

A Newsletter of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & Preschool

"WORSHIP \*\*\*\* CONNECT \*\*\*\* SERVE"

March 2020

## What Is Lent and How Does It Make a Difference in My Life?

elcome to the season of Lent! The forty days of the Lenten season begin on Ash Wednesday and continue until Easter Sunday, not counting the Sundays in between as they are still considered days of celebration. The word "lent" comes from a Saxon word that meant "length." It originally referred to the springtime season in the Northern Hemisphere when the days were lengthening and signs of new life were appearing.

Lent is designed to be a time of reflection and repentance before the celebrations of Holy Week. For centuries, Christians have commemorated Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday and his subsequent resurrection from the grave on Easter Sunday. We believe that Jesus' death on the cross provides forgiveness of the sins of the world and Jesus' victory over death gives us a joyful hope for a new life and a restored relationship with God.

Thus, early Christians developed the season of Lent as a time of preparation in order to experience the full meaning of Good Friday and Easter Sunday every year. Just as we carefully prepare for big events in our personal lives — a wedding, the birth of a child, or a graduation — Lent invites us to make our hearts ready to remember Jesus' death, commemorate his sacrifice, and celebrate his resurrection.

The idea of Lent began during the third and fourth centuries. The number of days is based on the biblical significance of the number forty — specifically, the forty years the Israelites wandered in the desert and Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness. Thus, Christians describe the forty-day Lenten season itself as a journey in the wilderness. Lent represents a time of searching for God amidst the brokenness of life, a season of intentional fasting before a time of feasting. Historically, Christians gave up something during Lent as a symbolic way to mark their journey and refocus their energy on their relationship with God.

Most often, this includes fasting from certain foods or drinks. Some skip a meal each day or give up specific things such as meat, caffeine, alcohol or sweets. Others "fast" from social media or the internet altogether. It is important to remember that none of these things are inherently bad, sinful or evil. Yet any of these pleasures can easily become overly important in our lives. We've all been there.

Many Christians adopt something new during Lent as well. We choose to pray at fixed times each day, read the Bible, serve the poor, observe moments of silence and meditation or engage in habits that enrich the soul. It is important to remember that Lent should never be morose — an annual ordeal during which we begrudgingly forgo a handful of pleasures. Lent is an opportunity to realign ourselves with God and prepare for the shocking hope of Easter morning.

Happy Lent to you all!

Pastor Rick

## **Prayers for Healing** March 8 & 22

"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!

Please help fight hunger and support this major outreach to the Arcadia community by participating in and/or donating to the 2020 Packathon.

## Wednesday Worship Services in Lent

#### March 4 to April 1, 11 a.m.

## Theme: Psalms for Lent

Join us for 30 minutes of prayer and reflection in Lent as we focus on a new Psalm each week. As always, Holy Communion will be celebrated.

## First Communion Workshop Sunday, March 29, Noon-2 p.m. Office Conference Room

Has your child been asking about receiving Holy Communion? Is he/she ready to be a part of this amazing experience of God? This is a big deal — yet another stepping stone along the journey of faith! Pastor Rick is pleased to offer this workshop for children (and their parents) who want a little basic training in preparation for their First Communion. While the class is designed for 2nd grade students, younger and older children are welcome at their parent's discretion. One parent must attend with each child. First Communion will be celebrated on April 5 (Palm Sunday).

Contact Pastor Rick to sign up (pastorrick@popphoenix.org)

## **Recap: Congregational Meeting on Feb. 9**

It is always great to have the congregation come together! The meeting was short and sweet. A highlight was celebrating the dedicated work of Deb Nelson and Janet DeJonge who are both leaving the Congregational Council at the completion of their terms in March. During the meeting we accomplished three key goals:

- 2. Received an update from Treasurer Tony Hammond on our financial position at the end of 2019 and passed a spending plan (budget) for 2020 that encompasses the church, preschool and the Arcadia Music Academy.
- 3. Elected new officers and members of the Church Council:

