



Prince of Peace News

APRIL 2026

Come...Be A Part of Peace!



2600 ATLANTIC AVENUE, FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA 32034

OFFICE HOURS 9AM-4PM MONDAY-FRIDAY

904-261-6306 WWW.POPLCWEB.COM

Pastor's Reflections for April 2026



Grace and Peace to you from Christ our Lord and from all your sisters and brothers here and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. We have enjoyed a fantastic Holy Week headed into the Easter Season. I want to thank everyone for the help with getting all the various parts of the services, property, playground, and communication ready for a beautiful Holy Week. We are a great team that reaches out in the Love of God to this community and beyond. If you know anyone who is looking to join in to helping the congregation we are looking for extra volunteers to help with Vacation Bible School this year. Please be looking for the volunteer meeting early this April.

We are excited to enter the Easter Season wondering, where is Jesus? He is not in the tomb, the grave is empty, and death has lost its victory. In great joy we look to find where the risen savior may turn up. On the road among travelers to Emaus, in locked rooms with fearful disciples, on beach shores greeting the weary and hungry with food. The risen Lord is where we least expect, already leading they way to where we will follow, into the world full of people whom God loves. How do we respond to the risen Lord and endeavor to follow where he leads us; so that we can share in a death like his to ultimately share in his resurrection promise. This is our Easter theme for this year's season, "Where is Jesus?". Through the coming weeks I hope that you will continue to ask yourselves, where is Jesus? In our daily living, where is Jesus? In our reaching out with the love of God, where is Jesus? In our interaction with the community, where is Jesus? In our seeking God, where is Jesus? We are his disciples and we are to be those who follow his path, it only makes sense that we should ask ourselves if we see the face of the risen savior is the eyes of everyone we meet. This challenges us to see the Jesus in the poor and the rich, in the healthy and the sick, the powerful and the weak, in our friends and our enemies, in the free and the captive. For Jesus reminds his disciples in the Gospel of Matthew 25:40, that what you do for the least of these you have done for him. Let us strive to love God by asking, where is Jesus? in the needs and hopes of the people around us.

God Loves you, and so do I;

Pastor Ben

COUNCIL PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello Prince of Peace members,

I am looking forward to the POP Easter Sunrise Service at 6:45AM on Main Beach. We used to have the sunrise service on the Fort Clinch ramparts in the 2010's until Covid hit.

We continue to have strong Sunday service attendance and a steady stream of people being formally admitted as members of POP. This accelerated once Pastor Ben became pastor in the summer of 2024. Since it normally takes some time for new members to become acclimated to the church and determine where they fit in, we are now seeing that acceleration impacting many of our groups positively.

Our committees are going through the annual SWOT process (Strengths / Weaknesses / Opportunities / Threats) to guide our work in 2026.

Les Boette

POP Mission

“To bring the love of Jesus through welcoming, caring, and growing church engaged in inspirational Worship spirited Christian Education, serving our local and global community guided by the Holy Spirit”



Worship Assistants Schedule

<u>Role</u>	5th- Easter Sunday	12th- Sunday After Easter	19th- Sunday After Easter	26th- Sunday After Easter
Assisting Minister	John Harris	Lill Ekwall	Tanya Adin	Richard Figueroa
Scripture Reader	Bill Goldwire	Ken Bryson	Josh Collins	Judi Langholz
Ushers	Ed Marotz Ted Richardson	Dennis Purdy Josh Collins	Richard Figueroa John Harris	Gene Kilcawley George Pester
Greeter	Ken Bryson	Sam Serrian	B.J. Taylor	Scott & Wyatt Chicco
Altar/ Lay Assistant	Karen Blair Eileen Klein / Jeanette Chaffee Eileen Klein	Cyndi Zenker	Cyndi Zenker	Donna Cormier / Jeanette Chaffee
Tellers	Barbara Ehrenberg Whitney Chicco	Susan Foutz B.J. Taylor	Eileen Klein Linda Pesante	Patti Marotz Gene Kilcawley



Thanks for
Worshiping With Us



OUR VISION

To bring the love of Jesus through a welcoming, caring, and growing church engaged in inspirational Worship, spirited Christian Education, serving our local and global Community guided by the Holy Spirit.

