

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



PRINCE OF PEACE
Evangelical Lutheran Church

Basye, Virginia

Annual Meeting

May 19, 2024

Opening Liturgy

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

And also with you.

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Descend on our hearts, that we may love one another in the ways Jesus loves us.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Empower us to be enthusiastic and treat each other with grace as we pursue your vision for our congregation.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Opening Liturgy

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Opening Litany

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

Receive our prayer, O God.

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

Amen.

Secretary's Report: Minutes

The Congregation gathered on October 15, 2023 as a follow-up to the motion approved at the May 2023 congregation meeting directing Council to explore part-time ministry options.

The Council shared its finding that consideration of part time or shared ministry did not require immediate action but continued deep prayer, contemplation, and discussion across the church for an extended period.

Council shared that it had contacted the Synod to express openness to working with other local congregations if there was a shared interest.

Additionally, Council suggested that the question we should continue to explore is what is the future of Prince of Peace? What are our present-day values? What is God calling us to be and do in this community?

A period of discussion was held with a variety of opinions expressed and suggestions made for outreach to the community and formerly active members. No motions were raised for consideration.

President's Report

- ▶ The Church Council met monthly throughout the year and on several Saturdays to consider important matters and build relationships among members.
- ▶ In January, Council proposed to the congregation that we participate in an approach to discernment called The Lead Journey. A generous donor provided a gift to fund our enrollment in the first year of this year 3-year program and a group of volunteers stepped forward to participate. We will begin our work with Lead in Fall 2024.
- ▶ Council was particularly excited to bring to the congregation a proposal to make the sanctuary more accessible by replacing two pews with moveable armchairs. Thanks to Kate Isom and Farley Peechatka for spearheading the effort.

President's Report

- ▶ The Council drove several initiatives to support church ministries and increase our presence in the community including:
 - ▶ Regular advertising/flyers in local papers and community gathering spots
 - ▶ Coordinating Friday Open Door Ministry
 - ▶ Organization of a widely-attended Friendsgiving community dinner and Nativity Open House with WELCA
 - ▶ Participation in the July Bryce Fest and November Bryce Arts & Crafts Festival
 - ▶ Support for the Fall Forward in Faith Dinners and, in 2024, the launch of monthly Celebration Sundays recognizing birthdays and anniversaries
 - ▶ Updates to the POP Constitution (later in the agenda)



Holidays at Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran invites you to join us Saturday, December 9 for an Open House from 10 am to 3 pm featuring more than 100 nativity scenes from all around the world - classic, modern, quirky, and quaint! Our tone chime choir will perform mid-morning and we'll have activities for kids along with holiday cookies. Don't miss this amazing array of interpretations of Christ's birth.	HOLIDAY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS <i>Please Join Us!</i> Saturday, December 9 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Saturday, December 16 1 pm Wednesday, December 20 1 pm Sunday, December 24 10:00 am and 7:00 pm	Nativity Open House Over 100 nativities on display from around the world, music & sweet treats Veterans Wreath Laying Ceremony, Church Cemetery Blue Christmas Worship Service Christmas Eve Services
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319 Orkney Grade • Basye, VA
540-856-8389
9 AM - Christian Education
10 AM - Worship and Fellowship
Services on YouTube
www.poplutheranva.org



Open Door
MINISTRY
Fridays 9 to Noon.
Enjoy some solitude.
Coffee and sweets on us.

Pastoral Acts and Statistics for the Church Year 2023-2024

- ▶ Baptisms: 2 (Evan Lewis and Kiera Ann Flores)
- ▶ Members received: 2
- ▶ Members removed by transfer: 3
- ▶ Deaths: 7 (Barbara Thompson, Shirley Girod, Helen Ball, Anna Mae Vest, Mara Crabtree, Theresa C. Perry and Peter F. Dieck)
- ▶ Marriages: 0
- ▶ Confirmations: 0
- ▶ Baptized membership as of 12/23: 95
- ▶ Average in-person worship attendance: 27
- ▶ Average online worship attendance: 12
- ▶ Regular Giving: \$103, 998*
- ▶ Designated Giving: \$23,736*

Election to Council

Nominees: **APPROVED**

Winnie McDermott (2nd Term)

Debbie Helseley (1st Term)

