



ANNUAL REPORT

Ministry Leaders

Please note that copies of Annual Reports are due on **Friday, January 21, 2022**. Please send a digital copy to Megan: popw.officemanage@gmail.com

Prince of Peace Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 6, 2022

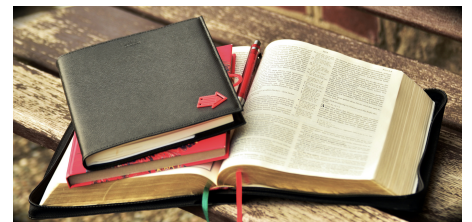
The Prince of Peace Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 6, 2022 at 10:10 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to attend.



Wednesday Bible Studies Returns

Wednesday Bible Study Returns on **January 5th, 2022**.

On Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 pm, come and join Pastor Charlie for an hour long Bible Study focusing on the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday. ALL are welcome! Bring your Bible. All other materials will be provided. We will meet in the Charter Room.



What Goes Up, Must Come Down!

Christmas De-decorating Saturday, January 8, 2022, 9:00 am
Altar Guild needs assistance taking down the Christmas garlands and putting away the trees. We especially need a few ladder climbers to take down the garlands. Please contact Dineen at dterstage@gmail.com if you can help. Thank you!

Sunday Livestream Worship Services at 9 am & 11 am



On Sundays, you can worship with us online!
Please visit our [website](#) where we will Livestream our
Sunday Worship Services at 9:00 am and 11:00 am.



Online Giving



Your generous online offering allows us to preach the gospel, make disciples, and support others in our community who need help. As a community, we are grateful for one another's loving support.

[ONLINE GIVING](#)

Second Harvest Food Bank

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!



Women In Transition

There is a great need for umbrellas, along with new socks, gloves, toiletries, hygiene products and underwear. Items can be dropped off at the donation station. Sorry, but we are not accepting other clothing donations at this time. Thank you! Questions, please contact Jan Filkill 440/871-6673.



Church Office Hours

The church office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year. We will be open again on Monday, January 3, 2022. Pr Charlie will be on-call if needed.



Contemporary Worship Music

If you are joining us this Sunday for the 9 am Contemporary service, below are the songs we will be singing. The music can be found on YouTube. See you then!

*Jesus Shine Jesus
You Shine
Remembrance
How Great*



December 29, 2021 - January 9, 2022

Wednesday, December 29
10:00 am Organ Practice

Thursday, December 30

Friday, December 31

Saturday, January 1
Happy New Year!

Sunday, January 2
9 & 11 am In Person Worship Service
10:10 am Christian Education
[9 & 11:00 am Livestream](#)

Monday, January 3
10:00 am Staff Meeting/CR
2:00 pm Organ Practice
6:00 pm Council Exec Meeting
7 pm Bible Study - All are welcome!

Tuesday, January 4
12:00 pm Bridge Group
7:00 pm CrossFire Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 5
10:00 am Organ Practice
2:00 pm Book & Bible Studies/CR

Thursday, January 6
Sexton Day Off

Friday, January 7
Pr. Charlie Day Off

Saturday, January 8
9:30 am Altar Guild/Undecorating
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday, January 9
9 & 11 am In Person Worship Service
10:10 am Christian Education
9 & 11:00 am [Livestream](#)

Pick Up Your 2022 Offering Envelopes

Giving Envelopes for 2022 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.

Donations for the 2021 tax year must be given to the church no later than December 31, 2021.



Love, INC

Monthly Sponsors Needed! Consider becoming a Love INC sponsor for 2022.



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Our congregation has found a helpful way to meet the needs of those who come to our door for assistance through Love, INC. This ministry is not funded through our budget rather it comes from those of you who have chosen to sponsor a month with \$125. Individuals or ministry groups are encouraged to prayerfully consider sponsoring. May God bless this cooperative effort as we work to transform lives In the Name of Christ.

To sign up for 2022, please send an email to popw.officemanage@gmail.com with Love Inc in the subject line.

Women In Transition

Chopping for Change

LMM has been awarded \$900,000 in federal funds for our Chopping for Change program! We're excited to continue to do this important work and to continue to reduce recidivism in our community. Special thank you to Senator Rob Portman for his work around the Second Chance Act. [Read full article](#)



An innovative partnership between LMM, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, and the Cuyahoga County Office of Re-Entry, the "Chopping for Change" program provides significant work experience and training for women in the criminal justice system and that empowers them to re-join the labor force.



Altar Flowers

Thanks to all who donate flowers to grace our altar. There are openings to sponsor flowers in the upcoming weeks.

Sponsors may take the flowers home following the late service that day, otherwise, the staff will deliver the flowers when making visits to members.

Tables For Eight

All adults interested in joining Tables for Eight, to get to know your church family better, please find more info and sign up sheet in lower lobby at the Information Station.

Our next re-mix of groups will be named by December 30, 2021.

Questions, see Jan Saunders





Blood Drives are Back 2022

Join us as we help the support Red Cross donation drives. The first drive of 2022 will start on January 23rd 8am-2pm. Sign up online at redcrossblood.org



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

Young at Heart

Young at Heart will be temporarily suspended due to the rise in Covid cases.

Thank you. Questions, please see Kathy Kettler.



**Young at Heart
Luncheon**

Prince of Peace 'Comfort Quilters' Benefit Homeless

"Many thanks to the incredible Comfort Quilters of Prince of Peace Westlake for the 25 handmade quilts they made for the homeless," reports Community West Foundation, the Westlake-based charitable organization that supports Cleveland-area organizations that provide for the basic needs of the homeless and most vulnerable in our community.

"Year after year, they give their time and talent to help wrap those in need with warmth and love. Thank you for your continued support of #SocksPLUS and your local community members!" [Read more](#)



Can You Stretch Your String?

I heard a wonderful story and analogy the other day. The story was about an older man who attended a Christian workshop. The leader of one of the sessions picked the older fellow out of the group attending this particular session. He brought him up to the front. The man stated that he was attending the workshop because he wanted to become more involved in living his faith. The session leader asked him how old he was. The man responded that he was 75. The Leader then measured out a piece of twine that measured 100 feet long. He said, "Let's be optimistic and say that you will live to be 100. This length of twine represents your life."



He then cut off 75 feet and dropped it to the floor leaving 25 feet. "I cut this off since that is all behind you now," the leader said. "We spend about a third of our lives sleeping," and he proceeded to cut off another 8 to 9 feet. "We spend about 1 to 2 hours a day in the bathroom," and he cut off another foot and a half. "We spend time with our meals each day and we watch TV about 20% of our waking hours," and he cut off another 3 to 4 feet. "We spend time on our finances and family with shopping, just getting dressed and so forth," and he cut off another 4 feet. By the time he was done he had only a few inches left. The leader held up the few inches of twine for everyone to see, "This represents the time this man has left to become more involved in his faith."

The room was quiet. Everyone was applying this analogy to their own lives. You see, everyone at the workshop also wanted to be more active in their faith; that is why they were there in the first place. Believe it or not folks, this is not only a story of faith but of stewardship. It is a graphic story of how we use our time as Christians; and just what percentage of our time that really is.

As I heard this story, I too started to analyze my time and my life. How could I do more? How could I stretch this length of string that I have left to really be an active Christian? And then, I realized that I can stretch the string; that I can get more out of my time than just the time I have. I realized that I can do this by fulfilling my pledge, my POP commitment in 2022, and beyond, and even giving beyond my pledge. You see my friends, the dollars that we give reach way beyond what we are able to do by ourselves. They stretch the string! Your dollars help bring the message of the saving grace of Jesus to our members, our visitors and those watching on line. They help feed the hungry, they bring warm mittens and socks to needy kids, they help seminary students, they help bring warm, bright colored quilts to those in need.

Each of us has a different amount of string left, but only a small portion of that is available for the Lord's work. You can stretch that string. You can make a difference in people's lives.

Dick Hardy, Profile Reporter

General Endowment Fund - Thank You!

A big THANK YOU from the Endowment Committee for your cash contributions to match our grants of up to \$2,500. These gifts allow us to share in the mission of these organizations during these continuing trying times.

Second Harvest Food Bank received \$2,645.05 from our members along with our grant for a total of \$5,145.05 being forwarded to them. **Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry (LMM)** received \$2,350 plus the fair market value of the boots, socks, etc. meeting our matching grant for a total of \$4,850 in checks being forwarded to them. Gifts made to our General Endowment Fund by our members enable us to make grants each year to worthwhile endeavors not in the church operating budget that are from 4% to 6% of the average of the funds last twelve quarters valuation.

In 2021 we committed grants of \$11,000. The Endowment Committee looks forward to making additional grants to help fulfill Christ's mission in 2022. Grant request forms can be found on the church website. Happy New Year!

Pastor's Blog ~ 'Along the Way'

Back in March of 2020, when COVID came into our lives, I started a daily devotional as an opportunity to keep connected to my congregation with scripture and reflections and prayer. It became therapeutic for me and well received. I continued those devotions for over a year over 380 devotions!

In March of 2021, I moved to a new church. It was important for me to take time to get settled in before taking on this task. I put the daily devotions aside, and spent my time and energy learning the ropes at the new place. Seven months into the new call here at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Westlake, we are settled in. I felt it was now time to start again.



The title of the Blog is "Along the Way." Faith is a journey. It is a journey we do not make alone. We do it in community with God and each other. My hope is that this can be one way we can join in this journey together. I hope that as we continue down this path, some of you may share some reflections as well. That would be welcomed!

For the content, I will be sharing the readings for the coming Sunday as well as a couple of hymns or songs as the focus for the daily devotions. Please know that it is very possible that you may hear stories or insights used in these devotions in the Sunday worship sermon. Also, if you have read my devotions in the past, it is pretty likely that you will see some stories that you've seen before. Good stories deserve to be repeated.

I hope this daily blog provides you an opportunity to join me reading some scripture, sharing a reflection or two, and offering a short prayer. Please feel free to share them with others, and I always welcome your comments and insights. You can email me at pcpopwestlake@gmail.com any time.

Using the Revised Common Lectionary, the week's devotions will look like this:

- Monday – Old Testament Lesson
- Tuesday – Psalm
- Wednesday – Song or Hymn or Video
- Thursday – Epistle Lesson
- Friday - Gospel Lesson
- Saturday – Song or Hymn or Video
- Sunday – An invitation to join us for worship

The blog is now available on our website. Check it out now! [Pastor's Blog](#)

I hope you will join me along the way!

Peace,

Pastor Charlie

December 2021 Health and Safety Update

COVID-19 UPDATE

Dear Members and Friends of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church:

On December 9, our Health and Safety Team gathered once again together with council president and vice president Jim Dickey and Sally Balch. As has been our practice, we discussed the current issues surrounding the COVID19 Pandemic. It is a confusing and difficult time right now. Vaccinations are available for more and more, as well as boosters. At the same time, another surge and variant arise.

With all this, we hold out hope that things will get better in the new year. Let's continue what we are doing, and we will get through this together.

We share again that our two guiding principles at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church remain the same:

1. To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament, carrying out God's mission as God leads.
2. To be mindful of the health and safety of all.

We will continue with our guidelines as listed below.

In addition to that, we will move forward on these two things:

1. Starting January 9, the nursery will be opened once again during worship services. All nursery attendants will be fully vaccinated and masked. Sanitation of the area will be done after each service, hand sanitizer, wipes and other cleaning items will be available.
2. The adult choir will begin again in January. The choir will be required to sing with masks for now, and all choir members must be fully vaccinated to participate. Singing masks will be provided to all participants.

While this is not back to normal, these are steps in the right direction.

We will continue to monitor the CDC guidelines, and we plan to meet again in January review where things stand in our community.

So for right now, things remain the same. We continue to encourage the following:

- If you are able to do so, get vaccinated. We ask that all our volunteers and staff are vaccinated to ensure their health and well-being as well as those they serve. We encourage you to do the same.
- If a booster shot is recommended for you, consider that as another level of safety.
- Get a flu shot. Dave Covell suggests ANY time is a good time to get the flu shot. That being said, you may consider getting your shot in early November, as it will provide good defense against the flu during the holiday season and into the new year.
- Masks are recommended for the times we gather in close quarters with each other. That includes the sanctuary.
- If you are sick, stay home!
- Online options are available for worship and many of the education offerings to provide participation remotely.

