



PRINTS OF PEACE

Monthly Newsletter
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
802 East Douglas Street
St. Joseph, IL 61873
217.469.7422



Serving at Prince of Peace

Ministers:
All Members

Pastor:
+ Andrew Jones

High School Ministry Leader:
+ Chase Gilliland

Church Office:
+ Erin Smith, Secretary

Service Times
+ Saturday, 5:00 PM
+ Sunday, 9:00 AM

Sunday School
+All ages 10:15-11:00

**2024 Congregation
Officers:**
+ David Cluver, President
+ Chase Gilliland, Vice President
+ Sue Grindley, Secretary
+ Janice Koss, Treasurer

MISSION STATEMENT

***We are a family of
believers, united to
know Christ, and to
make him known.***



It is hard to believe that we are in the middle of Lent. If you haven't been with us on Wednesday evenings, I invite you to join us. Our journey of looking at the deadly sins in our lives and how Jesus frees us from those afflictions has been personally challenging yet also a benefit.

We are quickly moving toward the end of Lent and the observances of Holy Week. I think you will be blessed if you make time in your life during that week to take in our worship opportunities. We'll begin with the customary remembrance of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, March 24. Palms and songs will be a part of both worship gatherings that weekend, Saturday and Sunday.

Maundy Thursday will be March 28 at 7pm. We'll gather for our traditional observance of the Last Supper, sharing Holy Communion together and remembering how Jesus' disciples abandoned Him in the Garden of Gethsemane through the removal of the chancel furnishings.

Good Friday will include something new for us this year. The 4 Christian Churches of St Joe will join together in a Procession of the Cross. We will walk throughout our community on that afternoon, making public witness to the self-sacrifice of our Lord Jesus. As we travel between the 4 church buildings, we will hear the reading of scripture and the singing of hymns and songs. Golf Carts are planned for those who desire a respite from walking. Look for details in the coming weeks.

Good Friday Tenebrae worship will begin at 7pm. This powerful and moving Service of Shadows features scripture and hymns, confronting us with the reality of Jesus' death.

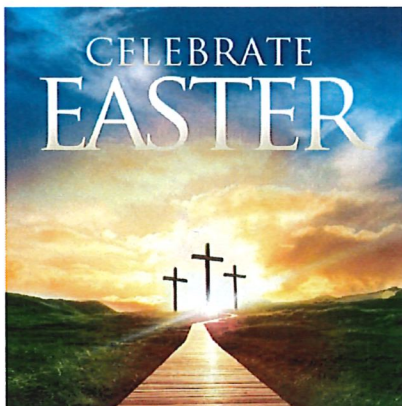
Our annual Easter Carnival will kick off Holy Saturday morning at 9am with an egg hunt on our beautiful exterior grounds. Families will then move inside the East Fellowship Hall for refreshments and games for the children.

An Easter Vigil Service will be hosted by First Lutheran in Paxton, beginning Holy Saturday evening at 7:15. This meaningful service traces the gift of God's grace throughout history through the reading of several Old Testament lessons. We'll move to remembering who we are in Jesus through the waters of Baptism, and conclude with Holy Communion. Don't miss it!

Easter Sunday Worship will gather at 2 different times, 7am and 9am. The sunrise service will be led once again by our high school youth. Our 9am festival worship will feature many of the Easter hymns that you know and enjoy.

March is a full month for us – full of grace and truth. I encourage you to make room in your heart for how Jesus might come to you in these days. May you have His blessing.

Pastor Andy



Fellowship Committee would like to invite you to Celebrate Easter at Prince of Peace with the following events:

**LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS 6:00 PM
BEFORE SERVICES AT 7:00 PM**

- February 21
- February 28
- March 6
- March 13
- March 20

**EASTER BREAKFAST AFTER 7:00 AM SUNRISE SERVICE
March 31, 7:45 – 8:45 AM**

(SOUP AND BREAKFAST SIGNUPS POSTED IN THE NARTHEX)



Easter Lilies

The worship committee is seeking donations for lilies in beautifying the sanctuary of our church at Easter time and to help defer cost to the church for them. We do not have a price for them at this printing, but we will let you know as soon as it becomes available to us. We would appreciate any amount being placed in an offering envelope and to please designate "LILY DONATION" that it will be noticed on the envelope. The Worship Committee Thanks You!



PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION OF PALMS: Saturday March 23rd at 5pm and Sunday March 24th at 9am

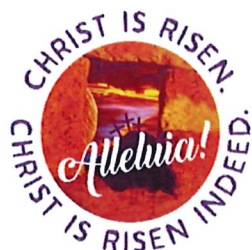
MAUNDY THURSDAY WITH HOLY COMMUNION: March 28th at 7pm

GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION OF THE CROSS: March 29th at 4pm, beginning at St. Joseph United Methodist Church

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE OF SHADOWS: Mar. 29th at 7pm

HOLY SATURDAY EASTER CARNIVAL: March 30th at 9am

EASTER VIGIL: March 30th at 7:15pm at First Lutheran Church, Paxton



Join us in celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ on Sunday March 31st at 7am for Easter Sunrise Worship, 7:45am for Easter breakfast, and 9am for Easter Festival Worship.



CONFIRMATION NEWS

Weekly confirmation classes are being replaced by weekly Lent services at 7:00pm. Regular confirmation classes will resume April 3 at 6:30pm. Please plan to attend the Lent services.



GOOD FRIDAY

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

The 4 Christian Churches of St Joe will join together in something new this year on Good Friday in a Procession of the Cross. We will walk throughout our community on that afternoon, making public witness to the self-sacrifice of our Lord Jesus. As we travel between the 4 church buildings, we will hear the reading of scripture and the singing of hymns and songs. Golf Carts are planned for those who desire a respite from walking. We will leave from the Methodist Church at 4pm and end at the Church of Christ about 5:30pm.



72 jars of each peanut butter and jelly are needed for Feed the Need. Donations are taken to the Methodist Church so the food boxes can be packed for distribution. We thank you for your generosity.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	5PM	9AM
January 27/28	29	123
February 3/4	78	138
February 10/11	39	89
February 17/18	24	85



Many of us in the family of faith here at Prince of Peace have events and happenings in our lives that we'd like for others to know about, but we don't know how to get the word out. This might be bridal showers, parties, life and health challenges, or the loss of loved ones. If you have something happening in your life that you want to share with others in the church, please contact the church office and we will add it to the next month's newsletter.



FIRST SUNDAY FUNDAY! - Be sure to join us on March 3 for the next First Sunday FUNday!! If you would be willing to lead a FUNday craft, please let Tammy Vallee know!

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - We still need a couple people willing to substitute teach when other teachers are not available. This is a great (and easy, low commitment) way to support this important ministry! Please consider volunteering to substitute when other teachers are sick or will be out of town! The lessons are preplanned and easy to follow--please ask Tammy Vallee, Amy Hager or Chase Gilliland if you have any questions!

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - If you are interested in helping with VBS this summer, please talk with Tammy Vallee.

POPS PLUS

POPS Plus will meet at 9:00am at Sweet Basil. If you would like to join us, a signup sheet is in the Narthex.

Pray and Play Fellowship



WHO: POP MEMBERS

WHEN: The second Thursday of each month

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: West Fellowship Hall
This is a gathering for those who would like to play board games or card games. Come join in the fun!



MEN'S GROUP

The Saturday morning Men's Group began a journey through the book of Romans on January 20. This study is being led by Pastor Andy, and explores the Biblical book that was central to Martin Luther's re-discovery of God's grace. All men are invited on Saturday mornings, beginning at 7am.

Landscape Committee

The Landscape Committee is looking for people to help with the landscaping at church. If you are interested, please contact Rick Ackerman at Rick.Ackerman01@gmail.co



We are in need of a person or family interested in decorating the large bulletin board in the ELC hallway seasonally. Your time and ideas are all you need as many materials are located in the west fellowship storage area. Please call Sherrill Mohr for details (369-5587).

Chili Cook-off Winner!!



