

The background of the cover is a textured, painterly-style image of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with warm, golden and orange light, with darker, muted colors in the lower half. A dark silhouette of a cross stands on the left side of the image. The overall texture is grainy and artistic.

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

## telling our story

PRINCE OF PEACE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ROSEVILLE - MINNESOTA

# Telling Our Story

The following pages tell our story. It is a big story. It is the story of how God is at work in and through the people of Prince of Peace in Roseville. How we worship, learn, serve, grow, and build relationships within and outside the church. Each one of you are part of this story – it is our story together. It is a privilege to serve as your pastors.

***Pastor Peter Christ & Pastor Betsy Hoium***

## Table of Contents

### Telling Our Story...

Worshipping	2-3
Making a Joyful Noise	4
Reaching Out	
to Our Community	5-7
Learning and Growing	8-9
Serving	10
As Part of the Broader Church	11
Building Relationships	12-13
Caring for One Another	14-15
From the Staff	16
Generosity	17
What About the Numbers?	18



**Telling Our Story** is our theme in 2018-2019 as we hear the overarching biblical story in worship and education.

During Advent we were “Waiting for the Promised.” It was some of the youngest people in the congregation who brought that story to life for us in the Christmas Play. Recapping our journey through the Old Testament this fall: singing “The Books of the Bible” and quoting the words of the prophets that were about to come to fruition.



The kids helped us anticipate the savior’s birth. Angels spoke to Mary and Joseph and announced the good news to the shepherds. The Wise Men, encountering King Herod – the bad guy of the Christmas story – traveled great distances following the star. And still we waited... and waited... and waited... for the birth of Baby Jesus. Finally the child arrived!

Kids are a vibrant part of our community of faith at Prince of Peace. They serve in worship by reading Bible lessons, leading prayers, singing, greeting, ushering, sharing experiences about camp and trips, and even helping to install the new pastor. The following pages tell the story of God who is working in and through the people of Prince of Peace.



# Telling Our Story

*“Worship  
the Lord  
with gladness,  
come into  
his presence  
with singing.”  
—Psalm 100:2*



## Baptisms in 2018

Grant Paul Pettinelli	April 22
son of Kerby & Justin Pettinelli	
Lucius Vincent Cordes	May 13
son of Emily & Evan Cordes	
Evan John Turnquist	Aug. 12
son of Sheri & Mac Turnquist	
Lincoln Daniel Cunningham	Nov. 11
son of Shannon & Cary Cunningham	



*Clockwise from top:  
Baptism, Bible Sunday,  
Lighting the Advent Candles,  
Youth-led Worship, Advent Decorating*



*Congregation  
President Deb Cordes,  
Call Committee Chair  
Jennifer Duncan and  
Vice President  
Ryan Burke install  
Pastor Betsy Hoium  
as Pastor of Faith  
Formation.*

## **The Transforming Power of God’s Love**

This fall Prince of Peace embarked on a journey to explore the overarching story of the Bible called the Narrative Lectionary.

The rainbow of God’s promise carried us through from September until Christmas hearing stories from the Old Testament beginning in Genesis. This rainbow provided a visual reminder from the covenant with Noah to the wisdom of the prophets and finally the promise of a savior and the transforming power of God’s love.

Transforming our worship space also doesn’t happen in an instant. It starts on a Saturday morning with pastors and families gathered with bolts of tulle and ribbon. Ladders are carried and décor is hung.

Busy hands are found at work tying bows, hanging stars, arranging candles, and setting parlements. From the top of the ceiling corners to low tables, the promise was woven throughout the worship space. Music wafted through as singers and instrumentalists rehearsed. The gifts of each individual contribute to the whole.

Thanks to all of you for a blessed 2018 in music, decorating, organization, service in worship, and the multitude of efforts behind the scenes.

—Anna Miller



*“I have placed  
my rainbow  
in the clouds.  
It is the sign of  
my permanent  
promise to you  
and to all  
the earth.”  
—Genesis 9:13*



We have many people involved in music at Prince of Peace, spanning many ages—you are never too young or too old. If there is something you'd like to be involved in musically, that we don't offer, please let me know and we'll see what we can do. We worship with a variety of styles, so hopefully you are frequently hearing music that enhances your worship experience, whether you're participating in one of our groups, singing hymns, or listening in the pew. All are welcome to participate in our various groups.

—Milt Warkentien

Music Coordinator/Lightshine Director

## Bells of Peace Add Color to Worship

Have you noticed members playing bells with mallets, tapping them on the tables (don't worry foam pads cover the tables!), and ringing two bells in each hand?

With the acquisition of the last few hand-bells for our five-octave set, and, as we are sharpening the skills of our ringers, we are playing more challenging music.

All members also play the tone chime which adds a different “color” to an anthem. Bells of Peace aspires to add a special “color” to worship services, allowing the congregation time for quiet meditation through music.

