



Prince of Peace News

MAY 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 May 2026



Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ our Lord and all your sisters and brothers at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. We had an amazing Easter Season with a great turnout from the community for the Easter Sun Rise service at Main beach. The Easter Breakfast and Egg hunt were fantastic with the new playground getting a good break in and blessing. We look forward to celebrating Mother's Day and Pentecost Sunday coming in the month of May. We are also excited to have Vacation Bible School (VBS) coming up in June.

With Shrimp Fest in full swing here in Fernandina Beach, we get to see a huge influx of people coming into town. With all the traffic and crowds, I can't help but think of the crowds that gathered to hear Jesus while he was teaching among the people. In the gospel of Matthew 9:36, "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." I often get frustrated with crowds and traffic, because they keep me from seeing what I want to see or getting to where I want to be. My frustration is rooted in my desires for what I want and represent a lack of empathy for anyone else gathered. Jesus doesn't get frustrated with the crowds instead he has compassion on them. In the scripture we hear that the people were harassed and helpless, but what was harassing the people? It wasn't other people instead the people were in captivity to their own desires. They were being harassed by their own wants and sinful natures. It was these wants that kept them helpless and harassed, because when our wants become the primary focus of our lives we become helpless enslaved to new and shiny things unable to become contented with life. Jesus reaches out to love the people of this world despite our weakness and helpless nature. Giving us what we have always been searching for in the form of a life of meaning fulfilled in his grace so that instead of frustration with others we, like Jesus, can show compassion. As you see crowds gathering anywhere keep compassion in your heart for the people who need God's grace just as much as us.

God Loves you, and so do I;

Pastor Ben

COUNCIL PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello Prince of Peace members,

Here are the notable events in April in addition to the Holy Week / Easter activities;

1. Hiring Solomon Johnson as Organist / Pianist.
2. Completing the construction and inauguration of the children's playground.
3. Installation of a new assisted listening system for in-person Sunday worship attendees to use.
4. Eight (8) people becoming members of POP.
5. Preparation for Vacation Bible School in late June.

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>	3rd- Sunday After Easter	10th- Sunday After Easter	17th- Sunday After Easter	24th- Pentecost Sunday	31st- Holy Trinity Sunday
Assisting Minister	Susan Foutz	Lill Ekwall	Yuli Fosso	Duane Whitesel	Bill Hansberry
Scripture Reader	Bart Cormier	B.J. Taylor	Sigrid Ivanovic	Tanya Adin	Mark Foutz
Ushers	Ed Marotz Les Boette	John Harris Ken Bryson	Dennis Purdy Gene Kilcawley	Richard Figueroa Ted Richardson	Garrett Price George Pester
Greeter	Garrett Price	Scott & Wyatt Chicco	Janelle Purdy	Rich Ekwall	Dawn Price
Altar/ Lay Assistant	Karen Blair / Jeanette Chaffee	Eileen Klein	Tanya Adin	Cyndi Zenker	Donna Cormier Jeanette Chaffee
Tellers	Patti Marotz Gene Kilcawley	Susan Foutz Whitney Chicco	Barbara Ehrenberg B.J. Taylor	Eileen Klein Linda Pesante	Jane Malcolm Barbara Ehrenberg



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.

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am SHRIMP FESTIVAL 5:00–10:00 pm PIRATE INVASION/ FIREWORKS 9:00 pm	2 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am SHRIMP FESTIVAL 9:00 am–7:00 pm
3 <i>BIRTHDAY SUNDAY</i> Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship SHRIMP FESTIVAL 10:00 am–5:00 pm	4 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00–1:30 pm	5	6 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm	7 Ladies Group Meeting at Barnabas 10:30 am	8 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	9 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
10 Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	11 Men's Property Group 9:00 am Executive Committee Meeting 10:00 am AA Group 12:00–1:30 pm	12	13 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm	14	15 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	16 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
17 Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	18 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00–1:30 pm Church Council Meeting 5:30 pm	19 <i>Newsletter Articles Deadline</i>	20 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm Worship Committee Meeting 5:00 pm	21	22 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	23 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
24– <i>PENTECOST SUNDAY</i> Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	25– <i>MEMORIAL DAY</i> CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00–1:30 pm	26	27 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR NASSAU COUNTY	28 PRE--YARD SALE (for Members Only)	29 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am YARD SALE & BAKE SALE 8:30am–3:00pm	30 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am YARD SALE & BAKE SALE 8:30am–3:00pm
31 Sunday School 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship						