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm	2— <i>MAUNDY THURSDAY</i> Celebration of the Lord's Supper 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall	3— <i>GOOD FRIDAY</i> Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am Good Friday Worship 7:00 pm	4 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
5— <i>EASTER SUNDAY</i> Easter Sunrise Service at Main Beach 6:45 am Easter Breakfast 8:30 am Easter Egg Hunt 9:00 am Easter Worship 10:00 am	6 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm IDN at Hope House	7	8 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm	9 Ladies Group Meeting 10:30 am	10 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	11 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
12 <i>BIRTHDAY SUNDAY</i> Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship ALL COMMITTEE MEETING —AFTER WORSHIP	13 Men's Property Group 9:00 am Executive Committee Meeting 10:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm	14 Prayer Shawl Group 1:00 pm	15 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm	16	17 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	18 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
19 Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	20 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm Church Council Meeting 6:00 pm	21 <i>Newsletter Articles Deadline</i>	22 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm	23	24 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	25 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
26 Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	27 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm	28	29 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm	30		

ECUMENICAL MID-WEEK LENT WORSHIP

The Ministry Alliance of Fernandina Beach is hosting Ecumenical Mid-Week Lenten Worship for 2026. Prince of Peace will be participating again this year with Pr. Ben co-leading and guest preaching. We had a great community turnout last year for these services and hope to have another great time this year. The theme for the ecumenical services this year is “Drawing Near: Deepening our Life Together.” The last of the mid-week services will start at noon and last about 30 minutes. Please come show your support for ecumenical ministry and deepen our life together.

⇒ Wednesday, 4/1/26 Trinity Address: 715 Ash St.— Preaching: MTR Rachel McElwee



Upcoming Events

LADIES GROUP

The Potter's Daughters

Date: 9 April

Change of date scheduled due to Holy Week.

We will meet at Tortuga Jack's, above Slider's on the beach, at 10:30 for breakfast together, then enjoy a beach walk and share fellowship whilst staying active. There is an elevator inside to come up or the stairs outside.

Come to enjoy our lovely beach and each other as God so loves us.

Bring a friend to relish our time together



The Potter's Daughters

Breakfast & Beach Walk

Join us for a delightful morning gathering filled with fun, food, and friendship!



April 9, 2026 10:30AM
Tortuga Jacks (above Sliders)
1998 South Fletcher Ave., Amelia Island, FL



EVENTS

Maundy Thursday

*Join us for a sacred evening of reflection and communion
as we remember the Last Supper
and Christ's commandment to love one another.*



April 2 - 6pm in Fellowship Hall

Good Friday

7PM Worship Service

April 3

Over 2000 years ago,
God's plan of redemption altered the world!

The power of sin and death was broken through the crucifixion.
Join us in Worship on Good Friday and renew our lives and
purpose through Jesus' sacrifice for us.



EVENT






Ministry Alliance of Fernandina Beach

Sunrise Easter Worship

APRIL 5 • 6:45AM
MAIN BEACH
32 North Fletcher Ave, Amelia Island, FL

The poster features a wooden cross on a sandy beach at sunrise, with waves in the background and flowers draped over the cross.

**SUNRISE EASTER WORSHIP
at Main Beach**

-  Join us for a Sunrise Worship Service as we rejoice in the glory of our risen Lord.
-  Bring a beach chair, your family, and a heart full of praise as we celebrate the new life and hope in Christ.
-  Come together in faith and fellowship as the sun rises over the water — a beautiful reminder of God’s promise and love made new.



HE IS RISEN!

Join Us
Easter Sunday - April 5
Breakfast-8:30 am Egg Hunt-9:00 am
Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 am

 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
2600 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach, FL

The poster features a red cross on a rocky hillside, viewed through the opening of a cave with sunlight streaming in from behind it.

FLORAL & BULLETIN SPONSORS

Celebrate your special occasion or honor a beloved individual when you sponsor Altar Flowers and our Bulletin

The Flower Chart is located outside the Church's office to confirm the date you wish to sponsor. If you prefer, you can call our church office or visit Terry Smith during the week to initiate your sponsorship. The cost of sponsorship is **\$35** and can be placed in offertory plates.



