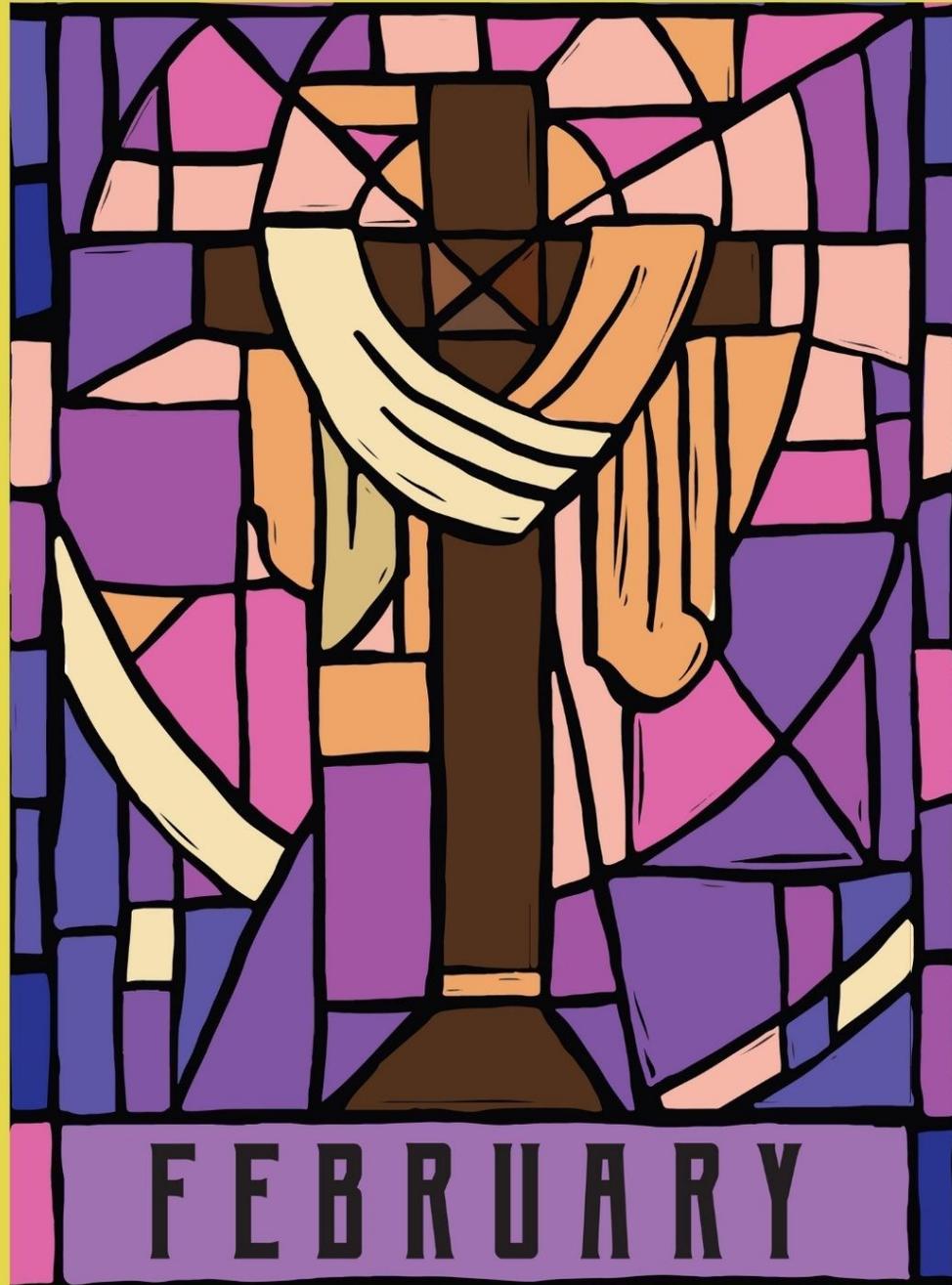




Prince of Peace News

FEBRUARY 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 February 2026



Grace and peace to you from Christ our Lord and from your brothers and sisters here at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. We have started the new year with many positive indicators for the congregation. We are fully funded for the new playground here at the church, as we order and await delivery of the materials. We have also had a great kick off to our joint midweek zoom bible study and the congregation has many new visitors joining us for Sunday worship. We continue to reach out to the community with hope, love, and positivity.

