



February 23rd, 2024
**PEACE
CONNECTION**

Friday February 23rd
Pastor Charlie's Day Off
12:30 pm Young at Heart

Saturday February 24th
2:00 pm Organ Practice
6:30 Open Mic Night

Sunday February 25th
9 & 11 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Christian Education
10:00 am New Member Class
12:00 pm Cat Cafe Event

Monday February 26th
10:00 am Staff Meeting
2:00 pm Organ Practice
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study

Tuesday February 27th
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal

Wednesday February 28th
11:45 am Lent Soup & Study
1:30 pm Watercolor Painting Class

Thursday February 29th
Sexton's Day Off
11:00 am FLO
3:00 pm Organ Practice
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday March 1st
Pastor Charlie's Day Off
7:00 pm Lake Erie Monster's Game

Saturday March 2nd
2:00 pm Organ Practice

Sunday March 3rd
9 & 11 am In Person Worship
10:00 am Blood Pressure Screening
10:00 am Christian Education
12:00 pm Youth Gathering Meeting

Monday March 4th
10:00 am Staff Meeting
1:00 pm Comfort Quilters
2:00 pm Organ Practice
7:00 pm SOAP Bible Study

Tuesday March 5th
6:15 pm CrossFire Rehearsal

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

Lent Soup & Study

Please join us on Wednesday's at 11:45 am for our Lent Soup & Study with Pastor Charlie!



Blood Pressure Screening

Our next blood pressure screening will be on March 3rd at 10:00 am between services!



Travel Quest

Please join us for Travel Quest's next event!

March 2nd at 7:30 pm at the LCCC for their winter concert. General Admission will be \$9 per person. Questions? Contact Fran Wilhelm,





Coffee House & Open Mic

Saturday February 24, 2024

Come & go anytime from 6:30-9pm

Bring your friends to:

*Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
28455 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake*



*Perform at our "Open Mic" or just come to
listen to some great local musicians!*



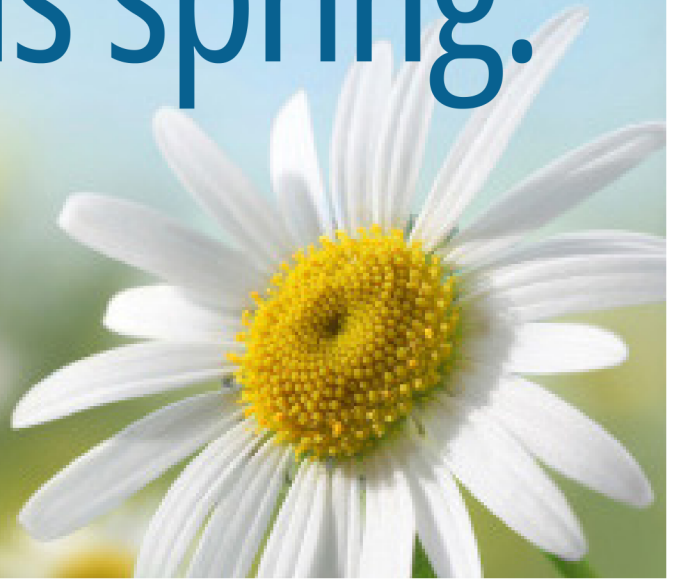
*Enjoy great entertainment in a
Coffee House setting with a
variety of performers sharing
their music, magic, or
"whatever." Join us for
yummy desserts and aromatic
coffee in a friendly relaxing
atmosphere. **No cost to attend
& handicapped accessible.***



Ten(10) performance spots available with up to three songs each. Sign-up sheet available at 6:15pm with first performance at 6:30pm!

Give hope this spring.

Give blood.



