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SEPTEMBER  
**DIRECTION**  
STORIES THAT CONNECT UP | IN | OUT

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## In Through Community: Small Groups

by Amy Oestreich



September always feels like a chance to “re-start” the year, an opportunity to change a routine or redefine how a typical week feels. The school year calendar often drives our routines as kids go back to school, ministry programs ramp up, and the seasons begin to change.

This fall, I am most excited to get back into routine with my small group. Our group meets every other week to connect with one another and talk about God. I look forward to catching up and diving into another chapter of our book. My small group has provided me a place to belong, a place to grow in my walk with God and to ask questions when I need help, and a place to live out “IN through Community.”

Have you considered joining a small group here at Prince of Peace? I would strongly encourage you to consider it! And before you decide, let me address a couple myths about small groups:

- **Small groups are a huge time commitment.** Not true. Every small group follows a different schedule – some meet every week, others once a month, and others occasionally throughout the year.
- **I have to know everything about the Bible to join a group.** Definitely not. Small groups are a safe place to dive deeper into the Bible together, ask questions, and wrestle with what it means to live out our faith in daily life.

As we dive into our “Can You Relate?” fall sermon series, I want to challenge you to add a small group to your routine for this school year. Join me as we grow as a community, IN community, together. Contact Amy Oestreich to sign up today at [aoestreich@popmn.org](mailto:aoestreich@popmn.org) or 952-898-9393.

## **CALLED TO CONNECT**

UP with God \_\_\_\_\_



### **Can You Relate?**

God created us for relationships. Nothing in life matters more, or brings us more joy, than healthy, thriving, nurturing relationships. At the same time, few things break our hearts and embitter our souls like broken relationships. And that's why we're launching a new sermon series this fall entitled "Can You Relate?" The Bible is filled with power and practical wisdom to help us develop and maintain healthy relationships, and our preaching staff is going to lead us in diving into it all. Together we'll learn how to resolve conflict well, how to create healthy boundaries, how to overcome our inner people-pleaser, and so much more. And we'll invite the Holy Spirit to transform our hearts and our relationships in amazing ways. Bring your Bible and bring a friend each week starting September 9-10!

### **Bring Your Bible to Worship**

Once again, we encourage everyone to bring your Bible to worship. Each week we will dive into scripture and provide practical suggestions for living out God's Word. If you forget your Bible, no worries, just pick up a red Bible off the cart in the back of the Sanctuary. Together let's embrace the power of scripture and how to apply it to our lives.

### **Worship Arts Ministry...A Great Place to Serve**

The Psalmist says to "Sing and make a joyful noise to the Lord!" We want to help you use your gifts to honor God. You will also build new relationships and have a wonderful time. So, come and join one of our musical groups this fall.

#### **Celebration Choir**

If you love to sing, then come and join us for rehearsals on Thursday evenings, 7:00-8:30 in the Sanctuary. We sing for the 8:30 and 9:45 worship services 3 Sundays a month. Rehearsals begin August 31. Contact Dr. Mark Slaughter: [mslaughter@popmn.org](mailto:mslaughter@popmn.org).

#### **Brass Choir**

If you love to play a brass instrument, then this is a great place to serve. This group practices each Thursday, 7:30-9:00 pm in Room 130 (below the Sanctuary). They play once a month at the 8:30 and 9:45 services. Contact Dr. Joshua Becker: [joshuabeckermusic@gmail.com](mailto:joshuabeckermusic@gmail.com).

#### **Flute Ensemble**

All flute players are welcome to join this wonderful ensemble. They play beautiful arrangements for both the 8:30 and 9:45 worship services one Sunday per month. They practice each Monday, 7:00-8:00 pm in Room 250 (upstairs in the Christian Life Center). Contact Laurie Senechal: [leflute1@gmail.com](mailto:leflute1@gmail.com).