Upcoming Events



SHRIMP FESTIVAL WEEKEND EVENTS

Thursday, April 30, 2026

6 p.m. Shrimp Festival Parade – Rain or Shine

Sounds on Centre Special Edition featuring The Usual Suspects to immediately follow the parade

Friday, May 1, 2026

Waterfront Food Booths – 3 to 10 p.m.

Arts, Crafts and Vendors – 5 to dusk

Kids Fun Zone – 5 to 10 p.m.

Shrimp Festival Fireworks follow the 9 p.m. Pirate Invasion

Saturday, May 2, 2026

Festival – 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Waterfront Food booths will be open until 8 p.m.

Kids Fun Zone 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Festival and Features 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

LADIES GROUP

The Potter's Daughters are hosting a heartfelt "Painting Party" to support a meaningful cause.

Bowls for the Hungry In Nassau County

Join us at Barnabas on Thursday, May 7th, at 10:30am for a time of gathering and camaraderie. Bring along your friends and your creativity to paint a special bowl that will be auctioned to help those in need. Bowls and paints, under caring supervision, will be provided.



Last year, the ladies poured their hearts into this activity, finding joy and purpose in their auction efforts.

Come and be part of this compassionate event. The Prince of Peace Potters' Daughters aim to foster friendship and share in meaningful moments together.

A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex.

A promotional poster for 'The Potter's Daughters' Painting Party. The poster features a woman in a hijab holding a stack of pottery on the left and a woman painting a bowl on the right. The text is in a blue, cursive font. A blue box contains the mission statement. The Barnabas Center logo and address are at the bottom.

The Potter's Daughters
Join us at the Painting Party!
May 7th - 10:30am

A Mission to End Hunger
Join us in the fun and make a difference in the lives of our neighbours facing food insecurity. Enjoy sisterhood as we paint bowls to be auctioned, bringing hope, nourishment, and a brighter future to those in need. Bring a friend & share God's love!

Barnabas CENTER
CONNECTING PEOPLE, HELP AND HOPE
1303 Jasmine Street
Suite 101, Fernandina Beach

YARD SALE & BAKE SALE

NEED VOLUNTEERS —PLEASE SIGN-UP IN NARTHEX TO HELP



YARD SALE

May 29th & 30th
8:30am—3:00pm

**PROCEEDS TO
BENEFIT YOUTH
SYNOD EXPENSES**

DONATE ITEMS TODAY!

Kitchenware Household Items/
CD's/ Toys/ Fine Stuff/Jewelry
Glasses/ Dishes/ Books/
Collectibles/ Tools/ Fishing Tackle/
Nick-nacks/ Christmas Items/
Small- Medium Furniture



BRING DONATIONS TO CHURCH MONDAY THRU—FRIDAY 9:00AM—4:00PM



BAKE SALE

**SIGN-UP NOW IN NARTHEX TO
DONATE A BAKED ITEM.**

**BAKED ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF
AT THE CHURCH
THURSDAY, MAY 28TH
FROM 9:00AM—3:00PM
PRIOR TO YARD SALE.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR
COLLECTION & PRICING.
PLEASE LET SHELLY WHITESEL OR
DAWN PRICE KNOW
IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP.**

