



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

We are overflowing with God's blessings. Let our Hearts and hands reach out to the world.

Our hearts at Prince of Peace are ever expanding. We are the hands doing God's work in this community, sharing God's blessings and abundant love.

On the following pages, you will see how these ministries have been expressed in action throughout 2019 and how **Our Hearts and Hands** reach out to the world.

Worship & Music

- We have over 150 worship services a year.
- Over 8,000 Communion are served.
- A musical group leads special music approximately 84 times a year.
- There are currently 9 different active musical groups with at least 4 others that are seasonal.
- Between Ushers, Assisting Ministers, Communion Assistants, Bread Bakers, Altar Guild, Flower Arrangers, Media, Greeters, Candle Stand Pot Maintenance and Coffee Set Up, we need between 33 and 39 people each week to make worship happen; not counting musicians.





- Did you know that we have nearly 80 handmade banners to be hung in the sanctuary for the different seasons, plus our Guiding Principles banners?
- Did you know that each baptismal banner is hand made by one person?
- Did you know that Laura creates a custom plaque and prayer for each person baptized at POP?
- Did you know that Guy records the hymns for the Saturday evening service each week?
- Did you know that we need to use this lift twice a year to be able to change light bulbs in the Sanctuary?
- Did you know that Laura prepares separate projection slides for both Saturday and Sunday services each week?
- Did you know that someone cleans the candle devotion sand pots after each service?
- Did you know that Jill waters the plants in the sanctuary and the building every week?



Faith Learning & Music Rehearsing



- There are over 7-10 music rehearsals each week.
- Imagine what it is like to coordinate the schedules for 9 active groups, with 4-15 people per group, when the sound of the group often changes if just one person is missing.
- A total of 40 parents and children learn faith together during Discipleship Practice, Sundays 9:45 -10:45am.
- A total of 10 - 20 adults meet for Adult Forum each Sunday from 9:45 – 10:45am.
- 16-20 people gather each week for Bible Study on Thursdays.
- Women gather each month for a Lydia Bible Study.
- Through POP Ministries, people learn about: Prayer, the Bible, Discipleship Practices, Stewardship, Yoga, various mental health and aging topics, art, and music, to name just a few.
- 1 young person will be confirmed in his faith this year.
- Did you know that 4 babies were baptized in 2019?
- Did you know that Prince of Peace received 4 new members in 2019?
- Did you know those who gather for learning or rehearsing would say that a large part of the gift of participation is the mutual life support given and received?



Helping ~ Serving ~ Counseling

- Over 30 different community groups, varying in size from 6 – 50, meet at POP, on a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or annual basis. These groups include: 12-Step Groups, Support Groups (Dependency Groups, Grief, Weight Management, Anxiety, Mother's Support Groups), Clubs (Girl Scouts, Post Cards, 4H Canine, Vegetarian Society, Seeing Eye Dogs), and Religious Groups (Jewish Congregation Nafshenu).
- Our community groups bring more than 25,000 people through our building every year.
- By providing sanctuary where all these groups can meet, we provide a magnificent gift to our community. This gift does come at a cost; the heating / cooling, lighting, care and maintenance of our property. The majority of these groups make contributions to POP in grateful response.
- Did you know the average age of the folks on the property committee is 78? These are the people who mow the lawn every week in the summer, saving the church \$10,000 a year in lawn service.



- Did you know that we began a \$96,000 capital campaign, entitled the Sustain Campaign, to take care of some needed building updates and repairs as well as reduce our deficit? To date in 2019 nearly 86% of the \$96,000 total Campaign has been pledged. Also, during 2019, the parking lot has been repaired, resealed and restriped; the sanctuary heating / air conditioning units have been replaced.
- We hosted 2 Red Cross Blood Drives last year. The most recent Blood Drive was on Sept. 19, 2018. The Red Cross Blood Drive held at Prince of Peace registered 19 donors (one a first-time donor) and collected 16 pints of blood.
- Did you know that 650 Bosnia Peace Pillows, which took approximately 150 hours to put together, were made in 2019?

