



Pastor's Message

The Calm Before the Storm

Those are some eery words, aren't they? When everything in life seems just a little too calm, those words can't help but creep into my mind. Something bad and unexpected is bound to happen eventually. Call me a pessimist, but I get that impression here at Prince of Peace as well. The Lord blessed us so richly as a ministry in 2013. If you were able to attend the voters' meeting, you saw that worship and Bible class attendance along with school enrollment are at all-time highs. God be praised! While I'm not expecting a "storm", we will have some challenges ahead of us in 2014. Check out the update from our congregational treasurer, Eric Myers, as he explains the financial struggles that are potentially looming. In addition, we are losing a vital piece of our teaching staff with Miss Kluck's resignation. We also need to address how our growing ministry can continue to grow with limited space. What about our plans and hopes of starting another ministry somewhere in the Salt Lake Valley?



While the challenges we face will never outweigh the blessings our God provides, the challenges are still real and can be somewhat intimidating. So instead of sitting back and wondering what's going to happen, notice all the opportunities before us to proactively put our trust in God and confidently face the future:

- A "Toolbox for Planning Offerings" has been mailed to each of you. What a humbling thing it is for God to call us "managers" (i.e. stewards) of His possessions while we live on earth. Please spend some time going through the materials and then placing your commitment into the offering plate sometime in February.
- A call meeting to begin searching for Miss Kluck's replacement will take place on Sunday, February 9 after late worship.
- A survey was composed and emailed out to every member seeking feedback about our ministry. We need your thoughts as we assess where we are and where we'd like to go in the future as a ministry! Please complete this survey by February 16th. (If you do not have email and would like a paper copy of the survey to complete, please speak with either pastor).
- A Ministry Planning Team (MPT) is being organized to analyze those surveys and make some recommendations for our Leadership.
- Pastor/Member visits will be from February 16-March 1 to strengthen your relationship with your pastors and express any thoughts or concerns you may have.
- Members from our District Mission Board (DMB) are coming out to meet with our pastors in March to conduct some community profiles in search of starting a new ministry in the Valley.
- Back to Bible Class night is Wednesday, February 12 at 7PM, as we stay connected to God and continue to grow in faith. Two classes will be offered: Gracebook (a new Basic Christianity/BIC class) and a study on Old Testament Sacrifices.
- School Open House and early registration will be Wednesday, February 19, as we pray for more and more children to come and hear God's Word.

I could probably go on, but hopefully you get the point. We know that the devil will never stop throwing up challenges in front of us as long as we continue to preach and teach the gospel. But, by God's comfort and strength, we are ready for those challenges. We are confident of our Lord's protection and peace. And so we look ahead, as brothers and sisters in God's family, to face another year guided and grounded by God's grace. We hope you're planning on being a part of it. It will no doubt, be a memorable ride!

Pastor Bater



WISH (Women in Service to Him)

At the annual WISH meeting this past Sunday, three new officers were elected to lead the women of PoP. We welcome them and pray their leadership will be a blessing to all of us.



President: Kristene DeVries
Vice-President: Tracy Turnidge
Secretary: Bonnie Carbon

Paula Fraser (Treasurer) and Nancy Brandt (Missions) will continue to serve in their offices for another year.

Thank you to outgoing officers: Jamie Schultz (President), Chantel Johnson (VP) and Catherine Henstrom (Secretary) who served for the past two years. We are grateful for your time and leadership serving the women of WISH.

