

MESSENGER

A Newsletter of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & Preschool

“WORSHIP ❖❖❖ CONNECT ❖❖❖ SERVE”

May 2019

Time Value

(This article was originally written in 1997 and published at Prince of Peace in 2010.)

Today I have too much to do and too little time to do it. This should no longer be surprising since this seems to be the constant theme of my life. A few minutes ago, I plopped down in my office chair and took a moment to gaze at the African art that occupies nearly every nook and cranny of my office. I can feel the desire to return to Africa rising in my soul. It has been far too long. But then again, time is valued very differently in Africa.

In 1996, I journeyed to Zimbabwe with a group of classmates and professors from Luther Seminary. Our goal was to do our coursework in a different context and thereby allow the context to inform our studies. After all, even an outsider can see that Christianity is lived very differently in Africa. Little did I know that the context would impact how I view the world.

At the beginning of our time in Zimbabwe, we were driven out to rural mission stations to visit local pastors and community leaders and to worship in Zimbabwean Lutheran churches. We were told to stay for a few days and then use local trans-

portation to make our way back to the capital city of Harare. This meant riding overcrowded buses that were sometimes held together with duct tape and African ingenuity.

The bus stops in Zimbabwe were usually nothing more than small signs nailed to trees by the side of the road. There were no schedules, simply rumors passed from person to person that a bus might arrive at a certain time. When my group arrived at the bus stop at 5:30 a.m. for our return trip to Harare, there were people from all walks of life (some with farm animals) waiting for the bus. When the bus didn't arrive by 10 a.m., the locals continued to wait patiently while I became agitated. There were many things I wanted to do that day, and waiting under a tree was not one of them. I began to check my watch every five minutes.

It didn't take long for me to realize that the stress I was creating for myself wouldn't make the bus come any faster. I asked a local man why Zimbabweans didn't seem concerned about when the bus would come. He laughed and said, "In Zimbabwe, we value people more than time." He called the concept "Africa time." It

dawned on me that in our culture of busyness and distraction, we have a tendency to become slaves to time at the expense of valuing people. As I began to let go of my manic need to control time, I discovered that time no longer controlled me. I began to talk to people at that bus stop.

Paul writes in his first letter to Thessalonians, "So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the Gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you have become so dear to us." (1 Thess. 2:8) I have lived this verse sitting at bus stops next to dusty roads in the middle of Zimbabwe. This morning I lived this verse while playing with kids at Vacation Bible School.

Today I have too much to do and too little time to do it. I find myself trying in vain to control time. I long to stand once again on African soil to relearn the lesson of Africa time. I remain convinced that God works wonders in those magical moments when we have the courage to "waste time together."

Peace,

Pastor Rick



May 12

Join us for a special celebration of Mother's Day, including flowers and one of the best children's messages of the year.

Prince of Peace Infant and Toddler Care Dedication

May 19, 9:30 a.m.

Join us as we give thanks to God for our new infant and toddler care center. The celebration begins in worship at 9:30 a.m. with tours and reception to follow. We will pray for the launch of POP's newest ministry (POPIT), meet the staff and see the new space. This is also a wonderful opportunity to meet the families who will be entrusting us with the care of their children. The infant and toddler care center is slated to open on June 3, 2019. (see additional article on page 6)

Upcoming Memorial Services

- ▼ **Jan Lecker**, Thursday, May 2, 10 a.m. in the Prince of Peace sanctuary with reception to follow in room 11/12.
- ▼ **Bill Trenter**, Saturday, May 18, 11 a.m. in the Prince of Peace sanctuary with reception to follow in Gangsei Hall.

Pastor Paul Offers Spiritual Exploring

"What is God doing in my life?" "I wish God would give me some kind of sign as to what I should do?" Maybe these are things you have thought or questions that have popped into your brain. If they are and you would like to explore them more fully, contact Pastor Paul. These are the precise kinds of questions that a Spiritual Director is trained to help you explore. Pastor Paul has studied Spiritual Direction formally for two years and is a licensed Spiritual Director. He himself has been meeting monthly with the same Spiritual Director for 24-plus years. Contact Pastor Paul if you would like to do some spiritual exploring.

