

October 2026

Official Monthly Newsletter
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & Preschool
9320 Meadow Way, Everett, WA 98208



October 2026

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A Word From Our Pastor

"No one can serve two masters...

...Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." Matthew 6:24

These words of Jesus are found in the Sermon on the Mount where he is talking about what it means to live life in this world in the Kingdom of Heaven. Clearly when one is talking about any kingdom, the king or master of that realm must be considered. One thing about kings is that they expect loyalty and love from those they lead. We show who we honor as king in the way we serve them.

If you study the Scriptures, you will find that God is not opposed to earthly kings—or any who embody the position of leader. Saint Paul in Romans 13 suggests that they exist through God's providence and permission. But Scripture is also clear that over all kings and leaders stands the Lord Jesus who is the exalted King of kings and Lord of lords. And what is true of nations is also true of each believer in Christ, Jesus is our true king who, by saving us, has become our true Lord and master.

In his teaching, Jesus is telling us that our personal master is whatever we love and serve—even money. The word often translated as "money" in modern translations was actually the Aramaic word "Mammon" meaning money, material wealth, or possessions.

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Sunday Worship is at 9:30 AM

You can stream weekly Worship
online at pplc.org

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PPLC Staff

Pastor Gib Botten

Preschool Director: Carol Guanzon

Church Office: Lauryn Brunskill

Preschool Office: Kelly Reynolds

Children's & Youth Ministry:
Lauryn Brunskill

Audio-Visual: Kevin Lord

Organist: Linda Walter

Treasurer: Jennifer Pidduck

Custodian: Sandra Barajas

Contact Us

425-337-6663

churchoffice@pplc.org
pplc.org

Newsletter submissions are due
by the 20th of each month.

(continued from page 1)

When Jesus said that we cannot serve and love both God and money he was describing an ideal relationship between subject and king. If the subject shows love and loyalty to the king, the people can trust the king to provide them with security. In the passage about serving two masters, Jesus is giving us a choice: God or "mammon". Which one will we trust to take care of us?

As we follow Jesus as our Savior and Lord and trust that he will take care of us, then we can dethrone all other masters. Years ago, I remember a pastor telling us that one of the best ways to dethrone king money or "mammon" in our lives is to give some of it away to causes of the true king. When we do that, we can literally speak to that money and say, "You are not my king! Now I give you away to the true Lord. I serve Him and not you!"

In the coming weeks at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church we will be hearing more from our Stewardship Committee how through our time, talents and "mammon" we can learn how to follow Jesus as the true Lord of our lives. We cannot serve two masters. And who would want to?

The Prince of Peace be with you,
Pastor Gib Botten

Men's Fellowship

**Meeting on Saturday,
October 17th at 9 AM
in the Fellowship Hall**

All men of the congregation are
welcome to join in!



Contact
Matthew
Thorsteinson
with any
questions.

PRIME TIMERS

The Over 50 Group

*Potluck Lunch at noon
in the fellowship hall*

Thursday, October 8th

Topic of Discussion:
The Human/Animal Bond

*Come and
share your
stories of
your pets!*



Committee Spotlight



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF OUR COMMITTEES?



This month we are featuring the **Men's Fellowship Group:**

Hello from Men's Fellowship Group. We are the men of Prince of Peace Lutheran meeting monthly for fellowship, Bible study, and planning outreach events for the church. In the last year, we have hosted the Easter Brunch, the Summer BBQ, and ran a fundraiser for Cascade Women's Health. Lately, we have been studying the passage that Pastor Gib will be preaching on the following Sunday. We meet every third Saturday each month in the Fellowship Hall at 9 AM. Any man of the church is welcome to come and join us. We hope to see you there!

Matthew Thorsteinson
Men's Fellowship Group Chair



Time to Clean Out Your Closet!

The Prime Timers discussion topic in September was getting rid of things – there is not enough room, you want to downsize, you are moving – all good reasons to go through your stuff and clean your closet.

I want to suggest another one. The Women's Ministry is having a **Holiday Sale on November 8th** after services. We will have baked goods, quilts, collectable plates and holiday items for sale. In order to have a nice selection of holiday items, we need donations. So, now is the time to go through your Thanksgiving and Christmas décor and give unwanted items to the sale for Women's Ministry charities. All proceeds of the sale will go to charities.

If you can keep your donation until Saturday November 7th or Sunday November 8th, that would be best; if not, contact me and I will find a place for them. Thank you for your help in making this fundraiser a success.

–Linda Fargo for the Women's Ministry



Youth & Education News:



- **Kid's Sunday School is underway every Sunday following the Children's Message!** Kids 4 years – 5th grade are welcome!
- **Youth & Education Committee meeting via Zoom on Thursday, October 8th at 6 PM.** Plan to attend if you're interested in helping with our Kid's & Youth ministries!
- **Confirmation Class has started** for the school year on Tuesday evenings!
- **Contact Lauryn Brunskill** at lauryn.smith@pplc.org with any Youth & Ed. questions!

