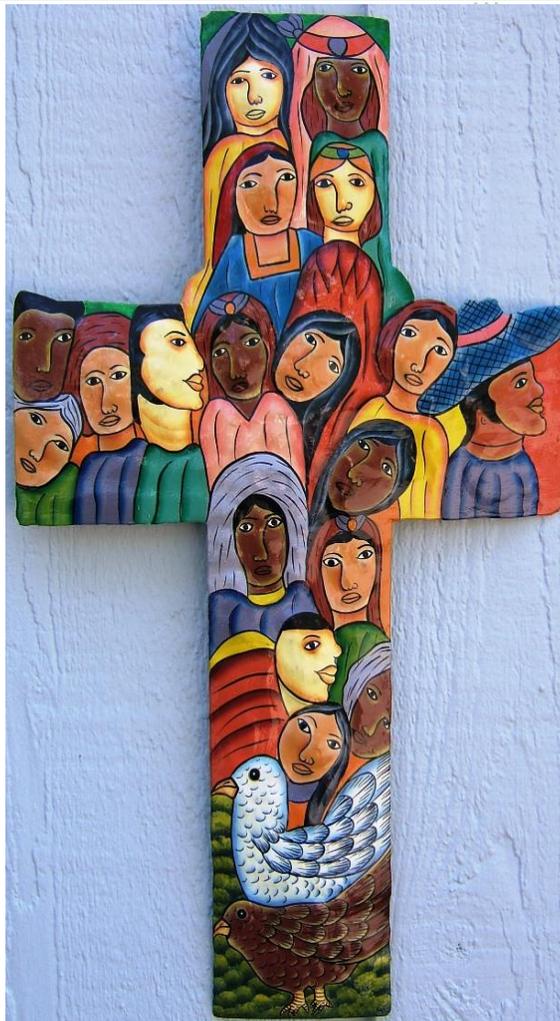


Annual Report 2016

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church



Congregation Meeting
January 29, 2017

19030 Eighth Ave S
SeaTac WA 98148

PASTOR CONRAD TOLLEFSON

To God's people doing God's work in God's world: Peace and grace to you, and thankfulness for partnering in the task. And there is no greater or more satisfying task than seeing others as more important than ourselves and lifting them up to God with our prayers and our deeds.

A gift we have been given at Prince of Peace is to be in a diverse community. Various cultures and languages keep us alert and growing in our faith. Globally our Uganda ministries are wonderful. We are so used to the classes and reports and pictures we take it for granted. The people of Principe de Paz and our Ethiopian Fellowship churches are our gracious co-workers in Christ's ministry here. I wish we had more diversity in our own membership and worship attendance, but we have more than many congregations, and we hope all people feel welcome and included here.

Prince of Peace has again seen some decline in worship attendance and in membership in 2016. On All Saints Sunday in November we remembered 16 people who had died since one year earlier, including members and others who had been placed in our care. A few others have moved away. So if we only look at statistics, it can be discouraging. But the real presence of Jesus is much bigger than numbers, and the spirit and energy of so many people at Prince of Peace is very inspiring to me. We have ministry to which we have been called and it is a joy to work at it.

Our Community Meal the first Tuesday of each month has now over a year of history and continues to grow in attendance, but more moving is the enthusiasm of the many helpers who make it happen. It sprouts out of the seed of respect for every one of God's people who walks in the door. It is great.

Our quilters also have new excitement and workers after moving into handier space in the education building. What a joy twice a year when we have the resulting quilts in worship with us to bless and send on their journey to various parts of the world.

Sunday school has grown by a few children this year, as we strive to reverse the trend of fewer youth as these wonderful young people grow up.

The new exterior lighting has made a huge difference in the feelings of security on our property, and brings more of a sense of welcome to passers-by.

A major change took place in personnel in 2016 involved saying goodbye to Nan Larson after years of running the church office and other tasks. THANK YOU, NAN, if you are listening. What servant service you provided for so many years! And now we say a joyous WELCOME to Deborah Santiago as she takes over this job. And she is off to a great beginning; we are in good hands!

Big and sincere thanks to John Gilbert, retiring as president of Prince of Peace, and to others who are completing their elected offices. Thanks to so many of you who have made Jesus' love evident to anyone watching. And now welcome to Stan Skjeie as our new President. Stan has been a key player for our community dinner, and also in our recent brainstorming sessions on how to use our resources for possible new ministries here in our community.

