

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. William A. Schaefer, Pastor



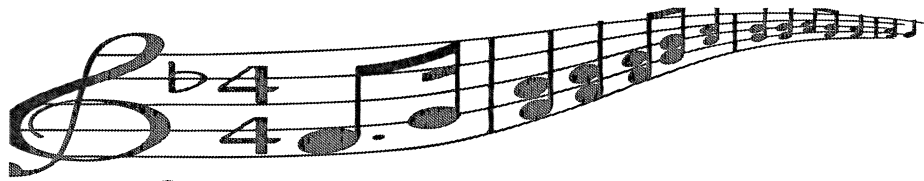
Living, Learning, and Growing in the Word of God

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POP NOTES

March 2022 Volume 60 Number 3

Seeking the Holy

These last two years have been long and I know that I have lost focus throughout the pandemic. I am not sure about you, but there are days that I just kind of skated through. There was a fog that formed in my brain and my focus at some point slowed from being outward to other people to myself and my family. This is a story that I have heard numerous times in the last months.

As we begin to come out of this latest surge, and by God's grace, move out of the pandemic into something new and different, I have been discerning how God is calling me in ministry and how he is calling me to reinvent my ministry for this congregation and our ministry together. After much listening, prayer, listening, scripture reading, prayer and listening, I hear God calling us back to him in our most basic of ways: worship, prayer, scripture, the sacraments and spirituality. I sense that we are being called to grow closer to the Holy One. Growing closer to God is the beginning of this journey.

With this in mind, there are things happening and things that are beginning soon that will help us to begin this process of seeking the Holy in our lives again. At Bible Study, we have been looking at the "Songs in the Scriptures". These are songs of creation, invitation, hope that live in the Psalms and other parts of the scripture that have been sung by generations of the first people of God and the first Christians. You are invited to come and share in this time. We meet each Thursday at 2:00 PM for fellowship and learning about God's Word. If you would like to have a study in the evening, please let me know and I would be happy to study with you.

As Lent begins on March 2nd, we will, throughout the season, wrap ourselves in prayer and worship. Each Monday, from 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM, I will be in the sanctuary in prayer and I invite you to come and pray with me. There will not be a structure to this time. I will pray with you if you would like. I will pray for you if you wish. I will just sit and pray next to you if you would like. I will just be in prayer, for each of you, the congregation, the Church, our community, the nation and the world. I will be praying for God's Spirit to lead and inspire us and for guidance as we move forward in ministry together. I am willing to add a time for prayer in the evening if you would like one.

Each Wednesday during Lent, we will journey with the people who walked with Christ and were touched by him. The "Bible People" will help us to know the grace, love and blessing that Christ gave to those who he touched. We will do this with a Spirit-lead, prayerful service of song from the Taizé tradition. I invite you to come, empty your mind, close your eyes and sing the songs of our worship as prayers and hear the power and movement of the scriptures and the monologues as they bring you closer to the Holy One.

These things, we will do together. I invite you to share in them and also to take on prayer, scripture and listening to God and seeking his Holy Spirit at home as well. Set a short time for prayer, each day. Do some reading of scripture. Sit in quiet for a few minutes each day and experience the movement of the Spirit in your life. Reconnect with the Holy again. This is how we see where God is calling to us, from the base of knowing God's presence and love in our lives. I look forward to the journey and discovery with you.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

Finance

TREASURER'S REPORT – January 2022

CURRENT FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 53,081.76
Receipts	\$ 13,546.53
Disbursements	\$ 11,551.18
Ending Balance	\$ 55,077.11

BENEVOLENCE

2022 Pledge	\$ 12,000.00
1 months Pledge	\$ 1,000.00
Received as of 1/31/22	\$ 1,683.00
Difference Over/(Under) YTD	\$ 683.00
Paid out as of 1/31/22	-----

BUILDING FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 19,907.12
Receipts – Offering	\$ 1,464.64
Interest	\$.17
Total Receipts Plus Balance	\$ 21,371.93
Less Disbursements -insurance	\$ 471.60
Other Cavallo's	\$ 2,300.00
Tax	\$ -----
Ending Balance	\$ 18,600.33

February Worship Attendance

	10:30am
Feb 6 th	45
Feb 13 th	44
Feb 19 th / 20 th	3/51
Feb 27 th	xx

Please bring a friend!