—Kathy Tunseth  
Director, Bells of Peace



## Welcoming Many New Faces and New Voices!

We have welcomed over 25 “seasonal singers” to join us for our spring Masterworks, the annual Lessons and Carols services and a number of holidays.

**Wow!** What a treat to have close to 50 people singing in Chancel Choir this year!

We also have a strong core of choir members who faithfully sing week in and week out. We welcome anyone to join us *when you can* and share your musical talents in worship!

—Kathy Tunseth  
Director, Chancel Choir

## Sharing Message of God's Love in Worship

Sunday School Choir (formerly Joyful Noise) began the year with a new name, reflecting its new vision. All kids are invited to participate in practice on Sunday mornings during the education hour. Then all kids have the opportunity to share the songs they sing with the

congregation during worship. I have been so pleased in how the varying ages (age 3-grade 6) have worked together to bring the message of God's love to worship. The younger ages add energy to song choruses while the older ages learn verses.

—Melissa Burke  
Director, Joyful Noise

# We built a house—They made it a home

In the news this year have been stories of the homeless encampments near Franklin Avenue in Minneapolis and near Cathedral Hill in St. Paul. Many of our fellow brothers & sisters are without a home. Homelessness continues to be a problem in our area and there is need for much more affordable housing in our communities. Habitat for Humanity builds 50-55 affordable homes each year in the Twin Cities area. Prince of Peace volunteers, in collaboration with Holy Hammers, built a house this year on the east side of St. Paul.

We started building this house the day after the mid-April snowstorm and finished it in the sunshine of early July. This house was dedicated in early October when an immigrant family of six from Ethiopia (Mom, Dad, two elementary age children, Aunt and Grandma) completed their sweat equity hours and home ownership classes and bought the house with a low interest mortgage. They moved in the next day and made it a home.

Although building a single house seems to be making such a small dent when related to the size of the affordable housing problem in our community, the availability of this house was very significant to the family who has made it their home. Planning for the Holy Hammers 2019 Habitat for Humanity house will begin in January and by mid-February we will again be looking for volunteers to be willing to sign up to work on building another house.

—Chris Henningson

PoP Coordinator for Holy Hammers



## Making Christmas Bright

On a crisp December morning, 634 children and youth waited somewhat patiently in line at Plymouth Christian Youth Center in North Minneapolis. They were going Christmas Shopping! Each child paid \$5 and was able to select five gifts for family members. They shopped with volunteers who help the child understand the reason for gift giving at Christmas.

### From the staff and Board of PCYC:

*Your generosity and continued commitment to this event make the holidays brighter for our North Minneapolis Youth and families. We're very thankful for all of your help.*

PoP is a supporting member of the Plymouth Christian Youth Center.

## Baby Shower for Jesus

“Do you realize how much diapers cost? I looked at baby formula, too and that is really pricey. Things are so much more expensive than when my kids were that age!” said one member as she dropped off her donation at the Baby Shower for Jesus. New this year was an opportunity to donate baby supplies for Lutheran Social Services. They are for the Metro Youth Homelessness Program that helps those aged 16-24 find housing and jobs and learn to manage a budget. Many of them are also young parents, trying to afford things like diapers and formula with limited resources. Thank you for your generosity!



## Mini Food Shelf Created at Roseville Area Middle School

In October, Prince of Peace created a mini food shelf at Roseville Area Middle School to better meet the needs of the students. The pantry is stocked with ready-to-eat and easily-prepared foods, as well as hygiene items, school supplies and winter weather clothing. The response from students and staff has been overwhelmingly positive. The school social worker, Bo Vue, shared how the mini food shelf is serving the school community with compassion.

### **Family of three benefit from food shelf**

A mom and two children, both students of Roseville Area Schools are experiencing homelessness because mom's work hours were cut so drastically that they couldn't pay the rent. They lost their apartment. They live in a hotel room with just a small refrigerator and microwave to prepare meals and they worry about the added cost of buying ready-made food or fast food.

Through the mini-food shelf, the social workers are able to send home ready-to-eat foods with students weekly to help supplement the family's meals. The family's goals are to find more economical housing in the school district and for



mom to find more stable employment to get back on their feet.

### **Central Park Elementary**

Prince of Peace also supports families in the Roseville school district by providing food at Central Park Elementary. Every week during the school year, volunteers put food in backpacks for children in need in partnership with Sheridan Story and several other local churches.

—Jennifer Duncan

## **The Lemonade Stand That Helped Raise \$1,028,175**

On "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday, Sept. 9, the kids set up a lemonade stand just outside the main entry of the church. Perhaps it was because it was an especially nice, even hot, morning. Perhaps it was the extra tasty lemonade or the volunteer sales staff peering through the cardboard window. Whatever it was, the lemonade stand took in just shy of \$250, all designated for our partners in ministry at Lutheran Social Services (LSS).