I've avoided mentioning very many names this report, but it hurts to do so because of the superb caring work done by so many. I simply invite you to become involved in the ministries of Prince of Peace and discover for yourself what God does in our lives when we present ourselves to God.

Just a few of the places you may join in: worship regularly, WELCA, Tuesday morning Bible Study, adult classes Sundays 9:00 am, choir, feeding programs, and bringing a friend to church.

And schedule right away having your picture taken for our new photo directory!
Pastor Tollefson

Pastor Tollefson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2016 has been a busy year for Prince of Peace, overseen by a great Church Council. The year started with a significant financial challenge, but ways were found to reduce the expenses without appreciably impacting our ministries. Each month the Council, with help from the Finance Committee, carefully monitored our income and expenditures, and at year's end the two were nearly equal.

The outdoor lighting project was completed in August, resulting in much improved nighttime safety and enhanced appearance of the church. The cost of the project came in significantly under budget, due in large part to the wonderful help we received from Principe De Paz with the trenching needed for the underground wiring.

Funds from the Endowment distribution in December made it possible to move ahead on other projects from our facilities list. The Council authorized proceeding soon with the remodeling of the two bathrooms near the kitchen and with an enhancement of the garden area near the Education Building.

The Synod Assembly in Everett was attended in May. The theme this year was Global and Local Missions and emphasized the fact that our communities are becoming increasingly multicultural.

Our long time Office Administrator, Nan Larson, let us know that she planned to retire at the end of August. A six member Personnel Task Team was appointed to develop a job description, advertise the open position, select candidates to interview, conduct the interviews, and pick the best candidate to hire from those meeting our requirements. Deborah Santiago was selected and started as our new Office Administrator on September 14. Nan was kind to stay a bit longer and offer her help in training Deborah in her new duties. The congregation held a retirement party for Nan on September 18 to say "thank you" for her many years of service and best wishes for her future.

In an effort to keep up with the times and recognizing the impact of technology on our lives, an electronic means of giving was set up and introduced to the congregation this year. Those who are interested in that method of giving, now have that option available. Those who prefer the way they have always contributed their offering may continue to do so.

Our custodian, Chris Simonds, has been working more than 20 hours a week for some time and, per our Personnel Policies and Procedures Handbook, is entitled to health insurance coverage. We looked into the available options and assisted Chris in obtaining suitable coverage.

Prince of Peace has continued through 2016 to offer a meal to the community on the first Tuesday each month. The attendance has grown and this ministry has been very successful. Many of our members have volunteered to help prepare and serve the meals. Partnering with the local food bank has resulted in very little cost to the congregation.

A small team has recently started meeting to investigate how our congregation could use the vacant land to the east of the church to help those in need in our community. Transitional housing and low-income, affordable housing are ideas being considered among others. This activity is just in the early brainstorming stage and the congregation will be informed and included in any decision making.

It has been a privilege to serve as Congregation President for the past two years. The Council has been dedicated and enthusiastic, seeking to manage the business and ministry of Prince of Peace in the best possible ways. My thanks to Pastor Tollefson and the Council members for making this both a fun and a rewarding experience.

John Gilbert, President

PUGET SOUND BLOOD BANK - 2016

POP LADIES BOOK CLUB – 2016

The Prince of Peace first Ladies Book Club began January 2006. We are now entering our 11th year. We began with our first meeting consisting of three women. We now have approximately eight to 10 regular attendees. A few of our members have left Prince of Peace because of relocation and or death. We are a welcoming and friendly group of women that love to read, share in discussion (that is, talk), and keep up to date with current authors.

We meet the second Monday of each month, at 11:00 a.m., in the church Fireside Room. Come casual and comfortable and a snack of choice, if you wish. We have a Christmas luncheon in December and at that time we choose the books for the coming year. Check out the Book Club bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for a take-home card listing our book choices for 2017.

A book sale took place at Prince of Peace the weekend of October 9-11, 2009. We made approximately \$600.00 and sold approximately 1,000 books. At this time, there are no further book sales planned.

