



Prince of Peace News

JANUARY 2026

Come...Be A Part of Peace!



2600 ATLANTIC AVENUE, FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA 32034

OFFICE HOURS 9AM-4PM MONDAY-FRIDAY

904-261-6306 WWW.POPLCWEB.COM

Pastor's Reflections for January 2026



Grace and peace from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and from all your sisters and brothers here at Prince of Peace. We had a wonderful Advent season with Christmas pageants, amazing cantatas, and a special Christmas eve service. We enjoy the season of Christmas for a few more days during the beginning of this month before we transition to the season of light and illumination, Epiphany. The other great news to share with the whole community is that we have exceeded our fund-raising goals for the Churches playground. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this project; this gives the children of the church an enclosed area to play, safely away from the parking lot and street. We will be ordering the materials to construct the project and have a date to gather volunteers to help assemble the project announced as the materials are delivered. Many great things are happening in our community here at Prince of Peace and we look forward to seeing where God leads us in this New Year of our Lord 2026.

The new year is a great time for reflection and dedication. The tradition of New Years Resolutions still helps many folks take their reflection on the last year and dedicate themselves toward change in the new year. Many of us will try to begin healthier routines where in body, mind, or spirit this new year. As for reflecting on your faith and looking to improve your spiritual health this new year, I encourage you to spend time asking the Lord questions in prayer. We often feel discouraged from questioning the Lord as we fear it is a sign that we are doubting our faith or beliefs. However, in order to have a deeper and more well-rounded relationship with anyone you first have to ask questions. Do you like coffee or tea? What is your favorite season? Why did you take the long way home instead of the short cut? All questions help us understand the people we are in relationship with whether that is our family members, friends, or neighbors. Questions also help us to understand our Lord as well. The disciples ask Jesus questions constantly throughout the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Asking questions when we do not know or understand is the basics of learning and growing. In our faith and spiritual health, we come to terms with the truth that we are never too old to learn from or to ask questions of our Lord and Savior. This new year it is okay to be like the disciples and ask questions of the Lord and listen for the answers. Jesus reassures all his disciples with this scripture from Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

Remember God Loves you, and so do I;

Pastor Ben

COUNCIL PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



As I write this message it is December 22 and in just a few days we will celebrate the birth of Jesus. As 2025 ends, I want to thank our members and friends for their valuable contributions to Prince of Peace and our wider community.

I give thanks to all those who lead and participate in the various ministries of the church, especially my fellow members of church council for their support and leadership in our various ministries.

I thank Pastor Ben, whose energy motivates us and whose open door provides guidance in our church activities, our spiritual and personal lives.

I thank Terry Smith, our office manager, for keeping us on task and making sure our administrative functions run smoothly.

I thank Robin Phillips for assuring our financial systems are up to date, in compliance and the church is in stable financial condition.

I thank the tellers who faithfully and accurately count and deposit the weekly collection.

I thank George Pester for his dedication and perseverance in making sure POP is visible in the community through our website, Facebook, and community presence.

I thank the Nehemiah group for diligently caring for the grounds and willingness to help with the needs of the building.

I thank the Potter's Daughters for seeking and finding ways to enhance and extend the reach of POP.

I thank Bill Hansberry for his energy in organizing fellowship activities for all ages to enjoy and for his participating in the Kairos ministry - and to all who provide delicious, nourishing, and fun food for these activities.

I thank the women of the Altar Guild for consistently assuring the elements of communion and the altar is prepared for the services.

I thank all who assist in preparing and serving the Interdenominational Dinner Network (IDN) every other month and to Brenda Ronson and Gene Kilcawley for their leadership roles. I thank Edna Swithers for her many years of leading this effort and her assistance in mentoring all who serve.

I thank Susie Hildebrand and all who assist in POP Outreach efforts.

I thank Bart Cormier for his leadership in developing the Endowment Board which will enhance POP's outreach efforts in years to come.

I thank all who participate in education of our children through Sunday School and VBS.

I thank Shelly Whitesell for leading the Lightkeepers youth group and providing them with leadership in their activities.

I thank Diane Demeranville, Tyler Odom and the Praise Band for giving and sharing with us the gift of music – and for all who participate in the choir, band, special music, and bell choir.

