

Prince of Peace News

MARCH 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 March 2026



Grace and peace to you from Christ our Lord and from all you sisters and brothers at Prince of Peace Lutheran church. The cold weather did not chill our spirits as we continued to shine the Love of Jesus to the whole community. We were able to have a wonderful chili cookoff where everyone enjoyed some hot chili and great corn bread. We have started our next class of confirmation students and were blown away by the turnout. We have 10 confirmation students in this year's class. We look forward to deepening their faith and helping them grow in community here at Prince of Peace. The congregation also turned out to have their pictures taken for our new photo directory. We wrapped up the month beginning Lent with the imposition of Ashes and reflecting on our discipleship of Jesus Christ.

The Lenten season is a time of intentional discipleship, during which we all commit to drawing closer to God. While we all pursue different personal strategies our united objective is to achieve the same goal. The goal is to learn more about God, and how we can be in a more life giving and fulfilling relationship with God and our community. As you endeavor in your personal discipleship, please call me to help when you need accountability or encouragement. Feel free to share with me new revelations of God's presence in your life or struggles you may be facing in your relationship with God. I am here to aid you in our journey with God. My hope is that as we make our way through the Lenten season we each discover something, regardless of how small, about who this God is who loves each of us so much. So that when we arrive at Easter we can celebrate even more because we know and trust that God truly loves each of us that little bit clearer.

In that regard I want to invite the whole community to Main Beach for Easter Sunrise worship. We have secured the green space at Main Beach from the Fernandina Parks and Rec. department, just down from the church for Easter morning at 6:45AM to have the Ecumenical Sunrise worship. We have invited the other congregations in the community to join in celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ together. It will be a beautiful morning worship with all kinds of believers in Jesus from many and various backgrounds united in the faith that Christ has Risen and so shall we. As the service begins the Sun will rise over the Ocean to shine on the worship. We can then make our way to the church for breakfast and the children's egg hunt. It will be a great Easter for everyone.

God Loves you, and so do I;

Pastor Ben

COUNCIL PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello Prince of Peace Members,

In last month's message I recounted that "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. Since then, we solidified our objectives and goals which resulted in us successfully calling Pastor Ben in the summer of 2024."

We have had a dramatic increase in attendance and new members. Many of the new members have been chosen to be active participants in various generic groups, for example: worship, choir, bells, praise band, men's (property), women's, ITN, etc. Since each person has unique background and expertise, I encourage you to volunteer to use that in support of Prince of Peace and our mission. The Fellowship Committee is in need of additional members.

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"

Les Boette



Worship Assistants Schedule

Role	1st- Lent Sunday	8th- Lent Sunday	15th- Lent Sunday	22nd- Lent Sunday	29th- Palm Sunday
Assisting Minister	Tanya Adin	Richard Figueroa	Susan Foutz	Lill Ekwall	Duane Whitesel
Scripture Reader	Tanya Adin	Pat Harris	Richard Figueroa	Robin Howell	Bart Cormier
Ushers	Ed Marotz Ken Bryson	Dennis Purdy Ted Richardson	Rich Ekwall John Harris	Garrett Price Richard Figueroa	Ed Marotz Ted Richardson
Greeter	Sam Serrian	Janelle Purdy	Ted Mandrick	B.J. Taylor	Ted Mandrick
Altar/ Lay Assistant	Karen Blair / Jeanette Chaffee	Tanya Adin	Eileen Klein	Donna Cormier / Jeanette Chaffee	Cyndi Zenker
Tellers	Patti Marotz Gene Kilcawley	Susan Foutz Whitney Chicco	Barbara Ehrenberg 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.