Then on Sept. 22, Prince of Peace members attended the annual LSS fundraiser gala, filled with stories of compassion. Towards the end of the evening, the call for donations was lifted up. Our congregation had already matched the dollars raised from our stand and another generous LSS donor had offered to match any \$500 gifts that night. Our lemonade money had become a \$1,000 gift, which then combined with every other gift made to LSS added up to \$1,028,175. Wow! What a powerful example of God's people responding to God's vision to care for our neighbors in need.





## Trick-or-Treat so All Can Eat

The youth arrive in their costumes, very unsure about trick-or-treating as a high schooler. Cori grabs the wagon and says, "Let's go!"

The conversation on the walk up the hill is full of apprehension. Having to walk up to someone's door and explain their purpose does not sound fun. "What are we even supposed to say?" "Hello! We're from Prince of Peace, and we are collecting canned goods for the food pantry. Is there anything you'd like to contribute?" replies Cori. The response is wide eyes that scream with unease. The youth make it clear that Cori will have to demonstrate this feat at the first house.

Upon receiving a warm response, they are excited about the handful of items given by the first door they approached. Though

still not thrilled about the "speaking" part, they prepare to knock on the next door. They have chosen to rotate who does the speaking and are sure to maintain that meticulously the rest of the evening. The youth soon express how wonderful these people are for donating items on the spot. There is joy in the giving that is shared by all this evening.

The high school students learned how others are excited to give when they can. They simply need to be given the opportunity. The statement "Thank you for doing this!" resounded from so many who were put on the spot



to give. After only two blocks, the wagon is full, and there are plans about how to make this even bigger next year!

—Cori Forcey, Youth Director

## Food and Fireworks on the 4th of July

What is better than fireworks and fun on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July? Not much. Each year, Prince of Peace's parking lot and open space is transformed into families and friends gathering to watch fireworks from the best spot in Roseville. Cars pack the parking lot and chairs and blankets are spread out in all available space for people from the community to come together to watch the skies transform at dusk.

What started 10 years ago as three Prince of Peace members, now numbers 15 or more who gather to share laughter and service. We walk and talk to those in our space – often seeing familiar faces. People return year after year. Some share the highlights of the years – how the kids are doing and what events may have happened.

This past year, one person shared that they always come here on July 4th. The past few years had been tough – loss of job and home. Yet when they were here, they ate and felt like they were safe and cared for. They don't attend here – yet, in my brain, they were at home here. If you would like to join the fun – you're invited! Stop by on July 4, 2019! You can find us just outside the entrance to the church, lawn chairs pulled up, tables out and full of food with the grill smoking. Join the line, grab some food, or join us and help serve all the others who are there just like you.

—Deb Cordes, coordinator and Congregation President



# Telling Our Story

## Sunday Morning Faith Formation



Sunday mornings for 3-year-olds through 6<sup>th</sup> grade look a bit different this year. Everyone begins together with an opening activity, followed by singing and the pastors telling the story. It's the same story that we are hearing in worship.

Then we divide into elementary age and preschool/kindergarten to do singing, games, science or crafts that help us to further immerse ourselves in the story. "My kids are really loving this approach. It's a little different every week and they're always excited

about coming," said Stephanie Hogen whose children are three and five.

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*"Working with these kids is one of the most meaningful things I do all week. I feel like this is the right place for me," Diane said.*

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An array of volunteers work with the children. Diane Knutson is one of those volunteers. Diane has been a member of Prince of Peace for 18 months and loves working with kids, although doesn't have children of her own.

### **"What about all those people being laid off?"**

One of the big US auto companies had just announced plant closures that would result in massive layoffs. This was on our minds as we were reading the text for the coming Sunday's worship service, sipping coffee, and trading stories.

This day's text from the prophet Habakkuk spoke words of lament that could just as easily have come from someone about to lose their job. "Be patient and trust in the promise," the prophet seemingly declares. "Would this be what you needed to hear if you were about to be fired?" we wondered aloud.

Then someone spoke to their own experience of being shown the door at work and where they found comfort and the courage to face the challenge of a new day. Sometimes it's in the words right from scripture and sometimes it's in the stories from the news.

Mostly we find glimpses of God right in the stories from our own lives that get shared between the sips of coffee and the slaps on our knees. "Old Guys" gather faithfully at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday and invite you to join us. Lots of tales get told; some of them are even true.

## Confirmation

Confirmation looks a bit different this year! Instead of meeting weekly on Wednesday evening, we're trying something new. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders meet for a 4-hour "mini retreat" one Sunday afternoon a month with Pastors Betsy and Peter and Cori our youth director. This more intensive time together includes a variety of activities and learning techniques – storytelling, digging into the Bible, drawing, skits, games, highs and lows, quiet reflection, discussion, and sharing a meal together.