#### **Peace Chimes Handbell Choir**

If you've been a part of a bell choir before or can read music and are up for a fun challenge, then come and join the handbell choir. They rehearse each Thursday from 5:30-6:45 pm in Room 130 (below the Sanctuary) and play for 8:30 and 9:45 worship. Contact Timothy O'Grady: [timothy.ryan.ogrady@gmail.com](mailto:timothy.ryan.ogrady@gmail.com).

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### **Making Sense of Your Strengths** **Monday, September 25 | 6:00 - 8:00 pm** **Christian Life Center Media Center**

Are you a parent who wants to make sense of your God-given qualities? There are many implications to identifying your areas of giftedness from the home to the work place, in how you raise your children to understanding and motivating co-workers.

Join Bethany von Steinbergs (our speaker for Family Recharge last May) and Joseph Dworak from Leadership Vision as they facilitate a “Making Sense of Strengths” workshop. This is an informational session designed to provide an introductory experience to your personal StrengthsFinder™ themes.

Bethany and Joseph will establish a Strengths-based foundation through the development of a common language, shared experience and collective conversations. Each participant will receive a personalized ThemePrint™, which is a visual representation of their strengths.

- ◆ Strengths Definition and Domains
- ◆ Partner Conversations and/or Group Questions
- ◆ Reflection & Application

**Register:** [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register)

**Registration Requirement:** Must have taken the Clifton StrengthsFinder™ in order to submit top 5 Themes with registration.

**Cost:** \$25 per person for customized materials

**Child care:** child care will be provided

For more information/questions contact Swen at [swen@popmn.org](mailto:swen@popmn.org).

### **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. Details and registration can be found at [campwapo.org/events](http://campwapo.org/events). Questions? Contact Kari at [ksnyder@popmn.org](mailto:ksnyder@popmn.org) or 952-898-9357.

### **On-Purpose Peace: Living Your Faith** **Tuesdays, September 26 – November 7** **Christian Life Center Room 110**

**2 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](mailto:kmodegard@gmail.com) or 952-210-6818 with questions and to register for the time that works for you.

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#### **Engage Bible Study**

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:

**Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm**

**Tuesdays, 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. All are welcome! Bring a Bible and a friend.

#### **Parent's Morning/Night Out**

Looking for some fun for your kiddo while you enjoy some adult time? Need a couple hours to run some errands? In need of a kid-free date night? Parent's Morning Out and Parent's Night Out offer opportunities for parents to connect with each other, hang out with friends, or relax on their own! Parent's Morning Out is offered the 1st Wednesday of the month from 9:00 am – noon. Parent's Night Out is offered on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 5:00-8:00 pm. Cost is \$15/child or \$25/family. RSVP to Jeanne Kalsow at 952-898-9378 or [jkalsow@popmn.org](mailto:jkalsow@popmn.org). Check out the schedule below:

**September 6 | 9:00 am – Noon**

Learning with Legos! Let's get learning! Kids' passion for Legos will be unleashed to get them learning in ways they never imagined!

**September 9 | 5:00 – 8:00 pm**

Bring your kiddo in to enjoy some free play!

**October 4 | 9:00 am – Noon**

Bring your kiddo in to enjoy some free play!

**October 14 | 5:00 – 8:00 pm**

Nocturnal Animals! Kids will have fun learning about nocturnal animals in Minnesota!

#### **BBQ and Brew**

**Saturday, September 23 | 3:00 – 10:00 pm**

**6506 245th St. W., Farmington, MN 55024**

Come celebrate the beginning of fall. This event is open to all men and women 21 years and older. We have a small group at Prince of Peace that likes to make home brew and smoke all kinds of meat. We will have pork ribs, chicken, hand-cut french fries, and many other goodies. Bring a lawn chair and any outdoor games you like to play. Food will be served about 4:30 pm with a bonfire later in the evening. Sponsored by Men's Ministry.

RSVP to Kurt at [koestreich@popmn.org](mailto:koestreich@popmn.org) or 952-898-9316 if you plan to attend. Child care is available from 5:00 - 8:00 pm at church for \$15/child or \$25/family. Please provide a nut-free dinner for your child. RSVP to Jeanne Kalsow at 952-898-9378 or [jkalsow@popmn.org](mailto:jkalsow@popmn.org) for child care.

#### **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](http://popmn.org/mops). Check it out by attending one of these free open houses in the Worship Center child care area:

**Thursday, Sept. 7 | 9:00 – 11:30 am**

**Thursday, Sept. 7 | 6:00 – 8:00 pm**

**Wednesday, Sept. 13 | 9:00 – 11:30 am**

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### **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 5:15-5:55 pm and Sundays at 10:50-11:30 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, a small group for parents. Attend Children's Ministry Parenting Tools Wednesdays at 6:45-7:15 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](http://popmn.org/family) or if you have questions or ideas for how we can improve, contact Jason Kramme at [jkramme@popmn.org](mailto:jkramme@popmn.org).

#### **Register:**

Register for 2017-18 Family Ministry at [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register). Cost is \$70 child/\$175 family cap.

#### **Family Ministry Kick-off:**

##### **Wednesday, September 13**

- 5:15 pm Children's Wednesday Praise Choir (Grades K-5) begins
- 6:00 pm Children's Ministry WOW & Small Groups begin
- 7:00 pm Student Ministry & Small Groups begin

##### **Sunday, September 17**

- 9:45 am Children's Ministry Sunday & Small Groups begin
- 10:50 am Children's Sunday Praise Choir (Grades K-5) begins
- 11:00 am StuMin Sunday Mornings begin



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### **Family Ministry Volunteer Commissioning & Leadership Launch Training** **September 10 | 9:45 am – 12:30 pm**

As we prepare to kick off fall in Family Ministry, we're excited to have the opportunity to commission and bless the ministry of our volunteers. Time will be set aside during the 9:45 a.m. service for all Family Ministry volunteers to be recognized, commissioned and prayed for as together we embark on ministry with God's kids. So, if you are a small group leader, pizza and café server, WOW or StuMin Band musician, ushers or communion servers, Freestyle support, or any other volunteer in Family Ministry, you are invited! Immediately following the 9:45 service, volunteers and Family Ministry staff will gather in Fellowship Hall for a time of inspiration and training to equip us for the year that lies ahead. If you have not yet registered to be a Family Ministry volunteer, especially a small group leader, please do so at [popmn.org/family](http://popmn.org/family). We have opportunities for you to journey alongside kids in preschool through grade 12.

### **Keeping the Promise**

Prince of Peace has dedicated one day each year in the life of your child to celebrate baptism. Keeping the Promise [KTP] family experiences are designed to equip families to live out the important promises made during baptism.

#### **Bible Distribution and Family Blessing**

##### **Sunday, September 10 | 9:45 am worship**

In response to the baptismal promise of placing in the hands of your child the Holy Scriptures, time during the 9:45 am worship service on Sunday, September 10 will be set aside for first year preschoolers, third and sixth graders to receive a Bible specifically chosen for their age group. You will be invited to come forward together as a family, place the Holy Scriptures into the hands of your child, and join together with the greater Prince of Peace community as we bless your family, your child, and the Bible they have received.

##### **Third Grade Families | Holy Scriptures KTP**

##### **Sunday, September 24 | 9:45 am or Wednesday, September 27 | 6:00 pm**

Parents of third graders are invited to attend Sunday morning children's ministry worship/WOW worship on September 24/27 and then gather with other third grade families to crack the bindings and explore the Bible they have just received. If your child does not currently participate in a small group, you can choose to attend any one of the sessions above.

##### **First Year Preschool Parents | Baptismal Promises KTP**

##### **Sunday, October 8 | 9:45 am or Wednesday, October 11 | 6:00 pm**

Parents of first year preschoolers are invited to attend Sunday morning children's ministry worship/WOW worship on October 8/11 and then gather with other preschool parents for a time of parent equipping while your child attends their regularly scheduled small group. If your child does not currently participate in a small group, you can choose to attend any one of the sessions above while your child visits a group during that time.

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#### **Student Ministry**

##### **StuMin Worship on Wednesdays**

*Starts on Wednesday, September 13*

StuMin Worship on Wednesdays is the foundation for what we do. Worship, teaching, activities, and small groups all take place in an exciting way on the Prince of Peace campus. We invite all students entering grades 6-12 to register at [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register) for a great year of ministry!

##### **StuMin on Sundays**

*Starts on Sunday, September 17 at 11:00 am*

*Christian Life Center Skylight Room*

Grades 6-12: Join us on Sundays for donuts, devos, and discussion among fellow students at Prince of Peace. If you volunteer in Children's Ministry, or want an extra way to hang out with friends, we invite you to come on Sundays!

##### **Fall Bash (6th – 8th grade)**

*Friday, October 13 at 7:00 pm – Saturday, October 14 at 4:30 pm*

Join our fun weekend when we play games, eat tons of food, play paint ball, and get to know other middle school students at Prince of Peace! Registration is available at [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register) for students in grades 6-8. Invite your friends!

##### **MEA Getaway (9th – 12th grade)**

*Thursday, October 19 – Sunday, October 22*

Dream of a getaway with your friends over MEA weekend? Now you've got it. Students in grades 9-12 are invited to come to Camp Castaway with us in Detroit Lakes, MN. Register at [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register). You won't want to miss this great weekend of friends, activities, dance parties, worship, teaching, and the best camp food you've ever had.

#### **South Metro Fields of Faith**

*Wednesday, October 4 at 7:00 pm*

While this event occurs during a regularly scheduled StuMin Worship, this incredible night of worship unites schools from all across the south metro for a time of sharing God's transformation in our lives. Look for more details closer to the event, which is hosted by our partner organization, Campus Faith Clubs.

#### **Campus Faith Clubs**

*After the first week of school*

We have an amazing partnership with Campus Faith Clubs, a non-profit ministry aimed at building clubs in schools for students to talk about their faith. The dream is for every student to have a place where they can be challenged in their faith at school. Parents can be involved too. To find out more, visit [campusfaithclubs.org](http://campusfaithclubs.org)

#### **Affirmation of Baptism**

What does it mean to say "yes" to your baptism? That is the question that students are asked on day one of Affirmation of Baptism. After all, if the whole class is leading up to a point where they do in-fact say "yes" to it and all that it means, they had better know what's in the fine print, right? At the heart of saying "yes" to your baptism is the truth that you are saying "yes" to being a part of God's work of bringing life into your story and through your story into the lives of others. Throughout our time together we look through the Bible at stories of some faithful people to see how God brought life into and through their lives. Registration is open at [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register) for our fall session which begins Sunday, October 29 at 11:00 am. For more information, contact Jason Kramme at [jkramme@popmn.org](mailto:jkramme@popmn.org).

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#### **Student Singers & Musicians**

**Kick-off Event: Wednesday, September 6**

**5:30 pm | Sanctuary**

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 grades 6-12 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](mailto:rparrish@popmn.org) or Christine Walth at [Christine.walth@gmail.com](mailto:Christine.walth@gmail.com).

#### **Living Life Bigger Than My Illness**

**Thursdays, October 5 – November 2**

**6:30 – 8:30 pm**

##### **Christian Life Center Media Center**

Almost half of the adult population is living with a chronic disease. If you are sick and tired of being sick and tired and want to take control of your life, then this program is for you. This 5-week course is a fun and easy way to help you learn what you can do to deal with the stress, fatigue, frustration and pain that are common for people who live with chronic conditions. Often these secondary symptoms of chronic illness can become more debilitating than the disease itself. You will gain the self-confidence to manage your illness as you discover and believe in the possibility of abundant life through hope, strength, joy and anticipation for a future filled with promise.

Leaders are Marilyn Tubbs, a lay minister at Prince of Peace, and someone who has had Rheumatoid Arthritis all of her adult life, and Pat Kasell, who worked in health care for 35 years focusing on health education and behavior change.

RSVP to Kari Snyder at [ksnyder@popmn.org](mailto:ksnyder@popmn.org) or 952-898-9357.



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### **Fall Senior Series 2017**

**Tuesdays, October 3 – 24 | 1:00 – 2:30 pm**  
**Christian Life Center Room 200**

Please join us for any or all of these guest speakers. Register by contacting Kari Snyder at [ksnyder@popmn.org](mailto:ksnyder@popmn.org) or 952-898-9357 and let her know which session(s) you'd like to attend. Light refreshments will be served at all sessions.

**October 3: Seniors and Driving with Gail Weinholzer, Director of Public Affairs, AAA**

Gail will cover recent data, facts and tips about seniors and driving. She will also address a commonly asked question, "When is it time to stop driving?" and the conversations that may help you with this sensitive topic.

**October 10: Deciding to Move: Where to Start and How to Make It Manageable**

*Part I: Senior Care Survival Steps: Cari Waller, Senior Care Consultant - Care Patrol*

Cari will address common misconceptions and the 5 areas of consideration when selecting senior housing or services. Whether you are a pre-planner or in complete crisis mode, you will learn the steps that need to be taken to find safe care for yourself or a loved one.

*Part II: The Upside of Downsizing: Jill Freeman, Senior Move Specialist & Sorter - Gentle Transitions*

Jill will present educational tips to help those considering an upcoming move or who would like to declutter for the future.

**October 17: Your Health Care Directive: Who Would Speak for You if You Couldn't Speak for Yourself?**

Advance Care Planning – Honoring Choice is an ongoing process of evaluating and reflecting on your medical options in light of your values,

beliefs, goals and current health status. Guest speakers from Fairview Health Services will present recently updated information and walk you through the process of advanced care planning and completing your health care directive.

**October 24: Dakota County Attorney James Backstrom: Stop Abuse and Financial Exploitation of Elders in Our Community**

County Attorney Backstrom will present portions of a video featuring the stories of Minnesota seniors who have been abused or exploited, and he will share resources to show how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of the five most common types of abuse against elders: Physical, Emotional and Sexual Abuse, and Financial Exploitation and Neglect.

### **S.A.L.T. (Senior Adults Learning Together)**

**Mondays, September 18 – October 9**  
**9:30 – 11:45 am**

**Church of the Risen Savior, Burnsville**

Seniors Learning Together, Inc. is in its 20th year and continues to offer enrichment learning to people over 55. Sponsored by a coalition of 13 churches in Dakota County, the program is open to people of ALL ages! The goal is to appeal to a broad spectrum of interests with four presentations on various subjects scheduled each day (two speakers each hour). Participants choose one session to attend each hour.

Classes are \$5/person per Monday. There is an optional lunch at 11:45 am that includes entertainment. For up-to-date information and to register, please visit [risensavior.org](http://risensavior.org).

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### **Depression Support**

Our Depression Support Group meets at Prince of Peace on Tuesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 pm and is led by trained facilitators. We are affiliated with the Depression Support Coalition, a group of area churches whose mission is to inform, educate, support, and cultivate a community of spiritual hope for those affected by depression – as well as their families. Each season the coalition develops a program of monthly informational talks. The Depression Support Group at Prince of Peace does not meet on the nights when coalition speakers are scheduled so that they may attend the series.

The 2017 Fall Speaker Series for the Depression Coalition are September 22, October 17, November 14, December 12 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Eagan. For questions, contact Sherri Stella, Director of Pastoral Ministry, at 651-209-8589 or [sherri.stella@sjn.org](mailto:sherri.stella@sjn.org).

#### **Tuesday, September 12**

“The Creator’s Gift: Wellness”

Presented by John Reardon, MA  
Founder, Phoenix Process Consultants

#### **Tuesday, October 17**

“From Trauma to Trust to Triumph”

Presented by Michael Obsatz, PhD  
Professor Emeritus, Macalester College

#### **Tuesday, November 14**

“Suicide Prevention & Grief After Suicide:  
We All Have a Role”

Presented by Daniel Reidenberg, PsyD, FAPA  
Executive Director, SAVE

#### **Tuesday, December 12**

“Why is God so Hard to Find”

Presented by Pastor Paul Gauche  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

## **CALLED TO CONNECT** OUT for the World \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sharing and Caring Hands**

Do you love to cook or do you have the gift of serving others? On Monday, September 18, we will be serving a meal in downtown Minneapolis. Please consider joining us in this ministry by preparing/donating food or by volunteering to help serve the food at Sharing and Caring Hands. Contact Karen at 952-447-4919 or email [chellandkaren@mchsi.com](mailto:chellandkaren@mchsi.com) for more information or sign up table in the Community Room on September 10 or 17.

### **Human Trafficking - Freedom Weekend**

There will be an informational meeting at Prince of Peace to address the issues of human trafficking in our community. Visit us in the Community Room on Freedom Weekend, September 23-24, for more information and an invitation to our next event.

### **Staycation Service Opportunity**

#### **MEA Weekend: October 19 – 21**

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 [elton@popmn.org](mailto:elton@popmn.org) with questions.

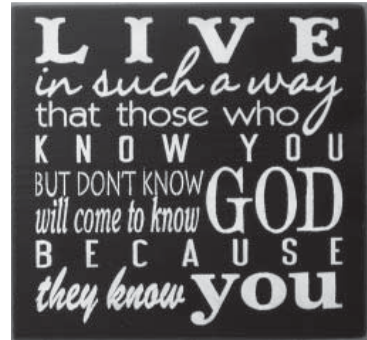
## **CALLED TO CONNECT** OUT for the World

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### **The Spiritual Side of Volunteering**

*By Linda Olson*

In our home I have many of those decorated signs with inspirational, spiritual or just fun sayings. One of our children calls these signs “mom’s propaganda.” I looked up propaganda as I was writing this article and smiled to myself as I read the historical background... the spreading of ideas, information, or rumor for the purpose of helping or injuring an institution, a cause, or a person. The smile was because my favorite, which hangs over our kitchen door, reads **“LIVE IN SUCH A WAY THAT THOSE WHO KNOW YOU BUT DON’T KNOW GOD WILL COME TO KNOW GOD BECAUSE THEY KNOW YOU.”** Living a life we are called to by a God who loves us was not always the life I lived. I can pinpoint the place in my life that changed me. The moment where I finally let go of the pain and let God lead me on a new path. That story is for another time, but the effects are for today.



Volunteering is something many of us do throughout our life. We volunteer for kids’ sports groups, charities we are fond of, corporate sponsored events and church events. All these things fill a need, but what are they doing to fill your heart? What is your soul crying out for when you wonder, “Is this all life has to offer?” As a Christian, I believe that God has a purpose for me in this life and my job is to listen carefully enough to hear where God is calling me. I also believe much of what I am told in the Bible can be summed up in one simple command: Love your neighbor as yourself.

Many volunteers you speak with will tell you their heart feels happy when they serve others and that it brings them great joy to give of themselves. But they will also tell you that serving, volunteering, allows them to grow deeper in their spiritual connection to God. It is no small wonder then that when we volunteer, when we stand up for an injustice, that we feel most spiritually alive. It is then when we truly understand that even the Son of God did not come to be served, but to serve, and give his life for us.

Prince of Peace has many volunteer opportunities. You may serve together as a family, with a group of friends, or individually. We have something for everyone, in all ages and stages. Visit [popmn.org/](http://popmn.org/) volunteer for more information.

## **CALLED TO CONNECT**

### **OUT for the World**

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#### **Usher Volunteers Needed**

We are growing our usher teams and we need your help! Our ushers play a critical role in our weekend worship experience, providing a smiling face and assistance to our Prince of Peace disciples and new visitors. Would you be willing to join our team? Grab a friend and sign up together! Commitment is one worship service per month September - August. Training provided! Contact Amy Oestreich for more information at [aoestreich@popmn.org](mailto:aoestreich@popmn.org) or 952-898-9393.

#### **Mailing Team**

The finance office needs volunteers to stuff envelopes periodically. If you enjoy working with a team and can volunteer 2-3 hours on a weekday morning every few months, we would like to have you join us. For more information please contact Mary Frampton at 952-898-9390 or [mframpton@popmn.org](mailto:mframpton@popmn.org).

#### **Café and Pizza Volunteers**

Over the last few years we have worked hard to provide a more welcoming environment during Family Ministry programming by serving warm pizza in the Atrium on Wednesday nights and tasty drinks and cookies in the Welcome Center on Wednesdays and Sunday mornings. We are looking for some folks with a flair for hospitality that would be willing to help us take these areas to the next level! If you are passionate about this type of opportunity, please contact Jason Kramme at [jkramme@popmn.org](mailto:jkramme@popmn.org) or sign up at [popmn.org/volunteer](http://popmn.org/volunteer).

#### **Echo Park Elementary Needs You!**

Do you like kids? Do you like building relationships? Do you have one or more hours to share this school year to help kids have a better life?

If you answered yes to any of the above, please consider volunteering at Echo Park Elementary, Prince of Peace's neighborhood school. A partnership between Prince of Peace and Echo Park has been in existence 2011. Volunteers have listened to children read, helped them with spelling, and played math games with them. There are many opportunities to serve at Echo Park on a weekly basis or a short-term call. Snowbirds are encouraged to come! Echo Park greatly appreciates the involvement of Prince of Peace for the leadership being given to the children and the staff.

A volunteer orientation meeting will be held Wednesday, September 20 from 10:00 – 11:00 am at Echo Park. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Joy Englund at [englund@district196.org](mailto:englund@district196.org) or 952-431-8390. We will match your gifts with the needs of the children.

#### **Dakota Woodlands Shelter**

Gift card buyers are needed for the monthly birthday parties at Dakota Woodlands, our local shelter for homeless women and children. Spend \$15-20 three times per year on a Target gift card. If you would enjoy volunteering at the Dakota Woodlands birthday parties contact Kim at [kimharris78@msn.com](mailto:kimharris78@msn.com) or 952-240-7688. Parties are held the 4th Monday of the month; time commitment is 3-4 parties per year.

## **CALLED TO CONNECT**

### **OUT for the World**

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#### **Mission Outpost**

##### **Food Shelf & Clothing Closet**

###### **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](http://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 – 2 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 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](mailto:kharris@popmn.org). We can pick up and deliver furniture from/to your home.

#### **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](mailto:tkoepsell@popmn.org).

#### **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](mailto: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](mailto:nlferche@gmail.com).

#### **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. Place donated items in a bag labeled "Military Ministry" in the blue donation bins. To assist with packing or if you have questions, please contact JoAnn Kelly at 952-894-2787.

## FINANCE/CHURCH UPDATE

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### Blessed to be a Blessing

#### Prince of Peace Offering

July 2017 Budget	\$226,475
July 2017 Actual	<u>\$250,049</u>
Total over budget	\$ 23,574

Total online giving in July (included in above): \$85,321

#### Special Offering Envelopes: Lutheran Campus Ministry

The Special Offering envelopes in September and October will provide support for Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Minnesota. The college years are often critical in the spiritual formation of young adults. Students need a safe place to challenge their beliefs and explore new ideas in order to make faith their own. Pastor Kate Reuer Welton is doing outstanding work with students from all over the world on the U of M Campus, developing leaders for God's work in the world. Envelopes are available in worship and at the welcome desk or give online at [popmn.org/give](http://popmn.org/give).

