



Advent Week Four
December 18, 2019

Advent Adventures ~ 4

Before we know it . . . the last Sunday of Advent and Christmas will be here! For young people awaiting school holidays and presents under the tree, Christmas can't come too soon. For adults, another month of preparation time would be helpful.

But here we are, ready or not! I invite you to take some time in the next week to pray with your imagination and senses. Choose one of the characters in the old story of the first Christmas, and imagine it anew.

Are you Joseph, anxiously fretting over the journey to Bethlehem? Are you Mary, waiting and wondering? Are you a shepherd, bored and cold in the fields? Or a king, far away, scanning the sky and wondering if a new meteor has appeared? Imagine the sights and sounds that surround you, the tastes and smells and textures you encounter each day. Take some time to sink into the scene, into the thoughts and feelings of the person coming to life for you. What would it be like for the events of Christmas, fresh and new, the story as yet untold, to break into human history, and to begin to change everything?

May these final days of Advent be a time of expectant waiting and hope for you, filled with the blessings of anticipation, Pastor Robin

Children's Christmas Program

This year's Children's Christmas Program will be held on **December 22nd at the 10:00 am** single worship service.

There will be one rehearsal on December 21st from 10:00 am - noon. Please join us for rehearsal with pizza and drinks for lunch.



Tuesday, December 24th

4:00 pm Story Time Worship
6:00 pm Contemporary Candlelight Service
9:15 pm Pre-Service Carol Sing
9:30 pm Festival Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 29th

10:00 am Lessons and Carols Service

Giving Envelopes

Giving Envelopes for 2020 are available for pick up. Every household will have a packet. The giving envelopes will be arranged alphabetically based on last name. If you do not see a packet, please notify the office and one will be provided. Thank you.



Offering
Envelopes

Calendar



Holiday GIVING

December is the wonderful holiday season for giving; sharing holiday meals, giving your time to be with family and giving gifts. It is also a wonderful time to give to your church family. It is a time to catch up on your commitment, a time to even give extra.

For us older folks, it also may be a time when we can give a gift of appreciated property that we have been holding onto, such as stock, property, etc. We get the benefit of giving, and get the benefit of a tax deduction. Did you know that for many charities, December is their biggest month for receiving donations? You can ask in the church office about giving extra this December.

Dick Hardy, Financial Secretary

Boots and Socks for Christmas



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is accepting donations of socks and new or gently used water resistant boots of all sizes to benefit the men served at the 2100 E. Lakeside Homeless Men's Shelter. This is in partnership with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry.

We will be collecting socks and boots through **December 22nd**. Please drop your socks and/or boots off at the donation station in the administrative wing. If you are available to assist in the delivery of the boots or have any questions, please see Tom Splawski.

Bishop Eaton's Christmas Message



ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton shares her 2019 Christmas message. We celebrate the miracle of God's love that has come to us in the form of a tiny baby who gives his life for us, that we might have life.

December 18-29, 2019

Wednesday, December 18
12:15 pm Young at Heart
7:00 pm Organ Practice

Thursday, December 19
Sexton Day Off
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 20
Pr. Robin Day Off

Saturday, December 21
10:00 am Organ Practice

Sunday, December 22
Advent Week Four
Children's Pageant
10:00 am Worship Service

Monday, December 23
7:00 pm Club College West
7:00 pm Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve
4:00 pm Story Time Worship
6:00 pm Cont Candlelight Service
9:15 pm Pre-Service Carol Sing
9:30 pm Festival Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 25
Merry Christmas!
Office Closed

Thursday, December 26
Office Closed

Friday, December 27
Pr. Robin Day Off

Saturday, December 28
10:00 am Organ Practice

Sunday, December 29
10:00 am Lessons & Carols Service

On the first day of Christmas . . .



Your staff thanks you for the Christmas Purse gifts! We are all so grateful for your consideration and remembrance of us during this season of transition. It is a gift to serve such an always-generous congregation! Christmas Blessings from the folks in the pulpit and in the chancel and behind the desks and sound system and in the nursery and education wing and throughout the building and grounds.