Monthly Bible Quotes

I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve very my loss. Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this: The unfailing love of the Lord never ends: By his mercies we have been kept from complete destruction. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin a fresh each day. I say to myself, "the Lord is my inheritance: therefore, I will hope in him. ~ Lamentations 8:20-24

STEWARDSHIP

Zack Davis, Ann Frye, and Mark Lucas – Ministry Chairs

Trust Prompts Giving

Jesus tells an amazing story about a poor widow who places all of her trust in the Lord. The Gospel of Luke (also in Mark) records Jesus' observing a poor widow putting two small copper coins into the temple collection box. At the same time, He saw some wealthy individuals giving large amounts of money. Jesus said something surprising when He said that the widow "has put in more than all of them." (Luke 21:3). We are told that the wealthy "contributed out of their abundance." (verse 4). These people made a show of their wealth by dropping large coins in the box so others could hear as well as see their giving. The rich gave abundantly, but their giving didn't cost them that much, because they still had plenty left over for themselves. The poor widow's giving witnessed to her trust in God and in His ability to care and provide for her. With her trust and faith in her heavenly Father, she gave everything she had with joy and confidence. She didn't have money for her next meal, but she gave willingly. In a sense, she was giving herself. She knew that God would supply the provisions that she would need.

When is the last time, you've given your entire pay check to God through your church, or when is the last time you've given away all of your savings? Most of us would say that this has never happened. While God may not be calling most of us to give all that we have away, He does want us to give regularly and generously of all we receive. Why do many of us fail to give in proportion to what we earn to the Lord through our church and other Christian organizations? Each of us has different and unique circumstances, but the one common element that keeps most of us from giving freely and generously is fear. We hold tightly onto our money because we are afraid that the money we've accumulated may not be enough. We allow the money and stuff that we accumulate to become our security. The poor widow had little, but, if she had any fear, she overcame it. She gave all that she had out of trust in the Lord.

Jesus spoke a lot about giving because giving is an important part of our lives as God's people. Whether we have little, like the poor widow, or much, like the "wealthy" we read about in Luke, God calls us to give regularly and generously. Giving expresses our gratitude to God for Who He is and what He has done for us especially through His Son, Jesus. Everything that we have has come from the Lord. "What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?" (1 Corinthians 4:7). By grace, God gives each of us life, and He provides everything we need for our lives. All that we are and have are gifts from God. Giving is one of the many ways that we express our thanks and our worship of Him.

May God help us place our trust in the Lord and demonstrate that trust through our generous giving.

PROPERTY

Rick Zavatsky, Steve Tehovnik & Lee Semasko – Ministry Chairs

We have discovered a leak above the Gathering Space in the flat roof and are exploring means or fixing. There was a clog in the water lines coming from the restrooms last week and we had to have the lines snaked. Looking to run a camera through them and make sure there's nothing broken.

OUTREACH

Betsy Naggy – Ministry Chair

- **UNUSED CHRISTMAS CARDS** - if you have any to donate please put on table by pastor's office. We use these to send to the local nursing/personal care homes next year. Birthday Cards are also good for this project.
- Winter is here, and **we can use more blankets**, new or gently used. We did receive a Thrivent action grant to purchase blankets and will be doing so this week.
- **Food Bank Donations** – There is still a bin for collections for the Food Pantry. Any and all donations are needed and appreciated. Toothpaste is the non-perishable item for March & April.
- **Latrobe Rotary Food for Thought** – POP is scheduled to help with packing the backpacks on Wednesdays in March. The bags are packed in the Latrobe 30 Plaza between the (now empty) tanning salon and PT Group. Talk to Pastor if you want more information or are interested in helping feed the kids in the local area.
- **Shepherd shop- Furniture Ministry** - if you have further questions, please contact Maryann Coulston at 724-396-6109. Or you can contact Christine at christineweller@trinitylatrobe.com

