



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & School

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December 2025



ALTAR FLOWERS

Given to the Glory of God:
12/21 by Rich & Mimi Perkins

Office Hours

Tues -Thurs 9am – 1pm
Friday, by appointment only

Merry Christmas & Happy New Years!

Dear Church,

Advent begins the church year because the church year begins where Jesus' earthly life began — in the Old Testament prophecies of his incarnation. *After Advent comes Christmas, which is about his birth; then Epiphany, about his miracles and ministry.*

Advent traditionally starts on the Sunday closest to St. Andrew's Day (November 30th) and continues for four Sundays until Christmas. During this time the liturgical paraments and vestments change to violet to recognize Advent as a time of preparation and repentance as well as a symbol of the royalty of the coming King. Blue can also be used as a symbol of anticipation and hope.



The First Candle is called the **Hope** Candle. The Second Candle is called the **Love** Candle. The Third Candle is the **Joy** (Pink) Candle. In Latin the word is *Gaudete* – to “rejoice” which is taken from Philippians 4:4, “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!” The Fourth Candle is called the **Peace** (or Purity) Candle. In the Center is the white **Christ Candle**. It is also lit during the Christmas Season.

As we prepare for Christ's second coming and look back at the incarnation, may God bless you so that you might be a blessing to others.

In Christ, Pastor

Peace, Joy, and Blessings:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years from the Board of Elders.

BoE Update:

The congregation should be aware that Brian Houck has resigned as a PoP elder. He still holds his position as trustee.



The Latin word *adventus* means to come. There are two perspectives that Christians focus on – the coming of Jesus as a baby and his second coming to judge the world. One petition in the Lord's prayer is “*Thy Kingdom come.*” Luther writes in his Small Catechism under What does this Mean? “The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.”

One widespread tradition is the use of an Advent wreath both in the church and the home to mark each Sunday in the Advent season. The origin of this as an Advent tradition dates to the Lutheran church following the Reformation. The circle is without beginning or end and the green holly is ever green representing our eternal God and the eternal life he gives. *Each Sunday we light a candle to remember that Christ is the light of the world.*



Memorial/Special Gifts:

This committee consists of three church members whose purpose is to give families a way to remember a loved one after their death. Our beautiful sanctuary is filled with memorial gifts. Every memorial is written in our memorial book where it remains as a part of our church history. Our committee is the first stop for every memorial request. We have several choices available but we are open to suggestions, including some around the church grounds and the Columbarium. Final selections are approved by the elders and then dedicated to the glory of God. Special gifts are those not memorial. Gifts can be from members or committees within the church. They need to bring any request to the memorial committee. For a special gift, space is a consideration, however we are here to be of service to all of you and in that way to give honor and glory to God. Lynn Scarcelli, 757-580-3270.

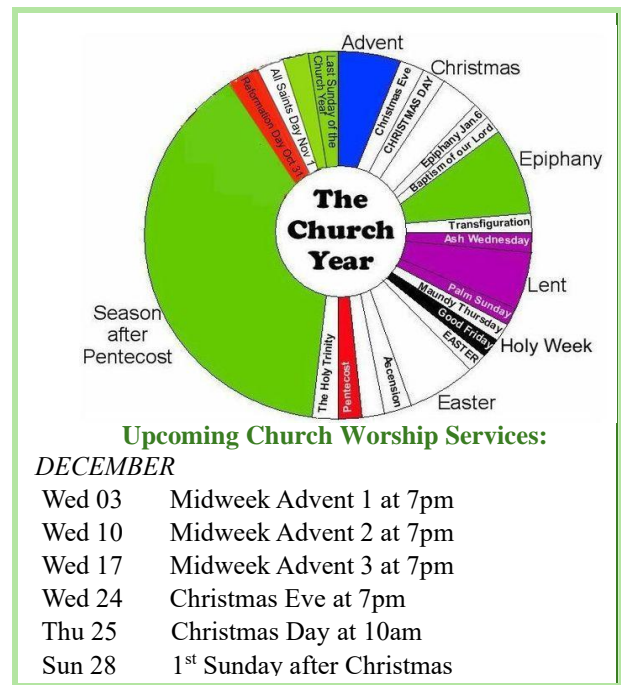
YouthLead – LCMS:

<https://www.lcms.org/youth-ministry/youthlead>

For 40 years, YouthLead has equipped teens to develop and use their leadership skills as they serve Christ within their congregations and communities. We offer resources, training, and mentorship to equip high school youth to lead now and into the future.

