



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

2025 Congregation

Officers:

+ David Cluver, President

+ Chase Gilliland, Vice President

+ Katelynn Gilliland, Secretary

+ Janice Koss, Treasurer

MISSION STATEMENT

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



The month of May marks the end of my seventh year of serving as your pastor. I arrived and began my service at Prince of Peace in June of 2019. During these years we have faced challenges together and celebrated joys together. We negotiated the trials of the Covid-19 pandemic, and have welcomed many into the Christian Faith. We have made hard choices to maintain our buildings and grounds, and invested in the faith lives of our members. And through it all, God has been faithful.

This July will mark 32 years of my serving in ordained ministry. In 1994, as I knelt before the Lord and received the laying-on of hands, I did not know where God would lead me in service. But God has been faithful. I served the first four years of my ministry as an Associate Pastor in a community in Wisconsin that is a little larger than St. Joseph. I served the next 4 years as the entire staff of a small church in northern Michigan – pastor, secretary, snow shoveler. Then God led me to spend 17 years as Associate Pastor in Ohio, where our children grew up, and one still has roots. Lastly, God brought me into this wonderful community to serve this wonderful church.

There have been many chapters of ministry in my life, including serving in Christian Camp ministry before I attended Seminary, and also serving in over-seas mission since 2009. And now, I sense that God is leading me into another chapter of ministry, that is called retirement.

In August I will reach full Social Security retirement age for a person born in 1959. I have informed the council that, when August arrives, I have made the decision to retire from active ministry and will resign from serving as your Pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, with August 16 being my last day of ministry in your midst.

Joy and I both thank you so much for welcoming us into your lives these 7 years. It is my prayer that God will continue to be faithful in the ministry of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, and bless your ministry for many years to come.

Pastor Andy



Join us at 10:15am each Sunday for Adult and Children's Sunday School classes! Children's classes are PreK-K, 1st-3rd, and 4th-8th.

The next First Sunday Funday is on May 3rd. Pam Franzen will be leading the craft, and the children will be making a Mother's Day gift.

The End of the Sunday School Year Bash is on Sunday, May 17 following worship. Hotdogs will be provided. If you would like to bring a side, please sign up in the Narthex.

If you would like to volunteer to lead a Sunday Funday craft, contact Chase Gilliland at 217-778-0892 or chase.gilliland1@gmail.com

COMMUNION



Holy Communion Schedule Adjustment

Holy Communion will be offered on Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31 instead of Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7.

SCHEDULE



PRAY FOR A CHILD IN MALAWI!!

This year's Malawi Mission team is asking for you to pray for a child in Malawi. The team will be taking small wooden crosses to Malawi with the names of those who are praying engraved into the wood. Each child will receive a cross, knowing that a person in North America is praying for them.

You might never know that child's name, but God will know who received the cross with your name. Please sign up in the Narthex. Deadline for sign up is May 17.



Thank you so much to everyone for supporting Feed the Need with your donations of peanut butter and jelly! The next distribution will be on Thursday, May 28 at 5:00pm at St. Joseph United Methodist Church.



ImpactLife is hosting a blood drive at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church on Tuesday, May 5 in the East Fellowship Hall from 3:30pm to 6:00pm. To schedule a time to donate, please visit the website below or scan the QR code.



https://login.bloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/143027



Congratulations to our 2026 Confirmands:

Camden Fisher

Waylon McKinney

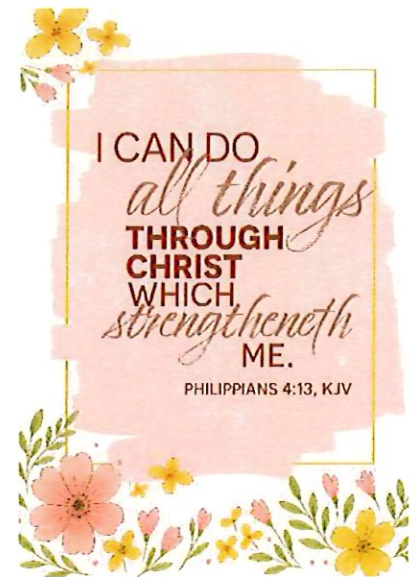
The Rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) will be on Sunday, May 3 during 9:00am Worship. Confirmation classes will resume in the fall.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	5PM	9AM
March 28/29	18	100
April 11/12	16	89
April 18/19	26	114
April 25/26	20	101