Blood Drive

Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall
28455 Center Ridge Road
Westlake, OH 44145

Sunday, March 24, 2024
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter Sponsor Code: POP2024



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®



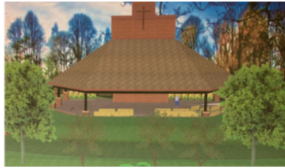
Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

© The American National Red Cross | 408001-01-RW

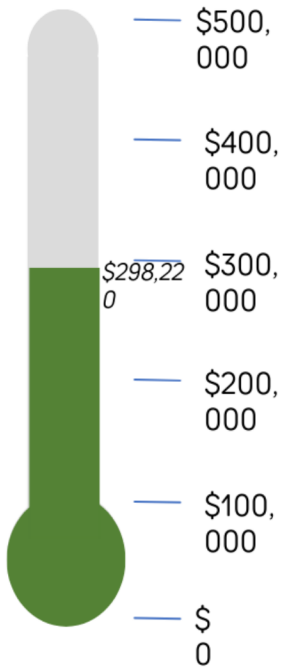
Peace Pavilion Capital Campaign Status as of February 21, 2024

Goal = \$500,000

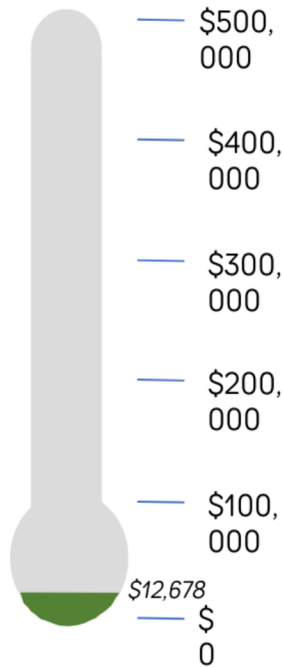


Donor Level	3 Year Commitment	Number of Pledged Donors
Buckeye	\$50,000+	1
Oak	\$25,000 - \$50,000	3
Maple	\$10,000 - \$25,000	6
Rose	\$5,000 - \$10,000	5
Tulip	\$3,000 - \$5,000	4
Daisy	\$1,000 - \$3,000	6

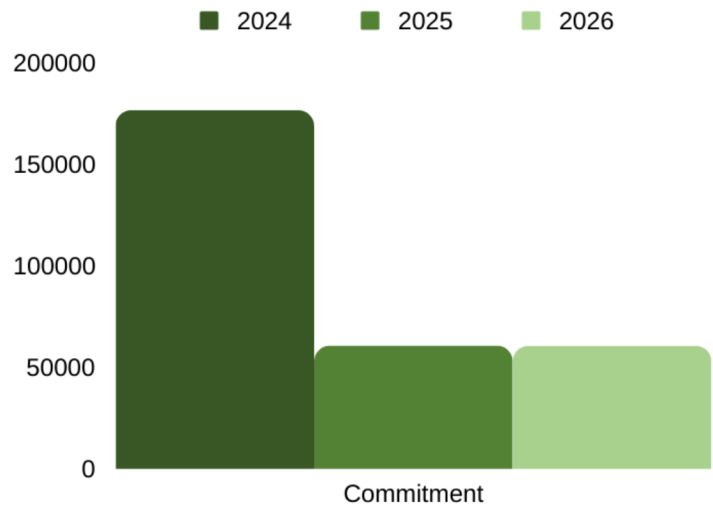
Commitment Status



Received Donation Status



Note: Commitment Status includes "silent" commitments



Item of Interest

1 - Bench seating assembly: Bench seats for the Peace Pavilion will be a project for our congregation. If you are interested in helping with this task, please advise a committee member.



A NEW OPPORTUNITY STANDS BEFORE US

When I came to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church three years ago, I was asked what is my vision for the future of this church. That is a difficult question to answer until you get to know the congregation. It's important to learn the history and the foundation on which the church is built. And then it's important to know the gifts, and to the passion of the congregation. Over time, that became clear to me. This congregation is a community that enjoys being together for worship and for service. The mission of the church sums it up – we are called to grow in faith, serve in love and live in peace. Building on that mission my vision has been and continues to be to make Prince of Peace Lutheran Church a place where the gospel is proclaimed, where we can grow together as the body of Christ, and from where we can be sent out to be God's hands and feet in the world.