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Pam Yuhaniak – Ministry Chair



As we head into Lent at the beginning of March, we will be bringing back the Simple Suppers before Wednesday evening worship. Pastor Bill will be making soup for these meals. If you have any requests or ideas for soups, please see him so he can better plan for the meals. **ATTENTION!!! We are asking for volunteers to sign up to help with the suppers as our committees are limited in people and we could really use your help!** Please add your name to the sign-up sheets in the gathering space for which week you are able to lend a hand.

POP will host a **Yom Hashoah Remembrance service on Sunday April 24**. The time has not been determined yet. We will have refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after the service. Please talk to Vickie or Pastor if you can donate cookies or beverages for this event.

We will continue to post the indoor service on Facebook at www.facebook.com/poplatrobe and as a link on our website www.princeofpeacelatrobe.com



	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Counters</u>
March 6th			Kathy Bangor	Vickie Onusko & Ann Frye
March 13th			Kathy Bangor	Pam Yuhaniak & Kathy Bangor
March 20th			Lee Semasko	Kellie Douglas & Lee Semasko
March 27th			Lee Semasko	Betsy Naggy & Bob Woller

Altar Care: Jane Hayden & Pam Yuhaniak **Head Usher:** Lee Semasko

EVANGELISM - FELLOWSHIP
Vickie Onusko & Ann Frye – Ministry Chairs

TNT Missed our February outing due to the weather. So March 3rd we will be returning to the private room in the back of Sharky's – please bring a friend and join us. Also, we will be holding a reception after the Yom Hashoah Remembrance service on April 24th if you are interested in helping please let us know.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Christine Weller – Ministry Chair

Bible study has started and will be held Thursday at 2pm, we have between 7-10 participants please join us. We are studying the Songs of Scripture. Confirmation classes have started again. We have four youth participating and are planning our summer camping trip.



Meals on Wheels

Thank you to the cookie bakers, sandwich makers, bag decorators, and money donators. POP is blessed to have you!!

Food Pantry distribution

POP will help on **March 15**, and volunteers are needed. Please talk to Sherry Stahl or Pastor Bill if you are available.

Used Christmas Cards – does anyone know of a need for these or a way they are recycled?

Thank you to all who have sent cards to Leona Lewis and Judy Long. Judy came home from the hospital on February 10th and is slowly regaining use of her legs. Thankfully her cognitive reasoning has returned. Having Judy home has certainly improved Leona's outlook but she is still struggling with gradual loss of sight and hearing. Thank you for all the cards and phone calls, Betsy.

Please send any celebrations, notes of joy, expressions of sympathy or moments of God's love you'd like to share via email to: office@princeofpeacelatrobe.com or banaggy@wpa.net

Prayer Chain – If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain, there are three easy options for you to choose from to be a part of this important group. **For text messages:** text @popprayer to 81010 **For email:** go to rmd.at/popprayer and sign up for messages there. **For phone calls:** call Ginger Warren at 724-593-7524 .



Prayer is an essential part of who we are as a people of God. Below is a list of people from our congregation to keep in your daily prayers. If you know of others who should be added to these lists, please contact the church office with the names.

If you or someone you know from the congregation is in the hospital or is at home and sick and needs a visit from Pastor Bill, please call the office so that he can schedule a visit. The Pastor is only told by the hospital when a person is a patient if they ask for the church to be notified.

From our congregation: Bev Guyer, Betsy Naggy, Debbie Lindsey, Don & Ginger Warren, Jim and Kay Ramsey, and Mitchel Schall.

