

January 31st, 2025

PEACE CONNECTION

Friday January 31st
Pastor Charlie's Day Off

Saturday February 1st
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday February 2nd
9 & 11 In Person Worship
10:00 am Blood Pressure Screening
10:00 am Christian Education
10:00 am New Member Class

Monday February 3rd
10:00 am Staff Meeting
1:00 pm Comfort Quilters
2:00 pm Organ Practice
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study

Tuesday February 4th
1:30 pm Watercolor Class with Mel
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal

Wednesday February 5th
2:00 pm Book & Bible Study with
Pastor Charlie

Thursday February 6th
Sexton's Day Off
11:00 am FLO
3:00 pm Organ Practice
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday February 7th
Pastor Charlie's Day Off

Saturday February 8th
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday February 9th
Welcome New Members!
10:15 am Congregational Meeting
9 & 11 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Christian Education
2:00 pm TQ Event- Mr. Holland's
Opus
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Monday February 10th
10:00 am Staff Meeting
2:00 pm Organ Practice
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study

Tuesday February 11th
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal
7:00 pm Peace Pavilion Meeting

*Grow in Faith * Serve In Love *
Live In Peace*



Hope for a Cure with Claire

I'm thrilled to announce my participation in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Student Visionaries of the Year campaign. This 7-week philanthropic competition empowers high school leaders to make a real difference in the fight against cancer. This is a cause close to my heart; blood cancer, especially leukemia, is the most prevalent form of cancer diagnosed in children and young adults. Sadly, I've experienced this loss firsthand, losing my paternal grandmother, Bonnie, in 2016 at the age of 67, and my maternal grandmother in 2023, just 13 days after her diagnosis and her 79th birthday. My team's fundraising goal is \$50,000, running from January 17th to March 8th. I'm personally committed to raising \$5,000 towards this important cause. I can't do it alone – I need your support! To learn more and please consider donating through my personal fundraising page: <https://bit.ly/clairehopes4acureLLS> - Claire Wenham

2024 Giving Statements

The 2024 giving statements were mailed or emailed on Monday, January 27. If you did not receive your statement, please send an email to secretarypopfinancial@gmail.com so we can resend it. If you don't have email, please call the office.

Women In Transition

We are accepting donations for women's toiletries, sanitary products, and umbrellas. The need is great! We have been asked to refrain from collecting women's clothing for them at this time. Please drop off your donations at the Donation Station. Questions, please contact Jan Filkill, 440-871-6673.



Save the DATE(S)

On February 2nd Susie Asadorian, Chapter President of Sleep in Heavenly Peace Cuyahoga West will be at both services to speak to us about their organization. She, and members of her team, will tell us about this wonderful organization and explain how POP can help them give children in need a wonderful, cozy night's sleep.

During February and March (and possibly ongoing) we will be collecting new childrens' twin bedding sets, pillows and of course funds for this project. This should be a very meaningful Lenten project.

June 7th is the date Prince of Peace is scheduled to go to the SHP's warehouse (Brook Park) to build the beds. This is a project for the WHOLE family! According to Susie "a build should be in the neighborhood of 30-40 people, although a little less or more is fine. Kids are welcome, but only children 12 and up are permitted to use sanders and drills."

Love Inc

There is a poster near the lower entrance so you can sign up for a month to support Love Inc! We still have quite a few openings! Please consider stopping by and signing up!

Designate Your Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31st

A big thank you to members who have already designated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to POP. The 2024 Choice Dollars will expire on March 31, 2025. If you own any Thrivent Financial products or services you have a choice in directing where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable outreach funds each year. We really appreciate those who direct those Choice Dollars to Prince of Peace. To direct Choice Dollars log on to Thrivent.com (<https://www.thrivent.com>) or call (800) 847-4836. If you have any questions or would like to find out more about Thrivent, please contact Tim Regan at 440-227-9593 or at timothy.regan@thrivent.com.

February Young at Heart Lunch

Please join us on Friday, February 28th at 12:30 pm. We will be enjoying good food and fellowship at Harry Buffalo, located at 4824 Great Northern Blvd. in North Olmsted. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the lower lobby. Questions, contact Kathy Kettler at (440)734-6511.



Travel Quest

Please join us for our next Travel Quest event! We will be seeing Opus at Clague Playhouse, on Sunday, February 9th at 2:00 pm.

There are a few tickets left. Contact Fran Wilhelm for information! msfiddlesticks@hotmail.com





January 27, 2025

Dear Members of Prince of Peace,
You are invited to our annual congregational meeting scheduled for

Sunday, February 9th from 10:15 am – 10:50 am in the Sanctuary.