Over the past three years, we have focused on our outreach ministries. We put together an engagement book that includes the many different ways people can get involved in the mission and ministry, both inside the church and beyond our walls. We made some changes to the worship services, such as adding a confession and forgiveness and all the assigned readings for each Sunday. We also offer a children's sermon even when young ones are not present. The number of kids that come up for the children's sermon continues to increase. It's exciting to see.

We have partnered with other churches, both Lutheran and other denominations, to provide opportunities for confirmation ministry, worship, and fellowship. The Thanksgiving worship and Pie Fest is a great example of this. More opportunities are in the works, including the return of Vacation Bible School in partnership with other churches. We have encouraged people to get to know each other a little bit better, with the addition of name tags that we should be wearing every week! We have done some remodeling and repair work that needed to be done. And as of this year, we have proposed a balanced budget for the coming fiscal year, including a significant increase in the amount of money pledged to care for our facilities. We have welcomed new members, and our attendance has increased over the past three years. A new opportunity stands before us. The peace pavilion.

We have been talking about this for the past two years. It was introduced a couple years ago at the annual congregational meeting. Since then, there have been many meetings with the council and the pavilion team to consider what might work for us. Meetings with the architect, the city of Westlake, the staff and leadership and contractors have been involved. We have come to this day with the proposal to move forward with this project. Work still needs to be done to get the project within our scope of what we believe we can afford. I believe we will get there. This project is a part of my vision for the future of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. In my two previous congregations, we built outdoor shelters for worship and other uses. Other uses include parties, study groups, concerts, picnics, weddings, baptisms, funerals, family gatherings, community events, movie nights, Blessing of the animals, art fairs, and more. Both of my kid's graduation parties were held in the outdoor shelter at our church. When COVID hit, the outdoor worship space became a safe place for us to start worshiping together again. The opportunity for the community to utilize that space for various events is endless. The pavilion can be a place where our mission happens – to grow in faith, serve in love, and live in peace.

A NEW OPPORTUNITY STANDS BEFORE US

The shelter can be a way to extend hospitality. Several people shared with me that coming to worship at our church at an outdoor service was a great way to get to know the church before they entered the building for the first time which can be a little scary for a first-time visitor. I remember another member who had a very difficult time coming back into the church after her spouse passed away. The outdoor worship space was a place for her to reenter the life of the church.

We have the space to do it, and the setting in the woods is beautiful. The project includes a concrete path from the parking lot to the structure. The space will have benches that can also serve as tables, providing a multitude of set up arrangements. The shelter will allow us to be outside even if there is some rain in the area.

We have the space, and I believe the time is now. But one of the promises I make to you is that I will not support a project unless we have the funding to make it happen so that the church will not be saddled with any long-term debt. And that is where you come in. I ask for you to prayerfully consider your support of this project. My wife and I are on board. We are making a three-year commitment to the project. We are not decreasing our regular giving that supports the ongoing mission of the church. This is above and beyond our weekly offering.

The level you want or are able to give is up to you.

I encourage you to pray about it. Consider it. And if you feel so moved, I ask you to make a commitment to the project.

Phil Sprague will be available the next couple of Sundays to answer any questions you might have after worship. Me too. A congregational meeting will be held sometime next month for us to approve the project. Commitment cards are available outside the sanctuary doors and on the table where the building plans are located.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Pastor Charlie



Watercolor



Watercolor Painting for Adults

Days: Every other Wednesday starting on February 28th

Times: Class Times during Lent 1:30-3:30 p.m.
After Easter class times 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Place: Fellowship Hall downstairs

Facilitator: Mel Grunau

Participants bring their own supplies. A suggested supply list is available in the office, online at the church's website, or email mjgrunau@yahoo.com.

Sign up sheet is located on the downstairs bulletin board or contact the office if interested.

YOUTH & CE EVENTS!



