PRINTS of PEACE

VOLUME XLXIV, Number 6

JUNE 2021

YOU'RE INVITED We're (Finally) Celebrating

PASTOR KEN FOSSE 40TH Ordination Anniversary

Date: Sunday, June 6th Time: Appetizers 11:30am Luncheon 12:30pm Place: Inside and Outside Parish Hall Building

Please RSVP Number Attending by May 30: Email: popchurch@optonline.net Text: 732-406-1531

<u>Confirmation Sunday</u> <u>May 23, 2021</u>

Creator Spirit, strengthen our Confirmands with your gifts of grace, to love and serve as a disciple of Christ. Grant that they may grow into the fullness of the stature of Christ. Fill them with the joy of your presence.

God Bless Aidan Spencer, Sarah Ward, Jocelyn Germann and Adrian Kanopka.



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

FOURTH ANNUAL CAR AND TRUCK SHOW

434 Aldrich Road, Howell, NJ 07731 (Across from the Howell Park and Ride)

SATURDAY JUNE 5, 2021 (Rain Date Saturday June 12, 2021)

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

\$12 Donation - Pre-registration \$15 Donation - Day of the show Dash plates for the first 50 cars!

FOOD ** DOOR PRIZES ** TROPHIES ** 50/50 ** GOODY BAGS ** GIFT BASKET RAFFLE

Live Entertainment provided by The Black Ties (Rock & Roll Band) and Nancy Scharff (Singer / Songwriter

Donations of non-perishable items to our Church Food Pantry would be welcomed and appreciated!



For more information contact Tommy at 732.804.3052 or xgman94@ optonline.net

Church Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/princeofpeacehowellnj



FROM YOUR PASTOR'S DESK - June 2021

Dear people of Prince of Peace

On the twenty-third of May we celebrated one of the great feasts of the church year, Pentecost. Marking fifty days after the resurrection of our Lord. I want to share with you this retelling of that great day by the Rev'd. Ralph Milton a Methodist minister in Canada. He is using his imagination to try to bring the old story to life in a new way so that we can rethink its meaning for our own life.

I want to invite you to once again join in the dance of God's people as we celebrate all that God has done in Christ. Let the Spirit move you in this dance of (new) life in Christ.

Our celebration continues on Wednesday evenings at seven and Sunday mornings at eight and tenfifteen. You can join in person and online. I should also let you know that I will be gone for two weeks in the middle of June.

Mary of Magdala ...dancing in the Spirit based on Acts 2:1-18

by Ralph Milton from "Is This Your Idea of a Good Time, God?" Wood Lake Publishing

The church looks at the events of Pentecost as the birthday of the church. It was certainly quite a party, even though the short description in the book of acts obviously doesn't tell the whole story. There's no mention of Mary of Magdala but I can't imagine her not being there. She was certainly a major player in the life of the early church. Here's my imagination of what might have happened,

"Close the window, will you John." There was more than a hint of irritation in Peter's voice. "All that singing out there is getting on my nerves."

"Peter," Mary said gently. "It is, after all, the feast of Pentecost. This is a happy festival. And they don't share our sorrow, Peter." Mary knew the sorrow as well as anyone. She had left her home in Magdala to follow Jesus to Jerusalem. She had watched Jesus wretch out his life on the cross.

"Right! But I don't have to listen to it," Peter snapped. "Any new business?"

Nothing but gloomy silence from the group of men and women gathered there. They had gone through the unpleasant business of choosing a successor to Judas, the man who had betrayed Jesus. Now they had their full quota of 12 men, to match the twelve sons of Israel. Everything was neat and in order. And lifeless.

"So what do we do now?" John wanted to know. "Should we put up a monument or something. People are already starting to forget that Jesus even existed."

"Yeah," Philip agreed, but there was no enthusiasm in his voice. "Maybe we could collect some money and then put up a monument. A statue of Jesus. Or something."

The gloom hung like a damp cloud over the disciples – the women and men who were gathered together – the rag-tag group of people who had known Jesus, who had loved him, who had heard his voice, had felt and seen the hope for a new way of living together in love. And then had watched him die.

Some had seen a resurrected Jesus, but the others didn't really believe their story. Now they were together, a kind of memorial society for Jesus of Nazareth. Somehow it seemed important to stay together, but nobody really knew why.

"It's stifling in here," said Mary. Peter gave her an annoyed look as she got up to open the window. A cool breeze came in, along with the sounds of singing from nearby homes celebrating Pentecost. The breeze cooled Mary's face. That helped a little.

(continued on Page 3)



Mary began to sing. She sang an old song she had known since her childhood, a song she had often sung with Mary the mother of Jesus.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior...

