Day Celebration Sunday, June 17

Join us for a special worship service honoring the fathers in our lives. We will serve root beer floats after the service.



Theology Pub — One More Session before Summer Break and a New Location

Tuesday, June 19, McFate Brewing, 7 p.m. (1312 N. Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale)

Grab your Bible, a beer (or other beverage) and your curiosity and join us for a lively discussion about a biblical text. Bring yourself, your questions and your friends! Pastor Rick would very much appreciate a heads-up if you plan to attend so he can get enough space at McFate Brewing. Please send him an e-mail (pastorrick@popphoenix.org) or a text (408.472.0529) if you plan to be there.

Prayers for Healing June 10 and 24

If you desire prayers for healing, for yourself or someone close to you, your pastor is ready and willing to pray with you. We offer prayers for healing at the altar directly following the worship service. If you desire prayer at another day/time during the week, don't hesitate to call Pastor Rick at the church office and he will be happy to arrange a prayer session with you.

Compassion Central POP's Visitation Ministry



Next meeting is Sunday, June 3 at 10:45 a.m. in Gangsei Hall (during coffee time).

Our group visits those who are sick, recovering from hospitalization or homebound. We offer listening ears, prayers and human connection to members of the POP family in need. If you would like to join the team, please contact Pastor Rick (pastorrick@popphoenix.org). If you would like to be visited, also contact Pastor Rick.

Sunday Worship

Worship Schedule

Worship, 9:30 a.m.

June 3

2nd Sunday after Pentecost 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Mark 2:23-3:6 "Prioritize People" Pastor Rick Sherrill, preaching

June 10

3rd Sunday after Pentecost 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35 "In His Right Mind" Pastor Rick Sherrill, preaching

June 17

4th Sunday after Pentecost 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 Mark 4:26-34 "Start Small" Pastor Rick Sherrill, preaching

June 24

5th Sunday after Pentecost Job 38:1-11 Mark 4:35-41 "Peace! Be Still!" Audrey Cox, preaching

Traveling This Summer?

Take Church with You!

Even if you can't make it to church, church goes with you! Hop on our website and download the "Taking Faith Home" for that Sunday. It's for all ages and a great way to dig into the scripture for the week. Take time for church wherever you are! You can download it on our website here: www.popphoenix.org/children-youth/parents-and-family

Meet the New Church Council Members

Debbie Nelson



"My name is Debbie Nelson and I have been a member of Prince of Peace for about 21 years. My husband, Steve, and I were married here and are both AZ natives and graduates of Arcadia High School. He graduated from UofA and I graduated from ASU. I have 2 children. Emily, 21, recently married and temporarily living in Biloxi, Mississippi until mid-summer. Her husband is in the Navy and will be receiving his 3-year assignment any day. They're hoping to be in San Diego. Garrett, 14, is in 7th grade at Ingleside. He enjoys most sports, with lacrosse being his favorite. He recently received his Black Belt in Taekwondo. Both of them are POP Preschool alum. Steve has worked for

American Express for 12 years. He loves to cook. I have served on the Preschool Board and served as President. Wednesday mornings you can find me in the church office where I have volunteered for about 10 years. I enjoy gardening and attending Garrett's lacrosse tournaments. My new hobby is painting."

Tony Hammond



"I was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio and came to the Valley in 2007, chasing the sunshine like all of us Midwesterners. I graduated from Ohio University in 2003 with a finance degree and then received a Master's Degree in Accountancy from Arizona State. I have been in commercial banking my entire career and currently run the commercial banking group at Arizona Bank and Trust (a Heartland Financial USA Company). I met my wife Abby in 2009 in Scottsdale (she was also from Toledo but we had not met before), and she was the one who got me back into looking for a church. We looked for a while until we came upon POP and Pastor Rick in late 2011, and we have been coming ever since. Pastor

Rick married us in November 2012, and we had our daughter Reese, (19 months) baptized at POP in Feb. 2017. POP is the first church community that I have ever felt connected to and it's the people, starting with Pastor Rick, who drive such a culture of openness and acceptance, that inspires me to be a better person all around. A couple of years ago, my wife and I moved back to Ohio for family reasons, and one of the largest reasons we moved back to Phoenix, was that we missed our POP family. Abby and I are so excited to get more involved in the church, especially as our daughter Reese will soon be going into preschool and getting involved in POP youth group."

