

TIDINGS OF PEACE

We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to Jesus

Pastor's Message

"Correcting our Vision"

For as long as I remember, I have always worn glasses. I don't remember when I got my first pair of glasses. Every year or two, I get a new pair, either my normal everyday glasses or the polarized sunglasses. I absolutely must wear glasses; without them, I can barely function – no driving, no playing baseball, football, no being able to see a counseling client, watch a movie, see your faces when I'm preaching, etc. Glasses are necessary for me to see and function.

This past October, I had my yearly eye appointment, and my prescription did not change, but I needed to get a new pair of sunglasses (they were more than three years old). So, I picked a pair and about ten days later, I got them, wore them for the afternoon, and then the next day we left for Michigan for the weekend. Something didn't feel right. When we were at the gas station, I closed my right eye and looked at a car's license plate – it wasn't very clear. I sent the glasses back, thinking that the place had made them wrong. At the end of November, I got them back, but I still had an issue

with the left lens. I decided I could still function with them, so I let it go. It was annoying, but I could make it work. Then, a few weeks ago, during Sunday morning, during the communion liturgy, I looked up and had a moment of difficulty with my eyes focusing on the text on the back screen. So, I reached out to my eye doctor, and he spent at least forty minutes with me figuring out what was going on. He discovered that my astigmatism had gotten worse. I did not know that it could change quickly, between the time of my eye appointment and when I got the sunglasses. Yay, for getting older! Sarcasm!

On May 12th, I received my new pair of sunglasses and when I put them on, everything was clearer, crisper, better. For six months, my eyeglasses were not correcting my vision the way I needed. I could still see, but not as well as I could have been. I needed the correct prescription, not one that was ok enough. This made me wonder about our spiritual eyes, about the eyes of our Christian faith. Are our eyes in need of correction?

How often do we settle for a spiritual vision that is just "good

enough"? We look at the world, our neighbors, and even our own lives through the distorted lenses of our own perspectives, our daily stress, or our past mistakes. Like my old sunglasses, this distorted view might allow us to function, but it leaves us spiritually squinting. We try to "make it work," ignoring the blur of our own self-centeredness or the haze of our anxieties, often missing the clear reality of God's truth.

It is fitting that I finally realized the severity of my failing vision during the communion liturgy. When we gather worship, we bring these blurred, worldly perspectives into the sanctuary. This is where God's Word goes to work on us, specifically through what we call the Law. In the Lutheran tradition, we understand the Law as a mirror—it doesn't just give us rules, it shows us the truth about ourselves. It exposes our "spiritual astigmatism," showing us exactly where our focus has drifted and where we have tried to navigate life on our own terms.

Confronted with that reality, we realize we cannot fix our own sight. No amount of effort or "trying harder" can clear the blur of sin.

But God does not leave us to wander in a haze. Instead, He gives us the Gospel—the good news that Jesus Christ has done for us what we could never do for ourselves. Through the Word and the Sacraments, the Holy

Spirit refocuses our hearts and eyes. In the waters of Baptism, in the words of Absolution, and in the bread, wine, body, and blood given and shed for you, God takes our eyes off our own failures and fixes them squarely on the cross.

When we view our lives through the lens of Jesus' mercy, the picture changes. Everything becomes clearer: We see our sins not as things we must hide or manage, but as debts fully paid by our Savior. We see our Savior as one who loves us and through the grace of His eyes He draws us to redemption, to love. We see our neighbors not through the blurred vision of judgment or condemnation, but as people whom God loves just as much as He loves us. We see our future not with uncertainty, but with the clear hope of the resurrection.

As we head into June, I encourage you: don't settle for a spiritual vision that is "just okay." If you feel your focus drifting or the world starting to look blurry, don't try to just "make it work" on your own. Come back to the Word. Come to the Lord's Table. Let Him restore your sight, so that we may continually "fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2).

May God bless you this month!