- Our Summer Meals Program increased by 25% as we provided almost 5,000 meals to 50 children during the summer with the help of a \$15,000 grant from the NJ Synod. It was a truly ecumenical effort as we were supported by St. Joan of Arc RC Church, Christ Presbyterian Church, Congregation Beth Tikvah, and Congregation Nafshenu. The success of this program has allowed us to apply for and obtain funding through the NJ Synod for the second year in a row!



- We supplied backpacks and school supplies to over 150 children at Urban Promise, Bridge of Peace, and our local Evesham and Pemberton school districts.
- Did you know that Wawa donates weekly leftover food to Prince of Peace with an approximate value of \$12,000 per year. We, in turn, distribute that food to Bridge of Peace, our own food pantry clients, and IHN guests when we host them.
- We provide Bridge of Peace with annual monetary support, biweekly deliveries of food for their pantry, and meals for their Tuesday Youth Night several times per year.
- We have housed 8 homeless families this year, providing food and shelter to 11 adults and 18 children. This helping hand is critical assistance to getting these families back on their feet. We are assisted in this ministry by St. Joan of Arc RC Church, which supplies ALL of the volunteers for the second week of each 2-week hosting rotation, as well as Christ Presbyterian Church, Congregation Beth Tikvah, Faith Church, and Holy Cross Orthodox Church, who assist in providing meals and social hosting.

- We have recently consolidated our shelf-stable Prince of Peace food pantry and revamped our procedures. Instead of providing 1 or 2 bags of groceries, we are now supplying 5-6 days' worth of food scaled to the number of people in the client family. We have expanded our offerings to include milk and are providing some guidance for a more balanced diet. We have also implemented some changes to make the pantry more relationship-building and less transactional. Many of the earliest visitors to the new pantry were “stunned” at the amount of food we gave their families.
- 2019 Thanksgiving Baskets: nearly 50 families in need.
- 2019 Christmas Baskets: nearly 50 families in need.



We Are Generous

So far in 2019, we have given a combination of funds and gifts in kind, to support the following ministries that are not covered in our Budget.

Feeding	Thanksgiving & Christmas Food Baskets	\$ 4,000	
	Summer Kids Feeding Program		
	POP Member Donations	\$ 3,000	
	Grant from NJ Synod	\$15,000	
	World Hunger	\$ 6,500	
	Food Pantry	\$ 4,000	
	Bridge of Peace Food Pantry		
	Wawa Food Donations	\$12,000	
	POP Member Cash Donations	\$ 495	
	POP Member In-kind Donations	\$ 2,000	
			\$46,995

Helping	Christmas Giving Tree	\$ 6,500	
	Easter Giving	\$ 1,600	
	Sleepers in September	\$ 600	
	Lutheran Disaster Relief	\$ 180	
	Interfaith Hospitality Network	\$ 1,750	
	Bishop's Challenge	\$ 4,334	
	Other Collections	\$ 2,900	

\$140,162

\$17,864

Learning	Liberian Student Scholarships	\$ 9,000	
	Backpacks & School Supplies	\$ 4,200	
	Urban Promise	\$ 2,500	

\$15,700

Sustaining Campaign			\$59, 603
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Staff, Communication and Administration of Ministries

(as heard by POP Members)

Why am I joyful about attending POP?

- *I am joyful about attending POP because God's love is reflected in the wonderful people who attend our church. I have amazing friends who all know that we are called to serve and love as God loves us. Finding Prince of Peace has changed my life, and I am so grateful!*
- *I feel the love of God among the people of POP.*
- *We laugh together; cry together; praise and thank God together.*
- *We reach out to the community and truly live out the slogan "God's work; our hands."*

What I like about POP's staff:

- *The Prince of Peace staff has made our church a family by providing warm, caring support and a beautiful environment for music and worship.*
- *The staff is joyful also.*
- *The staff cares about the people of POP and the community.*
- *They work well together.*
- *They seem to have great co-ordination.*