Janet DeJonge



Janet (pictured here with husband Dave) was married at POP in 1990 and became involved with Parish Education, Women's Ministries, and taught Sunday School until she and Dave moved to MN in 1996. They came back to Phoenix in 2016 and look forward to serving again. While away Janet was a leader for Community Bible Study, involved in PTO at her kids' school and taught Sunday School. She is a volunteer Oasis tutor at a nearby school, a Sunshine Reader and a Wish Granter for Make a Wish. Her focus while here in Phoenix is to "Make a Difference."



Roses to...

- ◆ Tracy Fish for serving on Altar Guild in May.
- **♦** The Prince of

Peace community for your continued support of prayers and resources for this year's high school trip to Houston for the ELCA Youth Gathering!

- ♦ Houston Gathering parents & families for their leadership in putting together this year's Pancake Breakfast Fundraisers and supporting their youth's attendance at multiple meetings and events.
- ♦ Dinky Snell & Anita Thorne for their terms on the Church Council.

Pastor Rick's Open Office Hours

Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon

Stop by for a bottle of water and relaxed conversation about anything under the sun. Your pastor would love to get to know you better. If you would like to meet another date/time, please contact Pastor Rick to make an appointment (pastorrick@popphoenix. org) or call the church office.

News of Members and Friends

DEATH

May 12 Gene Stevens

Preschool News

by Nicole Hilden



Achievement Ceremony Honorees

At the end of May we honored all of our Pre-Kindergarten students for their hard work and accomplishments over the 2017-2018 school year. We have a great group of students who have completed a wonderful year of learning and fun in our Pre-K classrooms. Some of them will move on to Kindergarten and some of them will stay with us for another year. We were happy to honor all of them with a special ceremony. Their teachers were able to present them with a certificate in front of a sanctuary full of parents, family and friends.

These children and families have become a part of our Prince of Peace family and we have been privileged to be a part of their lives during their learning and growing preschool years. Tears were shed as we said our goodbyes to many of them. We are so privileged to have had the opportunity to provide a fun, safe and learning environment for all of the children this year. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to their success, in big ways and small ways!

Blessings, Nicole Hilden

Room 7

Trey Bolden Quentin Cline Alex Eaves Harper Eckrote Duke Faux Walker Freckmann Ava Gardner Rory Hoffman Greta Jadlot Graham Kasulaitis Howie Keeler Katiana Kory Leo Metz James Rajakovich Abigail Rebling Martin Riano Benjamin Schwartz Andrew Snell Henry Sprague Chuck Stiles Kiley Williams

Lily Young

Room 8

Iack Brandt Jameson Brown Benjamin Crandall Traynor Fierge Laurent Gharfeh **Barrett Gross** Jagger Harden **Brody Hutchins Brooks Hutchins** Portia Janik Hanna Kanouse **Hudson Lewis** Ashlee Martin Beau McCray Lilia Miller Parker Mogren Max Morstad Stefan Park Andrew Powers Reese Richardson Indy Strebe Nora Wallace Katelyn Zupancic

Room 9

Lucas Ackerman Jerry Ashworth Lexi Baker **Iak Boudi** Sophie Rose Brown Skylar Chiao Samuel Desjardins Anna Drew Dunlap Ouentin Elrod Gastelum Audrina Lionel Guzman Aydan Houg Isreal Kory **Briley Laizure** Avery McCormack Freddy McKeage Keegan Murphy Brian Nguyen Ella Patten Brooklyn Pritchett Leo Pucci Hank Ragland Lucy Woudenberg

Room 10

Benson Arnold Harper Driscoll Cameron Farrell Claire Feltus Keaton Hancock Ada Harden Jack Harvey Ben Henricksen Campbell Lampe Kate Levine Case Medina James Morrow Briar Nelson Bradyn Peterson Katelyn Stauff Mia Sugumaran Bennett Swiergol Weston Taunton Gia Thimsen **Hudson Watkins** Ryan Yu

Volunteers welcome...