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1—LENT SUNDAY BIRTHDAY SUNDAY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	2 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm	3	4 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm Lent Dinner 6:00 pm Lent Worship 7:00 pm	5 Ladies Group Meeting 10:30 am	6 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	7 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
8—LENT SUNDAY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	9 Men's Property Group 9:00 am Executive Committee Meeting 10:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm Celebration Of Life Service for Jean Wick 1:00 pm	10 Prayer Shawl Group 1:00 pm	11 Worship Meeting Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm Lent Dinner 6:00 pm Lent Worship 7:00 pm	12	13 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	14 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
15—LENT SUNDAY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	16 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm Church Council Meeting 6:00 pm Spring Break	17 Newsletter Articles Deadline Spring Break	18 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm Lent Dinner 6:00 pm Lent Worship 7:00 pm Spring Break	19 Spring Break	20 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am Spring Break	21 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
22—LENT SUNDAY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	23 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm	24	25 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm Lent Dinner 6:00 pm Lent Worship 7:00 pm	26	27 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	28 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am Making Palm Crosses in Narthex 10:00 am
29—PALM SUNDAY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	30 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm	31				

Upcoming Events

LADIES GROUP

Join us for "The Potter's Daughters" event!

When: Thursday, March 5th at 10:30 AM

Where: POP Fellowship Hall

This will be an exciting program and not to be missed by our lovely ladies. Bring friends for an experience in learning the **Mediterranean** healthy way of cooking and eating, to give your body foods God intended and that were eaten by Jesus and the people in the area, who still consume delicious meals. Tammy Barnard, from Nassau County Extension Office will be showing us how and what to prepare as we will be privileged to enjoy eating them!

We will need an approximation of foods to purchase, please use the signup in the Narthex or contact Yvonne Bowman via email yzb@bellsouth.net to confirm your attendance.

Come for an experience, for fellowship and fun and laughter as we love and support each other as our church family of friends.

The Potter's Daughters

**HEALTHY MEDITERRANEAN
COOKING CLASS**

with Tammy Barnard, Nassau County Extension Office

*Discover fresh flavors, simple
techniques, and nutritious recipes
that bring the taste of the
Mediterranean to your table.*

*Join Us in Fellowship Hall
March 5 • 10:30 AM
RSVP by March 2nd to
Yvonne Bowman @ yzb@bellsouth.net*

NASSAU
FLORIDA

PRINCE OF PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVENTS



Lent Fellowship & Worship
Wednesday
February 25 & March 4th - 11th - 18th - 25th
Soup & Bread Supper 6pm
Worship 7pm
Come... Be A Part of Peace!



Join in the fun!
**MAKING PALM CROSS
BOUTONNIERES**
Saturday March 28th - 10am
Join us in the narthex
and help to craft
Palm-Cross boutonnieres
to be given to folks on
Palm Sunday.



Ecumenical
LENT
Mid-Week 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." All services will start at noon and last about 30 minutes. Please come show your support for ecumenical ministry and deepen our life together.

