



# Peace Notes

*Prince of Peace Anglican Church*

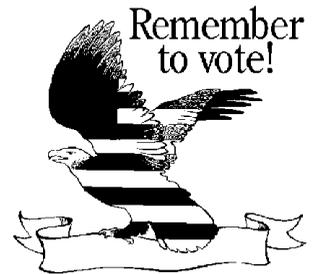
*November 2015*



**Question: “Does God expect Christians to vote?”**

**Answer:** It is the duty and responsibility of every Christian to vote and to vote for leaders who promote Christian principles. God is most certainly in control, but that doesn't mean we should do nothing to further His will. We are commanded to pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-4). In terms of politics and leadership, there is evidence in Scripture that God has been displeased with our choices of leadership at times (Hosea 8:4). The evidence of sin's grip on this world is everywhere. Much of the suffering on earth is because of godless leadership (Proverbs 28:12). Scripture gives Christians instructions to obey legitimate authority unless it contradicts the Lord's commands (Acts 5:27-29; Romans 13:1-7). As followers of God, we ought to strive to choose leaders who will be themselves led by our Creator (1 Samuel 12:13-25). Candidates or proposals that violate the Bible's commands for life, family, marriage, or faith should never be supported (Proverbs 14:34). Christians should vote as led through prayer and study of both God's Word and the realities of the choices on the ballot.

Christians in many countries in this world are oppressed and persecuted. They suffer under governments that they are powerless to change and governments that hate their faith and silence their voices. These believers preach the gospel of Jesus Christ at risk of their own lives. In our country, Christians have been blessed with the right to speak about and choose their leaders without fearing for themselves or their families. But in recent elections in our country, about 2 of every 5 of self-professed Christians took that right for granted and did not vote. About 1 in 5 self-professed, eligible Christians are not even registered to vote.





In our day and age, there are many who live against the Christian faith, who want to drive the name and message of Christ completely out of the public arena. Voting is an opportunity to promote, protect, and preserve godly government. Passing up that opportunity means letting those who would denigrate the name of Christ have their way in our lives. The leaders we elect—or do nothing to remove—have great influence on our freedoms. They can choose to protect our right to worship and spread the gospel, or they can restrict those rights. They can lead our nation toward righteousness or toward moral disaster. As Christians, we should stand up and follow our command to fulfill our civic duties (Matthew 22:21). – Pastor John

**Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving**

**Remember in Prayer:** Betty Harris and Chris and David Harris (Rebecca Martelli’s family), Carol Matthews, Christine (Chuck and Carol Matthews daughter), Chuck Matthews, Vicki Leininger, Statler family, Tom DiSanto, Amy, Marion Morgan, Sharon Morgan, Florence Daugherty, Nick Petkovich family, Dwyer family, Cosnek family, Cindy Lang, Edward Bottomley, Jim Miller, Robenski family, Blanche Heidengren, Adelia Peters, Dougherty family, Matthew, Tristan Holt, Ruth Williams, Deacon Dennis Wilson, Kristen Steiner, Gaby, Dick and Dee Fuller, Stacey Androlli (Diane Dougherty’s niece, Phil Mertens. **Our Homebound:** Susan Cipriani, Evelyn Hoffman, Alice Miracle, Josephine (Jill) Bull and Vera Matusiak.



**The Word of the Lord for November 2015**

<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
31/1	Deuteronomy 6:1-9	119:1-16	Hebrews 7:23-28	Mark 12:28-34
7/8	1 Kings 17:8-16	146	Hebrews 9:24-28	Mark 12:38-44
14/15	Daniel 12:1-13	16	Hebrews 10:31-39	Mark 10:13-23
21/22*	Daniel 7:9-14	93	Revelation 1:1-8	John 18:33-37
28/29+	Zechariah 14:4-9	50	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Luke 21:25-31

\* Christ the King Sunday + First Sunday of Advent



**A Liturgical Note** - Christ the King Sunday is the last Sunday in the liturgical year. On the next Sunday, we begin the new liturgical year as we celebrate the First Sunday in Advent. (Christ the King and all of Advent is celebrated at the Saturday worship services, too!)





**Monthly Praise and Worship Service**  
**Thursday, November 19**  
**6:30 – 8:00 pm**



*Thanks  
Everyone!*

*Dear brothers and sisters in Christ at Prince of Peace,*

*Thank you so much for the wonderful September surprise celebrating my ten year anniversary serving as Music Minister!*

*Thank you for the warm receptions after the services, the cards, the hugs, the kind words, the lovely picture, and the monetary gifts! Wow, thank you for your love. My heart is full.*

*Love ya'll,  
Lynn*



**Thank you** to our intrepid crew of builders for their ongoing work in transforming our Sacristy into a wonderful working space for Altar Guild. It now includes a beautiful, well-lit sink area, storage and even a closet for robing. In addition, two new doors, using a Cross and Bible design, have been installed along with a new threshold. Our continued thanks to Bill Hovanec, Jeff Smith and Phil Adkins for their work in this transformation. Please remember that your monetary gifts are helping with this project, and will assist with future changes to our church building. Contributions may be placed in the offering plate, marked 'building projects'.