HOLY WEEK ATTENDANCE

	7PM
April 2 – Maundy Thursday	65
April 3 – Good Friday	76
April 5 – Easter Sunday	
7AM Sunrise Worship	48
9AM Festival Worship	218



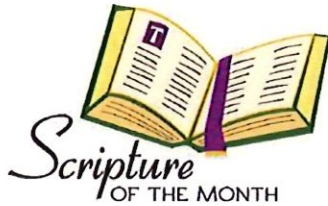


Church COUNCIL

Council highlights from the April meeting.

- Pastor Andy announced his retirement to Council. His final Sunday will be August 16, 2026.
- Zack Wingle motioned to approve the Rite of Confirmation for Camden Fisher and Waylon McKinney; Sandy second; All in favor so passes the motion.
- Janice would like to use up to \$500 from the Christian Education and Ministry account to use towards the Women's Conference on May 16th; Chase made the motion; Katelynn second; All in favor so passes the motion.

Full Council minutes are available every month to read in the Narthex.



May 3 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60; Ps 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 10 – 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31; Ps 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 14 – Ascension of Our Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47 or Ps 93; Eph 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

May 17 – 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14; Ps 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

May 24 – Day of Pentecost

Ps 104:24-34, 35b; Acts 2:1-4, 14-21; John 7:37-39

May 31 – The Holy Trinity

Gen 1:1-2:4a; Ps 8; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Matt 28:16-20

POPS PLUS

POPs Plus will meet for breakfast at Perkins Restaurant on Thursday, May 21 at 9:00am. If you would like to join us, please sign up in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Sappenfield at 217-417-1232.

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 Men's Group meets every Saturday morning at 7:00am. All men are invited to join us for a time of study and fellowship.



Bloom Where You're Planted Women's Gathering

Bring a friend and join us for breakfast,
inspiration, and blooming

Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church

May 16, 2026

9:00 - 11:00am

Sign-up in the
Narthex





Join us for the

Sunday School
END OF THE YEAR

BASH

MAY 17, 2026
FOLLOWING CHURCH

Hot dogs will be provided.

Please bring a side dish to share!



All ages are encouraged to attend!



MAY NEWSLETTER

BIBLE VERSES OF THE MONTH:
MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

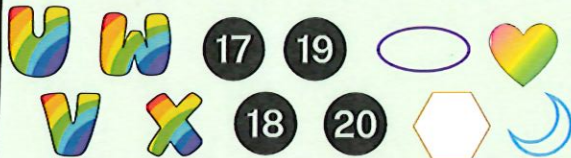
2026

MAY 2026

WEEKLY THEMES

- W1: Mother's Day
- W2: Caterpillars/Butterflies
- W3: Sea Life
- W4: Picnic/Summer

LETTERS, NUMBERS, COLORS & SHAPES OF THE MONTH



IMPORTANT DATES

- **May 4-8:** Teacher Appreciation Week
- **May 8:** Pre-K Promotion at 3:30 PM
- **May 10:** Mother's Day
- **May 25:** Memorial Day. **Center Closed**

SUMMER

Summer is right around the corner, and we're excited for a season full of fun and outdoor learning! Our summer session officially begins on **June 1**. For families not enrolled through the summer, the last day of attendance will be **May 29**.

As we prepare for summer, our Lemon Tree in the church will soon begin to "bear fruit" again with summertime wishes and needs. We are so grateful for the support of our church family and invite you to keep an eye out for new opportunities to help us continue blessing our classrooms.

We're looking forward to a joyful and active summer with our students!

MAY SHOUT OUTS

THANK YOU
TEACHERS
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

During Teacher Appreciation Week, we celebrate our wonderful teachers who care for and guide our children each day. We are very grateful for the love and support they show to every child and family at POPCELC.