I thank all the ushers and greeters who assure all are welcome in this place.

I know I have not mentioned everyone by name who ensures POP remains open and welcoming to our community, I want to give heartfelt thanks to all who share the love, warmth, and caring of POP. From volunteers and staff to community members and visitors, each person plays a part in making POP a place of love and warmth. We truly value everything you do—both large and small—as it plays a vital role in building POP into a welcoming place.

Finally, I want to thank you for the support and prayers you are offering as I go through a personally challenging time due to the illness of my husband, Jack. I feel the warmth and caring of the POP family as 2026 dawns.

Carolyn Krause

Worship Assistants Schedule

<u>Role</u>	4th-Sunday After Christmas	11th-Baptism Of Our Lord Sunday	18th-Sunday After Epiphany	25th-Sunday After Epiphany
Assisting Minister	Tanya Adin	Richard Figueroa	Susan Foutz	Yuli Fosso
Scripture Reader	Tammy Collins	Ken Bryson	Josh Collins	Judi Langholz
Ushers	Ed Marotz Les Boette	Dennis Purdy Ted Mandrick	John Harris Josh Collins	Gene Kilcawley George Pester
Greeter	Ken Bryson	Sam Serrian	B.J. Taylor	Scott & Wyatt Chicco
Altar/ Lay Assistant	Eileen Klein	Karen Blair / Jeanette Chaffee	Tanya Adin	Donna Cormier / Jeanette Chaffee
Tellers	Patti Marotz Gene Kilcawley	Susan Foutz Les Boette	Barbara Ehrenberg B.J. Taylor	Eileen Klein Linda Pesante



Thanks for
Worshipping With Us



OUR VISION

To bring the love of Jesus through a welcoming, caring, and growing church engaged in inspirational Worship, spirited Christian Education, serving our local and global Community guided by the Holy Spirit.



Just a reminder that the Church
Offices will be Closed
New Years Day—**Thursday, January 1st**
due to the Holiday.

We wish everyone a *HAPPY NEW YEAR*
and for those who may be traveling we pray for
your safe travels!

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1-NEW YEARS DAY CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED	2	3 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
4— SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS BIRTHDAY SUNDAY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am ALL COMMITTEE MEETING—After Worship POP Band Practice After Worship	5 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm	6	7 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00 pm "Job" Bible Study Via ZOOM 7:00 pm	8	9 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	10 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
11— BAPTISM OF OUR LORD SUNDAY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	12 Men's Property Group 9:00 am Executive Committee Meeting 10:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm	13	14 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm "Job" Bible Study Via ZOOM 7:00 pm	15	16 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	17 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
18— SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	19 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm Church Council Meeting 6:00 pm	20 Newsletter Articles Deadline	21 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm "Job" Bible Study Via ZOOM 7:00 pm	22	23 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	24 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am
25— SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Sunday School 9:00 am "2 Corinthians" Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am POP Band Practice After Worship	26 Men's Property Group 9:00 am AA Group 12:00—1:30 pm	27	28 Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm "Job" Bible Study Via ZOOM 7:00 pm	29	30 Bell Choir Practice 11:00 am	31 AA Group 9:00-11:30 am

FLORAL & BULLETIN SPONSORS

Celebrate your special occasion or honor a beloved individual when you sponsor Altar Flowers and our Bulletin

The Flower Chart is located outside the Church's office to confirm the date you wish to sponsor. If you prefer, you can call our church office or visit Terry Smith during the week to initiate your sponsorship. The cost of sponsorship is **\$35** and can be placed in offertory plates.



Thanks to January Sponsors

4th: Open

11th: Open

18th: Open

25th: Open

LADIES GROUP

The Potter's Daughters

Our ladies are taking a well-deserved break after a busy Christmas season. But we're already looking forward to reconnecting in February with an exciting gathering full of fellowship and an inspiring program.

Stay tuned, and we can't wait to see you there!