Congregational Officers Elected: President-Elect (2-year term with second year as president): Steve Edgar Treasurer (2-year term, reelection): Tony Hammond VP – Preschool (2-year term): Abby Brown VP – Personnel (1-year term to complete prior term): Tracy Fish Congregational Council Members for Election: At-Large Member (2-year term): Brenda Johnston 2020-2021 Congregational Council (Terms begin 4/1/2020) President: Peter Westby President-Elect: Steve Edgar VP-Personnel: Tracy Fish VP-Preschool: Abby Brown Treasurer: Tony Hammond Secretary: Kris Kainass At-Large Members: Martha Weld, Gwen Jacobs, Brenda Johnston 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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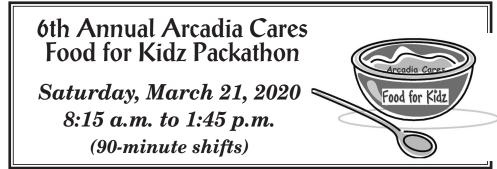
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CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Debbie Nelson, President Peter Westby, President-Elect Steve Edgar, Vice President/Personnel Janet DeJonge, Vice President/Preschool Kris Kainass, Secretary Tony Hammond, Treasurer Nancy Stevens, Financial Secretary Martha Weld, Tracy Fish, Brenda Johnston, Gwen Jacobs Members-at-Large

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

<sup>1.</sup> Received an update from the POP Foundation and elected Mary Quinsler and Beth Pachman to the POP Foundation Board.



## Have you signed up to help?



Have you donated?

Every \$15 will pay for 100 meals)





To volunteer, become a sponsor, or make a smaller donation, go to www.popphoenix.org.

We need many other helpers for setup on Friday night, March 20 and for the supply chain and cleanup on March 21. Contact Steve Edgar (sledgar@gmail.com; 602.618.3364) Steve Crofton (Stephen.Crofton@gmail.com; (602.463.7175).).

## Sunday Worship

#### Worship Schedule

Worship, 9:30 a.m.

#### March 1

1st Sunday of Lent Psalm 32 Matthew 4:1-11 Pastor Rick, preaching

#### March 8

2nd Sunday of Lent Psalm 121 John 3:1-17 Pastor Paul, preaching

#### March 15

3rd Sunday of Lent Psalm 95 John 4:5-42 Pastor Rick, preaching

#### March 22

4th Sunday of Lent Packathon Weekend Psalm 23 John 9:1-41 Pastor Rick, preaching

#### March 29

5th Sunday of Lent Psalm 130 John 11:1-45 Pastor Paul, preaching

## Pastor Rick's Open Office Hours

#### Mondays , 1-3 p.m. (except March 16

Come on by for a bottle of water or cup of coffee and conversation with Pastor Rick.

## Greetings from Kristin Engstrom in Senegal



Here in Senegal we have just come through the season of harvest celebrations, weddings, and church festivals, and are now settling back

into "normal" life amongst the dust that blows in from the Sahara Desert this time of year. I hope and pray that you are all looking forward to the upcoming lenten season in the church.

To connect you with my ministry and life and with YAGM Senegal, visit yagmsenegal.wixsite.com/blog#!. It includes glimpse into Christmas in Senegal and of the YAGM finding their way in life here.

I will be visiting supporting congregations this spring and summer. I look forward to visiting as many of you as possible!

Thank you for the ministry you are engaged in where you live, and thank you for supporting the work we are called to here in Senegal as well.



Roses to...

✦ Mary Quinsler for serving on Altar Guild in February.

✦ Madison Sherrill for being

named by the Arizona Republic as Academic Athlete of the Week in Girls

Lacrosse.

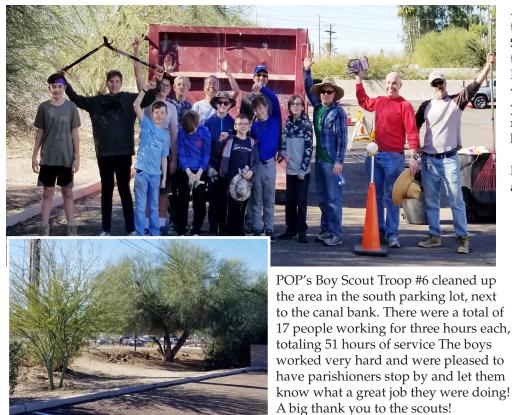
♦ Members of the congregation who so generously gave love gifts for the preschool teachers. The teachers and children are so grateful for your generosity!

the Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study Group for helping to deliver the gifts to the teachers in their classrooms.

