



Mega Sale – Blessed to Be a Blessing

by Jan Castillo

For the 27th year, we are preparing to host the Prince of Peace Mega Sale. Donation drop-off started in late July and we are readying our campus for the August 24-26 sale. And while there is much to do, in the midst of all the preparations, there is much to be thankful for.

For 26 consecutive years, Mega Sale has offered clean, quality, low-priced items. Many shoppers wait all year for Mega Sale to purchase school clothes for their children, furniture for their homes, and household goods, like vacuum cleaners, pots and pans, and linens – everyday essentials. Our guests know that everything we sell is in good working condition. And they know that when they arrive, we will welcome them with grace and love. We are blessed to bless so many people.

And our blessings go beyond Mega Sale. Proceeds from the sale go to support programs and ministries within our church, our community, and around the world. Mega Sale 2016 generated over \$140,000 which benefited Meals on Wheels, The Salvation Army, Feed My Starving Children, Boy Scout Troop 471, Lutheran Social Service, Hope Lodge – American Cancer Society, InterVarsity, Kids

’n Kinship, Ebenezer Ridges, Urban Ventures, MOPS, ELCA Hunger/Disaster Relief/Refugee Funds, Lutheran World Relief – Syrian Refugee Fund, Dakota Woodlands, Small Sums, Mission Outpost, CDLC Preschool, and Prince of Peace. Thanks be to God!

This “mega” ministry is only possible because of the giving hearts and hands (and tired feet) of the many volunteers who give of their time and talent each summer. Many volunteer to spend time with their friends. Others volunteer because they see how we live our mission through Mega Sale. And some volunteer because they were once in need and shopped at Mega Sale. To them, we are the hands and feet of Jesus.

So how can you help sustain this ministry? Volunteer. We need you. Our community needs you. Beginning August 5-6, volunteer registration tables will be located near outdoor worship. You can also email Julie Gorvin, our Volunteer Coordinator, anytime at jgorvin@integraonline.com. No experience required - just a happy heart and a big smile! For more information, visit popmn.org/megasale.

CHURCH UPDATE

One Church Capital Campaign

As of August 1, 597 families have committed \$5.1 million for the One Church campaign. Important decisions will be made very soon on the scope and phasing of the construction project. Our leadership is committed to only tackling as much of the project as would be financially responsible.

It is important that commitments come in as soon as possible so that best decisions are made.

If you haven't had a chance to commit to the One Church campaign, find a commitment card at the Welcome Desk or at the tables in the back of the Sanctuary, or commit online at onechurch.popmn.org. As stewards of the riches of God we trust that all we invest today will richly bless ministry today and bless generations of tomorrow, leaving a legacy of faith, hope and love. Be a part of our future!

Building Transformation

What are the yellow lines painted on the sidewalk, parking lot and grass on the east side of our building? That is our new building footprint! This outline should help give you a sense of the scope of the addition to our building. Most of this space will have two floors that will house CDLC preschool and Family Ministry, administrative offices and scads of hospitality and meeting space. The space furthest to the south of this footprint will be our new alternative worship space. As planned now, this addition will provide about 30,000 square feet of new space as we bring our ministries under one roof.

Have you seen the virtual fly-through of the concept plan? You'll find it here: popmn.org/fly-thru. Keep in mind that this is concept at this point, and the furnishings and finishes have not yet been determined. But a 3D view of our work to date helps to give a clearer picture of new and transformed space.

A team of staff, volunteers, our architects and general contractor are working through the summer to finalize the building design. This is the current timeline:

- **Early fall:** The Board of Directors will determine the phasing of the building project
- **September:** Construction drawings begin
- **Winter:** Contractor provides guaranteed maximum price and creates bidding documents
- **Mid-winter:** Building permitting, bidding process
- **April:** Ground breaking

CALLED TO CONNECT

UP with God _____

Come On and SING!