This year students are focusing on the biblical narrative with the goal of being able to "Tell our Story" on a deeper level and understand how faith applies to life.

New this year are Confirmation Journals. Faith is not something that you just learn from a book; faith is something that we need to practice. Rather than a required number of sermon notes and service hours, students are

## Tackling the Tough Issues

In the midst of the #MeToo movement we presented a series on “feminist theology” in our Sunday Morning Adult Forums which included a new way of seeing Eve in Genesis as “the curious one, the seeker of knowledge, the tester of limits,... quintessentially human.”

*(Women’s Bible Commentary)*

Many women appear in the Bible. How are they treated? How are they heroines of the faith?

Last spring, the congregation was invited to read and discuss

*Just Mercy* by Brian Stevenson, lawyer and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative.

Through stories of “the wrongly condemned, and those trapped in the furthest reaches of our criminal justice system,” we got a better understanding of the roots of racial tension and “Black lives matter” movement. And coincidentally, *60 Minutes* had Brian Stevenson on that same Sunday evening concerning the opening of the National Memorial for Peace and Justice con-

cerning the legacy of lynching and “racial terror.”

How do we respond to the sins of society that we are a part of? How do we *do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God?* We see these words from Micah 6:8, as we enter Prince of Peace. It is my hope that our adult forums, through biblical studies and presentations on current social issues, help our faith journeys with this God of ours.

—Carol Swanson  
Chair, Adult Education

## Reimagined

encouraged to participate in and write about a variety of faith experiences. For example, one student wrote about how a group from church raked a member’s yard and how serving in this way is part of our faith. Another shared about how much fun it was to serve at the Tanzanian dinner and what she learned about our partner congregation.

Several people wrote about going to see the play “The Lutheran Plot to Kill Hitler” as one of our learning activities. It is about the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran pastor in Germany during WW2. A student shared with the group, “The part that struck me is how Hitler survived the attempts to kill him and Hitler saw this as God affirming what he was doing.” This led to discussion of what it must have been like to live during that time and the ethics of what was going on in the world then and now.



# THE LIST

## MONDAY MORNING CREW



The choir had just finished singing the Sunday morning anthem, when a whispered short exchange took place in the choir loft:

“Look up there – that spot light is out again. Do you think it’s the lamp or the socket? We’ll have to check that out tomorrow morning”.

“O.K. – I’ll put it on THE LIST”.

Later, in the hallway – another exchange:

“Did you see in the kitchen, there’s a coffee puddle under the coffee maker tray. Someone didn’t check to see that the spigot handle was in the upright position when they made coffee. We’ll need to put it on THE LIST for cleanup”.

“What else is on THE LIST for tomorrow? I know that we’ll need to check the sanctuary for wax drips on the chairs and carpet. That al-

ways happens after the Christmas Eve Candlelight services. And, the poinsettias will have to be brought out of the sanctuary so they’ll have some light during the week in the narthex”.

“What about the loose handle on the boy’s restroom stall? Did that get fixed last week? Can we mark it DONE on THE LIST?”

These are some of the examples of Monday Morning Crew projects that keep our church neat and clean for worship and other activities. Over the past year, in 2018, there were four single spaced pages of completed fixing, cleaning and other maintenance events. The crew meets most Monday mornings at 9 am.

Interested? Check us out, and help us with THE LIST for 2019...

Roger Hintze



## New Volunteers for Friday Mornings

“I did it!” shouted Bridget excitedly, throwing her arms in the air. She had just finished the assembly line, filling one of the children’s rainbow activity bags with new items for the Advent and Christmas season: bag of crayons, coloring sheets, clipboard, Rubik’s cube, rubber ducks, puppet and 3 Christmas books. “I love this!” “Why don’t you do it again,” asked Michelle, their leader. “I think I will!” responded Bridget. She is one of five volunteers who now come each Friday to straighten the sanctuary, check the kid’s activity bags and help with other projects. They are a group of developmentally disabled adults who volunteer through an organization called Kaposia. They volunteer at a different site every day of the week and both sides are loving their new partnership with Prince of Peace. When they complete their work, one of the regular Friday morning bulletin volunteers serves them coffee or tea.



## Bega Kwa Bega

Bega Kwa Bega means “hand in hand” in Swahili which describes our relationship with the Bomalang’ombe congregation who we partner with in Tanzania. We are planning a trip to Tanzania in June 2019.



PoP also hosted a lunch for three visitors from Tanzania.

*To Prince of Peace: We thank God always for you. Thanks be to God that he gave you a good new team. Here are our greetings to Pastor Betsy.*

*As Jesus said, “I do not call you servants any longer...but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you.” (John 15:15-16)*

*In our parish: we have two new pastors: Hongera Mwelela and Naphtha Chaula. As a parish we have added a new preaching point called Mangalali. Now we have a total of seven preaching points.*

*This year 19 students are benefiting from BKB scholarships. The widows have bought 15 goats (14 female and one male). The widows are very happy and we all give many thanks for this project.*

*We are excited to welcome and host a group which will be coming next year. We pray for their preparation and journey to Iringa.*

*May God bless you, Pastor Lutango Tewele*

In addition to their leadership at Prince of Peace, Caryn & Jim Josephson serve as the No. Central Cluster Leaders for Bega Kwa Bega. Their role is to assist other congregations in the St. Paul Synod with developing deeper connections with Tanzania.