Affogato CAT CAFE

Join us and our furry friends

February 25th

Noon - 2pm

We will take homemade cat toys to share with the kittens to enjoy play time, hot cocoa, and sweet treats!

Meet at Prince of Peace at 11:00AM.
Sign up by scanning this QR code.
Registration required. →



**FRIDAY MARCH 1ST
@7PM**

Rocket Mortgage Field House

All tickets include \$6
concession credit!

**ALL ARE WELCOME
SIGN UP BELOW**

1-2-3 NIGHT
\$1 SODAS
\$2 HOT DOGS
\$3 LABATT BLUE BEERS



PASTOR CHARLIE'S BLOG



1 Hebrews 2:1-4

Warning to Pay Attention

2 Therefore we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. 2 For if the message declared through angels was valid, and every transgression or disobedience received a just penalty, 3 how can we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? It was declared at first through the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, 4 while God added his testimony by signs and wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, distributed according to his will.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

We miss so much in life because we will not listen. Writer Charles Swindoll once found himself with too many commitments in too few days. He got nervous and tense about it.

"I was snapping at my wife and our children, choking down my food at mealtimes, and feeling irritated at those unexpected interruptions through the day," he recalled in his book *Stress Fractures*. "Before long, things around our home started reflecting the patten of my hurry-up style. It was becoming unbearable.

"I distinctly remember after supper one evening, the words of our younger daughter, Colleen. She wanted to tell me something important that had happened to her at school that day.

She began hurriedly, 'Daddy, I wanna tell you somethin' and I'll tell you really fast.' Suddenly realizing her frustration, I answered, 'Honey, you can tell me --and you don't have to tell me really fast. Say it slowly.'

I'll never forget her answer: 'Then listen slowly.'"

I don't know about you, but I am someone who likes to have music playing when I am working, or preparing a sermon or even out for a walk. I am guilty of filling my ears with lots of noise, which often blocks out my ability to listen and pay attention to what I am hearing.

A powerful example of paying attention is Mother Theresa. She was once asked about her prayer life.

The interviewer asked, "When you pray, what do you say to God?"

Mother Teresa replied, "I don't talk, I simply listen."

Believing he understood what she had just said, the interviewer next asked, "Ah, then what is it that God says to you when you pray?"

Mother Teresa replied, "He also doesn't talk. He also simply listens."

How powerful it is to know that God pays attention to you and me.

Doesn't God deserve the same?

And in our world of a lot of voices wanting us to hear what the voices are saying, may we pay attention to what we have heard.

As Saint Paul writes to the church in Rome, "Faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ. (Romans 10:17).

Are you paying attention?

Listen.

Let us pray: Almighty God, forgive us when we fail to pay attention to what you have to say to us today. May we hear again your wonderful words of forgiveness and love. Guide us in the days to come to stop and listen. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen

Trinity Adopt-A-Seminarian

Welcome to P&P



WE ARE SPONSORING TWO SEMINARY STUDENTS WITH OUR SEMINARY FUND THIS YEAR. SAR7AH WAS HERE LAST YEAR TO PREACH. TIM WILL BE WITH US ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25. ALSO JOINING US IN WORSHIP AND BRINGING US GREETINGS WILL BE THE REV. MARY ANN SIEFKE, DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL ENGAGEMENT & ADVANCEMENT FROM THE SEMINARY.



ABOUT MYSELF

Tim Jordan is a second-year M.Div. candidate in the ELCA at Trinity Lutheran Seminary. He was born and raised in Newark, Ohio. He also has lived in the southeastern and northeastern parts of the state and in western Indiana. Tim's parents, brother, sister-in-law, and two youngest nephews still live in Newark. His sister and oldest nephew live near Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Prior to pursuing his call to ordained ministry, Tim completed an MA and Ph.D. in English and taught writing and literature surveys in seven different university systems over 20 years. Concurrent to his last 10 years of teaching, Tim was an interpreter and site manager at the indigenous historic sites of Flint Ridge and the Newark Earthworks, which became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in September 2023. Tim has published on medieval literature and earthworks interpretation, most notably his co-edited collection *The Fertile Earth and the Ordered Cosmos: Reflections on the Newark Earthworks and World Heritage*.