You are invited to join the Celebration Chorale for an amazing time of singing praise to God. We will kick things off with our first rehearsal on Thursday, August 31 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The Celebration Chorale is open to anyone who loves to sing and wants to experience a great community of people.

The choir is under the direction of Mark Slaughter, with assistant directors Kyle Pederson and Deanna Welch, who are all excited to welcome you to join us. For additional information, please contact Mark Slaughter at mslaught@popmn.org.

Engage Bible Study

Mark your calendars - Engage Bible Study begins September 11-13! Join the pastoral staff as we dive deep into the Gospel of John. There are three opportunities per week with identical sessions:

Monday evenings, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Tuesday mornings, 6:30 - 7:30 am (men's group)

Wednesdays, Noon - 1:00 pm

Unless otherwise noted, all sessions meet in the Worship Center Community Room. Everyone is welcome! Bring a Bible and a friend.

Worship at Prince of Peace

Saturday - 5:30 pm

Wednesday - 6:00 pm (WOW Family worship, September – April)

Sunday - 8:30, 9:45 and 11:00 am

Childcare is available for all worship services.

CALLED TO CONNECT

IN through Community _____

Fall Adult Retreat at Camp Wapo

September 12-15 | Amery, WI

Campfires. Canoeing. Devotions. Art. Golf. Nature walks. Games. Bible study. Pontoon rides. Rest. Please join us at Camp Wapo in Amery, WI – a place to learn, grow, play and be inspired! Guest speaker Cathy Nordheim, M.A. is excited to explore with you the theme of “Peace in Chaotic Times.” Cathy has been a spiritual director for 12 years and has vast experience as a resource speaker and group facilitator for various ELCA congregations. She also currently works at Wisdom Ways Spirituality Center in St. Paul where she inspires re-imagining, embodiment, and living as agents of transformation in our church and world. Cost is \$185. Additional details and registration can be found at campwapo.org/events. Contact Kari Snyder at ksnyder@popmn.org or 952-898-9357 if you have questions.

On-Purpose Peace: Living Your Faith

Tuesdays, September 26 – November 7

Christian Life Center Room 110

Two Choices: 1:30 - 3:00 pm or 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Do you ever wonder, “Is this as good as it gets?” “Is this what amounts to my life and legacy?” or “Something has to change, but what? What should I do?” The 7-week On-Purpose Peace small group experience provides a remarkably fresh and personal response to these questions. Gather weekly to sharpen your focus on what renews and satisfies you and brings God’s peace and purpose into your life. A \$38 fee includes the book and the participant guidebook, both by author Kevin W. McCarthy. Contact Karen Odegard at kmodegard@gmail.com or 952-210-6818 with questions and to register for the time that works for you.

CALLED TO CONNECT IN through Community

A Preschool at the Top of the Class

by Marie Strain

CDLC preschool has been providing quality preschool learning since 1971. Our mission has always been to celebrate each child as a gift from God, welcome all families, and strive to develop strong self-esteem in our children by guiding them to grow spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically and cognitively.



During the 2015-2016 school year, the staff of CDLC worked on understanding our strengths and challenges to meet 10 National Association for Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Early Learning Program Standards and Criteria. NAEYC program standards and accreditation criteria are based on the collective knowledge of best practices in early childhood education with an aim to ensure the quality of children's daily experiences in early childhood programs and to promote positive child outcomes. NAEYC came out to our site and observed our preschool in action. The success of our teachers and program resulted in CDLC becoming nationally accredited as a quality preschool.



CDLC also earned Parent Aware's Four Star Rating during the 2016-2017 school year, the highest possible rating. Parent Aware's Star Ratings strive to improve, support, and celebrate the strengths of child care and early education programs. The four star rating qualifies CDLC for Minnesota Department of Education Early Learning Scholarships. With these scholarships, we will be able to help families in need receive a quality preschool education. We are excited to be able to reach out to our community and to be able to support children in their learning.



The four star rating and NAEYC accreditation would not have been possible without the generous support of the Prince of Peace community. Because of your support, we were able to show the true quality of education that our great teachers provide daily to each and every child.

