As we continue in our Year of Generosity, in November we focus on “Generosity of Stewardship.”

I experience incredible generosity at Prince of Peace. From the generous welcome that people receive when coming to worship, to the generous welcome that I received from the congregation when I became your pastor, to the generous outpouring of time and money for special projects like the VetsRoll fundraiser . . .

The generosity goes on and on. It includes our spirit of welcome, generous support of the congregation, generous giving to special causes, offerings of our time and our talents, attention to care of God’s creation, and so much more.

Many years ago, when I was working on an advanced degree in stewardship, I came across the following definition of stewardship: “Stewardship is everything I do after I say ‘I believe.’” That definition made me stop and ponder – for quite a while – because it is so all-encompassing. And it seems, that is the point. Our whole lives are stewardship – management of the blessings that God entrusts to us.

In November we are returning our 2020 Pledge Cards, or Commitment Cards, and dedicating them in worship – Sunday, November 10. And I hope that we don’t give a huge sigh of relief that this year’s stewardship campaign is over, and we can move on from that. As we continue on toward Thanksgiving, and then Christmas, may we continue to keep our focus on God’s blessings to us – and how our care and use of those blessings can enable them to be blessings for others.

Truly, we are invited to be careful and faithful stewards – because God has first blessed us. God is generous to us – beyond any human concept of generosity. Created in the image of our generous God, we are created to be generous. May our generosity be a reflection of the love and blessings of our God.

Blessings!

Pastor Karen
God’s Stuff in our Hands

The Fall 2019 Stewardship Campaign

Our 2019 Stewardship Campaign will culminate with the dedication of our pledge cards on Sunday, November 10, with a celebration with cake between services. November 10 is also Martin Luther’s birthday, so we will make it a double celebration.

You should have received a stewardship letter and a pledge card. Please consider the themes of the stewardship temple talks, the role of your faith in your life, and the importance of the ministry of the church as you consider your commitment for the coming year. And above all, consider God’s invitation to us to live the abundant life that comes with putting God first in all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do.

Dinners at the Chicago Avenue Shelter

Prince of Peace will be providing dinners for those staying at the Chicago Avenue Shelter on the fourth Tuesday of each month, from October through May. We have funding for the dinners, through the money raised at Eats and Beats. Thanks so much to everyone who helped with that! Your work is very much appreciated!

We have teams signed up to prepare the meals for October, November and December. We are looking for teams to prepare the meals beginning in January. A team can be made up of family, friends, or anyone you would like.

The meals have to be prepared in a commercial kitchen, and we have two options for that. We are invited to use the kitchen at St. John’s UCC church, on Park Avenue, or we can use the FACC kitchen. Let Pastor Karen know your preference, so she can let the proper folks know that you will be coming.

THE PLANNING MINI RETREAT

ISN’T JUST FOR THE CHURCH COUNCIL!

The information from the Cottage Meetings has been put together and shared with both the Church Council and then the congregation. Many hopes and dreams for Prince of Peace were shared at the Cottage Meetings. Now it is time to begin to choose items to act on, and to prioritize them.

Saturday, November 16, from 8:00 – 10:30 am, everyone is invited to come and be part of the discussion for moving forward. We will be identifying several items that were lifted up in the Cottage Meetings as our goals for 2020. Goals, strategies, and a time line for implementing new ideas and new ministries will all be part of the discussion.

HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

In observation of Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, November 16-25, the FACC is holding an event in downtown Freeport, in the vacant lot next to Joe’s Pizza. The purpose of the event is two-fold. We intend to raise awareness of the problem of homelessness in Stephenson County, and raise funds to support the Chicago Avenue Shelter.

Each day, from 4 – 10 pm, local clergy, community leaders and business leaders, along with Dean Wright, will be on site. There will be information displays, publicity, and a canned and boxed food drive.

Pastor Karen and Enid Bahnub are members of the planning committee, along with about a half dozen others. They will be on site on Wednesday, November 20. Pastor Karen is hoping to raise $500.00 so they can go to the “shelter” for the night. Contributions can be made for Pastor Karen and Enid, by donating to the shelter in their name. Please let them know of your donation – so that they can keep track of where they are in their fundraising.

The committee’s goal is to provide $15,000 to support the shelter – which is 1200 bed nights at the shelter.
As we commemorate Veteran’s Day on Monday, Nov. 11, and during worship services on Sunday, November 10, we give thanks for those who have offered themselves to the service of our country through their service in the armed forces.