Pastor Chris

Community Fun Day

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 13th, from 12-2 PM and come celebrate with us! We'll have water balloons, bounce houses, and more—fun for the whole family! Bring your friends and neighbors for an afternoon of laughter, connection, and community. We can't wait to see you there!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Rainforest Falls VBS

Adventure awaits at Rainforest Falls VBS!

Join us at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church as we journey into the rainforest and discover the refreshing love of God in Jesus.

Dates & Time: June 22 – 26 • 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Theme: Rainforest Falls – helping kids explore God's Word, grow in faith, and discover God's love through Jesus.

What's planned? Bible lessons, music, games, snacks, activities, and plenty of rainforest-themed fun throughout the week.

Who can attend? Children entering Preschool through Grade 6. Friends are welcome!

Cost: Free!

Click the link to register: [Rainforest Falls](#)

Survey for Mid-week Evening Bible Study

One of the highlights that the ministry planning team noted was a desire for a bible study that does not take place during the workday. The team spent time discussing possibilities, so Pastor has created an online survey with potential days and times. Please fill out the survey (online or through a paper survey). We are looking at doing a Google Meet (online) bible study. We believe this would address people's concerns of driving at night and it has the potential to work better with Pastor Chris' and his family's schedule. Here is the link for the survey: [Online Bible Study Survey](#)

Joining Prince of Peace

If you would like to become a member of Prince of Peace, please contact the church office at 614-863-3124, info@poplutheran.net, or contact Pastor Chris at 480-540-5701 or alivefromfaith@yahoo.com and we can discuss the next steps to welcome you into formal membership at Prince of Peace. Pastor Chris recognizes that everyone takes this step in their own time, so if or when you desire to do so, please reach out.

Bible Study

Sunday morning @ 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday morning Women's Bible Study – There may women's bible study during the summer. See Sunday's insert sheets for more info.

Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study: Meets at the Fieldings home on the 1st Saturday of the month.

Sunday school

Sunday school for our children will resume in September. Thank you to all the teachers, children, and parents who participated in the Sunday school program.

Prince of Peace Coffee Mugs

We have purchased coffee mugs that will be offered to visitors as part of our welcome packets. We are extending the opportunity to anyone of Prince of Peace to purchase their own coffee mug. Cost is \$15.00 per mug. You can sign up for a coffee mug at the following link: [POP Coffee Mugs](#)

Pastor Chris on Vacation

Pastor Chris will be on vacation from May 24-June 4th. He will be back in the pulpit and leading worship on June 7th. Pastor and his family expresses their thanks to you for granting him time off for rest.

June Communion

Communion will be celebrated on **June 14th and the 28th**. We will celebrate communion during the in-person service.

L.S.S. Food Donation

The Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Central Ohio is in need of food donations due to the greatly increased number of clients and the ability to buy less and less bulk from the Mid-Ohio

Food Bank. If you will donate, please bring your food donation to the church on **Sunday, June 14th** and we will take everything down there on behalf of the congregation. The items they are requesting are fruits, vegetables, tuna, peanut butter, other 'shelf', non-perishable items, and personal care items. Jesus said in Matthew 25.40, "Whatever you did to the least of these My brothers, you did it for Me." Thank you for your willingness to help those in need. ***You can bring your food donation to the church and it will be unloaded for you.***

Flower Signups

If you would like to purchase flowers for the altar, please see the sign-up sheet near the church office. Cost is \$25.00

Streaming of Worship

We will continue our Sunday live stream worship services. Service will be at 10:30 a.m. If you cannot make it to service, we are posting the recording of it on our website (Poplutheran.net) under the sermon section.

In order to participate in the worship service, please download the worship folder. It should always be posted to the website by Saturday morning. You can access the worship folder at: [Worship Folder](#)

On the same page as the worship folder, you will find the link to the live stream. I have included it here in the newsletter as well. The live stream link is: [Live Stream](#)

Join Us for a Community Party!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, June 13th, from 12-2 PM** and come celebrate with us! We'll have water balloons, bounce houses, and more—fun for the whole family!