Thanks to April Sponsors

5th: EASTER SUNDAY—Easter Lillies & Living Cross

12th: Open

19th: Kurt & Lisa Poling—Glory of God

26th: Linda Gerber—In memory of Parents Esther & Lester Reimer





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Serena Stommel-2nd**
- Mark Foutz-4th**
- Bryce Cubbal-8th**
- Alice Hansberry-14th**
- Clay Chaffee-16th**
- Jackson Collins-18th**
- Brett Higginbotham-19th**
- Nadine Smith-29th**
- Susan Farmer-30th**



- Bryan & Rachel Steele-1st**
- Tom & Marsha Woleshin-4th**
- Rich & Lill Ekwall-11th**
- Jack & Carolyn Krause-11th**
- Dan & Sheila Keister-13th**
- Chris & Lauren Buman-17th**
- Charles & Sherry Vaughn-28**



BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

All are invited to join the congregation in celebrating April's Birthdays with us **Sunday, April 12th** with cup cakes and snacks in the fellowship hall after worship. We are looking to celebrate monthly birthdays in the congregation at the beginning of each month. The Light Keepers (youth group) will be taking the lead on hosting these events. If your interested in helping or being part of the celebration please reach out to the church office.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Join Us This Holy Season at Prince of Peace!

Come and bring your family, invite your friends and neighbors to share in the faith, fellowship, and the joy of this special time of year.

Invitations are being sent to 1,500 members, visitors, and new neighbors in our community. Banners will welcome people throughout the area, and door hangers will be placed with care—each one an open invitation to experience the warmth and love of our church family.

Bring your family and everyone you know to reflect and rejoice during Lenten midweek worship services, Maundy Thursday & Good Friday worship, and the glorious celebration of our Risen Lord on Easter Sunday!

Come... Be A Part of Peace!

George Pester, Evangelism Team



Calling all Members!

Do you have a few hours to share your ideas and enthusiasm for spreading God's love? Join our newest team member, Ben Henderson, and become part of the Evangelism Team.

We meet to share ideas and develop plans that encourage our neighbors to join with us and experience the joy of learning, fellowship, and worship within our church community. Come and be part of this exciting ministry and help us grow our church together in faith, fellowship and outreach!

To join the team, contact George Pester at 215-962-0820, send him an email at gester1@comcast.net, or call the church office at 904-261-6306 to get involved.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT



Spring is here! It's my favorite time of year, filled with sunshine, warmth, hope, new life, and coloring Easter eggs of course!!

Our **April mission** will be another beach clean up for Earth Day on Saturday, April 25th at American Beach Community Center. We will meet at 10:00 am with Mr. David Herbert from Nassau County Extension for an enjoyable and informative beach clean up to restore the dunes. Suggested items to bring along are gloves, sunscreen, hat, and bags. Come with your family, bring a friend, and enjoy helping our beautiful island!

The **April** Interfaith Dinner Network (IDN) dinner will be 3:30 on Monday, April 6th at Hope House, 410 So. 9th St.

Our **March mission** was Kairos Prison Ministry. We are collecting new and gently used men's clothing, shoes and other wardrobe items. "Smart casual" tops, pants, sweaters, suits, etc. will help newly released inmates re-enter society, apply, and interview for jobs. Shoes and underwear must be new. I will coordinate a date and time with Carol Pitts from Chandler's Hope Clothes Closet to drop off donations the first of April. They will deliver them to the prison for inmates. Chandler's Hope Clothes Closet is a 501- c- 3 charity with tax # 33-4341172. A big thank you for helping give these men a new beginning and bright future!

The **February mission** was Fernandina Beach Middle School. We provided over 500 food items for Middle School students and their families to have during Spring Break in March! Many families rely on school food for their children. This will help them feed their families when school food is not available. I delivered the donated items to Mrs. Worley at the Middle School on Friday March 6th. They will be given to students before Spring Break starts. Thank you to all who helped feed these families, and to Mrs. Worley and her students for unloading boxes!

Future Events

Flowers will again be provided in **May** for our Prince of Peace ladies, MICAH mothers, and the Fernandina Beach Rehabilitation Center in honor of Mother's Day.

May and June missions are being planned.

July mission will again be Thank You cards for veterans. Thank you to Robin Howell for her help with this!

An additional **Summer mission** will be the distribution of Beach Safety fliers.

Sue A.B. Hildebrand

Have a joyful Easter filled with the enduring love of Jesus and springtime blessings!!

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Communications ministry helps Prince of Peace members and friends informed and involved.

Check our website at www.poplcweb.com. It has updated information about our ministry activities and events. Stream worship service when unable to attend on Sunday's by clicking the link on our home page.