Treasurer's Report

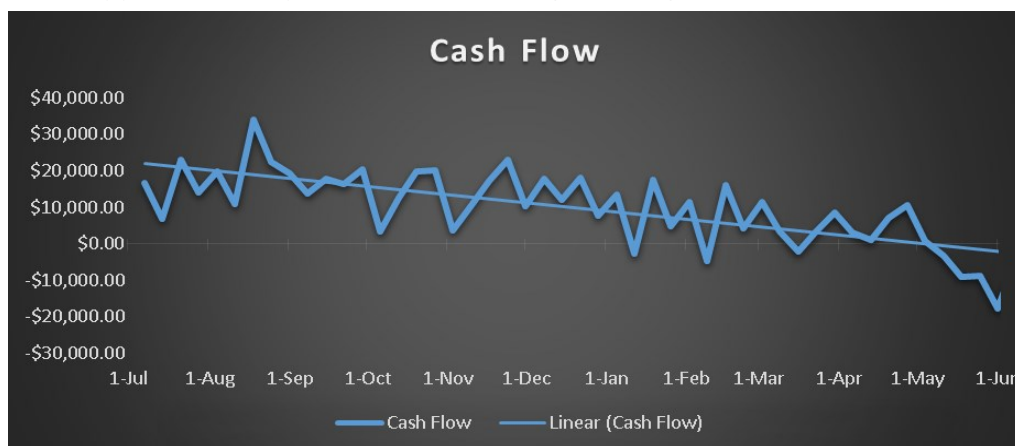
Brothers and Sisters,

I don't make a regular contribution to the newsletter, but thought it would be good to update everyone on cash flow now that we are half way through our fiscal year, which ends June 30, 2014. As many of you know, we adopted a very aggressive budget for this fiscal year. Much of this was due to the addition of staff for the expanding school. The Lord has blessed the school and much of that expense has been offset by additional tuition. Along with the growing school has come a growing ministry overall and many expenses increased. The budget we approved last summer was almost \$100,000 larger than our previous fiscal year.

One thing about our budget is that the majority of expenses are fixed. Salaries and benefits make up 75% of our budget. Our mortgage, utilities and what we send to Synod for Mission Offerings—these make up an additional 15% of our budget. Our staff and leaders are very frugal about purchases, but they only affect about 10% of the budget with those decisions. We can project income relatively accurately – we know how much we will receive in tuition the rest of the year; and based on historical giving, we can project what is coming in the plate offering.

The chart below shows actual cash flow through current date and then what is projected for rest of the year. We started the year with a bit of a surplus, but it has been slowly declining because we are spending more than we are receiving. The dips in February, March, and April will be fairly small and can be handled by slowing bill payment. I am projecting a significant shortfall by June. If that happens, more serious decisions will need to be made about what is paid and what is not or if we can cut fixed expenses.

I know I am laying out very business type information and I know God's church is not a business. As you review the recently mailed Toolbox for Planned Offerings, I encourage you to take the Pastors' words to heart. Make your decisions based on trust in the Lord as they describe and prayerfully consider your situation. Whether Prince of Peace's cash flow is positive or negative, we know that Jesus has already purchased our place in heaven. Nothing will change that.



If anyone would like more detailed information on any of the expense items, feel free to contact me and I can send you any level of reporting you would like.

Yours in Christ,

Eric Myers, Treasurer

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"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for GOD loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7

Volunteer Coordinator



We are All Part of the Body of Christ!

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ... But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.
1 Corinthians 12:12, 18-20, 27

Each of you is a part of the body of Christ at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & School. We all have a part in this church's ministry. So, what is a Ministry Team Volunteer?

People often want to serve but don't know what kind of help is needed. As the Volunteer Coordinator at PoP, I am using a website called Sign up Genius that will allow you to view the many ways to volunteer within the church. To go to the Sign Up Genius, [CLICK HERE](#) and you will find:

- a basic "job description" — just what is involved.
- the "suggested commitment" — this is a guideline—not a requirement. If you serve in a position, it makes sense to stick with it for a little while—but please know you don't have to do one thing forever!
- the name of the coordinator (if there is one) for the area of ministry you are interested in.

If you are already serving at church, please sign up in that area on the Sign Up Genius. If you are new to Sign up Genius, just sign up. If you are a Sign-Up Genius member, just log in. Coordinators in charge of these areas of ministry will check periodically to see if new people have signed up ... but don't wait for someone to call you, give them a call!



Wondering where you fit in—or if you feel hesitant to sign up as a volunteer, please talk to me at church or give me a call and I can help you find an area that fits your gifts and talents.

I will be happy to introduce you to the different coordinators of ministries you may be interested in so they can answer any of your questions about the help they need.