CDLC has a limited number of openings for the 2017-2018 school year. Children must be 33 months old by December 1, 2017. Register at CDLCpreschool.org. Please call 952-435-8105 to set up a tour of our school or for any questions.

CALLED TO CONNECT IN through Community

Family Ministry 2017-18

The Family Ministry Team is eagerly anticipating our best year of ministry yet, and we want to give you the details you need to join the fun.

Choir: This year we will offer our Praise choir on Wednesdays at 5:15-5:50 pm and Sundays at 11:00-11:45 am. Joy Choir will still rehearse on Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:40 am. We hope that this change will allow families to stay together on Wednesday nights and allow for families that can't attend on Wednesdays to still participate in our amazing children's choir.

Worship: We are thrilled to be able to offer a more robust midweek worship experience for *families*. WOW Family Worship will run from 6:00-6:45 pm on Wednesdays in the Family Room and will offer new things like baptisms, communion, special guests and more of our favorite worship elements like songs and skits. Sunday morning children's ministry will still take place from 9:45-10:45 am. The large group worship will still run from 9:55-10:20 am in the Family Room.

Connections: This fall we will offer more spaces for Parenting Tools, which is a small group for parents. You can attend Children's Ministry Parenting Tools Wednesdays at 6:50-7:15 pm in the Family Room. Parenting Tools for StuMin parents will happen on Wednesdays from 7:15-8:00 pm in the Chapel. We'll also host a session of Children's Ministry Parenting Tools on Sunday mornings from 10:50-11:30 am in the Welcome Area of the Christian Life Center. We will offer more sessions of "Freestyle," which is our social space for kids and students. On Wednesday nights, elementary kids can enjoy Freestyle from 7:15-8:00 pm in the Family Room. StuMin students will enjoy Freestyle from 6:15-7:00 pm in the Community Room.

Schedule: For a helpful infographic of the schedule visit popmn.org/family or if you have questions or ideas for how we can improve, contact Jason Kramme at jkramme@popmn.org.

Family Ministry Kick-off

Register NOW for 2017-18 Family Ministry at popmn.org/register for the lower price of \$55 per child/\$140 family cap. After August 15 the price increases to \$70/\$175 family cap. Lots of good stuff will be happening in September. Mark your calendar for these dates:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| September 6 | POP Rocks! (Grades 6-9) and StuMin Band Kick-off Event |
| September 10 | Keeping the Promise Bible Distribution for Preschool, Grades 3 & 6
Leader Commissioning during 9:45 am worship
Leadership Launch/Training 11:00 am – 12:30 pm |
| September 13 | Children's Wednesday Praise Choir (Grades K-5) BEGINS 5:15 pm
Children's Ministry WOW & Small Groups BEGIN 6:00 pm
Student Ministry & Small Groups BEGIN 7:00 pm |
| September 17 | Children's Ministry Sunday & Small Groups BEGIN 9:45 am
Children's Sunday Praise Choir (Grades K-5) BEGINS 10:50 am
StuMin Sunday Mornings BEGIN 11:00 am |
| September 24/27 | Keeping the Promise Family Experience – Grade 3 Holy Scriptures |

CALLED TO CONNECT IN through Community

Small Group Leaders and Other Volunteers NEEDED!

In order to build our small groups for Children's and Student Ministry, we need leaders to guide the weekly discussions/activities. We encourage co-leaders to work together or alternate weeks. High school students are invited to lead Children's Ministry small groups and middle school students can be helpers. Parents may choose to lead an age group older or younger than their own kids. Leader Commissioning (during 9:45 am worship) and Leadership Launch (11:00 am - 12:30 pm), both on September 10, provide the Spirit and the tools to lead with confidence.

New and returning leaders are asked to fill out the volunteer form at popmn.org/volunteer before August 15 in addition to verbal/emailed confirmations to Jessica Olson or Tim Balow. Other volunteer opportunities include food hospitality, greeting, ushering or serving communion. Those options are also available on the volunteer registration form.

