

PEACE CONNECTION

Friday November 10th
Pastor Charlie's Day Off

Saturday November 11th
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday November 12th
9 & 11 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Travel Quest Planning Meeting
10:00 Coffee with the Pastor
10:00 am Christian Education
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Monday November 13th
10:00 am Staff Meeting
2:00 pm Organ Practice
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study

Tuesday November 14th
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal

Wednesday November 15th
2:00 pm Book and Bible Study
7:00 pm Engagement Committee

Thursday November 16th
Sexton's Day Off
11:00 am FLO Family Day
3:00 pm Organ Practice
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday November 17th
Pastor Charlie's Day Off

Saturday November 18th
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday November 19th
7:00 am to 3:00 pm Blood Drive
8:00 am-Noon Youth Bake Off
9&11 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Christian Education
10:30 Arden Courts
7:00 pm Thanksgiving Service and Pie Fest!

Monday November 20th
10:00 am Staff Meeting
1:00 pm Comfort Quilters
2:00 pm Organ Practice
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study
7:00 pm Women's Discipleship Group

Tuesday November 21st
6:15 pm Crossfire Rehearsal

*Grow in Faith * Serve In Love *
Live In Peace*



LMM Men's Shelter Boot Drive

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is again accepting donations of new and gently used water resistant boots and warm clothing 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 these donations starting now until December 17th. Please drop your items off at the donation station in the administrative wing by Sunday, December 17th. If you have any questions, contact Tom Splawski.

Decorate Prince of Peace's Sanctuary with Poinsettias for Christmas!

Altar Guild is looking forward to arranging poinsettia plants in the sanctuary for Christmas Eve services -- with your help by providing the plants! We are again purchasing the plants from Casa Verde Growers. Take your plant(s) home after the traditional service on Christmas Eve. Order early to be sure to get the size/color you love! Not sure what color to order?....we suggest white this year! Prices are \$9 and \$24. (Same prices as last year).

Place your completed order form and check/cash for poinsettias in the basket on table in the narthex today! Or, contact Dineen Terstage (440-263-6759 or dterstage@gmail.com) to order. Place your order now through Sunday, November 26.





YOU ARE INVITED TO

Community Thanksgiving

WORSHIP AND PIE FEST

November

19

7:00 PM

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
28455 Center Ridge Road - Westlake

Participating Congregations:

Dover UCC + Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
St. Ladislav Catholic Church + Westlake UMC

Monetary and In-Kind Offerings will go to support
the Prince of Peace Community Cupboard -
Ensure/Boost drinks, canned food, soup and meat
with pull tabs, pudding and apple sauce cups,
peanut butter, mixed nuts and trail mix,
granola/nutrition bars, crackers, etc

Bring a PIE to SHARE!





Matthew 25:1-13

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ 7Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ 10And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ 12But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ 13Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

As we read this lesson, we have to realize is that the people in the days shortly after Jesus left certainly too did wonder when and IF Jesus would return. Now, granted, they hadn't been waiting as long as we have, but they thought for sure that Jesus was only going to be gone for just a short while and then would return within their very own lifetimes!

And when that wasn't happening, in their expectation of the second coming of Jesus in the flesh, the bridegroom (as Jesus is several times depicted in the Bible), the bridegroom, so it seemed was delayed.

And so this parable was recorded to give them comfort, to give them purpose in the meantime while they waited.

In Jesus' story, the bridesmaids are waiting through such a delay. But even though the groom was delayed, they were to be ready for his arrival and escort him into the wedding feast. Five of them, however, were not ready. They had time to get the extra oil they needed, but they did not feel the sense of urgency to do it right away. So when the groom arrived they had to rush off to the store to buy more oil. The problem was that when they returned and sought entrance to the feast, they were considered no different than other uninvited seekers. The feast had begun and the doors were locked. It was too late.

In an Eastern culture the bridegroom is often a more important figure than the bride and frequently paid for all the expenses of the wedding. A Jewish wedding had three parts or stages to it. First, there was the formal engagement/betrothal which was almost always arranged by the parents of the future bride and groom. Later (up to a year or more) came the formal religious ceremony in the bride's home. This was a religious service similar to our wedding service. Thirdly, there was the wedding banquet (feast), generally at night, at the house of the groom and it generally lasted about seven days and could take place right after the ceremony or weeks later. The bridegroom would come to get his bride and they would walk together to the wedding. It was an elaborate affair that cost a lot of money.

It was, therefore, a social event to which their friends were anxious to attend. The bride and the groom walked down the street and their bridesmaids would take part in the 'welcoming ceremony' by lighting the way with lamps held by the wedding party. It would be a major faux pas for anyone in the wedding party not to be by the road ready to welcome the bridegroom and bride.