We encourage all women of Prince of Peace to join/visit our group or if the time is not right, consider starting another book club that will fit your particular needs. There are so many variables to starting a book club - it can be as simple or as involved as you wish. The internet is an excellent source on how to start your own book club.

Our hope is that Prince of Peace women will feel a bond in Christian fellowship by being a part of, or starting a new book club here at Prince of Peace.

Joyce M. Lentz

CARE COMMITTEE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Mission Statement: "Hands of Christ in Service to Others"

Committee members: Pastor Conrad Tollefson, Denise Reinke, Karen Richter (Parish Nurse), Barbara Betlach, Denis Short, and Betty Zeh.

Sue Horton has retired from the committee after serving for over 10 years and we certainly appreciated all of her service. We are currently considering a person to take her place.

Lay Communion Ministry continues to provide home communion to shut-ins. Denis Short continues to be coordinator. Susan Vernon became a volunteer this year. There are now eight people who are trained to share communion, but not all of them are actively doing so. We hope to improve this service.

We continue to send cards of caring from the committee and church family to people who are ill, shut-ins, bereaved, or who have a special need of support. We sent 24 Thanksgiving cards this year. This continues to be a very valuable caring outreach.

One year "anniversary of Baptism" cards are being sent by Betty Zeh and Pastor Tollefson.

One year "memorial" cards continue to be sent. In addition, we have chosen a booklet titled "Healing Grief" that Pastor Tollefson is now giving to a family one month following the funeral service of a family member.

Prayer shawls/lap robes continue to be made by Willing Hands Knitting Ministry. The Care Committee continues to coordinate with them to see that people who would benefit from extra prayers and caring receive a shawl or robe. Pastor Tollefson continues to make visits and deliver these. There were 10 given out this year.

Baptismal blankets continue to be made by Willing Hands and are presented at the time of baptism.

Pastor Tollefson and Nan redesigned the list for "Prayers" which is in the Sunday Bulletin. They also created a procedure for names to be added to the list and the length of time the name will be on the list and how family can request that the name stay on the list longer when needed.

We sponsored a Ministry Fair this year with the help of all of the Ministries in the church. We continue to work closely with the Parish Nurses. The Food Pantry is continually restocked and extra food bags are in the church office work area for the secretary to give out as needed.

We are working on a memento for presentation to new members of the church.

The Care Committee members continue to be very dedicated, caring people who have the health, safety, and spiritual needs of the congregation in their prayers every day. The generous time and energy dedicated to this committee and the congregation is a continued answer to prayer.

Thank you,
Denise Reinke, Chairperson

2016 ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The following were members of the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Endowment Committee for 2016:

John McKay
Paul Schumacher
Don Rova
Mark Bergin
Joe Baker
Pastor Conrad Tollefson ex officio

Advisory Endowment Committee Member

John Gilbert

No scholarships were awarded in 2016 using Endowment funds.

A financial report was submitted to Prince of Peace Church Council reflecting December 31, 2016 status of the TDAmeritrade and is attached to this report.

Except for February, June and July, the Committee met at 5:30^{PM} on the second Tuesday of each month one hour prior to the Council meeting – this is the regular time for the Endowment Committee meeting.

The Committee requests suggestions, questions and comments from the congregation.

Respectfully submitted, Don Rova

**ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE COUNCIL
FOURTH QUARTER – 2016**

Balance information for the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund (TD Ameritrade account # 886-305090). The balance in the account increased \$907.06 after redeeming the Annual Distribution Amount.

December 31, 2016	\$301,245.97
October 1, 2016	\$300,338.91

A \$12,244.82 withdrawal from the account reflecting 4% of the December 1, 2016, balance of \$306,120.56 was received by the treasurer in December 2016 from TD Ameritrade.

On December 20, 2016, \$1,224.48 was placed in the Human Needs Fund from the Endowment account representing 10% of the \$12,244.82 withdrawal from the Endowment account. The balance of \$11,020.34 was placed in the (Endowment) Facilities BECU cash account.

During the fourth quarter \$115 was received as an addition to the corpus for a current total of \$215,818.58.

Based on treasurer provided information the following endowment provided funds are available as of January 1, 2017, for distribution at the direction of the council from BECU Money Market Account 3586217496.