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

MOPS is a non-denominational group that encourages and equips moms with children ages birth – kindergarten. Prince of Peace hosts three MOPS groups that meet twice per month. Moms get together to share food, fellowship, hear inspiring speakers, create crafts, and participate in service projects. Child care is available. Register at popmn.org/mops. Check it out by attending one of these free open houses in the Worship Center child care area:

Thursday, September 7, 9:00 - 11:30 am

Thursday, September 7, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Wednesday, September 13, 9:00 - 11:30 am

Hey, Student Singers and Musicians!

Kick-off Event:

Wednesday, September 6 | 5:30 pm

We want to kick off the new semester right! If you are interested in getting involved in a praise band or choir, we've got a couple options for you!

POP Rocks! Choir

If you are a student who is going into 6th-9th grade we want to offer you the opportunity to join POP Rocks! This is a diverse and fun choir group that practices on Wednesday nights from 5:30-6:30 pm, led by the amazing Christine Walth. You will sing at StuMin worship on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm as well as have opportunities to perform around the city and possibly a tour at the end of the year!

StuMin Praise Band

We want to offer any students going into 6th -12th grade the opportunity to join the StuMin band led by Russ Parrish. We practice on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 pm and play for StuMin worship at 7:00 pm. No matter what instrument you play, we will find a place for you!

If you have any questions please contact Russ Parrish at rparrish@popmn.org or Christine Walth at Christine.walth@gmail.com.

CALLED TO CONNECT OUT for the World

Tanzania Trip Recap: I Don't Have Words

The following is an excerpt from the blog, Intersections, by Terri Elton. Terri, a member of Prince of Peace and a professor at Luther Seminary, recently returned from the Tanzania Mission Trip. Visit her blog (terrielton.com) for more stories and photos from the trip.

I don't have words. Whenever I try to put words together into a sentence to share about my experience in Tanzania, words fall short. I've tried several times, with several responses each geared for a different group of people, but each time the sentences trail off...and then I try to end with a story to illustrate my point. Sometimes that works, sometimes it doesn't.

There is the story of the college student who waited for our group as we traveled to our partner congregation. And when our car broke down and needed attention, we had a chance to have an extended "unexpected" conversation. The heart of his message was his gratitude to Prince of Peace for the 6 years of scholarships that helped him move from primary school to secondary school and now into the University. Soon, after a time student teaching, he will be a teacher giving back to another community because of the investment this congregation made in him. As a professor and member of Prince of Peace, it was awesome to see the joy in his face and the thanksgiving in his heart.

There is a string of stories that highlight the Bega Kwa Bega – Shoulder to Shoulder – partnership between the Saint Paul Area Synod and the Iringa Diocese. We signed guest books filled with familiar names from Minnesota, we met Tanzanians who have worked on projects with our friends (i.e. Fred Bergsrud, my childhood neighbor, working with them in agriculture) and we made instant connections, like finding out our interpreter went to seminary with one of my PhD colleagues. With so many ambassadors going back and forth between Minnesota and Iringa, many conversations found common ground very quickly even though I could not speak Swahili or get around town on my own.

At the end of the day, I'm grateful to be part of a global church that is rooted in relationships, cares about the world, and takes seriously its call to love God and neighbor. My heart is full. I learned a lot, and have much to reflect on. And my web of ministry partners has expanded.

I'm home from Tanzania, but my experience in Tanzania is still living within me.

CALLED TO CONNECT OUT for the World

Mission Outpost

Food Shelf & Clothing Closet

With Mega Sale in full swing during the month of August, Mission Outpost hours will be as follows:

August 1-17: Regular hours

August 21-31: Monday and Thursday Food Distribution from 11:00 am until Noon. There will be no regular Mission Outpost hours during this time.

September 4: Mission Outpost will be closed in observance of Labor Day.