We have received some requests for Advent and Christmas devotional readings. The following online materials may be read (or sometimes listened to) online or printed out. If you do not use a computer, perhaps a friend would print a set for you. Pastor Robin is particularly fond of *Pray As You Go*, with its readings, meditations, and wonderful music, but is also planning to use *Celts to the Creche* this year.

[Celts to the Creche: An Online Celtic Advent Devotional](#)
[Five Simple Spiritual Practices for Advent for Individuals & Families](#)
[Josh McDowell Ministry](#)
[Luther Seminary Advent Devotional ~Online](#)
[Pray as You Go from the British Jesuits ~ Podcasts and Website](#)
[Sacred Space of the Irish Jesuits ~ Book and Online Readings](#)

[Crosswalk Advent Devotionals](#)
[Good News Unlimited ~ Daily Devotional Emails](#)
[Lutheran Hour Advent Devotionals ~ Online](#)
[Nearness: ELCA Advent 2019 Study on Hunger](#)
[Pittsburgh Seminary Online Advent Devotional](#)
[A Variety of Devotionals](#)



Prince of Peace Youth

PRAY CONCERN

Please keep Judy Kazak in your prayers as she had a fall over Thanksgiving weekend and had to be hospitalized with surgery. I am happy to share that she is doing well and starting her recovery process. Please pray for a swift recovery and if you would like to send her a card her address can be found in the church directory. **College Care Packages have been sent out! Parents, siblings, and friends please tell your college student to check their mail! **

READERS NEEDED

December 22nd is the annual Christmas Pageant and December 29th is a Carols Service at 10am. Approximately 5-9 readers are needed. Confirmation students and high school youth are encouraged to read and Hilary will be reading with you so no need to be nervous. Contact Hilary or Pr. Robin if you are interested.

LYO Winter Gathering, January 3-5th

Early registration due December 1st. \$105/person covers hotel, food, and event. Join us for a weekend of fun at a hotel filled with youth your own age! Music by the Allan Scott Band. 7-12th graders welcome.

To register: [LYO Registration](#)

Get on Board and Follow Us!

Twitter@youth_of_pop Facebook@poplutheranyouth
For more information, visit our website:
www.princeofpeacewestlake.org/youth
email: poplutheranyouth@gmail.com



Operating Giving Match

As mentioned at the Budget meeting an offer to match all giving to the Operating Fund through December 31, 2019 has been made. Therefore your donations can now do even more to support God's work at POP. So prayerfully consider your ability to give generously during this Christmas season. The match was offered in order to spur 2019 giving to reduce our 2019 deficit so please keep your 2020 donations until next year when they will be needed. If you have any questions, please contact Charlie Koch, Treasurer at treasprinceofpeacewestlake@gmail.com.

Your Opinion Matters!

We want Prince of Peace to be a place where everyone feels welcomed, encouraged and nurtured so we can grow in our faith as individuals and together as a community.

The Gallup Engagement Survey will help us shape our church to be the best version of ourselves. Your feedback is important. Tell us what is working and where we can improve. Filling out the survey shows that you care. For that we say, THANK YOU!

For the online option, access the **"LOG IN" Members Only** section. (If you don't have a login yet you will be prompted on how to sign up). It is not an online survey, but you will be able to download a copy, print off, complete and return to the church office. **All surveys are due by December 31st.**



Sunday Adult Interact Class

Interact is a small group that wrestles with contemporary issues. We are a very informal, open group that loves having new people join our discussions introducing different perspectives on things.

Please join us 10:15(ish) in the Charter Room (Administrative Wing). Classes lead by Dave Saunders.

December 22	Planning 2020 lineup
December 29	No Class

Fidget Mats

What started with a simple question to the Chaplains Service, "What need do you have that is not being met? ", blossomed into a mission that reaches those trapped in mind and body in ways we cannot fathom. It has provided entertainment, puzzles and rewards, therapy, engagement and much joy!

Thanks to those who assemble, sew, distribute and contribute both materials and funds. We can make a difference! If you would like to join us, we meet in the Fellowship hall the second and fourth Wednesday at 9:30 am. Becky Wagoner and Diane Fortuna.