Join our followers on Facebook. The POP Facebook page is regularly updated. Please Share & Like posts to further our ministry - www.facebook.com/POPLC2. and remember to please take photos and send them to George Pester (gpester1@comcast.net) for additions to our church's Facebook pages when you attend an event.

Two press releases were sent to the News Leader for publication. One publicizes the Wednesday suppers and worship. during Lent. The other publicizes a talk by Ben Henderson on artificial intelligence, preceded by a pizza party.

Let us share all the good news and happenings at Prince of Peace!

Linda Pesante



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

This April 2026, at least, means “fellowship.” The month starts out with the major fellowship activities of the Christian calendar: EASTER, and all it encompasses. Your fellowship team will be intimately involved to make the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord an honor worthy of Him. We start with the seder “dinner” on Maundy Thursday, April 2. We then convert the fellowship hall for an Easterday mealtime, again worthy of Him. We all are looking forward to celebration- of each other, and of our sacrificial Lord and Savior. Easter is THE DAY! It is the reason this team, the other teams and all of us gather in communion to proclaim the Gospel news. When we finally come down off this spiritual high, we, the team, and all who come along, even those from other houses of worship in the area, will gather recognizing that one of our obligations is stewardship of His creation. So, in honor of Earth Week at the end of April, we will gather to clean up part of our island. The fellowship team is small but persistent. We would welcome any who have an interest in planning other activities for all of us to enjoy each other's company in shared experiences. Come, be a part of Peace!

Bill Hansberry



IT COMMITTEE REPORT

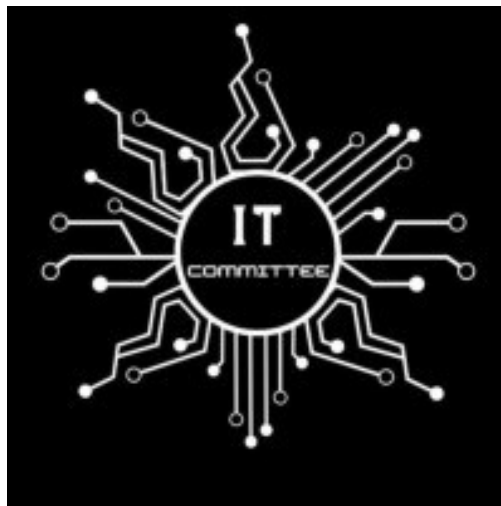
Committee Members: Les Boette, Brenda Ronson, Brett Higginbotham, Robin Phillips

A lot of progress this month.

Here are the highlights:

1. Terry's Microsoft OneDrive syncing issue has been resolved by uninstalling and reinstalling the app.
2. The plan for discontinuing use of Microsoft Publisher with a new system has been proposed. We will continue to use Canva for developing graphics for our published documents. We will develop Microsoft Word templates for the documents such as the monthly POP News and the weekly Announcements & Events for Our Congregation. After Easter the team will work on this migration with Terry.
3. The Microsoft Office365 / OneDrive subscriptions for POP have been renewed.
4. The office copiers communication issues with Terry's and Pastor's computers have been resolved after many weeks. It was a password issue.
5. We are working to provide improved Sunday Service spoken word sound to a POP member via assisted listening systems.

Les Boette



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS FOR APRIL!!

Just a reminder that Prince of Peace has Sunday School for every age bracket at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Adult Bible Study class is currently looking at Paul's letters to the Thessalonians.

RAINFOREST FALLS COMING TO PRINCE OF PEACE, JUNE 22nd to JUNE 26th. PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATE!

Mark your calendars for the above dates as we turn the Prince of Peace sanctuary into the Amazon rainforest. This year's Vacation Bible School program is Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God. Be with us as we turn the Church into a lush world of vibrant flora and fauna, misty waterfalls, and hanging vines. As usual we will have a host of forest creatures helping us engage our children in the nature of God, both in creation and in scripture.

VBS will start at 5:30 p.m. with dinner and will end at 8:30 p.m. Rainforest Falls will be directed by Shelly Whitesel and the Lightkeepers. Watch the Sunday bulletin and the POP website for more details!

EASTER EGG HUNT ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5th AT 9 A.M., IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL EASTER BREAKFAST!

Get ready for an exciting Easter egg hunt at 9 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 5th. The Lightkeepers will be busy hiding eggs in our new playground. As always, this will be a fun event with some surprises no doubt from Pastor Ben!

John Harris



CHURCH NEEDS

Our church is in need of
Counters. Training will be
provided.