We are in the midst of very tense times, our local community and the nation. With local changes around paid parking and political machinations nationally, it is easy to become disgruntled, negative, or disappointed in our outlook for the future. In the face of tense times in every age the Christian community remains grounded in Jesus Christ's invitation for everyone to receive grace, mercy, and the love of God. Our congregation is a melting pot of opinions, backgrounds, and positions. Instead of seeing this as a weakness, as we don't "lock step" together on every issue that may come up. We try to utilize our diversity as a strength that reminds us, that what binds us together isn't our conformity to an ideology, but our being transformed by the grace of God, through Jesus Christ. Our divergent views, thoughts, and understandings help us to see how God calls all people to himself for reconciliation and future ministry. Even the 12 disciples represented a similar diversity, which benefited the mission of the Gospel. In this way we meet this moment in history as the universal church has met all moments in History. Praying that God's will be done in and through us. Not feeling personally prepared, but full of the Holy Spirit. Uncertain of the outcome, yet confident in God's presence. On the leading edge and tip of the spear of God's redeeming work in the world around us. As Pastor of this congregation, I am tasked to look after the spiritual care and wellbeing of our community. So, I ask you as members of Prince of Peace, be patient with your neighbors, bear with one another in love. Take time to communicate your thoughts and feelings so that they are "responses" and not "reactions" in defensiveness or emotional outbursts. In this way we are being called to meet a moment of hostility and hatred with God's peace and love. It is not easy to forgive, and it never has been. When we perceive insults, slights, and actions of intentional harm we want vengeance and retribution. However, Jesus Christ who bore the rejection of the world; did not count it against us, but asked that we might be forgiven as we did not know what we were doing. To Follow Christ is to forgive as we have been forgiven and to Love as we have been Loved by God.

God Loves you, and so do I;

Pastor Ben

COUNCIL PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Hello Prince of Peace Members,

Carolyn Krause who was President of Council for 2025 has decided not to serve in 2026 because of personal reasons. I have been elected President for 2026. I want to personally thank Carolyn for her service as President. She will remain a member of council. (She also was a very hard-working member of the Call Committee for our new pastor.)

I was president of the POP council back in 2019 and 2020. During that time, we began to develop our objectives for POP's future. Shortly after we started that, COVID hit and we worked on resuming services with social distancing. We implemented our first streaming services using the Go-To-Meeting app.

Since then, we solidified our objectives and goals which resulted in us successfully calling Pastor Ben. We have many new members who support the many tasks that help POP achieve our objective or our vision. I hope to keep that occurring and improving with your help.

POP's Vision is:

"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"

SOME ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

I have been a lifelong Lutheran with some significant breaks in participation.

I attended Fairfield Prep, a Jesuit high school in Connecticut which instilled in me a love of learning and service. I graduated from UConn with a chemical engineering degree.

I have been president of ELCA churches in Pittsburgh in 1990 and Beckley WV in 2000.

I've been a member of the POP since 2016 after having moved to Orlando in 2007 and to Yulee in 2015. I am also President of the Marshes at Lunceford HOA.

I met my wife, Ellie, at UConn, and we have been married for 56 years. We have two children and three grandchildren who live in the Jacksonville area.

I retired this past October from full time work after 19 years in the wind power industry.

Les Boette

Worship Assistants Schedule

Role	1st- Sunday After Epiphany	8th- Sunday After Epiphany	15th- Sunday After Epiphany	22nd- Sunday After Epiphany
Assisting Minister	Duane Whitesel	Bill Hansberry	John Harris	Lill Ekwall
Scripture Reader	Bill Goldwire	B.J. Taylor	Carolyn Krause	John Harris
Ushers	Gene Kilcawley Les Boette	John Harris Josh Collins	Dennis Purdy Gene Kilcawley	Richard Figueroa Ted Richardson
Greeter	Ted Mandrick	Scott & Wyatt Chicco	Janelle Purdy	Rich Ekwall
Altar/ Lay Assistant	Eileen Klein	Karen Blair / Jeanette Chaffee	Donna Cormier / Jeanette Chaffee	Tanya Adin
Tellers	Patti Marotz Gene Kilcawley	Susan Foutz Les Boette	Barbara Ehrenberg B.J. Taylor	Eileen Klein Linda Pesante



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.