Facilities (Endowment)	\$23,891.67
POP Scholarship	\$2,000.00

Total endowment provided funds available for distribution: \$25,891.67

2016 Endowment Committee

John McKay
Paul Schumacher
Don Rova
Mark Bergin
Joe Baker
Pastor Tollefson ex officio

Advisory Endowment Committee Member

John Gilbert

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The transition from 2015 was a difficult one. As attendance and giving continued to decline, we found ourselves once again facing significant financial decisions. The strategy going forward was to bring expenses in line with giving while ensuring the continued funding to key ministries. The projected shortfall was estimated in the \$20,000 range; in the end, our giving does determine the amount of ministry we are able to provide.

Giving is the funding source to pay for the expenses we incur. So where does that funding come from? 99% comes from the offerings we receive, either collected at Sunday Worship or through online giving programs. The remaining 1% represents rent from those we invite to use our facility. The majority of **Expenses** are those 60+ items you see in the Spending Guide - salaries we pay staff, the medical benefits we provide, utility bills, insurance payments, office and worship supplies, monetary support to fund ministries, and our benevolence commitments to the Synod and emergency human needs.

The Spending Guide put in place achieved its objective; we ended the year with giving and expenses in balance, giving at \$277,750 and expenses at \$277,419.

We end 2016 with no unpaid obligations; we are debt free and able to sustain the modest financial reserve that has been built over the past several years.

Looking ahead at 2017 - monitoring giving trends, adjusting expenses as necessary and working closely with the congregation council will be a priority.

Thank you to those who remained steadfast in giving and support, for that we are blessed and grateful.

*In His service! Your Finance Committee,
Bob Coning, John Kelly, Claudia Sawin, Andrew Smith, Sharman Thoma*

POP LAFF 2016 ACTIVITIES

In 2016 L.A.F.F., Lutheran Adults for Fun and Fellowship, held a variety of activities and events. The group includes singles or couples, a wide circle of individuals from PoP and their guests. (Some current participants have been regulars since the 1960's.)

Shared leadership is the hallmark of the organization. Watch the Banner, bulletins, bulletin board and email for the monthly announcements of activities.

Activities reach a large segment of the PoP congregation enhancing social interactions, building relationships and efforts to support PoP ministries.

Activities are aimed at bringing socialization, information, and fun to PoP adults and their guests, and offering service and support to PoP ministries. Hosts and hostesses organize, market, and carry out the planned activities nine to 11 months of the year with help from Deborah and Cindy to invite and inform attendees.

Thanks for input from everyone!!!

At the annual New Year Meeting/Potluck/Calendar Event + Sign Up in January 2016, 23 people suggested the agenda for 2016.

February 19 – Friday Movie Night - PoP Fellowship Hall; A positive film and great refreshments! Hosts: Nancy Hadley and Bob and Enid Coning.

March 18 – Friday Night Bunco - 6:45^{PM} PoP Fellowship Hall. Hosts: Ralph and Kathy Peterson and Art and Julie Landskov.

April - Lunch at the Pyramid Brewery. Tour at the Filson Building, one of Seattle's oldest successful manufacturers of outdoor garments. Hosts: Fred and Denise Reinke.

May - NO Event in May. Special focus on *the first anniversary of the Community Dinner*.

June - No special event in June. Plan to participate in WELCA love project and great fellowship Community Dinner 6^{PM} and last Evensong of spring at 7^{PM}.

July 9 – Saturday noon cookout at McKay's home. Burgers and hot dogs provided.

August – NO Event in August.

September 24 – Saturday Night Hi-Liners Musical - "Oliver" Mainstage Musical Fun! Hosts: Marilyn and Don Rova and Carol and John Gilbert.

(Saturday nights are our only choice since no show on Friday night; hard to get group for Sunday afternoon since weather is still so nice.) Arrive 6:30^{PM}; curtain 7^{PM}.

October - Oktoberfest! Friday Night October 28 PoP Fellowship Hall. Hosts: Judy and Ray Voeller.

Service + Helpers/PoP Harvest Festival - Helpers to give the party for kids, staff booths and cleanup.

November 16 - PoP Thanksgiving Dinner – turkeys, pies, helpers + cleanup.

December 4- Sunday - afternoon potluck at Landskov's followed by 7^{PM} Christmas concert at St. Luke's in Federal way - three church choirs (Grace Lutheran, St. Luke's Lutheran, St. Vincent's Catholic).

