



# The Good News

## The Message: Moving to a Season of Growth

June is the month in the church calendar where we begin 'Ordinary Time' – also known as the "Green" season. Where we begin counting Sundays as Sundays **after** Pentecost. This season explores the mission and life of the Church, as well as God's presence with us – breathing in and out everyday and everything. It is my hope that in this season of Ordinary Time, we here at Prince of Life, make it **extra-ordinary** and wallow a bit in a season of growth for ourselves. Curating a growth mindset and exploring our own mission and life right here in Oregon City.

A **growth mindset** holds a belief in effort, that talents can be developed through hard work, good strategies and input from others. It believes that learning comes from mistakes and failure is seen as a needed opportunity. Development of potential and holding space to be curious are processes that point to growth, while embracing challenges and being open to inevitable change help to move toward new understanding. Many studies have found that in organizations when people are intentional about building a growth mindset

everyone begins to feel empowered and committed to each other and the mission at hand. Input, collaboration and innovation find their way into everything – and for the benefit of the larger group and the on-going mission. And better yet – I would argue that Jesus is a proponent of a growth mindset as well.

Think about it! Jesus is more of a gardener than a carpenter. Good carpenters follow an exact plan filled with specifics to build what has already been decided upon. The quip is, "measure twice, cut once" and the outcome is measured for its accuracy to the intended plan. A gardener on the other hand is focused on supporting growth not outlining what it will be. They make room, tend soil, remove weeds and then let the growth happen. Success is measured differently, and each is given what it needs, not what was best for something else.

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# Council Corner

*Council Corner is a new, regular newsletter feature to keep members informed of work happening related to church governance. Council Minutes and the Constitution are also available for review on the Governance bulletin board.*

Hello from your council! We want to make sure everyone is aware of who the council members are and their roles, and feels free to reach out to us with any questions.

**President: Bryan Bowyer**

**Vice President: Annie Sakaguchi**

**Treasurer: Kristin Paschall**

**Secretary: Sarah Wheeler**

In addition to the officers, Council is made up of liaisons from the various committees of the church. Full details on each committee's scope and responsibilities are available in the Constitution starting on pg. 20 (a copy is available for review in the narthex). With this inaugural Council Corner we wanted to provide some brief details and contact for each committee. If you are interested in getting involved with any committee, please reach out to the respective liaison listed and they will get you connected.

**Worship Committee: Judy Cook**

Responsible for the services of God's house being conducted regularly. As part of that mission they are responsible for work support volunteers (users, acolytes, Altar Guild, musicians, etc.).

**Learning: Melissa Martenson**

Responsible for providing opportunities for learning and growing in faith for all ages in partnership with the Pastor. This includes children's education, confirmation, and adult education opportunities.

**Witness: Bev Spilseth**

Responsible for publicizing the life of the congregation and equipping it's members to share God's grace and love in our communities.

**Service: Becky Linke**

Responsible for equipping members to utilize their talents in ministries of service. They help equip lay members for visitation and coordinator work with the Oregon Synod, other churches and social service organizations in our community.

**Property: Paul Rickey**

Responsible for the stewardship of our building, grounds, and property. They oversee all maintenance, building use, and the purchase of any new equipment.

**Fellowship: Kathy Metzger**

Responsible for creating opportunities to bring people together and deepening relationships. They coordinate and schedule fellowship events, encouraging all members to get involved.

**Social Justice: Peggy Vermaas**

Responsible for providing information to the congregation about opportunities to address issues of injustice, including social justice programs of the Oregon Synod, ecumenical community.

Council is excited about the future. Pastor Sena planned a Council retreat on May 17<sup>th</sup> which provided a great opportunities to build trust and work as a team. We covered a lot during the retreat and are excited to share more about the outcome in upcoming newsletters. Stay tuned for more!

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# Enhancing Our Reach: The Blessings of an Improved Live Streaming System

Dear Beloved Members Prince of Life,

In our increasingly connected world, the ways we gather and share the Good News are constantly evolving. While our cherished sanctuary remains the heart of our worship, the opportunity to extend our reach beyond these walls has become a powerful tool for ministry. That's why we're excited to share some thoughts on the immense benefits of improving our live streaming system, and how it can further bless our congregation and community.

For many years, we have faithfully offered live streams of our services, allowing those who cannot physically be present to participate in worship. However, as technology advances and our needs grow, investing in enhancements to this vital system promises to bring a multitude of blessings:

## **1. Expanding Our Welcome Mat:**

An improved live stream isn't just about clearer pictures and crisper sound; it's about making our welcome mat even wider. For homebound members, those traveling, individuals with health concerns, or even prospective members exploring our church from a distance, a high-quality, reliable live stream means they can truly feel present and connected to our worship, sermons, and sacraments. It ensures no one is left out of our spiritual family life.