- ⇒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

EVENTS



PRINCE OF PEACE
SPRING SPRUCE-UP

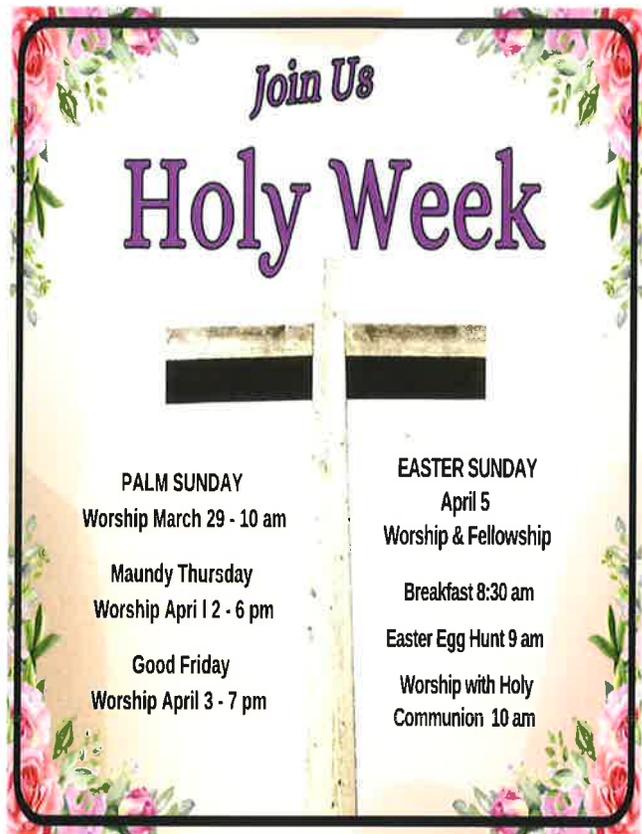
SATURDAY
MARCH 21
9 AM to
12 Noon

*Lend a helping hand
at our church
Clean-up day!*

*Join us to clean and
organize & do
landscaping & yard
work to beautify our
church for Easter*

**Sign up in the narthex to join us
or phone the church office**

The poster features a blue background with a white cross icon on the left. Below the title is a photo of two small green birds perched on a branch. A circular badge contains the date and time. A blue rounded rectangle contains the invitation text. A circular inset photo shows the church building.



Join Us

Holy Week



PALM SUNDAY
Worship March 29 - 10 am

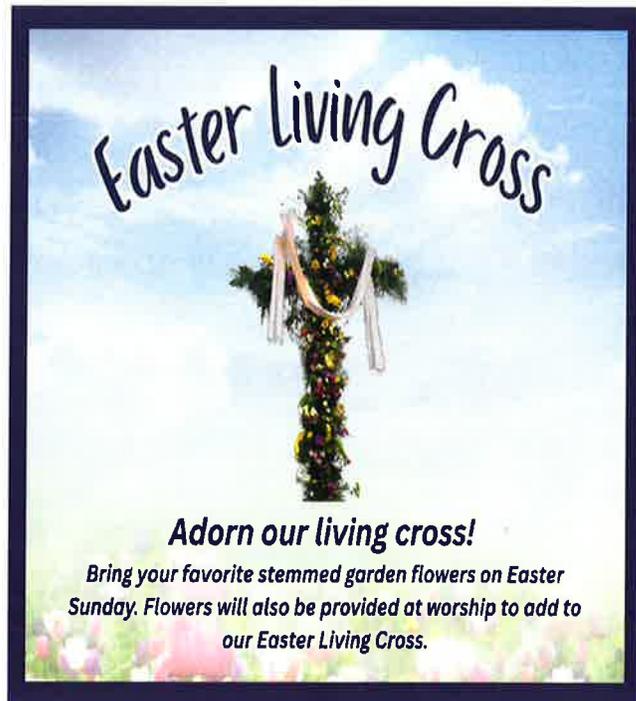
Maundy Thursday
Worship April 2 - 6 pm

Good Friday
Worship April 3 - 7 pm

EASTER SUNDAY
April 5
Worship & Fellowship

Breakfast 8:30 am
Easter Egg Hunt 9 am
Worship with Holy Communion 10 am

The poster has a floral border of pink and red roses. The text is arranged around a central image of a wooden cross with a white cloth draped over it.



Easter Living Cross



Adorn our living cross!

Bring your favorite stemmed garden flowers on Easter Sunday. Flowers will also be provided at worship to add to our Easter Living Cross.

The poster features a blue sky background with a wooden cross decorated with a variety of colorful flowers and white ribbons.

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 March Sponsors

1st: LENT—No Flowers

8th: LENT—No Flowers

15th: LENT—No Flowers

22nd: LENT—No Flowers

29th: PALM SUNDAY





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Tamsen Mungo-Collins-1st

Frank Swithers-1st

Shelly Halverson-3rd

Yvonne Bowman-6th

Sue Hildebrand-20th

Rita Tiensch-21st

Scott Chicco-22nd

Tom Woleshin-22nd

David Evans-22nd

Nancy Carter-27th

Peter Eichele-30th



Duane & Shelly Whitesel-20th

Tom & Shelly Halverson-21st

Joel & Kay Stockstill-27th

Scott & Whitney Chicco-30th



BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

All are invited to join the congregation in celebrating March's Birthdays with us **Sunday, March 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.