Nancy Ah Chong, Volunteer Coordinator

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Board for Spiritual Welfare

Life's Uncertainties



Our lives are full of uncertainties and complications, and we have very little power to change them. Each day we face unknown issues both of and not of our own doing. We face unknown and uncharted territory, and there are no signs or landmarks. We are simply left with a Yogi-ism, "When you come to a fork in the road take it."

Life is hazardous, not merely a maze but a minefield. Who knows what lies ahead of us at the next crossroad? That uncertainty brings us to a place where all we can do is trust in God and count on his goodness and love. That confidence enables us to move bravely and optimistically into every day as long as we know we are moving in the right direction.

The question is always this: do you want God's way? If so, He will direct our paths. The main thing is to want Him in all that we do and to entrust ourselves to His goodness every day and leave the consequences to Him.

Gary Cain, Elder

The idea of this writing came from an article written by David Roper entitled "Every Day is a New Shade of Blue."



President

*For ev'ry earthly grace and gift
We thank you dearest Father.
Now teach us, Lord;
our thoughts uplift
That heav'nly fruit we gather.
Our fathers knew,
And kept in view
True wisdom's worth and pleasure;
They prized as jewels,
Their Christian schools
And left a lasting treasure.*

*We thank you, Lord, and sing your praise
For blessings you have given;
Be with us still in future days
To guide our youth to heaven.
Lord, grant that we,
May clearly see
The worth of Christian training
That youth may grow,
Your love to know,
Eternal riches gaining.
(CW 511, v. 2,3)*

These hymn verses remind us of the importance of providing Christian training for our children, not only in our homes, but, when possible, in a Christian school. What a blessing that we have that opportunity here at Prince of Peace. May God continue to use our school to assist parents in filling their children's hearts with an abiding faith, and their minds with a knowledge of God's Word and His plan of salvation for us.

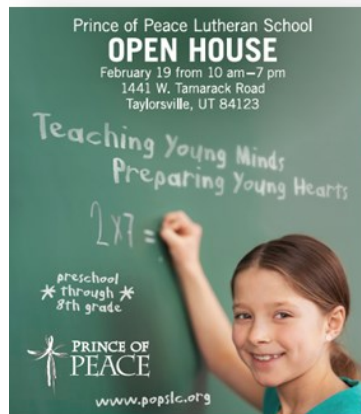


Our school has two special events this month. On Wednesday, February 19, from 10:00AM to 7:00PM, our school is having an **Open House**. If you have a child ready to enroll in pre-school through 7th grade in 2014-15, you are encouraged to attend. You will learn more about our school and its focus, and meet the teaching staff and other school families. If you have a friend or neighbor who is searching for a school, please also encourage them to come. If your child will be enrolling in kindergarten in 2014-15, you have a second event to attend. A **Kindergarten Roundup** is scheduled on Wednesday, February 26, from 8:30 to 11:30AM.

Thanks to all of you who were able to attend the Open Forum, the W.I.S.H. annual meeting, or the Voters' Meeting in January. Many important topics were discussed, and many decisions made. Your attendance and input is appreciated.

David Brandt, President

Principal



Open House-

Wednesday, February 19, from 10AM to 7PM, will be our school open house. If you are interested in sending your child to our school for the first time, this will be a perfect time for you to come in and have a look. If you have a returning student, this will be an excellent time to take

care of registration for next year. If you know someone who may be looking for a school for their child, please speak with me. Forms for next school year will be available starting at the open house.

Thank You-

Thank you to Liz Myers for her design expertise with this year's open house advertisement in the Salt Lake Tribune's insert which was published on Sunday, January 26. If you subscribe to the paper, check it out! (See picture of girl by chalkboard above.)



Can Collection-

Friday, February 21, will be our second school-wide aluminum can collection date. You may bring your bagged cans and place the bags on the trailer that will be located in our parking lot. The CPA is sponsoring the event and will use the funds in various ways to improve the school and education of our children. Let's see if we can beat our last collection which was in September when we had 150 pounds sent to the recycler! Thank you!