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>BIRTHDAY SUNDAY</p> <p>Sunday School 9:00 am</p> <p>“2 Corinthians”</p> <p>Adult Bible Study 9:00 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>POP Band Practice After Worship</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Men’s Property Group 9:00 am</p> <p>AA Group 12:00–1:30 pm</p> <p>IDN at Hope House 3:30–6:30 pm</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Choir Practice 4:00-5:00 pm</p> <p>“Job” Bible Study Via ZOOM 7:00 pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Ladies Group Meeting 10:30 am</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am</p>	<p>7</p> <p>AA Group 9:00-11:30 am</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Sunday School 9:00 am</p> <p>“2 Corinthians”</p> <p>Adult Bible Study 9:00 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>POP Band Practice After Worship</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Men’s Property Group 9:00 am</p> <p>Executive Committee Meeting 10:00 am</p> <p>AA Group 12:00–1:30 pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Prayer Shawl Group 1:00 pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Choir Practice 4:00-5:00 pm</p> <p>“Job” Bible Study Via ZOOM 7:00 pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am</p>	<p>14</p> <p>VALENTINES DAY</p> <p>AA Group 9:00-11:30 am</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Sunday School 9:00 am</p> <p>“2 Corinthians”</p> <p>Adult Bible Study 9:00 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Family Photo Day— After Worship</p> <p>POP Band Practice After Worship</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Men’s Property Group 9:00 am</p> <p>AA Group 12:00–1:30 pm</p> <p>Church Council Meeting 6:00 pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Newsletter Articles Deadline</p> <p>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 6:00 pm</p>	<p>18—ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm</p> <p>Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am</p> <p>AI Presentation & Pizza Party 6:30 pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>AA Group 9:00-11:30 am</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Sunday School 9:00 am</p> <p>“2 Corinthians”</p> <p>Adult Bible Study 9:00 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Family Photo Day— After Worship</p> <p>POP Band Practice After Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Men’s Property Group 9:00 am</p> <p>AA Group 12:00–1:30 pm</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm</p> <p>Lent Dinner 6:00 pm</p> <p>Lent Worship 7:00 pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am</p>	<p>28</p> <p>AA Group 9:00-11:30 am</p>

Upcoming Events

LADIES GROUP

The Potter's Daughters

WHEN: Thursday, February 5th at 10:30 am

WHERE: Fellowship Hall

Join us to connect with your sisters in Christ at our monthly gathering. It promises to be full of fun, fellowship, and meaningful connection.

Please bring a book you have enjoyed to share with the group. The book should be one you are willing to lend or give away. If you are an e-book reader, join us to add to your To Be Read list. Bring a friend and a book.

We will also be privileged to hear a commentary on God's Word with Rosemary Mandrick.



Come and enjoy great company, warm conversation, and light refreshments starting at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Come... Be a part of the Potter's Daughters!



The Potters Daughters
Prince of Peace Ladies Group
Meeting February 5th
10:30am - Fellowship Hall

BOOK EXCHANGE
Join us for a morning of literary connection and sisterhood.
Bring a book you love to share, lend, or give away!

All are welcome to grow in faith, meaningful conversations, refreshments and fun!
See Yvonne Bowman or contact the church office for details.



PIZZA PARTY & AI PRESENTATION

On Friday evening **February 20, at 6:30 PM**, Prince of Peace's own Ben Henderson will give a presentation on AI. If you have been wondering about AI, how it will affect your life or how it might be helpful to you, this presentation is for you. Pizza will be provided by the Christian Ed Committee prior to Ben's presentation. You are invited to bring a salad or dessert if you would like to help. The Christian Ed Committee thanks the Fellowship Committee for help in setting up the meal. Please plan to join for this evening of fellowship and learning.