**Thank you** to Al and Rebecca Martelli for heading up our Photo Directory project, and everyone else who helped with scheduling and on our picture-taking day! Remember that if for some reason you could not be present on the two days that the photo shoot was underway, it is not too late to participate. You may submit a photo of your own, or Pastor John will snap one of you on his phone. Please help to make our directory complete! Contact Pastor John if you are one of our 'missing persons' as soon as possible. The directory should be ready to pick up by mid-December.



*Photo*  
**DIRECTORY**



**See You  
Next Year!**

Another thank you to everyone who brought their pets, and also invited their friends and neighbors and their furry families to the Pet Blessing on October 3. Even though it was a bit wetter than we had hoped it was decided that God used the rain to bless the pets, too! This is an annual event at Prince of Peace, and we hope you will remember to keep this event on your calendar for next October.

**Annual Stewardship Weekend**



On the weekend of November 7-8, our Vestry and Staff will take leadership in present their pledges for the next year. On the following weekend, everyone in the parish will be invited to present their pledges for 2016 on the altar. We make our pledges of all that God has given us in obedience to His command to offer a tithe of our income to the work of God's Kingdom. Pledge cards are available in the leaflet on Nov. 7-8 and 14-15, and also on the back table at the rear of the church. Please prayerfully ask God how He would have you give in the coming year.

**Wednesday Night Spiritual Growth**

Wednesday night dinner and spiritual growth classes are continuing this month – and will end on November 18<sup>th</sup>. This month we will explore the New Testament. Would you consider joining us? We eat together at 6:00 pm, each person bringing a part of the meal (*please sign up each week!*), and then have class at 6:30pm in different parts of the building. The main class, which can be joined at any time, is titled *How to Read the Bible from 35,000 Feet – An Overview*. This class will give each person the whole Bible story in an easy to remember format. Upcoming sessions:

Nov. 4 – The Four Gospels

Nov. 11 – Acts of the Apostles & Paul's Letters

Nov. 18 – All the rest of the New Testament

*O*  
**Midweek  
Classes**



**Women's Annual Christmas Party** - All ladies are invited to the annual Prince of Peace Women's Christmas Party to be held on Saturday, December 12 from 12 Noon to 2:00 pm. This will be a bring-your-own luncheon, so **bring any kind of main dish, salad or dessert** to share. We will supply plates, silverware and beverages. Please let us know that you plan to attend by putting your name, and the

name of any guests or friends you want to invite, on one of the sign-up sheets at the back of the church. **Don't forget to bring a \$1.00 Grab Bag gift.** If you have any questions, contact June Smith.

## **Monday Bible Study Class Dates and Luncheon Plans**

The **Women's Monday Afternoon Bible Study** dates for November are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 2:30 pm. The current study is on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter. All materials are provided and no homework is required. Please come and join us!

We will conclude our Fall Session as we meet on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon at J.W. Hall's restaurant in the Hopewell Shopping Center for a Christmas Luncheon. We will not be meeting during the months of January and February, and will resume in the month of March as weather allows. Please contact Bev McKee for details for details about the luncheon or the study.



## **Choices Pregnancy Center Benefit Banquet – November 5**



Our Church Outreach Budget supports this excellent ministry that is committed to the Sanctity of Human Life. Each November, a wonderful banquet is held at the Airport Hyatt Regency with an outstanding national speaker. There is no cost! Prince of Peace is a table sponsor and would like YOU to be at our church table (adults only please!) on November 5 at 6:30 pm. Please see Pastor John to reserve your free spot!

This year's speaker is Abby Johnson, author of *Unplanned*; a chronicle of her experiences working for Planned Parenthood and her dramatic exit. She is committed to helping women and clinic workers escape the abortion industry (she has helped almost 200 workers get free) and travels across the globe sharing her story and educating the public on the sanctity of life.

## **Community Service**

Aliquippa Celebrates Faith will hold a community Thanksgiving Worship Gathering on Sunday, November 22 at 6:30 pm at the Aliquippa Senior Junior High School, 100 Harding Ave in Aliquippa. The service will include a variety of music, dance, praise and worship from several area churches. Admission is free and everyone is welcome. Refreshments and a time of fellowship will follow the program. For more information call 724 378-7150.



