

“Come  
AND YOU’LL SEE.”

JOHN 1:39

PEACE CONNECTIONS  
January 15, 2020

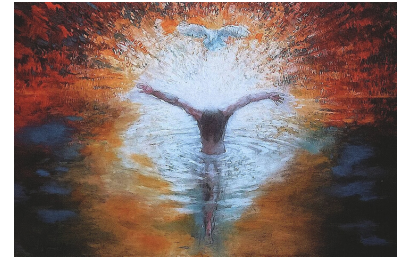
## Remember Your Baptism During Challenging Times

We find ourselves at a time of heightened conflict in the Mideast, particularly in connection with the countries of Iran and Iraq. As I write on January 8, our worst fears have been at least temporarily put to rest, but none of us can predict the next week, let alone the next month or year.

It may help to remember that Jesus' own baptism took place after his family's dislocation to Egypt as refugees. It may help to remember that Jesus embarked upon his ministry in a space and time of profound oppression of his own people and many others by the Roman regime. It may help to remember that, although he was God's beloved Son, Jesus did not escape the traumas of human life, the fears and cares of his friends and associates, and even death on a cross.

As we pray, every day, for peace on earth, remember that Jesus knows our concerns, that he knows them from personal experience, and that we can turn to him for solace and hope.

Pastor Robin



### 2019 Annual Reports



## Ministry Leaders

Please note that copies of Annual Reports are due on **Friday, January 24, 2020**. Please send a digital copy to the church office: [princeofpeacewestlake@gmail.com](mailto:princeofpeacewestlake@gmail.com)

## Prince of Peace Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 16, 2020

**Community Worship Service at 10:00 am**

Join us for lunch in the Fellowship Hall Immediately following service before the annual meeting.

*Youth will provide a soup and grilled cheese lunch during the congregational meeting. Please plan to attend.*



# Christmas Social Ministries!

## Mitten Tree

Dear Prince of Peace Congregation,

On behalf of the staff of Scranton School, I want to thank you for all the love you have shown our students and their families! Your generosity allowed 68 children to receive Christmas gift! In addition to these gifts, 21 coats, many hats, mittens, and scarves were also collected and given away. Cash donations provided 6 families with Giant Eagle gift cards to help them buy a nice Christmas dinner! Thanks also that helped with organizing and delivering the gifts. Each year I am overwhelmed by what a loving, kind and extremely generous church we have!

Well-done Prince of Peace! God Bless you! Diane Merhaut

## Boots and Socks for LMM

Thank you to all for your generosity again this Christmas in donating so many boots and socks for the men down at 2100 Lakeside! Overall, 45 pairs of boots, 268 pairs of socks (wow), 14 winter hats, 18 pairs of gloves, 17 t-shirts, 5 heavy winter shirts, 3 jackets, and 2 blankets were donated!

We also received donations from the community! Your generous giving truly makes a difference! Special thanks to Tom and Seth Splawski for leading this event and making the delivery!

God Bless! Shawn Merhaut

*Remember, the Buds and Suds group are collecting socks for the Redeemer Crisis Center so keep them coming! Also, save the date for our next 2100 Lakeside Men's Shelter Prepare and Serve on Saturday, March 21st (more to come)!*

## Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who donated to the operating fund in December especially those that prayerfully gave additional amounts.

With the increase in donations and the matching grant we received, Prince of Peace was able to post a surplus in 2019 versus the potential deficit we were projecting. This will help us enter 2020 in a stronger financial position as we continue our pastoral transition and strategic initiatives.

Final 2019 results will be available with the Annual Report.

Thank you,

Charlie Koch, Treasurer

## This Week's Music



If you are joining us this Sunday for the 9 am Contemporary Worship Service, please go to the links below to hear what we will be playing. See you then!

[We Shall Overcome](#)

[Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone](#)

[New Wine](#)

# Calendar



## January 15-26, 2020

Wednesday, January 15  
7:00 pm Organ Practice

Thursday, January 16  
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 17  
Pr. Robin Day Off

Saturday, January 18  
10:00 am Organ Practice  
5:30 pm Bunco/FH

Sunday, January 19  
9 am Blood Drive  
9 am Contemporary Worship  
10:10 am Christian Education  
11:00 am Traditional Worship

Monday, January 20  
1:00 pm Comfort Quilters  
7:00 pm Women's Discipleship

Tuesday, January 21  
7:00 pm CrossFire Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 22  
9:30 am Fidget Quilters/FH  
12:00 pm Caring Connections  
7:00 pm Organ Practice

Thursday, January 23  
Sexton Day Off  
12:00 pm College Club West  
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 24  
Pr. Robin Day Off

Saturday, January 25  
10:00 am Organ Practice

Sunday, January 26  
9 am Contemporary Worship  
10:10 am Christian Education  
11:00 am Traditional Worship

# Prince of Peace Youth

## Blood Drive

January 19, 2020 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Sign up to make your donation online or in person Sunday mornings. 21 spots available. Let's try to fill them all and then some! Invite your neighbors and friends. Together we can save lives. Sign up online at Red Cross or call 800/733-2767. Walk-ins are welcome too!