That is the background of the picture our Lord draws here. Here are ten young women waiting to join the wedding party. They are expecting and waiting for the bridegroom and the bride. (Richard A. Todd, Ten Sleepy Women)

When we hear of the “end times” and Christ's return, it is not a cause for panic or fear, but anticipation and joy. Episcopal priest and author Robert Capon puts it this way:

What we are watching for is a party. And that party is not just down the street making up its mind when to come to us. It is already hiding in our basement, banging on our steam pipes, and laughing its way up our cellar stairs. The unknown day and hour of its finally bursting into the kitchen and roistering its way through the whole house is not dreadful; it is all part of the divine lark of grace. God is not our mother-in-law, coming to see whether her wedding-present china has been chipped. He is funny Old Uncle with a salami under one arm and a bottle of wine under the other. We do indeed need to watch for him; but only because it would be such a pity to miss all the fun.

May we be ready for the party to come!

Let us pray: Almighty God, we give thanks for today, and we know that you have tomorrow in hand. May we trust, prepare and hope. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen

A TRUE SENSE OF COMMUNITY

My name is Michelle Lehman. My husband is Tom, and we have two children, Brianna (16) and James (9). We were previously members of a small church in Lakewood where we live, and we loved our church family there (and still do!). However, as the kids were growing, we felt as though we wanted to give them an opportunity to grow in faith with more children of their own ages. So in 2017, we decided to attend a few services at other local churches. Prince of Peace was the last church we visited because I think we pretty quickly knew we had found our new church home. The people were so welcoming and interested in us, Pastor Bishop was very engaging, and there were kids -- we were so happy to see children!

Throughout my life, I have been blessed to be surrounded by many generous people, both family and friends, one of which is my older sister Kathy. By nature, she has always been a giving person. She is 13 years older than me and has always looked out for me. When I was 18, she and her husband, Lito, let me live with them. They were in their early thirties at that time and had two small children. For a year, they gave me a home, food, love and guidance. I have always been appreciative of what they did for me and that time with their family. However, now that I have passed my thirties, and I am raising my own kids, I realize just how much generosity they displayed to invite me into their home at that point in their lives. It is something I will always remember and cherish.

The generous nature of the congregation is something that attracted us to Prince of Peace. I see this in the actions of all those who bring a true sense of community to our church, always looking to bring members together and other ways aimed at helping people. It is found in so many places, whether it's gathering in between services, the many groups that either meet for fun or meet to do community outreach, or in the various collections that are held to benefit others. There is definitely something for everyone.

Generosity is something I witness every Sunday when the kids attend Sunday school. We have been blessed with consistent leaders who give their time to share the stories of Jesus in a setting that's engaging for the kids. We have witnessed how this sense of community extends beyond the walls of the church building — such as when we go on fun outings to places like the Cat Cafe or when we meet for a Monsters hockey game. The adults leading the programming have been such good role models, and I appreciate the time they take to get to know each child and the interest they take in what is going on in their lives outside of church. We are looking forward to participating in future events like Brianna attending the National Youth Gathering next summer and what the future holds as James gets older.

From the beginning, we have felt the sense of community among the adults as well. A personal example of this was in mid-November 2022. After the service had ended, the person behind me casually asked how I was doing. It is not typical of me to be so forthcoming when I am not feeling my best, but for some reason, I went on to share how sad I was. Just a couple of days prior to this service, we found out that Tom's oldest and best friend had died tragically in an accident in Alaska. This person listened to me talk about Josh and what had happened, showed genuine care and concern, offered condolences, and then we went on with our day. The next week, I saw that the family was lifted up in prayer at our services, and we received words of encouragement and a couple cards at home. The person I talked to after the service cared enough to let another know of what we were going through. It may have been a small act to this person, but it led to us being lifted through a difficult time.

We all have it within us to spread goodness by sharing our gifts with others, and we are fortunate to have various opportunities so close at hand. Generosity is something that can be offered through donations of money or goods, volunteer work, acts of kindness, or just being there for someone in need. These acts, no matter how small, all contribute to supporting our missions at Prince of Peace and making a difference to current generations.

Michelle Lehman

Red Cross Blood Drive

Prince of Peace will be hosting the Red Cross for blood donation on November 19th from 7 am to 3 pm.



Travel Quest

Save the date:Travel Questions Event planning November 12th at 1000am in the Charter Room. All are welcome!



Interact is Back

The adult discussion group is back on Sunday mornings from 10:15 to 10:55 in the Charter room. Come join us to talk about how our faith impacts the world around us. This fall's topic is "What is the Church's role in getting us to stop arguing with our neighbor?" Please join us. If you miss a week, no problem. You don't need to come every week to keep up. We'll help you along.



PoP Youth

Calling all children, youth, and kids at heart! Christian Education will be asking members to participate in a photo series for the Christmas Pageant. All those who are willing to dress up and be in the photos please contact Beverly or Hilary on any Sunday morning and be ready to smile!



Choir

Choir meets on Thursdays at 7:30 pm. Please consider joining for practice and worship!



Women In Transition

We are accepting donations of women's toiletries, sanitary products, and umbrellas. The need is great. Please bring them to the donation station. Questions, please contact Jan Filkill, 440-871-6673.