Our Shut-in members: Dorothy Myers (Ridgeview Residential Care), Ken Lloyd

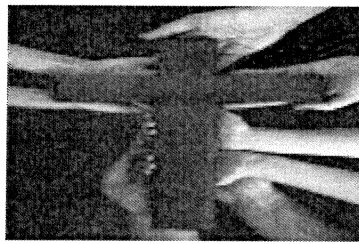
(Loyalhanna Care Center), Ruth Massena (Bethlen Homes), Kay Shaw (at home), Raymond Fry (Ligonier Gardens)

**** Please take a minute to send a card of caring to one of our shut-in members during this time of quarantine to remind them we are thinking of them. ****

Others in need of our prayers: Ashlee Stanko, Bill Potter, Carrie Shafran, Elaine, Frank, Jean Civis, Joe Labuda, John & Nancy Vincze, Judy Long, Natalie Rimmer, Leona Lewis, Scott Thompson Susan Luttner, and Tom.

Those in the Military: Michael Clevenger and Matt Mickinak, who has returned from his deployment.

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News from our Parish Nurse

Are you ready for Lent?

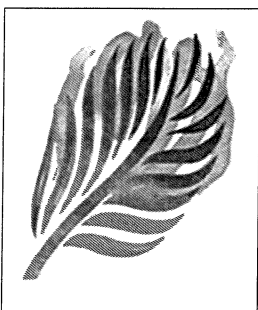
Ash Wednesday marks this special time of the church year when we reflect on Jesus' time of fasting and preparation. Jesus spent forty days in the desert prior to his fulfillment of the scripture. We honor this time by participating in the Lenten practices of our church.

Some personally take additional steps to practice their faith during this time. I was raised by a mother who grew up in the catholic tradition. Therefore, we did not eat meat on Fridays in my childhood home. My family and I also traditionally "gave something up" for lent. Usually we gave up something we did out of habit, or something that we typically did daily. This was to be a sacrifice for us to help us remember Christ's suffering. It was a game of sorts, with the goal of actually completing this forty-day task, if we could be disciplined enough to do so. As a child, I remember really trying hard to follow through with my promise. We would then once again be allowed to have our item of choice back on Easter morning. Forty days seemed like an eternity then. And truth be told, I don't truly know if I realized the symbolic significance of this sacrifice.

As an adult, I now realize, forty days goes by in the blink of an eye. As I have gained more self- control, giving things up is not as hard as it once was. For me, taking time to remember to focus on Christ in the busy times of my days has become the challenge comparable to the sacrifice of "giving something up" for lent. Therefore, my Lenten practice as an adult has been to add something to my life that encourages daily focus on HIM. I now realize the significance of what and why this practice takes place.

There are so many things you can do to honor Christ at this time. Find something that brings you closer to him. Think of something that will be with you daily to help you remember Christ sacrifice for us. Make this season your own as Christ has made you unique. He knows your heart. Solemnly prepare for his love to reign as we will celebrate the resurrection on Easter morning.

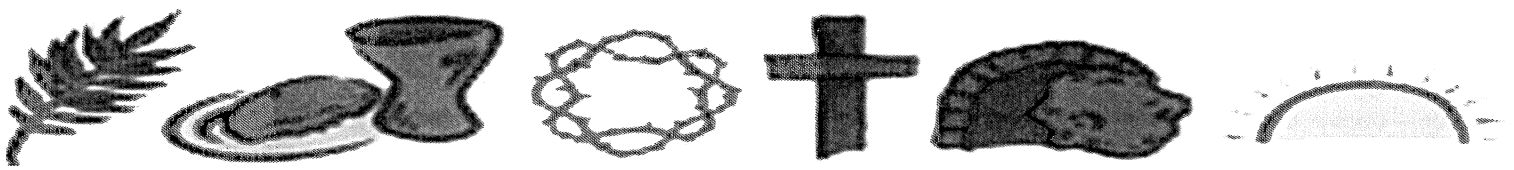
Fill your spirit. Your mind and body will thank you.