Our annual leadership training event is facilitated by the YouthLead Executive Team. With a different focus each year, the event gives teens the tools they need to mature in their faith, become leaders in their congregations, and reach out to their peers with the love of Christ.

YouthLead is now looking to the future with the development of additional resources aligned with the 7 Practices for Healthy Youth Ministry. This will include resources for adults who mentor and champion young leaders, potential regional conferences and connections to other programs like LCMS Servant Events and the LCMS Youth Gathering.



YouthLead Training — 2026

LCMS Youth Ministry will host a YouthLead Training event Thursday, March 19, to Sunday, March 22, 2026, in St. Louis.

This year's curriculum focus will be on apologetics, including how to understand and share Scripture and the resurrection of Jesus. Along with learning to teach this curriculum, we will lead youth in leadership skill development and building relationships with other young leaders. Registration for youth and adult leaders is open until spots are filled or until February 25.

YouthLead Servant Event — 2026

LCMS Youth Ministry will host its first YouthLead Servant Event, which will blend a week-long service project with leadership training, June 14-19 in Indiana.

Training resources

As a part of the annual training, YouthLead resources are video-based, easy for young people to lead, and focus on topics key to youth discipleship. This curriculum is available for use in conducting events in your congregation or district. For more information about the training materials, email youth.ministry@lcms.org.

Fellowship Events:

The annual PoP Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 5th. Event will begin with decorating the church for Advent at 4:00pm, then move into the Christmas party at 5:00pm. Dinner will be provided for all attendees. Event is free and appropriate for all ages. There will be NO 3rd Friday Fellowship in December (because of Christmas party on Dec 5th). Please see sign-up sheet. Contact Alexandria Zaken for questions.

Outreach Event:

Outreach starts the **Baby Bottle Campaign** on November 30th until December 30th. This is for the Crisis Pregnancy Center. Bottles will be on the Christmas tree in the narthex. People can pick up the bottles and follow the directions on the tag. Any questions call Gail Laughrey 757-408-1956.



Prince
of Peace
PRESCHOOL

Bible Studies & Lunch Meet Up:

Discover all the opportunities to learn & grow in your Christian faith with the PoP family on the paper calendar, Narthex screens, & at princeofpeacevb.org. Also available is a sign-up sheet for the Prime Timers lunch on Dec. 17 at 11:30a. Location: Surfrider's, 995 Providence Rd., VB.

Funday on Sunday was a Success!

I give special thanks to everyone who came together on this special project for the Sunday School children and their families. Next year, we will have this Funday in September. Lately, children have been coming in late to our Sunday School class. We hope that it is not interrupting our Adult Bible Study too much. Some of them have parents that are working and others do not know all of our procedures yet as they are new and welcome to our Sunday School and church. Those that can be on time are asked to follow through with Music at 9:45 am and Sunday School at 10:00 am. Those that know the schedule are asked to come on time. The Sunday School children are also preparing for a Children's Sing-A-Long on December 21, 2025 - you are all invited with Cookies, cake and punch afterwards. We are coming from Music at 10:00 am so that our music director can attend Adult Bible Study, and the Church musicians can practice. We then have a short lesson and have to 'march' back out again. Please forgive us for any interruptions for now. We invite you all to attend the Sing-A-Long for the Christmas hymns that we all love and enjoy. The Congregation participates with the children's program. Please come and enjoy our Sunday School children's program and punch and cookies afterwards! Join us at 10:00 on Sunday December 21, 2025.