Mary and Martha Bible Study

All women are invited to join the Mary & Martha's Bible study. Our next study will be "Word Alone, Grace Alone, Faith Alone" — a three-week tour (May 7, 14 & 21, 9:30 a.m. in the new conference room) through the three critical phrases of Martin Luther, led by Paula Sturgeon. In June, July & August we will meet once a month for a book discussion. (June 11, "The Hiding Place," by Corrie Ten Boom.)

Come whether you have read the book or not. If you need a copy of the book, contact Janet DeJonge at janlde76@gmail.com.

Prayers for Healing May 5 & 26

"O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me." Psalm 30:2.

Whatever you are dealing with, prayer can help. The simple act of turning your worry and pain over to God is wonderfully powerful. You are invited to the holy experience of healing prayer. Join us at the altar directly following worship and your pastors will pray with you about anything on your mind. God has so much to offer!

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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Janet DeJonge, Vice President/Preschool
Kris Kainass, Secretary
Tony Hammond, Treasurer
Nancy Stevens, Financial Secretary
Martha Weld, Tracy Fish
Gwen Jacobs, Members-at-Large

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

First Communion

Congratulations to Ava and Violet Doody who celebrated their First Communion on April 14, 2019. The next First Communion class will be scheduled this fall. If you are interested, please drop a note to Pastor Rick and you will be added to the list (pastorrick@popphoenix.org).

Preschool Expansion Project

by Nicole Hilden, Preschool Director

We opened enrollment to the community on March 1 and couldn't have been more thrilled with the response! Many families lined up overnight to enroll their child in our new POPIT (Prince of Peace Infant Toddler) program. Our POP team arrived at 6:30 a.m. to visit with these families, enjoy coffee and donuts, and have another opportunity to share about the new program as well as the awesome things happening in the church!

Construction has been underway on the new classrooms and our team is busy working behind the scenes to ensure this program will launch as smoothly and successfully as possible. We have hired some fabulous new staff members but are still looking for more, so if you know someone who has a passion for children, families, and ministry, please send them our way!

Lastly, thank you for the continued prayers for this project. We see the joy and excitement on parents' faces as they enroll their precious children with us. We know that none of this would have been possible without the work and support of many, many people in the congregation. Thank you for believing in this opportunity to grow the Prince of Peace family!

A Message from Council President, Debbie Nelson

As I sit and compose my thoughts, I am enjoying this beautiful spring weather and am reminded of God's many gifts. We are at the end of Lent and by the time you read this, we will have experienced another Easter, a cherished and much-celebrated event by many around the globe.

A sense of community is the feeling I have here at Prince of Peace. That community feeling is not only from our own congregation but also from the outside community. In March we had two big community events: the Packathon and the Street Fair. Not only did our POP community rally to make both events a success, but the generosity of the surrounding community was impressive as well. Many laughs, smiles and new friends were made as a result of these two big community events.

I am grateful and humbled to serve as Council President and am excited to be in this role and look forward to working with the council to continue to move POP in a positive direction. I'd like to express my gratitude to Gwen Jacobs, Jack Ranby and Carrie Goodman for their time and commitment to council last term. Their dedication and expertise is truly appreciated. I welcome Peter Westby, President-at-Large, and Tracy Fish, Member-at-Large, to council this year.

In this Easter season, I pray that we are all reminded of the grace and love that our Savior has for us.

Blessings,
Debbie

Sunday Worship

Worship Schedule

Worship, 9:30 a.m.

May 5

3rd Sunday of Easter

Psalm 30

John 21:1-19

"Rewind"

Audrey Cox, preaching

May 12

Mother's Day

Psalm 23

John 10:22-30

"The Voice"

Pastor Rick Sherrill, preaching

May 19

5th Sunday of Easter

"Music Sunday"

May 26

Memorial Day Weekend

6th Sunday of Easter

Psalm 67

John 5:1-9

"Diving in the Deep End"

Pastor Rick Sherrill, preaching

Come and See the New Office Suite! And Pastor Rick!