She sang quietly at first, humming some of the parts, then louder, and it seemed that as she sang, the breeze from the window became stronger, blowing back her head dress, teasing her hair, lifting her spirit. She sang in a full-bodied contralto, a voice she hadn't used since that terrible day she watched her dearest friend cough and wretch and bleed and die.

God has helped the servant Israel, God remembers all the promises, That were made to Abraham and to Sarah, And to all their descendants, for ever, And ever, and ever...

"Sarah's not in the song. You're changing the words," grumped Peter. Mary grinned at him. "She is now!" she laughed. She hadn't felt herself smile for so long, and it felt so good. She sang the song, with her own new words, all over again, louder than before, and some of the other women joined in. And the next thing they knew, they were dancing. They were dancing out the pent-up anger and grief and frustration and confusion.

They were dancing out the hope, the tiny, fragile hope they still had in spite of all that had happened.

They danced and they sang, and the men at first disapproved, then began to smile, then some of them joined in the singing and the dancing. Even Peter couldn't sustain his grump. Even big, flat-footed Peter danced an awkward, joyful kind of dance and sang loudly off-key.

And the wind picked up and blew hard through the room. They opened other windows, they sang louder and danced their hearts out. Something was happening. Something electric. Something crackling with energy. Something had taken hold of their spirits and was moving them, motivating them. Faces appeared at the windows. The door was opened.

Curious neighbors looked in. Neighbors and their guests who had gathered from everywhere for the feast of Pentecost. They saw the dancing and the singing, and ecstatic, laughter-filled attempts to explain to the neighbors what was happening, when nobody really knew what was happening. There were tears and there was laughter and the dancing got faster and the singing got louder until everyone collapsed into an exhausted, happy heap.

"They're drunk!" sneered one of the neighbors at the door.

"Ooo, no! Not drunk. Not drunk at all," laughed Peter, who in the end had danced as hard and sung as loud as anyone. "At least, not drunk on wine. Sit down folks, and I'll tell you what's going on."

"Do you remember the prophet Joel," he asked. The neighbors nodded. Of course. "Joel prophesied that the Spirit of God would be poured out on all people. 'Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,' Joel said. And that's what you saw.

"Jesus of Nazareth. Do you remember him? He was killed. He was crucified. But he promised he would send the Spirit again in a new way. Well, this is it, folks. This is IT!"

And Peter began to dance again; to dance and to sing with a slow, awkward, passionate grace, with intensity and power and with a brightness in his eyes that literally sent shivers through the folks standing by.

They tried many times to describe what happened that Pentecost day. Some said they saw tongues of flame dancing over their heads. Others remembered speaking in strange tongues, or singing in strange tongues which everyone seemed to understand. Sometimes they would even get to arguing about what happened that day.

"My friends," Mary would interject when the arguments began. "Does it matter? We know the Holy Spirit came to us that day and filled us with excitement and love and passion. That's the part that's important. The Holy Spirit can come in a hundred different ways to many different people. It doesn't matter how. It only matters that we're open to the Spirit, and that we respond with our lives."

(continued on Page 4)

Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning when the world was begun, And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth: At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be, I am the Lord of the dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; They came with me and the dance went on: *Refrain*

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame: The holy people said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high, And they left me there on a cross to die: *Refrain*

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black; It's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone; But I am the dance, and I still go on: *Refrain*

They cut me down and I leapt up high; I am the life that'll never, never die. I'll live in you if you'll live in me: I am the Lord of the dance, said he. *Refrain*

I pray that God may bless you this and every month. Yours in Christ Pastor Kenneth Fosse

New in the Amazon app

Your app purchases can generate donations for us, at no extra cost to you!

amazonsmile

Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

- 1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
- 2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
- 3. Select "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church" as your charity
- 4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app



Please note: The church will NOT have a table for the upcoming Flea Market. Therefore, we cannot accept any donations. Please do not drop any items off at the church. You are encouraged to purchase your own space if you have items to sell.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 434 East Aldrich Rd., Howell NJ 07731 732.363.0732 www.princeofpeacehowellnj.org

Attic Treasures Flea Market June 5, 2021, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Rain Date: June 12, 2021

Name:	 	 	
Street:		 	
City:	 	 	
Zip:	 	 	
Phone:			

Space Requested:

Number of Spaces:_____ @ \$25.00 (table and chairs not included)

Inquiries, please contact church office: 732.363.0732 popchurch@optonline.net

Please return application with payment by June 3rd, 2021.

