

Prince of Peace

THE BELLS



April 2017
Volume 43, Issue 4

What is this?

Recently, I read an article by Pastor Andrew Richard. It's too long to use the whole article, here in the Bells, but I believe that it is important for us to hear the words of it. This, then, is my paraphrase of Pastor Richard's work.

Pastor Richard was translating Exodus 16, the story of God miraculously feeding the people of Israel with bread from heaven. We know this story, Israel had been without food, and was grumbling against the Lord. God provided for them a 'flake-like' thing on the ground to eat. "When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.'" (Exo 16:15 ESV) "Now the house of Israel called its name 'manna.'" (Exo 16:31 ESV)

Well, so goes most English translations. Pastor Richard noticed something in the Hebrew, part of the story we miss. Taking the Hebrew into consideration, we hear "When the Israelites saw it, they asked: 'What is it?'" or "MAN HU" in Hebrew (Ex. 16:15). ("MAN HU" is where we get the word, "Manna.") Moses goes on to explain, by using language from the question, "It (HU) is the bread that Yahweh has given to you to eat." As a good catechist, Moses takes the simple language of the question and uses it to give a simple answer: "MAN HU?" "HU HALLECHEM."

"What is this?" "It is bread." The English preserves the simple question leading to a simple answer. It becomes complicated when we get to the end. "The house of Israel called its name 'man.'" Man literally means, "What?" The house of Israel called its name "What." You can picture the catechetical repetition happening daily in the home: "Time to go gather the what." Of "Time to go gather the what is it." "It is the bread that Yahweh has given to us to eat."

Look what happens on the night Jesus was betrayed. As Jesus began to institute the Lord's Supper, you can almost hear the disciples asking themselves, "What is this?" Jesus continues, "This is..." The exact same language used with the bread from heaven, Jesus uses when He institutes the Sacrament of the Altar!

"What is this?" "This is my body..." Jesus himself picks up the catechetical language of ages past (in truth, the catechetical language that He himself authored) and speaks it at the Last Supper.

What's the point? Luther's simple question, "Was ist das?", "What is this?" comes directly from the Torah. Luther was incredibly creative, but it's because he gladly inherited the best of what had come before him. And in spite of his marvelous ability to turn a phrase, he still preferred the sound language of his father's over innovation. He wasn't looking to invent his own way of speaking. Rather, with the attitude of "if it's good enough for Moses and Jesus it's good enough for me," he gave us the simplest and arguably the most brilliant Catechism the Church has ever known.

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Often we don't know the right question to ask. And in order to get good answers, you need to ask the good questions. We teach others to ask the question, "What is this?" by asking it to them. This is typical of catechesis, for example Rev. 7: 13-14, "Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?' I said to him, 'Sir, you know.' And he said to me, 'These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation...'"

"What is this?" as you study Scripture, whether alone or in church, if cannot answer, "This is..." Ask a brother and sister in Christ. This catechetical question-and-answer of the God's people (now over three millennia old) is the way that we "encourage one another and build one another up." (1 Th 5.11)

In Christ Jesus,
Pastor Michael

WORSHIP WITH US

Saturday: 6:30 PM

Sunday: 10:15 AM

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APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Bethany Parker	2
Dean Parker	2
Faye Brockmiller	4
Eric Bendekovic	17
Jakob Lehman	22
Bill Hewlett	28
Sandy Kostelnik	30
Justin Mengel	30
Ruthann Weedon	30

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Karen Doerr	1
Natalie Osten	1
Matthew Osten	1
Jennifer Weedon	1
Nathan Taylor	7
Allen Lee	10
Matthew Muto	10
Larry Weimer	11
Mary Podeszwa	16
Erich Borgman	19
Sandy Parker	20
Chuck Szabo	24
Karen McCracken	25

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Tracy Wilde	29
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SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

Greeter

- 2 – Darryl/Lynn Gunther
- 9 – Stephan/Mirka Fatschel
- 16 – Tom/Colleen Sigler
- 23 – Doug/Tammy Eckstrom
- 30 – Ed/Sandi Morgan

Reader

- 2 – Mary Podeszwa
- 9 – Milt Scott
- 16 – Sam Osten
- 23 – Tammy Eckstrom
- 30 – Karl Borgman

Altar Guild

Bonnie Keen

Acolyte

- 2 – Skylar DeThomas
- 9 – Sierrah Altenburg
- 16 – Hannah Bendekovic
- 23 – Nikolai Podeszwa
- 30 – Ethan Bendekovic

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please keep the following members & friends in your prayers:

- Rachel Humphrey, recovering from foot surgery.
- Continued prayers of healing for Willis Volland's sister; Betty Ann.
- Joel, a young friend of the Mesing family, Hodgkin's lymphoma.
- Additional prayers for those battling cancer: Carol Helkowski, Milt Scott, Erica Davids and Dan Bell (a POP preschooler's grandfather).
- Lanaya (Granddaughter of Karen & Joe Meinert) for her mental health.
- Thomas Haffely who was hospitalized for cardiac arrest.
- Milt Scott recovering from pneumonia.
- Bill Humphrey, father of Peter and grandfather of Joshua and Rachel who is recovering from surgery.
- Barb Bishop, leukemia. Mary Lou,
- Kathy Volland's sister, health concerns.
- Jim Garrett, Ethel Clayton's brother, medical concerns.

LUTHERAN HOUR – MARCH SCHEDULE

April 2

"Freedom in the Spirit"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Jesus frees you to be the person you were created, redeemed, and called to be.
(Romans 8:1-11)

April 9

"Humble Strength for Eternal Salvation"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
On Palm Sunday, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, not to set up an earthly kingdom but to overcome sin and death--for us.
(Philippians 2:5-11)

April 16

"Empty Tomb Hope!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
The assurance of Christ's resurrection turns wonder into reality and gives us an eternal hope.
(Matthew 28:1-10)

April 23

"A Living Hope for a 'Dead as Doornails' World"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
No matter how hard the world tries to shake our joy and faith, we have an inheritance in Christ that can never be taken away.
(1 Peter 1:3-9)

April 30

"Unadulterated Fact"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour:
Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
The early believers knew two things to be true: Jesus performed miraculous works and He rose from the dead.
(Acts 2:22-25)

THE NEW "ARK ENCOUNTER" TOUR:

Some of the members of Prince of Peace are planning a bus trip to Cincinnati to see the full-size replica of Noah's Ark and to visit the Creation Museum. The Ark is actually built to the dimensions given in the bible. Imagine.... seeing The Ark as Noah and his family saw it! This should be an amazing experience and has been described by some as "life-changing".

This trip is planned for September 11th – 13th. The total cost is \$639 (single). A deposit of \$150 is required.

Of course, there is so much more to this trip. There will be some shopping and more importantly there will be fellowship. And when the members of Prince of Peace get together the word fellowship takes on a whole new meaning. There is love and laughter and lots of fun.

The more of us we can get to join this trip, the more of us there will be to come back and share the experience with our congregation. All are welcome to attend.

Please consider joining us. There is information out on the table in the narthex. Be sure to take a look. Don't miss this opportunity!

If you have any questions please contact Linda Weimer, 724.776.5542

Easter Egg Hunt

POP will hold its annual Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 1st from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. There will be a light lunch served from 12:00-12:30, activities and crafts. All are welcome to attend.

Support Your Church

Membership at Prince of Peace Lutheran church and regular attendance is an important statement in and of itself. To be a member is to confess that you believe all that the church confesses and that you are willing to suffer all, **even death**, for it. This is a promise each one of us makes in the Rite of Confirmation.

Regular church attendance is where the expression of the love of God is most effectively given through Word and Sacrament. And it is through the love of God and because of it that we learn to, and are able to, love our neighbors.

Paul speaks in Romans 12 that we ought to present our bodies "as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God." This is our spiritual worship, our spiritual service. Each year members of this congregation donate their time and talents in the service to others by working with or leading the various committees of this congregation. Every committee plays an important part in the life of the congregations and offers you an opportunity to serve the Lord and His people.

Please prayerfully consider using your time and talents to serve our God and your fellow believers as you are able. – Elder Allen

Memorial Service

Good Samaritan Hospice, a mission of Concordia Lutheran Ministries, will hold a memorial service in memory of those who spent their final days in one of their hospice care facilities or in Good Samaritan Home Care. The memorial services are open to all who are dealing with grief, even if they did not have a loved one in GSH care.

The service will be at Prince of Peace on Sunday, April 23 at 3 p.m. Concordia Chaplain Rev. Paul Rist will conduct the liturgy. A reception will follow.

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Miss Jill's Preschool News

Is it true that spring is right around the corner? We sure hope so! The weather sure doesn't seem to be on our side! That silly groundhog was RIGHT! We have faith though and are hoping it is just around the corner! What a great month we had! It was filled with lots of fun and learning! Time is just flying by and it's hard to believe that our year is coming to an end. We also celebrated Dr. Seuss's Birthday! We ate green eggs and ham and made our very own hat, like The Cat in The Hat! We read all of our favorite stories by Dr. Seuss too! There are many to choose from too!

