

MARCH 2024

# The MESSENGER

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A publication of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

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## Mark Your Calendar

### » UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Food & Fellowship

⇒ March 3

#### Lenten Meal & Service

⇒ March 6, 13, 20

#### Daylight Saving—Change clock

⇒ March 10

#### Maundy Thursday Service

⇒ March 28

#### Good Friday Service

⇒ March 29

#### Resurrection Day

⇒ March 31

## From the Pastor

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Let us take a fresh look at Jesus.

May the Lord Bless You and Keep You in His Peace ,  
Pastor Cassandra

“fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2, NIV)

## Holy Week Schedule



### Palm/Passion Sunday

On Sunday, March 24, we will listen to readings from the gospels of Mark & John about the journey of Jesus to the city of Jerusalem and the events leading to his crucifixion. The congregants (if able) will meet in the fellowship hall where they will receive a palm. After the reading of the processional gospel, Pastor Cassandra will lead us to the sanctuary for worship.

### Maundy Thursday

On Thursday, March 28, we will hear the story of the last supper with Jesus and his disciples. This service includes a reading from the gospel of St. Mark, hymns, prayer, and Holy Communion. Worship begins at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.

### Good Friday

On Friday, March 29, the gospel of St. John shares about the arrest, crucifixion, and burial of Jesus. This service begins at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.

### Resurrection Sunday

On Sunday, March 31, Prince of Peace will celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the grave in triumph over sin and death.



### Shoe Drive

Prince of Peace is collaborating with Life Decisions in Rockford by collecting gently used shoes. There is a special bin for the donations at the church through March 12. You can learn more about the shoe drive at [www.lifedecisions.net/shoes](http://www.lifedecisions.net/shoes).



### “Dough” for the Garage

Naomi Circle will be holding a bread sale on Mother’s Day, May 12. We welcome all bakers to start baking breads: nut breads, banana breads, fruit breads, etc. All proceeds will go to the garage fund. We appreciate all your support.

Remember the Mohns Family has offered to match any donations we receive up to \$5000 for the Garage Fund.

## Local & Worldwide Missions

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church supports various ministries through out the year. Here are a couple of “thank you’s” that we have received.

Dear Prince of Peace Family,

We received your recent donation to West African Mercy Ministry in Ghana. Thank you very much for your partnership with us - for involving yourselves in Mercy to these precious children who are orphaned and have significant special needs. We currently have 13 children in care. We are very grateful for your help. Our newest baby arrived just a month ago, a newborn girl missing both arms. Please pray for her and her caregivers as we begin to assess her ongoing needs.

Thank you for being a blessing to so many.

Brian and Debbie McIntyre  
[westafricanmercy.org](http://westafricanmercy.org)

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Dear Pastor Langr and the congregation of Prince of Peace Church,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to Willow Womens Center. Though gifts like yours we can continue to help mothers and families in the stateline area.

God bless you,

The Board and Staff of Willow Womens Center

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Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your support of ILT.

Kelli A, Institute of Lutheran Theology

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Hi Everybody,

Your wonderful and huge food donation is an unbelievable big assist for us to continue changing the lives of many needy area families. Your Pastor did a wonderful and helpful job (Novotnak) too.

Donn V., Old Stone Food Pantry

## Fifth Sunday—Fast Forward

NEWSFLASH!!

Fifth Sunday Food & Fellowship fast forwarded to First Sunday!... And, Easter Sunday Brunch!

Dear Friends,

Since the fifth Sunday in March is Easter Sunday, we have decided to FAST FORWARD our FIFTH Sunday Food & Fellowship to the FIRST Sunday in March! Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after our 10:30 am service for a delightful lunch and

conversation with friends.

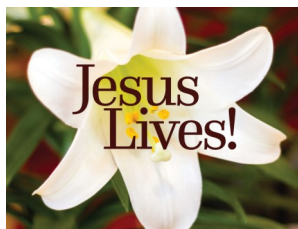
THEN.... Please join us on the Fifth Sunday, when we will rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior with our regularly scheduled services. We will serve a BRUNCH IN BETWEEN those services. We are looking forward to seeing you and serving you ~

Your Fellowship Deacon,  
Sue Peterson

## Adorning the Altar

We will be decorating the sanctuary on Resurrection Sunday with lilies, tulips, and hyacinths. If you would like to order a flower in memory of/or in the honor of a loved one, please complete the order form and place it in the offering plate/church office by March 17. The price for lilies is \$13.00.

Tulips and hyacinths cost \$10.00 each. Please make checks payable to Prince of Peace Altar Guild.