Volunteers Needed:

We are currently in need of volunteers for our Monday and Wednesday evening shifts. We have a great time conversing with our guests in a relaxed environment in the evening. If you have never volunteered at Mission Outpost, this would be a great time to get your feet wet. Details at popmn.org/volunteer.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Mission Outpost

- Monday, 9:00 am – Noon - Sort and stock food/clothing, set-up
- Monday, Noon – 3:00 pm or 4:00 – 7:00 pm - Serve families
- Tuesday, 9:00 am – Noon - Sort and stock food/clothing
- Wednesday, 9:00 am – Noon - Sort and stock food/clothing
- Wednesday, 4:00 – 7:00 pm - Serve families
- Thursday, 9:00 am – Noon - Sort and stock food/clothing, set-up
- Thursday, 9:30 – 12:30 pm - Serve families

Farmers Market/Food Distribution

- Thursday food distribution setup, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm
- Thursday food dist. serving, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Personal Hygiene Items Needed:

We are currently in need of bath soap, razors, conditioner, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, and adult incontinence wear. Please place items in the blue donation bins.

Mission Outpost Dental Clinic

Volunteer dental professionals to provide service to low income families and a team to do monthly routine cleaning are needed. Contact Trudy Koepsell at 952-898-9318 or tkoepsell@popmn.org.

Mission Outpost Furniture

If you have household furniture to donate or if you have a furniture need, contact Kim at 952-898-9310 or kharris@popmn.org. We can pick up and deliver furniture from/to your home.

Mission Outpost MOVE

We are looking for volunteer HR professionals or job coaches to assist people with job searches. MOVE helps families and individuals apply for county services, energy assistance, and MNsure, as well as employment research, resume writing and other job-related skills. Contact Linda Olson at 952-898-9307 or lolson@popmn.org.

T-Shirt Diaper Ministry

2nd Wednesday/monthly | 8:30 - 11:45 am **Christian Life Center Media Center**

What can we make from discarded t-shirts? Come join in the fun as we cut, sew and tie our way into the hearts of little ones both human and canine. NO sewing experience required. For more information on how to get involved contact Nancy Ferche at nlferche@gmail.com.

CALLED TO CONNECT OUT for the World

Mega Sale Dates & Information

Donation Center Hours – August 5-17

Mondays & Thursdays, 1:00 - 8:00 pm

Saturdays & Sundays, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Drop off donations at Door F of the Christian Life Center. A list of accepted items can be found at popmn.org/megasale. Volunteer to help sort and price anytime during donation center hours.

Register to Volunteer during the Mega Sale

Sign up between worship services on weekends starting August 5-6 or email Julie Gorvin, Mega Sale volunteer coordinator, at jgorvin@integraonline.com to indicate your availability.

Important Dates

August 17: Last donation drop-off day

August 19-20: Drop off furniture, bikes & large items (for large item pick-up call 952-898-9366 by August 13 to schedule)

August 24-26: Mega Sale

Baked Goods Needed for Coffee Shop

Cookies and bars (uncut) are needed for Joanna's Java Coffee Shop during the Mega Sale. Please bring cookies and bars in disposable containers in the morning on August 24-26 to the Christian Life Center Welcome Center.

Dakota Woodlands Shelter

August 28

Volunteer at monthly birthday parties at Dakota Woodlands, a shelter for homeless women and children. Time commitment is about 90 minutes per party. Contact Kim Harris at kimharris78@msn.com or 952-240-7688.

Staycation Service Opportunity

MEA Weekend: October 19-21, 2017

Have you ever wanted to be a part of a mission trip but could not commit a full week or invest in the travel cost? Join us during MEA weekend for an intergenerational "all-in" experience right here in our community. From 8:00 am - 9:00 pm you will serve side by side with others from Prince of Peace. All are welcome! Cost per person is about \$50-75 to cover meals and project costs for the three days. Deadline to register is September 15. Contact Eric Elton at eelton@popmn.org with questions.