Listed here are names that have been submitted of those involved in the life of Prince of Peace who have served for our sake. We say thank you!

Curt Albright   Navy: 1969 - 1973
Terry Anderson  Army: 1964 - 1967
Noah Berentes   Navy: 2017 - present
Tom Brobst      Army: 1965 - 1967
Peter Clark     Air Force: 1985 - 1989
Jim Clemmons    Air Force: 1951 - 1955
Trey Cronau     Marine Corp.: 2018 - present
Dawn Duncan     Army: 1974 - 1977
Glen Galles     Army: 1964 - 1966
Keith Gerdes    National Guard: 1961 - 1966
Robert Gorham   National Guard: 1985 - 1993
Wayne Herrmann  Army: 1954 - 1956
Larry Hoffer    Navy: 1957 - 1960
Paul Holz       Army: 1950 - 1952

Second Sundays @6—Nov. 10

Second Sundays are facilitated by Julie Lee and are open to everyone. Luke’s gospel is the focus this entire year. We study 2 chapters each month.

The next Second Sunday Study will be Nov. 10 @6 pm. We will discuss chapters 21 & 22 of Luke.

Come, join the conversation!

COMPASSION HOUR IS EVERY HOUR

“Compassion Hour” (usually the 4th Wednesday of the month from 12-1 pm) is a time set aside to be intentionally focused on sharing compassion through the writing (and sending) of cards. We also have a variety of FREE CARDS available to anyone, any time to encourage you to spread compassion when the Spirit prompts you. The cards are located in the card carousel in the narthex (by the water fountains in the main entrance).

Join us for the next Compassion Hour on Wednesday, November 27 from 12-1 pm (come any time over the noon hour). Come with a list or we can recommend some folks who could use some encouragement. Invite a friend. Until then, continue to be intentional about spreading Christ's love.
RECOGNITION OF VETERANS (continued)

Jared Knutson  Army: 2007 - present
Don Lillevold  Air Force: 1968 - 1972
Gordon Ross  IL National Guard: 1960 - 1965
Frank Searfoss  Army: 1954 - 1957
Allen Slama  Navy: 1966 - 1969
David Stott  Navy: 1971 - 1975
Joshua Wohlford  Air Force: 2007 - present
Justin Wohlford  Air Force: 2010 - present

NOOMA DVD – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

WHAT IS A NOOMA?

“Nooma” is the Greek word that means Spirit. Nooma is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. Nooma is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion. Each DVD is about 12 minutes long. We will show one each month following the 10:30 worship service. The whole thing, DVD and discussion, will be done in 45 minutes – promise!

Our November Nooma DVD will be shown on November 10. It is entitled, “Trees.”

How do you feel about the world? Do you think the world is getting better or worse? What does it mean to live how God created you to live? If we believe God’s way of life is the best way to live, why is it so hard for us to do it?

Come, watch the DVD and join in the conversation.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

The Healthcare Ministry Team will be conducting blood pressure screenings beginning at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who is interested. We encourage everyone to participate as we practice good stewardship of our bodies.

For more information please contact Diane Bardell, BSN, RN-BC, Health Ministry Team Leader at 815-291-4793.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING
Sunday
November 17
9:15

NOOMA DVD
–
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

WHAT IS A NOOMA?

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Come, watch the DVD and join in the conversation.

FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL
Friday, November 22, 2019—11:00 a.m.

All are welcome for a time of fellowship beginning at 11 a.m. with the meal being served at 11:45.

Menu: Turkey Stuffing Bake, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn Casserole, Cranberry Salad and Pumpkin Pie.

If you need a ride, we will gladly pick you up. To arrange for transportation, please call Joy at 815-232-3933.

Signing up is not required, but it is helpful for planning. A sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex.
**QUILTS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

**NEXT QUILT/SEWING DAY - December 7**

The Quilt/Sewing group meets to prepare quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). All ages are welcome to join in the process (cutting, ironing, sewing, tying . . .)

The need is great! Join the work day/fun on **Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

You are welcome to come any time between 9 & 3 and stay as long as you like. Bring your lunch, leave for lunch or bring food to share. It’s up to you. With many hands our work turns in to fellowship and fellowship turns in to service, producing much needed quilts for LWR.

For more information contact Kelly Everding (815-541-7817) or Julie Lee at the church office.