**January 30th - February 3rd** Youth and Christian Ed. Conference for Hilary and Beverly. No Faith Impact class this weekend.

**Lock-In February 15th - 16th at POP.** Open to all middle school and high school students and friends! Meet at POP at 5pm Saturday. Bring any crock pots and soup recipes to make for the soup lunch fundraiser the next day. Bring board games, movies, video games and we will have a big sleepover at the church! Further details to come soon!

**February 16th - Soup and Grilled Cheese Lunch Fundraiser for National Gathering** Youth will provide a soup and grilled cheese lunch during the congregational meeting. Youth families are asked to bring a soup to share and all congregational members are welcome to attend the lunch!

**February 23rd** - Join the high school and adult education classes in the charter room from 10-10:50 am to learn more about "What is Human Trafficking" and "How is it affecting our community". Presentation by the [Collaborative to End Human Trafficking](#)

**March 1st - Tour of Islamic Center** to learn more about our Muslim neighbors. A response to "Tea time for Peace". Open to all congregation members. Please sign up on the list in the narthex. 20 spots available. Church van and carpool will transport the group. We will leave POP at 11:30am sharp. The tour/experience will last about 2 hours. More details will be advertised closer to the event.

## LYO 2020!

Five youth participated in the Lutheran Youth Organization's annual Winter Gathering. The weekend included performances from the Allen Scott Band, speakers from the ELCA World Hunger offices and local pastor. The theme verse was Jeremiah 29:11, "*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future*". Our very own Rachel Drobnak concluded her time as President of the LYO Board and Kate Weaver joined the LYO Board as the "Definitely Abled" representative! Congratulations Kate!

## Get on Board and Follow Us!

Twitter@youth\_of\_pop

Facebook@poplutheranyouth

For more information, visit our website: [www.princeofpeacewestlake.org/youth](http://www.princeofpeacewestlake.org/youth)

email: [poplutheranyouth@gmail.com](mailto:poplutheranyouth@gmail.com)



## Buds and Suds

Now that the Christmas season is over many charities are forgotten. Not by us!!!!

Buds and Suds has started a sock drive to help out families who utilize Redeemer Crisis Center. The box for socks is located under the Buds and Suds mirror in the education wing. It is currently a third of the way full.

Please find it in your heart to donate socks of all sizes and types to this worthy cause. When the box is full we will deliver it to Redeemer Crisis Center. Thanks, Dave Covell



## Did you know?

As part of our Christian ministry we work to bring service and advocacy to those who are oppressed, forgotten, and hurting. There are many opportunities to serve others: Second Harvest Food Bank; Habitat for Humanity; Orphan Medical Network International (OMNI); LMM 2100 Lakeside; Building Hope in the City; Comfort Quilters. For more information, visit our website: [How We Serve](#)

## Soup-er Bowl Sunday

### Sunday, February 2nd

Your cash donations in the soup kettles on Super Bowl Sunday will help provide food for homeless men. This enables us to serve a couple of times a year at the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Homeless Men's Shelter, 2100 E. Lakeside. The PoP Youth will collect donations to support hunger related ministries. Collection goal is \$1,500. Thank you!



For the months of **January - March**, requested items are **Canned Beef Stew and Canned Vegetables**. The collection containers are located as you enter the Education Wing. Thank you!

## Prince of Peace Christian Education Winter Outings

### Tobogganing at The Chalet in Mill Stream Run Reservation

Sunday, February 9th - Leave Prince of Peace at 12 pm and return at 5 pm  
Cost: \$12 adult/\$11 children (11 and younger) - All Riders must be 42" or taller and must wear gloves or mittens. Sign up in the lower lobby.



### Skyzone

Sunday, March 1st from 11:30 am-2:30 pm  
Is your family interested in joining us for an afternoon of fun at Skyzone?  
Please sign up in the lower lobby.  
Pricing will be determined based on number interested.