Please contact
Barbara Ehrenberg or the
church office if you are
interested in helping.

Thank You!

A photograph of five men of various ages standing in front of a modern church building with a large cross on the roof. The men are dressed in light-colored shirts. The background shows a well-maintained lawn and trees under a blue sky with some clouds.

Brother, can you spare some time?
Join in the fun with our Men's Property Group
The Nehemiah Bunch

**Help keep the church grounds beautiful and welcoming for everyone.
"The Nehemiah Bunch" meets every Monday for a few hours to work
together in fellowship and care for our church property.
Your helping hands make an enormous difference!**

For more information or to get involved, see John Mandrick or call the Church Office.



Prince of Peace Earth Day Mission

In Cooperation with Nassau County Extension
Keep Nassau Beautiful

Join us at
BEACH & DUNE CLEAN-UP
Help rid our dunes of invasive weeds!

No Experience needed!
Just your help and efforts to fill bags with invasive weeds, combine the waste, weigh it and dispose of it to restore the beauty of our dunes.



Bring -

- A pair of work Gloves
- Sunscreen and a Hat
- Plastic grocery store bags
- A willingness to make a difference



Come and help!
Saturday - April 25 - 10am
American Beach Center, 1600 Julia St. Fernandina Beach

INTERFAITH DINNER NETWORK

at The Salvation Army's Hope House

Monday, April 6th



*Serving our
neighbors in need*



IN NEED OF PRAYER

We give thanks to you, O Lord, for all the prayers you have heard and answered and the peace you have given, through the power of the Holy Spirit.



Fernandina Rehab

Barry Moore

Jacksonville Rehab

Clay Chaffee

Hospital

Edna Swithers

At Home

Michele Pester/ Ted & Rosalie Wessel / Dawn Price / Darrell Heun / Claudia Kavan / Nick Ivanovic / Diane Demeranville / Alice Hansberry / Bill Mungo / Yvonne Bowman / Glenn Beyer / Dana Sargent / George Pester / Rita Tiench / Bill Goldwire / Gary Dildine / Edna Swithers / Karen Blair / Linda Venditti / Blake Carter / Mike Johnson / Marsha Woleshin /

Military

-Lt. Commander Tim Cassel, Coast Guard, WMEC Spencer Ship, Ft. Smith, VA (grandson of Glen & Norma Beyer)

-Reid Stribling, US Navy (grandson of Gene & Victoria Kilcawley)

-Lt. Col. Eric Venditti, Army (son of Linda Venditti)



Keeping Our Prayer List Up-to-Date ...

God's blessings to those who are no longer in acute need of prayer. Please let us know when a person no longer wishes to be included. Call the church office for those in need and they will be added so we can lift up a prayer for them.



Call our Church Office When...

You become Hospitalized, are Sick or Shut in. Have a spiritual question or need prayer. Moving, getting married encountering any other life changes or need information about events.

904-261-6306

POP VISITATION CARE TEAM PROGRAM



A need was recognized for an organized approach to visiting members of our congregation who are not able to attend church.

The visitation team visits and offers communion as desired to church members. The team is also developing additional methods to enhance our visitation outreach.

Any member of the church is in need or who knows a church member who would benefit from a visit (s) please contact the church office at poplc.office@gmail.com or call 904-261-6306.

Calling all crafters!

Do you crochet, bead, macrame, quilt, sew, knit, embroidery, cross-stitch? — do you make items that could be used to welcome a new family, for a baby baptism, a new home owner with Habitat for Humanity, or cheer a church member?



We would love for you to join us at Prayer Shawl Group on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. We meet in the Narthex.



The Potters Daughters ladies group have restocked a very needy first aid kit. Hopefully you will find what you need for your minor emergencies. It is on top of the freezer in the kitchen.

REMOTE WORSHIP

UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP IN PERSON?

VIEW OUR WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY'S AT 10:00 AM on Facebook Live.

Click the below button on Sundays to enter our livestream worship experience.



NOTE: You do not need to have a Facebook account to access the live and recorded services. If you have any issues please call the church office or Pastor Ben.

Our Mission

*To strengthen our faith in Jesus
through worship and fellowship;
to be the face of Christ for others*

POP WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Wondering what is Happening?

Don't miss all the great things happening at Prince of Peace on our website and Facebook. The sites are regularly updated with the latest events and activities.