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 May Sponsors

3rd: Open

10th: Open

17th: Open

24th: Eileen Klein—In memory of mother

31st: Open





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- John Harris-2nd
- Ted Wessel-5th
- Tanya Adin-6th
- Ted Mandrick-8th
- Rich Ekwall-8th
- Donna Cormier-9th
- Tyler Odom-18th
- Charles Vaughn-18th
- Jason Yungmann-19th
- George Pester-21st
- Tammy Brundage-21st
- Ann Pittman-22nd
- Nick Ivanovic-22nd
- June Miller-23rd
- Garrett Price-26th
- John Wietbrock-26th
- Ruth Passarge-27th
- Gene Kilcawley-29th
- Diane Ganzel-31st



- Ted & Melody Mandrick-12th
- Pastor Ben & Andi Mandrick-22nd
- Les & Ellie Boette-24th
- Robert & Janice Vogel-27th
- Robert & Barbara Herum-31st



BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

All are invited to join the congregation in celebrating May's Birthdays with us **Sunday, May 3rd** 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.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT



In honor of Mother's Day our **May mission** is a monetary donation to Micah's Place Domestic Violence Center. Micah's Place is the only certified domestic violence center in Nassau County. For twenty-five years they have provided safe shelter, counseling and outreach services to survivors of domestic violence. In addition, their Purple Dove Stores help to support survivors of domestic violence and the programs offered. All of the proceeds and donations from the stores directly benefit and impact survivors. Survivors who enter into any of the programs are never charged for any items they may need from our Purple Dove Centers including clothes or household goods. In the last year provided 3,646 nights of safe shelter. Fifty dollars provides one night of safety and an opportunity to learn about available help. Our monetary donations will help Micah provide a safe, secure, risk free future with people who can provide support during a difficult and often traumatic time. Thank you so much to all who can help! Micah's office is located at 2188 Sadler Rd. in Fernandina; phone # 904-432-3470. The Community Engagement Director is Lisa Rozier. Micah's Place is a 501 (c)(3) charity; Tax ID-EIN #59-3675485.

The current **April mission** is in honor of Earth Day. We will meet Saturday April 25th at America's Beach Community Center with Mr. David Herbert from Nassau County Extension to remove invasive weeds and restore the dunes. Thank you to Mr. Herbert for another fun and informative morning learning about our beaches and helping Amelia Island. Suggested items to bring along are sunscreen, hat, gloves, and bags.

Our **March mission** was Kairos Prison Ministry. We collected new and gently used men's clothing, underwear, shoes and other wardrobe items. "Smart casual" tops, pants, sweaters, suits, etc. will help newly released inmates re-enter society, and apply and interview for jobs. All donations were picked up by Mr. Scott Pitts from Chandler's Hope Closet, and he delivered them to the prison on Tuesday, April 14. There were over 165 items including suits, new shoes and new underwear. A big thank you to Mr. Pitts for the delivery, and to everyone who helped give these men a new beginning.

April IDN dinner was held Monday, April 6 at Hope House. We served a traditional Southern meal of Fried chicken, mac and cheese, buttered bread, coleslaw, cookies and water. We also used coleslaw leftovers from last Friday by 1St Baptist. Eleven volunteers provided meals to 77 adults and 17 children at Hope House. 1 adult and 24 children were served at America's Youth. A grand total of 117 meals were served. Cost of the meal was \$453.05. Thank you to all who helped! Next IDN is May 4th.

Easter cards were delivered to staff and residents of Fernandina Beach Rehabilitation Center.

Future Events

May IDN dinner is Monday, June 1st at 3:00 at Hope House.

May mission is a monetary donation to MICAH. A container for donations will be in the narthex.

Flowers for Mother's Day will again be given to the ladies in our congregation, MICAH mommies, and the ladies at Fernandina Beach Rehabilitation (formerly Quality Health).

June mission for Wounded Warriors (501 (c)(3) CFC# 11425) is being explored.

Vacation Bible school is June 21-25 from 5:30-8:30 with dinner served. The theme this year is "Rainforest Falls". Thank you to John Harris, and Shelly Whitesel and the Light Keepers for directing and hosting this year.

July mission will again be Thank You cards for veterans. This will begin sometime in June and run until through July. Thank you to Robin Howell for her help with this!

An additional **Summer mission** will again be the distribution of beach fliers.