Join Pastor Rick on Mondays in May from 1-3 p.m. for open office hours in the new office suite. Coffee and water will be served!

Please Note: No office hours on May 27 (Memorial Day).

BGs

This fun-loving group of near-retirement, recently retired and other folks will be meeting on May 16 at McFate Brewing Company on Scottsdale Rd., just south of McDowell at 5:30 p.m. This is a new starting time. If you are early, enjoy the atmosphere and know that your compatriots will be along soon. As always, please bring some friends with you!

Compassion Central

POP's Visitation and Care Ministry

All of us have been given gifts, by God, for the well-being of the Body of Christ. I invite you to take an inventory of the gifts that you have been given. Are you one who enjoys visiting others? If you are being called by God to share your care-giving gift, please let Pastor Paul know. If you have need of care, please contact Pastor Paul (602.740.7187 or the church office (480.945.9537) to let us know.



Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday mornings,
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 9:30 a.m.
choir room

Note: Class will be in summer break, May 29 to September 4

Join Pastor Rick as we look at the assigned scripture readings for the following Sunday. This is your opportunity to help create a sermon! The coffee is hot, the discussion is lively and the laughter will warm your heart. All are welcome.

Big Thank You!

2019 Street Fair Thank You!

A BIG THANK YOU to this community for supporting our Annual Street Fair fundraiser for Youth & Family Ministry!

- Thanks to everyone who donated to our silent auction and brought in supplies for the event.
- Thank you to the MANY people who volunteered their time in the planning weeks

and on Saturday at the event to make it a success!

- A very special thank you to our Street Fair Team – Margie Creedon, Janet DeJonge, Karen Duffey, Jacque Hale-Lara, Trisha Hammer, Susan Robinson, Lindsey Smidlein, Debbie Nelson and Ginny Wooden for their incredible teamwork to put this event together!
- An additional special thanks to the Edgars for their donation to the Street Fair!

85+ Celebration Thank You

“Heartfelt thanks to all who made the 85+ Celebration so joyous and meaningful. Thanks to Pastor Rick, Lynn McGinley, the precious children who delivered gifts, and the POP Foundation who provided refreshments. It was a beautiful day to remember on our journey.”

Gratefully, June Larson

Next Theology Pub Tuesday, May 28, 7 p.m. Fate Brewery 7 p.m.

Join us with your Bible, beer (or other beverage) and lively discussions with great people at Fate Brewing, South Location (1312 N Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale). This is a time for free discussion and the sharing of ideas and is open to all adults, including your friends who aren't members of POP. Pastor Rick would really like to know if you are coming. Please send him an e-mail (pastorrick@popphoenix.org) or a text (408.472.0529) if you plan to be there.

Travel Opportunity

There are a few spaces available for an exciting trip to Eastern Europe that will be highlighted by attendance at the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany. This is a once-a-decade event and you surely want to be a participant. The trip is May 25, 2020 – June 2020. Please contact Pastor Paul (602.740.7187) for complete information.

Monthly Attendance and Revenue Report

as of March 31, 2019

	March 2019 (5-week month)	March 2018 (4-week month)
Monthly Attendance	722	659
Monthly Offering	\$34,675	\$25,882
Monthly Offering Budget	\$51,862	\$25,807
Variance	\$(17,187)	\$75

Children, Youth and Family NEWS!

The goal of Prince of Peace's Children, 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.

Ch.I.L.L is Every Sunday for 7th-12th Grade!!

ChILL is in our new office conference room (where the old youth room was)! Every Sunday from 9-9:30 a.m. we meet for check-in time, prayer and of course...donuts!

High School Youth Group

May 19 – END OF THE YEAR PARTY! Main Event! 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$10 a person. Drivers needed, so talk to Audrey if you can drive.

Confirmation — C.A.L.L.

May 19 – End of the Year Party at Our Saviour's in Phoenix, 1-3 p.m.

Campfirmation 2018 — July

Register online at www.lutherancampformation.com by May 15! July 7-12 at Camp Pinerock in Prescott! A week of camp fun (outdoor adventures, cabins with new friends, music, Bible exploration, campfires, swimming, high ropes and more!)