Pastor Brett

- *Pastor Brett cares deeply about us all, and this is reflected in the counseling and spiritual guidance he provides. His dedication to teaching about God's love extends to all, from our charter members to the youngest of Discipleship Practice children. We are blessed to have his loving leadership.*
- *He works all the time. (This might be a detriment – I do worry about him.)*
- *He is brilliant – I learn something new just about every time I listen to him.*
- *He is God's messenger here on earth – I see God when I look into his eyes at communion.*
- *He cares for everyone and is there when we need him.*
- *He mentors our youth.*
- *He is funny – and doesn't take himself too seriously.*



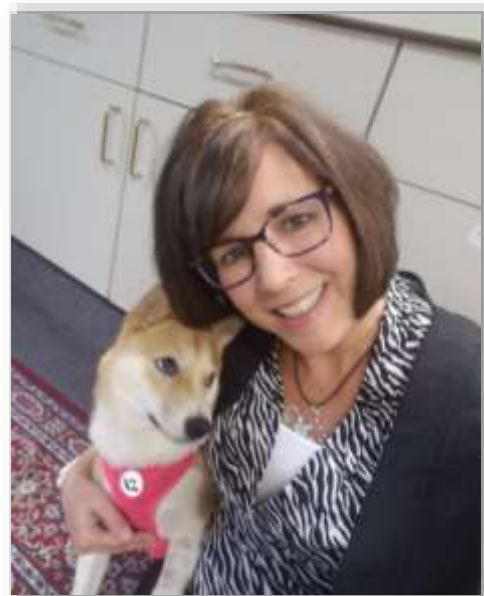


Guy W. Kirk *(Director of Music)*

- *Guy Kirk is a fantastic musician, an inspirational music director, and a wonderfully kind man. Working hard to include as many people as possible, he provides musical opportunities to meet the needs and levels of as many musicians as possible. Thirty-three years of service to our church speaks volumes about Guy's dedication.*
- *He is an amazingly talented musician. (I say that first only because of his title – his other qualities might be even more important.)*
- *His priority is including everyone who has a desire to participate in the music ministry.*
- *His caring ways make him like our second pastor. He listens – he laughs and cries with us.*
- *How many other Directors of Music visit members in the hospital??*
- *He is wonderfully patient.*
- *He cares about the future of our congregation – and encourages our youth.*

Laura Glatz *(Office Administrator)*

- *Laura Glatz has a smile, kind words, and a warm welcome for all! Always professional, Laura holds the keys to the smooth running of everything that happens behind the scenes at POP. Our church would not be the same without Laura.*
- *Her smile is infectious, and her spirituality is evident.*
- *She is always willing to help.*
- *She is an equal member of the team – and has great ideas. She often fills in the blanks that the rest of us miss.*
- *Her artistic talents have improved our products – the weekly; the screens; etc.*
- *Laura Glatz has a smile, kind words, and a warm welcome for all! Always professional, Laura holds the keys to the smooth running of everything that happens behind the scenes at POP. In addition to her business responsibilities, Laura ministers to the members of Prince of Peace with service and laughter through the crochet group, scarf making parties, sign painting fun, and many more great activities. Prince of Peace would not be the same without Laura's constant support and beautiful spirit!*