**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Ron Last-1st
 Glen Beyer-2nd
 Karen Blair-5th
 Fordham Wicklund-7th
 Terry Smith-9th
 Ryker Sargent-14th
 Thomas Halverson-16th
 Ellen Wheeler-16th
 Ed Marotz-18th
 Finn Steele-20th
 Duane Whitesel-23rd
 Eileen Klein-24th
 Lill Ekwall-24th
 Ragnar Stommel-24th
 Madalynn Hodges-27th
 Kris Mandrick-30th



Rev. Pat & John Harris-6th



BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

All are invited to join the congregation in celebrating
 January's Birthday's with us
Sunday, January 4th with cup cakes and snacks in
 the fellowship hall after worship. We are looking to
 celebrate monthly birthdays in the congregation at the
 beginning of each month. The Light Keepers (youth
 group) will be taking the lead on hosting these events.
 If your interested in helping or being part of the
 celebration please reach out to the church office.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Our January mission is courtesy of contributions to our November Thanksgiving dinner mission. Ten families had a delicious dinner, and a donation was given to Barnabas. Thank you to all who helped! Thanks to you our legacy as a mission church serving the community as the face of Christ continues!! It is an honor to work with such generous and loving people!



Our current December mission is underway and will help two families with Christmas gifts and gift cards. We are helping these families have enough to eat and have some fun gifts for their children! A big thank you to Donna Lind and Potters Daughters for help with this mission.

Christmas caroling was Saturday December 13th at 4:45pm. Approximately 18 carolers met at 4:45pm in the church parking lot to carpool. Fernandina Beach Rehabilitation, Lakeside, another Nursing Home, and two families were visited. There was more singing and refreshments at the church afterwards.

IDN dinner was Monday, December 8th at Hope House. Eleven volunteers served 112 meals at Hope House. Thirty kids and three adults were fed at America's Youth.

For the **November mission** we collaborated with Barnabas to celebrate Thanksgiving by providing ten families all items needed for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. The boxes of goodies with the turkeys were delivered to Barnabas on Saturday, November 20. The cost for dinner supplies was \$359.71. The total collected was \$752.00. The additional \$392.29 will be donated to Barnabas for the January mission. A big thank you to John Harris and all who donated to help make this a warm happy Thanksgiving for these families!

We did not do Shop w/a Cop in November as this event was fully funded already.

Salvation Army bell ringing was downtown in front of the fudge shop. This has been very successful with over \$1,700.00 raised as of December 15th.

Christmas cards were delivered to Fernandina Beach Rehabilitation for residents on Wednesday December 17th.

February mission is being planned.

Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year!!

Susie Hildebrand

A poster with a blue border and a light blue background. At the top, it says "JANUARY MISSION" in bold blue letters, followed by "BARNABAS CENTER, INC." in bold red letters. Below that is the tagline "Connecting People, Help, and Hope" in red. The main text in blue reads: "We are pleased to announce that a donation will be made to Barnabas Center, Inc. from prior support provided by our congregation. A contribution of \$393 will be given as a result of our 2025 Monthly Mission efforts." This is followed by another blue paragraph: "As we celebrate the Missions of the past year, we give thanks for the dedication of our members whose generosity and compassion continue to make a meaningful impact in the lives of people throughout our community." A red paragraph states: "Together, we are sharing hope, extending help, and connecting hearts through service. The support that you made is estimated to be in excess of \$33,000 in 2025." At the bottom, it says "Thank You For Your Support!" in bold blue letters. The poster is decorated with illustrations of people in blue shirts helping others, and a small logo at the bottom center that says "PEACE OF MIND" and "LUTHERAN CHURCH".

JANUARY MISSION

BARNABAS CENTER, INC.

Connecting People, Help, and Hope

We are pleased to announce that a donation will be made to Barnabas Center, Inc. from prior support provided by our congregation. A contribution of \$393 will be given as a result of our 2025 Monthly Mission efforts.

As we celebrate the Missions of the past year, we give thanks for the dedication of our members whose generosity and compassion continue to make a meaningful impact in the lives of people throughout our community.

Together, we are sharing hope, extending help, and connecting hearts through service. The support that you made is estimated to be in excess of \$33,000 in 2025.

Thank You For Your Support!

PEACE OF MIND
LUTHERAN CHURCH

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Communications ministry helps Prince of Peace members and friends informed and involved.

Check our website at www.poplcweb.com. It has updated information about our ministry activities and events. Stream worship service when unable to attend on Sunday's by clicking the link on our home page.