## **2. Nurturing Deeper Engagement:**

Imagine being able to clearly hear every word of the sermon, see the expressions of our pastor, readers and musicians, and feel the flow of the liturgy as if you were in the chairs. A professional-grade live

stream can significantly enhance the engagement of our online attendees. Better audio and video quality reduces distractions and allows viewers to fully immerse themselves in the worship experience, fostering a deeper spiritual connection.

## **3. Empowering Outreach and Evangelism:**

In an age where people often seek out information and community online, a robust live stream becomes a powerful evangelism tool. Prospective members can experience our worship style, hear our message of Christ's love, and get a true sense of our congregational spirit before ever stepping foot inside the church. High-quality streams can also be shared more easily on social media, amplifying our reach and spreading the Gospel to new ears and hearts.

## **4. Archiving and Discipleship Resources:**

With a better system, archiving our services becomes more streamlined and the quality of those videos archived significantly improves. This creates a valuable resource for ongoing discipleship – members can revisit sermons, share out on personal social media, catch up on services they missed, and we could better live stream special services like weddings, funerals or congregational meetings. It will continue to be a digital library of spiritual nourishment available whenever needed. Although we have been archiving services on YouTube using our current system, the quality and accessibility will be greatly improved.

## **5. Supporting Future Ministry:**

Investing in our live streaming capabilities is an investment in the future of our ministry.

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# The HOPE Project

It has been a long time since we built the garden here at Prince of Life. Time has taken its toll on the beds, with many now in disrepair and in need of maintenance. Our plan is to rebuild the beds as time and materials allow us to.

In the past we grew vegetables for the H.O.P.E (Helping Other People Eat) food pantry, with some years growing over 500 pounds of fresh vegetables for the pantry! The folks at the food pantry always appreciate fresh vegetables, as most of their food that is distributed is packaged. We would like to be able to do this again in the future.

World War II ended 80 years ago this year. One contribution to our success was the large number of people growing "Victory Gardens." According to one source I found on the internet, in 1943 42% of the food distributed to our troops came from these Victory Gardens. This food was grown by almost anyone who had some space for planting, and included organizations such as the Girl Scouts, and other service organizations (See the photo from 1943).

At the present we are fighting another battle, although it is a silent one. This battle is food insecurity. As most of you are aware, we gave a large amount of food to the HOPE pantry before Easter (Thank You!) There is and will continue to be an ongoing need for food at the pantry. Revitalizing the garden will allow us to supply the food pantry with fresh vegetables in the future. By the way, we can always use help with the garden.

Presently the garden is being used by three Girl Scout troops using some of the workable beds.



I do not know what or for whom they are growing, but they are certainly very welcome to use them. We are planning on getting the garden going for multiple users, including the food pantry.

In the meantime, I am making plant starts available to anyone interested to take home and grow. They don't have to be for the food pantry, but anything you want to grow and give will be appreciated.

In the end, we can all make a difference in assisting those facing food insecurity, either by growing food, or through donations.

Best regards,  
Kurt Torgerson



Year to date in 2025, HOPE has been serving more than 100 households per week.

The need is great! please continue to bring shelf stable food to church each week. Your contributions can be placed in the grocery card next to the elevator.

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# New Summer Faith Food Series

## The Great Unraveling: How We Found Ourselves in the Contemporary Religious Context

The series, immediately following service on Sundays throughout the summer, will help us explore the context of how we 'Church' and help us imagine how that will grow going forward. The dates and details on what to expect for each session are detailed below.

### **June 22<sup>nd</sup> : Basic Definitions & Historical Overview**

We will explore terminology and walk through a simple history of the church from colonial times to now. This will help us begin to "speak the same language" and ground ourselves in context, past and present.

### **July 6<sup>th</sup> : Survey the Landscape: Context and Contours**

What contexts and contours of society, faith and Church have shaped our lives? Where are we now?

### **July 27<sup>th</sup> : Different Missiology Strains**

We will explore together how Christianity has carried out mission across time and to what purpose and methods used. We will also explore how we embody our mission.

### **Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>: Rethinking Organization and Structures of Church**

Within what structures and formats is the church organized and how do these influence, block or enhance "success"? What about here at Prince of Life?

### **Aug 10<sup>th</sup>: Congregational Work Session: Finding our Mission**

Do we have a mission? What can we imagine going forward knowing what we know now and, in this space, and time? What is God calling us toward?

We look forward to having you join us!