Financial Report

2023-2024 Expense Categories

• Fixed Expenses

• Expense	23-24
• Insurance	\$5,479.00
• Bank Svc Charges	\$208.00
• <u>Telephone/Alarm/Internet</u>	<u>\$1,419.00</u>
• TOTAL Fixed	\$7,106.00

• Semi-Fixed Expenses

• Electricity	\$2,450.00
• <u>Propane</u>	<u>\$5,825.00</u>
• TOTAL Semi-Fixed	\$8,275.00

• Variable Expenses

• Expense	23-24
• Pastor Expenses	\$90,568.00
• Music Expenses	\$9,342.00
• Worship Supplies	\$600.00
• Office Expenses	\$3,477.00
• Cleaning	\$1,495.00
• Lawn Care	\$1,890.00
• Maintenance	\$285.00
• <u>Synod Mission Support</u>	<u>\$11,100.00</u>
• TOTAL Variable	\$118,723.00

Financial Report

Discretionary Expenses

• Expense	23-24
• Designated Charities	\$1,000.00
• Learning	\$1750.00
• Fellowship	\$56.00
• <u>Conferences</u>	<u>\$655.00</u>
• TOTAL	\$3,461.00
• Estimated Funds on Hand June 30, 2024	
• Operating(Checking)	\$17,852.00
• Operating(Thrivent)	\$38,552.00
• Mission Investment(Outreach)	\$34,371.00
• Capital Improvement	\$29,372.00
• Memorial Funds	\$4,525.00
• <i>Good Samaritan</i>	\$36,500.00
• <u>Cemetery</u>	<u>\$31,737.00</u>
• TOTAL	\$192,909.00

23-24 Operating Income

Source	Final Estimated Amount
• Non-Pledge & Loose	\$23,197.00
• Pledge	\$74,733.00
• Fund Raisers	
• Lions' Breakfast	\$3,762.00
• Spaghetti Dinner	\$600.00?
• Apple Butter	\$775.00
• <u>Other 23-24 Operating Income</u>	<u>\$1,553.00</u>
• TOTAL	\$104,620.00

ESTIMATED TOTAL EXPENSES 23-24: \$137,565.00

ESTIMATED FINAL INCOME 23-24 \$104,620.00

ESTIMATED 2023-24 DEFICIT \$32,945.00

Proposed Budget

2024-2025 Proposed Budget Expense Categories

Fixed Expenses

Expense	24-25
Insurance	\$6,957.00
Bank Svc Charges	\$228.00
<u>Telephone/Alarm/Internet</u>	<u>\$1,490.00</u>
TOTAL	\$8,675.00

Semi-Fixed Expenses

Electricity	\$2,400.00
<u>Propane</u>	<u>\$5,700.00</u>
TOTAL	\$8,100.00

Variable Expenses

Expense	24-25
Pastor Expenses	\$88,723.00
Music Expenses	\$9,300.00
Worship Supplies	\$800.00
Office Expenses	\$2,030.00
Cleaning	\$1,560.00
Lawn Care	\$2,430.00
Facility/Kitchen Supplies	\$300.00
Maintenance	\$1,000.00
<u>Synod Mission Support</u>	<u>\$7,700.00</u>
TOTAL	\$113,843.00

Proposed Budget

Discretionary Expenses

Expense	24-25
Designated Charities	\$1,300.00
Fellowship	\$150.00
Learning	\$900.00
Conferences	\$600.00
Fundraiser Expenses	Contained in profit
Supply Pastor	\$650.00
TOTAL	\$3,600.00
EST. TOTAL EXPENSES	\$134,218.00

24-25 Balanced Budget Proposed

PROJECTED TOTAL INCOME

Source	Estimated Amount
Loose	\$2,000.00
Non-Pledge	\$16,000.00
Pledge	\$72,000.00
Thrivent	\$200.00
Fund Raisers	
Lions' Breakfast	\$3,600.00
Spaghetti Dinners(2?)	\$1,200.00
Apple Butter(With Lions)	\$1,500.00
Interest earned	\$3,400.00
Wine Tasting	\$250.00
Total Income	\$100,150.00
<i>Draw down from Savings</i>	\$34,068.00
Estimated Operating Funds	\$134,218.00
Year End Net Income	\$0