December 31 - 6^{PM} potluck on New Year's Eve (bring holiday leftovers) was canceled due to flu and weather conditions.

January 4, 2017 – Wednesday morning - help de-decorate church/Fellowship Hall.

LAFF serves as a communication link to reach out, offering services/support, Harvest/Halloween party helpers, help for the PoP community Thanksgiving, Christmas decorating and de-decorating, chili supper and caroling and others, as necessary.

Offer ideas or plan to host in 2017! Thanks for fun and fellowship!!

Cindy McKay

TUTORING (KIDREACH)

*Thank you,
Venessa Wheatley*

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY AT DES MOINES CREEK RESTAURANT

During 2016 the Weekly Bible Study breakfast meeting was attended by up to about a dozen people from 8^{AM} until 9:30^{AM}. This group meets every Tuesday morning except during the summer and the Christmas/New Year period.

The following sections of the Bible were read, reviewed and discussed in 2016:

Amos 6:1-conclusion
John 1:1 – 12:50

As we continue in John during 2017, you are invited to check in on any Tuesday at 8^{AM} that you can find time to meet with this group.

Attendees during 2016 included: Pastor Tollefson, Art Landskov, Don Rova, John Gilbert, Frank Jennings, Paul Schumacher, Paul Poehlman, Chuck Turner, Stan Skjeie, Bob Atkinson, Carol Gilbert, Denis Short, and Andrew Smith.

*Respectfully Submitted
Don Rova*

MUSIC MINISTRY AT PRINCE OF PEACE
2016 in Review

In service to Christ and his Church,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher J. Howerter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Christopher J. Howerter, Director of Music Ministries
popmusdir@gmail.com

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

The Parish Nurses for 2016 are Karen Carter, and Teri Struzenberg. We have provided volunteer parish nurse services to Prince of Peace for 17 years now.

Services that have been continued from 2015 are:

- Rite of Healing Service the third Sunday of every month during the church service. We prayed with and anointed 50 people this year, who requested that we pray with them for special needs for themselves, family, or friends. Many came back to us later to let us know that the prayers helped them and that they really appreciated the Rite of Healing Service.
- Blood pressure screening on the first Sunday of each month following the church service. This year we took 65 blood pressures. We referred a number of people to their physician because of high, unmanaged blood pressure, or who were taking blood pressure medication and appeared to need it adjusted. We made follow-up telephone calls to some of these people.
- Blood pressure screening and healing service together required 40 nursing hours. Counseling was provided during the blood pressure screenings regarding blood pressure management, exercise, nutrition, diabetes, depression, stress reduction, and medication questions.
- Health education topics for the congregation in general were provided via Banner articles and the Parish Nurse Bulletin Board.
- Individual health counseling and referral for many people was provided this year during home visits, telephone visits and visits in the parish nurse office. We prayed with people, helped them to find resources for medical care for themselves or for family members, and assisted them in finding alternative living arrangements when their physical condition required a change. We provided grief support and sat with families of dying family members, as well as arranging for help from others in the congregation to give these families support. At most of our visits anointing was also done.
- Coordinating and leading the Care Committee by Karen Richter. Details of this are in a separate report about the Care Committee.
- We have been reviewing the disaster and evacuation plans that the church has and assessed the need for more disaster supplies. This was an ongoing project for 2016 and will require the assistance of a committee.
- Denise Reinke has purchased food for our food cupboard. We fill sacks and bags for single and family people who stop into the office in need of help while Deborah is there.

By Karen Richter, RN

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP – 2016

The five teams of Partners in Worship work very hard each month to enhance the Sunday morning worship service. Each one of YOU make the teams successful as you are willing to take part in the services by reading the lessons, leading the prayers, ushering, helping with communion, being a greeter, or acolyte. Thanks to each one of you for being willing to share your talents on Sunday. We are the church and our service is our response to God as we serve Him and honor Him in our actions and in all that we say and do.

Thank you so much to the Partners in Worship leaders who call you and spend time working out the schedules. Your leadership and organization are appreciated so much. Thanks to Nancy Hadley, Jude and John Gustafson, Heidi Larson, Eileen Severns, Mark Bergin, Alice Malmanger, Cyndie Young, Carla Teigen and Dan Skjonsberg.