Join in the Fun & Fellowship!
Shrove Tuesday
Annual Pancake Feast

6:00pm
February 17th
Fellowship Hall



Ash Wednesday
February 18th

Worship
with Holy Communion &
Imposition of Ashes
7pm



Come... Be A Part of Peace!

Lent Fellowship & Worship

Wednesday
February 25 & March 4th - 11th - 18th - 25th

Soup & Bread Supper 6pm

Worship 7pm



Come... Be A Part of Peace!



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.” All services will start at noon and last about 30 minutes. Please come show your support for ecumenical ministry and deepen our life together.

- ⇒ 2/25 Saint Peter's Address: 801 Atlantic Ave. — Preaching: Pr. Rachel Williams
- ⇒ 3/4 NVCUCC Address: 96072 Chester Rd, Yulee — Preaching: Pr. Dawn
- ⇒ 3/11 Memorial Address: 601 Centre St.— Preaching: Pr. Ben
- ⇒ 3/18 First Presbyterian Address: 9 N 6th St.— Preaching: Pr. Mary
- ⇒ 3/25 Prince of Peace Address: 2600 Atlantic Ave.— Preaching: Pr. Grenardo
- ⇒ 4/1 Trinity Address: 715 Ash St.— Preaching: MTR Rachel McElwee



 ***Prince of Peace Church***
Family Photo Days

February 15 & 22

Family Member Directory

**Join us after worship service in the Fellowship Hall as
we create our new church family directory!**

Notice!!!! Calling all Prince of Peace members, associate members, and seasonal members. We are trying to get a new photo directory for the congregation made this spring. As such we are going to have photo days on the last 2 Sundays of February. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for which day/time you are available to have your photo taken here at church. Mrs. Melody Mandrick has agreed to take the photos in the fellowship hall after worship. If you are not able to have your photo taken we will ask that you send the church a relatively recent picture or yourself / family for us to include as we make our own photo director for member use. Also if you have any changes to your home address, email, or phone number please let us know. If you have any questions please notify the church office or Pastor Ben.

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 February Sponsors

1st: Kurt & Lisa Poling—In memory of Cliff Taylor

8th: Open

15th: Bill Goldwire—In memory of wife, Georgia Goldwire

22nd: Open





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Patricia Marotz-1st
- Cheryl Johnson-3rd
- Barbara Herum-3rd
- Dan Brundage-3rd
- Janelle Purdy-13th
- Meghan Marotz-13th
- Shelia McCoy-Keister-17th
- Marie Chaffee-18th
- Lori Wick-21st
- Dennis Purdy-21st
- Barry Moore-23rd
- Rosalie Wessel-24th
- Phyllis Serrian-24th
- Mike Johnson-24th
- Dan Keister-24th



- Ed & Patricia Marotz-6th
- Barry & Sharon Moore-17th
- Judy & Michael Pappas-25th



BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

All are invited to join the congregation in celebrating February's Birthday's with us **Sunday, February 1st** 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.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Dawson Collins
 Born: 1/22/26
 Weight: 7lbs. 8oz. 19.5" L.
 Proud Parents: Josh & Tamsen Collins



OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

I thank you all for a wonderful year of being the face of Christ for our community in 2025! We were able to help many families because of your kindness and generosity. I am excited about another year of Outreach success and working with such kind and caring people! Your help and support make our Outreach projects a pleasure!

Our current **January Mission** is America's Youth. A check for \$620.00 was presented to Director Daisy Hester from our 2025 Outreach Mission budget. America's Youth was founded in 1998 by Mr. John Gilbert Sr. Programs offered include After School Tutoring and Mentorship, Computer Literacy and Fundamentals, Camp America Summer Program, Faith Based Youth Leadership, Annual events include Back to School Book Bag Give Away and Christmas Celebration. It is a privilege to be a part of this vital program.

Our **December Mission** was the annual Advent Tree. Gift cards for two families totaling approximately \$725.00 and lots of gifts for the children were picked up on December 20. The parents were grateful, and five children had a fabulous Christmas they will always remember. Thank you to all who made this a happy Christmas for these families!