PoP Preschool News & Events:

The annual Fall Festival was held on October 21st and was attended by many of our PoPP families. We appreciate the help again this year from church members Caroline, William and Matthew Light. The children enjoyed celebrating Mr. Dale's 99th birthday with balloons, posters, cards and chocolate cake! We love Mr. Dale and appreciate all his hard work for Prince of Peace.

Pastor Mark Nieting shared his trains and extensive train knowledge with our preschoolers on November 19th. The children were so excited to see "Thomas the Tank Engine."

We still have three openings in our 4-year-old class if you know anyone looking or new to the area.

Contact PoPP Director, Alicia Mangels,
for enrollment information, 757-340-3033.



JOY

<https://www.princeofpeacevb.org>



PoP's website is *the best source* to find the most current & up to date information on *all* of PoP's news, events, & calendar items. And it's always available for you, 24/7. Visit often!



January Newsletter:

PoP's monthly newsletter & calendar are published monthly, once a month. The January issue will be published on/about December 23. Volunteer schedules for the January issue are due by December 11. All news articles & calendar items for the January issue are due by December 16. Email updates are sent on Wednesdays, *if necessary*.



HOLY COMMUNION STATEMENT

In the Sacrament of Holy Communion our Lord Jesus comes to us with **His very body & blood** to eat & to drink **for the forgiveness of sins & to strengthen our union with Him & with one another**. He invites to His table those who trust His words, **repent of all their sin** & forgive & love one another as He forgives & loves us.

Because those who eat & drink our Lord's body & blood unworthily do so to their great harm & because **Holy Communion is a confession of the faith** which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation & the LCMS, & yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to **speak with the Pastor before communing**. *For further study, see Matt. 5:23ff, 10:32ff, 18:15-35, 26:26-29; Acts 2:38, 42; 1 Cor. 10:16, 11:17-34*

Other Christians & children who have not completed instruction may come forward, cross their arms over their chest & receive a blessing. **During distribution, the Individual Cup will be offered first followed by the Common Cup**. For those who prefer it for any reason, the cups in **the center of the tray contain a grape juice option**. Please let the pastor know if you need a **Gluten Free wafer**. Before communing, we ask that first time guests & visitors please speak with the Pastor. **During distribution, the Individual Cup will be offered first followed by the Common Cup**. For those who prefer it for any reason, the cups in **the center of the tray contain a grape juice option**. Please let the pastor know if you need a **Gluten Free wafer**. Before communing, we ask that first time guests & visitors please speak with the Pastor.

Merry Christmas



IN OUR PRAYERS, WE REMEMBER....

HEALTH, HEALING & GOD'S CARE

Healing:

Cheryl Hendricks

Continuing Health & Life Struggles:

Rosemary Saunders (Sal Ferrera)
Bobbi Johnson (Bill Bussey)
Ellen Westbrook
Herb Boomhower

Comfort & Sympathy:

Family of Trey Shawyer
Family of Jimmy Lewis
The Meise Family

Confirmands:

Connor MacMaster
Elinor MacMaster
Alden Campbell
Julia Wilson
Rachel Wilson
Luke Prince

Home Bound:

Thelma Sinnen
Maurita Keplar
Janice Stenglein
Miriam Larkin

Merle & Barbara Endsley
Jeff Kocab
Helga Koehn
John Mazuch

Active Military/Deployed:

Justin Vennard
Kenneth Zaken
Matthew Campbell
Ben Clarke
Jesse Kemper
Chris Keller
Beau Bartlett

Missionaries:

Rev. Steven & Martha Mahlburg in Sri Lanka
Rev. John & Aimee Cima in Cambodia
Rev. George & Lorna Meeker in Kenya

Prayer Requests:

Please contact your Elder or the Church Office to be placed on the prayer list, if you are hospitalized, ailing, or would like a visit at home or hospital.

Prayer requests are active for *4 weeks*. To *renew or revise* your request, please contact your elder or the church office.