This year, Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on March 2. During worship services that day, pastors in many Christian churches dip a finger in ashes (often made by burning branches from the previous Palm Sunday) and make a cross on parishioners' foreheads.

Why ashes? Traditionally, they're a sign of mourning, humiliation and penitence. Ashes also represent the frailty and temporary nature of human life ("You are dust, and to dust you shall return," Genesis 3:19). Christians are pained because our sins led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing that it leads to Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.

For Ash Wednesday — and throughout the 40 days of Lent — ponder this prayer from an Italian sacramentary, or liturgical book: "O God, you know how fragile is our human nature, wounded as it is by sin. Help your people to enter upon the Lenten journey strengthened by the power of your word, so that we may be victorious over the seduction of the Evil One and reach the paschal feast in the joy of the Holy Spirit."



2	Kellie Douglas
3	Jenny Bowser
5	Connor Rose Ruth Massena Vickie Onusko
8	Carolyn Hay
9	Emily Beilchick Evan Sanders
10	Janice Migyanka
11	Sherry Stahl Debbie Lindsay
15	Carol Kayser Jesse Biller
16	Andrew Kunkle Roy Nelson
19	Debbie Prohaska
20	Elaine Woller
21	Barb Volpe
22	Nicole Zavatsky
26	Kathy Bangor
27	Nick Waltz
31	Rachel Douglas

4	Craig Sulzer
22	Kellie Douglas

15	Rheinhold & Heather Schmitt
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PLEASE NOTE: If you do not see your Birthday or Anniversary listed, please let us know in the church office. We apologize if you were missed and we will make the necessary corrections so that it does not happen again



MARCH 4, 2022

Lord Jesus, think on me
and purge away my sin.
From earthborn passions set me free
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
that when the flood is past,
I may the' eternal brightness see
and share your joy at last.

Wounded healers

Nobody escapes being wounded,” writes Henri Nouwen. “We all are wounded people, whether physically, emotionally, mentally or spiritually. The main question is not ‘How can we hide our wounds?’ so we don’t have to be embarrassed, but ‘How can we put our woundedness in the service of others?’ When our wounds cease to be a source of shame, and become a source of healing, we have become wounded healers.” He continues, “Jesus is God’s wounded healer: through his wounds we are healed. Jesus’ suffering and death brought joy and life. His humiliation brought glory; his rejection brought a community of love. As followers of Jesus, we can also allow our wounds to bring healing to others.”

How might viewing Jesus as a wounded healer affect your relationship with him? What roles have wounds and healing played in your own faith life? How can you minister to other people from a place of brokenness?

Many of us have heard the first part of what’s called “The Serenity Prayer,” attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. But we would do well to learn the rest of it as well:

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.”

Puzzle!

Complete the Scripture verses (NIV, unless marked) using letters found in the words



See! The winter is _____; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come. (Song of Solomon 2:11-12)

"Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it _____, it will be just as full of light as when a lamp shines its light on you." (Luke 11:36)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the _____, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them ... ? (Psalm 8:3-4)

We all, like sheep, have gone _____, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the _____ and members of the household of God. (Ephesians 2:19, ESV)

Answer: pass, dark, stars, astray, stars

PUZZLE

A wonderful washing

David's prayer of repentance reveals a desire to be cleansed of his sin.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the left. Then match them with the correct phrases from Psalm 51 (NIV) on the right.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| ETRCAE _____ | _____ | out my transgressions (v. 1) |
| HSAW _____ | _____ | away all my iniquity (v. 2) |
| RSEEROT _____ | _____ | me with hyssop, and I will be clean (v. 7) |
| WNERE _____ | _____ | me, and I will be whiter than snow (v. 7) |
| TLBO _____ | _____ | your face from my sins (v. 9) |
| DIHE _____ | _____ | out all my iniquity (v. 9) |
| NATRG _____ | _____ | in me a pure heart (v. 10) |
| LNSECAE _____ | _____ | a steadfast spirit within me (v. 10) |
| LBTO _____ | _____ | to me the joy of your salvation (v. 12) |
| WHTSA _____ | _____ | me a willing spirit, to sustain me (v. 12) |

Answer: blot, wash, cleanse, wash, hide, blot, create, renew, restore, grant

Washed Clean

Make customized jolly soaps to banish dirt and grime.



