

MESSENGER

A Newsletter of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & Preschool

“WORSHIP ❖❖❖ CONNECT ❖❖❖ SERVE”

July 2018

Historic and Spirit-Led

Given the current political polarization in our country, elections have increasingly become high-tension and high-stakes affairs laced with negative messaging. Rivals tear down each other's policy positions, attack ads become the norm, and civility is often left behind. That is why I returned from the weekend's Grand Canyon Synod Assembly with a high level of joy. The highlight of the assembly was a rare bishop's election. As the election cycle progressed, the nominees were positive, supportive of one another and offered fresh perspectives on how to grow our mission in the world. What a contrast to the upcoming midterms!

After the dust settled, the Rev. Deborah Hutterer was elected as our sixth, and first female, bishop. I have had the pleasure of working on a few projects with Deb in her current position with Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest. She is humble, joyful and has a passion for bringing people together in service. I look forward to her enthusiastic leadership in the coming months and years. Immediately following the announcement of her election, Deb addressed the assembly with these words: “I do not know where God is leading and guiding, but I know that God is leading and guiding. May we all be open to where that will be for all of us.” Perfect!

Please pray for Bishop-Elect Deborah Hutterer as she prepares to transition to a new role in God's church.

Pastor Rick



The official press release from the Grand Canyon Synod:

The Rev. Deborah Hutterer was elected the sixth bishop of the Grand Canyon Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America at the synod's 31st annual assembly. She will assume the office on September 1 and will be installed on September 8 at 10 a.m. The service will take place at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Phoenix, Arizona.

Bishop-Elect Hutterer, 63, currently is the chief development officer for Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest. She is a member of Desert Cross Lutheran Church in Tempe, AZ.

She was ordained as a minister of Word and Sacrament on August 18, 2004, following her graduation with a Master of Divinity degree from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. She graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in communications from Augsburg University in Minneapolis in 1999. Before being called to service in Arizona, she served as transformational ministry pastor in St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pontiac, IL, executive director of Faith in the City in Minneapolis, and parish life coordinator in Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Baldwin, WS.

Bishop-Elect Hutterer was elected on the fifth ballot with 145 votes. On that ballot, the Rev. Dr. Peter Perry, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Glendale, Ariz., received 135 votes.

Preschool Expansion Initiative Update

We are moving forward with excitement and gratitude! On June 12, the Church Council officially formed a team to shepherd the project from beginning to end. The committee consists of Steve Edgar, Scott Stevens, Nancy Stevens, Drew Goodman, Janet DeJonge and Pastor Rick. Many others will be working with the team in specific assignments, including remodeling the building, state licensing and creating the infant/toddler care program. The first tasks are already underway, including identifying an architect experienced in school construction and a general contractor. Once on board, our architect will help us navigate known challenges, including parking requirements. We hope to have concept drawings soon after. The team will be communicating with the congregation every step of the way.

The Return of the Reverend!

Pastor Paul Nelson returns to Prince of Peace as part-time Visitation Pastor

The Personnel Committee and Church Council are thrilled to announce that Pastor Paul Nelson will be returning to Prince of Peace on August 1, 2018 in the role of part-time visitation pastor. It's easy to see God's hand in this joyful reunion. Over the course of the past year, we have seen a significant increase in the pastoral care needs in our congregation and community. During the same time frame, Pastor Paul has evaluated his life and come away with a renewed sense of call to share his gifts in a congregational setting. We believe that God has brought us back together at the perfect time. Pastor Paul served as a part-time pastor with us from September 2015 to February 2017.

Pastor Paul returns to Prince of Peace with new energy and a different role. He will be coordinating our visitation ministry, including the Compassion Central visitation team that has been doing great work over the past year. He will also be exploring ways to launch a new ministry for those who are enjoying retirement and still seeking ways to make a difference in God's world. Of course, Pastor Paul will also be preaching and leading worship an average of once per month.



Pastor Paul & Nan Nelson (with Pastor Sherrill at the wedding of Paul and Nan's daughter, Courtney.

[Fun fact: Pastor Paul and his wife, Nan, served as English teachers in Kumamoto, Japan before he began his 30-plus-year-journey as an ordained pastor.]

We will celebrate Pastor Paul's return in early August (plans TBD). Welcome back, Paul and Nan!