Get ready for an exciting week of **Vacation Bible School** from **June 22-26, 2026!**



Updating Contact Info

If you would like to update your information for the church, please contact the church office at 614-863-3124 and a link will be e-mailed to you. You may also contact the church office at info@poplutheran.net

Monthly Prayer Meeting

We hold a monthly prayer meeting the first Sunday of the month at 6 p.m. at the church. This ministry is a time for people of the church to come together for prayer. The prayers can be for you, a loved one, the church, etc. The prayer meeting lasts from around 30 to 60 minutes.

Father's Day

This month we give thanks to God for the gift of fathers. Whether by birth, adoption, or faithful mentorship, fathers reflect the strength, guidance, and love of our Heavenly Father. On Father's Day, we honor those who care, lead, protect, and provide. May God bless all fathers, grandfathers, and father figures in our lives, and may their love be a reflection of God's own never-failing love for His children.

April Ministry Support Report

	This Month	YTD
Income	14,531	156,507
Expenses	17,836	154,808

Celebrations of Life

Precious A. - 6th
Denise M. - 9th
John K. - 9th
David G. - 14th
Pastor Chris. - 16th
Ann P. - 20th
Michael H. - 19th
Kidist H. - 28th
Bev. S. - 30th



ANNIVERSARIES



John and Dolores K -
on the 8th
Thomas and Sharon
T. - 11th

Dave and Kathy G..
on the 14th

Richard and Nora W. - 25th

Dave and Lynda R - 26th

*Sorry, if your birthday or anniversary
was missed!*

*Please give Pastor Chris any missing
information. Thank you.*

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Are you a Thrivent member and have eligible Thrivent Choice Dollars to designate? If so, consider Prince of Peace. We have a special fund dedicated to Thrivent Choice dollars that the Thrivent members authorize for projects and purchases. You can check your Thrivent choice dollar amounts and direct them from the following webpage: [Thrivent Choice](#) or you can google "Thrivent Choice Dollars."

Online Offerings

You have the opportunity to support the mission and ministry of Prince of Peace through an electronic transfer of

funds (EFT). It is a convenient way to support the Lord's work here at Prince of Peace. You can set up a recurring debit or manually input your ministry support weekly, monthly, or quarterly. Below are the steps to setting up your EFT for ministry support.

Go to POP Website and click the 'donate' tab. Enter the Amount and frequency and date(s) that you want to give. Enter the information on next page (incl. banking info). Enter a password if you want to create a profile and then submit it by clicking 'Process.'

ORGANIST: Maria G.

MORNING DEACON: Michael P.

PA SERVERS: Mike P.

COUNTERS: Melanie and Monica

SERVICE HELPERS

June 7

ELDER SERVING: Richard R.

FLOWERS: John and Dolores (their anniversary and John's birthday)

GREETERS: John & Dolores K.
Stephanie S.

LECTORS: Jessica M.J. / Monica T.

USHERS: Knellers / Korto K.

PA SERVERS: Mike Petti

June 14

ELDER SERVING: Joe K.

FLOWERS: Open

GREETERS: Willie and Debby F. /
Michele D.

LECTORS: Willie F. / Jeff R.

USHERS: Fieldings / Phillip S.

PA SERVERS: Mike Petti

June 21

ELDER SERVING: Richard R.

FLOWERS: Open

GREETERS: Richard R. / Willie and
Debby F.

LECTORS: Debby F. / Dawn R.

USHERS: Jessica M.J. / Open

PA SERVERS: Mike Petti

June 28

ELDER SERVING: Dave A.

FLOWERS: John and Dolores
(Memory of Dolores' parents)

GREETERS: Richard and Laura B. /
Pat K. And Ali S.

LECTORS: Fieldings / Pastor Chris

USHERS: Dawn R.

PA SERVERS: Mike Petti