What you need:

- 1 package unflavored gelatin
- ½ cup very warm water
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ cup gel body wash
- Food coloring
- Rubbing alcohol in spray bottle
- Silicone baking molds

What you do:

1. In a bowl, stir gelatin and warm water until dissolved.
2. Add salt, body wash and a few drops of food coloring. Stir.
3. Spray molds with rubbing alcohol (to prevent bubbles). Place molds on a tray.
4. Pour mixture into the molds. Refrigerate until set, about two hours.
5. Pop soap out of molds and store in an airtight container.

Bible Quiz

All four Gospels tell of a woman anointing Jesus. Details vary; clearly, she isn't the same person in all accounts. In John, who is she?



- A. Jesus' mother, Mary
- B. Mary Magdalene
- C. Mary of Bethany (sister of Martha and Lazarus)
- D. None of the above

Answer: C (See Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; Luke 7:36-39; John 12:1-8)

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 George Herbert, hymnwriter First Day of Women's History Month 7:00 pm Miracles at Work	2 Ash Wednesday John Wesley & Charles Wesley, renewers of the church Noon Service @ POP 7:00 pm Service @ Trinity 7:30 pm Choir practice	3 2:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Thursday Nights Together (TNT)	4 7:00 pm A New Beginning	5
6 First Sunday in Lent	7 Perpetua and Felicity and companions, martyrs at Carthage	8	9 6:00 pm Simple Supper 7:00 pm Lent service 7:30 pm Choir practice	10 Harriet Tubman; Sojourner Truth, renewers of society 2:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	11 7:00 pm A New Beginning	12 Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome
10:30 am Sunday Worship	10-10:30 am Time for Prayer	7:00 pm Miracles at Work	6:00 pm Simple Supper 7:00 pm Lent service 7:30 pm Choir practice	2:00 pm Bible Study St. Patrick's Day	7:00 pm A New Beginning	19 Joseph, Guardian of Jesus 6:30 pm Saturday Evening Worship
13 Second Sunday in Lent	14	15	16	17 Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland	18	
Daylight Saving Time starts 10:30 am Sunday Worship 5:30 pm Confirmation Class	10-10:30 am Time for Prayer	7:00 pm Miracles at Work	6:00 pm Simple Supper 7:00 pm Lent service 7:30 pm Choir practice	2:00 pm Bible Study Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop of El Salvador, martyr	7:00 pm A New Beginning	26
20 Third Sunday in Lent	21 Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr	22 Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians	23	24	25 Annunciation of Our Lord	
10:30 am Sunday Worship	10-10:30 am Time for Prayer 7:00 pm Council meeting	7:00 pm Miracles at Work	6:00 pm Simple Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service 7:30 pm Choir practice	2:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	7:00 pm A New Beginning	
27 Fourth Sunday in Lent	28	29 Hans Nielsen Haug, renewer of the church	30	31 John Donne, poet		
10:30 am Sunday Worship	10-10:30 am Time for Prayer	7:00 pm Miracles at Work	6:00 pm Simple Supper 7:00 pm Lent Service 7:30 pm Choir practice			

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Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/poplattrobe

Sunday Worship is at 10:30 AM
Sunday School 9:15 AM

Our Mission Statement

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church is a loving family, forgiven by Jesus Christ, who through prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit are called to be actively living, learning, and growing in the Word of God and are being sent out to share the Gospel with our neighbors through our words and deeds.

We are a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod.

We serve the Greater Latrobe community as part of the Greater Latrobe Ministerial Association.