Money from bell ringing in November and December is helping Salvation Army.

Cookies were donated to Kairos Prison Ministry.

Our February **Mission** is Fernandina Beach Middle School. Throughout the month of February, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for students and their families to use during Spring Break. Many families rely on school meals, and this will help keep children fed when school food is not available. There will be a suggested food list in the narthex and in the newsletter. Mrs. Worley from the middle school and I will coordinate a date and time for me to drop off donations before break starts in March. Let us help these families eat well during Spring Break this year!

Valentine cards will be delivered to the Fernandina Beach Rehabilitation.

The March mission will be Chandler's Hope Closet and Kairos Prison Ministry.

More details to come.

Susie Hildebrand

Happy Valentine's Day!!



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.

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

Linda Pesante



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The 2026 fellowship team held a very productive meeting after church services on Sunday, February 1st with 6 attendees, 3 children and 3 adults. The children shared a number of ideas about activities in which they would like to participate such as serve at or set up for events, including bingo or other events as well as outdoor activities. Most of the meeting, however, revolved around preparation for the upcoming events. Chili cookoff was set for 6pm, Saturday January 21st with prizes for some of the best creations. Next, Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner was set for Shrove Tuesday, February 17th at 6pm. The confirmation class is expecting to help serve pancakes, syrup, sausage and fruit. As usual POP will host Lenten bread and soup dinners at 6pm each Wednesday after Ash Wednesday until Holy Week. In addition, on Saturday, March 14th, we'll enjoy s'mores and the appropriate foods around the campfire ring. Then, on Passover Night, April 2nd, our Maundy Service will be held in the fellowship hall using the Seder meal format. These are some busy but fun times. Be sure to sign up to attend some or all the events; better yet, any and all help to plan and carry out the various activities will never be turned away.

Bill Hansberry



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS FOR FEBRUARY!!!

A new year means plenty of fun for our Sunday School classes as our Christian education program continues with great material from pre-K to high school. Pastor Ben is offering a study of second Corinthians for the adults and we have a zoom Bible study on Job on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Find the zoom link on This Week's Happenings at Prince of Peace.

RAINFOREST FALLS COMING TO PRINCE OF PEACE, JUNE 28TH TO JULY 2ND!

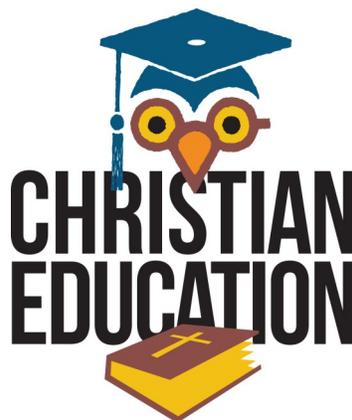
Mark your calendars for the above dates as we turn the Prince of Peace sanctuary into the Amazon rainforest. This year's Vacation Bible School program is Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God. Be with us as we turn the Church into a lush world of vibrant flora and fauna, misty waterfalls, and 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 newsletter for more details!

BEN HENDERSON TO SPEAK ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, FRIDAY, FEB. 20TH AT 6:30 P.M.

Prince of Peace's Ben Henderson, a Microsoft employee, will give the POP Community an introductory talk on AI on Friday, Feb. 20th. AI is having major impacts on both the U.S. economy and our every day lives. Not since the advent of the personal computer and the internet, has a technology revolutionize our lives. Learn about it from Ben, who is on the front lines of this technology. A light supper of pizza and salad will be served. 6:30 p.m. in the POP Fellowship Hall.

John Harris



ADULT BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Continuation of Bible Study on Book of Job

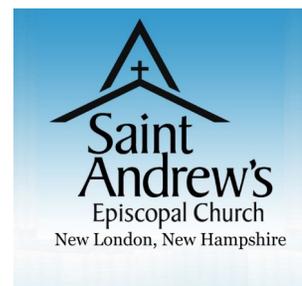
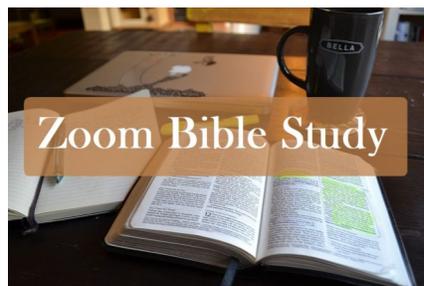
Last two Wednesdays at 7:00 PM, February 4th and ending on February 11th.