One Step Up (West Haven)

Donations of youth-teen clothing of all sizes. Jeans, shorts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hoodies. Please bring them to the donation stations



Second Harvest

For November and December the requested items are cereal and Canned soup.



Giving Data

<u>Operating Giving Report</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>AVG/Week</u>
Total Giving as of September 30th, 2023:	\$338,557	\$8,681
% of Annual 2023 Budget Received to Date:	76%	
Remaining Giving Required to Meet 2023 Budget:	\$107,943	\$8,303
Remaining Giving Required to Meet 2023 Stretch Goal (i.e. Cover Cost Budget):	\$125,943	\$9,688



Lending Closet

Are you in need of some crutches? A shower chair? Walker? Cane?

Please click on the logo on the right hand side of the page or check the website for our updated lending closet list!



Coffee with the Pastor

Coffee with the Pastor will be held the second Sunday of every month at 10 am.

We will meet in the Education Wing Second Cup of Coffee Room. Come for conversation, questions and fellowship. Bring your coffee and donut and join us.



Prayer LIST

Sunday, November 12, 2023

Prayer Request - Long Term

(All prayer requests made after Thursday at Noon will be posted the following week)

Ren	Granddaughter of Linda Baumbach
Stephanie Bailey	Niece of Mary Sue Claus
Don Chismar	
Patty Doran	Sister-in-law of Chuck Sieving
Marcia Drysdale	Friend of Jane Dillon
Dawn Higgins	Neighbor of Fran Molnar
Jayne Kramic	Friend Kathy and Dave McCollum
Deanne Lahner	Niece of Mary Sue Claus & Roseann Fekete
Donna Kucera and family	
Angela Missig	Daughter of Gloria Starr
Jenn Pitts	Daughter of Judy Kazak
Eric and Nicole Quinn	Friends of Matt Wenham
Lois Reichert	
Pam Rotella	
Bill Sweeny	
Robert Sieving	Friend of Kathy and Dave McCollum
Al Tielke	Brother of Chuck Sieving

Recent prayer requests received within the past 3 weeks:

October 29	Joan Gruber (Kathy Kettler's cousin) Nancy Long (Mary Sheridan's friend) Joan Drobnak and Family Kathy Kettler Kathy McCollum and Family Gina Brooks (Gloria Starr's daughter)
November 5	Megan Hauser & family (Roger & Melody Hauser's daughter-in-law) Courtney Nerad (Barb Fronczak's daughter) Shirley (Cindy Strieter friend's sister) Ron Filkill
November 12	Alonna Willis JFK High School Students Eunice Reynolds (Matthew Wenham's Grandmother) Gail Pogue and Family Mike Hosler Rourke (Fran Wilhelm friend's grandson) Earl (Fran Wilhelm's brother-in-law)

Happy Birthday

Date	Online	In Person	Total
11/05/2023	22	167	198
10/29/2023	45	191	236
10/22/2023	20	144	164
10/15/2023	39	139	178

11/02 Kathleen Kettler
 11/02 Mary Babinski
 11/02 Tony Marquardt
 11/03 Ann Estes
 11/05 Jane Dillon
 11/06 Austin Pogachar
 11/06 Christine Tielke
 11/07 Doug Olson
 11/08 Madelyne Roman
 11/10 Linda Thompson
 11/11 John Cuciak
 11/12 Barb Koch
 11/13 Isabella Cesare
 11/15 Dan Pogue
 11/15 Tami Arthur
 11/16 Anne Steinbrecher

11/20 Laurie Green
 11/22 Anthony Matalavage
 11/23 Lia Staaf
 11/24 Lowell Dillon
 11/25 Johnathon Missig
 11/25 Teresa Peter
 11/26 Ezekiel Petta
 11/26 Pat Uber
 11/26 Steve Duktig
 11/27 Colleen Regan
 11/28 Mary Meadows
 11/29 Matthew Winar
 11/30 Julia Worsencroft

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

11/03 Andrea & Chris Petta
 11/12 Betsy & Chip Bailey
 11/16 Sean & Liz Lavin
 11/18 Tim & Marsha Regan Sr
 11/18 Norm & Chris Rehack
 11/26 Dave & Jan Saunders
 11/28 Doug & Sharon Olson

Prince of Peace Staff

Pastor Charlie Woodward
 pcpopwestlake@gmail.com

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Brandon Bilek, Sound Technician
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Hilary Lucas, Youth Director
 poplutheranyouth@gmail.com

Chip DiFiore, Contemporary Music Director
 salemmusicllc@gmail.com

Ruth Williams, Organist
 mrsruthwilliams@yahoo.com

Dave Covell, Church Council President
 thecovells@gmail.com



Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9-3
 28455 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake, Ohio 44145
 440/871-5565 • www.princeofpeacewestlake.org

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:00 am in person.

Livestream

Christian Education - Sundays 10-10:50 am

Adult supervised child care for children 5 and under is offered for both services and during

the Christian Education hour between services.



Follow Us!