CELEBRATING IN DECEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

12/01 Brian Hess
12/02 Grayson Cleverly
12/08 Mary Helbig
12/17 Henry Equels
12/17 Mark Nieting
12/23 Crystal Lynn Equels
12/23 Lee Heup

12/27 Martha Schwenk
12/27 Lori Jones
12/27 Lauren Foley
12/28 Sal Ferrera
12/28 Mauritta Keplar

ANNIVERSARIES

12/20 Jim & Cindy Clark
12/20 Kenneth Murphy & Khadijah Al-Dahwah
12/27 Andrew & Kristina Connell

DECEMBER 2025

SERVING AT PRINCE OF PEACE-LCMS

Subject to Change; *= To Be Verified; (E)=Early Service (L)=Late Service; Kindly, work with another volunteer notifying Leader or Elder of day if change is required.

ELDERS (Leader: Pastor; Head Elder "B")

First Sunday Service -8:30am and 11am: **Ryan Light, Elder C**
Second Sunday - 8:30am and 11am: **Bill Leveille, Elder B**
Third Sunday - 8:30am and 11am: **Bill Leveille, Elder B**
12/24 Bill Leveille, Elder B **12/25 Bill Leveille, Elder B**
Fourth Sunday - 8:30am: **Brian Hess** and -11am: **Lee Heup**

READERS (Leader/Scheduler: *Sandy Sainsbury*)

12/07 (E) Jack Spencer **(L) Rich Perkins**
12/14 (E) Joan Harris **(L) Carol Sinibaldi**
12/21 (E) Shawna Gugel **(L) Sharon Sides**
12/24 * **12/25 ***
12/28 (E) Robin Phelps **(L) Michele Wilson**

ACOLYTES (Leader: *Pastor & Elder of Day*; Training: *Ryan Light*)

12/07(E) Matthew Light **(L) Joshia Wilson**
12/14 (E) Connor MacMaster **(L) Brian Houck**
12/21 (E) Luke Prince **(L) Connor MacMaster**
12/24 * **12/25 ***
12/28 (E) Daniel Hess **(L) Julia Wilson**

USHERS (Leader/Scheduler: *Sandy Sainsbury*)

12/07 (E) Sandy Sainsbury / Dale Harris
Jesse Kemper / Kenny Zaken
(L) Antar Wilson
12/14 (E) Katy Sullivan /Clayton Tauscher
(L) Bob Sinibaldi
12/21 (E) Sandy Sainsbury / Dale Harris
Jesse Kemper / Kenny Zaken
(L) Antar Wilson
12/24 * **12/25 ***
12/28 (E) Katy Sullivan /Clayton Tauscher
(L) Bob Sinibaldi

COMMUNION SERVERS* (Leader/ Scheduler: *Elder of Service*)

12/07 (L) Ryan Light
12/14 (E) Jarett MacMaster
12/21 (L) Bob Sinibaldi, Lee Heup or Mike Bumbaco
12/25 *
12/28 (E) Buck Haney

SUNDAY SCHOOL

(Leader: *Michele Wilson*)
12/07 Kathryn Lambert
12/14 Kathryn Lambert
12/21 Kathryn Lambert
12/28 Kathryn Lambert

COUNTERS

(Scheduler: *Mike Bumbaco*)
12/07 Gene & Kathryn Lambert
12/14 Scott & Robin Phelps
12/21 Bob & Carol Sinibaldi
12/24 Mike Bumbaco & Lee Heup
12/28 Antar & Michelle Wilson

GREETERS (Leader/Scheduler: *Gail Laughrey*)

12/07 (E) Lynn Scarcelli / Brian Houck
(L) Kathryn Lambert
12/14 (E) Lynn Scarcelli / Katy Sullivan
(L) Bob & Carol Sinibaldi
12/21 (E) Lynn Scarcelli / Sandy Sainsbury
(L) Vina Gerber
12/24 * **12/25 ***
12/28 (E) Lynn Scarcelli / Gail Laughrey
(L) Antar and Michele Wilson

A/V BOOTH (Leader: *Robin Phelps*; Scheduler: *Gene Lambert*)