Check our website by clicking www.poplcweb.com. The site can help you access a streamed Worship service, make a prayer request, contact a staff member or council member, make a financial gift, read our newsletter, read weekly scriptures and much more.

Click www.facebook.com/POPLC2/ to view our Facebook page. The page contains posts about events and activities, photos of activities and information about our ministry . Check it out, be informed, and enjoy the information!

Handy Links

Barnabas Center

Helps neighbors in crisis (neighbors face unexpected illness, unemployment, fire, or a change in living status, with nowhere to turn), Food Pantry, and Health. www.barnabasnassau.org

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States. www.elca.org

Florida-Bahamas Synod www.fbsynod.com

Interfaith Dinner Network—IDN

IDN's mission is to feed the homeless, hungry, and lonely. www.idnweb.net

Luther Springs

Camp and Conference Center programs for children, youth, adults, and families. www.luthersprings.org

Nassau County Council on Aging

Advocate and resource for the elderly seeking information, counseling, assistance and referral to available services

www.nassaucountycouncilonaging.org



2026 Congregational Financial Report

YEAR TO DATE TOTAL INCOME VS. TOTAL ACTUAL EXPENSES	
Year To Date Income Thru February 28, 2025	
General Contributions	\$54,963
Miscellaneous Income	\$0
Keep It Simple	\$328
Rental Income	\$400
Earned Investment Income	\$411
Fund Fundraising	<u>\$0</u>
Year TO Date SubTotal Income	\$56,103
Transfers from Savings to Checking	<u>\$0</u>
Year TO Date TOTAL INCOME ALL SOURCES	\$56,103
Year TO Date TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$58,717</u>
Difference Year To Date Income Vs. Expenses	(\$2,614)
Lightkeepers Fund Balance	\$7,022
Playground Fund Balance	\$180
BEAR Fund	\$11,414
Disaster Recovery Fund Balance	\$11,592
Mortgage Balance Remaining	\$132,206
Endowment Fund	\$104,324



- 2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**
- Les Boette
boette10@gmail.com
- Carolyn Krause
Carolyn.Krause@poplcweb.com
- Dana Sargent
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- Robin Phillips
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- John Harris
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- Sue Hildebrand
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- Linda Pesante
lhpanelia@gmail.com
- Garrett Price
ameliapri26@gmail.com
- Dennis Purdy
dennis.purdy36@gmail.com
- Duane Whitesel
ddwhitesel@outlook.com

Special Note From Church Council

1. Additional donations of \$100.00 have been applied to our Mortgage Principal in 2026
2. Thank you for the generosity to build our new playground! We received \$6,500 in January for a total of \$15,027.00.
3. Lightkeepers fund has total of \$7,021.68 towards 2027 Nat'l Youth Gathering.
4. We returned 2 rental deposits totaling \$500.00 for Lifeline Screening for events that did not occur in 2025.
5. Thank you for the generous donation of a new refrigerator for our kitchen donated by one of our congregants.



MORTGAGE REDUCTION FUND

The Reduction Fund provides that contributions will be applied to the principle balance reducing mortgage debt.

If you wish to contribute to this fund, mark your check "MORTGAGE FUND" and contributions will be applied to the reduce the principle balance.

Thank you for your support that continues God's work!

Offerings furthering our ministry can be made:

- ◇ At Worship Service place envelopes in the offering plate, in the church mail slot, or mailing offering to the church office.
- ◇ Electronic contributions can be made via or website at www.poplcweb.com . Click the "GIVE" tab & follow
- ◇ instructions to set automatic contributions from account.



2025 YEAR END ENDOWMENT REVIEW

In our inaugural year, the mission-oriented endowment at Prince of Peace exceeded all expectations. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our congregation throughout the year, the endowment reached grant-qualifying status in its very first year. Contributions totaled **\$96,738** with a year-end balance of **\$103,531**. The endowment saw overall investment growth of **6.6%** for the year, which is especially significant since the largest contribution came later in the year. Earnings totaled **\$7,188** which translates to **\$3,594** for grant availability.

The Outreach Committee is now working to nominate grant (s) for 2026 within our community. Over the next few months, nominations and approvals of grant recipients will be announced.

As we enter a new year, we encourage continued support for this meaningful mission. Your generosity strengthens our ability to extend Christ's love and expand the reach and impact of this important ministry at Prince of Peace. The Gospel of Jesus Christ offers salvation, but through this endowment, we also help share His love and care for others.