6th-9th Grade — Campers

10th Grade — G.A.P. Camp (Camper and Leadership Experience)



High School Youth Group on a recent Scavenger Hunt

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

Keep Up on POP Ministry

Instagram is popphoenix; Facebook is popphoenixaz. Or e-mail acox@popphoenix.org to be added to the list for Youth and Family Updates!



Confirmation (C.A.L.L.)

Know Someone Who Is Graduating?

Prince of Peace will recognize all graduates on Sunday, June 2. Please send Audrey the following information for your graduates no later than May 12 so their information can be published in the June *Messenger*!

Name _____

School they are graduating from _____

Future plans _____

Preschool News

by POP Preschool Admin...



Update... **POPIT (Prince of Peace Infant Toddler)**

Construction to our new POPIT classrooms is starting to wrap up. They are putting in flooring and final touches — and we are getting so excited! We have started getting our new furniture and will be putting it all together soon!



Welcome to our newest POPIT infants!

Prince of Peace gives a warm welcome to our newest POPIT infants — Baby Hattie and Baby Logan! We are looking forward to meeting all our new families (and new sweet babies!) and anxious to share the new program with our community.



Baby Logan Smidlein



Baby Hattie Brown

Achievement Ceremony

**Tuesday, May 21,
9:15 a.m.
sanctuary**

You are invited to celebrate with us! We will honor all children in Rooms 7,8,9,10 with an Achievement Certificate for their completion of a year in Pre-Kindergarten.



A Look at Stem Cell Therapy

by Beth Schneider

If you have driven on Indian School Road recently, you may have seen a prominent sign that reads "STEM CELLS" In front of 4440 E. Indian School Road. If you happened to be listening to Morning Edition on KJZZ on April 2, you may have heard Dr. Joseph Sirven discussing a patient who paid several thousand dollars for stem cell therapy to improve her brain function after she suffered a stroke, but received no benefit. How are these two events connected? They are both evidence of the growing number of stem cell clinics offering unproven therapies.

Stem cells are special cells with the potential to repair damaged tissue and organs. There are different types of stem cells. Stem cells that come from human embryos or are specially programmed in a laboratory can be turned into any kind of cell and theoretically can turn into any cell in the human body. Adult stem cells, taken from fully developed tissue can only turn into the type of tissue from which they came. As a result, their therapeutic potential is much more limited. These are the types of cells offered by clinics offering stem cell therapy. Important clinical research and trials are currently being conducted by major research institutions in the United States and worldwide. However, the FDA has only approved the use of embryonic stem cells to treat certain blood disorders, such as leukemia and some forms of anemia and for tissue grafts to treat diseases which injure the skin, bones or surface of the eyes ... and has not approved the use of adult stem cells to treat any illness or injury.

However, lack of approval has not stopped unscrupulous clinicians from claiming that they can offer stem cell therapy to treat conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (OCPD), joint injuries, lupus, diabetes, and macular degeneration. Patients try the unproven treatments because they are seeking miracle

cures. The fortunate only lose money, usually a lot of it, while the less fortunate suffer severe side effects such as blindness, kidney failure, bacterial infection or paraplegia or death.

The FDA is cracking down on clinics offering unproven treatments. There are also steps that those considering stem cell therapy can and should take to protect themselves. Beware of hype and hefty fees. Doctors testing stem cell treatments in carefully controlled clinical trials, usually don't post flashy advertisements and promise drastic improvements or total cures. Be suspicious of any doctor who claims to treat a wide range of medical conditions. Before beginning treatment, ask if the FDA has approved the treatment. Also ask for the FDA-issued Investigational New Drug Application number and ask to see the actual approval letter to ensure that it has been issued specifically for the treatment you're considering. If your treatment is part of a clinical trial, you must sign a consent form that explains the experimental procedure. Before signing, be sure that you understand the entire process and known risks. Also ask for the clinical investigator's brochure which includes a short description of the product and information about its safety and effectiveness. Other questions to ask include: Where will the cells come from? What will be done with them before they are injected into your body? How will they resolve your injury or illness?