✦ Jacque and Ruben Lara for taking the lead on the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, February 23!

✦ Soup Lunch volunteers Ellen Schoeneman, Suzy Steinmetz and Doris Fish.

## **Boy Scout Troop #6 Service Project**



## From Your Outgoing Council President

It is hard to believe that my year serving as Council President is already over. It has been my honor to serve as President. I thank each of you for allowing me the opportunity to serve in this position. As I said to the council members recently in a meeting, teamwork is vital to accomplishing goals. I'm grateful to each of them for their dedication and commitment to POP. Undoubtedly, their willingness to engage in our monthly meetings by giving valuable ideas, opinions and acting on tasks was key to accomplishing items that needed to be done. The continuation of these members on Council will continue to serve Prince of Peace well. I encourage you to consider serving in some capacity if an opportunity arises. It is a faithful opportunity that has proven to be very rewarding. From Ephesians 2:10, "For we are God's handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do."

New doors will be installed soon on the sanctuary. A big thank you to the POP Foundation for their contribution to this much-needed improvement. Audrey has been working hard to put together a Church Children and Youth Safety Policy to be used for all volunteers who will interact with the kids at POP. Council approved the policy and will begin to implement it soon. Thank you, Audrey, for your time and commitment to keeping our children safe here at Prince of Peace.

Our next council meeting will be March 18. Council meetings are open to anyone to attend. I invite you to join us. Blessings to each of you!

Debbie

News of Members and Friends

<u>Funerals</u> Feb. 27 Marian Ricklick

## Everybody Matters (Exercise Group)

Let's get our bodies — the ones that God is letting us use — in shape both physically and mentally. During the week we will e-mail you and post on Facebook the suggested Bible readings from a Lenten devotional. Then we will meet on Thursday nights at 5:30 p.m. from February 27 – April 9 to exercise. All levels welcome! Kids can run or bike. Many adults just stroll the canal. Some are training for a race and can run.

We meet in the south parking lot next to the canal. We head east on the north bank of the canal for about 45 minutes, then reconvene in the parking lot for a quick discussion. All ages/levels welcome. Get out and exercise your body and mind with us through Easter!!

## Women's Bible Study (M&M's) Tuesdays in March 9:30 a.m.

Mary's & Martha's continue to meet Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room. Women meet for fellowship and study of different religions, using the book *Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith*. We always end our time together with prayer requests. On Tuesday, March 3, we will help assemble the preschool love baskets as a service project. We would love to have you join us!

BG's will get together on Friday, March 20, 5 p.m. at Zinque, 4712 N. Goldwater, Suite 110, Scottsdale. Everyone welcome!!

## Monthly Attendance and Revenue Report

	as of January 3	1, 2020
	<b>January 2020</b> (5-week month)	January 2019 (4-week month)
Monthly Attendance	501	593
Monthly Offering	\$26,435	\$25,875
Monthly Offering Budge	et \$28,117	\$29,284
Variance	\$(1,682)	(\$3,409)



## Theology Pub

A Place for Scripture Exploration & Excellent Conversation

## Tuesday, March 31 7 p.m. Fate Brewery

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, including your friends who aren't members of POP. Please send Pastor Rick an e-mail (pastorrick@popphoenix.org) or a text (408.472.0529) if you plan to be there.

## Wednesday Bible Study Help craft a sermon! Wednesday mornings, March 4, 11, 16 & 24 Conference Room

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.

## Bashas' & Fry's Programs

Our six percent rebate for January from reloading grocery cards for the Bashas' chain (including AJ's Fine Foods and Food City) was \$45. 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 Stephen.Crofton@gmail.com

## February 2020 Children, Youth & 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.

#### Sunday School

Sunday School (4 year old-5th grade) focuses on some of our favorite Bible stories in interactive and new ways!