POPLC Endowment Board



Prince Of Peace Church Council Meeting Summary
March 16, 2026

Called to order by Les Boette at 5:34PM.

- The devotion was provided by Dana Sargent and the Ben Hur movie / reference and interaction with Christ was elaborated on by John Harris.
- Tess Mandrick was welcomed as the Youth council member.
- Pastor Ben provided an update on the playground installation, photo directory development, and Holy Week services. Easter Sunday will start with a 6:45AM sunrise service at the Main Beach. The new organist / pianist search continues.
- The Lightkeepers have been invited to the Synod assembly in June to act as IT help for voting. The Council approved renting a 15-passenger van for transporting them to and from Orlando.
- The Treasurer's report for February was approved. It was noted that the general giving in February was surprisingly low and she may need to access funds from savings for paying bills in April.
- An ad-hoc committee is reviewing Church Mutual's new insurance policies. The premium increase has been modest, but the Terms and Conditions are much more specific / restrictive.
- Five people were approved for membership in POP.
- The POP cleanup day and playground final assembly day will be Saturday, March 21 at 9AM.
- It was reported that some members of the KISS organization who use our facilities on Saturdays and Mondays may have duplicated their POP keys without authorization. We will work with them to resolve the issue.
- The Worship / Music Committee has been reorganized so that there is a group responsible for picking hymns and a group responsible for the other details of the service.
- The church office admin's (Terry) issues with her computer saving documents, and printing documents have been resolved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27PM.

Submitted by Les Boette



All Committee Meeting Committees will meet on an as needed basis as called by the Council liaisons. ***NEXT MEETING is Sunday, April 12th—After Worship.***

Below is a brief description of the purpose of each of the Committees and council liaison and/or contact person:

- **Education & Youth Ministry: John Harris**
 - ◊ Organize and promote Christian education activities/opportunities – including children, youth and adults.
- **Evangelism: Carolyn Krause/George Pester**
 - ◊ Seek opportunities to share the Gospel in the community
- **Public Relations: Linda Pesante**
 - ◊ Provide electronic and media support to share the ministry of POP
- **Fellowship Ministry: Garrett Price/Bill Hansberry**
 - ◊ Planning and implementing Congregational social activities
- **Outreach Ministry: Susie Hildebrand**
 - ◊ Seek opportunities or reach out and offer help to those in need.
 - ◆ Monthly Care Projects
 - ◆ Interdenominational Dinner Network (IDN)
 - ◊ Prayer committee
 - ◊ Visitation Team
- **Finance/Stewardship Ministry: John Harris, Robin Phillips**
 - ◊ Monitor the financial condition of the Congregation including advisement on long-term investment of reserve funds and contract oversight.
 - ◊ Conduct an annual stewardship campaign
- **Information Technology: Les Boette**
 - ◊ Work with church staff to identify solutions for data and computer systems
 - ◊ Monitor hardware and software needs
 - ◊ Manage tele-worship, AV equipment support for worship and education
- **Property Ministry: Dennis Purdy**
 - ◊ Ensure the physical building and grounds of the property is well maintained.
 - ◊ Coordinating body for required contracted services or capital purchases related to maintenance of the building/property.
- **Worship & Music Ministry: Duane Whitesel**
 - ◊ Work with Pastor to plan and implement worship services.
 - ◊ Recruit, train and schedule the Worship support team including ushers & greeters, altar guild, acolytes, worship assistants and readers.

We would welcome and encourage your interest with any of the committees. Please contact either the Council Liaison, Council President, Les Boette or Pr. Ben.



Talents Needed!

A host of opportunities are available to put our talents to good use assisting in worship services, planning our ministry, and outreach missions.

Have fun when being a part of our worship service as a Reader, Worship Assistant, Usher, Greeter, musician, and choir member.

Lend your ideas to our ministry when participating and helping the Evangelism, Fellowship Payer, Music, Property, Worship, or Altar Guild Committees. Consider and help set our direction on Church Council. Your talents and skills will make a difference!

See a Council Member or call our Church office to get involved.



Have Questions or Need Help?



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Terry Smith	poplc.office@gmail.com	904-261-6306	Office Admin.
Tyler Odom	ctylerodom@gmail.com	904-206-1150	Choir Director
Diane Demeranville	demeran@comcast.net	904-583-1798	Interim Organist
Les Boette	boette10@gmail.com	904-305-9618	Council President