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

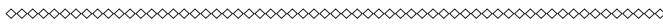
Gwen Jacobs, President
Debbie Nelson, President-Elect
Jack Ranby, Vice President/Personnel
Janet DeJonge, Vice President/Preschool
Kris Kainass, Secretary
Tony Hammond, Treasurer
Nancy Stevens, Financial Secretary
Steve Edgar, Carrie Goodman,
Marilyn Schmidlin, Martha Weld,
Les Holland, Members-at-Large

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

Women's Ministry Opportunities Coming in September

Further details will be available in August. For now, SAVE THE DATES and start inviting your friends!

- ✓ **After the Boxes Are Unpacked**
September 10 to November 19
Mondays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
A video series by Susan Miller promoting emotional wellbeing and spiritual growth for women who have been uprooted by a move or any life change. This is a great study to invite women you know who have been uprooted!
- ✓ **Monday and the Message**
September 10 to November 19
Meeting every other Monday, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
A Bible study using *The Message Bible*, led by Paula Sturgeon Mortenson
- ✓ **Women's Evening Bible Study**
Meets Mondays at 6 p.m. for social time. Bible study begins at 6:30 p.m., coordinated by Jan Beebe
- ✓ **A Study on Christmas**
December 3, 10, and 17, 10 a.m.– 12 p.m., led by Paula Sturgeon Mortenson
- ✓ **Women's Retreat**
Stay tuned!!!



Prayers for Healing

July 8 & 22

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.

Sunday Worship

Worship Schedule

Worship, 9:30 a.m.

July 1

6th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-42
"Two Healings"
Pastor Paul Nelson, preaching

July 8

7th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13
"Amazed for the Wrong Reasons"
Pastor Rick Sherrill, preaching

July 15

8th Sunday after Pentecost
Ephesians 1:3-14
Luke 12:13-21
"Be a Member of the Family"
Pastor Rick Sherrill, preaching

July 22

9th Sunday after Pentecost
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
"Be a Dwelling Place for God"
Pastor Rick Sherrill, preaching

July 29

10th Sunday after Pentecost
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21
"Be Filled"
Pastor Paul Nelson, 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



2018 Grand Canyon Synod Assembly

A New Paragraph in the History of the Church

A new paragraph was written in history by the voting members of the Grand Canyon Synod of the ELCA. From the perspective of the long history of the church, the paragraph is a brief one. For this part of the church, however, the paragraph is highly significant.

From June 14-16, 107 pastors, two deacons, and 196 lay members of the synod's 89 congregations met at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Oro Valley. The assembly began with the Service of Holy Communion. Interim Bishop Lowell G. Almen was the presiding minister and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton was the preaching minister. During the course of the assembly, Presiding Bishop Eaton explored the assembly's theme, "We Are Church Together," guided the election process for synod bishop and responded to questions on the work shared throughout the ELCA and beyond.

Voting members...

1. Elected the Rev. Deborah K. Hutterer to a six-year term as synodical bishop. On Sept. 1, she will become the sixth bishop of the ELCA's Grand Canyon Synod.
2. Further synod and churchwide elections and appointments can be found on the website for the Assembly.
3. Approved a resolution (a) urging "voting members of this assembly ... to work for passage of common sense laws pertaining to firearms in this country that protect our communities, children, and all citizens from the carnage of gun violence"; (b) calling "upon our congregations to study and discuss existing ELCA statements on violence and appeals for stricter measures on gun control"; (c) encouraging "members to exercise their ministry of advocacy with our elected officials for passage of a Universal Background Check on the sale of all firearms and reinstatement of the Federal Assault Weapons Ban (expired in 2004)"; and (d) reaffirming "that this church does not reject gun ownership or the recreational activities associated with guns."