We invite our church and ELC families to join us in showing appreciation, whether through a kind note, a small gesture, or a heartfelt "thank you". These moments of gratitude mean so much and remind our teachers just how valued they are. Thank you for helping us celebrate the amazing individuals who make our center such a special place!

HAPPY
Mother's Day

This month, we also get to celebrate the incredible moms and mother figures in our children's lives. Thank you for the love, guidance, and support you pour into your families each day! We are so grateful to partner with you in your child's journey. Wishing you a joyful and love-filled Mother's Day!

PRE-K PROMOTION

We are excited to celebrate our Pre-K students as they reach an important milestone! **Pre-K Promotion will take place on May 8 at 3:30 PM.** We look forward to honoring all they have learned and accomplished! As they prepare for kindergarten, we pray they continue to grow in confidence, curiosity, and faith.



Follow POPCELC and
join the PIO page
on Facebook!



Gayle Bartell
Mardella Jannusch
David Swinford

Lyn DeWeese
Dale Kopmann
Paul Swinford

Molly Fenters
Brad Mohr
Carol Wubker

Mike Halbach
Jeff Mohr

Anna Boulahanis; daughter of Wakefield's
Ashley Brackin; sister of Erin Smith
Kim Brooks-Allen; friend of POP
Tim Brooks; friend of POP
Carmen Brown; grandmother of Zack Wingler
Dustin Buford; friend of Greg & Becky Mills
Tammy Croe; cook at POP Early Learning Center
Patrick Donovan; son of friend of Carmine Dwyer
Kay Fiscus; neighbor of Kenny & Donna Weaver
Susan Fiscus; friend of community
Caleb Franklin; friend of community
Pam Furrer; friend of community
Beth Givan; cousin of Vicky Hastings
Duke Goodwin; friend of Gerald & Darlene Sappenfield
Bobbi Grigsby; daughter of Terri Modd
Wendy Grunwald; mother of Ryan Munsterman
Brittany Harlan; friend of POP
Seth Hatchel; cousin of the Winglers
Sally Lee; cousin of Becky Mills
Jesus & Elena Lucio; parents of Miguel Lucio
Ann Ludwig; friend of POP

Sandy Maury; friend of POP
Mike Mennenga; nephew of Mernice Wakefield
Morris Mennega; brother of Mernice Wakefield
Chris Miezio; friend of POP
Jennifer Mitchaner; friend of Carmine Dwyer
Sharon Mowry; friend of POP
Jesus Olmedo; nephew of Miguel Lucio
Michelle Orvis; friend of Terri Modd
Amy Parry; niece of Terri Modd
Bryan Perkins; brother of Erin Smith
Sue Phillips; friend of POP
Linda Rasmussen; mother of Tracy Wilson
Vicki Ray; friend of Jamey & Katelynn Gilliland
Courtney Reynolds; sister of Katelynn Gilliland
Mike Romine; friend of Lowell & Micki Suits
Shirley Rothermel; mother of Susan Allen
Kayla Sabin; daughter of Stephanie Wingler
Mitch & Marla Schoolcraft; friend of Grindleys
Larry Sparks; friend of the community
Chad Walker; family friend of Goldensteins
Joe Young; son of cousin of Micki Suits

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Evan Buch Nephew of Todd and Cindy Goetting
Matthew Collins Friend of Dale and June Kopmann – Stationed in Middle East
Lane DeMay Great nephew of Larry and Mernice Wakefield – Stationed in Decatur, IL
Tyler Haake Illinois Air National Guard
Dyllan Trautmann Grandson of Gerald and Darlene Sappenfield – Stationed at AFB in Eielson, AK
Forrest Volz Friend of Pastor Andy and Joy – Marines, Stationed in Colorado



USHERS
OPEN

CHURCH OFFERING COUNTERS

Joy Jones
Larry Wakefield

May 2/3 **5th Sunday of Easter**

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 5:00 Lois Hewerdine
9:00 Jason Emmert