Medical and Dental Mission Trip

September 30 – October 7, 2017

In partnership with our long-term mission partner, Doulos Discovery School, we are hosting our third Medical/Dental Mission Trip (non-surgical) in the Dominican Republic. This is a great opportunity to serve in a developing world country. We will conduct four clinics during the week and are looking for medical/dental doctors, PAs, nurses, dental assistants, hygienists and pharmacists. Cost will be about \$1,850. If interested, please contact Eric Elton at 952-898-9377 or eelton@popmn.org.

Military Ministry

Join Prince of Peace and Mary Mother Catholic Church in sending care boxes to overseas military personnel. The Support Our Troops board in the Worship Center has ribbons with current needs. Please place donated items in a bag labeled "Military Ministry" in any of the blue donation bins. To assist with packing or if you have questions, please contact JoAnn Kelly at 952-894-2787.

FINANCE UPDATE

Blessed to Be a Blessing

Prince of Peace Offering

June 2017 Budget	\$221,180	July – June Budget	\$3,024,220
June 2017 Actual	\$228,506	July – June Actual	<u>\$2,919,568</u>
		Total below budget	(\$104,652)

Total online giving in June *(included above)*: \$92,070

Your generosity changes lives! Thank you!

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21

Special Offering Envelopes:

Luther Seminary

The Special Offering envelopes in July and August will provide support for Luther Seminary. Luther Seminary in St. Paul is the largest seminary in the ELCA. It prepares more graduates for congregational ministry than any other Lutheran seminary, including Paul & Nancy Lee Gauche and Sandy Rothschiller. Luther also prepares adults of all ages for non-pastoral positions in a variety of ministry contexts. In order to keep student debt to a reasonable level, Luther Seminary relies upon the generosity of congregations like ours. It's a great investment into the future of the Lutheran Church. Envelopes are available in worship and the welcome desk or give online at popmn.org/give.

STAFF UPDATE

Thank You, Chris White, and Welcome to Darren Hensel!

We are experiencing a transition in leadership in the media arts ministry at Prince of Peace. Chris White has faithfully served for the past 3-plus years as Director of Media Arts and has transitioned to a new position at Westwood Community Church. His contribution to our church is substantial and we will greatly miss Chris and all his wonderful gifts.



Thankfully, we found an excellent replacement for the position. We are excited to welcome Darren Hensel as our new Director of Media Arts. Darren is recognized throughout the Twin Cities as a gifted and talented person, serving as technical director for

over 70 productions in high schools, colleges, and local theaters. His capacity for creativity will greatly enhance our worship experience and we look forward to our future of ministry together. Please stop by the sound booth and welcome Darren to Prince of Peace.

"I am thrilled for the opportunity to be involved with the amazing Prince of Peace community. I know Chris White did an amazing job during his tenure and I look to continue that bar of excellence as I move ahead as the new Media Arts Director. In my free time, I can be found playing music with my friends or fishing with my family at our cabin up in Canada. Please feel free to come over and introduce yourself when you see me." - Darren

PRAYERS

The Prayers of Prince of Peace

Weekly prayers for healing, sympathy, and those in the military are listed on the worship bulletins each weekend and on the Daily Reading Plan available at the kiosks and on our website. Prayer requests may be submitted by filling out a **Connection Card** and placing it in the offering bag during worship or in the Connection Card drop box.

Baptisms:

Warren Thomas Feyder, Stella Joan Penkivech, Griffin Michael Fritze.

Weddings:

Jessica Hurlbut & Phil Erickson, Rachel Holm & Zachary Matz.

Sympathy to:

Kathy & Handt Hanson and family, on the death of Kathy's mother, Ruthie Midboe; Keith & Trudy Koepsell and family, on the death of Keith's mother, Lorraine Koepsell; Orlin & Julie Te Slaa and family, on the death of Orlin's father, Gerben Te Slaa; Bruce & Paula Becker and family, on the loss of Bruce's mother, Gladys Becker; Veronica Barnas and family, on the loss of her mother-in-law, Diane; Joel & Rebekah Kiekbusch and family, on the loss of Rebekah's father, David Gullerud.