4. Approved a resolution calling upon synod congregations in Arizona "to provide current information about the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission needs and explain and promote the Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization ... as a part of their missional outreach."
5. Referred to the Synod Council a resolution on strategic planning as information supplementing action by the council already under way.
6. Received a report of a resolution submitted during the course of the assembly urging that the U.S. government cease separating infants and children from their immigrant parents. Formal action will be taken by the Synod Council's Executive Committee on the resolution (a) that "calls upon the [U.S.] President and the [U.S.] Department of Justice to exercise their power to cease [such separations]", and (b) that urges "members to exercise their ministry of advocacy with our elected officials for passage of laws to prevent such separations and to speed the reunification of families." Addressing the issue, Presiding Bishop Eaton noted that she had signed, along with two dozen other religious leaders, a letter, which read: "As religious leaders representing diverse faith perspectives, united in our concern for the well-being of vulnerable migrants who cross our borders fleeing from danger and threats to their lives, we are deeply disappointed and pained [by the Administration's decision to separate families]. We affirm the family as a foundational societal structure to support human community and understand the household as an estate blessed by God. The security of the family provides critical mental, physical and emotional support to the development and wellbeing of children. Our congregations and agencies serve many migrant families that have recently arrived

- in the United States. Leaving their communities is often the only option they have to provide safety for their children and protect them from harm. Tearing children away from parents who have made a dangerous journey to provide a safe and sufficient life for them is unnecessarily cruel and detrimental to the well-being of parents and children. As we continue to serve and love our neighbor, we pray for the children and families that will suffer due to this policy and urge the Administration to stop their policy of separating families."
7. Approved the fiscal 2019-2020 mission-spending plan of \$2,167,542. The plan maintains the synod's commitment of 50 percent of each dollar of congregational mission support being devoted to ELCA churchwide ministries throughout this country and the world.
8. Contributed in the offering \$3,256 for the Grand Canyon Synod's Fund for Leaders scholarships for the education of future pastors and deacons.
9. Heard the report of Bishop Almen, who reminded assembly participants that they are members not only of their own congregation but also of the whole Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Grand Canyon Synod. He highlighted the key principle of interdependence in the life of the ELCA, reflected in ELCA constitutional provision 8.11., which reads: "This church shall seek to function as people of God through congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization, all of which shall be interdependent. Each part, while fully the church, recognizes that it is not the whole church and therefore lives in a partnership relationship with the others."

*Excerpts from a summary report
written by
The Rev. Lowell G. Almen,
Interim Bishop*

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

August 12
6:15-9 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church
Please sign up on our website or contact Margie or Audrey!
www.poppPhoenix.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. Please note, there is no CHILL on Sunday, July 1 or Sunday, July 8.

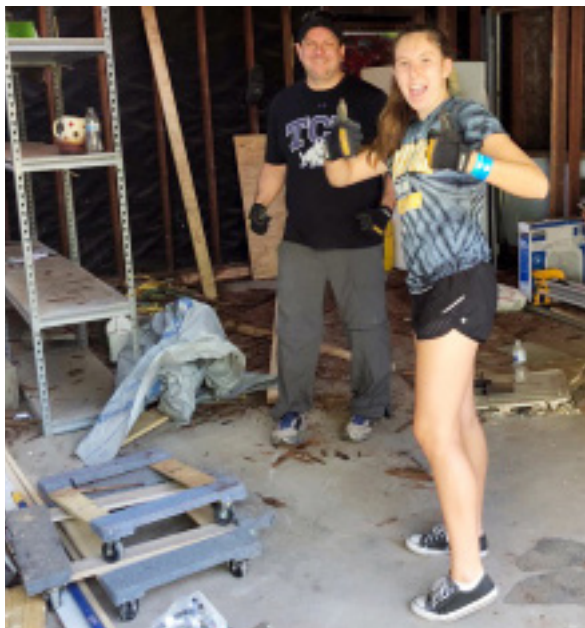
Taking Faith Home

Each Sunday there is a Taking Faith Home insert in the bulletin to take home with you. If you aren't in church, download it on our website! www.poppPhoenix.org/children-youth/parents-and-family