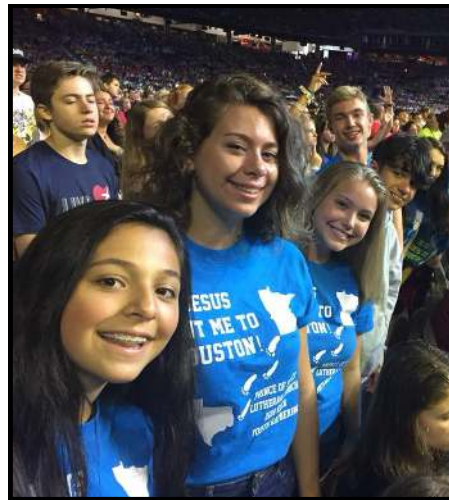
## God Changes Everything!

After a year of planning and preparation (and a whole lot of fundraising), seven high school youth with former Youth Director Erika Coe and Pastor Peter, walked in to the NRG Stadium in Houston, TX, to join 32,000 other ELCA



high school youth and their leaders from all over the country. It was the culminating moment of a whole lot of effort that brought us to this place and it was exhilarating! Each of three nights and the final Sunday morning,

we gathered as one giant crowd to sing, dance, pray, laugh, and cry as we listened to an amazing collection of speakers, musicians and artists who talked, sang and described for us how "God changes everything."



In between these

mass gatherings we explored how the various expressions of the church are active in the world and we even

picked up shovels one day to help Houston in its recovery from last year's flooding. None of this would have happened without the amazing support our congregation offered and this group of young people couldn't be more excited about the next gathering being planned for 2021, to be hosted right here in Minneapolis.



# Telling Our Story

Last October, we packed up and took the leisurely, scenic fall drive across the border to Lake Wapogasset. We were headed East to

courses, arts, games, campfires, evening worship, and an array of activities to fun to detail in a short paragraph,

## A Weekend in the Woods

the woods and away from the fast-paced grind of work and busy home and school life. Through nature hikes, ropes

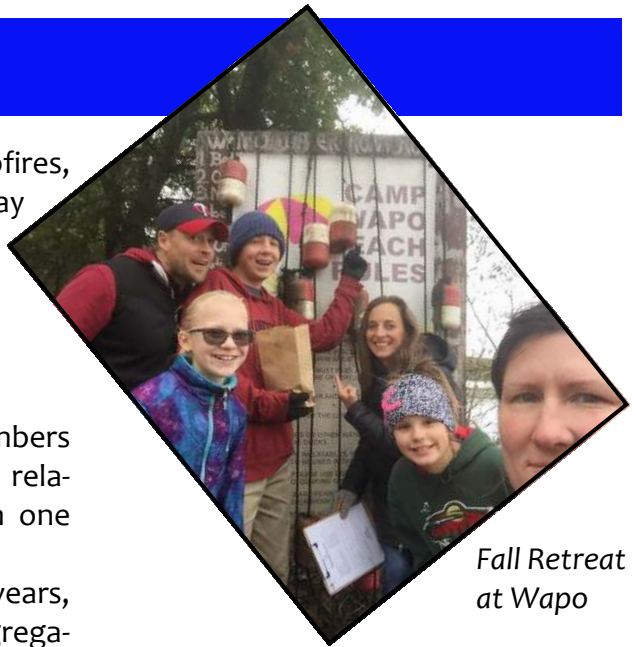
we Prince of Peace members were able to build on our relationship with God and with one another.

For the past several years, members of our congregation have been able to gather at Camp WAPO, a Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery WI for the Fall Retreat (formerly known as Family Camp). This is a great event for campers and nature lovers, but equally great for those who prefer a little

more comfort. I appreciate a cozy cabin with heat/air-conditioning, light switches and indoor plumbing.

It is amazing to watch the growth of friendship and fellowship that takes place at each retreat and encourage ALL to join us on our next trip to WAPO Oct. 4-6, 2019.

—Erika Wold



Fall Retreat at Wapo



Youth at Summer Camp at Wapo

## It's OK to be an OK



On December 13, Saint Lucia, as portrayed by Pastor Betsy, distributes saffron buns to the OKs before the luncheon.

**Older Kids Senior Group**, the OKs, meets monthly for lunch and entertainment. They also share a wide variety of interests. Wondering “What is it like in Sami Land?” to taking a Martin Luther Tour from the eyes of Lee and Sandi Poppi.