Judy Voeller Partners in Worship Coordinator

POP CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES/SUNDAY SCHOOL AND SPECIAL EVENTS

January to December 2016

In 2016, we introduced the important connection between Bible history and God's people and what it means to each of us today. The children helped to create the numerical description that we repeat often. **24/7/365/forever!**

Trust in God every day, every minute. God is with us each moment of our lives. We CAN put our trust in God. God is almighty. So we are in touch and in the presence of God 24 hours of each day; seven days a week and (recently added by the children) 365 days of the year now and forever throughout eternity.

Some of our **2016 highlights** included baptisms when we can take part in launching the faith life of our of our precious youngsters; Reformation - this year the 500th anniversary brought Martin Luther (played by Dan Skjonsberg) who taught us about the important roots of reformers who helped bring Christianity back on track after years of veering away from faith in a purer form.

Winter 2016 to Spring - The Bible exploration took us through the New Testament- the life of Christ, then especially highlighting the incredible life of Paul, from Saul to his transformation and travels preaching throughout the world. In the **Fall of 2016** we focused on the Old Testament, and left out much of the history of the patriarchs, instead focusing on some of the stories we have not taken time to visit as fully in the past seasons. The joy of learning from Jonah and Daniel and others important to God's plans was refreshing and wonderful. We look forward to next fall when we will once again visit the long history of the Israelites, with Moses and the lives of other patriarchs so important to our lives and faith history.

Special events give us an opportunity to invite friends who are not always with us, who may consider regular attendance in Sunday school in their future. The **PoP Egg Hunt** the day before Easter (March 26) is one of these when we are privileged to tell the most important story ever told of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection! We offer an egg hunt to two age groups, crafts that help tell the story, and most importantly - the story is told in posters and pictures, retold by Pastors Sam and Conrad, and repeated in a simple video presentation. It is the center of our outreach and reminds us all of the foundation of our faith, forgiveness, and redemption. **VBS** was not held in 2016 due in part to Cindy's conflicting obligations hosting a professional conference in Seattle. Pastor Sam offered a recreational family fun event with inflatables and more. Judy and Ray Voeller again hosted the **Harvest Festival** just before Halloween. They hope to invite and inspire new hosts for 2017, since they created the design and have carried it out for many seasons with assistance from great volunteers.

Joy to the World! - our 2016 Sunday school Christmas program/service - which allowed children to share in telling the story together with congregants, parents and grandparents; with musical direction and help from Chris Howerter and William Tollefson, and the joy of partnering with the congregation as we told the Greatest Story Ever...**together** on December 11. We thank an amazing list of volunteers - parents, grandparents and more for helping us offer the Saturday morning rehearsal, with costumes and special lunch for our program and supporting with so much love and care as we create the service together on Sunday. Special thanks to Pastor Tollefson for skillfully adapting the service to include our program and pageant!

Thanks **Judy Voeller, Diane Pierson and Pastor Tollefson** for great support for education, to William Tollefson and Charity Rasmussen for exploring music with/for our PoP kids! And to Nan, Deborah, and Chris Simonds for staff support throughout 2016. **Keep praying for our kids.**

Cindy McKay

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Remembering our statement of purpose:

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

In 2016 Prince of Peace Women had a busy year of learning and service. The following list will give a flavor for some of the happenings:

- Circles continue to meet the third full week of the month.
- Currently the women who attend the Circle Bible Studies used multiple topics and studies in the *Gather* magazine.
- Love projects included the Peace Shelter (socks, hats, and gloves, hygiene products), gathering of baby items, quilts and school kits for Lutheran World Relief, the Food Bank, back to school back packs, Hospitality House, and the Giving Tree.
- Ladies continued to gather on Thursdays to quilt. Quilts were sent to Lutheran World Relief in the spring and more in the fall. Graduating high school seniors were each gifted one as well. LWR says, "*Tied in Faith, Sent in Hope, Wrapped in Love.*" That is certain!
- 47 School kits were sent to Lutheran World Relief along with 109 quilts and 11 fabric kits.
- Women also helped organize and serve coffee hours this year following many memorial services, confirmation, and other celebrations, including one for our retiring secretary, Nan Larson. Circles continue to deliver flowers to the sick and those who are shut-in.