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



Thank you all for your continued support with all of our missions!

Our **March mission** will be Kairos Prison Ministry. We will be 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 for me to drop off donations the 1st 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.

Our current **February mission** is Fernandina Beach Middle School. We are providing food 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. Mrs. Worley with the Middle School Interact program and I will coordinate a date for me to deliver the donated items before Spring Break starts in March. There is a suggested food list in the narthex and in the newsletter.

IDN dinner was Monday, February 2 at Hope House. Eleven volunteers served a meal of spaghetti, meatballs, garlic bread, tossed salad, cookies, bananas, and water. Ninety-five adults and ten children were served at Hope House. Three adults and twenty-six children were served at America's Youth. A container of noodles and meatballs were picked up by volunteers from Coalition of Homeless to feed their guests at Peck House. Cost of the meal was \$497.00.

Valentine's cards were delivered to Fernandina Beach Rehabilitation Center.

Our **January mission** was 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.

Future Events

April mission will be another beach clean-up for Earth Day. Date and time to be determined.

May, June, and July missions are being planned.

A **Summer mission** will again be the distribution of Beach Safety fliers.

Susie Hildebrand

MARCH MISSION
Clothing Drive for Hope!
Every person deserves the opportunity to rebuild their life

A Second Chance
Donate Items Today

Donate New & Gently used
Smart casual and work appropriate
Slacks, Shirts, Shorts
New- shoes, socks, & undergarments

We're collecting new and gently used clothing, shoes, & smart casual wear to help men rebuild their lives with dignity and confidence. Support formerly incarcerated individuals as they reintegrate into society and the workplace.

Your contribution empowers people to face job interviews with dignity, self-assurance, and hope for a brighter future.

KAIROS

The poster features a blue background with a white cross and a blue silhouette of a person. On the right, there is a blue fish-shaped logo with the word "KAIROS" inside. Below the logo, there is a photograph of four men in suits standing together. At the bottom right, there are images of a pair of shoes, a pair of pants, and a shirt.

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

In February, we launched into the Lenten season with our usual pancake supper before Ash Wednesday. Pancakes were cooked by more men than could fit in the kitchen and served by some of the youth. All went well; the pancakes and sausage were more tasty than ever. Good thing we got a picture of who was in the kitchen cooking so we can all on them again. Throughout Lent we welcome all to come to our soup and bread dinners at 6 PM prior to worship at 7PM. While Lent is a period of penance, it does not mean we cannot still have fun, while we are repentant. Therefore, at 6 PM on Saturday, the 14th of March meet us al in the Holy Holler for a cookout around the campfire. Bring a side dish if you like. Share any talent you have. Play a game. We'll have a good time. Finally, all interested in helping Prince of Peace to continue to have a good social life with fun-time activities are asked to stay after church service on Sunday, March 8, to finalize the above plans and make plans for Easter and beyond. We need helpers to plan and execute.

Bill Hansberry



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS FOR MARCH!!

Just a reminder that Prince of Peace has Sunday School for every age bracket at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. On March 1st, the Adult Bible Study will begin Paul's letters to the Thessalonians.

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

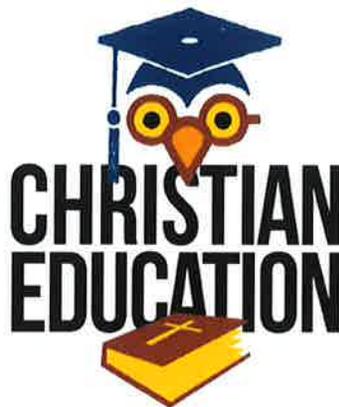
Mark your calendars for the above dates as we turn the Prince of Peace sanctuary into the Amazon rainforest. This year's Vacation Bible School program is Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God. Be with us as we turn the Church into a lush world of vibrant flora and fauna, misty waterfalls, and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

**EASTER EGG HUNT ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH AT 9 A.M., IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
THE ANNUAL EASTER BREAKFAST! WRAPPED CANDY FOR EGGS NEEDED!**

Hard to believe that we already in Lent! The Lightkeepers, Prince of Peace's Youth Group is looking for donations of small wrapped Easter candies to put in the plastic eggs. There will be a plastic bin in the Narthex marked for the candies. Thank you for your donations!