## March Celebrations



- 13 Kathy Leahy
- 15 Garrett Schmidt
- 17 Linda Chartrau
- 18 Richard Mackenthun
- 29 Dorothy Bush



The Prince of Peace council members meet monthly. If you have questions or ideas, please contact one of the council deacons or attend a meeting.

President, Pam Novotnak  
779-423-8093

Vice President, Dan King  
815-494-3919

Secretary, Wendy Goldsworthy  
815-389-3796

Treasurer, Amy Lynch  
815-624-2433

Discipleship/Worship  
Nancy Freedlund  
815-624-6363

Facilities, Brad Mueller  
815-218-2944

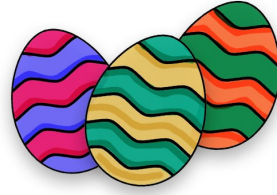
Fellowship, Sue Peterson  
815-282-2715

Service, Kathy Leahy  
815-243-0831

Stewardship, Sherre Faulkner  
815-629-2200

Witness, Lora Conrad  
815-289-7171

# March 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>The mission of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is to sow <u>FAITH IN CHRIST</u>, strengthen <u>FAMILIES</u>, serve our <u>COMMUNITIES</u>.</p>					1	2 Men's Group 7:00 am
3 Worship 10:30 am Food & Fellowship	4 Prayer Group 9:30 am Lord's Prayer Study 12:00 pm	5	6 C.A.L.M. Coffee Club 9:30 am—12:30 pm Lenten Meal & Service 5:30 pm	7 Annunciation Co-op 8:00 am-3:30 pm	8	9 N. Hall & Classrooms reserved—4-H IL ext. 8:00 am—1:00 pm
10 Daylight Saving Time Worship 9:00 am & 11:15 am Education Hour 10:15 am	11 Prayer Group 9:30 am Lord's Prayer Study 12:00 pm	12 4-H Club 6:15—8:30 pm Church Council 6:30 pm	13 C.A.L.M. Coffee Club 9:30 am—12:30 pm Lenten Meal & Service 5:30 pm	14 Annunciation Co-op 8:00 am-3:30 pm Altar Guild 6:30 pm	15	16 Men's Group 7:00 am
17 Worship 9:00 am & 11:15 am Education Hour 10:15 am (flower orders due)	18 Prayer Group 9:30 am Lord's Prayer Study 12:00 pm The Messenger deadline 12pm	19 Election Polling—N. Hall reserved Naomi Circle 1:00 pm	20 C.A.L.M. Coffee Club 9:30 am—12:30 pm Lenten Meal & Service 5:30 pm *see below	21 Annunciation Co-op 8:00 am-3:30 pm	22	23
24 Palm Sunday Worship 9:00 am & 11:15 am Education Hour 10:15 am	25 Prayer Group 9:30 am Lord's Prayer Study 12:00 pm	26 Mary Rachel Circle 1:00 pm Rockton Quilt Group 6:15 pm—9:00 pm	27 C.A.L.M. Coffee Club 9:30 am—12:30 pm	28 Maundy Thursday Service 6:30 pm	29 Good Friday Service 6:30 pm	30
31 Resurrection Day Worship 9:00 am & 11:15 am Easter brunch between services						

\*Book Club 12:00 pm

# March Serving Schedule

If you are not able to make your allotted time slot, please find a substitute and notify the church office.

## March 3 – 10:30 am

**AV:** Darran Landenberger & Ava Lynch  
**Acolyte:** Damon Lynch  
**Greeters:** Steve & Denise Shrider  
**Ushers:** Greg & Luann Bartz  
**Reader:** Andrew Langr  
**Communion Assistants:** Sherre Faulkner, Pam Novotnak, & Steve Shrider  
**Counters:** Luann Bartz & Pam Novotnak

## March 10 – 9:00 am

**AV:** Kara Wallace  
**Acolyte:** Dan King  
**Greeters:** Nancy Freedlund & Cyndy King  
**Ushers:** Pam Novotnak & Debbie Tracy  
**Reader:** Karen Phelps  
**Communion Assistants:** Lora Conrad, Wendy Goldsworthy, and Cyndy King  
**Counters:** Sandy Buske & Kara Wallace

## March 17 – 9:00 am

**AV:** Kara Wallace  
**Acolyte:** Connor Diemel  
**Greeters:** Bill & Stacy Diemel  
**Ushers:** Dan King & Kathy Leahy  
**Reader:** Cyndy King  
**Communion Assistants:** Sherre Faulkner, Nancy Freedlund, and Sue Peterson  
**Counters:** David Baird & Kathy Leahy

## March 24 – 9:00 am

**AV:** Stacy Diemel  
**Acolyte:** Ava Lynch  
**Greeters:** Darran Landenberger & Pam Novotnak  
**Ushers:** Jim Freedlund & Jerry Yarolimek  
**Reader:** Steve Shrider  
**Communion Assistants:** Darran Landenberger, Amy Lynch, & Richard Mackenthun  
**Counters:** Brad Mueller & Steve Shrider

## March 31 – 9:00 am

Resurrection Day  
**Need Volunteers**

**Stock Pew Racks for March:** Cyndy King

Volunteers are needed for the 11:15 am worship services. A sign-up sheet is available in the church narthex.