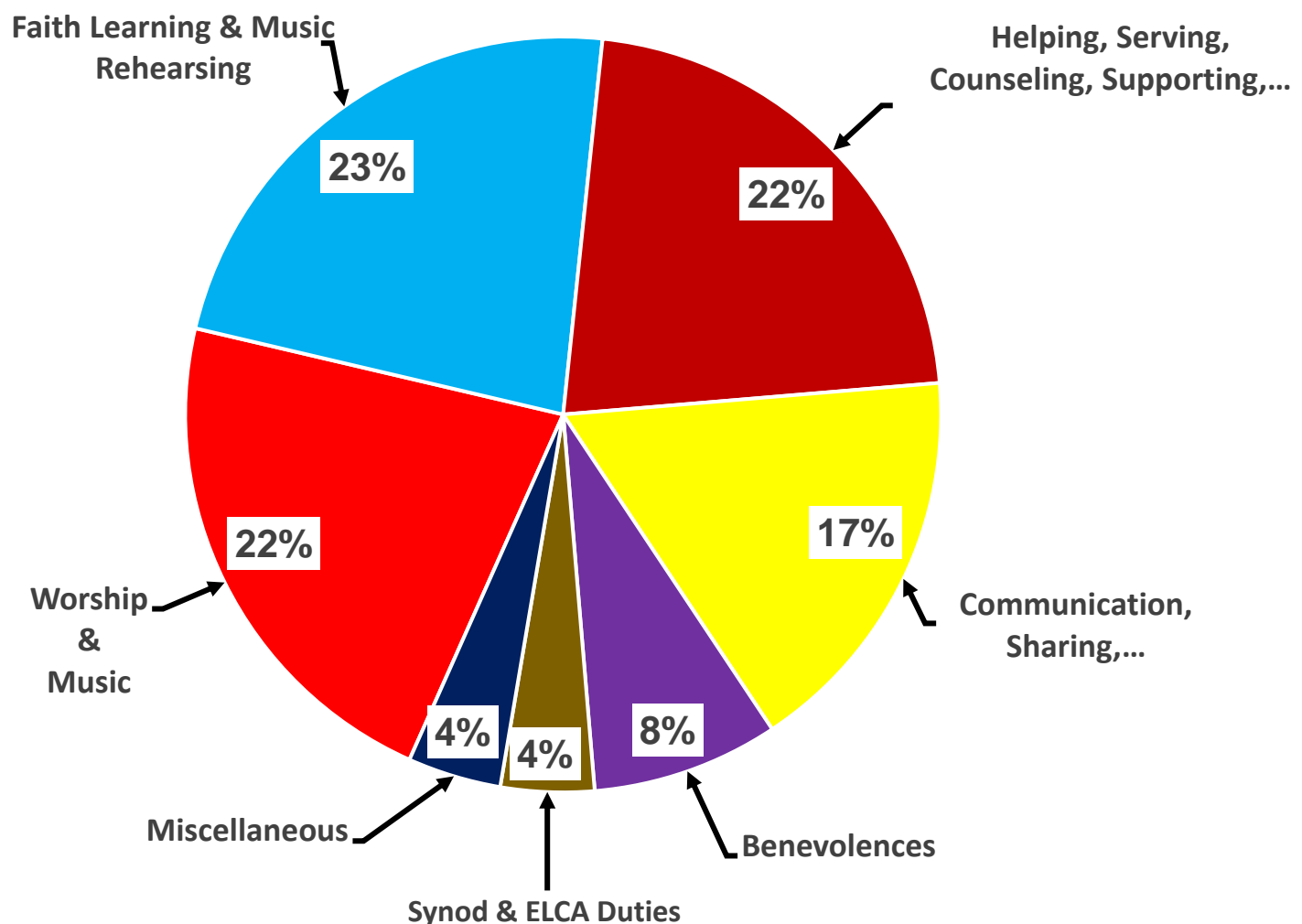


Staff Efforts & Use of Building Towards Pop's Mission

The pie-chart on this page is a visual narration of our ministry at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. In essence, our ministry is expressed in six areas:

- **Helping, Serving, Supporting & Building Community**
- **Worship & Music**
- **Faith Learning & Music Rehearsing**
- **Communication and Administration of Ministries**
- **Work with the Church beyond Our Doors: Synod & Other Churches**
- **Supporting Other Vital Ministries: Benevolences**

We arrived at these percentages by asking the staff, one of our major assets, to share how they spend their time in ministry.