12/07 (E) Gene Lambert **(L) Mike Bumbaco**
12/14 (E) Scott & Robin Phelps **(L) Scott & Robin Phelps**
12/21 (E) Gene Lambert **(L) Mike Bumbaco**
12/24 (E) Scott & Robin Phelps **12/25 Mike Bumbaco**
12/28 (E) Gene Lamber **(L) Mike Bumbaco**

MARQUEE (Leader: *Pastor & Head Elder*)

Serving: **Bill Bussey**

ALTAR GUILD (Leader & Scheduler: *Gail Laughrey*)

First Sunday Service -11:00am **(L) Sharon Sides or Sinibaldi**
Second Sunday - 8:30am **(E) Gail Laughrey and/or ***
Third Sunday - 11am **(L) Bob and Carol Sinibaldi or Sides**
Fourth Sunday - 8:30am **(E) Gail Laughrey and/or ***
Fifth Sunday - 10am **(Only Service, as applies)**
Filling candles & changing seasonal banners: **Matthew Light**

FEEL CALLED TO SERVE AT PoP?

Volunteers always welcome! Share your time & talents while deepening your faith, building fellowship, & sharing God's love. Contact Stewardship Committee Leader, Mary Jo Haney. Then, speak with the Leader or Scheduler of the service team you are interested in to learn more.

Feel free to step in & help as needed anytime.
Know that you are welcome & appreciated.
No experience necessary. Training provided.



Advent 2025 Volunteer Schedule

Wednesdays at 7:00pm in December

Elder:

12/03 Ryan Light, C
12/10 Lee Heup, D
12/17 Brian Hess, E

A/V Booth:

12/03 Gene Lambert
12/10 Scott & Robin Phelps
12/17 Mike Bumbaco

Readers:

12/03
12/10
12/17

Ushers:

12/03
12/10
12/17

Greeters:

12/03
12/10
12/17

Acolytes:

12/03
12/10
12/17

Altar Guild:

12/03
12/10
12/17

Counters:

Advent Offerings counted
on the following Sunday
12/24 Offering counted
on 12/25

December 2025 – Master Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 30	Dec 1	2	3	4	5	6
<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM 5th Sunday Worshij</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">11 AM 5th Sunday Pot-L</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">12 PM Worship Commit</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">1 PM Woman's Bible</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Bell Choir Prc</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">7 PM Board of Christi</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">9 AM Men's Bible Stur</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">12 PM Large Print</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Good New Cl</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">7 PM Advent Service</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Lawn Care</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4 PM Church Christmas</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8 AM LWML Advent Bre</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM Praise Team Pr</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">2 PM LWML Advent Tea</div>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Traditional W</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">9:45 AM Voter's Meeting</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">11 AM Blended Praise</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Bell Choir Prc</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">5:30 PM PoPP Christmas Pr</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">12 PM Large Print</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">5 PM Board of Elders Me</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM Commonwealth</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Good New Cl</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">7 PM Call Committee</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">7 PM Advent Service</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Lawn Care</div>		<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Trustee's Me</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM Praise Team Pr</div>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Traditional W</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">9:45 AM Adult Bible S</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">11 AM Blended Praise</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">1 PM Woman's Bible</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Bell Choir Prc</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">9 AM Men's Bible Stur</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">12 PM Large Print</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">7 PM Church Council</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">11:30 AM Prime Time</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Good New Cl</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">7 PM Advent Service</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Lawn Care</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">5:30 PM Fellowship Frid</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM Praise Team Pr</div>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Traditional W</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">9:45 AM Sunday School</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">11 AM Blended Praise</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Bell Choir Prc</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">12 PM Large Print</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">Meals on Wheels</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM Commonwealth</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Good New Cl</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">7 PM Call Committee</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">7 PM Christmas Eve Service</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Lawn Care</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM Christmas Day Servi</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM Praise Team Pr</div>
28	29	30	31	Jan 1	2	3
<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Traditional W</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">9:45 AM Adult Bible S</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">11 AM Blended Praise</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Bell Choir Prc</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">12 PM Large Print</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">4:30 PM Good New Cl</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">8:30 AM Lawn Care</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">PoPP Closed - Christmas</div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">10 AM Praise Team Pr</div>