

# DoveTales

The stories of how we Celebrate, Serve, Share & Strengthen



## Pastor's Message:

Welcome to the first issue of the bi-monthly newsletter entitled "Dovetales!" This metaphorical title and play on words is born of the symbol that we have peppered throughout our church grounds and in our various publications, the dove! In scripture, the dove is portrayed as an animal of peace, and, perhaps, most iconically, when Jesus is baptized, the gospel of Luke says that "the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in bodily form like a dove." It is also the bird that returns to Noah with a sprig of tree, communicating to Noah and the family that the flood waters had subsided. The dove is a symbol of peace and the bringer of good news!

This newsletter, which will be published every other month (February, April, June, August, October and December), is meant to highlight the ministries,

activities, and news of our congregation. In each issue we will have a letter from one of our pastors, some in-depth articles about happenings at Prince of Peace, and a review of special events that are coming and worthy of being marked on your calendar.

Even more than this, it is our hope that this tool of communication will serve to inspire your faith and help you to see the more holistic visions and mission of this congregation...by understanding how all of our myriad of activities, peoples, area events, and stories are "dovetailing" or coming together. We welcome article ideas, photos, and submissions by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. For example, the next publication will be April 1st, so the deadline is March 15th.

~Pastor Sara



## Music: The Condie Organ Series

Honoring Prince of Peace parishioners Dr. Michael and Joanne Condie, the organ series at Prince of Peace shares with the community the beauty and magnificence of live organ

music several times a year. Dr. Condie minored in organ as a premed student at Pomona College, and when the congregation's previous organ was clearly beyond repair stepped up along with his wife to make a substantial lead contribution covering half the cost of a beautiful new organ, which was then matched by donations large and small from many parishioners.

Our wonderful Allen Renaissance Quantum Q325 organ was installed in 2004 and has been bringing life to

hymns and songs, and joy to our congregation for 14 years now—something we are pleased and proud to share for many years to come with our whole community.

*Thank you Dr. and Mrs. Condie!!!*

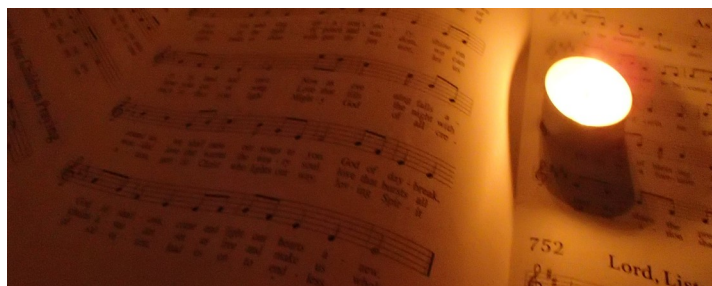
The next concert in the Condie Organ Series will feature POP's Michael Touchi presenting the majestic Concerto for Organ (with strings and tympani) by French composer Francis Poulenc, along with solo organ works by Saint-Saens and Trinitas for string orchestra by Anica Galindo.

**Sunday February 25, 2018 at  
7:30 pm.**

## Worship & Fellowship:

### Lent at Prince of Peace

Lent is coming! Ash Wednesday this year beautifully coincides with everyone's favorite Hallmark Holiday, Valentine's Day! This most fortunate collision of calendars will provide for us rich fodder to ponder both our mortality (remember that you are dust) and also the depths of love that we can experience when we let go of our fears and learn to love fully. **Join us for the imposition of ashes at either worship service, 11AM or 7:30PM.** You can worship with us in the evening and then enjoy time with your beloveds with ashes on your head, proudly proclaiming that you are neither afraid of love nor death! ☺ In all seriousness, if this is your first or one of many Ash Wednesdays that you have experienced, it is a powerful entrance into one of the holiest and most profound times of faith exploration. As you prepare for Lent, we encourage you to "take on" a spiritual practice for the season, based on your own physical, spiritual, or emotional needs. Perhaps you want to recommit to Bible study, or take special care about how you are spending money by limiting your purchases to only buying items for others. Perhaps you are feeling the strain of cold and flu season and want to walk or commit to a daily fitness routine. Each of these



ideas are part of a broader vision of understanding ourselves as holistic and cherished children of God. If you are interested in more ideas or exploring this conversation in anticipation of Lent, your local pastors are theological specialists in this time of year.

### SOUP AND SALAD SUPPERS

We will gather on Wednesday evenings for soup and salad suppers. We will eat at 6PM, worship with the music of Holden Evening Prayer, and spend time in conversation and relationship building as part of that worship. Join us as we explore what our identity is as disciples, members of Prince of Peace, and what our mission is for the world. These services, while meditative, are very interactive and great for all ages. Dates for the Lenten soup suppers are Feb 21, Feb 28, March 7, March 14, and March 21<sup>st</sup>. Keep an eye out for sign-ups for our soup suppers. It is potluck style, with some groups hosting and other nights designed as a communal pot luck. Come grow in faith, fellowship, and love with us!