Congratulations to Stephanie Gilliland for her first-place win at the Fat Tuesday Chili Cook-off! A big THANK YOU to all the participants and to everyone who helped before, during and after. We had 11 delicious entries, lots of laughs, and even ended the evening with a baby race. The winner of the baby race was Maddie Gilliland, daughter of Stephanie and Chase Gilliland. We're looking forward to next year's cook-off already, so start working on perfecting your recipes!

Volunteers are needed to deliver weekly meals each Monday for Meals on Wheels. The monthly sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



Volunteers are needed for Fellowship. If you would like to host a Fellowship Hour, there is a singup sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions, contact Stephanie Wingler.

ST. JUDE CARD PROJECT THANK YOU

Prince of Peace members certainly shared their Love in 2023. Members were very generous in providing many many fronts of cards for the St. Jude Project. The card project involves recycling your birthday, get well, sympathy, etc cards. Detach the fronts of each card, and place in the basket in the narthex table. The card fronts will be recycled into new cards. This is a funding project for the children of St. Jude's Ranch. This is a ranch for abused and neglected children. Your simple gesture of sharing your cards will go a long way lifting others. We will continue the project in 2024.





Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night March 9th, as Daylight Saving Time begins March 10th.

CHURCH COUNCIL

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL LIAISONS FOR 2024

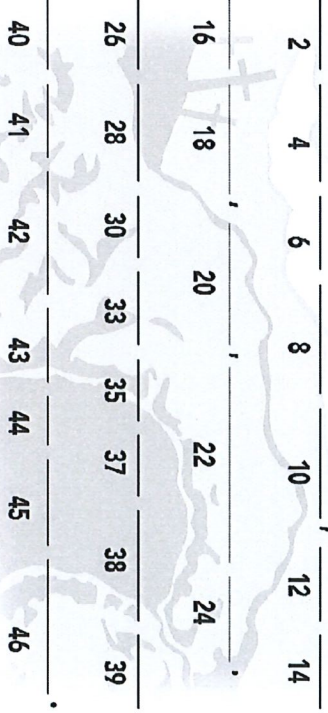
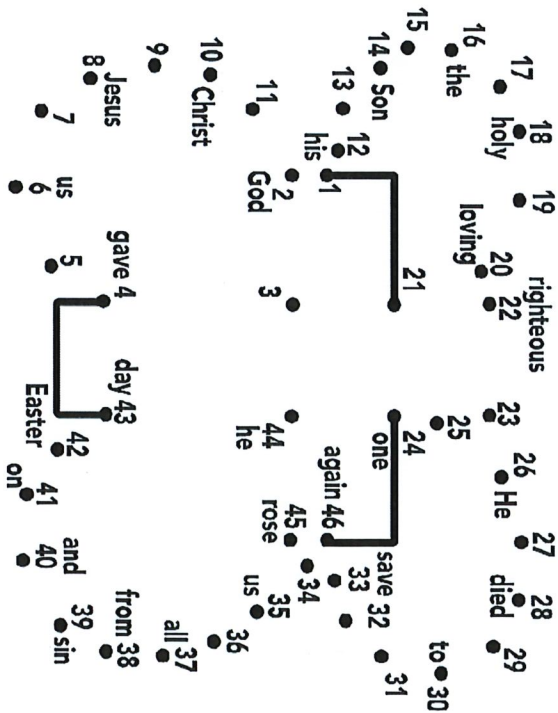
- David Cluver - President
- Chase Gilliland - Vice President and Education Committee
- Janice Koss - Treasurer and Stewardship Committee
- Sue Grindley - Secretary and Worship Committee
- Rick Ackerman - Property Committee
- Rob Benoit - Ministry and Resource Development Committee
- Stephanie Gilliland - Early Learning Center
- Vicky Hastings - Outreach Committee
- Sherrill Mohr - Fellowship Committee

GOOD CHURCH BUDGET NEWS

Our offerings for the month of January exceeded our budget for the month by \$3,060!
Thank you for your generous support of the work of the Gospel at Prince of Peace!

Puzzle!

Connect the dots to find two symbols of Easter. Then write the words in the correct blanks to complete an Easter poem.



Answer: God gave Jesus Christ, his Son, the holy, loving, righteous one. He died to save us all from sin, and on Easter day he rose again.

What's Been Happening in Early Learning?