You are invited to participate in a ZOOM Bible study on the Book of Job. This Bible study will be a joint effort between Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Fernandina Beach, Florida, and Saint Andrews Episcopal Church in New London, New Hampshire. John Harris will lead the Bible study, supported by Pastor Pat Harris. Pat and John were members of Saint Andrews while they lived in NH, and Pastor Pat still participates in a faith based book study with members of Saint Andrews.

This Bible study will be an effort to find unity in God's Word among people of different backgrounds and experiences. In the context of studying Job's suffering and his interactions with his friends and with God, we will be examining the ways each of us responds to the suffering of others and to our own suffering; our reactions to our own anger at God; and the ways that the book of Job have impacted our contemporary culture.

Details about the Zoom link will be available in the January newsletter and in the weekly "Happenings" electronic newsletter. If you have any questions about the Bible study, contact Pastor Pat at 603-748-0288 or John at 603-748-0623.

John Harris



CHURCH NEEDS

CHURCH ORGANIST WANTED

Our welcoming congregation is seeking a skilled and passionate organist to join our music ministry. The ideal candidate will have experience accompanying worship services, a love for sacred music, and a desire to enrich our Sunday gatherings with beautiful, inspiring organ music.

To apply or inquire further, please contact us at our church office 904-261-6306. We look forward to welcoming a talented musician to our ministry team!



**WE ARE
HIRING**

ORGANIST

If you're bright & passionate with limitless creativity... We need your talent to guide our enthusiastic congregation!

MORE INFO

Contact church office
904-2616306

Email your Resume to
poplc.office@gmail.com

PRINCE OF PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH



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. The building has a large cross on its roof. The men are dressed in casual shirts, some in light blue and one in a bright green shirt. They are all smiling and have their arms crossed or are standing in a friendly group.

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.

FEBRUARY MISSION



February Mission

Nourish Students Spring Break



Help Fernandina Beach Middle School students
this spring break!

Bring non-perishable food items to church through February.
Your donations will provide essential meals and snacks for
students who rely on school lunches during the school year.

— Together, we can make a difference —
One Snack, One Lunch, One Meal at a time

Bring healthy non-perishable
food & snacks to the narthex

Granola & Protein Bars

Peanut Butter & Jellies

Almond Butter

Ramen Noodles

Canned Soups

Canned Meats

Mac & Cheese

Beans - Rice

Granola

Crackers

Popcorn

Honey



IDN COMMUNITY MISSION

INTERFAITH DINNER NETWORK
at The Salvation Army's Hope House
410 9th Street, Fernandina Beach

Join us on Monday, February 2nd
3:30PM - 6:30PM

Make a difference by helping in preparing and providing a dinner meal to neighbors in need.
See Brenda Ronson or contact the church office to help.

JOIN OUR CREW AT THE INTERFAITH DINNER NETWORK!

Your time, care, and kindness can bring warmth and hope to those in need of a nourishing meal.

See Brenda Ronson at church this Sunday to sign up and help change lives for the better.

Together, we can make a difference—one meal, one smile, one act of love at a time.



**“Hunger Fight”
Meal Packing Event**

On **February 7th** from **9:30—11:30 AM**, Hunger Fight will be hosting a **meal packing event** at the **Atlantic Recreation Center**, 2500 Atlantic Ave, Fernandina Beach and we have the opportunity to support this incredible effort!

The goal of the event is to pack **45,000 meals** that will remain right here in **Nassau County**, benefiting **elementary—aged children** on the Federal Free and Reduced Meal Program.

If you would like to volunteer for this impactful event, please let me know and I will connect you directly with **Greg Shurman** for registration and details.

This is a wonderful opportunity to come together, serve our community, and make a real difference for local children.

Thank you for all that you do,

Trish Thompson, Community Engagement Manager

Barnabas Center, Inc.