Join our followers on Facebook. The POP Facebook page is regularly updated. Please Share & Like posts to further our ministry - www.facebook.com/POPLC2. and remember to please take photos and send them to George Pester (gpester1@comcast.net) for additions to our church's Facebook pages when you attend an event.

Let us share all the good news and happenings at Prince of Peace!

Linda Pesante



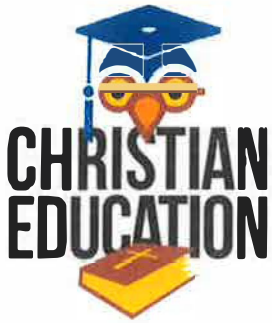
FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Well, here we are starting a new year, and can it be any better than last year? One assurance is that Prince of Peace is starting 2026 with a number of new members. We must invite them to be a part of "Peace" and to enjoy our sense of caring and enjoyment of each other's company. That's what we're looking to foster through fellowship in the next 12 months. We must begin, however, with planning. This will require an organizational meeting of the fellowship team in the first full week of 2026- exact date and time to be determined. We already are hearing requests for spaghetti or pasta dinners and a chili cook-off before it gets warm again. We may not go into the Lenten season without our annual Pancake Day dinner on February 17. All this is just to whet your appetite for some fun times this year. There are abundant opportunities for you to get involved and a great need for volunteers to help plan and pull all these ideas off. Be looking for further announcements of planning sessions and get ready with all your ideas of what you would like to do in fellowship with your Prince of Peace family in 2026.

Bill Hansberry



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT



SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS FOR JANUARY!!!

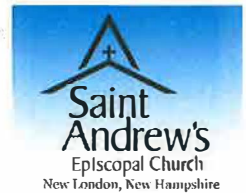
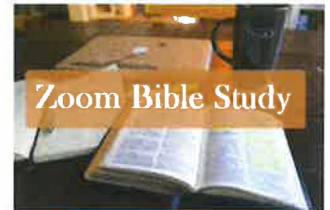
Sunday School for all ages resumes on Sunday, January 4 in the Fellowship Hall. For the adults, Pastor Ben will continue his study on Second Corinthians. There will also be a joint study on Job via Zoom, beginning on Wednesday, Jan. 7th at 7 p.m., with St. Andrew's Episcopal Church located in New London, NH. Details and the zoom link will be found in an accompanying article in this newsletter.

John Harris

ADULT BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Upcoming Bible Study on Book of Job

On Wednesdays at 7:00 PM beginning on January 7th and ending on February 11th, you are invited to participate in a ZOOM Bible study on the Book of Job. This Bible study will be a joint effort between Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Fernandina Beach, Florida, and Saint Andrews Episcopal Church in New London, New Hampshire. John Harris will lead the Bible study, supported by Pastor Pat Harris. Pat and John were members of Saint Andrews while they lived in NH, and Pastor Pat still participates in a faith based book study with members of Saint Andrews.



This Bible study will be an effort to find unity in God's Word among people of different backgrounds and experiences. In the context of studying Job's suffering and his interactions with his friends and with God, we will be examining the ways each of us responds to the suffering of others and to our own suffering; our reactions to our own anger at God; and the ways that the book of Job have impacted our contemporary culture.

If you would like to join the zoom Bible Study please contact Pastor Pat at 603-748-0288 (or) John at 603-748-0623.

John Harris



CHURCH NEEDS

CHURCH ORGANIST WANTED

Our welcoming congregation is seeking a skilled and passionate organist to join our music ministry. The ideal candidate will have experience accompanying worship services, a love for sacred music, and a desire to enrich our Sunday gatherings with beautiful, inspiring organ music.

To apply or inquire further, please contact us at our church office 904-261-6306. We look forward to welcoming a talented musician to our ministry team!

WE ARE HIRING

ORGANIST

If you're bright & passionate with limitless creativity... We need your talent to guide our enthusiastic congregation!

MORE INFO

Contact church office
904-2616306

Email your Resume to
poplc.office@gmail.com



IN NEED OF PRAYER

We give thanks to you, O Lord, for all the prayers you have heard and answered and the peace you have given, through the power of the Holy Spirit.