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!



*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.

The advertisement features a photograph of five men of various ages standing in front of a modern church building with a large cross on top. The men are dressed in casual shirts. The background shows a clear blue sky with some clouds and green trees.

MARCH MISSION

Our **March mission** will be Kairos Prison Ministry. We will be 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. Susie Hildebrand will coordinate a date and time with Carol Pitts from Chandler's Hope Clothes Closet to drop off donations by the 1st 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.

MARCH MISSION
Clothing Drive for Hope!
Every person deserves the opportunity to rebuild their life

A Second Chance
Donate Items Today

Donate New & Gently used
Smart casual and work appropriate
Slacks, Shirts, Shorts
New- shoes, socks, & undergarments

We're collecting new and gently used clothing, shoes, & smart casual wear to help men rebuild their lives with dignity and confidence. Support formerly incarcerated individuals as they reintegrate into society and the workplace.

Your contribution empowers people to face job interviews with dignity, self-assurance, and hope for a brighter future.

KAIROS
PRISON MINISTRY



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 / Edna Swithers /
Lill Ekwall / Linda Vinditti / Blake Carter

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.popleweb.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	
<u>Year To Date Income Thru January 31, 2025</u>	
General Contributions	\$36,272
Miscellaneous Income	\$0
Keep It Simple	\$328
Rental Income	(\$500)
Earned Investment Income	\$332
Fund Fundraising	<u>\$0</u>
Year TO Date SubTotal Income	\$36,432
Transfers from Savings to Checking	<u>\$0</u>
Year TO Date TOTAL INCOME ALL SOURCES	\$36,432
Year TO Date TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$28,458</u>
Difference Year To Date Income Vs. Expenses	\$7,974
Lightkeepers Fund Balance	\$7,022
Playground Fund Balance	\$15,027
BEAR Fund	\$11,354
Disaster Recovery Fund Balance	\$11,592
Mortgage Balance Remaining	\$134,025
Endowment Fund	\$104,324



2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Les Boette
boette10@gmail.com

Carolyn Krause
Carolyn.Krause@poplweb.com

Dana Sargent
dana_phillips@hotmail.com

Robin Phillips
phillirg@gmail.com

John Harris
johncharris72@gmail.com

Sue Hildebrand
susiehildebrand@yahoo.com

Linda Pesante
lhmelia@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.poplweb.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
February 16, 2026**

Called to order by Les Boette at 5:32PM.

- Pastor Ben provided an update on the playground installation, photo directory development, and Holy Week services.
- Robin's Treasurer's report for January was approved.
- It was approved to rollover the 12 month \$31,951 CD on March 21, 2026.
- An ad-hoc committee consisting of John Harris, George Pester, Bart Cormier, Rich Ekwall has been set up to review the Church Mutual's new insurance policies when they are published.
- Vacation Bible School will occur June 21-25.
- Tess Mandrick was approved to be the Youth Member on the POP Council for a 3 month period.
- Four new members of POP were approved.
- The POP cleanup day will be Saturday, March 21 at 9AM.
- Two communications were sent to the News Leader for publishing.
- Evangelism Committee has developed graphics for distribution within Nassau County in support of Holy Week.
- The Fellowship Committee needs new members.
- The POP IDN team served 95 people in February.
- A plan to have a sunrise service at the Main Beach on Easter Sunday is in the planning stages.
- The church office admin (Terry) is having a number of issues with her computer saving documents, and printing documents. The causes of the issues have not yet been identified.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45PM.

Submitted by Les Boette



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@popleweb.com	904-556-6687 (C)	Pastor
Terry Smith	pople.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