***Oh, give thanks to the Lord for He is good  
and His mercy endures forever***

## October Youth Update

During September our youth events were focused on service: helping out with the windshield washing outreach and the parish work day. For October, our youth event is of the pure fun, community building variety. We will be going laser tagging and then going to Cold Stone for some delicious ice cream and good discussions. Throughout the year our youth events follow this pattern of rotating between service events and pure fun events, as I believe both are important for our youth to grow individually and as a group.



We continue to meet each week on Sunday from 6-8 pm for games, snacks, fellowship, Bible study, and prayer – all youth in 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades are welcome! We are near the end of our study of Paul's letter to the Colossians, after which we will study his letters to the Thessalonians. Please continue to pray that our youth will grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord!

In Christ,  
Jason Waller

## Teaching and Serving Our Young People



If you are interested in talking about how we are growing, and how we can better teach and serve our young people, then please come to a meeting at the church at 7 pm on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Susan Hovanec and Pastor John have an exciting agenda to talk about and it would be a blessing to have you involved in this important ministry to our kids. If you have any questions, please see Pastor John or Susan Hovanec.



## Mission Update

**The Fall Missions in Focus Weekend** at Prince of Peace was held on October 17 and 18. Through Sharon Steinmiller, Denise Cox, the Rev. Phocas Anthony and a couple of videos, our vision of what God is doing in this world was enormously increased, and we were challenged about how much less we are doing than we could do in sharing the Good News of Jesus.

On Saturday evening Phocas opened our eyes to what is happening in his home country and encouraged us to pray for our brothers and sisters, and to send people to help the Church there.

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Denise, the Associate Director of SAMS (The Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders) shared a brief video of the successful climb of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania by a team of missionaries and senders, which was intended to highlight the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SAMS and their transition from a ministry restricted to South America to the vision of a Global one, which she encouraged us to get involved in by going or supporting those who go.



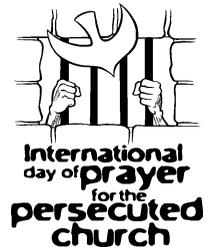
At the services on Sunday morning, we saw a short video which voiced the question: how is it that, since there are 2 billion Christians in the world, there are still 2 billion people who have never heard about Jesus, and have, at this moment, no means of hearing! Then Sharon, the Director of the New Wineskins Missionary Network challenged us as to whether we are really ready to tell the Lord that we "... will do whatever He tells us" (See John 2:5), whether that means to go or to stay and support those who go. She encouraged us to send a team from Prince of Peace to the triennial New Wineskins for Global Mission Conference this coming April (7-10) to be held at the Ridgecrest Conference Center near Ashville, North Carolina. I am planning to go to this conference, God willing, so please talk to me if you hear the Lord telling you to go.



At the Adult Education class, Sharon shared with us an old but very powerful video of J. Edwin Orr's talk on the role of Prayer in Revival. Then we spent some time praying for Muslims in accordance with a Prayer paper, copies of which are available on the Missions Table in the Conference Room.

I want to thank, on behalf of the Church, Darlene and Jim Miller and Ellie Ruttner who provided and served the dinner on Saturday evening; Nate Heidengren who assisted his Dad in preparing the videos etc. for presentation; and, of course, Denise, Sharon and Phocas for giving of themselves to help us become more aware of God's Global Mission.

**The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church** will be on **Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**. All Saints Sunday is such an appropriate day for this! We will have special materials from Voice of the Martyrs that tell the story of Pastor Suta, who said: "I am a simple man, and without prayer I am nothing;" and we will offer special prayers for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering for their faith in Jesus.



Pastor Philip

## **“Let Us Give Thanks”**

by Joyce Wingett

“Thanks” is a word that is clearly synonymous with the month of November much like “thanksgiving”, and “thankfulness”.

The month of November, reminds us of those who may not have enough to eat in our own country. While we all wish that every household will have a complete turkey dinner with all the delicious side dishes on Thanksgiving Day, that is a wonderful wish, but not just for one day in November but for 12 months a year.



Mission  
Donations

**Mustard Seed Project (MSP)** wants to thank you for helping feed Pastor Deo’s Street Children of Kigali currently at 3 days a week. And now 4 or 5 days for the sick children who must have more nourishment to get stronger and healthier. We continue to be most thankful for your support of these children and remind you that you may place “Street Children” donations in the container in the back of the church.

And most of all, November reminds me of what we all should be most thankful for. The song writer, Brian Howard says it best:

*“Let us give thanks that our names are written  
Written in the book of life  
And inscribed upon His palms Let us give thanks”*

Not just in November but all 12 months!

### **Side by Side – Pastor John and Blanche Heidengren**



Recently, my son Jonathan brought his 15 fellow interns from Greensboro, NC, to visit us here in Pittsburgh. They came to recruit students at local colleges and attend a downtown conference. They stayed with Blanche and I and our boys, sleeping all over the floor, in couches, extra beds, and in the basement. We shared breakfasts together and one evening of good conversation and a movie.

