



Mission: *Worship God, grow in Christ, and share the Gifts God has given us with the World.*

Our Transition Prayer:

Almighty God, you know the needs of your Church before we ask: look graciously upon us and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new Vicar for Prince of Peace. Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your will for us. Guide the members of our church, as we labor to be faithful in seeking your will. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Update on Vicar Search

On June 12 members from Prince of Peace and St. Edwards in Silverton worshiped at St. Thomas in Dallas and then had a luncheon meeting to discuss ways we can share. Rev. Chris Craun was unable to attend.

On June 29 we were given a tour of St. Edwards and their tiny houses for unhoused women. Rev. Chris Craun led us in a discussion of sharing models and stimulated conversation.

Prince of Peace Episcopal Church

Newsletter

July 2022

1525 Glen Creek Rd NW, Salem 97304

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www.princeofpeace.org

Part-time is Plenty Reading Progress

We were gifted seven copies of the book by the Diocese. Most BAC members have a copy to read. When they are finished there will be a sign up for accessing the book. Look for the sign-up on the Narthex table.

Part-time is Plenty; Thriving without full-time clergy. G. Jeffrey MacDonald

Community Garden Work Party July 30, Saturdaj, 9 AM

The mid summer work party is set. An earlier start to recognize the summer weather. Needed are weed wackers, shears and willing hands.

While the property has been commercially mowed areas near and inside the garden fence have tall grass. Litter pick up is another useful task.

Save the Date(s)

Aug 20, 9 am Property Work Party

**Aug 27 TBA Italian Dinner with
Peace Lutheran**

Sept 17 Garden Picnic TBA

Responding to Gun Violence Lift Every Voice Oregon News

The Ballot Initiative IP-17 appears to have collected enough signatures to be on the ballot. They turned in 161,545 signatures. They need 112,000 to qualify. The initiative would: 1) require background checks for gun purchase 2) require training and 3) limit ammunition magazines of more than 10 rounds. (some military and police exceptions).

The deadline for the Secretary of State to validate the signatures is in August. LEVO will be looking for volunteer support to pass the measure .

Resources from around the church:

- **Bishops United Against Gun Violence's [website](#)** has several resources for congregations and individuals, including a **[Litany in the Wake of a Mass Shooting](#)**.
- The **Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's** statement on gun violence following the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, **[available online](#)**.
- The Episcopal Church's **[Resources to Respond to Gun Violence](#)** organized by the **Office of Government Relations**.

LENT OUTREACH FOR ERD-UKRAINE

Contributions from the congregation totaled \$642 to go to Episcopal Relief and Development Ukraine relief.

Two Summer Outreach Projects- Close to Home

Both suggestions for summer outreach requests were approved by the BAC at the June meeting. Neither are tax deductible when given or taxable when received as gifts.

Our musician, Asya Gulua's husband is from Ukraine. He has relatives fighting there as well as relatives who have relocated to Spain and even Salem. They have been trying to help with expenses for all of these relatives.

Gifts are not tax deductible nor are they taxable for Asya and Arsen who is on the instructional staff at Willamette College of Music.

Sue Rembert brought the request to the BAC. *Please consider sharing resources in July with Asya for her family.* She has been participating with other musicians in concerts to support a foundation providing medical supplies to Ukraine as well.

The Community Garden Committee brought a request that in August we collect contributions to help Pedro with his expenses for college.

Pedro has been actively helping at the garden since the first season. He is the liaison to the Garden committee. He has received a full scholarship for Western Oregon. However, scholarships do not cover all expenses.

Harriet Neely is organizing the effort to take cash contributions for Pedro in August. There are plans to have a celebration for him on August 28.

Book Group to Resume in September

The book group will resume on Thursday, September 8. The book selection is "Joy" by the Dali Lama and the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa. The group meets at noon. For more information contact Sue Rembert . Cell: 906-450-0544 or email suerembert@q.com

Garden Committee Changes

Due to personal issues Harriet Neely has resigned as chair and member of the garden committee.

We are grateful for the leadership she exercised after the loss of Cindy Nielson who introduced Harriet to Prince of Peace.

According to guidelines for the committee the chair is selected by the Senior Warden and Vicar. Barbara Ross and Jeanne Dalton have agreed to serve as co-chairs of the committee until the end of the year.

Note: We have a growing crop of milkweed right outside the garden fence on the north side. Apparently, Cindy planted these most important plants for Monarch butterflies and was disappointed they didn't seem to take. No longer worry, Cindy. They are thriving.



Milkweed among the weeds outside the garden fence.