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sign up to decorate your trunk, provide candy, or run a game in the Narthex!

- **NEEDED:** Truck for "Stuff the Trunk" donations

Trick-r-Treating! - Food Drive!

Photo Booth! - Games!

Date & Time: **Saturday, Oct. 24th from 3-5 PM**

Place: **Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**
9320 Meadow Way, Everett, WA 98208

Cost: **Free / optional Food Drive donation!**

USE YOUR GIFTS

Talk about money surrounds Stewardship and then time and talent are added to the mix. That was wisdom some time ago. I am writing to suggest something else.

We all know that the classical Stewardship Drive encouraged church members to give money but also to devote your time and talent as well. The talent part I'm going to translate into "gifts". These gifts are the God-given characteristics of our faith. As the saying goes, some are teachers, some are pastors; we all have one or more.

When we exercise our gifts and our faith is strengthened, we can see the fruits of that faith – love, peace, joy, kindness. I want to encourage you to use your gifts and let the fruits of your faith enrich others. Think away from yourself and explore what your gifts and faith can accomplish for others. You will find it is quite wonderful.

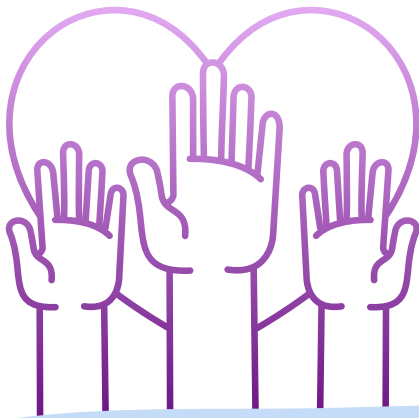
Linda Fargo, Chair Stewardship Committee



Interested in Volunteering at PPLC?

Consider volunteering in our various ministries!

- **Greeting and Ushering** – talk with Pr. Gib or Rod Gust
- **Children's Ministry** – such as teaching Sunday School, VBS, etc!
- **Homebound Visitations** – talk with Pr. Gib about our diaconal ministry!
- **Hospitality** – sign up to make coffee and bring goodies for fellowship hour after worship!
- + many other committees & opportunities – contact the church office or Pr. Gib if you're interested!



Ways to Give at Prince of Peace



Bill Pay through
your bank



online
at pplc.org



Vanco
Mobile
App



with a Qualified
Charitable Distribution
(QCD) from an IRA

Council Corner & Financial Update

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Council

President: Steve Peterson
Vice President: Dan Hughes
Secretary: Wendy Beard

Linda Fargo
 Lynn Junell
 Bill Kann
 Arne Sandvik
 Camie Embacher
 Phil Lee
 David Miles

Pastor: Pr. Gib Botten
Treasurer: Jennifer Pidduck



The Executive Committee of the Council (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Pastor) meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month.

The Church Council meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month via Zoom.

FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE

INCOME	JUN	JUL	AUG
General Offering	\$14,824.00	\$16,935.00	\$16,505.00
Electronic Offering	\$4,894.75	\$3,435.40	\$3,540.65
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$0.00	\$2,350.00	\$6,500.00
Fred Meyer Rewards	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Maundy Thursday Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Good Friday Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest Earnings	\$0.81	\$0.84	\$0.84
Facilities Use (Rentals)	\$550.00	\$2,650.00	\$2,660.00
Facilities Use-Memorials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annuity Income	\$2,481.70	\$2,481.70	\$2,481.70
Total Operating Income	\$22,751.26	\$27,852.94	\$31,688.19
Budgeted Expenses	\$22,177.32	\$31,030.15	\$24,743.34
Operating Income less Esp.	\$573.94	(\$3,177.21)	\$6,944.85

FUND BALANCES YEAR-TO-DATE

General Fund	\$91,386.07	\$88,108.86	\$98,003.71
Youth Fund	\$9,035.88	\$9,235.88	\$9,042.88
Saefke Fund	\$21,259.51	\$21,259.51	\$21,259.51
Member Relief Fund	\$500.63	\$500.63	\$500.63
Memorial Fund	\$5,270.36	\$5,270.36	\$5,320.36
Endowment Fund	\$55,459.55	\$55,582.20	\$55,582.20
Men's Fellowship Fund	\$52.11	\$252.11	\$587.11
Women's Ministry *	\$2,561.48	\$2,561.48	\$2,561.48
Capital Facilities Fund	\$43,740.37	\$43,740.37	\$43,740.37
Capital Reserves Fund	\$9,870.11	\$9,870.11	\$9,870.11
Short-Term Missions	\$8,390.00	\$8,454.73	\$8,554.73
Preschool Balances	\$93,903.00	\$79,851.00	\$65,559.00

* Bank Balance as of 9.24.2026



Let us pray for the whole people of God...

Prayer is powerful! Please call or email the church office (425-337-6663 or churchoffice@pplc.org) with prayer request additions or updates. Names will remain on the list for about a month unless updated/renewed.