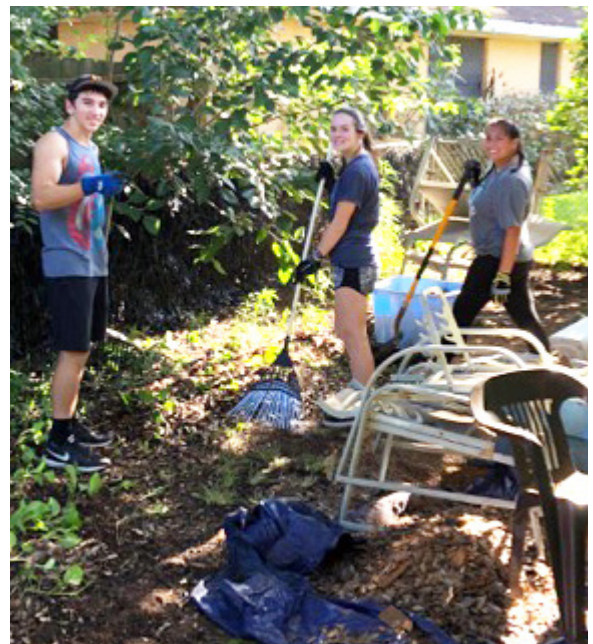
Stay Informed on POP Ministry!

Instagram is poppPhoenix
Facebook is poppPhoenixaz
Text Updates! Text @popyouthaz to 81010
Or email acox@poppPhoenix to be added to the list for Youth and Family Updates!

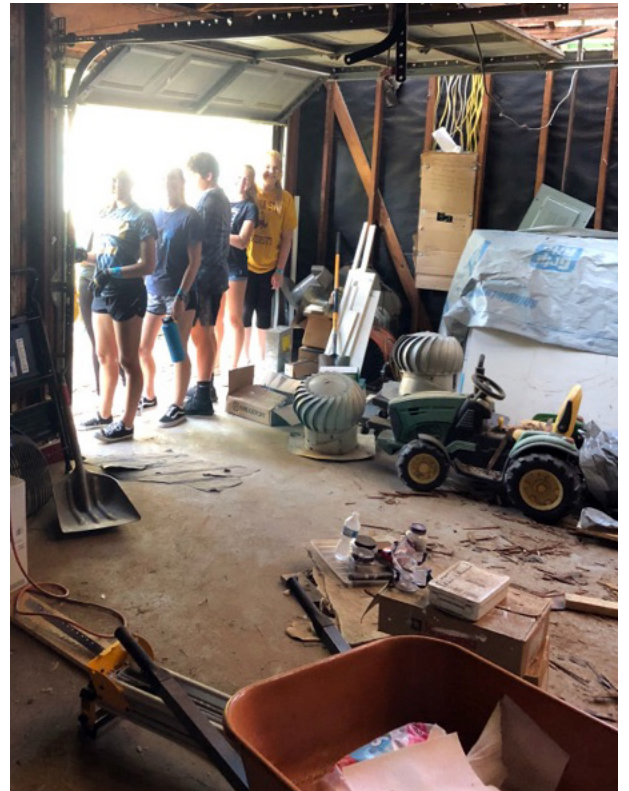
Our Young People at the Gathering in Houston



Our young people working with the Fuller Center for Housing, cleaning up a flood-damaged home for a 93-year-old WWII veteran.



Scenes from Houston - *continued*



Children's Ministry Has Been Busy This Summer!!



It was an awesome week at Activity Camp. We loved making compassion bags for the homeless, sliding down water slides, floating in lazy rivers and playing laser tag. A great big thank you to Audrey Cox and Stephanie Beebe for their help!

Children's Ministry — continued



Fun at VBS!



We had a great week at VBS! A BIG thank you to all our amazing volunteers — Tracy Fish, Janet DeJonge, Madison Sherrill, Gwen Kainass, Martha Weld, Sam Ayala, Lauren Pineda, Kennedy and Blayke Hammer, Evan Goodman, Makalya Zubal, and Walter Hall.



Activity Camp: fun at Big Surf!

Preschool Summer Camp News

by Courtney Greenwell, Assistant Preschool Director

What a wonderful month of camp we have had!

We kicked off summer camp with VBS. This year's VBS theme was "Shipwrecked; Rescued by Jesus!" All the children attended opening and closing sessions and learned how Jesus rescues all of us. The week was filled with praise, song, dance, and more!



PRINCE OF PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

We continued our "Shipwrecked" theme into our second week of camp with island fun and a water day with a giant water slide.



We are looking forward to even more fun to be had as we move into our July session of camp. Our upcoming themes are "All American Road Trip" and "Fine Arts Festival." We are expecting the Great AZ Puppet Theater on Wednesday, July 11, and will have an Art Gallery on display on July 19 and 20. And don't forget about our annual 4th of July Parade on Tuesday, July 3! Please feel free to join us for any of these events if you'd like to experience some preschool fun!