During the meeting, we will

- Review 2024.
- Preview 2025.
- Elect council and endowment committee members.
- Have an open discussion.

The 2024 annual report will be available for review on our website (www.princeofpeacewestlake.org) by Monday, February 3rd. Please contact the church office if you require a hard copy or want one emailed to you.

On behalf of the Church Council, I would like to thank everyone for your continued support of Prince of Peace. We are in a good financial position and have wonderful opportunities to continue to share the Good News and expand our mission. We look forward to 2025 and beyond with exciting opportunities to Grow in Faith, Serve with Love, and Live in Peace.

Happy New Year!

Dave Covell
Council President
Email: thecovells@gmail.com

Grow in Faith, Serve with Love, Live in Peace

COFFEE HOUSE & OPEN MIC NIGHT





**FRIDAY MARCH 7TH
GAME STARTS @ 7PM**

Rocket Mortgage Field House

Sign up by January 1st
for a chance to sit on
the bench during
player practice and
meet players!

1-2-3 NIGHT
\$1 Sodas
\$2 Hot Dogs
\$3 LaBatt Blue Beers

ALL CONGREGATION MEMBERS WELCOME

SIGN UP SHEET IN FRONT OF CHRISTIAN ED OFFICE

*Get your water bottle activity sticker at the game!





Acts 5:1-11

Ananias and Sapphira

5 But a man named Ananias, with the consent of his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property; 2 with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 "Ananias," Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You did not lie to us but to God!" 5 Now when Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard of it. 6 The young men came and wrapped up his body, then carried him out and buried him.

7 After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you and your husband sold the land for such and such a price." And she said, "Yes, that was the price." 9 Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." 10 Immediately she fell down at his feet and died. When the young men came in they found her dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. 11 And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of these things.

Two things before we get too far into this lesson. First of all, the person named Ananias in this passage is different from the Ananias who we read about in Acts 9 who meets Saul after Saul's conversion experience on the road to Damascus. Secondly, this verse begins with "But..." so it would be good to see what comes right before this.

Here are the verses from Acts 4 that proceed today's reading:

The Believers Share Their Possessions

32 Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. 33 With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. 34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. 35 They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. 36 There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"). 37 He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

The early Christian church is just getting started, and the community begins to grow. To support this new movement, the community shares everything with everyone. Everything! Ananias and his wife Sapphira are set as examples of what happens when you DON'T share everything!

Talk about a powerful stewardship program! Wow! Give or else. So where is the good news found in the lesson today?

First of all, let us remember that God is the Giver of ALL. ALL that we have is a gift from God. And ALL that we have belongs TO God. Our life. Our Family. Our possessions. The very breath we breathe—gift from God.

These are gifts entrusted to us, and we are called to be stewards of it all. It doesn't belong to us, it belongs to God.

What would life be like if we lived that way? What would happen if a family would sit down to hear the reading of the will of their dear aunt, who collected many things and had accumulated a good sum of money over the years, and when the will is read, they hear these words: All of my earthly possessions belong to God. Always have, and always will. God entrusted them to me, and now, I entrust them to you. They are now in your hands, but remember, they ALL belong to God.

- The house — belongs to God.
- The fine china — belongs to God.
- The funds in the bank — belong to God.
- The car, the furniture, the property — all belong to God.

Is that truly how we view these things? Secondly, YOU Belong to God. In the waters of baptism, God has named you and claimed you as God's beloved. Through the promised Holy Spirit, you and I are equipped for every good work. And third, giving and sharing what God has given us also needs someone to receive the gift.

It had been a hard winter in the Appalachian area. The snow had piled up deeper and deeper, the mercury dropped, rivers froze, people suffered. The Red Cross used helicopters to fly in supplies. One crew had been working day after day—long hours. They were on their way home late in the afternoon when they saw a little cabin submerged in the snow. There was a thin whisper of smoke coming from the chimney. The rescue team figured they were probably about out of food, fuel, perhaps medicine. Because of the trees they had to put the helicopter down a mile away. They put on heavy packs with emergency supplies, trudged through heavy snow, waist deep, reached the cabin exhausted, panting, perspiring. They pounded on the door. A thin, gaunt mountain woman opened the door and the lead man gasped, "We're from the Red Cross." She was silent for a moment and then she said, "It's been a hard winter, Sonny, I just don't think we can give anything this year."

What has God given you?