POP WELCA (Women of the ELCA) or locally WOPOPS (Women of Prince of Peace) is made up of diverse individuals and groups within the congregation. It is this cross section of talents that helps each offer their gifts to others and to the church. Many of these activities will be highlighted in different sections of this annual report.

Officers: President: Mel Schneider; V.P.: Cindy McKay; Secretary-Treasurer: Diane Pierson; Education Secretary: Julie Landskov; Stewardship Secretary: Gail Kelly; Circle Chairs: Enid Coning, Mary Ann Pray, Karen Richter, and Betty Zeh

WILLING HANDS -2016

We continue to supply about 28 blankets a month to the Highline Birthing Center. Through my surgery many of you have stepped up and helped getting the blankets on and off the altar and into the bags that Rosemarie provides to transport them in. The hospital is getting used to Kenny bringing in the blanket bag over his shoulder like Santa Clause. For some reason, they do not ask him if he made them as they used to ask me. I would need to say, "No, Rosemarie made them," and sometimes I could say, "these blankets came from my neighbor, Shirley, and the hats and booties came from Mary at Highline Veterinary, and the layettes were made by our own Janet." I was always happy when I had a blanket in the mix as well.

We had a very productive year with Ruth bringing in yarn on a regular basis and others of you gleaning yarn from yard sales and great clearance sales. Thank you. Jack may be gone, but he keeps leading. He and I were working on a new Ministry with our blankets. The nurses suggested we put a label on the blankets and that was all the permission I needed. Jack told me he would fund it and I went looking for labels. The best I could find were labels for \$3.50 each and that caused me to have a huge lump in my throat. We lost Jack and I thought that was the end of the project. There are angels among us. It was suggested to me that I ask Barbara Atkinson if she could do it as she does wonders with her sewing machine, not right now but when Christmas was over. Blessing fell from heaven. Barb came to the house with a three-month supply of labels. Oh, they are wonderful. Seems she couldn't sleep and just whipped up some samples, all of which are perfect for us. Bob helped with printing and we are in business. Barbara Betlach will be sewing the labels into the blankets. The blessings we have are overwhelming.

I do need to report that I asked about the cost of each label. The donation that the Atkinson's have made does not make the \$3.50 a label look so outrageous. As we move this project into place, we are now moving into active evangelism. God opens doors and provides. We need to be thankful. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

Yours in Christ, Kathy Hand

2016 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW MEMBERS

Sseba, Sam
Sseba, Samalie
Sseba, Corban

Sseba, Ceana
Sseba, Cristy

ADULT BAPTIZED

None

CHILDREN BAPTIZED

Golden, Olivia Rose
Horton, Luke Steven
Switzer, Hayden June
Wattenberg, Samuel Walter

CONFIRMATION

Bergin, Wren Ya Zhu

MEMBERS DECEASED

Amende, Evelyn
Arneson, Gladys
Beckstrom, Ruth
Bevers, Betty
Bock, Theodora
Grambush, Arleen
Hunziker, Marlys
Jones, Doris
LaPlante, Elva

Mark, Ione
Rhodes, Ilene
Schultz, John
Starkey, June
Struzenberg, Elmer
Struzenberg, Yvonne
Werner, Patricia
Wiesner, Richard

MEMBERS TRANSFERRED

None

MEMBERSHIP

	Baptized	Confirmed
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – January 1, 2016	359	301
<u>Accessions</u>		
Baptism of children (15 & under)	4	0
Baptism of adults (16 & over)	0	0
Affirmation of Faith	2	2
Transfer from ELCA congregations	0	0
Transfer from other Lutheran congregations	0	0
Transfer from non-Lutheran congregations	0	0
Baptized members confirmed	0	1
For other reasons and statistical adjustment	3	0
	9	3
<u>Removed from rolls</u>		
Death	17	17
Transfer to ELCA congregations	0	0
Transfer to other Lutheran congregations	0	0
Transfer to non-Lutheran congregations	0	0
Transfer to inactive status	0	0
For other reasons and statistical adjustment	0	0
	17	17
Total Membership – January 1, 2017	351	287

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 24, 2016**

The Meeting was called to order by President John Gilbert at 11:37 a.m.

Opening Prayer by Pastor Tollefson.

