

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & School
 14175 NW Cornell Road
 Portland OR 97229

Address Label



www.princeofpeaceclc.org

503-645-1211

Wednesday Lenten Series 4pm & 7pm

Week 1	Feb. 22	Forgive (Ash Wednesday)
Week 2	Feb. 29	Paradise
Week 3	Mar. 7	Behold
Week 4	Mar. 14	Forsaken
Week 5	Mar. 21	Thirst
Week 6	Mar. 28	Finished

Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday	Apr. 1	7:00 pm
Maundy Thursday	Apr. 5	7:00 pm
Good Friday	Apr. 6	7:00 pm
Easter Sunrise	Apr. 8	7:00 am
Easter Breakfast	Apr. 8	8:00 am
Easter Family	Apr. 8	9:15 am
Easter Festival	Apr. 8	10:30 am

Mission Statement

To Know Him and to Make Him Known

Vision Statement

Prince of Peace is a vibrant cross + generational Christian family. Lifelong Christian education defines and drives our ministry - we learn, love and teach about life with Jesus. The more we learn, the better we love each other, making our community of faith grow stronger. This bond empowers us to boldly serve our neighbors in ways that show them Jesus, and bring them to faith in Him.

PARISH PRINTS

Quarter 1 - Spring 2012

JOURNAL

March - April - May

Beginnings

Welcome to the newly formatted version of the Prince of Peace Newsletter. After some consideration as to what a newsletter needs to convey, your Leader-Team has opted to make this publication an opportunity for spiritual growth and inspiration.

The publication, a one-year experiment, will come out seasonally—Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter, and will convey seasonal themes as well.

We are encouraging you to not only read the materials, but encourage you to submit articles (office@princeofpeaceclc.org) for publication in this journal; faith-statements that define your life.

This issue, as it parallels the seasons of Lent and Easter in the Church Year, is entitled “From Grief to Glory”. We pray that it may be a blessing in your walk with God.



“From Grief ... ” Pastor Dan

Over the last several months, we at Prince of Peace have suffered



the loss of many loved ones. How do we deal with grief? How do we deal with loss?

I learned so much about my faith and life when Lin died. I had preached about the hope only

Jesus offers in times of grief for so many people over the years. But I never truly knew grief. Death removes a part of life in a most devastating way. Even the hope of the resurrection seemed unreal for a long time - my greater prayer was, “Why, God, did you take her away from me?”

I share these thoughts, because death hurts! It is the final enemy, even though we may know it as the only step that takes us from this life to the next. But a loss is still a loss. It is a painful process.

For the Journey

But there is good news in this as well. The folks at Prince of Peace were of great help to me in my grief.



May we be a strength to those among us who are grieving now. May we grow in our understanding: “from grief ... to glory!”

Relationships

C.S. Lewis penned a book in 1961 called "A Grief Observed."



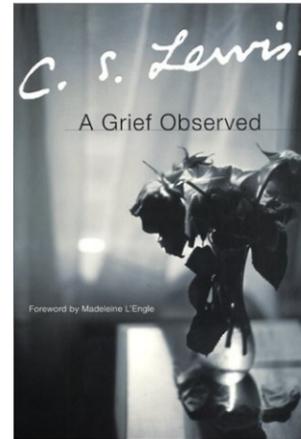
It was written as a journal of his thoughts after the death of his wife, Joy, in 1960. Though short

in length, 76 pages - it is truly long in depth and meaning. I remember reading the book in the seminary for a "practical ministry" class, and it made no sense. It read like a bunch of un-themed thoughts and feelings, with no direction or goal. That was years ago.

Having experienced the same kind of grief, I reread the book in the days after Lin's death and was greatly encouraged and uplifted.

We offer phrases of comfort to those who are grieving - "She's better off" or "He's in a far

better place..." but the recipients are almost oblivious to our words. They are not looking for 'pat' answers; they need to be heard themselves. "A Grief Observed" helps both the one grieving and the friend to understand the depth of grief and the depth of God's love.



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Service

imitating Jesus's compassion is to get to know our neighbors and become aware of their needs.