In his free time, Tim enjoys reading, writing, singing, playing trombone, a wide-range of table-top, board, and card games, and walking his dog, a pug-mix named Samwise.



ABOUT MYSELF

Sar7ah "Seven" O'Riordan (she/her) is a Master of Divinity student at Trinity Lutheran Seminary and candidate for ordination in the Southern Ohio Synod of the ELCA. Sar7ah is a second-career student, and in her former life worked in healthcare revenue and drug and alcohol treatment access. Prior to joining an ELCA congregation, she was a lay leader in non-denominational,

Evangelical/Pentecostal churches, and credits that background with her deep love of scripture and ability to clap on beat. She enjoys roller skating, needlework, growing things, the arts, adventures, and is relentless in her pursuit of the perfect latte.



Sean & Liz Lavin

MEMBER PROFILE

Sean was born and grew up in Erie, PA. He has a younger brother and sister in his family. After high school, he continued his education at Asbury University and majored in Media Communications. His career is now focused in business development at Toppan Merrill. He took a territory from \$0 to \$2 million in revenue while working remotely.

Liz was born in Cleveland, and she grew up in Cleveland and Parma. Her family includes 3 younger sisters and 1 younger brother. Upon graduation from high school, she enrolled at Ohio University and earned a degree in Nursing. She is now working as an RN (certified RNC-NIC) in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for 17 years and counting. Sean and Liz met through mutual friends - a coworker of Liz and friends that lived across the street from Sean when he lived in downtown Cleveland. They have 2 children, Kieran who is 6 years old, and Emery who is 5 years old. Sharing their Love as a family brings them much happiness!

They were looking for a church that would feel like a good fit for both of them. Sean was raised non-denominational and Liz was raised traditional Lutheran - making it difficult for them to find a church that felt right. They drove by Prince of Peace one day and decided to try it out. They really enjoyed Pastor Bishop and felt very welcome. Since then they have welcomed their 2 beautiful children who have been baptized at POP. Pastor Charlie offered them first communion this year! They love attending Sunday School. I noticed Sean recently in the lower education wing and knew they would have a great story to tell.

Liz had been part of the monthly blood pressure team that served between services. She loves snuggling with the kids, traveling and reading. Her travel wishlist includes Paris/France, Italy, London, Bora Bora, and finishing her goal of visiting all 50 states. Sean enjoys music, film and firearms. Sean and Liz would love to visit Ireland and Scotland one day. Liz loves being a mom! Seeing the world through their children's eyes and their faces lighting up when they go on fun adventures brings much happiness. She also used to do a little travel nursing. She had a brief stint in San Diego, CA and Nevada.

POP continues to attract young families with children that will continue our missions for many years into the future! A Bible verse that seems appropriate regarding this is "All your children will be disciples of the Lord, I will make peace abound for your children." Our church is founded on this eternal peace that will be found in heaven. Offer a sincere "Peace be with you" as you meet the Lavin family.

By Tom Robinholt : Profile Reporter

Women In Transition

We are accepting donations of women's toiletries, sanitary products, and umbrellas. The need is great. Please bring them to the donation station. Questions, please contact Jan Filkill, 440-871-6673.

One Step Up (West Haven)

Donations of youth-teen clothing of all sizes. Jeans, shorts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hoodies. Please bring them to the donation stations



Second Harvest

For January through March the requested items are canned beef stew, beans, and vegetables



Giving Data

Operating Giving Report	YTD	AVG/Week
Total Giving as of Dec. 31st, 2023:	\$462,529	\$8,894.79
% of Annual 2023 Budget Received to Date:	104%	
Giving in Excess of Budget:	\$16,029	

Thank you for your support of our mission in ministries in 2023!
Total operating expenses for 2023 were \$480,000



Lending Closet

Are you in need of some crutches? A shower chair? Walker? Cane?