I was very impressed with the other men and women with whom Jonathan spends so much of his time. They each had a strong relationship with God and genuinely cared for each other. He has chosen his friends well and it shows in how his character is growing more like Christ.

Choosing friends unwisely can change us for the worse, as First Corinthians reminds us: “Do not be misled: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.’” We need to choose our friends carefully, because they will rub off on us, for better or for worse. Again Proverbs reminds us (Prov. 27:17): “As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” >>>



+ **Christian Symbols** +

**Scepter and crown** - The scepter and crown are symbols of a king's authority. In Christian tradition, they represent Christ's triumphant rule over all. The final Sunday of the liturgical year — November 22 this year — is Christ the King Sunday, when we celebrate this very thing. Hebrews 1:8 (NIV), echoing the book of Psalms, reads: "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom."



From a worship bulletin in Portland, Maine:

turkey, gravy, masked potatoes ...

We'd love to know the secret behind this *mashed* dish.

+ **Bible Quiz** +

Of what ethnicity was the one leper out of 10 healed who returned to thank Jesus?

- A. Syrophoenician
- B. Samaritan
- C. Syrian
- D. Judean



Answer: See Page 11

# Thankful Hearts

Make table decorations that serve as Thanksgiving conversation-starters.

## What you need:

- Paper and pencil
- Scissors
- Cloth or felt
- Needle and thread
- Sewing machine (optional)
- Fiber fill, cotton balls or rice
- Adult help

## What you do:

1. Cut out a heart pattern (any size) on paper. Allow 1/4" for a seam if you'll be using a sewing machine.
2. Cut out material hearts, placing pieces right sides out if sewing by hand and right sides together if using a machine.
3. For hand-sewing, use a running stitch or an overcast stitch. Leave an opening for stuffing.
4. With a machine, sew along a 1/4" seam, allowing a 1" opening so you can turn the heart inside out and insert stuffing. Trim close to seam but don't cut stitching.
5. Fill with stuffing. Sew the opening shut by hand.
6. Put a heart at each place setting. Before dinner, have guests pick theirs up and say why they have a thankful heart.

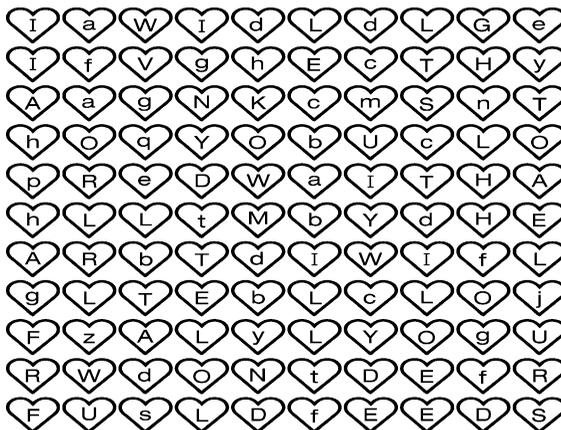


# With all my heart



This Thanksgiving — and every day — let's thank our heavenly Father for all he has done.

*Directions: Write the capital letters in order on the lines below to complete Psalm 9:1, NIV.*



“ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_;  
 \_\_\_\_\_.”

**PSALM 9:1, NIV**

Answer: "I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1, NIV

**Answer to the Bible Quiz on page 10: B (See Luke 17:16)**

**Newsletter  
DEADLINE**

The deadline for the December Issue of Peace Notes is Friday, November 20. Please email your articles to the Peace Notes Editor Bev McKee at [gbmckee1@verizon.net](mailto:gbmckee1@verizon.net), call her at 724 457-7105, or give them to the Parish Secretary, June Statler

Prince of Peace Anglican Church



1314 Gringo Rd.

Aliquippa, PA 15001

Pastor John M. Heidengren

Phone 724 375-5351

E-mail

[Princeofpeaceanglicanhopewell@outlook.com](mailto:Princeofpeaceanglicanhopewell@outlook.com)



**Worship**

Saturday - 6:00 P.M.

Sunday - 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

*Prince of Peace is part of the Anglican diocese of Pittsburgh, the Anglican Church in North America, and the worldwide Anglican Communion, and is part of God's one holy catholic and apostolic Church.*

**Vision Statement**

*We the members of Prince of Peace Church are called to...go into the world, caring for people with God's love, inviting people to follow Jesus, and then teaching them to obey Jesus in all they do.*

**Mission Statement**

Our vision is fulfilled as we intentionally train followers of Jesus to...

- Worship God passionately,
- Care for each other graciously,
- Study God's ways diligently,
- Give to God sacrificially,
- Connect purposefully with outsiders,
- Serve God's church whole-heartedly...so that those separated from God would experience Jesus and follow Him.