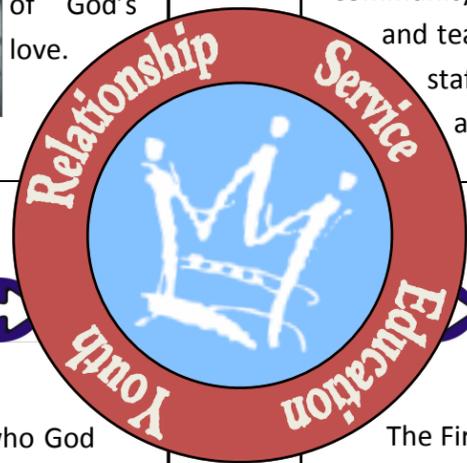
Intention: When we are aware of what our neighbors need, we can act with intention. This means deliberately looking for ways to meet some of their needs. It might be spearheading a food drive for the food pantry, or quietly sending a card or email to someone who is going through a difficult time. Serving with intention is a vital part of our new PoP vision statement - a way that we show Jesus.

Let's imitate Jesus, facing outward instead of inward, so we can know our neighbors and serve them with intention.



Imitating Jesus: Jesus cared deeply about people around him. He acted on that compassion - healing sick and disabled people, feeding the hungry, and speaking good news to people on the margins of society. He still cares today, and as his hands and feet on earth, we *must* follow his example.

Awareness: To serve our neighbors well, we must first know who they are and what they need. That can be a big challenge. We're deeply involved with our own PoP family. That's good - we love each other through deep relationships - but as we face inward we tend to spend less time in our community. How well do we know the students and teachers at Sunset High School, the medical staff at St. Vincent's, or the people who shop at the local grocery store? Our first step in



Youth

There is a popular phrase that gets tossed around regarding young people in our congregations, it describes them as "the future of the church". While



this sentiment may be well-intentioned, it fails to recognize the value and the very real contribution that our Youth make to the life of our Christian Community today, just the way they are; and how much they need the rest of us, who have travelled further down the road of faith, to embrace them, to help them see and develop the gifts they have to serve and thrive among us now, regardless of their age or maturity. As we reflect on the idea of "From Grief to Glory", understand that our young people deal with

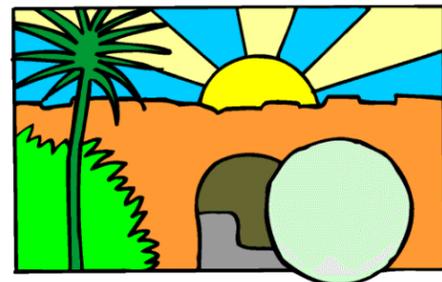
that process every day as they explore who God has made them to be: as they risk and succeed, and more so as they risk and fail and try again. In this often painful process of growing they need companions for the journey, mentors who can help them navigate and learn. Regardless of who works directly with our Youth, we must ALL see ourselves as "Youth Ministers" who will personally and intentionally take every opportunity to



acknowledge, support, affirm, and encourage our youth to know that they have an important place in this family of faith, both now AND in the future!

"... to Glory" Rich Schmidtke

The First Easter changed it all ... from a Day of Worship to the



"hope of our calling" as Jesus' followers. The early Christians knew Plato's understanding of life and death (the body goes into the earth, the soul goes to God), but couldn't fathom the "resurrection of the body." The Apostle Paul

corrected the heresy that prevailed, "If Christ is raised from the dead, how can you say there is no resurrection from the dead ... if the dead are not raised, then Christ was not raised." (reread 1 Corinthians 15).

Paul tells us about the principle of germination - the 'change' from a caterpillar to a butterfly - and reminds us that we must all be 'changed' if we are to live in the presence of a holy Almighty God.

The resurrection of Jesus brought about a new meaning to

Education

the word 'death'. Death took on the meaning of 'sleep.'

Tonight your sleeping pattern can provide a great illustration of death and resurrection. When did you fall asleep?

How long before you woke up?

No idea, right? Such is the pattern of death & resurrection. We die (on earth) and wake up in glory with new bodies!

"I believe in the resurrection of the body."