Weeks 3 and 4 of camp were themed "Best in Show" and brought us lots of animal exploration. We had a visit from Carter's Farm mobile petting zoo on Tuesday, June 26. The children had a blast learning hands-on about the animals. Classrooms also hosted pets in their rooms and some classes even organized donations for needy animal shelters.



Dear Prince of Peace,



Thank you for your support of my calling and work in Senegal, West Africa. Because of the support of your congregation, both spiritual and financial, I can confidently continue to do the work God has called me to do as the Young Adults in Global Mission Country Coordinator in Senegal.

May God continue to bless and guide you as you do God's work in Phoenix.

Pastor Kristin Engstrom
ELCA Missionary, Senegal

**News of Members
and Friends**

DEATH
June 26 Doris Costello

Summer Hiatus

Theology Pub and Wednesday Bible Study are taking the summer off and will resume in September 2018.

Attention Amazon.com Shoppers!

You can support Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Foundation while shopping on Amazon.com.

This is much like the grocery rebate programs we participate in with Fry's and Bashas'. Amazon will give 0.5 percent of purchases back to the Foundation. All you have to do is go to smile.amazon.com and choose Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Foundation as the recipient. Here is the direct link...

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/86-0592846>

After you choose the Foundation, just remember to shop at smile.amazon.com instead of regular amazon.com.

Introducing the HiPo Marriage Group

Just as organizations wisely form High-Potential (HiPo) groups of well-performing leaders that are groomed for the highest levels of organizational leadership, we're bringing the same concept and practice to your marriage. We give the functioning and "happy" marriages those special tools to make them exceptional. This unique solutions-based, foundational and positive approach is perfect for all stages of marriage — newly-marrieds to the seasoned veterans.

Jacqueline McCormack, Professional Behavioral Analyst, certified Coach, and founder of Hudson Group Consulting, has spent years helping clients build uncompromising, successful relationships in her private practice. This exclusive six-week course will focus on the areas in marriage of trust, conflict, commitment, accountability, solutions, and will also include a special session by Jacque's colleague, Erik Johnson, LMSW, a Behavioral Health Technician at Family Strategies Counseling Center. This session unwraps the root causes of sexual problems and teaches how to reduce risk factors that lead to pornography addiction for teens and decrease shame around this topic. Erik's focus is healthy dialogue and how to increase bonding and attachment with your child around these difficult issues.

Attending each session is important as each module is sequential and builds upon the previous week. Space is extremely limited for this group, so register early — with a fee of \$240/ per couple (that's only \$20 per individual, per session) payable upon registration. Group will meet Tuesday evenings 7-8:30 p.m. in classroom 11 & 12. Meeting dates are August 14, 21, 28, September 4, 18, and 25.

For registration and questions, contact Jacqueline by email at jacque@hudsongroupconsulting.com or by phone 602.502.9418.



Jacqueline McCormack



Erik Johnson



Roses to...

◆ **Laurel Edgar** for serving on Altar Guild in June.

◆ **Jan Beebe, the Fish-Doody family & Jacque Hale-Lara** for bringing goodies for Sunday morning coffee fellowships in June.

◆ **David Mayes** for his part in Detour Theatre Company's production of *School of Rock* and rocking with an energetic cast!!

◆ **Susan Robinson, Pastor Rick & Jacque Hale-Lara** for being amazing adult leaders for our youth trip to Houston for the ELCA Youth Gathering!

◆ **Nicole Hilden** for serving as our additional adult leader at Campfirmation this summer!

◆ **Dave DeJonge, Trisha Hammer, Erin Garmon, Debbie Nelson and Susan Robinson** for serving on the Youth & Family Ministry Team for the upcoming year!

Pastor Rick's Open Office Hours

Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon

(Except July 26 and August 2)

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.