## Green Planet

As federal environmental protections face weakening, a grassroots movement is gaining strength across the U.S., focusing on environmental rights rather than policy adjustments. Maya van Rossum, environmental attorney and founder of the Green Amendments For The Generations movement, returns to Sustainability in Your Ear to discuss the states' response to cuts to federal environmental regulations.

Now more than ever we need to care for our planet. Peace, Carol



**Scan to listen to the  
podcast**



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# A Season of Growth Continued

## CONTINUED FROM P. 1

Jesus is focused more on engagement not performance. Most of His teaching comes in the form of story or riddle because its not about the story its about drawing you into it. This is why a parable sounds just as fresh today as it did 2000 years ago. And finally, Jesus shows us that everything is grace. That we are free beloved beings created in love, that God is a God of boundless compassion, endless forgiveness and life is best lived in joyfulness with the hope of renewal and salvation under everything we do. We are often told, in a round about way, that God is more interested in who you are **becoming** than God worries about who you are right now. If we keep ourselves humble, open and curious – if we are brave enough to ask for help – and find our courage to take the first step and try, we will find that our ordinary lives begin to grow and reach upwards toward extraordinary.

I will close with these four questions for you to ponder and grow with:

- How are you growing?
- Where do you need to grow?
- How will you ask for help?
- How will you engage today?

*Psalm 1: 1-3 (The Msg)*

*How well God must like you— you don't walk in the ruts of those blind-as-bats, you don't stand with the good-for-nothings, you don't take your seat among the know-it-alls. Instead you thrill to God's Word, you chew on Scripture day and night. You're a tree replanted in Eden, bearing fresh fruit every month, Never dropping a leaf, always in blossom.*

**Peace and grace,  
Pastor Sena**



## CONGRATULATIONS SKYLER, 2025 OHCS GRAD

Blessings as you  
begin your next  
chapter at Clackamas  
Community College!

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# Enhancing our Reach Continued

## CONTINUED FROM P. 3

It equips us to adapt to changing needs, embrace new technologies for sharing the Gospel, and ensures that Prince of Life remains a vibrant and accessible spiritual home for generations to come. Prospective attendees make decisions within the first few minutes of any online content they encounter.

As we prayerfully consider the next steps in enhancing our live streaming system, we invite you to imagine the possibilities. This is more than just technology; it's about expanding our capacity to love, serve, and share the transformative power of God's grace with even more people.

As of writing this article, your Council has approved the purchase of two new cameras and other equipment which will be professionally installed and all users fully trained on the new system.

To best serve our goal of high-quality live streaming, we will also need to shift the sanctuary into a slightly different configuration. This will involve moving the pulpit and musicians to the right side of the sanctuary and shifting seating slightly to the left.

This shift was recommended by Blackline Productions as part of their overall strategy to enhance our worship space and streaming experience. The new cameras will have better viewing angles, the backdrop will be more pleasing, and the musicians can be more centralized versus being on the far side of space. As part of the process involved in all change, we welcome questions and ask for your support in this exciting endeavor.

**In the Peace and Grace of Christ,  
PLLC Council and Pastor Sena**

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## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

June 9th from 2-7:00 PM Monday  
REGISTER : get the app at  
[redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) or  
1 (800) 733-2767



Those who come to give in June 1-30, 2025.  
Will receive a \$15 Amazon.com gift card by email.

And will be automatically be entered for a  
CHANCE to win one of two \$7000 gift  
cards (terms apply).

## The Wheelers are Celebrating a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

David and Nancy will have been married for 50 years on June 21st.

Because David is homebound, they are having small groups of people coming to their home, throughout the summer to help them celebrate. If you would like to come for a visit, desserts, coffee, etc., please contact Nancy Wheeler at [dgwheeler\\_7@msn.com](mailto:dgwheeler_7@msn.com) or 503-577-7285.

All are welcome!

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**Welcome Summer!** Greetings from your Fellowship liaison.

Let's continue to enjoy coffee and time together each Sunday. Volunteers can sign up online or the clipboard in the narthex. We will resume potluck Sundays in the Fall.

Kathy Metzger

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# June Celebrations

## Birthdays

- 1 CJ Salter
- 4 Rebecca Harms
- 6 Barbara Renken, Aidyn Worthy
- 9 Steve Sakaguchi
- 10 Adrian Garcia
- 11 Traci Anderson, Larry O'Dea
- 15 Lars Torgerson
- 16 Bert Cranston
- 17 Kathy Haydon
- 19 Barb Haberlach, John Mohlis
- 21 Tyleen Conrow, Nathan Wheeler
- 22 Debbie Mohlis, Kody LaCrosse
- 30 Liv (Torgerson) Sherwood

## Anniversaries

- 3 Chris & Molly Hulett
- 8 Nancy & Harlow Jacobson,  
Lyle & Linda Wiese
- 9 Alana and William Morgan
- 10 Chris & Richard Sternberg
- 11 Annie & Steve Sakaguchi
- 13 Larry & Margaret Murphy
- 15 Larry & Kay O'Dea
- 17 Jerry & Judy Cook
- 18 Paul & Mary Swanson
- 20 Bert & Carol Cranston
- 21 Dave & Nancy Wheeler
- 24 Scott & Karlynn Salter

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## HELP US WELCOME OUR NEW ADMINISTRATOR

Our new church administrator, Sarah Forsythe-Insley will be joining us for worship on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Join us as we welcome her.