Help with Sunday worship on an occasional basis: Altar Guild, Ushers, Communion Assistants or Greeters.
Call Maria in the church office and she will direct you to the right person.

Share some goodies for Sunday morning coffee hours. If you would like to help, call or text Jacque Lara, 480.677.2527.

Youth and Family Ministry NEWS!

The goal of Prince of Peace's Youth and Family Ministry is to create space for Christ to work in the lives of all youth and their families. The space we focus on is faith formation, community building and service.

Service Opportunities for All Ages: Serving Breakfast

6:15-9 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church June 3, August 12 Please sign-up on our website www.popphoenix.org/serving/ongoing-service-ministry

CHILL!

Every Sunday from 9-9:30 a.m. in the Youth Room. We meet for check-in time, prayer and of course ... donuts.

Graduation Milestone

June 10 during worship

A Special Note of Thanks to our 2018 Houston Youth Gathering Financial Sponsors:

The Prince of Peace Foundation ◆ The Prince of Peace Congregation and Church Council ◆ Allen Quie & Jim Taylor

- ♦ Martha Weld ♦ Dave & Janet DeJonge ♦ Teri & Frank Traaen
- ◆ Les Holland ◆ Growland LLC (Greg Rowland) ◆ Jim and Marilyn Schmidlin ◆ St. John's Lutheran Church ◆ Jack & Diane Peterson ◆ Nancy & Scott Stevens ◆ Lindsey & Scotty Smidlein ◆ Nora Michaelson ◆ In memory of Gail Andrews
- ♦ Louis Benedict ♦ Laurie Peterson & Earl Fuchs ♦ Lynne McGinley ♦ Elaine Zapfel

Congratulations to these 2017-2018 graduates!

- Allison Manning. Graduated from Saguaro High School. Allison will be attending Arizona State University in the fall and studying to become a nutritionist.
- Emily Manning. B.S. in Nursing from Grand Canyon University.
- Tristan Rockwood. NAU several weeks ago. She has found a job teaching 4th grade at Harris Elementary School in Chandler for next fall.
- Lindsey Smidlein, M.S. in Nursing Administration from Texas Tech. Lindsey is an RN Clinical Supervisor at Phoenix Children's Hospital.
- Jacob Staudenmaier. Graduating from Arcadia High School where he was recognized for being in the top 3 percent of the Class of 2018 and a member of the National Honor Society. Jacob will attend Loyola Marymount University School of Film & Television where he was admitted to the highly competitive Film Production Program & awarded an academic merit scholarship.
- Kate Staudenmaier, B.S. from the University of Denver Daniels College of Business (with distinction) & a minor in Business Ethics & Legal Studies. Kate has been employed full time as a Marketing & Communications Manager for Northwestern Mutual in Denver since December 2017 when she officially completed all of her degree requirements at DU.
- **Brian Stevens**, J.D. in Law from University of Denver. Brian is currently studying for the bar exam in July.

- Carley Stevens, Masters in Higher Educational Leadership from Texas Christian University. Carley is working for Teleos Digital Marketing.
- Lyndon Vanderbeischel, graduating from Arcadia High School. Lyndon will attend Arizona State University's Keller School of Business this fall.



Elizabeth Crofton (with parents Karen & Steve Crofton), grew up at Prince of Peace, including attending our preschool. She graduated on May 18 from the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, with a PhD in neuroscience. Dr. Crofton is in a post-doctoral program at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and is on track to become a college professor. She will begin student teaching at NC A&T University in Greensboro in January.

Hints for Successful and Safe Gardening

by Beth Schneider

In the Southwest, gardening and yard work can be a 12-month-a-year project. Gardening can be a great source of exercise. It reduces stress and provides an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors while soaking up much needed Vitamin D. There are other tangible rewards such as bouquets of flowers and feasts of fresh vegetables which, when shared with family and

friends, provide a chance to socialize. With all the benefits of gardening, too often the tips for safe and successful gardening are forgotten. Gardening is not generally a high risk activity but some precautions should be kept in mind, particularly as temperatures rise.