GREETERS: 9:00 Mike & Tami Voges

LAY READERS: 5:00 Lois Hewerdine
9:00 Lori Stewart

ALTAR FLOWERS:

SACRISTANS (Communion Prep & Clean-up)

5:00pm

Lois Hewerdine

9:00am

May 3 & 17: Melinda Pratt

May 31: Sandy Ferguson

May 9/10 **6th Sunday of Easter**

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 5:00 Linda Green
9:00 Todd Goetting

GREETERS: 9:00 OPEN

LAY READERS: 5:00 Linda Green
9:00 Carmine Dwyer

ALTAR FLOWERS: Gordon & Linda Green in celebration of Brian & Cheri's 32nd anniversary and Bryson & Nicole's 4th anniversary

Fellowship Servants

May 3: Scott & Lori Stewart

May 10: Darren & Pam Franzen

May 17: Rob & Mary Benoit

May 24: Mike & Tami Voges

May 31: Mark & Kim Howard

May 16/17 **7th Sunday of Easter**

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 5:00 Lois Hewerdine
9:00 Dwayne Gilliland

GREETERS: 9:00 OPEN

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

ALTAR FLOWERS: Gary & Sandy Ferguson in celebration of their granddaughter Maddison's graduation; Shannon & Darci Wilson in celebration of their 24th anniversary

MEALS on WHEELS (MONDAYS)
OPEN

May 23/24 **Pentecost**

ASSISTING MINISTERS: 5:00 Linda Green
9:00 Aaron Hager

GREETERS: 9:00 OPEN

LAY READERS: 5:00 Linda Green
9:00 Katelynn Gilliland

ALTAR FLOWERS: Ann Hill in celebration of her birthday; Gary & Sandy Ferguson in memory of Kenneth Rhodes

May 30/31 **The Holy Trinity**

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

GREETERS: 9:00 Sandy Ferguson

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







ALTAR FLOWERS: Tom & Sue Grindley in celebration of their grandson Brandon's 16th birthday





MAY

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 3 5 th Sunday in Easter 9:00am Worship w/ Holy Communion Rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) 10:15am Sunday School & Fellowship 	4 9:00am Quilts of Valor 5:00pm Fellowship	5 3:30 Blood Drive, East Hall 5:30pm Christian Education	6 6:30pm YGG	7 National Day of Prayer 	1	2 5:00pm Worship w/ Holy Communion 7:00am Men's Study
10 6 th Sunday in Easter 9:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School & Fellowship Pastor Andy at Zion Lutheran, Philo 	11 BILLS DUE IN OFFICE 2:00pm Ladies Outreach	12 5:30pm Christian Education	13 6:30pm YGG	14 Ascension of the Lord  1:30pm Pray & Play, West Hall	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 5:00pm Worship 7:00am Men's Group 9:00-11:00am Women's Gathering, East Fellowship Hall 5:00pm Worship w/ Holy Communion
17 7 th Sunday in Easter 9:00am Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15am End of Sunday School Year Bash	18	19 6:00pm ELC Board	20 6:30pm YGG	21 9:00 POP's Plus, Perkins Restaurant	22 BILLS DUE IN OFFICE	23 No Men's Study 5:00pm Althoff, East Fellowship Hall 5:00pm Worship
24 9:00am Worship 10:15am Fellowship Pastor Andy at Zion Lutheran, Philo 	25 Memorial DAY OFFICE CLOSED	26 6:30pm Council 6:30pm Parents' Support Group 7:00pm Stewardship	27 6:30pm YGG	28 5:00pm Feed the Need @ Living Word	29	30 7:00am Men's Study All Day, Stephanie Gilliland, East Hall 5:00pm Worship w/ Holy Communion
31 Trinity Sunday 9:00am Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15am Fellowship 	June 1 9:00am Quilts of Valor Malawi Mission Trip June 1 - 16 5:00pm Fellowship	2 5:30pm Christian Education	3 6:30pm YGG	4	5	6 7:00am Men's Study 5:00pm Worship



PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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