1303 Jasmine Street, Suite 101

Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

(904)261-7000, ext. 118

pthompson@barnabasnassau.org



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

At Home

Michele Pester/ Clay Chaffee / 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 / Eileen Klein /
Edna Swithers / Lill Ekwall / Linda Vinditti

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.

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 December 31, 2025

General Contributions	\$301,552		 <i>Stewardship</i>
Miscellaneous Income	\$0		
Keep It Simple	\$2,942		
Rental Income	\$1,500		
Earned Investment Income	\$5,037		
Fund Fundraising	<u>\$4,760</u>		
Year TO Date SubTotal Income	\$315,792		
Transfers from Savings to Checking	<u>\$56,000</u>		
Year TO Date TOTAL INCOME ALL SOURCES	\$371,792		
Year TO Date TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$376,481</u>		
Difference Year To Date Income Versus Expenses	(\$4,689)		
Lightkeepers Fund Balance	\$7,022		
Playground Fund Balance	\$8,527		
BEAR Fund	\$11,354		
Disaster Recovery Fund Balance	\$11,592		
Mortgage Balance Remaining	\$136,833		
Endowment Fund	\$104,324		

2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Les Boette

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Duane Whitesel

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Special Note From Church Council

1. Generous additional donations of \$8,017.80 have been applied to our Mortgage Principal in 2025
2. Transfer of \$26,000 from Savings in MAY for Insurance Premiums (Multi-Peril, Umbrella & Wind/Hail all due in May). Transfer of \$20,000 from Savings in AUGUST July/August/September expenses exceeding income. Transfer of \$10,000 from Savings in November; Low giving in Oct./early Nov. required funds in checking account to cover expenses.
3. Lightkeepers fund has total of \$7,021.68 towards 2027 National Youth Gathering.
4. Thank you for your generosity for the Monthly Outreach Missions! September Outreach Mission for Coalition for Homeless was \$971.55. October Outreach Mission for Lutheran Disaster Response was \$395.14 + \$129.86 Outreach = \$525.00 sent November Outreach Mission for Thanksgiving Turkey Dinners was \$752.00 given (\$359 was spent). December Outreach Mission for 2 families monetized @ \$1,500 including gifts/gift cards. December checks were given to America's Youth for \$620 and Barnabas (from T-Day overage) \$392.29.
5. Thank you for the generosity to build our new playground! We received \$8,527 in 2025, surpassing our goal!

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 January 19, 2026

Called to order by Pastor Ben at 5:47PM.

- Election of Officers:
 - ◊President – Les Boette; VP - John Harris; Treasurer – Robin Phillips;
Secretary – Dana Sargent
- Pastor Ben provided a plan for the outside playground. The Council approved the plan.
- Robin's Treasurer's report for December was approved.
- Various resolutions related to changes in personnel handling POP's money were approved.
- Les provided a short summary of his ELCA church president history. Also, he highlighted that part of our 2026 Stewardship campaign needs to address that Last year and this year's budget is supported by significant transfers from the unrestricted savings account.
- Church Mutual, our insurance provider, has notified us that the current insurance policies will not be renewed. A new set of policies with new terms and conditions will replace them.
 - ◊John Harris will set up an ad hoc committee to review the new policies when they are published.
- In late February, Melody Mandrick will be taking member's pictures for a new POP photo directory.
- Approval was given to pay \$200 for piano lessons for Choir Director Tyler Odom.
- Vacation Bible School will occur June 28-July 2.
- The Fellowship event for March will be a bonfire and Maudy Thursday will have a service / dinner replicating the Last Supper.
- There has been a new refrigerator installed in the kitchen and the outdoor parking lot lights have been replaced by JEA.
- Worship reported that the first Sunday services will have more youth participation and different music. Also, we are evaluating replacing the current 3-year lectionary series with a 4-year lectionary series.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20PM.

Submitted by,

Les Boette, President



All Committee Meeting Committees will meet on an as needed basis as called by the Council liaisons.

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?



Rev. John “Ben” Mandrick	ben.mandrick@poplweb.com	904-556-6687 (C)	Pastor
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