Wellness Committee

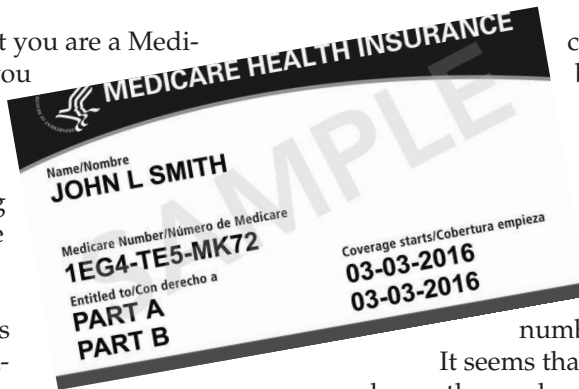
New Medicare Cards Arriving Soon

by Beth Schneider

Whether or not you are a Medicare beneficiary, you have likely heard that Medicare has begun the process of mailing out new Medicare cards to everyone with Medicare. The reason for this massive undertaking is that Medicare determined that using one's Social Security number as their Medicare number likely increased the chance that someone with less-than-honorable intentions could use it for any number of nefarious purposes such as fraud, including health care fraud, and identity theft. The new number will be a combination of numbers and letters that are unique to each beneficiary. The letters S, L, O, I, B and Z are never used.

The new cards will be sent out automatically to the address that Medicare has on file. If your current address is not the one on file, update your record by accessing your my-Social Security account. Cards are to be mailed out between April 2018 and 2019. As of May 25, new cards had been mailed to Alaska, Oregon, California, Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Cards were being mailed to American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam. Arizona is one of the states to which cards will be mailed after June 2018. There is a map at MyMedicare.gov/NewCard which shows which states have received the new card. Considering that 44 million people or 15 percent of the population are enrolled in Medicare, completing the mailing by April 2019 may be optimistic.

When the new card arrives, destroy the old one but do not destroy the card for your Medicare drug plan. Only give your new number to doctors, pharmacists, other health care providers, your insurers, and to people you trust to work with Medi-



care on your behalf. If you forget your new card, your health care provider may be able to look up your number online.

It seems that there are always those who use any opportunity to improperly try to obtain one's personal information. As a result, there are any number of people who are taking advantage of the issuance of the new cards for crimi-

nal activity by using it as an excuse to contact people to obtain personal information. Medicare will NEVER call beneficiaries uninvited and ask for personal or private information. If someone calls asking for your personal information or for money so that your new card can be issued or threatens to cancel your health benefits if you don't share your personal information, hang up and report the call to 1.800.633.4227. If you have caller ID, record the number of the incoming call. Medicare receives all the necessary information to provide coverage when beneficiaries enroll.

Monthly Attendance and Revenue Report

as of May 31, 2018

	May 2018 (4-week month)	May 2017 (4-week month)
Monthly Attendance	607	642
Monthly Offering	\$46,673	\$34,672
Monthly Offering Budget	\$25,907	\$25,821
Variance	\$20,766	\$8,851

Bashas' & Fry's Programs

Our quarterly rebate from Fry's for March-May was \$56. Our rebate for May from reloading Bashas' cards — which are also accepted at AJ's Fine Foods and Food City — was \$45. If you need a Bashas' card that is linked to Prince of Peace, please contact me.

Thank you for supporting Prince of Peace's ministries while you shop!

Steve Crofton
Coordinator, Bashas' & Fry's grocery store programs
602.463.7175; sec@slwplc.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1 Worship- 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am	2 ELCA Youth Gathering Returns	3 Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY Church Office & Preschool Closed 	5 Firm Believers- 9 am	6	7 Quilters- 9 am	
8 Worship- 9:30 am Prayers for Healing Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am	9 Grant's Partners- 7 pm August Newsletter Deadline	10 Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	11 PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP Monday-Friday CAMPFIRMATION July 8-13 Elderberries at US Eggs- 11:30 am	12 Firm Believers- 9 am	13	14 Quilters- 9 am	
15 CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am	16	17 Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	18 PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP Monday-Friday	19 Firm Believers- 9 am	20	21 Quilters- 9 am	
22 CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Prayers for Healing Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am	23	24 Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	25 PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP Monday-Friday	26 Firm Believers- 9 am	27	28 Quilters- 9 am	
29 CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am	30 Preschool/Daycare Closed	31 Preschool/Daycare Closed Firm Believers- 9 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	JULY 2018				

AA meets nightly, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Room 11/12
Survivors of Suicide, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. Room 11/12

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