At some time in the future, stem cell therapy may be the miracle cure hoped for. Until that time, be cautious when considering treatment.



Roses to...

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

◆ **Paula Sturgeon** for planning the Maundy Thursday worship and for her wonderful portrayal of "Rhonda — the Waitress at the Last Supper" during the service.

◆ **Laurel Edgar and the Altar Guild** for their service during Holy Week and Easter.

◆ **Allen Quie** for recruiting the brass musicians on Easter and for the incredible music the five of them made together for God's glory.

◆ **Lynne McGinley** for her leadership of the choir during Holy Week and Easter.

◆ **Phil Fish and Harry Quinsler** for their help with handyman projects in the new offices.

◆ **the Preschool Expansion Team** for their long and dedicated service in bringing our new Infant and Toddler Care Center from an idea to reality.

◆ **Jack Ranby** for running the audio during the AMA recitals.

◆ **Heidi Staudenmaier** for receiving the 2019 Jean Allard Glass Cutter Award given by the American Bar Association Business Law Section at the spring meeting in Vancouver, Canada, on March 28-30. The award is given annually (this was the 27th year for the award) to a "woman who has cut through barriers to attain high accomplishment in Business Law."

News of Members and Friends

BIRTH

March 6 Logan Scott Smidlein

March 28 Hattie Elizabeth Brown

DEATHS

April 14 Bill Trenter

April 21 Jan Lecker

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship w/Milestone: Baptis- mal Birthdays- 9:30 am Prayers for Healing Sunday School- 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am Confirmation- 12:45 am Kids' Bells- 3 pm	Boy Scout Troop #6 Court of Honor- 7 pm	Preschool Chapel- 9 am Mary & Martha- 9:30 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	Preschool Jam- 9 am Bible Study- 9:30 am Preschool Chapel: "Jesus & Me"-11:30 am	Preschool Jam- 9 am Jan Lecker Memorial Service- 10 am Preschool Chapel: "Jesus & Me"- 11:30 am	Sew & Tie- 9 am	Quilters- 9 am
Mother's Day CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Sunday School- 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am Kids' Bells- 3 pm POP Adult Bells- 4 pm	Grant's Partners- 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm	Preschool Chapel- 9 am Mary & Martha- 9:30 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	Preschool Jam- 9 am Bible Study- 9:30 am Staff- 11 am Preschool Chapel: "Jesus & Me"-11:30am Elderberries at US Egg-11:30 am	Preschool Jam- 9 am Preschool Chapel: "Jesus & Me"- 11:30 am BGs 5:30 pm	Sew & Tie- 9 am	Quilters- 9 am Bill Trenter Memorial Service= 11 am
Music Sunday CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Dedication of POPIT with tour of facility & reception Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am High School Youth- 10:45 am Kids' Bells- 3 pm POP Adult Bells- 4 pm	Preschool Pre-K Achieve- ment Ceremony Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm	Preschool Pre-K Achievement Ceremony Preschool Chapel- 9 am Mary & Martha- 9:30 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm Church Council- 7 pm	Preschool Jam- 9 am Bible Study- 9:30 am Staff- 11 am Preschool Chapel: "Jesus & Me"-11:30am	Preschool Jam- 9 am Preschool Chapel: "Jesus & Me"- 11:30 am	Last day of Preschool classes Sew & Tie- 9 am	Quilters- 9 am
CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Prayers for Healing Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 Kids' Bells- 3 pm POP Adult Bells-4 pm	Memorial Day (Church office closed)	Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm Theology Pub- 7 pm			Sew & Tie- 9 am	

SUMMER SERVICE DAY

June 3rd 8:30am-6pm

1st - 5th Grade Participants

7th-12th Grade Guides

\$25 for Participants

\$15 for Guides

Register by email to acox@popphoenix.org

9:30-11:30am Feed My Starving Children

12-1pm Lunch at PoP!

1-3pm Service Projects Around the Community

3:30-5pm Scavenger Hunt

5-6pm Dinner at PoP!