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## Worship Schedule

Sunday, March 3  
10:30 am Worship

Wednesday, March 6  
5:30 pm Lenten Meal & Service

Sunday, March 10  
9:00 am & 11:15 am Worship

Wednesday, March 13  
5:30 pm Lenten Meal & Service

Sunday, March 17  
9:00 am & 11:15 am Worship

Wednesday, March 20  
5:30 pm Lenten Meal & Service

March 24 – Palm Sunday  
9:00 am & 11:15 am Worship

March 28 – Maundy Thursday  
6:30 pm Service

March 29 – Good Friday  
6:30 pm Service

March 31 – Resurrection Day  
9:00 am & 11:15 am Worship



## Digging Deeper

### Adult Sunday School

A new study "Digging Deeper into the Scriptures of the Sermon" starts March 10. The Only thing needed is a Bible, pen, paper, and questions or just ears to hear. If you have any questions, please email Pastor Cassandra.

### Children's Sunday School

Wendy Goldsworthy and team will be teaching the kids about the Ten Commandments in March.



## E-mail Prayer Chain

Prince of Peace has had an e-mail prayer chain for several years. Each Monday (generally), the prayer chain members receive an e-mail with the prayer requests that were gathered from the cards on Sunday morning.

If you wish to continue to be on this list or if you wish to be added to the e-mail prayer chain, please:

- phone the office
- or note it on a connection card
- or respond to the email you received

On March 1, 2024 we are changing the e-mail address to: [prayer.request@poprockton.com](mailto:prayer.request@poprockton.com) You may either e-mail requests that come up during the week to the address OR you may **call or text Nancy Freedlund at 815-988-8214.**

Thank you for wanting to be a part of this important ministry. Everyone is invited to attend the Prayer Huddle on Monday mornings at 9:30am in the welcome center at the church.

## In Our Prayers

**Healing, strength, and guidance for:** Roberta, David, Dona, Rich, Marcy, Jeff, Jerry, Lois, Arianna, Marilyn, Jim, Pastor Cassandra, Sue P., Pam N., Vic, Melissa, LeAnn, Corey, Tammy, Bill, Linda, Sue, Laurie, Justine, Scott, Brian, Jen, Maureen, Victor Schnoover, Lois, Sharon, Geri, Sherry, John, Francis, Gabe, Gareth Cole, Nancy Wuthrich, Madison, Jason Kruckenberg, Josiah, Steve, Frank, Lisa, Gary, Ameere, Jennifer, and Jerry Hill.

**Prayers for our Service Men and Women:** Carl Specht, Ella Pearson's grandsons Rob & Samuel Walker, Sherre Faulkner's nephew Rod Flom, Penny Pfile's nephew William Kerr II, Bob & Karen Lowery's grandson Steve Broomfield, Dorothy Bush's nephews Christian and Cody Bush.

**Please pray for those suffering loss:** The family and friends of Margie Larson, Boyd Meyers, and Cheryl Peterson. Brad Mueller and family upon the loss of his mother Marlene.



## Stewardship Moment

Financial stewardship and faithful living entails four things:

- 1) we acquire our money in God pleasing ways
- 2) we regard our money in God pleasing ways
- 3) we manage our money in God pleasing ways and
- 4) we spend our money in God pleasing ways.

Giving to the church is only one part of a much bigger picture.

Sherre Faulkner,  
Stewardship Deacon

## Learning Together



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church  
2336 Freeport Road  
Rockton, IL 61072

Phone: 815-624-2115  
E-mail: [info@poprockton.com](mailto:info@poprockton.com)  
Web page: [www.poprockton.com](http://www.poprockton.com)  
Worship Service: Sunday 9:00 & 11:15 am  
Education Hour: Sunday 10:15 am  
LCMC Website: [www.lcmc.net](http://www.lcmc.net)

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## Coming Up...



Spring will be here soon and we will need a few volunteers to mow the lawn this year. If you are able to help mow, please see Brad Mueller, Facilities Deacon at church or contact him at 815-218-2944.

### Book Club

Join the Prince of Peace book club as they read *The Metropolitan Affair* by Jocelyn Green. The group will meet for discussion and fellowship on Wed., March 20 at 12:00 pm at the church.