And OKs love music! Cheri Sykes shared “Hymn Sing Favorites.” We explored “Radio Era Entertainment,” country, blues & music around the world.

Roger Hoppel, a Coordinating Committee member of OKs, died in May. He was the “tech man” and “punch pourer.” The OK Group gratefully received \$600.00 of memorial money after Roger’s funeral. This greatly helped the treasury of the Older Kids.

—Anne Haugan

Other programs during the year

“Around the World Music” with Rob Everest and his 7-string guitar and vocals

“Digital Security” with Margaret Barrett discussing assets and material on the internet

Mary Hall singer, guitarist, song writer and recording artist

Bobby and Christine— One Guitar and Two Voices, Back by popular demand

## Friendships Across Generations

“Spooky music isn’t all that spooky,” said one of the kids as he tried to explain the tradition of Spooky Music to Pastor Betsy in her first few weeks of ministry here at Prince of Peace.

At our 11th annual Spooky Music event we dressed up, learned about the Christian roots of Halloween, heard a story from Witch Hazel, ate, trick or treated and had fun with a photo booth. One of the benefits of a congregation like Prince of Peace is getting to build relationships with people of a wide variety of ages.

“Doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God” (Micah 6:8) was the focus of our Sunday morning intergenerational event in November. Participants made fleece tie blankets for the Southside Family Nurturing Center, stars to welcome people to church during Advent and Christmas, handmade cards and an Advent Prayer Chain. We were able to connect with one another while also serving our neighbors.

Michelle Moore said that her son Elie (age 6) avoids prayer at home, “but with his Advent Star Wars Lego and magnetic Christmas calendars and taking a ring off the Advent Prayer Chain (he made at the intergenerational event) has made prayer a must for each day. Thank you for encouraging him!”



### KIDS BRING ENERGY TO POP

“ABCDEFGH...” floats down the hallway on a weekday afternoon. It is not uncommon to hear children singing, laughing, crying and expressing joy and excitement. The children of Caterpillar Day Care bring liveliness to the building Monday through Friday. They came trick-or-treating to the offices on Halloween on their way to visit a local senior care center. Alicia Traire became the director in November and is looking for ways to more closely partner with Prince of Peace beyond just a landlord-tenant relationship. Enzo, who goes to day care in the infant room, was baby Jesus for our Christmas Café Photo Booth; Enzo is also the great-grandson of Anne Olson, long-time member of PoP.



## *Deepening Our Sense of How God's Story Shapes Our Lives*



Shortly after I started as your Pastor for Visitation and Congregational Care, Anne Olson passed away. Her memorial service was my first chance to see how this congregation surrounds each other with love during times of sorrow. That day I experienced how Prince of Peace lives out its vision to “deepen our sense of how God’s story and activity shape life and how we are co-creators with God to practice transforming love in the world.”

There was grief, for sure, tears and hugs abounded as we commended Anne to God’s care. But I also heard a lot of stories about relationships that were built because of Prince of Peace, songs of faith that were sung together, prayers shared, Bibles studies that deepened faith, and lives that were nurtured because of faithful companions along the way.

This is the work of being a congregation who believes that we are called to build up the church and love the world. In my visits with our homebound or older adults I have heard about the power of this community to love and grow faith. Almost every single person can tell me exactly who welcomed them the first day they walked through the church doors, and how those friendships lasted decades. Wow — that is a powerful story to tell and one that isn’t finished because God isn’t done with us yet. We have more love to share!

I am so grateful for the warm welcome I received when I started at PoP. I look forward to the coming year and how we will continue to grow in how we extend God’s love inside and outside our church walls.

In Peace, Pastor Ruth

### **Saints lost in 2018**

<b>Jane Palumbo</b>	<b>February 3</b>
<b>Phillip Stokes</b>	<b>February 20</b>
<b>Phyllis Bernards</b>	<b>March 6</b>
<b>Rose Diestler</b>	<b>April 22</b>
<b>Bob Twiehoff</b>	<b>April 26</b>
<b>Margaret Sorenson</b>	<b>April 30</b>
<b>Roger Hoppel</b>	<b>May 10</b>
<b>Les Wachtler</b>	<b>May 21</b>
<b>Marvin Lee</b>	<b>May 31</b>
<b>Anne Olson</b>	<b>July 29</b>

### ***Dreaming about Intergenerational Ideas***

One of the things that I am most excited about is working with people of all ages – and helping connect them with one another. Church is the perfect place to do this, whether you are 2 or 102!

As we dream about what that looks like here at Prince of Peace, we are putting together an Intergenerational Ministry Team – with people of various ages – to help us plan and dream.

Please pray about how God is calling us in this ministry involving people of all ages!