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**Freeport Area Church Cooperative**

**“FACC” FOOD PANTRY**

The need is great, please consider picking up some “extra” items for the pantry next time you are shopping. **Thank you.**

**Taken to FACC on October 23**

- 39 Jars Jelly
- 12 Cans Soup
- 2 Jars Peanut Butter
- 4 Boxes Pasta
- 1 Box Inst. Potatoes
- 1 Box Pasta Salad
- 1 Box Inst. Rice Mix
- 4 Boxes Cereal
- 2 Boxes Crackers
- 2 Bags Split Peas
- 2 Boxes Spaghetti
- 2 Cans Chicken
- 15 Cans Gr. Beans
- 1 Can Ravioli
- 17 Granola Bars
- 1 Jar Butterscotch
- 1 Jar BBQ Sauce
- 2 Bags Mints
- 2 Bags Inst. Potatoes
- 3 Cans Carrots
- 1 Bag Croutons
- 1 Jar Pasta Sauce
- 7 Single Mac & Cheese
- 10 Single Cereal
- 4 (3pk.) Cr. Of Wheat
- 3 Cans Coffee
- 1 (3pk.) Inst. Oatmeal
- 2 Boxes Mac & Cheese
- 6 Single Rice a Roni
- 3 Single Inst. Potatoes

**In November we are collecting Canned Tuna for FACC.**

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**PRINCE OF PEACE BOOK CLUB - SUN., NOV. 17**

The Book Club is open to anyone! We get together to discuss a book, chosen for the month, and enjoy light refreshments and fellowship.

On **Sunday, November 17 at 3:30** the Book Club will gather in the Sonrise room at church. Hostess: Holly Petersen

The book for discussion in November is *The Ragged Edge of Night* by Olivia Hawker.

Copies off the full book list are available on the bulletin board at church.

For more information contact Jan Martin at 815-233-8874.

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**Thank you received . . .**

Dear Prince of Peace,

Just dropping a small note of appreciation for your continued support and partnership with FACC and our united ministry in fighting homelessness and hunger in northwest Illinois.

Thank you and God Bless You -

Dean Wright (Executive Director)
THANKSGIVING SERVICES

This year we will have two Thanksgiving services to choose from – or attend both.

The Freeport Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Monday, November 25, at Faith United Methodist Church. Many area clergy will be participating in leading this service. A time of fellowship begins at 6:30 pm, with the service starting at 7:00 pm. Each church is asked to contribute 3 dozen cookies. If anyone is willing to make some cookies, please let Sue in the office know.

The offering for the Community Thanksgiving Service will be to meet local needs. A monetary offering will go to provide shoes for school children who do not have adequate shoes for the winter months. Worshippers are also asked to bring socks for a sock offering. Socks can be any size up to adult sizes for high school students.

There will be a basket in the narthex (at Prince of Peace) for you to donate socks. Child/Youth sizes S-M-L are particularly needed.

The joint service with First Lutheran Church will be held on Wednesday, November 27, at 7:00 pm. There will be a combined choir, with choir members from both congregations participating. This year’s service will be held at First Lutheran Church, with Pastor Karen preaching.

THANKSGIVING EVE COMBINED CHOIR:

If you are interested in singing with the combined choirs of First Lutheran and Prince of Peace at the Thanksgiving Eve service, come to rehearsal on Wednesday, November 27 at 6:15 p.m., right before the 7:00 worship service.

ADVENT SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS IN DECEMBER

On the three Wednesdays in Advent we will have special Advent events. Each Wednesday will begin with a simple meal at 5:30 pm. An offering will be received to cover the cost of the meal. And then the meal will be followed by an Advent event.

Week 1 – December 4 – will focus on Advent preparation. This event is sponsored by the Christian Education Team, and is a Christian Education program for everybody.

We will have Advent prayer, followed by the opportunity to make several crafts items for your home Advent observances. We will make Advent chains, with scripture verses for each day of Advent. We will decorate boxes for doing a Reverse Advent, which you may have seen on Facebook, and will be explained at the event. And we will learn about Shepherds Pouches, and make them.

Week 2 – December 11 – Following a simple meal, we will have a Jesse Tree Service. Come on out and experience that!

A Jesse Tree helps families reflect on the people, prophesies, and events that preceded Christ’s birth. There is one Jesse Tree reading for each day of Advent. These readings are from the Bible and each is accompanied by an ornament that symbolizes the occurrence or theme presented in the reading (e.g., the first sin is symbolized by a tree with fruit, the Passover is symbolized by a lamb, the exile is symbolized by tears, the birth of Christ is symbolized by a manger). These ornaments are used to decorate a “Jesse Tree” (the name is taken from Isaiah 11:1).