In this month's bible lesson our kids learned about the time leading up to Easter and how it's much more than just bunnies, eggs and candy. The learned about why we celebrate Palm Sunday and how, when Jesus rode in on a donkey, the people shouted Hosanna and covered the road with palm branches and coats. They also learned about The last supper where Jesus shared bread and wine with his disciples and said "do this in remembrance of me." They learned how Jesus' friend, Judas, betrayed him and turned him over to the people who wanted to kill him. Lastly, they learned how Jesus died on the cross and rose again in just three days. We sang *Ho Ho Hosanna* at Chapel and celebrated the true meaning of Easter.

Three year olds

The three year old topic for the month was all about transportation. We had so much fun with this. The three year olds are doing such a great job! We started cutting and they are getting really good at it. We made a plane collage, colored a traffic light and made a traffic light that we could eat! They really enjoyed all of our activities this month! It was a lot of fun! They are also finishing up their alphabet books. We are all so ready to get outside and play so that we can release some energy!

Four year olds

The four year olds topic for the month was: All kinds of weather! Some of our projects included our favorite weather in a bottle and we made a kite and went outside to fly it! That was a lot of fun! We are still working hard on our alphabet books and everyone is doing a great job! Like the three's they too are very anxious to get outside. Hopefully spring is coming soon!

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Jill

Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila's Preschool News

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him. -1 John 4:16

March sure came in like a LION!!! We want to welcome Spring!! March 2nd was Dr. Seuss' birthday. Both classes celebrated by "hitting the books". Dr. Seuss books that is...The three year old class favorite Dr. Seuss book was One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish. The four year old class's favorite Dr. Seuss book was Green Eggs and Ham. We decorated the classroom with rainbows and shamrocks. The three year olds covered a rainbow with Fruit Loop cereal. That was a delicious craft! The four year olds enjoyed some gold glittered shamrocks hanging with the student's names hanging around the room. Once the classroom was festively decorated, all we had to do was WAIT! We waited to see if the book we read, Luckiest Leprechaun would come to life. Each class had a surprise during snack time on the school days surrounding St. Patrick's Day. The Luckiest Leprechaun spread glitter around our classroom. PESKY LEPRACHAUN...!

During the month of March we learned four new letters during writing skills. Letters Mm, Gg, and Uu were our focus. Next month we will finish up our writing skills books. All year long we composed the writing skills books and will gift them to the student's families at graduation.

During March our Bible lesson was all about the time leading up to Easter and why we celebrate this holiday. Easter is more than eggs and bunnies! The children we taught about Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem and how he came in as a humble king on a donkey. Next, we taught that some people did not believe he was the Son of God, but he would die he told his disciples. Then the children learned that Judas would betray Jesus and turn him over to the people who wanted to kill him. Finally, the children then learned about the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ! We focused our attention on the detailed story all month in March and into the beginning of April leading up to Easter break from school. We also held a chapel celebration for both classes to reflect on the true meaning of Easter! We sang Hosanna with everyone!

At the end of the month our four year old classes took a fieldtrip to an art studio in Beaver called Artsy Doodle. The four year old classes boarded a school bus and headed to Beaver to the art studio, Artsy Doodle. The children were engaged in painting a Spring flower on their very own canvas. Thank you Artsy Doodle!

As our time with the classes is coming closer to graduation, please remember to turn in next year's registration forms, if you have not already done so. We are now accepting all 2017-2018 registrations for both three year old and four year old classes. Please contact one of us at preschool should you have any questions or need the information for someone else. Referrals are always appreciated!

Blessings to you and yours,
Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila

April 2017

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1 6:30 Holy Communion
2 5 th Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	3	4	5 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Lenten Service	6 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	7	8 9:00 Men's Club 6:30 Holy Communion
9 Palm Sunday 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	10	11 6:30 Council	12 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Lenten Service	13 7:00 Maundy Thursday Svc	14 7:00 Good Friday Svc	15 6:30 Easter Vigil
16 Resurrection of Our Lord 6:30 Cemetery Svc. 7:00 Easter Dawn 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	17	18	19 11:00 Bible Study	20 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	21	22 6:30 Holy Communion
23 2 nd Sunday of Easter 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion 3:00 Good Samaritan Memorial Service	24	25	26 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Elders Mtg	27 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	28	29 6:30 Holy Communion
30 3 rd Sunday of Easter 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion						