



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Gazette

May 2021

May is full of celebration days. From May Day on the 1st, to Mothers' Day on the 9th (2nd Sunday) through Memorial Day on the 31st (now the last Monday of the month), there are more "celebrations" scheduled than I would have believed, many not very important, but there are literally dozens of them. I can't talk about them all, but here are three that have some significance for us.

May Day is very ancient and pre-dates the Christian calendar. It was once marked as the first day of summer. Flowers were picked and planted. Baskets of them were filled and given to friends, neighbors, and strangers. People elected a May Queen, decorated her with flowers, and danced around the May Pole. It is basically a celebration of life and hope, and those are, though not exclusively Christian values, are certainly important to Christians. We celebrate lives of faith, love and hope.

Memorial Day honors and remembers all men and women who have died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Memorial Day is also a day to remember all loved ones who have passed away. Christians make special note of those we call "saints," not because every Christian is not a saint or holy child of God, but because these people have given some good example of how to live a Christian life to God's glory and praise. Many of us remember people in our own lives who are such "saints," because we model ourselves after them.

Mothers' Day is one such "saint's day." In fact, it is hard for most of us not to be terribly sentimental, even "mushy" thinking about our Moms. For most of us our mothers are the first person we ever knew who loved us and cared for us. She fed us and cleaned us and pampered us long after we needed help doing such things, and they never stop being mothers. One of the sad things we should face is that there are people who have not had motherly care, perhaps because their mothers died young or were simply unable to give love. Such people need love showered upon them because how else will they learn what it is? Mothers have a terrific responsibility in teaching how to give, how to share, how to love. Fathers do also, of course, but there are some roles they simply cannot fill. We are all called to help.



continued

We as Christians try to give motherly care to those in particular need – victims of storms and war, earthquakes and homelessness, disease and abandonment. Prince of Peace is glad to host the Alzheimer's Association, to give to food banks and children's programs, and to sponsor Family Promise in order to "mother" and provide temporary "homes" for people without homes of their own. We have welcomed two other congregations to share our church home, to be "home" in the Kingdom with us, and to give thanks to Mother God.

So this May, let us remember our mothers and all those who give even yet motherly care to us and to others. Let us imitate them and give thanks for them. Let us remember all those who have served us – teachers, doctors, nurses, police, laborers, family members, public servants, friends, neighbors, and strangers who have cared, and dedicate ourselves also to serving those in need of care. And let us celebrate the love and hope that spring and summer bring, with the beauty and joy and produce that comes with them. And finally let us remember that Christ has called us his own children, and welcomes us home to His eternal Kingdom. Amen.

Pastor Bob



ESTHER CIRCLE
A Member of the WELCA

Esther Circle will have its first business meeting on September 14th at 10 a.m. If this is not a good time please let Carol know. It has been so long since we have met that I thought going back to the 2nd Tuesday of the month will be more familiar. October 2nd will be the goal in preparing our monthly breakfast at POP. The menu has been set, the money is in place and now it is just advertising and preparation. This is a great opportunity for POP to reach out to our neighbors and those in need.

For now and through the Summer we will be continuing our monthly Bible study at Fellowship using Gather. Please make an effort to come. Also remember when you can choose anything, choose kindness and love.

Blessings and Peace,
Carol

March 2021 Financial Facts and Figures:

General Income: \$ 26,812.27

Special income:

PPP \$ 17,220.00

Rent donations \$ 2,433.00

Insurance \$ 920.00

Offerings & Other \$ 9,592.27



Expenses:

Property Management: \$ 6,430.38 *(Includes mortgage, utilities, AC replacement)*

Evangelism & Publicity: \$ 39.00

Nurture & Service: \$ 1,313.73 *(Includes SCRIP and Enjoyment books)*

Administrative Cost/Fees: \$ 640.78 *(Includes Office supplies, equipment, cleaning)*

Synod Support: \$ 277.00 *(Includes ELCA, LWR, LWH, Tradewinds)*

Staff Salaries/Benefits: \$ 10,480.16

Total Expenses: \$ 19,181.05

Financial Secretary Input for the May 2021 gazette.

Welcome to the second month of the second quarter, that is May! I want to thank you for the support of our Insurance costs. During the first quarter we received just over \$1,000 per month. Now that we are back to live, in-person services, it will be easier to remind the regular attendees of the Insurance Fund Drive. The first Sunday of May I will have available special envelopes for this drive. However just because you do not pick up an envelope does not limit your participation. If you use regular weekly envelopes, just write in Insurance on the other line, and the amount you want to go towards Insurance. (Some of you already use those lines to direct where you want your gifts directed.) If you do not have weekly envelopes, just write in the note line on the check the word 'Insurance' and if you do not want the entire check to go to Insurance, just include the directed amount beside the word Insurance.

We will focus the insurance drive on the first 2 Sundays of May. But directing where you want your offering to go is your option year around!

I would note also that our 2021 giving has gotten off to a little slower start. Since the services that quarter were all via telephone or computer, I understand that you were missing the personal contact. Fortunately, we were able to receive the Government PPP forgivable loan in March, so the final quarterly numbers look good.

Please prayerfully consider providing any support you are able!

Prayerfully submitted,
Rich Weigel, Financial Secretary

SACRAMENTS IN THE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND AT PRINCE OF PEACE

Many people are curious about the Sacramental practices of the Lutheran Church.

The *definition* of Sacrament is different among Lutherans from what it is among Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, Anglicans, Orthodox, and others whose services, beliefs, and practices might otherwise be very similar. These other churches simply define the word “sacrament” differently.

While we honor *all* seven sacraments of the Roman Catholic and Anglican/Episcopal traditions, we simply define them differently.

For us a Sacrament must be:

1. Commanded by Christ Himself in the Scriptures
2. Convey the forgiveness of sins
3. Employ a physical means.



Only Holy Baptism and Holy Communion meet all three of these conditions. Obviously rites like Marriage, Confession and Forgiveness, Confirmation, Ordination, and Anointing of the Sick are very important and sacred to us also. We practice them, but we do not call them sacraments.

Some people believe that when we offer a sacrament, we are merely doing what God commands. Lutherans particularly believe that in the Sacraments, it is *not* we, but *God* Who is acting. Thus Baptism is a means by which God Himself marks us as belonging to Him forever. Holy Communion is a way in which God Himself gives His very Self to us. Being renewed through forgiveness of sins joins us to the very Body of Christ, and in Holy Communion He gives to us also His own presence within us. For any believer, this means our life and salvation in God’s eternal Kingdom. We also believe that Sacraments are *not laws or ordinances*--not things we must do for no reason other than that they are commanded. Rather, these are gifts of God Himself, treasures to be cherished, and means by which God binds us to Himself.

People of other churches and denominations also wonder if they are welcome at the Lord’s Table at Prince of Peace. We believe that it is, after all, the *Lord’s* Table, not ours, and so we refuse no baptized believer who wants to come to the Lord—or rather to receive the gift of the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion. If you come open to God’s gifts, then by all means, be baptized if you have never been, and please do come to the Lord’s Supper! We do also ask that communicants be baptized believers who know their need for forgiveness and live in the sure and certain hope of salvation through Christ. Even an atheist can understand that if God does indeed exist, then an unbeliever coming into the presence of God would be in an uncomfortable situation!

For more information, please speak with Pastor Bob

FROM THE DEACON'S DESK

We are back in church. I know many of you are glad. We are still adhering to CDC rules as much as possible. Thanks to our Altar Guild. Under Deacon Carmen we now have a host distributor and we will be using communion cups for communion distribution. Thank you Carmen. We are also opening up Fellowship after service. Only coffee will be served for now. These are small baby steps to get back to some kind of "normal". Council met with the Bishop and assistant to the Bishop and we had a very good meeting about POP's future. You will hear more about this from your council members, who are working very hard to keep POP going. Thank you council members.

Dave, our president, has some very good ideas about Evangelism and they are worth discussing how to implement them. We will be having a Craft Fair and Bake Sale in October with Ascension by the Sea. We will need volunteers for baking and working the Kitchen, POP will host this part of the Fair. Dan Sharkey is the chair person. We are also having a Memorial Day picnic at the Church at 12 p.m. It will be a Pot Luck. A sign up sheet with suggested items to make will be located in Fellowship by Sunday May 9th. There will also be a Worship and Music Meeting on April 26th at 10 a.m. This is to discuss having an Ascension Service on Thursday May 13th at 12 p.m. Our food drive is waning unfortunately the hungry are still needing food. I brought more POP bags to Fellowship please take one and fill it during the week, month however long it takes. House of Hope is very appreciative. God's word is continuous, let us follow through with our hands. I realize food prices are on the rise but there are many BOGO's to be had, maybe you can put one of the BOGO's in the food bag. Thank you for all you have done already. Roberta is keeping active with Family Promise and we will be having a family in Fellowship beginning May 2nd and they will be there until May 16th. Any Bible studies and Fellowship will be announced as to where we will meet.

I have not heard from Mary Lee to see how Maxie is but I will be accompanying Sandy on Saturday April 24th and bring her communion. There is also something else taking place at POP. Father Tom and Ascension by the Sea as well as POP are working on some new technology so we can record and transmit our services on line. We thank everyone who is working to make this happen. This month is the first month we will be sending our Gazette out by E-mail. Please make sure Karen has your e-mail address. If you have no e-mail contact Karen and she will send you a printed copy. If you do not receive one let the office know and we will make sure you get one.

God's Blessing and Peace,
Deacons Carmen and Carol



Upcoming lessons:

May 2 — Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

May 9 — Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17

May 16 — Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19

May 23 — Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, Romans 8:22-27, John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
Ezekiel 37:1-14 (alternate), Acts 2:1-21(alternate)

May 30 — Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29, Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17



FAMILY PROMISE FAMILY NEWS AND UPDATES

Prince of Peace is scheduled to host the next family from the afternoon of May 2nd to the morning of May 16th. Pat Weigel finished the new curtains which are already hung in the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen. Mother Tess and her two little girls, Tempy and Katie, have settled into the program.

The children have started school and have adjusted well along with making new friends. Tess has connected with one of our volunteers who is taking the lead in our Job Readiness Program in addition to Career source in the community. She is interested in landscaping and nursery work. The children were connected to local eye doctor for free eye appointments and prescriptions. Using the Gift of Sight voucher through LensCrafters, the children will receive free glasses!

Ashley & Naikeem are doing very well with staying on top of their goals. Naikeen has reached his one-month mark for working with FORD and we can't be prouder of him! Although the hours are long, he stays steadfast in providing for his family! Ashley - has started her second week as a server for a local restaurant. Financially they are taking the COVID assistance money for savings and Naikeem continues to work toward housing goals. Baby Kai is always full of smiles and making new friends.

Carmen & Emmanuel and also well. Carmen continues to save for housing and pay bills and right now continues to work on applications for an apartment. Searching in our area is critical for low-income families and long waiting lists exist. Costly housing applications are difficult to budget for with limited funds available. Emmanuel is striving hard to complete his school so he can graduate this summer. He is also saving for a car and taken on his phone bill. It is never too young to start the budget lessons! He used his skills learned from Project Lift to help a volunteer get her car started.

Many of the hurdles our families have will be finding affordable housing. There is limited availability in our area or they do not have funds to submit applications which can be costly. Some of their applications have come back "denied" without reason. The headache begins trying to call the manager to request a meeting or understanding. This is the hardest part of the process when it comes to families ready to move out

The first finance class started thanks to a contact from University of Florida which will continue for a few more sessions. Each family will have one on one financial help to prepare budgets and look into the future to plan and set up healthy spending habits.

Family Promise is a faith-based ecumenical program to help homeless families. Work continues with other homeless families not in the rotational church housing program. Help has come from many businesses and organizations to make this a community endeavor. Continue to pray for this mission.

Roberta Virta, Host Coordinator
(772) 692-2792

May 2021

THE SHEPHERD'S GROUP

You can call these people from our church family if you need guidance in any of these areas.