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## THANK YOU FROM EDITH

Dear Prince of Life Family,

Thank you for the wonderful send-off on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

I have felt blessed to be a part of your congregation for the past five years. It has been an honor to be a part of your ministry. The blessing in worship and the party and gifts that followed were the icing on the cake!

May the Lord's blessing continue to enrich your ministry.

Love and Peace,  
Edith Sanguinetti Alben



Father's are a blessing that help us better know and understand the love of our Father in Heaven.

This month we give thanks and celebrate all the Fathers and Father figures in our lives that help to guide and shape us into who we are today. Blessing on your special day! We also acknowledge that many have lost fathers, or never had a good relationship with their father, we hope anyone feeling that way has a gentle Father's Day.

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## COMING UP AT PRINCE OF LIFE

- June 8<sup>th</sup> Pentecost & Graduate celebration
- June 15<sup>th</sup> Holy Trinity Sunday & Father's Day
- June 22<sup>nd</sup> Faith Food series begins
- June 29<sup>th</sup> Healing Service



# June Calendar

1 9:30am Worship Sanctuary & Zoom*	2 4:30 Scouts	3 4:30pm Worship Committee	4 10am Hebrews Bible Study 4pm Music Rehearsal 4:45 Navigators USA 6:30 Recovery 1	5 9am Peace by Piece Quilters 6:15pm Scouts	6	7
8 9:30am Worship Sanctuary & Zoom*	9 2pm Red Cross Blood Drive  4:30 Scouts	10 6pm Private Event  7pm Council Meeting.	11 10am Hebrews Bible Study 4pm Music Rehearsal 4:45 Navigators USA 6:30 Recovery 1	12 9am Peace by Piece Quilters 9am Social Justice & Learning 12:30 OC Women's Club 6:15pm Scouts	13	14
15 9:30am Worship Sanctuary & Zoom* 10:30am Coffee Hour	16 4:30 Scouts	17 10am Material Girls Quilt Group 12pm Men's Lunch @ Wichita 6pm Private Event 7pm Private Meeting	18 10am Hebrews Bible Study 4pm Music Rehearsal 4:45 Navigators USA 6:30 Recovery 1	19 9am Peace by Piece Quilters 6:15pm Scouts	20 6:30 pm Family Game Night	21
22 9:30am Worship Sanctuary & Zoom* 10:30 Faith Food Series	23 4:30 Scouts  7pm Private Volunteer Event	24 6pm Private Event	25 10am Hebrews Bible Study 4pm Music Rehearsal 4:45 Navigators USA 6:30 Recovery 1	26 9am Peace by Piece Quilters 12pm Backpack Buddies 6:15pm Scouts	27	28
29 9:30am Worship Sanctuary & Zoom* 10:30am Coffee Hour	30 4:30 Scouts					

*\*Service recordings available on YouTube after Noon*

## Fellowship Highlights

### Monthly Potlucks will resume this Fall

See P. 7 for details

### Men's Lunch June 17<sup>th</sup>

3rd Tuesday each month. Men are invited to meet in Oregon City's Wichita Pub at 12pm for food and fellowship. Need a ride? call Harlow Jacobson at 503-656-1616.

### Family Game Night June 20<sup>th</sup>

Join us at 6:30 with your favorite board game and a Potluck dish to share.

PRINCE OF LIFE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
13896 S. MEYERS RD  
OREGON CITY, OR 97045



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## Prince of Life's Welcoming Statement:

The love and mercy of God move us to welcome all people,  
including those who have ever felt excluded because of race, sex, age, sexual orientation,  
gender identity or expression,  
physical or mental challenges, addictions, imprisonment,  
economic status, family status, or anything that might divide us.

Whatever your country of origin or ancestry,  
wherever you are on your journey of faith,  
we welcome you.

**Our unity is in Christ.**

**PRINCE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ALL ARE WELCOME! We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.



*To know the love of God in Jesus Christ, and to share that love through word and action*

phone: 503-657-3100  
[www.princeoflife.org](http://www.princeoflife.org)