We've been busy learning about shapes, circus, and dental health. Each classroom held a Valentine's Day party and parents were welcome to come. We would like to thank all of the families for being in goodie bags to share at the parties. The children defiantly had fun looking at their Valentine's for each other. Homer Lake came to visit the children age 3-5 years old, to talk about winter animals. The children were allowed to feel different animal furs and learned about how some animals hibernate for the winter.

The preschool children have been working hard this past month learning new Spanish colors, and numbers. The Green Frog children have been on working reading the "little books" and sending them home at the end of week.

It is hard to believe that Spring is right around the corner. The children will be playing outside more as the weather starts to warm.



School Wide Themes:

Shapes
Valentine's Day
Circus
Dental Health

Bible Verses:

Gen. 16:13
1 John 4:19
1 Tim. 1:15

Color & Shapes:

Anaranjado, Morado, Verde,
Amarillo
Sphere/Cube, Cone, &
Cylinder

The Indescribable Joy
of Giving

CHAPTER FIVE

THE WHY, HOW AND WHAT OF GIVING

MIKE JOHNSON

So often I have heard members of congregations ask, “How much should I give?” Luke 6:38 says, “... give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.” In my younger days I heard many a sermon telling me that if I wanted to be blessed then I should give lots of money to the preacher or church doing the asking. It was much like a barter system for the blessings of God. “God, I give to you, and you give back to me.” What was most often missing was a heart for Jesus. My thinking is this: If Jesus has our hearts, then would not giving flow naturally? Hopefully we give for all that God has given and done for us.

All we have comes from God. It would be foolish to think we created this wealth independently of God. I believe there is no such thing a self-made man or woman. There is only the person who refuses to recognize all that they have has come

from God’s blessings. Everything I have, everything I am and everything I ever will be all came from God and belongs to God. We give to God and to others only what God has already given us.

Through our congregations, we give a tithe or a percent of the income from what God has already blessed us with. Often, we are presented with opportunities outside the church to ease a burden or support someone who is in need. Recently, my wife and I and another couple from our church gave our favorite food server at a local restaurant a financial gift so he could apply for his real estate license. He wanted to pursue a different career path so he could more adequately support his family. He was totally shocked, and tears fell down his cheeks when he received our card with a prayer and financial gift. Who do you think received the greater gift — him or us?

Because God has so richly blessed us, do

LUKE 6:38

[Jesus said,] “... give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

1 CHRONICLES 29:12,14

[David said,] “Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.”

1 TIMOTHY 6:17,18

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share ...

PHILIPPIANS 4:19

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

we endeavor to hold onto the wealth and possessions (that He has blessed us with) with a loose grip? It's not ours. It's all His. He gives us the health, energy, discipline, brain power and favor with people to create the wealth we have and enjoy. First Timothy 6:17-18 explains this well: "As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share."

Three guiding principles of effective stewardship are to be humble, be grateful and be generous. One cannot go wrong if these are put into practice!

In the book *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, the late Stephen Covey shares examples of stimulus and response. Each day, we are presented with many opportunities that we often negotiate away. In those moments when we encounter an opportunity to give (the stimulus), there is a split-second negotiation in our minds: to give or not (the response)? Do I listen to that voice, which I believe to be the Holy Spirit's, or do I put forth dozens of excuses, and miss the opportunity to give? I am not saying to give without rational thought or evaluating the result of the gift. There is a balance of sound stewardship when responding to a need or opportunity. What I am saying is this: be wise, but do not let the analysis cause paralysis of acting.

Covey also contrasts scarcity thinking and abundance thinking. Scarcity says, "I only have so much. If I give away what I have then I'll have less and may never be able to make it up." Abundance thinking sees the world as limitless and full of possibilities, which are attributes of the God we serve. Philippians 4:19 says, "And my God will supply every need of yours according

to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Our God, who owns everything — can we not trust His love for us to meet our needs?

In the current age, fewer and fewer people have been taught about tithing. One reason might be that it was not modeled by our parents. Perhaps at the church you attend, the pastor rarely speaks about tithing. I think in the church there is a shroud over the topic of money because under that shroud is where our true self resides. We trust Jesus to save us, but often fail to trust Him with the money He gives us. Discussions about money in the church are often taboo. Why should anyone ever know how much I give? One parishioner in a previous church often stated how much he loved the church, yet when you saw the giving record, he likely only gave a percent or two of his income. If we say we love God, we will give!

