

TIDINGS OF PEACE

October 2025

Pastor's Message

“When Worship Is Hard... Show Up Anyway”

This past Sunday, I found it hard to come to church. I say that honestly—not because I don't love our congregation or believe in the beauty of worship, but because sometimes life presses in with a heaviness that follows you into the morning.

Saturday night and Sunday morning were difficult. I went to bed with a weight on my heart, especially after receiving some messages from my sister, Amanda. Her daughter—my niece, Abby—needed to be hospitalized. The concern, the helplessness, the sorrow all lingered. I didn't sleep well. I woke up drained—emotionally, spiritually, even physically.

Still, I came. And God met me.

I preached. I led. I stood before you. And even though my heart was tender and my spirit tired, the Lord worked through it. Not because I had everything together. But because He is always faithful. Even the first service prayer announcement—one of the hardest parts of that morning—was met with grace. I said what needed to be said, and God did what only He can do.

I want you to know this because maybe you've had mornings like that too. Mornings when it's hard to get up, hard to come to church, hard to pretend everything's fine. I want to tell you: you don't have to pretend.

Worship isn't for the people who feel strong, confident, and put together. It's for all of us—especially when we're not.

Come anyway.

Come with your doubts. Come with your distractions. Come with your heart full of joy or barely holding on. God doesn't need your perfection; He meets you in your need. That's the good news of the Gospel.

Jesus didn't wait for the world to clean itself up before stepping in. He came for the sick, the tired, the overwhelmed, the sinners—us. He came to carry burdens, heal wounds, and bring life out of death. He still does.

Even when you don't feel like worship “did anything” for you—God did something. His Word doesn't return empty (Isaiah 55:11). His Spirit works even through our groans and our silence (Romans 8:26). His grace shows up even when we can't feel it.

So if you're struggling to come to worship—come anyway. And if you can't come, reach out. You're not alone. We're a family in Christ. We carry each other. We walk together. And we wait in hope, together.

Paul writes in Galatians 6:9, “Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” Sometimes, just showing up

is the good work God calls us to—and He meets us there with mercy.

See you Sunday,
Pastor Chris

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 – Study and discussion of the book of Esther. Meets at 10 a.m. except for the 4th Wednesday of the month when the start time is 10:15 a.m.

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 has resumed! Sunday School is a joyful time where children grow in their knowledge of God's Word, build friendships, and experience the love of Jesus in fun and meaningful ways. Parents, we encourage you to make Sunday School part of your family's

weekly rhythm. It's a gift that helps plant seeds of faith for a lifetime!

March for Life

On Saturday, October 3rd, there will be a March for Life. You can find more information at oh.marchforlife.org.

Reformation Sunday: October 26th

Join us as we celebrate Reformation Sunday, a cornerstone of our Lutheran Christian identity. On this day, we remember Martin Luther's bold stand for the Gospel and the recovery of the truth that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Reformation isn't just history—it's a living reminder that God's Word is our sure foundation and that the Church is always being reformed according to His truth.

LCEF Clarity Process – Ministry Planning Begins

The next phase of our LCEF Clarity process begins Tuesday, October 7, and will focus on ministry planning—clarifying where God is leading us and how we can faithfully move forward. We invite the whole congregation to pray for wisdom, unity, and vision, and to stay engaged in the process. This is an exciting opportunity to shape the future of our ministry together—please lift it up in prayer and be part of what God is doing at Prince of Peace!

October Communion

Communion will be celebrated twice, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month (**October 12th and the 26th**).

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, October 12th** 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

LWML Monthly Mission Mites Grant:

Regional Disaster Response LERT Shower Trailers

Lutheran Early Response Teams (LERT) serve thousands of individuals and families who are suffering from loss in the wake of disasters like hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, fires, and tornadoes. When deployed, LERT teams traditionally use congregations

in the disaster areas as their base camps. The host congregations provide a place for the LERT teams to sleep, eat, rest, recover, and receive spiritual care during their time of service. Host congregations are incredible to work with as the teams help them rebuild their communities and share the life-changing message of the Gospel.

One challenge for team members has been the lack of showers and laundry facilities at a host church. LERT members have showered at national gym chains, in members' homes, in personal campers, or even under cold garden hoses. This grant will fund half the cost of two combination bathroom/shower/laundry trailers to be used during disaster response work.