Pastor Karen needs people to make the Jesse Tree ornaments, which are very simple to make. Please let her know if you will help out with that. We can have a “Jesse Tree Craft Day.”
Week 3 – December 18 – Following a simple meal, we will have a Contemplative Worship Service focused on the names of Jesus. Scripture provides many names for Jesus. We will look at the meaning of some of the names, and how these many names enrich our faith lives.

You are invited to come to one, or all of the Advent Events. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex, for planning for the simple meals.

All women of Prince of Peace are invited to participate in the Women’s groups, “After Hours” and/or “Seekers”.

“After Hours” meet on the second Tuesday of each month.  
Next meeting: **Tuesday, November 12**, at 6:30 pm at church.  
Hostess: Ann Crothers (at church), Study Leader: Nancy Lillevold.

“Seekers” meet on the second Wednesday of each month at the church. Next meeting: **Wednesday, November 13**, at 9:45 am in the church conference room. Study Leader: Judy Schimpf.

**Upcoming dates:**
 **BAKE SALE:** Sunday, November 24 in the narthex.  
 **THANKOFFERING:** Sunday, November 24.

**Thankoffering Sunday—November 24**
The Women of the ELCA will offer their annual Thankoffering boxes on Sunday, November 24. Checks should be made payable to Prince of Peace WELCA. A basket will be provided for your offering as you enter the sanctuary. Offerings go directly to the Women of the ELCA Churchwide.

**Congregation Council**

**Highlights of October 21, 2019**

The minutes of the September council meeting were approved.

Financial Reports from September were reviewed, discussed, and approved.

Statistical Report was reviewed.

Creative Learning Center Report was given by Carol Johnson. Financials were reviewed.

Pastor Report: Pastor Karen Tews gave her pastor’s report of her activity in and out of the office.

Julie Lee shared the Director of Congregational Ministries Report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Solar Power—Paul is contacting solar companies.
- Nominating Committee: In progress.
- Records retention taskforce—Pastor sent letters and will be picking a date for their first meeting.
- “Eats and Beats” was a success.
- Christian Education Team—will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 23.
- Congregational Vitality Survey- It was agreed to move ahead with the free survey to be conducted on December 8 and all surveys be complete by December 15.
- Saturday Council Retreat-November 16, 8 to 10:30
- Creation of Employee Handbook-Team will start meeting next week.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Budget committee-Paul Everding, Mila Beyer, Steve Kroeger and Pastor Tews.
Portico decision—It was approved to stay with the Gold Plus plan.

Heat tape hanging from the roof of the sanctuary needs to be addressed.

Annual Congregational Meeting—Budget Forum will be held on January 19, 2020 and the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on January 26, 2020.

2020 offering fund descriptions—wording will reflect that 100% of the Capital Appeal money goes to the principal of the loan and the interest is paid from Building and Equipment.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Stewardship campaign.

Crop Walk—Prince of Peace walkers raised $667

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2020. The Budget Forum will be held on Sunday, January 19. Both of these meetings are held between the worship services, starting at 9:15 am.

POINSETTIA ORDERS—BY DECEMBER 1
Poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Costs are $12 for a 6” pot and $22 for an 8” pot. Please use a yellow pew envelope indicating your name and the size and quantity you would like to donate. The deadline for ordering is Wednesday, December 28. Your plant may be taken home anytime after the 7:00 service on Christmas Eve or during office hours the following week.

Thanks!
Thanks to everyone who helped with the VetsRoll Fundraiser. It was really cool to have two television stations come and report on our efforts. Thanks to all who attended, and made contributions. And thanks to all those who helped out in quite a variety of ways: Enid Bahnub (coordinator and cook), Jeff Bahnub, Joyce Nienhuis, Paul Holz, Jeannie Wurtzel, Mina Tolu-Honary, Rachel Sdao, Brian Thompson, Scott Mattison, Joy Wirth, and Naomi Sdao. And I also want to thank those who donated bars for dessert: Sandy Searfoss, Judy Ross, Cathy Cronau, and Sue Bronn. This was a great event that raised – at first count - $662.00 – for VetsRoll.