Fernandina Rehab

Barry Moore

Baptist Nassau

Edna Swithers

At Home

Michele Pester / Clay Chaffee / Ted & Rosalie Wessel / Dawn Price / Darrell Heun /
Claudia Kavan / Nick Ivanovic / Diane Demeranville / Alice Hansberry /
Marsha Woloshin / Bill Mungo / Shelan Bryson / Yvonne Bowman / Glenn Beyer /
Dana Sargent / George Pester / Rita Tench / Bill Goldwire / Gary Dildine /
Edna Swithers / Karen Blair / Eileen Klein / Edna Swithers / Lill Ekwall / Jack Lane

Military

- Lt. Commander Tim Cassel, Coast Guard, WMEC Spencer Ship, Ft. Smith, VA (grandson of Glen & Norma Beyer)
- Reid Stribling, US Navy (grandson of Gene & Victoria Kilcawley)
- Lt. Col. Eric Venditti, Army (son of Linda Venditti)



Keeping Our Prayer List Up-to-Date ...

God's blessings to those who are no longer in acute need of prayer. Please let us know when a person no longer wishes to be included. Call the church office for those in need and they will be added so we can lift up a prayer for them.



Call our Church Office When...

You become Hospitalized, are Sick or Shut in. Have a spiritual question or need prayer. Moving, getting married encountering any other life changes or need information about events.

904-261-6306

POP VISITATION CARE TEAM PROGRAM



A need was recognized for an organized approach to visiting members of our congregation who are not able to attend church.

The visitation team visits and offers communion as desired to church members. The team is also developing additional methods to enhance our visitation outreach.

Any member of the church is in need or who knows a church member who would benefit from a visit (s) please contact the church office at poplc.office@gmail.com or call 904-261-6306.

Calling all crafters!

Do you crochet, bead, macrame, quilt, sew, knit, embroidery, cross-stitch? — do you make items that could be used to welcome a new family, for a baby baptism, a new home owner with Habitat for Humanity, or cheer a church member?



We would love for you to join us at Prayer Shawl Group on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. We meet in the Narthex.



The Potters Daughters ladies group have restocked a very needy first aid kit. Hopefully you will find what you need for your minor emergencies. It is on to of the freezer in the kitchen.

REMOTE WORSHIP

UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP IN PERSON?

VIEW OUR WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY'S AT 10:00 AM on Facebook Live.

Click the below button on Sundays to enter our livestream worship experience.



NOTE: You do not need to have a Facebook account to access the live and recorded services.

Our Mission

*To strengthen our faith in Jesus
through worship and fellowship;
to be the face of Christ for others*

POP WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Wondering what is Happening?

Don't miss all the great things happening at Prince of Peace on our website and Facebook. The sites are regularly updated with the latest events and activities.

Check our website by clicking www.popweb.com. The site can help you access a streamed Worship service, make a prayer request, contact a staff member or council member, make a financial gift, read our newsletter, read weekly scriptures and much more.

Click www.facebook.com/POPLC2/ to view our Facebook page. The page contains posts about events and activities, photos of activities and information about our ministry.

Check it out, be informed, and enjoy the information!

Handy Links

Barnabas Center

Helps neighbors in crisis (neighbors face unexpected illness, unemployment, fire, or a change in living status, with nowhere to turn), Food Pantry, and Health. www.barnabasnassau.org

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States.

www.elca.org

Florida-Bahamas Synod

www.fbsynod.com

Interfaith Dinner Network—IDN

IDN's mission is to feed the homeless, hungry, and lonely.

www.idnweb.net

Luther Springs

Camp and Conference Center programs for children, youth, adults, and families.