Proposed Budget

- ▶ Budget reflects Council proposal to set our Synod Mission Contribution at 10 percent of anticipated offerings. (See handout on ELCA Mission Support)
- ▶ Pastor requested no increase in Pastor Salary despite it being below Synod recommendations due to current budget constraints
- ▶ Budget reflects Finance Committee recommendation regarding a variety proposed savings including:
 - ▶ Decrease in budget for Supply Pastors
 - ▶ Decrease in budget for advertising

Proposed Budget

- ▶ Council plans to hold discussions with the Lion's Club on opportunities to build on current fundraising collaborations and outreach programs.
 - ▶ Proposed budget anticipates Lion's participation in Apple Butter
 - ▶ Carefully examine income/expenses associated with breakfast service
- ▶ Council proposes re-designating reimbursement for travel and professional development to our "Office Administration" account rather than Pastor's Compensation.
- ▶ Council and Financial Committee will evaluate alternatives for insurance and heating oil for potential savings.

Budget Motions - APPROVED

1. Accept Council recommendation regarding 10 percent of pledged and unpledged offerings for Mission Support.
2. Accept Council recommendation to re-designate reimbursement for travel/mileage and professional development to our “Office Administration” account rather than Pastor’s Compensation.
3. Accept proposed budget for 2024-2025.

Prince Of Peace Constitution

- ▶ Prince of Peace is governed by a constitution and bylaws last modified in 2014.
- ▶ The Council is proposing several amendment and bylaw changes to the Prince of Peace constitution to bring it in alignment with the Model Constitution provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) in 2022 and to make other updates specific to our church's governance structure.
- ▶ Today is a discussion - not a vote - and this draft will be forwarded to the Synod for review.

Church Mission

- ▶ This congregation shall adopt and periodically review a mission statement which will provide specific direction for its programs.
- ▶ The church mission statement shall be posted on the church website and shared regularly through other communications channels, such as the church newsletter.
- ▶ Council may appoint a short-term committee to consider changes to the mission statement and shall invite wide participation among the voting members of the congregation in the committee.
- ▶ Proposed changes to the mission statement shall be shared with the entire congregation no less than 30 days prior to a convened meeting of the congregation and require the consent of a majority of those voting members in attendance.

Church Membership

- ▶ Council proposes a bylaw providing for associate membership for individuals with membership in other denominations in common communion with the ELCA.

Church Fiscal Year and Annual Meeting

- ▶ Council proposes moving our annual congregation meeting from May to November.
- ▶ Council proposes realignment of the church fiscal year from July 1-June 30 to January 1- December 31 which would sync with the Synod fiscal year.
- ▶ Council proposes putting forward an annual budget for congregation to review at the November annual meeting.
- ▶ Council has determined that aligning the fiscal year to the calendar year will simplify a number of accounting processes and reporting.

Congregation Meetings

- ▶ Council proposes increasing the required quorum for conducting official business of the congregation, such as voting on the annual budget, nominations for council, calling of a pastor, approving constitutional amendments and bylaws.
- ▶ Currently the requirement is for 20 percent of voting members and council recommends 30 percent.
- ▶ Council proposes approving language suggested by the ELCA to allow the congregation to hold meetings by remote communication.

Council Members

- ▶ Council proposes setting a minimum of six but no more than eight members of the congregation to serve on the council, one of which will be the Pastor.
- ▶ Council proposes that council terms be for three years beginning on January 1 of the year after which the congregation elects the member at the November meeting, and ending on December 31.
- ▶ Council proposes putting forward an annual budget for congregation to review at the November annual meeting.
C12:13: Council proposes bylaw allowing council and committees to meet by remote communication.

Constitutional Officers

- ▶ Council proposes removing Financial Secretary as an officer of the Prince of Peace congregation.
- ▶ Officers going forward would include President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- ▶ A Financial Secretary would be designated by council but not required to serve on Council unless elected as a member in their own right.

Committees

- ▶ Council proposes allowing members of the Nominating Committee to serve consecutive terms.
- ▶ Council proposes articulating the following Committees for Prince of Peace:
 - ▶ Finance, Audit, and Property Committee
 - ▶ Mutual Ministry
 - ▶ Worship and Music Committee
 - ▶ Cemetery Committee
 - ▶ Social Ministry Committee
 - ▶ Stewardship and Evangelism Committee
 - ▶ Good Samaritan Committee