When pastors began approaching Dave Ramsey asking how to get people to give more money, they usually wanted a special sermon or teaching. His answer was the same for all of them: Until people learn to have Christ's lordship of their money, they will never tithe or give more than 3%. What was his advice? People must learn to budget, control spending, and get out of debt! Without these in place, preaching about growing in giving will be of little effect. That led him to start Financial Peace Universities in churches across the country, and the results for the church has been remarkable. When we transform our money habits to what God wants for us, our relationship with Christ is transformed as well. When we grow in faith, the result will be growing in generosity. Consider attending or bringing a Financial Peace University to your church twice a year for the next three years, and watch what will happen. Perhaps the Holy Spirit is calling you into a deeper relationship with Him, one in which you more fully trust him with your money.

ENGAGE

1. Can you share an experience in which giving felt burdensome and had little joy?
2. Can you share an experience when giving brought you much joy?
3. What do you think was the difference in the two experiences?
4. When have you been presented with the opportunity to give and negotiated away the opportunity? What were you thinking and feeling?
5. Do you believe the statement "a growing faith results in growing generosity"?

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Molly Fenters
Kim Walden
Dea Taeger

Henry Fruhling
Jim LeRette

Mike Halbach
Paul Swinford

Abby Immke
Zona Meier

Parker Acton; family friend of Jamey & Katelynn Gilliland
Michael Adwell; uncle of Katelynn Gilliland
Cindy Blockovich; sister of June Kopmann
Anna Boulahanis; daughter of Wakefields
Carmen Brown; grandmother of Zack Wingler
Valerie Camp; daughter-in-law of Pat Camp
Jerry Cencula; uncle of Nichole Jones
Amy Dufelmeier; cousin of Franzens
Lonnie Fiscus; friend of community
Susan Fiscus
Caleb Franklin; friend of community
Tylor Fulk; friend of community
Pam Furrer
Gordon Gilly; friend of community
Duke Goodwin; friend of Gerald & Darlene Sappenfield
Bob Grona; father of June Kopmann

Brittany Harlan; friend of POP
Sally Lee; cousin of Becky Mills
Carol Low; friend of Sappenfields
Ann Ludwig; friend of Deb Melchior
Kile McKee; co-worker of Jodi Gilliland
Dean Meece; uncle of Katelynn Gilliland
Hannah Nirider; niece of Jennifer Nirider
Linda Rasmussen; mother of Tracy Wilson
Mildred Rincker; mother of Sharan Carmichael
Shirley Rothermel; mother of Susan Allen
Trinity Sabol; niece of Winglers
Wanda Shade; mother of Stephanie Wingler
Ken Turner; friend of Katelynn Gilliland
Nic Turner; co-worker of Jodi Gilliland
Betty Young; sister of Bev Goldenstein

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Matthew Collins	Friend of Dale and June Kopmann – Stationed in Colorado Springs, CO
Lane DeMay	Great nephew of Larry and Mernice Wakefield – Stationed in South Korea
Tyler Haake	Illinois Air National Guard
Jesus Olmedo	Nephew of Miguel Lucio – Marine, Las Vegas, Nevada
Mitchell Pittman	Friend of Pastor Andy and Joy Jones – Air National Guard – Ohio
Michael Scott	Friend of Swinford family – Stationed at AFB in Minot, ND
Dyllan Trautmann	Grandson of Gerald and Darlene Sappenfield – Stationed at Cannon AFB in Clovis, NM
Forrest Volz	Friend of Pastor Andy and Joy – Marines, Stationed in Hawaii



March

March 2/3 3rd Sunday of Lent

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 5:00 Lois Hewerdine
9:00 Todd Goetting

GREETERS: 9:00 **Open**

ACOLYTE: 9:00 Jebb Aden

LAY READERS: 5:00 Lois Hewerdine
9:00 Jamey Gilliland

ALTAR FLOWERS: **Open**

March 9/10 4th Sunday of Lent

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 5:00 Linda Green
9:00 Katelynn Gilliland