Women's Re-Entry

With the cold weather there is a need for socks, gloves and scarves along with toiletries and underwear. Items can be dropped off at the donation station. Thank you! Questions, Jan Filkill 440/871-6673.

Prayer Concerns

Please join us in praying for members and friends with recent needs: Baby Gideon (grandson of friend of Cindy Strieter), Bob and Dee (neighbors of Dan and Barb Fronczak), Becky Casselberry (friend of Jann Daniels), Judy Kazak, Paul Kolp (friend of Mary Sue Claus), Pam Rotella, Gerry Wilhelm. **Also, we pray for chronic, long-term care needs:** Charlotte (gr. granddaughter of Jan Schoch), Ren granddaughter of Linda Baumbach), Joyce (sister of Diane Fortuna), Carole Anderson (relative of Lia Staaf), Stephanie Bailey (niece of Mary Sue Claus), Jeannine Blakeslee, Cathy Blitz (sister-in-law of Jann Daniels), Joanne & Tony Cacciatore, Don Chismar, Marcia Drysdale (friend of Jane Dillon), Sam Fekete (brother of Mary Sue Claus), Matthew Gilbride, Denny Giza (friend of Ellie Sanow), Chris Henry (nephew of Lisa Arrigo), Gale Johnson (friend of Kathy Kettler), Gail Jones, Deanne Lahner (niece of Mary Sue Claus), Angela Missig (daughter of Gloria Starr), Lois Reichert, Larry Renman (brother of Judy Kazak), Pam Rotella, Karla Sexton (friend of Pat Sprague), Phil Smits, Lin Smothers (father of Judy Smothers, long time PoP visitor). **Please notify the office of prayer concerns. These names will be shared with our prayer chain ministry & remain on our prayer list during Sunday worship for 3 weeks.**
 In Death: John Flores (son-in-law of Ron and Jan Filkill).

Giving Report

Weekly Operating Giving as of Dec. 15, 2019: \$324,657
 50 Sundays at \$7,000 Budgeted: \$350,000
 Giving Shortfall as of December 15, 2019 \$(25,343)

Attendance at Prince of Peace

Date	Contemporary	Traditional	Total
12/15	98	43	141
12/08	123	57	180
12/01	126	48	174
11/24	128	56	184



happy birthday!

12/18 Matthew Roman	12/23 Jim Dickey IV
12/18 Justice Strieter	12/24 Uwe Susemihl
12/18 Bud Zanders	12/25 Matthew Alspach
12/20 Lauren Braun	12/29 Roger Hauser
12/21 Carol Lauterbach	12/30 Mike Gleespen
12/21 Diane Schlegel	12/31 Russ Bauknecht
12/21 Matthew Wenham	12/31 Amy Hrouda
12/21 Travis Winar	

happy anniversary!

12/28 Lowell & Jane Dillon
12/29 Jim & Marge Jaracz
12/30 Robert & Mary Mayer



Prince of Peace Staff

Pastor Robin Craig
 revrobincraigprinceofpeace@gmail.com

Beverly Braun, Christian Education Coordinator
 christianeducation.pop@gmail.com

Hilary Lucas, Youth Director
 poplutheranyouth@gmail.com

Mary Humer, Communications/Marketing Manager

Sue Iceman, Operations Manager

Judy Kazak, Congregational Care Coordinator
 judykazak@yahoo.com

Ian Faleer, Chancel Choir Director

Don Jackson, Organist

Cindy Strieter, Contemporary Music Director

Ben Ubienski, Sound Technician

James & Lisa Arrigo, Sextons
 jamespopwestlake@gmail.com

Dave Saunders, Church Council President
 david.w.saundersoh@gmail.com

Office Hours

Mon, Tues & Thurs, Fri, 7:00 am - 11:00 am
 Monday - Friday, 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

28455 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake, Ohio 44145
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Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am Contemporary & 11:00 am Traditional

Christian Education

Sundays at 10:10 - 10:50 am for all ages

Child Care

Adult supervised child care for children 5 and under is offered for both services and during the Christian Education hour between services.