Please click on the logo on the right hand side of the page or check the website for our updated lending closet list!



Coffee with the Pastor

Coffee with the Pastor will be held the second Sunday of every month at 10 am.

We will meet in the Education Wing Second Cup of Coffee Room. Come for conversation, questions and fellowship. Bring your coffee and donut and join us.



Prayer LIST

Sunday, February 25, 2024

Prayer Request - Long Term

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

Ren	Granddaughter of Linda Baumbach
Don Chismar	
Patty Doran	Sister-in-law of Chuck Sieving
Marcia Drysdale	Friend of Jane Dillon
Dawn Higgins	Neighbor of Fran Molnar
Jayne Kramic	Friend of Kathy McCollum
Donna Kucera and family	
Angela Missig	Daughter of Gloria Starr
Jenn Pitts	Daughter of Judy Kazak
Eric and Nicole Quinn	Friends of Matt Wenham
Lois Reichert	
Pam Rotella	
Bill Sweeny	Friend of Kathy McCollum
Robert Sieving	Brother of Chuck Sieving
Al Tielke	
Mike Hosler	

Recent prayer requests received within the past 3 weeks:

February 11	Steve & Carol Herbruck (friends of Tim & Marsha Regan) Debbie Decker & Rev. Wayne Decker Jan Schoch
February 18	Lowell Dillon Shawn Merhaut
February 25	Fran Molner Family and Friends of Marge Stoodt Char Cuciak (John Cuciak's daughter-in-law)

Happy Birthday

Date	Online	In Person	Total
02/18/2024	38	126	164
02/14/2014	17	83	100
02/11/2024	14	133	147
02/04/2024	38	176	214

- 02/01 Katarina Rolik
- 02/02 Emma Perry
- 02/02 Rachel Drobnak
- 02/04 Abigail Matalavage
- 02/04 Diane Christian
- 02/04 James Wilhelm
- 02/04 Tom Herren
- 02/05 Bradley Pearce
- 02/05 Erin Jagels
- 02/05 Julia Vorobej
- 02/06 Sean Biller
- 02/07 James Arrigo
- 02/08 Charles Sieving
- 02/08 Joann Burson
- 02/09 Diane Miller
- 02/10 Sean Lavin
- 02/10 Nicholas Fortuna
- 02/12 Chris Rehark
- 02/12 Laney Ventimiglia
- 02/12 Melody Hauser
- 02/13 Charlie Woodward
- 02/13 Erin Bruneau
- 02/13 Kathy McCollum
- 02/13 Jane Carlson
- 02/13 Jonathan Covell
- 02/13 Sally Balch
- 02/15 Betsy Bailey
- 02/16 Carol Novotny
- 02/16 Connor Burdette
- 02/16 Saige Worsencroft
- 02/17 Dennis MacKenzie
- 02/18 Donald Chrismar
- 02/18 Elayna Gros
- 02/21 Andrea Petta
- 02/21 Kieran Lavin
- 02/22 Jan Saunders
- 02/23 Edna Dickey
- 02/23 Jon Steinbrecher
- 02/24 Beverly Braun
- 02/24 Keith Wyant
- 02/28 Chris Petta
- 02/28 Shaun Dillon

Prince of Peace Staff

Pastor Charlie Woodward
pcpopwestlake@gmail.com

James & Lisa Arrigo, Sextons
jamespopwestlake@gmail.com

Brandon Bilek, Sound Technician
brandonpop@gmail.com

Beverly Braun, Christian Education Coordinator
christianeducation.pop@gmail.com

Hailey Desmond, Marketing/Communications
princeofpeacecommunication@gmail.com

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



Wendy Hansen, Office Administrator
princeofpeacewestlake@gmail.com

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.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 02/02 Tom & Sandy Herren
- 02/06 Dan & Gail Pogue
- 02/10 Jim & Sharon Lappin