#### Please note: NO Sunday School Sunday, March 15!

HELP NEEDED! Sunday School Teachers needed for the following Sundays:

March 8 March 22 March 29 April 5 April 19 April 26 May 3 The lessons are entirely planned for you, easy to use and hands-on fun for the kids! Contact Angela or Audrey if you can help!

#### Volunteers Needed to Help Serve Dinner

March 15 and April 26 we are heading downtown to First Church UCC to serve dinner to those experiencing homelessness. Meet at First Church at 3:15 p.m. and plan to serve until about 6 p.m. Please bring granola bars to pass out and donate to the outreach ministry there. Hope to see a big group of POP people there!

#### 6th-12th Grade Sunday Mornings

• Ch.I.L.L

Every Sunday, 6th-12th grades, 9-9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room! We meet for check-in time, prayer and of course...donuts! NO ChILL December 29.

- Sunday School Aides 6th-12th grade youth are encouraged to volunteer as Sunday School aides this year — no more than 1-2 times a month.
- Youth Worship Leaders Confirmation youth will serve as Youth Worship Leaders regularly.

#### **Upcoming Service Opportunities**

- Arcadia Cares Packathon, March 21
- Serve Dinner at First Church UCC, March 15, April 26

#### **Community Events**

- Preschool Ice Cream Social, February 22
- Packathon, March 21
- Street Fair, April 18, 4-7 p.m.

## Activity Camp is Back! June 1-4, 2020

3rd-8th Graders are invited to a week of faith-filled fun, community building, service and devotion! Register Online: https://www.popphoenix.org/ news-events/activity-camp

#### Youth Ministry! Confirmation

For those entering 7th or 8th grade, confirmation is about faith exploration, growing as a family in faith, community building, and exploring our greater calling. Confirmation includes a onceamonth session **with parents and youth**, at-home activities, ChILL on Sunday mornings and participating in service.

#### 2020 Schedule

March 22, Confession & Forgiveness April 19, Creed

#### **High School Youth Group**

Time for a year of community building for anyone in 9th-12th grades! We will meet once a month offsite for new adventures and time to build strong faith friendships! Save these dates! March 15, April 26

#### Youth Group Early Release Lunches

Lunch with youth group friends on Early Release Days, 12:45 p.m.! March 18 (at Panera, 7145 E. Indian School Rd.)

#### **Stay Informed on POP Ministry**

Instagram is popphoenix; Facebook is popphoenixaz Text Updates! Text @popyouthaz to 81010 Or e-mail acox@popphoenix to be updated on Youth and Family news!

#### **Taking Faith Home**

Download the Taking Faith Home paragraph on our website: www.popphoenix.org/children-youth/parents-and-family.



**Prince of Peace Youth** 

## Preschool News

by Courteney Greenwell, Assistant Preschool Director

#### **Transportation Day**

We are looking for unique forms of transportation to be on campus for a very special day on Friday, April 3. If you own or have access to a



fun boat, motorcycle, bike, bus, car, golf cart, 4-wheeler, fire truck, police car, horse (or any other form of transportation), we invite you to contact Caitlyn Cornelius at the Preschool Office. The south side of our parking lot will be filled with interesting forms of transportation on that morning. The children are able to get an up-close look at everything and it is an unforgettable experience for them! **We really need some help with getting vehicles for this event**!

#### Ice Cream Social

Thank you to all who came out to our annual Ice Cream Social event! Fun was had for children and parents alike! This year our fundraising goal was to raise enough money to replace the play structure on the north playground.





PRINCE OF

#### **New Playground**

We are so excited for our new playground on the North side. Thank you to all our families for supporting our fundraising efforts! A big thank you to the Reder family for their generous donation to this project.

Thank you to Teacher Johnna and Teacher Chelsea for ded-

sea for dedicating time to help with designing and choosing equipment!

The children have had so much fun exploring their awesome new space!







#### Summer Camp

We are planning for an exciting Summer Camp this year! Again, we will offer weekly enrollment to families with children ages 2-5. Summer 2020 Registration forms will be available online or in the Preschool Office beginning March 3, 2020.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 3641 North 56th Street Phoenix, Arizona 85018

www.popphoenix.org

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# Street Fair April 4<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm

## "How can we help??"

- Donate an item from the WISH LIST
- Provide an item for the Silent Auction
- Come to the Street Fair and bring your family, friends and co-workers!