GREETERS: 9:00 Rick & Annette Ackerman

ACOLYTE: 9:00 Brady Blunier

LAY READERS: 5:00 Linda Green
9:00 Zack Wingler

ALTAR FLOWERS: **Open**

March 16/17 5th Sunday of Lent

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 5:00 Lois Hewerdine
9:00 Mark Howard

GREETERS: 9:00 Sandy Ferguson

ACOLYTE: 9:00 Jaxon Blunier

LAY READERS: 5:00 Lois Hewerdine
9:00 Mike Voges

ALTAR FLOWERS: Greg and Sandy Ferguson in memory of Charles Ferguson

March 23/24 Palm Sunday

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 5:00 Vicky Hastings
9:00 Dwayne Gilliland

GREETERS: 9:00 **Open**

ACOLYTE: 9:00 Greta Goldstein

LAY READERS: 5:00 Vicky Hastings
9:00 Carmine Dwyer

ALTAR FLOWERS: **Open**

March 28 Maundy Thursday

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 7:00 Jason Emmert
LAY READER: Janice Koss

March 29 Good Friday

LAY READER: 7:00 Jodi Gilliland

March 30 Easter Vigil

Sunset at First Lutheran Church, Paxton, IL

March 31 EASTER SUNDAY

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 7:00 High School Youth
9:00 Aaron Hager

GREETERS: 7:00 **Open**
9:00 **Open**

ACOLYTE: 9:00 Ashley Jannusch

LAY READERS: 7:00 High School Youth
9:00 Lori Stewart

ALTER FLOWERS: Tom & Sue Grindley in celebration of their granddaughter's 16th birthday, Emma McKinney

FEBRUARY USHERS

Saturday: **Open**

Sunday: Darren and Pam Franzen

CHURCH OFFERING COUNTERS

Darren Franzen

SACRISTANS (Communion Prep & Clean-up)

5:00 Lois Hewerdine

9:00 Larry & Mernice Wakefield

Maundy Thursday: Scott & Lori Stewart

Easter Sunrise & 9:00: Scott & Lori Stewart

Fellowship Servants:

March 3: Darren and Pam Franzen

March 10: **Open**

March 17: Larry & Mernice Wakefield

March 24: Joyce and Joy

March 31: **Open**

MEALS on WHEELS (Mondays) March:
3/11 & 3/25 Lois Hewerdine
3/4 & 3/18 Roger Koss





Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 25 2nd Sunday in Lent 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School & Fellowship 11:30 Alpha PB&J Due at Church	26 BILLS DUE IN OFFICE	27	28 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Lent Service	29 Feed the Need Distribution 6:30 Choir	March 1	2 7:00 Men's Study 5:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion
3 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15 Sunday School & Fellowship 11:30 Alpha	4 9:00-3:00 Quilts of Valor, West Hall	5	6 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Lent Service	7 1:30 Pray & Play, West Hall 6:30 Choir	8	9 7:00 Men's Study 5:00 Worship
10 4th Sunday in Lent 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School & Fellowship 11:30 Alpha Daylight Saving Time Begins!	11 BILLS DUE IN OFFICE 2:00 Ladies Outreach Card Signing	12	13 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Lent Service	14 6:30 Choir	15	16 7:00 Men's Study 5:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion
17 5th Sunday in Lent 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15 Sunday School & Fellowship 11:30 Alpha	18	19	20 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Lent Service	21 9:00 POP's PLUS at Sweet Basil 6:30 Choir	22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23 7:00 Men's Study PB&J Due at Church 5:00 Worship
24 Palm Sunday 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School & Fellowship 11:30 Alpha	25 BILLS DUE IN OFFICE	26	27	28 Maundy Thursday 6:30 Choir	29 GOOD FRIDAY 4:00 St Joseph United Methodist Church for Procession 7:00 Worship	30 9:00 Easter Carnival Easter Vigil 7:15 at First Lutheran Church, Paxton, IL
31 7:00 Sunrise Service w/ Holy Communion 7:45 Breakfast 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15 Sunday School & Fellowship	Easter Sunday					



PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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