

## ***Senior Pastor's Report September 2014***

I wanted to wait until we fully transitioned back to our fall worship schedule before I wrote this September report. The beginning of the new season of ministry after the summer break is a good indicator of the health and vitality of a church. The story cannot be told by numbers alone. Giving levels, worship attendance, participation in children's and youth ministries are all certainly important measures but there are also many less tangible factors to consider.

Prince of Peace definitely has reason to be encouraged as we look at the important aspects of our ministry that can be measured with spreadsheets and charts. But those factors always result from the less tangible factors that do not show up on statistical reports. Here I am speaking of qualities such as engagement, enthusiasm, community building and faithfulness.

There are no boxes to fill in for these factors on the annual reports we submit to the synod, but I can tell you from experience, the charts and graphs flow from these factors and not the other way around.

If you were able to be around POP over the past two Sundays as our leadership worked to transition the congregation into the fall season, then you know what it feels like to be part of a healthy and vital congregation. From our Rally Day worship and celebration to this Sunday's return to the fall schedule, there is a strong sense around POP that something special is happening.

Strong community, enthusiastic, engaged in mission and outreach and faithfulness are all ways I would describe our congregation. I am grateful to all of our gifted staff and committed volunteers who are helping to lead us in this positive direction. What a great time it is to be a part of all that God is doing in and through Prince of Peace!

Your partner in ministry, Pastor Chad