(Church use only)

Check # or cash:_____

Space #:_____

GETTING ON WITH IT: NJ DISTRICT TRAVEL PLANS IN THE MAKING

In February, 2017, some 35 pastors and people from the New Jersey District and friends traveled together to the Holy Land. In July, 2018, a group visited Martin Luther's Germany. Previously others cruised sites of the Biblical world on the eastern Mediterranean with Dr. Paul Maier. Now Israel and Greece have announced that they are open to much of the world. There should now be ample time for preparation and recovery from the present public health circumstances. Now it is time to plan our next journeys. We invite your input.

Pastor Dan and Connie Schmalz are consulting with NJD leaders to coordinate and broaden opportunities for continuing education and sabbatical experiences.

Together we are setting forth travel plans for 2022 and later:

I. September 20-30, 2022 Experience Italy Including the Oberammergau Passion Play. Originally scheduled for September 2020. Including Rome, Assisi, Florence, Venice and Innsbruck.

> II. October 2022 (Or February 2023) The Holy Land Experience With an Optional Egypt and Nile Cruise Extension.

III. Projected 2022 or 2023 St, Paul and the Early Church of Asia Minor: Turkey and Greece by land or sea.

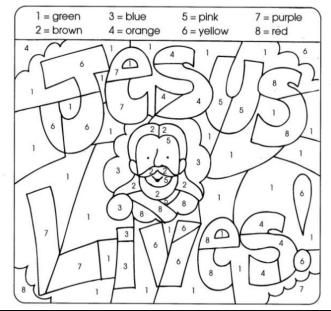
Please share your ideas with Pr. Dan and Connie Schmalz at <u>latte972004@yahoo.com</u>. They can also be reached at 973-697-6899. Their address is 17 Pine Hollow Court, Oak Ridge NJ 07438.



(John 20)

At the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene talked to a man. She thought he was a gardener. But then she saw that the man was really Jesus! He had risen from the dead and was alive again!

Color the picture using the code. Cut it out and tape it up so you can be reminded of this wonderful truth!



Should You Still Tithe During the Summer?

The short answer is yes! And we have a variety of ways to give....in the collection plate, Venmo payments, VANCO Simply Giving or through the secure Faithlife link on our new website!

If you are still hesitant to return for in-person worship, we understand, but please include Prince of Peace in your summer plans. An hour or two of volunteer work in areas such as Vacation Bible School, grounds maintenance or Food Pantry, etc. is always appreciated.

Please also keep in mind that our utility bills and salaries remain constant, even when church attendance is lower. Therefore, we would very much appreciate your keeping up with your offerings, if possible.

Everything we have comes from God, so let's remember to include him in our plans. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer.



tithes and offerings

Stewardship Newsletter Article for June 2021

(Reprinted from the LCMS website)

"There are three conversions necessary to every man: the head, the heart, and the purse. "Attributed to Luther, though yet to be located in his vast writings, this statement echoes what Jesus taught about hearts and treasures. He said, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21; Luke 12:34)

But which conversion comes first? I submit that the order is this: first the head, then the purse, then the heart. Let's explore this topic.

Our Lord Jesus Christ dwelt among us to save us. He took on our flesh, fulfilled the demands of the law in our place, became sin for us, and suffered torture and death on our behalf. He did this in order that we would be free from sin, death, and hell. He gives us what He accomplished through Baptism, Absolution, and the Lord's Supper. And so, He doesn't just do it for us but gives it to us. He makes what He did ours by making us His. Thus, we are called by His name: Christians. We have a new life in Him.

Through the preaching of Law and Gospel, God grants us repentance, a changing of our minds. It is a conversion of the mind. We are called to turn away from our sins and turn toward Him for forgiveness, life, and salvation. For when God calls us away from something, He is, at the same time, calling us to something.

And thus, He calls us to a new life, with new deeds. This is the conversion of the purse. Jesus said that "it is easier for a camel to enter through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." (Matthew 19:24) "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Notice that our hearts follow our treasures, not the other way around. As Christians, God calls us to invest our treasures in His Kingdom to ensure that the gospel is preached and the sacraments are administered. He calls us to share all good things with the one who teaches us the doctrines of Christ. He calls us to be generous in giving to the church, for it is more blessed to give than to receive.

So where is your treasure? If it is not invested in the kingdom of God, then the only response is repentance – a conversion of the heart – and to begin doing just that. And as our Lord promised, where your treasure is there your heart will be also.

This is not to say that you earn your way into heaven. It is simply to say that as Christians, those who have been made to be temples of the Holy Spirit, who have been given a new life in Christ, who are dead to sin and now alive in Him, we are actually to live – think (conversion of the mind), do (conversion of the purse), and be (conversion of the heart) – a new life in Him. And when you fail, know that God in Christ loves and forgives you and still calls you away from that and to Himself.