FAMILIES CELEBRATE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS
Are you looking for a way to enrich your celebration of Advent and Christmas? Or, are you looking for a unique gift to share with grandchildren?

*Families Celebrate Advent and Christmas cards are back by popular demand! Families Celebrate Advent and Christmas is a colorful deck of cards that is full of rituals, prayers and reflections. Endlessly flexible for busy schedules, you can create a new after-meal ritual, use them as decorations, or carry them on the go. Explore the entire season from Advent to Christmas through Epiphany. This family resource is available from Augsburg Fortress for $9.99 plus postage.*

JULIEN CHAMBER CHOIR CONCERT - NOVEMBER 10
Dubuque’s Julien Chamber Choir, under the direction of Kristen Eby, presents a special anniversary concert, "Songs of Celebration: 20 Years of JCC!" on Sunday, November 10 at 3 pm at Sinsinawa Mound Chapel. This hour-long concert will include works in a variety of styles by Britten, Copland, Rutter, Stroope and more.

Prince of Peace members Brian Thompson and Scott Mattison will be singing with the choir. A freewill offering will be received.
LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE – FIRES IN CALIFORNIA

At least 12 fires are currently raging across the state of California, fueled by high winds and extremely low humidity. Tens of thousands of people have been under evacuation orders, and more than 300 structures have been damaged or destroyed. Nearly a half million people have also faced rolling power outages designed to prevent more fires.

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California and Lutheran Social Services of Northern California in responding to the needs. Immediate needs may include food and water, as well as accompanying survivors with emotional and spiritual care.

Be part of the response. Please pray for the people who have been impacted by the wildfires in California. May God’s healing presence give them peace in their time of need. Pray that God will comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones and give strength to first-responders who diligently work to contain fires and care for affected communities.

You can support this vital ministry through a gift to Lutheran Disaster Response – U.S. Wildfires. Mark this special offering on your offering envelope, or use a pew envelope. Thank you!

SOUNDS OF GOOD NEWS (SOGN)
4 Decades of Music & MORE!
Friday, November 29 - 6:00 at Prince of Peace.
Carl A. Cole - Celebrating 40 years
Come enjoy great musical compositions and arrangements with special guest artists as well as dynamic testimonials and tributes!
Free will donations will benefit the “YES” Club Kids Program.

CARDB CLUB FIRST WEDNESDAYS
The next CARD CLUB will meet on Wednesday, December 4 from 10 a.m.-noon. The card game played will depend on the number of folks attending.

Whether you are an avid card player or maybe you haven’t played in years (or ever), you are invited to join either occasionally or regularly for this social time at Prince of Peace.

Event coordinator: Dianne Schrader, 815-233-1810.

OUT TO LUNCH - NOVEMBER 11
The October “Out to Lunch” event at noon on Monday, November 11, will be at Fiesta Cancun, 1735 S. West Ave., Freeport.

A sign-up sheet is posted so that we can have some idea of how many to expect; however, “walk-ins” are welcome.
Everyone who enjoys eating out is invited!
For more information, contact Dianne Schrader at 815-233-1810.

MEN’S BREAKFAST
FIRST FRIDAY EACH MONTH
December 6
7:30 - Big Apple Restaurant (Galena Ave.)

WOMEN’S BREAKFAST
SECOND FRIDAY EACH MONTH - November 8, December 13
7:30 - Country Junction Restaurant (near South & West Sts.)

No need sign up. Just come and enjoy the fellowship.
Our Prayers of Sympathy . . .

We pray for Holly Petersen and family on the death of Holly’s mother, Catherine Hagen.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We want to sincerely thank you for being a part of the Freeport Area Eats and Beats food and music festival. We also would like to thank the many volunteers within your organization who selflessly volunteered their time.

We have some exciting things planned for the year to come!

We hope that you will continue to participate in the event as it grows in future years.

Event organizers from Malcolm Eaton Enterprises:
Lou Ann Hayes, Tracey Kempel, Tim Cook.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank Pastor Karen for coming to the ER to see me after my accident. I would also like to thank all the people for sending me the get well cards. I would also like to thank the people who did my job while I couldn’t do it.

Curt Albright

Open House to celebrate
Ruth Corbin’s
90th Birthday!
Sunday, Nov. 17 * 2 - 4 p.m.
Prince of Peace Fellowship Hall
Please, no gifts.
If you would like to donate in honor of Ruth, there will be a collection of non-perishable grocery items for the Freeport Area Church Cooperative Food Pantry.