#### One Church Capital Campaign

As of August 29, 633 families have committed \$5.21 million for the One Church campaign. Important decisions will be made in the coming weeks on the scope and phasing of the construction project. We are 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 back of worship. Or commit through our website at [onechurch.popmn.org](http://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 Addition & Transformation

Three of four scheduled design development meetings have been held this summer to fine tune the building layout, finalize exterior materials and go over critical interior design features. Our display boards will be updated as our plans are revised and refined. At the end of the design development phase, the Board of Directors will receive an estimate of cost and a buffet of options for scope and phasing of our project. The next phase of architectural work involves construction drawings, and at the end of this phase our general contractor will provide us a guaranteed maximum price on the project. Our Board will provide the final approval on the project scope. A team of staff, volunteers, our architects and general contractor are working through the summer to finalize the building design. This is the current time line:

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



## STAFF UPDATE

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### Thank You, Tim Balow!

For the past two years, Tim Balow has faithfully served the kids and families of Prince of Peace in his role as Student Ministry Director. As he leaves this role, we thank God for his gifts and ministry to our families and wish him well in his future endeavors.

This fall, Student Ministry will move forward under the direction of the Family Ministry Team. Jason Kramme will coordinate content, trips and camps, service and mission, Affirmation of Baptism, and volunteer teams covering other aspects of StuMin. Russ Parrish will oversee the StuMin band, assist with content planning, and participate in other StuMin events. Christine Walth will continue to direct the POP Rocks! choir. Parenting Tools for StuMin will be coordinated by Jessica Olson, Swen Swenson and Pastor Paul Gauche. Dawn Ridgway will coordinate registration, small groups, volunteers, and communications.

This is a significant ministry at Prince of Peace that has a tremendous amount of potential to affect kids in our church and our community. In order for StuMin to realize its potential, it will need three important things. The first is prayer. Student Ministry has a special place in the heart and mission of God. We are confident and trust that God is going to ultimately lead and protect this ministry in our community. Second, we need your hands. The hallmark of a successful youth ministry is a robust volunteer ministry. There are many ways you can be involved in sustaining and growing StuMin. Visit [popmn.org/volunteer](http://popmn.org/volunteer) for opportunities. Third, we need your heart. We have all of the raw materials for a great youth ministry, but what brings them to life is the passion and connection of parents and volunteers.

Over the next months we will complete a search for candidates for this position. We welcome your prayers over this process of finding a new StuMin Director and over the year of ministry that will begin this month. Thank you for your support.

## PRAYERS

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### 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:** Onni Daniel Peterson, Vivian Elise Schiltz, Calvin Scott Johnson, Clark Allen Tanberg.

**Sympathy to:** Marty & Jen Gergen and Kathy Gergen-Mandel, on the death of their brother, Gene; Friends & family of Joey Dokken; Rebecca Hanley and family, on the death of her father, Jeff Girod; Bob and Lucia Haugh and family, on the death of their grandson; Lynn Skinner, on the death of her husband, Michael.

### Contacts for Prayer

**Email prayer requests to:** [prayer@popmn.org](mailto:prayer@popmn.org)

**Prayers printed in the *Direction*:**

Karen Helle, [khelle@popmn.org](mailto:khelle@popmn.org), 952-898-9317

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

FRED DINGLER | *Country School* | acrylic



### Connection Card

If you are a guest or want to join, volunteer, update contact information or have 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](http://popmn.org/give).

*The deadline for the October Direction is noon on Tuesday, September 5. Please email information to: [communications@popmn.org](mailto:communications@popmn.org).*

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