—Pastor Betsy



## Be a Friend!

*“Thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl— I love it, it goes wherever I go! Thank you mostly for your kind words and prayers of my friends at Prince of Peace. I miss everyone a lot — my dear friends at Prince of Peace.”*

Prayer shawls are made by congregation members and delivered to those going through a difficult transition to remind them that Prince of Peace cares for them. On December 22, poinsettia plants and large Christmas greeting cards signed by congregation members were delivered.

Do you have the gift of befriending, and enjoy visiting persons who are homebound, ill, or have suffered some great loss, such as moving, loss of a job, loss of a family member? Presently Prince of Peace has 16 ac-

tive Befrienders as part of our congregation’s Befriender Ministry.

Befrienders need to be good listeners, caring, compassionate, and confidential. They try hard to keep homebound members in touch with the church and their spiritual community. Some Befrienders make weekly visit, send cards, or make phone calls to keep in touch. Some Befrienders put on tea parties at care centers. Some just do friendly visiting.

—Anne Haugan



*Prayer Shawls are made by members and benefit many who are going through difficult times.*



*The congregation signs greeting cards for Homebound members made by the Befrienders.*

## Women Connecting With Women

Women come to know each other; affirm, support and encourage one another; as well as are strengthened in their own faith. Prince of Peace has four women’s bible study circles. One member in the Ruth Circle was an example of the support a circle can give.

Rose Diestler, a longtime member of the Ruth Circle, became ill and had no family. Circle members were there for her providing needed transportation and

making arrangements for transitional care, assisted living and hospice care. They moved her, visited her and were with her through her death. They cleaned out her refrigerator, freezer and pantry and organized her funeral hospitality.

The Ruth Circle is grateful for having Rose as part of the circle for so many years. All were strengthened in their faith while caring for Rose.

—Anne Haugan

*Thank you to Esther Tatley who now serves as new board member of the St. Paul Area Synod Women’s Organization.*

*Members go Christmas caroling at a local assisted living facility.*



# Telling Our Story

## Pastor Betsy Hoium



*"I love to tell the story,  
it will be my theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love."*

These lyrics from one of my favorite hymns also describe my role as Pastor of Faith Formation. I joined the staff at Prince of Peace in October and feel like I have already been woven into the congregation's story.

We loved hearing people's stories at our Meet & Eats this fall where Pastors Peter, Ruth and I got to meet over 100 people from the congregation ranging in age from Juno who is 18 months to Val Hansen who is 98! Val shared that she was born the same year that women received the right to vote.

That was a great representation of how faith is something that is formed and grows over our life-



Val Hansen, second from left in front row, shared her story during the Meet and Eat one November evening.

span. At baptism, parents promise to raise their children in faith and as they grow in years to place in their hands the bible. In my role as Pastor of Faith Formation I had the opportunity to present bibles to 3-year-olds, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and those youth who had not yet received them. One family shared with me that they are reading through the Spark Story Bible as a family. Each week they'll read the story we're doing in the Narrative Lectionary and then the stories up to the next week's reading.

It is a privilege to be in ministry with all of you.

With God's Blessings,  
Pastor Betsy

## Pastor Peter Christ

## Weaving Together Something Really Beautiful



The pages of this report are helping us to tell an intricate story. One in which each of us plays a central role. Our

roles, woven together with God's and with our neighbor's, make for a really intricate tapestry. Some-

thing uniquely beautiful that is only possible because, week in and week out, this community of faith takes up the twin-fold tasks of being the church and loving the world. Those activities take on many forms and expressions and are found not only inside our home next to Roseville's Central Park but found throughout the metro and truly across the globe.

It has been a privilege to serve as your Lead Pastor alongside you this year and I burst with pride considering all that we have been able to accomplish together. This Prince of Peace story is a big story, big enough for God and all the rest of us too. Thanks for playing your part.

— Pastor Peter

## Welcome to our new staff:



**Pastor Ruth Sorenson-Prokosch joined the staff July 2018.**



**Cori Forcey Youth Director joined the staff August 2018.**

## Inspiring Generosity

Long-time Prince of Peace member Rose Diestler passed away in April of this year. As she was arranging her affairs, Rose recognized how important this church has been in her life by naming Prince of Peace as a beneficiary of her estate. In particular, Rose has given us her home, its contents, and one of her investment accounts. Her home is estimated in value to be approximately \$250,000 and the investment account at just over \$500,000.

Rose, who loved roses, growing and judging them, who lived just off Roselawn Avenue, and went to church in Roseville has gifted this community of faith upwards of three quarters of a million dollars. Rose had very few relatives but along with her fellow rose enthusiasts, her neighbors and friends, the people of this church were her family.

We look forward to hearing your ideas on how this gift might best be put to use. We also know that this takes time and want to give ourselves the space to be thorough in our discernment.



At a minimum, we hope that Rose's generosity might also inspire you to consider how God is at work through your own relationship to Prince of Peace and your on-going support of the ministry we share in this place.