A future fall mission for Lutheran Services Florida is being explored.

*"I remember my mother's prayers, and they have always followed me.
They have clung to me all my life."
Happy Mother's Day to ALL!*

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

During May the fellowship team will join the outreach team, proving that any fellowship activities we plan are not just for fun and frolic of the Prince of Peace membership but are to reach out to the community sharing in love, care and companionship. The two big events scheduled for May include Mothers' Day recognition and a yard sale. To all the mothers attending Prince of Peace and all those living at Micah's Place or in Amelia Rehabilitation we will present a flower in appreciation for their unselfish service. The "yard" sale is being planned for the 4th weekend in May as a welcoming gift to the community. It will be set up in the narthex and adjacent driveway, clearly visible to any passers-by and offering various items but those especially attractive to the ladies of the church and community or tourists. The plan also includes a food truck. Final plans are being made now. We would welcome your input, as well as your items to sell.

Bill Hansberry



IT COMMITTEE REPORT

IT Committee Report – April 2026

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

Here is update/status for this month.

1. The new Assisted Listening System has been installed.
The system provides high quality direct sound to worship attendee's ears via their iPhone / Smartphone, hearing aids, or earpieces. Contact Les Boette before the worship service for details.
2. An issue with the sound having static distortion being present during the worship service streaming has been resolved.
3. The issue of streaming the worship service via Facebook live has been identified as a problem with the ThinkPad laptop computer.
4. Once the worship streaming issue is resolved, we will address the plan for discontinuing use of Microsoft Publisher. 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.
5. Pastor Ben will temporarily take over responsibility for ensuring that the POP website has accurate and timely information posted on it. We will be looking for a permanent person to fill this role. If you are interested contact Pastor Ben or Les Boette.
6. Since texting messages is a preferred messaging system for the younger generation of people, we will evaluate various options for texting such as ChurchTrac.

Les Boette



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT



GET READY FOR JUNE'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, JUNE 21ST TO THE 25TH

RAINFOREST FALLS, GAURANTEED TO BE A DOWNPOUR OF FUN!

Prince of Peace is the place to be, beginning June 21st as we turn our Sanctuary into a tropical rainforest full of God's critters from lovable frogs and birds to anteaters and jaguars. Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God, will focus on discovering who God is and how much He loves us through Bible learning activities, singing and dancing to catchy songs, playing team building games, eating great food, conducting great experiments, and, of course, collecting a whole new set of Bible memory buddies! Our Operation Kid to Kid Mission this year will aid children in Tanzania in securing fresh water similar to our Honduras Mission two years ago. The fun begins each evening at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with dinner. Rainforest Falls will conclude at 8:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. VBS is open to children from pre-K to 6th grade. Middle and high school students can participate as volunteers and are an important part of a successful VBS. Register for both at: www.vbspro.events/p/rainpop.

The last day of Sunday School will be May 31st. The tentative date for our Sunday School picnic will be July 19th, 2026, immediately following the 10 a.m. service. See John Harris for details.

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!



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.

MAY MISSION

Join our May Mission to support Micah's Place domestic violence center!

Your contributions are crucial. Make a difference today donate cash or check to the giving jar located In the narthex. Together we can make a positive impact and offer hope to those who need it most.

Micah's Place Domestic Violence Center, EIN 59-3675485, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and donations

MAY MISSION

Supporting

MICAH'S PLACE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER

CHANGE LIVES BY SUPPORTING MICAH'S PLACE!

 Last year 3,646 nights of safe Shelter were provided

 The cost of 1 Night of Safety is \$50

 Last year 3,646 nights of safe Shelter were provided

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Join our May Mission to support Micah's Place in their mission to empower survivors of domestic violence. Make a difference today by donating cash or check to the Giving Jar located in the Narthex.

 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

 GIVE to HELP OTHERS!