Spending Guide Presentation: John Kelly presented the 2016 Spending Guide, with a projected total of \$278,128, for approval. He noted that in 2015 there was a slow decline in attendance. The giving was down 4% while the expenses are up 1%. He noted that 99% of giving is what comes in each Sunday. \$3000 per year comes from the other churches that share our facility.

Everyone was given a copy of the spending guide that was highlighted with the changes for the new year. Some of these are:

- Office substitutes will not be funded. Nan's vacation time (four weeks per year) will not be covered. Volunteers will be needed to fill in on Mondays from 9-1:00 as Nan has decided to work only Tuesday-Thursday.
- The bookkeeper position will not be funded.
- The church van will be donated to Outreach Ministries, which eliminates the cost of insurance and maintenance.
- No funding for the director of music substitutes.
- Synod amount is cut by \$2,000.

The Parish Nurses and WELCA will receive the same amount as last year; they will be reimbursed for whatever they spend.

John also noted that we do have a five-month financial reserve of \$90,000. We have no mortgage and we are debt free.

Remarks: There was a question about the Emergency Human Needs Fund being cut by \$2,000. John Gilbert stated that contributions to that fund also come from the congregation and the Endowment Committee every year.

A motion was made to approve the 2016 Spending Guide. It was seconded and passed.

Pastor Tollefson took a few minutes to remember some of the members of Prince of Peace that we lost this year: Dorothy Colella-Ullrich, Lillian Stevens, Steve Horton and Jack Schultz. This is a reminder to value the people around you.

Electronic giving is being looked into, with details to come later.

February 1 is the blood drive at Prince of Peace, and February 14 is Bring-a-Friend Sunday.

Lenten Offering Selections; There are two selections this year detailed on the attached sheet.

1. Operation Nightwatch
2. The Sharehouse

Dan Skjonsberg moved to accept both and divide the Lenten Offerings equally between the two. The motion was seconded and passed.

Endowment Committee Report: John Gilbert reported that on the 1st of December each year 4% of the total fund amount is taken out and distributed in three ways. This year that amount is \$10,185, and after any fund expenses are paid, 10% is designated for human needs and the remainder for scholarships and physical projects for the church.

Nominations for Open Council Positions: A motion was made to elect Toni Maritima for the Nominating Committee and Chuck Turner for the Audit Committee. The motion was seconded and passed.

John Gilbert mentioned that two delegates are needed to attend the Synod Assembly this year in May.

There was a motion to approve the Minutes from the October Congregational Meeting. It was seconded and approved.

Closing: The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by, Signie Fowler

**2016 FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 6, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. by President John Gilbert.

Opening Prayer was by Pastor Tollefson.

Pastor Tollefson's Remarks: Pastor announced that two quilts, made by Judy Gustafson, would be raffled off between today and the next Congregational Meeting on January 29, 2017. The winners will be announced at that time. Proceeds from the raffles will go to support our Human Needs fund.

Pastor spoke about Prince of Peace and what our purposes are in the community. We struggle now to maintain membership. We need to work together to regain the excitement at Prince of Peace, increase our membership and, in doing so, continue to have a positive effect in our community.

There has been talk about using the land east of the church for possible low-income housing. We are just starting the conversations about this idea. Nothing will be done without a decision from the entire congregation.

Recognition and Thank You for Venessa Wheatley - Tutoring/Mentoring Director: Mel Schneider spoke about Venessa and all the time and energy she has given to the tutoring program over the years. Out of appreciation, she was presented with a tote bag and travel blanket made by Barb Atkinson. The bag was appliqued with Venessa's initials and a Lutheran Rose.

Election of Council Officers and Other Leaders: Special thanks were given to outgoing members of the Council. A list of the candidates for election was provided with the meeting handout material. A motion was made and seconded to elect all of the candidates on the list. The motion passed. Positions still needing to be filled at this time are Vice President, Treasurer, and one Council Member At-Large.

Selection of Thanksgiving and Christmas Offerings Recipients: There were four candidates for the special offerings: Reaching Out With Hope, Pediatric Interim Care Center, Highline Food Bank, and The Gideons International. It was moved and seconded that the donations be split evenly between the four of them. The motion passed.

Closing Prayer was by Pastor Tollefson.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Signie Fowler