Counseling	Pastor Bob	772-245-8556 Home / 772-214-8092 Cell
Social Security	Roberta Virta	772-692-2792 Home
Legal/Notary	Carmen Riedel	772-245-8556 Home

2021 PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN COUNCIL

David Willey <i>President</i>	(561) 352-4200	
Mary Lazo <i>Vice President</i>	(772) 232-6079	marycareylazo@gmail.com
Jodi Dudeney <i>Treasurer</i>	(772) 349-0692	
Roberta Virta <i>Secretary</i>	(772) 692-2792	robertavirta@cs.com
Karen Moeller	(914) 388-0371	keymoeller@aol.com
Sandy Budzinski	(772) 286-1641	sanbudzinski@hotmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIR

Deacon Carol Heiss — *Worship and Music, Education*

Roberta Virta and Maxie Rutherford — *Nurture and Service*

Jodi Dudeney and David Willey — *Stewardship and Finance*

Richard Weigel and David Willey — *Property*

Mary Lazo — *Evangelism*

Pat Weigel — *Nominating Committee*

Richard Weigel — *Audit Committee*

PASTOR

Pastor Bob Riedel (772) 444-3048 / (561) 348-0138 Cell RevdBob@gmail.com

In Our Prayers



Our Church Family

Sandy Budzinski, Barbara Davis, Carol Heiss, Dorothea Loos, Karen Moeller,
Claire Penniman, Marianne Saltis, Carmen Riedel, Maxie Rutherford,
Judi Thogersen, Deb Williamson, Pat Wisniewski

Family and Friends

Cheryl (Claire Penniman's request)
Edythe Broschiet (Dorothea Loos' daughter)
Julia Byron (Pastor Bob's request)
Lyn Connor (POP friend)

Jean Mahoney (POP friend)
Kim Oram (Pastor Bob's request)
Popovich Family (Carol Heiss' request)
Dan Sharkey (POP friend)



May 19 - Sandy Budzinski



*We at POP wish you a blessed day. For those we have overlooked, please forgive us.
If you would like to be included next year, please notify Karen in the church office.*

Visit Us at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Stuart, Florida



If you are looking for a church family or know someone who is, please visit us at Prince of Peace. **To learn more about Prince of Peace and what to expect when you join us for worship, visit our website at www.princeofpeacelutheranstuart.org.** We look forward to welcoming you for worship and fellowship. To be added to our monthly Gazette mailing list, please email us at PrinceofPeaceStuart@yahoo.com or call our office at (772) 692-1171.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 9:00 am Traditional Worship	3	4 9:30 am Bible Study	5 6:00 pm Bible Study	6 10:00 am Bible Study	7	8 
9 9:00 am Traditional Worship 	10	11 9:30 am Bible Study	12 6:00 pm Bible Study	13 10:00 am Bible Study	14	15 10:00 am Council Meeting
16 9:00 am Traditional Worship	17	18 9:30 am Bible Study	19 6:00 pm Bible Study	20 10:00 am Bible Study	21	22 
23 9:00 am Traditional Worship	24	25 9:30 am Bible Study	26 6:00 pm Bible Study	27 10:00 am Bible Study	28	29
30 9:00 am Traditional Worship	31 Noon Picnic/ Potluck in Fellowship Hall 					

FUNDRAISER BULLETIN BOARD

Support Prince of Peace Through SCRIP GIFT CARDS

Please consider buying **SCRIP cards** for your weekly shopping, dining and gasoline needs. A percentage of each card sold goes back to **Prince of Peace** and there is no additional cost to you.



Check out all of the participating vendors listed on our website at www.princeofpeaceclutheranstuart.org (located under the Giving tab).

SCRIP cards are available for purchase from Pat Weigel phone # 530-721-2991. The order forms & payment are to be returned on the **FIRST** Sunday of every month.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Simply Giving

Through *Simply Giving*, your gifts are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account. You determine the frequency of your automatic gift — weekly, semi-monthly or monthly. Your gift payment is deposited into Prince of Peace's bank account on the same day it is withdrawn from your account.



Simply Giving is a reliable, safe way to move your stewardship plan into action. It allows you to share your gifts through planned giving and activates your generosity into ongoing stewardship. Because your gift is given consistently, you won't feel the need to play "catch-up" at year-end or worry about forgotten checkbooks or missed Sunday offerings. **Prince of Peace benefits from steady, more predictable revenues throughout the year, more efficient bookkeeping, and greater confidence in meeting its financial commitments.**

How do I participate? Call the church office at 772-692-1171 to sign up today.

2021 PRINCE OF PEACE WISH LIST



- ♦ Pay off our mortgage \$44,997
- ♦ Raise the church sign \$30,000 and make it digital \$10,000
- ♦ Fix the sprinkler system \$TBD
- ♦ Remove rust and paint the wrought iron \$5,000