Respect the weather and wear the proper clothing. Sun screen that protects against both UVA and UVB rays and has a SPF of at least 15 is essential. A wide-brimmed hat will keep the sun off your face. Wear a light-colored and light-weight long-sleeved shirt and don't forget sun glasses. Gardening gloves protect against bug bites, thorns and scratches. When using power equipment, goggles protect your eyes. If a monsoon storm approaches, it is time to go inside.

There is a reason that yard work is called work. Begin with lighter work. Then do heavier work and finish with lighter work. As with any exercise, warm up by doing simple stretching exercises. Bending or lifting the wrong way can strain your back. Experts recommend that instead of bending from the waist, squat with one knee on the ground and change knees every few minutes. Foam kneeling pads or a gardening bench are wise investments. When lifting, bend at your knees using your legs, not your back. Take breaks between tasks or during activities that require repeating the same motion over and over.

Don't spend too much time in the sun. Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated. Be aware of the danger signs of heat-related illness: a high temperature, headache, rapid pulse, dizziness, nausea or confusion. When you are tired, stop or rest. Like other exercise, increase the amount of time spent in the yard or garden gradually.

dening frequently involves the use of chemicals and equipment. Read the directions care-

fully and always follow them. Know what to do if chemicals come in contact with your eyes or skin. Be sure that equipment is in good working order, especially ladders, power tools, and extension cords. When the ladder says do not step on the top step, there is a reason.

Finally, be sure that your tetanus/diphtheria vaccine is up-to-date. Tetanus lives in the soil and can enter the body through a break in the skin.

Enjoy the fresh air and benefits, but to fully enjoy the rewards of gardening, take the proper precautions.

Monthly Attendance and Revenue Report as of April 30, 2018

	April 2018 (5-week month)	April 2017 (5-week month)
Monthly Attendance	1078	1057
Monthly Offering	\$27,182	\$27,632
Monthly Offering Budget	\$47,727	\$31,664
Variance	(\$20,545)	(\$4,032)

Today, gar-

Bashas' & Fry's Programs

Our rebate for April from reloading grocery cards for the Bashas' chain (including AJ's Fine Foods and Food City) was \$34.

If you need a new Bashas' card, please let me know. Instructions for participating in the Fry's program are posted on the church's website (www.popphoenix.org). Click on the Serving tab and go to the Grocery Store Rebates page.

Steve Crofton Coordinator, Bashas' & Fry's grocery store programs 602.463.7175; sec@slwplc.com Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 3641 North 56th Street Phoenix, Arizona 85018 www.popphoenix.org

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~	Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JUNE 2018	2	AA meets nightly 5:30-6:30 p.m., Room 11/ Survivors of Suicide 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7-9 p.m. Room 11/12	ightly soom 11/12 Suicide hresdays n 11/12		Preschool closed/Day- care Available Sew & Tie- 9 am	Quilters- 9 am
Grace Lutheran Breakfast Service Project- 6:15 am		PR	PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP Monday-Friday			
CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am			VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL			Quilters- 9 am
Bumped Up Brunch- 10:45 am Compassion Central- 10:45 am CONNECT- 10:45 am Fred Goebel Memorial-1 pm		Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	JUNE 4-8	Firm Believers- 9 am		
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CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worshin- 9:30 am		PF	PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP Monday-Friday			
Prayers for Healing Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am		ACTIVITY CAMP		GRANI	GRAND CANYON SYNOD ASSEMBLY June 14-16	ABLY
	J. 200	June 11-14				:
10	Orant s Farmers-7 pm	Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm 12	Elderberries at US Egg- 11:30 am	Firm Believers- 9 am	July Newsletter Deadline	Quilters- 9 am
Father's Day		PR	PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP			
CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am		Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm Theology Pub- 7 pm	Monday-Friday	Firm Believers- 9 am		Quilters- 9 am
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
CHILL Youth Group- 9 am		PR	PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP			
Prayers for Healing Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am		Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	Monday-Friday	Firm Believers- 9 am		Quilters- 9 am
24	25	26	27	28	29	30