The mission of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is to know Christ and inspire people to be caring instruments of God in spreading Christ's love, with joyous enthusiasm, by word and deed.

UPCOMING THRIVENT EVENTS

"On the Right Track" with Michael McDowell

Tuesday, June 22nd 2021 – On Demand for 24hrs

To register: Please visit <u>www.Thrivent.com/Crane</u> under the "Events" tab or call the Crane Financial Group at 908-325-6029.

Join Thrivent and the Northeast Thrivent Member Network as we host Nascar driver and Thrivent Member, Michael McDowell. Michael will discuss his journey from a youth racing BMX bikes and carts to a professional driver transitioning from open-wheel racing to stock cars' biggest stage, ultimately driving his #34 Ford Fusion right into the winner's circle at the 2021 Daytona 500. Michael will also share how his deep faith in God's plan for his life has helped him navigate the highs and lows of life and racing.

No products will be sold. For more information visit Thrivent.com/social.

Email questions to john.seifert@thrivent.com or call the office at 908-325-6029.

As always, we are here to help! If you need any clarification on how to get approval for the FEEDNE2021 incentive please reach out!!

Blessings,

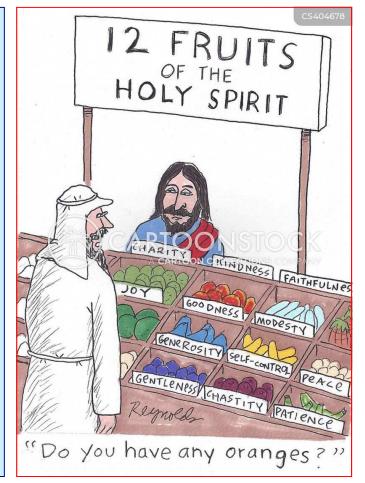
Crane Financial Group Cindi Crane, John Seifert & Zach Archambault Financial Professionals Northeast Region



#HOPEABOUNDS

In 2020, LHM set out to show that even during uncertain times, **#HOPEABOUNDS**. All around the world, individuals are desperately searching for **hope**. Many people who previously did not want to know Christ are open to hearing the Gospel. This makes **#HOPEABOUNDS** even more timely since individuals around the world, both non-Christian and Christian, need to hear Christ's messages of **hope**, comfort, and love.

Through culturally relevant materials and programs, LHM shares the hopeful Gospel message with over 125 million people in more than 50 countries each week.



A look at the readings to help you prepare for worship

June 8 , 2021 The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 3:8-15 The fall and the Lord's promise of a Savior.

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 "So we do not lose heart."

Mark 3:20-35 "For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother."

June 13, 2021

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 17:22-24 The Lord will provide new life and growth for His people.

2 Corinthians 5:1-10 Our eternal dwelling.

Mark 4:26-34 Jesus' parables of the growing seed and the mustard seed.

June 20, 2021

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-11 The Creator addresses His creature.

2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Grace in the midst of suffering.

Mark 4:35-41 Jesus calms a storm.

June 27, 2021 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 3:22-33 New mercies every morning.

2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 13-15 Generous joy in the midst of suffering.

Mark 5:21-43 Jesus heals a woman and a little girl.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Brandon Chornobroff will be the Elder at the 8:00 a.m. services (unless otherwise noted)



Lynne Berghoff will be the Lector on the first Sunday of each month.

Denise Abdul-Malak, Head Elder, 732-406-1531, schedules Assisting Ministers

ALTAR GUILD

Lisa Tess, Elba Hillis and Anne McDonnell

Lisa Tess, 732-905-0687, is Directress of the Altar Guild. Members serve for one month on a rotating basis.

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

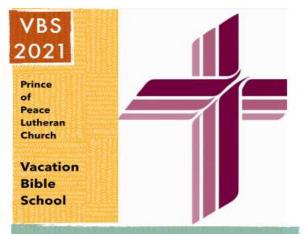
Please place \$25 per dedication in a Flower Fund Envelope (which can be found in the Flower Book) and place it in the offering plate. There is a maximum of three dedications each week.

USHERS and ACOLYTES are advised to remain home until further notice.

JUNE DEADLINE

If you have an article that you would like placed in the July2021 newsletter, please email it or drop it off in the church office. The church email address is popchurch@optonline.net.

The deadline is Friday, June 25, 2021



Pre-Planning for VBS has begun.

Please respond to the survey in your email box. Text Dani Romano at (908) 692-4686 with your name & current email if you were/are a VBS volunteer and did not receive the survey. Two separate surveys are being sent out over the next few weeks.