

Year at a Glance: 2014-2015



77 New Members



22 Weddings



62 Children Received First Communion



88 Baptisms



41 Students Affirmed Their Baptism



700+ Children/Teens Participated in Family Ministry With **125** Small Group Leaders



50 Approximate Adult Small Groups With a Total of **525** Individuals



164 Preschoolers Enrolled in Child Development & Learning Center



1,351 Families Visited Mission Outpost for Food, Clothing, Linens, and Other Basic Needs



326,048 Pounds of Food Distributed in Mission Outpost (Not Including Bread/Deli/Produce)



400 Mouths Helped With Fillings, Extractions and Referrals in our Dental Clinic



40 People Visited by Lay Ministers



100s of Prayer Requests Received

Beneath these numbers are the hearts and lives of the many people whom God has touched through the ministry at Prince of Peace.



WE ARE PRINCE OF PEACE. AND WE ARE CALLED TO CONNECT.

Called to connect with a God who yearns to connect with us.

Called to connect with each other. A shoulder in sadness. A smile in celebration. A song sung together.

Called to connect with the young. The naive who know so little, yet teach us so much.

Called to connect with people in need. The have-nots. The chosen by God.

Called to connect with the aging. The sherpas to which we owe the past. A debt we can never repay.

Called to connect with partners in our community, to accomplish all the above.

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Prince of Peace Lutheran Church | Annual Report 2014-2015

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Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church

A HUB OF HOPE & WHOLENESS: VISION IMPLEMENTATION SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES



Children & Teens

For children and teens to have hope they need to feel safe and have basic needs met. Family, a sense of belonging, and a supportive community provide wholeness.

We have gathered information from educators, school principals, guidance counselors, healthcare workers, social workers, and others in our community. We asked:

- What are the top three things children and teens need to be successful?
- What are the top three things that get in the way of this?
- What programs in the south metro are you aware of that address these needs?

Our findings conclude that the top three essential needs for children and teens to be successful are:

- Supportive relationships with parents/guardians or another caring adult
- Positive peer connections
- Opportunities and access to basic needs (food/clothing/housing) including health care

We have identified several existing programs in the area that we would like to learn more about. We continue to identify additional programs.

Children/Teens Subcommittee: Rebekah Degner, Mike Heidemann, Wendy Horton, Jason Kramme, Veronica Marshall, Rhonda Soukup, Carston Swenson, Taya Theis



Communication

Our subcommittee was given two tasks: to keep the Prince of Peace community informed on the implementation process and to align the brand of Prince of Peace with where we're heading. After poring over all 1,972 words of the Vision document, three words surfaced in the hearts of committee members: "Called to Connect."

We are being called to connect with God, with each other, with people in need, with children/teens, with seniors, and with other organizations in our community, both here in the south metro and around the world.

"Called to Connect" is Prince of Peace's promise to our world, our community and ourselves. It both describes our vision and reminds us how we will live it out. In April, the board approved the use of "Called to Connect" in the creation of a new Prince of Peace logo, a new look for Prince of Peace communications, and a redesigned Prince of Peace website.

We are still Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. And we are called to connect.

Communication Subcommittee: Beth Beaty, Diane Burrow, Rob DeMars, Nancy Marian, Liz Ridpath



Encore (Senior Adults)

For seniors to have hope and wholeness their quality of life needs must be met. Friendly visits, light yard work, household chores, shopping assistance and respite for family caregivers address many of these concerns.

The State of Minnesota Demographer's Office projects there will be 115,074 Dakota County residents 65 and older in 2030 – an increase of 189% from 2010.

We recognize both the responsibilities and the opportunities that these major demographic shifts in the senior population present for Prince of Peace. We are examining the needs of the most vulnerable seniors within our congregation and in the south metro and are exploring opportunities to collaborate with local organizations to meet those needs. Major areas of concern are:

- Transportation
- Isolation (loneliness)
- Nutrition
- Spiritual care
- Education
- Independent living at home

Encore Subcommittee: Joyce Besser, Kim Holman, Elaine Karel, Pat Kasell, Gene Mickelson, Marilyn Nordaune, Kari Snyder, Marilyn Tubbs



Culture

We are currently discerning the beliefs, values and behaviors that need to become part of our life together if we're going to respond to God's call to provide hope and wholeness to children, seniors and people in poverty. We are relying upon input from other subcommittees and disciples at Prince of Peace to inform our work. We're wrestling with questions such as:

- Do we really value the wisdom of those who are rich in years?
- Do we believe that people are primarily in poverty because of their choices?
- Do we treat all children as if we bear some responsibility for their welfare?
- Can we be honest with ourselves about our biases and prejudices?
- Are we willing to be open to new ways of thinking and acting?

This is challenging and exhilarating work that really gets to the heart of our faith!

Culture Subcommittee: Dan Anderson, Kari Davis, Joy Englund, Terry Kieffer, Jim LaDoux, Jeff Marian



Out of Poverty

For people living in poverty to have hope and wholeness they must have their basic needs met.

Prince of Peace currently provides resources for people living in poverty. Our subcommittee is focused on providing the tools for people to move out of poverty, including the support in developing necessary life skills such as:

- Employment
- Healthy living
- Parenting
- Navigation of existing resources

We are also researching barriers to moving out of poverty including:

- Transportation
- Health care
- Child care

Out of Poverty Subcommittee: Diane Burrow, Rebekah Degner, Eric Elton, Linda Kraemer, Kyle Pederson, Shari Prest, Nancy Suzuki



Land and Building

Prince of Peace lies on 23 acres of land in the heart of Burnsville, where we are able to share ministry with Fairview Ridges Hospital, the YMCA, senior care facilities, school districts, and other churches. Our location will play a key role in the years to come, as our location literally is a hub of the south metro area. We currently face the following challenges:

- Disconnected buildings
- Not conveniently accessible or age friendly
- No front door
- Second floor sanctuary and confusing floor plan in a triangular shaped building
- Tens of thousands of square feet of space that is empty most of the week
- Energy inefficient
- Extensive upgrades and repairs needed because of the age of our facilities

We are researching our long-term facility needs, capital costs, potential partners, and how we might invest in our buildings. As we define our options there will be extensive opportunity for the congregation to speak into our long-term decisions.

There's much work ahead of us with major decisions on how to most effectively invest in our capital resources. We're blessed with multiple options as we consider our long-term investment in our facilities for all God calls us to do.

Land and Building Subcommittee: Bernie Dusich, Tim Graf, Matt Johnson, Kurt Oestreich, Jim Sheldon, Jane Victory