www.luthersprings.org

Nassau County Council on Aging

Advocate and resource for the elderly seeking information, counseling, assistance and referral to available services

www.nassaucountycouncilonaging.org



2026 Congregational Financial Report

YEAR TO DATE TOTAL INCOME VS. TOTAL ACTUAL EXPENSES

Year To Date Income Thru November 30, 2025

General Contributions	\$271,703	
Miscellaneous Income	\$0	
Keep It Simple	\$2,376	
Rental Income	\$1,500	
Earned Investment Income	\$4,428	
Fund Fundraising	<u>\$4,760</u>	
Year TO Date SubTotal Income		\$284,768
Transfers from Savings		<u>\$56,000</u>
Year TO Date TOTAL INCOME ALL SOURCES		\$340,768
Year TO Date TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$342,635</u>
Difference Year To Date Income Versus Expenses		(\$1,867)
Lightkeepers Fund Balance		\$7,022
Playground Fund Balance		\$1,855
BEAR Fund		\$11,354
Disaster Recovery Fund Balance		\$11,592
Mortgage Balance Remaining		\$139,248
Endowment Fund		\$104,324



2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Dana Sargent
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Special Note From Church Council

1. Generous additional donations of \$7,517.80 have been applied to our Mortgage Principal in 2025
2. Transfer of \$26,000 from Savings in MAY for Insurance Premiums (Multi-Peril, Umbrella & Wind/Hail all due in May). Transfer of \$20,000 from Savings in AUGUST July/August/September expenses exceeding income. Transfer of \$10,000 from Savings in November; Low giving in Oct./early Nov. required funds in checking account to cover expense.
3. Lightkeepers rec'd generous \$299 donations; Lightkeepers fund has total of \$7,021.68 towards 2027 National Youth Gathering.
4. Thank you for your generosity for the Monthly Outreach Missions! September Outreach Mission for Coalition for Homeless was \$971.55. October Outreach Mission for Lutheran Disaster Response was \$395.14 + \$129.86 Outreach = \$525.00 sent November Outreach Mission for Thanksgiving Turkey Dinners was



MORTGAGE REDUCTION FUND

The Reduction Fund provides that contributions will be applied to the principle balance reducing mortgage debt.

If you wish to contribute to this fund, mark your check "MORTGAGE FUND" and contributions will be applied to the reduce the principle balance.

***Thank you for your support that continues
God's work!***

Offerings furthering our ministry can be made:

- ◇ At Worship Service place envelopes in the offering plate, in the church mail slot, or mailing offering to the church office.
- ◇ Electronic contributions can be made via or website at www.poplcweb.com . Click the "GIVE" tab & follow
- ◇ instructions to set automatic contributions from account.



HOW DOES OUR ENDOWMENT WORK?

Creating an endowment is more than a financial decision—it's a reflection of our commitment to being a mission-centered church. It allows us to support benevolent giving not for just today, but for generations to come. So how does it work? Let's break it down.

Our endowment is governed by documents generated by the Endowment Board, with a top-level controlling document approved by both the Church Council and the congregation. These documents outline the responsibilities of the Endowment Board which oversees both the operational framework and the investment strategy.

Whether gifts are made immediately or later as part of a legacy, they follow a clear process.

Example: A contribution of \$1,000 is received. Since this meets the minimum required by Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing, the funds are invested and apportioned according to a risk strategy defined by the Endowment Board. Any contributions less than \$1,000 are collected in a separate bank account until the minimum of \$1,000 is achieved for investing.

Once invested, the contribution becomes part of the fund principal—it doesn't disappear!

Contributions remain in the fund and continue as working capital subject to market performance. Here's how it supports ongoing generosity:

- Grants begin either on the 4th year of endowment inception or if the endowment balance reaches \$70,000.
- Only a portion of the annual earnings is eligible for withdrawal to support grants.
- For instance, if the \$1,000 earns \$100 in a given year, a portion of that \$100 will be included in grants.
- Grant allowances begin at 50% of annual gains for the first 10 years of the life of the endowment fund and increase to 90% thereafter. In this example, \$50 would be included in a grant issuance.
- The remainder of earnings (the other \$50) is reinvested, allowing the principal to grow further along with new contributions over time—even as grants are annually awarded.

Grant issuances are paused only in years when the investment experiences a net loss. In all other years, the Endowment Board declares gains for distribution, working closely with the Outreach Committee to ensure alignment with our mission. This structure ensures that every gift—large or small—has the potential to grow and serve others for years to come. It's a beautiful way for Prince of Peace to turn generosity into a lasting impact that changes lives for the better.