A congregation member shared with me a lesson he learned from his Dad — "If it ain't worth sharin', it ain't worth havin'!"

Let us pray. Most Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — our selves, our time, and our possessions — signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Save the Date!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 16-20



Cokesbury Kids

ROAD TRIP

ON THE GO WITH GOD

AN ECUMENICAL VBS FOR CHILDREN K-GRADE 5

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

28455 CENTER RIDGE ROAD, WESTLAKE

STAY TUNED FOR PROGRAM AND REGISTRATION INFO!



Sunday, February 2, 2024

Prayer Request - Long Term

(All prayer requests made after Thursday at Noon will be posted the following week)

Patty Doran	Sister-in-law of Chuck Sieving
Dawn Higgins	Neighbor of Fran Molnar
Jayne Kramic	Friend of Kathy McCollum
Angela Missig	Daughter of Gloria Starr
Jenn Pitts	Daughter of Judy Kazak
Pam Rotella	
Bill Sweeny	Friend of Kathy McCollum
Robert Sieving	Brother of Chuck Sieving
Al Tielke	
Chris Sikora	
Kathy and Tim Needham	
Cynthia Flores	Jan Filkill's daughter
Ron Peckham	
Monica Doptis	Dan and Barb Fronczak's grandchild
Beverly Newman	Friend of Jane and Lowell Dillon

Recent prayer requests received within the past 3 weeks:

January 19 Monica Doptis (Barb & Dan Fronczak's grandchild)
 Ramune Balog Dorner (Diane Merhaut's friend)
 Angela Missig (Gloria Starr's daughter)

January 26

February 2 Dick Hardy
 Dave Dickinson (Jan Juhn's friend's husband)
 Laura K (Deb Gibbons' friend)

Happy Birthday

11/3 Ashley Alspach
 1/3 Chris Hallowell
 1/3 Noah Katrinczak
 1/5 Jan Filkill
 1/6 James Braun Sr.
 1/7 Jordyn Jagels
 1/8 Mara Lipschutz
 1/10 Audrey Swanson
 1/10 Tony Perez
 1/11 Alex Babinski
 1/12 Isaiah Comnick
 1/13 Jessica Carimi
 1/14 Pierce Gleespen
 1/17 James Lehman
 1/17 Michelle Goggin
 1/19 Emma Andrus

1/19 Don Miler
 1/21 Beth Comnick
 1/21 Marie Witt
 1/23 Jane Wyant
 1/25 Darlene Roman
 1/25 Michael Pietraroia
 1/26 Barb Fronczak
 1/27 Dave Novotny
 1/27 Suzann Creech\
 1/27 Phil Sprague
 1/28 Patty Beard
 1/29 Molly Fortuna
 1/29 Nicholas Hrouda
 1/31 Jim Heimbuch

Date	Online	In Person	Total
01/26/2025	38	148	186
01/19/2025	57	178	235
01/12/2025	29	137	166
01/05/2025	48	110	158

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

1/3 Jeff & Amy Babinski

Prince of Peace Staff

Pastor Charlie Woodward
 pcpopwestlake@gmail.com

James & Lisa Arrigo, Sextons
 jamespopwestlake@gmail.com

Brandon Bilek, Sound Technician
 brandonbpop@gmail.com

Beverly Braun, Christian Education Coordinator
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Hailey Desmond, Marketing/Communications
 princeofpeacecommunication@gmail.com

Ian Faleer, Contemporary Music Director
 & Chancel Choir Director
 ifaleer@gmail.com

Wendy Hansen, Office Administrator
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Hilary Lucas, Youth Director
 poplutheranyouth@gmail.com

Ruth Williams, Organist
 mrsruthwilliams@yahoo.com

Dave Covell, Church Council President
 thecovells@gmail.com



Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9-3

28455 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake, Ohio 44145
 440/871-5565 • www.princeofpeacewestlake.org

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:00 am in person.

Livestream

Christian Education - Sundays 10-10:50 am

Adult supervised child care for children 5 and under is offered for both services and during

the Christian Education hour between services.

Second Harvest

The requested items for January are:

Canned Beef Stew, Beans, Fruits & Vegetables

Giving Data

Operating Giving Report	YTD	AVG/Week
Total Giving as of Dec. 31st, 2024:	\$506,754	\$9,745.27
% of Annual 2024 Budget Received to Date:	104%	
Total ministry expenses incurred in 2024	\$485,476	\$9,336.07
Projected Surplus for 2024:	\$21,278	

Thank you for your abundant giving in 2024!!



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