 Charity Navigator
+ FOUR-STAR +
2026

Domestic violence impacts over 12 Million Women, Men, & Teenagers Annually

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 Contact Micah's
904-491-6364

 Location
2188 Sadler Road Fernandina Beach

 Visit Micah's Website
www.micahsplace.org

CHILDREN'S NEW PLAYGROUND

All of our children are truly blessed to have such a wonderful, fun, clean and safe space to play here at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. The new playground was completed just in time for Easter morning to play and enjoy their Easter Egg Hunt. We want to thank every person who had a part in making this happen for our children especially, Pastor Ben and the men's property committee.

THANK YOU!



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/ Ted 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 Vinditti / Blake Carter / Mike Johnson / Marsha Woleshin /
Clay Chaffee / Edna Swithers

Ted Wessel & Family at death of wife Rosalie Wessel

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 March 31, 2025

General Contributions	\$113,634	
Miscellaneous Income	\$0	
Keep It Simple	\$1,014	
Rental Income	\$400	
Earned Investment Income	\$977	
Fund Fundraising	<u>\$0</u>	
Year TO Date SubTotal Income	\$116,025	
Transfers from Savings to Checking	<u>\$0</u>	
Year TO Date TOTAL INCOME ALL SOURCES	\$116,025	
Year TO Date TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$93,009</u>	
Difference Year To Date Income Vs. Expenses	\$23,016	
Lightkeepers Fund Balance	\$7,182	
Playground Fund Balance	\$180	
BEAR Fund	\$11,494	
Disaster Recovery Fund Balance	\$16,592	
Mortgage Balance Remaining	\$130,330	
Endowment Fund	\$111,806	

2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Les Boette

boette10@gmail.com

Carolyn Krause

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Dana Sargent

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Dennis Purdy

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Duane Whitesel

ddwhitesel@outlook.com

Special Note From Church Council

1. Additional donations of \$300.00 have been applied to our Mortgage Principal in 2026.
2. Disaster Recovery Fund was credited with \$5,000; Expensed to WIND/HAIL SELF-INSURANCE; No actual funds dispersed. No actual funds dispersed; Expense/Credit will occur quarterly.
3. Received \$160 donation for Lightkeepers fund; Fund total of \$7,181.68 towards 2027 Nat'l Youth Gathering.
4. Received \$1,000 in Memorials and \$80 for B.E.A.R. Fund in March.
5. Received \$500 for IDN; Easter Sunrise Service Main Beach Green space rent of \$475 was donated; by a congregant.
6. Playground Fund will remain an active Designated Fund and be used for continued maintenance as needed.



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
April 6, 2026**

This was a special meeting to take action on two topics.

1. A motion was passed to offer Solomon Johnson the position of Organist / Pianist.
2. A motion was passed to authorize the replacement of the existing assisted listening system with a new system costing \$4558.32 that would be paid for funds from the BEAR fund.

**Prince of Peace Church Council Meeting Summary
April 20, 2026**

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

- The devotion was provided by Robin Phillips.
- Pastor Ben provided an update on the finished playground installation, photo directory development, and onboarding of the new organist / pianist. There are nine (9) confirmands in this year's confirmation class.
- The Treasurer's report for March was approved. It was noted that the general giving in March was very high and compensated for the low giving in February, so the budget is back to normal.
- A motion was approved to pay Diane Demeranville for ½ month's pay in May as she vacates the organist position.
- The ad-hoc committee that was reviewing Church Mutual's new insurance policies is disbanding. The new Terms and Conditions have additional language related to various illegal activities. The policy premiums will be paid in May.
- Eight (8) people were approved for membership in POP.
- We are working on getting a firm quote for changing the locks on the outside doors. This is in response to a report that some members of the KISS organization who use our facilities on Saturdays and Mondays may have duplicated their POP keys without authorization.
- The new assisted listening system has been installed. It will be rolled out to the congregation at next Sunday's worship.
- A motion was approved to authorize the repainting of one of the classrooms in preparation for Vacation Bible School.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

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, July 5th—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
Solomon Johnson	solomon8992@gmail.com	904-583-8795	Organist
Les Boette	boette10@gmail.com	904-305-9618	Council President