Communication

- Every week an electronic email is sent out to all who subscribe, with events and timely news.
- An electronic monthly sign-up sheet is posted on the POP website for worship assistance, communion bread and more.
- Weekly, if not daily, posts on Facebook help keep our church family up-to-date on events, cancelations and collections. Photos of our events are shared.
- Weekly bulletins for church services are printed with information, updates of activities and current events.
- A web calendar is updated daily with information for POP members as well as community groups which meet in the church.
- The POP Website is updated weekly with informative, detailed information about POP but also timely events.
- Monthly updates of activities, events and information is programmed on the narthex TV monitors.
- Monthly calendar printouts of rooms used, announcements, collections and events are posted throughout the church and on the doors entering the church.
- The new digital sign on Route 70 is updated weekly (if not daily) with timely information for members and the local community.
- We advertise in the local newspapers about Vacation Bible School, special church services and other out-reach events.

Work with the Church beyond Our Doors: Synod & Other Congregations Supporting Vital Ministries:



Community Pet Blessing



Bishop's Challenge



**Bridge of Peace "Trunk or Treat"
& POP Table**



POP Table at the Evesham Harvest Fest

Benevolences



New Jersey Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

WHERE DOES MY OFFERING GO?

MEMBER OFFERINGS

CONGREGATION

NEW JERSEY SYNOD

In 2019, we anticipate that members of our 164 congregations will share **\$1,784,614** in Mission Support with the New Jersey Synod. This represents the largest portion of the Synod operating budget of **\$2,041,014**, which includes additional income from investments, grants, and certain designated gifts.

IN 2019, YOUR MISSION SUPPORT OFFERINGS WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO:

Grow the ELCA and MINISTRY PARTNERS



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10 Partners in ministry are supported by this portion of our Synod Spending Plan. Half of our Mission Support is shared with the ELCA Churchwide organization. 9 additional ministry partners in New Jersey and our region grow as a result from the financial support offered through our gifts.

Strengthen CONGREGATIONS



164

The 164 Congregations and 157 pastors under call in the New Jersey Synod find resources, networking, and support for faith formation, stewardship, justice, multicultural ministries, and communication through Synod Mission Teams, Assistants to the Bishop, and Youth Ministry staff.

Accompany NEW, RE-DEVELOPING, and STRATEGIC CONGREGATIONS



Together we support 5 new and 4 redeveloping and 3 strategically sensitive venues for ministry along with 9 CMC congregations. Among these partners we count our mission initiatives in Elizabeth, Passaic, Ridgefield, Jersey City, Brick, Springfield, Trenton, Camden, and Newark.

Provide leadership for MISSION through the OFFICE OF THE BISHOP



The Bishop seeks unity in faith and common mission among the expressions of this church. Our Bishop manages the roster and the calls of leaders and candidates for ordained ministry. She strengthens our Lutheran identity and facilitates common action among communities of other faiths.

Engage in OVERSIGHT and PLANNING for Synod Ministries



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MISSION CLUSTERS

The Synod organizes lay and clergy leaders to serve on governance boards and committees that provide guidance and oversight for our ministries. We provide facilities, equipment and human resources for staff and operations of the New Jersey Synod.

How your hearts and hands can reach out to the world:

As you have seen in these pages the people and ministries of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church have continued to use our hearts and hands to reach out to the world with God's overflowing blessings to us! Thanks be to God! God continues to empower us to live into Jesus' Kingdom.

We are called to continue this mission, but it requires us to invest in this life transforming work. Will you continue to share with Prince of Peace what God has already gifted you: love; commitment; energy; skills; passions; time; effort; resources; and money?

Let us continue to live as God's family, sharing God's love. **We need to know that YOU are on board with us and this life transforming work.** We are asking that each of you provide an estimate of your investment in POP for 2020 so that Council can prepare an operating budget and ministry leaders can plan activities which will support our continued joint mission.

Please prayerfully complete the attached* Estimated Investment form and return it to the church in the enclosed envelope so we can move ahead with confidence for 2020's joint ministry of transformation.

(Please know that only the Financial Secretary sees your Estimated Investment. She shares only the congregation's total Estimated Investment so that Council can determine if we have what it takes to move forward.)



PURPOSE STATEMENT

We are disciples of Jesus who are empowered by
God's extravagant grace to grow in faith,
serve in love and live in joy.