POP Endowment Board



Prince Of Peace Church Council Meeting Highlights

December 15, 2025

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Carolyn Krause via Zoom

- Pastor Ben reported the Wednesday evening Yulee worship is on hold until spring. An alternate location may be identified. POP is hosting the Blue Christmas ecumenical service on December 18. So far \$2000 has been raised for playground. Pastor is exploring doing an updated photo directory in-house.
- New Council member Dana Sargent was welcomed.
- Treasurer's Report was presented and approved through November 30, 2025.
- Search for organist continues. Council expressed appreciation and thanks for Diane Demeranville's continued service in the music ministry as we search for a new organist/pianist.
- Zoom bible study on book of Job will be held in January. Details upcoming.
- Dennis Purdy reported new chairs have been purchased for the tellers. The men's groups has been cleaning up brush on the east side of the church saving thousands of dollars through their volunteer efforts. The overhang in front of the church has been scraped and painted to refresh and protect the wood.
- Thanksgiving meals were shared with 10 families. Thank you to all who contributed!
- Bell ringers have already raised \$1700 for Salvation Army. Christmas cards will be delivered to the residents of Fernandina Beach Rehabilitation.
- New microphones for Pastor and assistant are working well.
- Thanksgiving dinner had 45 attendees and 18 people participated in caroling.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by,

Carolyn Krause, President



All Committee Meeting Committees will meet on an as needed basis as called by the Council liaisons.

Below is a brief description of the purpose of each of the Committees and council liaison and/or contact person:

- **Education & Youth Ministry: John Harris**
 - ◊Organize and promote Christian education activities/opportunities – including children, youth and adults.
- **Evangelism: Carolyn Krause/George Pester**
 - ◊Seek opportunities to share the Gospel in the community
- **Public Relations: Linda Pesante**
 - ◊Provide electronic and media support to share the ministry of POP
- **Fellowship Ministry: Garrett Price/Bill Hansberry**
 - ◊Planning and implementing Congregational social activities
- **Outreach Ministry: Susie Hildebrand**
 - ◊Seek opportunities or reach out and offer help to those in need.
 - ◆Monthly Care Projects
 - ◆Interdenominational Dinner Network (IDN)
 - ◊Prayer committee
 - ◊Visitation Team
- **Finance/Stewardship Ministry: John Harris, Robin Phillips**
 - ◊Monitor the financial condition of the Congregation including advisement on long-term investment of reserve funds and contract oversight.
 - ◊Conduct an annual stewardship campaign
- **Information Technology: Les Boette**
 - ◊Work with church staff to identify solutions for data and computer systems
 - ◊Monitor hardware and software needs
 - ◊Manage tele-worship, AV equipment support for worship and education
- **Property Ministry: Dennis Purdy**
 - ◊Ensure the physical building and grounds of the property is well maintained.
 - ◊Coordinating body for required contracted services or capital purchases related to maintenance of the building/property.
- **Worship & Music Ministry: Duane Whitesel**
 - ◊Work with Pastor to plan and implement worship services.
 - ◊Recruit, train and schedule the Worship support team including ushers & greeters, altar guild, acolytes, worship assistants and readers.

We would welcome and encourage your interest with any of the committees. Please contact either the Council Liaison, Council President, Carolyn Krause or Pr. Ben.



Talents Needed!

A host of opportunities are available to put our talents to good use assisting in worship services, planning our ministry, and outreach missions.

Have fun when being a part of our worship service as a Reader, Worship Assistant, Usher, Greeter, musician, and choir member.

Lend your ideas to our ministry when participating and helping the Evangelism, Fellowship Payer, Music, Property, Worship, or Altar Guild Committees. Consider and help set our direction on Church Council. Your talents and skills will make a difference!

See a Council Member or call our Church office to get involved.



Have Questions or Need Help?

Rev. John "Ben" Mandrick	ben.mandrick@poplcweb.com	904-556-6687 (C)	Pastor
Terry Smith	poplc.office@gmail.com	904-261-6306	Office Admin.
Tyler Odom	ctylerodom@gmail.com	904-206-1150	Choir Director
Diane Demeranville	demeran@comcast.net	904-583-1798	Interim Organist
Carolyn Krause	Carolyn.Krause@poplcweb.com	414-507-0025	Council President