Rhonda Bannister – neighbor of the Gusts, prayers for healing from complications after hip replacement surgery, she's been hospitalized since 9/22.

Bruce Camp – nephew of Jean Camp, prayers for recovery from brain tumor removal surgery.

Mia Popkins – student of Jennifer Pidduck, in hospice and will likely pass soon, prayers for peace, comfort, and the knowledge that she is loved.

Kari Cundall – praises for a safe wrist surgery, continue prayers for peace, healing, recovery, and successful outcome on the surgical repairs.

Rachel Miles – daughter-in-law of Dave & Debbie Miles, prayers for successful recovery from surgery.

Kailey Miles – granddaughter of Dave & Debbie Miles, prayers for successful recovery from stomach surgery.

Doug Walker – recovering at a group adult care center.

Diane Brandt – friend of the Gusts, dealing with pulmonary fibrosis & several autoimmune diseases.

Beth Webb – Prayers for Beth Webb who has suffered a fall and broken three ribs. Prayers for healing and comfort in this time.

Deanna – Blayne Cundall's mother, diagnosed with congestive heart failure, still awaiting tests to determine treatment.

Julia – Dave Miles' sister has been hospitalized for a heart issue. She's going through tests now to find the cause.

Mitchell Thompson – grandson of Dan & Sandy Hughes, on dialysis 3x a week, awaiting a kidney donor.

Morgan – Mindy Staudinger's friend who was recently diagnosed with aggressive B cell lymphoma. Prayers for peace and comfort during this time, and that God brings her to full remission.

Teresa Heimbigner – Prayers for her continued cancer journey.

Tom – Lurlene Grannan's brother-in-law diagnosed with kidney cancer and has also been diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Pray for healing, comfort and God's presence.

Tim Meehan – friend of Camie Embacher, pray for his comfort as he suffers pain from cancer treatments.

Serving in the Military:

Andre Fahim – Lindsay Fahim's husband (Lurlene Grannan's granddaughter), serving in the USAF.

Dante Guadagnoli – Andrea Miles' friend, serving in the US Navy on Middle East deployment.

Davin Arellano – Leif & Stephanie Hylback's nephew, serving in the US Marines in San Diego.

Garret Mayo – close friend of Davin Arellano, nephew of Leif & Stephanie Hylback, who is deployed to the Middle East.

Ian Pidduck – Alex Pidduck's brother, serving in the US Navy in Sicily, Italy.

Kailin Rime & husband Nathan Duffy – Tom & Donna Dickson's niece, serving in the USAF.

Kyle Warner – Debbie Miles' cousin, serving in the US Navy.

Steve Vranish – Andrea (Miles) Vranish's husband, at sea with the Merchant Marines.

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00am Prayer Group 4:30pm CPM Meeting 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	2 Church Office Closed - Vacation 6:00pm Miracles Happen Meeting 	3 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church
4 8:30am Worship Band Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday Worship with Kid's Sunday School 10:45am Adult Sunday School 1:30pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	5 10:00am Quilting 7:00pm Women's Bible Study Zoom 	6 2:00pm Book Club 6:30pm Confirmation Class	7 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10:00am Prayer Group 12:00pm Prime Timers 6:00pm Youth & Education Committee Zoom Meeting 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church 	9 6:00pm Miracles Happen Meeting	10 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church
11 8:30am Worship Band Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday Worship with Kid's Sunday School 10:45am Adult Sunday School 1:30pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	12 Church Office Closed - Vacation 6:30pm Missional Concerns/Evangelism Meeting 	13 9:00am Homage Senior Services Peer Support 2:00pm Book Club 6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm Confirmation Class	14 9:00am Homage Senior Services Peer Support 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal	15 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church 	16 Church Office Closed - Vacation 6:00pm Miracles Happen Meeting 	17 9:00am Men's Fellowship 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church 
18 8:30am Worship Band Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday Worship with Kid's Sunday School 10:45am Adult Sunday School 1:30pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	19 10:00am Quilting 7:00pm Women's Bible Study Zoom 	20 9:00am Homage Senior Services Peer Support 2:00pm Book Club 6:00pm Council Meeting 6:30pm Confirmation Class	21 9:00am Homage Senior Services Peer Support 9:30am Women's Ministry Meeting 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 	22 10:00am Prayer Group 4:30pm CPM Meeting 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	23 6:00pm Miracles Happen Meeting	24 3:00pm Trunk-r-Treat Community Event 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church 
25 8:30am Worship Band Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday Worship with Kid's Sunday School 10:45am Adult Sunday School 1:30pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	26 6:30pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 	27 9:00am Homage Senior Services Peer Support 2:00pm Book Club 6:30pm Confirmation Class	28 9:00am Homage Senior Services Peer Support 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 	29 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	30 Church Office Closed - Vacation 6:00pm Miracles Happen Meeting 	31 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church 