## Reminder: Easter is April 1st!

*Celebrate*

# EASTER

at Prince of Peace

## Worship Services

**8:45 & 10:45**

*propeace.org*

**Breakfast**  
**9:15-10:45**

**Egg Hunt**  
**10:15**

## Coming Soon:

There is always a lot going on at Prince of Peace, even in winter. Please note the special events and changes to our calendar in the next two months. You can find all of these, plus our regularly occurring events, on our website at: [propeace.org/news-calendar](http://propeace.org/news-calendar). Get weekly reminders, details, and photos by signing up for our email list (through the office or website) or “Like” our Facebook page [facebook.com/popsaratoga](https://facebook.com/popsaratoga).

### February Special Events

3	Sa	Adopt-a-Highway: 7-10am
4	Su	9:45 am ONE Worship: New Members Join
7	W	Theology Pub 7:00 pm, Eureka! Cupertino
9	F	Game Night 6:30-9:00 pm Fellowship Hall
11	Su	Regular two worship Sunday
14	W	Ash Wednesday worship 11 am & 7:30 pm Brunch follows 11 am service
19	M	President’s day, office closed
19	M	Council Meeting (Lent sched.)
21	W	Lenten Soup & Salad Dinners 6 pm (choir host)
25	Su	Sr High Youth Fellowship Event 6-9 pm
25	Su	Trinity Shelter Meal Prep, 7-9 pm
25	Su	Organ Concert, 7:30 pm
26	M	Trinity Shelter Meal Delivery
28	W	Lenten Soup & Salad Dinners, 6 pm

### March Special Events

3	Sa	Choral Cosmo Concert at PoP
7	W	Lenten Soup & Salad Dinners 6 pm
11	Su	Daylight Saving Time begins— Clocks jump forward one hour overnight
14	W	Lenten Soup & Salad Dinners 6 pm
19	M	Council Meeting (Lent sched.)
21	W	Fellowship Lunch, Noon Hall
21	W	Lenten Soup & Salad Dinners 6 pm
25	Su	Trinity Shelter Meal Prep, 7-9 pm
26	M	Trinity Shelter Meal Delivery
29	Th	Maundy Thursday Worship, 7:30 pm
30	M	Good Friday Worship, 7:30 pm
31	Sa	Easter Breakfast Set-up, Time TBD

# Social Ministry



## Two New Initiatives to Serve Homeless Among Us

*"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40*

With the end of the rotating men's shelter in December a Social Ministry task force has been actively seeking new ways to sustain and expand Prince of Peace's ministry to the homeless. If you attended the January 14 and 28 FED discussions you heard about the task force's proposals to launch two new initiatives to support this ever-increasing, underserved population.

### WINTER SHELTER MEALS

As a continuation of our long-standing meal service ministry to those in need, Prince of Peace has agreed to provide dinner for 50 guests at the Trinity Church winter shelter in Mountain View on three Mondays: January 29, February 26, and March 26. Since the shelter will close mid-April, the task force is also exploring additional meal opportunities that will continue our commitment into the rest of the year.

Contact Jim Wilczak ([wilczak.jim@gmail.com](mailto:wilczak.jim@gmail.com)) if you'd like to volunteer to help with the Trinity meals or with planning the future of this important ministry.

### SAFE PARK

The task force is also exploring establishing a rotating evening safe park program at Prince of Peace in collaboration with other local churches. Hosting no more than 15 vehicles for a month at a time, the safe park would provide a secure evening respite for families and individuals living in their cars. The task force has been working with local government agencies and faith-based organizations and hopes to open the shelter in late spring. If you would like more information or would like to help with planning, please contact Norman Puck ([brthorchid@gmail.com](mailto:brthorchid@gmail.com)) or Bill Eklow ([eklow56@gmail.com](mailto:eklow56@gmail.com)).

# Youth & Children:



## Strengthening future leaders



### ELCA NATIONAL GATHERING

The ELCA National Gathering brings over 30,000 high school students and their adult mentors together once every three years. Their will be

worship, music, service, faith exploration and fellowship. This year seven students from Prince of Peace will be accompanied by both Pastors (a request of the youth themselves) to Houston, Texas. The trip is far, and expensive, so Prince of Peace will be helping with the costs. Please consider supporting their faith journey however you can: attending and donating to Easter Breakfast (April 1st), attending the Annual Youth Dinner (April 21st), donating a service for auction at the Youth Dinner, making a financial donation, saying a prayer, writing a note of encouragement, and most of all, supporting them in implementing ideas they may bring back to Prince of Peace. Watch the weekly emails for chances to get involved.

### VACATION BIBLE CAMP (FORMERLY VBS)

This year our summer activity for elementary students will be hosted by Mt. Cross. The theme is the same as the National Youth Gathering: "This Changes Everything."

**Dates have been announced for VBC, they are July 9-13th.** Vacation Bible Camp runs Monday – Thursday, 9am-3pm and Friday 9am-Noon. The website will be updated with sign-up forms as they become available. [www.propeace.org/children](http://www.propeace.org/children)

### Pastor Sara's Joke of the month:

*Some people just have a way with words, and other people ... oh ... not have way.*

~Steve Martin