Contacts for Prayer

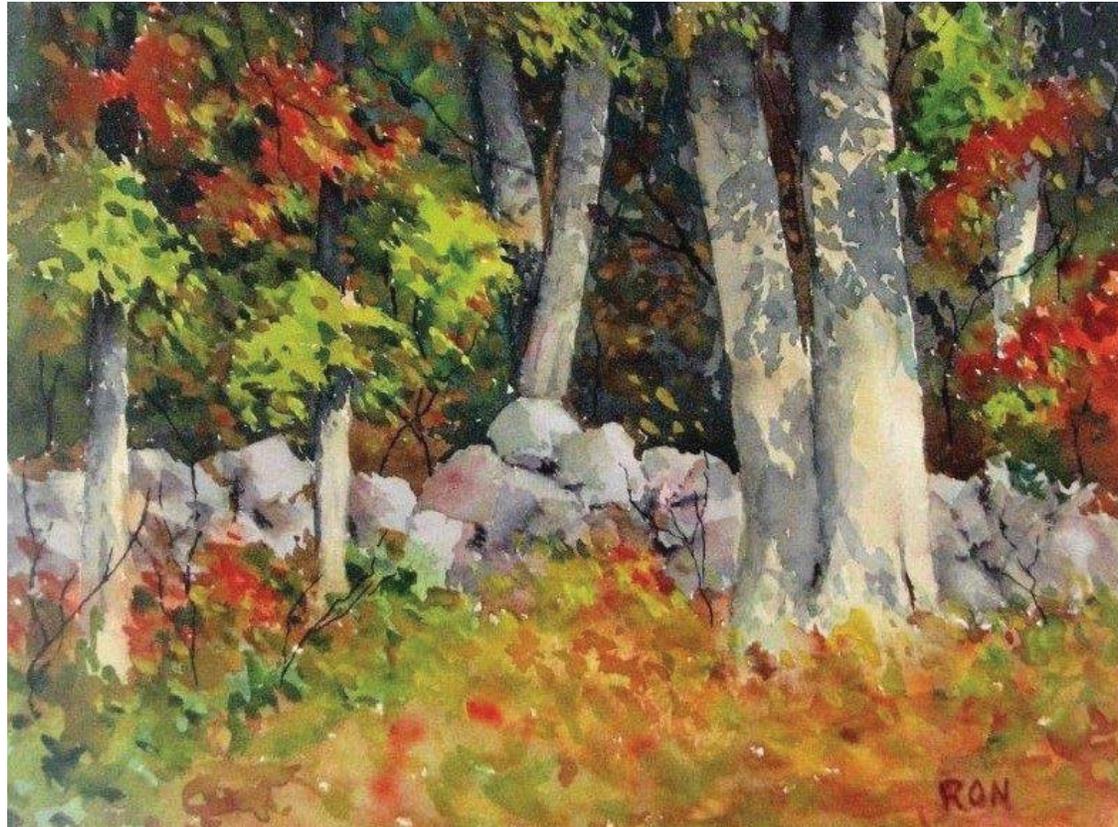
Email prayer requests to:

prayer@popmn.org

Prayers printed in the *Direction*:

Karen Helle, khelle@popmn.org, 952-898-9317

Going through a difficult time? Need someone to talk to? Contact Pastor Sandy Rothschiller at 952-898-9358 or srothschiller@popmn.org about our Lay Ministry or Prayer Ministry.



Connection Card

If you're a guest, want to volunteer, update contact information or submit a prayer request, please fill out a Connection Card (found at the welcome desk and tables in the Sanctuary). Place your completed card in the offering bag or in the Connection Card drop box.

Become a Sustainer

Give automatically at popmn.org/give.

The deadline for the September Direction is noon on Tuesday, August 8. Please email information to: communications@popmn.org.