Worship Leader Scheduler Changes

Harriet Neely has agreed to take over scheduling worship leaders. This relieves Father Steven who has been doing this since early this spring. Thanks Harriet.

HELPING THE UNHOUSED (From Peace Lutheran)

Jesus said, "I was naked, and you gave me clothing..." (Matthew 25:36). We've been informed by "Church in the Park" that men's clothing, socks, and underwear are particularly important needs at this time. As Peace Lutheran and Prince of Peace Episcopal churches gather for the Italian Dinner August 27, we are asking everyone to bring **good used men's clothing or new socks or underwear** for the ministry of Church in the Park. Please bring your items to the dinner Saturday, August 27. If you forget you can still bring them Sunday, August 28. Volunteers will bring them to Church in the Park the following week. For more information about Church in the Park's ministry log onto their website at <https://www.church-at-the-park.org/about>. Thanks for caring!

From the Interim Vicar Steven Ellis+

A couple of thoughts have been rattling around in my head as we celebrated the Fourth of July in a nation with more discord than I have ever experienced. There is less sense of delight and hope than I thought we shared.

Let me start with some personal context. I distinctly remember wondering as a twelve-year old why I got so lucky as to be an American. I was just discovering a sense of blessing, that my culture was well-off compared to the rest of the world. We were free, and a force for good in the world. It did not seem fair to me that we got to be better off, because others were, I knew, hungry and poor. I knew God wanted better for them, but I did feel amazingly lucky.

Today, of course, I also know that we are among the cultures disproportionately responsible for the challenges the world faces. There is climate change, hunger, and the rush for resources that causes so many clashes and wars. We have a lot of work to do, quickly, things I did not know as a child.

Today our freedom does not seem to be universally cherished by our own citizens. I know that some feel there are too many changes that disadvantage them. They do not trust our leaders to have their interests at heart. But striking out against democracy itself amazes me; and were it not for trust in the good God, it would dismay me.

I took for granted that we were a force for good in the world. I still believe that we have been a force for good in many ways, but we need to acknowledge

those areas in which we are myopic or defeating our own principles. I believe that we have a continuing role to play as the world changes, and other nations begin to rise. Maybe we become siblings along with some other nations (for better and for worse), instead of the US being the lone superpower.

Some of the anger roiling our culture is no doubt the relative anonymity of social media, where you can rage without much personal risk. I think that the consequences of incivility in such semi-public spaces is as toxic as it would be in person. When we rage without facing others we might slip into caricature. It can make it easy to never hear another point of view or consider it thoughtfully. It is so easy to polarize. It takes discipline and love to look at others as if they matter, to “seek and serve Christ” in them. It worries me that the things said online, and the habits formed there are becoming accepted forms of speech in our culture. They are reported on in the media just as if they had been said in a forum where respect and discussion were real. Speech without accountability is dangerous.

There is an even wider issue as the technology of communication has progressed with such speed. First the telephone and telegraph gave way to satellite communication and telephone calls became inexpensive all over the globe. Then video could be shared so widely, giving television an immediate advantage over newspapers. Now cell phones take video and are self-published all over the world. This information is enlightening and quick but can have odd consequences.

Sometimes informed and responsible journalism is no longer necessarily preferred to wacky, self-defined opinion. Are we humans, and are our cultures, prepared for the onslaught of information with which we must now deal? Are we “wired for it” emotionally? Can our nervous systems manage it? Are we able to form an overview to give context to all this information?

All this questioning started again for me last week as the television and newspapers seemed to me to lack programs about the good we had done as a nation: the position we had staked out in the world and the stability we hoped to maintain, the goodness of freedom. It somehow struck me this

year that the celebration was a bit bare, mostly fireworks celebrating the freedom to blow stuff up. Now this may just be me, but I wished we were celebrating much more than freedom from interference. Freedom is about responsibility, for not only us, but for our fellow human beings of every race and nation.

That is why I was so touched when we prayed together on Sunday, July 3, that excellent prayer from the Book of Common Prayer/Prayers for National Life/#18

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage. We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will.

Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord and

confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way.

Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues.

Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth.

In the name of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail.

All which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer Chain News

Charlene McCreight has decided to remain the chair of Prince of Peace Prayer Chain and has decided to be a joint member of both Prince of Peace and St. Barnabas.

Prayer Chain requests can be submitted to her at charlene.mccreight@gmail.com or calling 503-991-9510.

Sign Up for Flowers and Coffee Hour

There are sign up sheets in the narthex on the bulletin board near the kitchen door. Many openings.