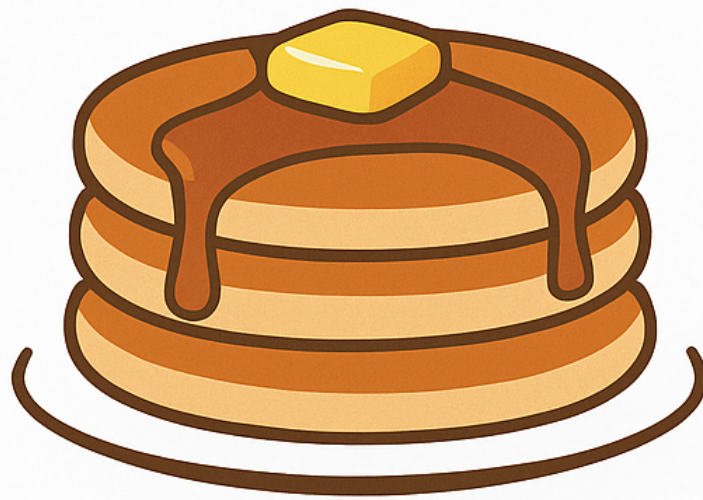
Streaming of Worship

We will continue our Sunday live stream worship services for the next several months. 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](#)

BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER



OCTOBER 19
9:15 – 10:15 AM

Freewill offering to support a local
elementary school.

PANCAKES, BACON, FRUIT!

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

Ohio District Senior High Youth Gathering

All high school youth are invited to this year's Ohio District Youth Gathering, hosted at Prince of Peace! The weekend includes worship, servant events, fellowship at Scene 75, and Bible study based on the "Caring Connections" theme.

Cost: \$80 (includes meals & activities)

Housing: Book separately;
Hotel2Suites recommended

Register by: October 15, 2025

See Pastor Chris or the church office for registration forms and details!

All Saint's Day

We will observe All Saint's Day on **Sunday, November 2nd**. If you would like a deceased loved one to be remembered during the service, please send Pastor Chris their name and relationship to you by Friday, November 1st.

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.

Celebrations of Life

Tom K. - 5th
Aly E. - 9th
Debbie F. - 11th
Thomas T. - 12th
Linda S. - 18th
Dave A. - 20th
Alexa S. - 22nd
Steve H. - 25th
Adam R. - 25th
George S. - 31st

Photo by Morgan Lane on Unsplash



August Ministry Support Report

	This Month	YTD
Income:	\$15,441	\$214,321
Expenses:	\$17,054	\$219,014

Thank you to you all for your continued support of Prince of Peace's mission and ministry.

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.'

ANNIVERSARIES

Jon and Denis S. - 4th
 Jim and Cinda L. - 9th
 Mike and Katie H. - 27th



Sorry, if your birthday or anniversary was missed!

Please give Pastor Chris any missing information. Thank you.

ORGANIST: Maria G.

MORNING DEACON: Michael P.

PA SERVERS: Mike P.

MONTHLY COUNTERS: Linda S. And Denise M.

SERVICE HELPERS

October 5

ELDER SERVING

FLOWERS: Tom K. (Birthday)

GREETERS: Fieldings / Stephanie S. & Noelle E.

LECTORS: Jessica M.J. / Dawn R.

USHERS: John and Dolores K. / Korto P.

PA SERVERS: Mike Petti

October 12

ELDER SERVING: Joe K.

FLOWERS: Open

GREETERS: Willie and Debby F. / Michele D.

LECTORS: Willie F. / Andrew E.

USHERS: TBD

PA SERVERS: Mike Petti

October 19

ELDER SERVING: TBD

FLOWERS: Linda - Birthday

GREETERS: Richard R. / Fieldings

LECTORS: Debby F. / Monica T.

USHERS: Richard & Laura / Thomas T.

PA SERVERS: Mike Petti

October 26

ELDER SERVING: Andrew E.

FLOWERS: Open

GREETERS: Richard & Laura / Pat K. / Ali S.

LECTORS: Fieldings / TBD

USHERS: Dawn R.

PA SERVERS: Mike Petti