



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

61 Route 70 East, Marlton, NJ 08053
Tel: (856) 983-0607 Fax: (856) 797-1183
www.popmarlton.org

Pastor Brett on Sabbatical

This past December, I celebrated my tenth anniversary as pastor here at Prince of Peace and this June 23rd I will be marking the 20th anniversary of my ordination. In addition, this past fall we gathered to pray for one another in our ministry here as I committed to continue on as your pastor for the near future and you pledged to continue to pray and work diligently in our life together as the Body of Christ. The Bishop's Office of the New Jersey Synod recommends that congregations consider sabbatical leaves as a privilege to be granted to those who have served at least seven years in the active ordained ministry and who have served in their current call for five or more years. The Congregation Council is recommending and made provisions in the 2016 Spending Plan for me to take a six week sabbatical this summer so that I may write a program for Spiritual Direction and Encounter for adults and teens. *I am convinced that one of the challenges facing the Lutheran Church in America is our people's inability to notice, describe and share their experiences of God's presence. It is my hope that this "program" developed during my sabbatical will help us meet this need.* In addition, my time will be spent visiting some family, preparing for my wedding and resting.

My sabbatical will begin on June 1, 2016 and conclude July 14, 2016. During this time Pastor Michael Edwards-Ronning will be providing pastoral care and counsel, officiating pastoral acts and preside at most of the Saturday liturgies. If you have a pastoral need please call the church office and our Office Administrator, Laura Glatz will connect you Pr. Michael. Pastor Linda Fawley Wood, retired, and Pastor Sara Lilja, Lutheran Episcopal Advocacy Ministries of NJ, will preside at the liturgy on the Sundays while I am on Sabbatical. There will also be two occasions when the weekend liturgies will be lead by lay persons and hence we will not be celebrating Holy Communion. At least one of these services will be a hymn sing. Should there be other congregational concerns that arise during this time please reach out to the President of the Congregation Council, Pauline Ahern.

I am confident that you will each remain faithful in your love of God through service to your neighbor and active participation in worship while I am away. It is my sincere hope that you each will hold me closely in prayer during my sabbatical.

Serving Christ with you,

Pastor Brett



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