## WISH LIST

- Gift Cards!!
- Canopy/Pop-up Tents
- Water Bottles
- Hot-Dog Buns
- Hamburger Buns
- Plates, Napkins, Forks (White)
- Mini Bags of Chips
- Cornhole Boards and Bags

## **SILENT AUCTION IDEAS**

- Gift Cards
- Basket of Items of a Similar Theme (Movies, Toys, Date Night, Family Day, Fitness, Outdoors, Animal Lover, etc.)
- Donate time at your vacation
  home/timeshare
- Have a talent to share? (music, quilting, cooking, sports lessons, pet sitting, etc.)
- Donation from your business
- Donation from your favorite business

## Please drop off all donations no later than Monday April 13th!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Sunday School- 9:45 am Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am Kid's Bells- 3 pm POP Adult Bells- 4 pm	Pastor Rick's Open Office Hours- 1-3 pm Boy Scout Troop #6 Court of Honor- 7 pm	Preschool Chapel- 9 am Women's Bible Study- 9:30 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	Preschool Jam- 9 am Bible Study- 9:30 am Elderberries at US Egg-11:30 am Lenten Worship- 11 am Staff Meeting- 2 pm 4	Preschool Jam- 9 am Everybody Matters- 5:30 pm 5	Sew & Tie- 9 am 6	Quilters- 9 am
CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Healing Prayers Sunday School- 9:45 am High School- 9:45 am Kid's Bells- 3 pm POP Adult Bells- 4 pm	Pastor Rick's Open Office Hours- 1-3 pm Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm Grant's Partners- 7 pm	Preschool Chapel- 9 am Women's Bible Study- 9:30 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	Preschool Jam- 9 am Bible Study- 9:30 am Lenten Worship- 11 am	Preschool Jam- 9 am Everybody Matters- 5:30 pm	Sew & Tie- 9 am	Quilters- 9 am
8	6	10	11	12	13	14
Youth Serve Breakfast- CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Sunday School- 9:45 am Coffee Fellowship- 10:45 am High School Youth Kid's Bells- 3 pm POP Adult Bells- 4 pm 15	March Newsletter Deadline Pastor Rick's Open Office Hours- 1-3 pm Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm 16	Preschool Chapel- 9 am Women's Bible Study- 9:30 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm	Preschool Jam- 9 am Bible Study- 9:30 am Lenten Worship- 11 am Early Release Lunch- 12:45 pm Staff Meeting- 2 pm Church Concil- 6 pm	Preschool Jam- 9 am Everybody Matters- 5:30 pm 19	Sew & Tie- 9 am BGs- 5 pm 30-ish Happy Hour- 6 pm	Quilters- 9 am Packathon- a 8:15 am - :45 pm
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CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Hsealing Prayers Sunday School- 9:45 am Confirmation- 11 am First Communion Workshop- 12 pm Kid's Bells- 3 pm POP Adult Bells- 4 pm 22	Pastor Rick's Open Office Hours- 1-3 pm Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm 23	Preschool Chapel- 9 am Women's Bible Study- 9:30 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm 24	Preschool Jam- 9 am Bible Study- 9:30 am Lenten Worship- 11 am	Preschool Jam- 9 am Everybody Matters- 5:30 pm 26	Sew & Tie- 9 am	Quilters- 9 am 28
Youth Serve Breakfast at Grace- 6 am CHILL Youth Group- 9 am Worship- 9:30 am Sunday School- 9:45 am Kid's Bells- 3 pm POP Adult Bells- 4 pm 29	Pastor Rick's Open Office Hours- 1-3 pm Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm 30	Preschool Chapel- 9 am Women's Bible Study- 9:30 am Library- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm Theology Pub- 7 pm 31	AA, nig 2nd & 4th V	AARCH 2020 AA, nightly, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Arcadia Room 12 Survivors of Suicide, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. Room 12, AMA Pod	LOZO treadia Room 12 ride, Room 12, AMA Pod	