## Women's Discipleship Group

The Women's Discipleship group will be starting a new book about the Holy Spirit. We share our spiritual journeys and meet the 3rd Monday of every month at POP at 7 pm in the Education wing. If you are interested please call or email Becky Kear at 440-899-0928 or BKear61695@aol.com



The loose offering received on the 3rd Sunday of the month, is donated to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. ELCA World Hunger responds to neighbors around the corner & around the world.

*In 2019 Prince of Peace donated over \$800. Thank you!*

## Sunday Adult Interact Class

You are invited to join the Interact class to discuss the film "White Right." Please pass this invitation on, if there is someone that would be interested.

We will gather at the church the night before on Saturday, January 25th, to watch the film in its entirety. The following day we will discuss the film and the topic of "Responding to Hatred with Love and Grace".

**Saturday, January 25th, at 7 pm** in the POP High School Education Classroom. Movie, desserts, coffee, fellowship. 55 minutes run time. Join us as we gather to watch the film.

Please RSVP by this Friday, January 17, 2020 to Jon Wilhelm (everythingbutceramics@gmail.com), so we can have a headcount. Also, please reply if you can bring a small plate of snacks or desserts. After the movie, we will submit questions to discuss the following day during the Interact class. *Warning: this film contains offensive, hateful, and violent language, and depicts scenes from Charlottesville.*

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.

January 19        TBD

January 26        *"How to Respond with Love in a World Filled with Hatred"* led by Jon Wilhelm.

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## Wishing Judy Kazak Well in Retirement!



*Dear POP Members and Friends,*

*We hope that you have all had a joyous Christmas and wonderful start to the New Year.*

*We begin this New Year with a major change in our lives at Prince of Peace. Judy Kazak, our Congregational Care Coordinator, has retired effective yesterday, January 1, 2020.*

*As you know, Judy took a fall last month, and her recovery, combined with the crush of the holiday season, created some uncertainties and delays in our making a formal announcement. However, she has officially retired, and we shall now move forward. Judy is home and improving every day, and we will find an appropriate time to honor and congratulate her once she is out and about.*

*All of us at POP want to express our tremendous gratitude to Judy for her loving service to our congregation as both member and staff. We know that many of you have benefited from her leadership and friendship with respect to Caring Connections, the Eucharistic Ministry, the Blossom Hill Ministry, Pastoral Partners, our visitors, and our congregants in need. She has been of great assistance to Pastor Robin in planning for events such as new members classes and receptions, special worship events, and programs such as the upcoming Talk of a Lifetime.*

*Your Council will discuss options for future staffing at its meeting this month. In the meantime, please direct all questions regarding Judy's responsibilities to Pastor Robin and Sue Iceman. Except in matters of pastoral confidentiality, it is most helpful if inquiries are seen by two sets of eyes. Judy and Pastor are planning to meet next Monday, after which we should have a much better idea of how to meet our interim needs.*

*Judy will still be with us as a member, of course, and we look forward to her return to worship and to whatever volunteer roles she decides to pursue. For now, we pray for her continuing recovery and with great thanks for all that she has done for Prince of Peace.*

*Wishing New Year Blessings to All of You,*

*Pr. Robin Craig*

*Dave Saunders, Council President*

# Prayer Concerns

**Please join us in praying for members and friends with recent needs:** Sebastian (friend of Cindy Strieter), Gloria Bracken (friends of Doug and Carol Leavens), Becky Casselberry (friend of Jann Daniels), Char Cuciak (daughter-in-law of John Cuciak), Michael Cuciak (son of John Cuciak), David Houry (friend of Cindy Strieter), Donnie Jeffries (friend of Jann Daniels), Mary Meadows, Lilas Velardo (friends of Doug and Carol Leavens). **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), Dawn Higgins (neighbor of Fran Molnar), 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.**



## Attendance at Prince of Peace

Date	Contemporary	Traditional	Total
01/12	114	76	190
01/05	115	53	168
12/29	<i>Lessons and Carols Service</i>		100
12/24	208	85	293



01/17	Michelle Goggin	01/27	Elizabeth Boor
01/17	James Lehman	01/27	Suzann Creech
01/19	Emma Andrus	01/27	Dave Novotny
01/19	Don Miller	01/27	Phil Sprague
01/21	Beth Cornick	01/28	Patty Beard
01/23	Jane Wyant	01/29	Molly Fortuna
01/25	Darlene Roman	01/29	Nicholas Hrouda
01/26	Barb Fronczak	01/31	Jim Heimbuch
		01/31	Ellie Sanow

## 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  
440/871-5565 • www.princeofpeacewestlake.org

### 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.