Thank you for your diligence and care for your neighbor.

If you have any questions or comments, please let us know.

Health And Safety Team

- Judy Splawski, MD
- Cynthia Strieter, MD
- Dave Covell, Lorain County Health Commissioner
- Mark Givens, Church Council Member
- Pastor Charlie Woodward

Prayer Concerns

Please join us in praying for members and friends with recent needs: Christine (friend of Kathy Kettler), James Arrigo, Dr. Phil Blitz (father of Jann Daniels), Cathy Blitz (sister-in-law of Jann Daniels), Chris Castell (son of Julia Castell), Isaiah Comnick, Jayne Cramic (friend of the McCollums), Lori Crotty (friend of Charlie Koch), Kathy Duncan (friend of the McCollums), Ron Filka (brother of Kathy McCollum), Gibbons Family, Mark Givens, Howard King, Joan Link (friend of Lynne Knoll), Judith Santora (friend of Lia Staaf). **Also, we pray for chronic, long-term care needs:** Charlotte (gr. granddaughter of Jan Schoch), Paul (brother of Diane Merhaut), Ren (granddaughter of Linda Baumbach), Stephanie Bailey (niece of Mary Sue Claus), Cathy Blitz (sister-in-law of Jann Daniels), Joanne & Tony Cacciatore, Don Chismar, Marcia Drysdale (friend of Jane Dillon), 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), Deanne Lahner (niece of Mary Sue Claus), Pat Merhaut (step grandmother of Shawn Merhaut), Angela Missig (daughter of Gloria Starr), Bob Mociulewski and wife, Steve Park (cousin of Deb Gibbons), Jenn Pitts (daughter of Judy Kazak), Lois Reichert, Greg Rolitsky (friend of Mary Sue and Ron Claus), Pam Rotella. **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.**

Giving Report

Operating Giving through November 30, 2021	\$316,272
Percent of Annual Budget Received	90%
Remaining Goal	\$ 33,728

Attendance at Prince of Peace

<u>Date</u>	<u>Online</u>	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Total</u>
12/26/2021	82	39	121
12/24/2021	169	215	384
12/19/2021	62	157	219
12/12/2021	47	144	191

As of 12/19/21 we still need \$15,000 to reach our goal.

January 2, 2022 Sunday Readings:

First Reading:	Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Second Reading:	Ephesians 3:1-12
Gospel Reading:	Matthew 2:1-12

Happy Birthday

12/29 Roger Hauser	01/03 Chris Hallowell
12/30 Mike Gleespen	01/03 Noah Katrincsak
12/31 Russ Bauknecht	01/04 Norma Gabrielsen
12/31 Amy Hrouda	01/05 Jan Filkill
01/03 Ashley Alspach	01/06 James Braun, Sr.
01/03 Claire Dye	01/07 Jordyn Jagels
	01/08 Mara Lipschutz

Happy Anniversary!

12/29 Jim & Marge Jaracz
12/30 Robert & Mary Mayer
01/03 Jeff & Amy Babinski

Prince of Peace Staff

Pastor Charlie Woodward
pcpopwestlake@gmail.com

James & Lisa Arrigo, Sextons
jamespopwestlake@gmail.com

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

Ian Faleer, Chancel Choir Director
ifaleer@gmail.com

Megan Harber, Church Administrator
popw.officemanage@gmail.com

Mary Humer, Marketing/Communications Manager
princeofpeacewestlake@gmail.com

Hilary Lucas, Youth Director
poplutheranyouth@gmail.com

Cindy Strieter, Contemporary Music Director
redguitar626@gmail.com

Ben Ubienski, Sound Technician

Ruth Williams, Organist
mrsruthwilliams@yahoo.com

James Dickey, IV, Church Council President
jmdickeyiv@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday and Friday 10 am-3 pm; Sunday 8:30-11:30 am

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 am

Child Care - Currently suspended due to Covid.