The leadership of the church has taken steps to receive the various particulars of Rose's bequest.

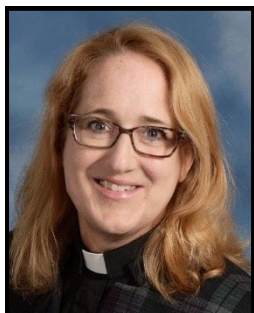


The home is secured and being maintained and the investment funds have been transferred into our possession. Now the next step of our work begins.

We have formed a "Generosity Committee" to gather your ideas and to lead us through the process of considering all the possible ways God might work through these resources to further the mission of this church and allow Rose's legacy to continue blooming in our midst. We hope that Rose's life of service to this church and her final blossoming gift become a witness that God might continue to accomplish remarkable things through each of us.

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### Thank you to former staff:



**Pastor Lynn Erickson who served as interim pastor through May 2018.**



**Erika Coe who served as Youth Director through July 2018.**

# Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

2561 Victoria St. N., Roseville, MN \* [www.poproseville.org](http://www.poproseville.org) \* 651-484-4144

## But what about the numbers?

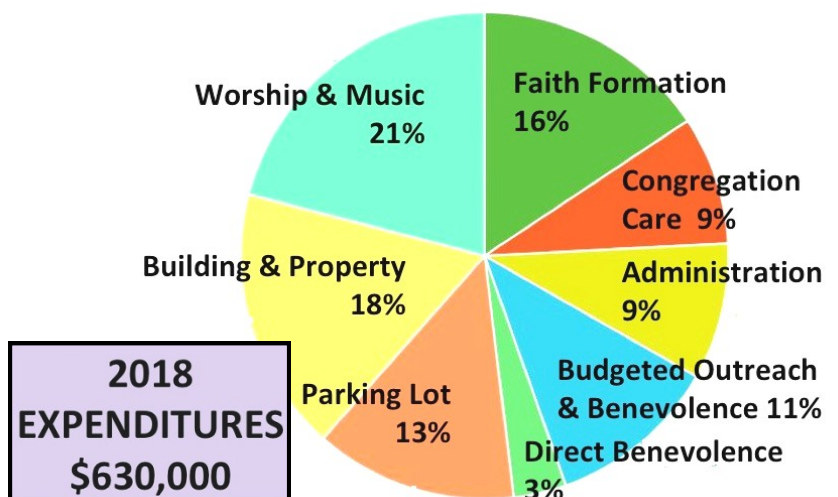
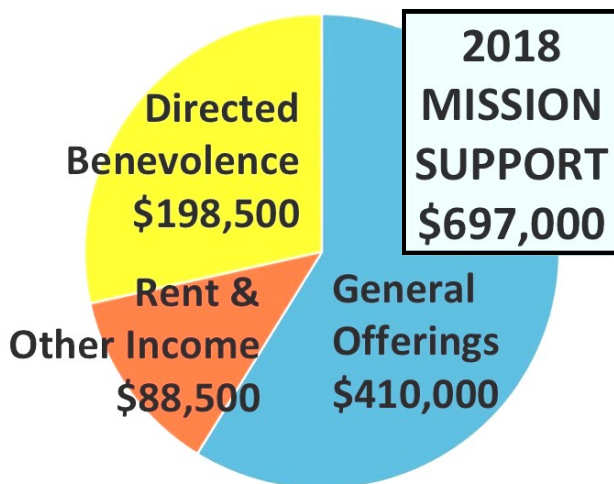
The numbers can help tell our story but we want to put them into the context of the Prince of Peace's bigger picture. For those who want them, take a look at the "Addendum to the Annual Report" to see the fully detailed reports; but it's easy to get overwhelmed by all the rows and columns of data points. Before going there, take a look at this page, then take a minute to consider what these numbers represent: God at work in and through this church, for the sake of the world. You don't have to look too hard to discover that God is doing some really amazing things with Prince of Peace.

We added three  
**NEW STAFF**  
members to our team,  
helping us build new  
capacity for ministry.

We welcomed four  
new Children of God  
through the gift of  
**BAPTISM**

We wrapped our  
arms around ten  
families and ushered  
their loved ones into  
the cloud of saints  
during their  
**FUNERALS**

We welcomed eleven  
**NEW MEMBERS**  
to join us in mission  
and partner in our  
community of faith.



Thirty three  
people received  
**FLU SHOTS**  
during our November  
wellness clinic.

We shared nine hundred sixty  
**POUNDS OF FOOD**  
collected from the narthex  
shopping cart and delivered to the  
Keystone Food Shelf.

We gathered for  
**WORSHIP**  
one hundred fifteen times.

**181**  
**FAMILIES or**  
**INDIVIDUALS**  
supported our ministries  
through designated giving.

When we collected nickels  
in April, we raised over \$500,  
enough to plant ten thousand  
**TREES IN TANZANIA.**