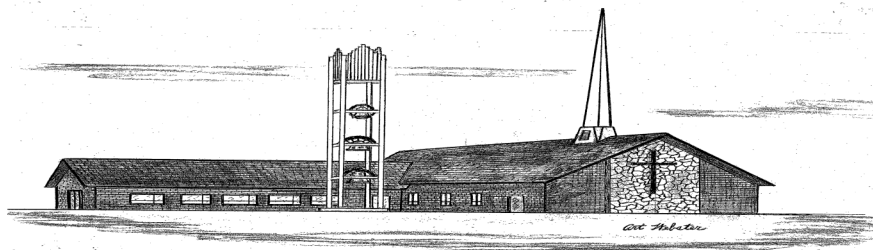


The Bells

February 2013

Volume 39, Issue 2



Lent is Here

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Dear Friends in Christ,

You may not realize it, but Christianity is a “historical” faith. By this I mean that our faith is rooted in people and events that actually happened, that can be proven by historical accounts. The life of Jesus Christ is recorded by four separate writers in the Bible, which is three more sources than we have for people like Julius Caesar or Socrates. Not only do we have the Biblical accounts, but there are non-biblical accounts as well, that speak of the man Jesus who was crucified, and yet his tomb was empty.

We live just shy of 2,000 years after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In some ways we are far removed from the historic life of Christ on this earth. But in other ways, through Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper, we are members of Christ's Church and are connected to those events. That historic story is our story as well and so it is wise that we study the history of the church. In that light, let's take a brief look at the history of the season we are about to enter, Lent.

History tells us that early preparations for the celebration of Easter included fasting from the end of the worship service on Good Friday to the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. In the generations that followed, the period of fasting was increased to all of Holy Week, during which those studying the principles of Christianity – catechumens – would prepare for the reception of Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

The length of preparation increased in time until, by the 7th century, we reached the current forty day period for Lent. Since Sunday is the day of Resurrection, those days are skipped over and Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.

Why did the Church settle on a forty-day period? Well, it reminds of many things; Noah and the rain that fell for 40 days and nights, Moses and the Israelites spending 40 years in the wilderness, Elijah spending forty days and nights in the desert; Jonah giving the city of Nineveh forty days to repent, and of course Jesus himself fasted forty days in the wilderness after His baptism.

The season of Lent gives us the opportunity to prepare for the coming celebration of Easter. During this time we focus on fallen and sinful nature that required such a great sacrifice by Jesus on the cross. To help us do this, the language of Lent is quieted. We refrain from using *alleluia* as an expression of praise. Our music and songs are restrained. Even the liturgical color of the season, purple, is considered one of the more “quieter” colors as it is associated with penitence and sorrow. And while we change our music and our language, the focus of our faith is always on Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

Just as with our forefathers in the Church, Lent provides us a foundation to study the faith in preparation the great celebration of Easter. With that in mind, it is my hope that you will take advantage of the extra services that Prince of Peace provides in order to prepare.

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor Michael

WORSHIP WITH US

Saturday: 6:30 PM Worship

Sunday: 10:15 AM Worship

CONTACT US:

Website

www.princeofpeacefreedom.com

Phone

Office: 724.728.3881

Preschool: 724.728.2405

Fax: 724.728.6708

Email

Pr. Michael

pastor@

princeofpeacefreedom.com

Secretary

secretarypop@

princeofpeacefreedom.com

Preschool

preschool@

princeofpeacefreedom.com

**60 Rochester Road
Freedom PA 15042**

LWML NEWS

Thank you so very much for all your donations to the Mite boxes on the 3rd Sunday of each month. You contributed \$676.00 for the year of 2012.

WOW!!! This will go towards the following missions:

LWML MISSION GRANTS 2011-2013 BIENNIUM MISSION GOAL \$1,825,000

Support for Lutheran Orphanages-Haiti	\$ 70,000 +
Lutheran Braille Workers Plate Embossing Device	\$100,000 +
Lutheran Bible Translators	\$ 97,344 #
Spread God's Word through Print & Audio Outreach to At Risk Children Detroit, MI	\$ 55,000 #
Cancer Care Package Ministry	\$100,000 +
Crow Indian Ministry-Montana	\$ 69,999 #
Exodus 2:6 Project – Spiritual Care in Disasters-Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma	\$ 50,000 #
Children's Nutrition & Care-Vietnam	\$ 72,255 #
Grace Place for LCMS International Missionaries	\$ 75,000 #
Pregnancy Center: Newborn Protection- Malaysia, Southeast Asia	\$ 54,500 +
The Lutheran Malaria Initiative-Kenya, East Africa	\$100,000 #
Two Graduate Scholarships for International/Minority Students-Concordia Sem. St. Louis, MO	\$ 50,000 +
Project JOEL – Outreach to Youth Central S. America	\$ 75,000 #
Children's Developmental Disabilities Group Home &	\$100,000.00
Rehab Center-Dominican Republic	<i>FULL AMOUNT NEEDED</i>
Missionary Family Care & Education	\$100,000 #
Gospel Outreach Thru Open Arms Child Care	\$ 65,000 #
Haskell Indian National Univ. Lutheran Campus Ministry Expansion, Lawrence, Kansas	\$100,000 #
Financial Support for LCMS Prison & Jail Ministry Conference	\$ 27,500 +
Physical & Spiritual Nourishment for the Impoverished United States/Mexico Border	\$ 27,970 +

Key: + -- grant paid in full # grant partially paid- funds needed!

212 POUNDS OF STAMPS COLLECTED

Recently 212 pounds of stamps were delivered to Canada from our LML! That is the most we have ever sent to the Canadian Bible Society. That means 212 Bibles going to foreign lands! Thank you so much for saving your stamps, they truly make a difference! Trudy Sallach, Stamps For Missions.

2013 LWML NATIONAL CONVENTION

June 27th—30th
Pittsburgh PA

- Worship with thousands of your sisters and brothers in Christ on Thursday evening and Sunday morning
- Visit the exhibits in “The LWML Neighborhood”
- Join the “Mission in Motion” fundraiser for mites on Friday evening
- Study God's Word with Donna Pyle, author of the Your Strong Suit Bible study
- Meet new friends and renew old friendships and...
- Praise God through song.

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Bill Kerr	2
Roger Nuerge	2
Avis Miller	3
Jean Taylor	4
Elizabeth Nowry	8
Brett Torres	11
Ben Forsyth	12
Joel Nuerge	12
Justin Nuerge	12
Ariana Gremer	13
Lisa Dietrich	14
Amber Gremer	14
Beverly Kohler	15
Matthew Osten	16
Ronald Nowry	17
Madison Fessides	18
Putri Mesing	19
Minnie Nowry	20
Rich Clayton	21
Madi Daubenspeck	21
Morgan Blank	24
Megan Steigerwald	25
John Dietrich	28
Kyle Borgman	29

Baptismal Birthdays

Kathy Voland	
Tom Sigler	
George Mesing	2
Sallie Mannino	5
Shane Dietrich	7
Jean Taylor	9
Joan Coe	14
Mary Nuerge	15
Karen Koenig	20
Kim Singleton	21
Roger Nuerge	22
Brooke Lehman	22
Lisa Dietrich	24
Jason Mengel	24
Becky Mallary	25
Joel Nuerge	26
Justin Nuerge	26
Karen Meinert	28
Shawn Nowry	28
Jane Wilson	28

Servants in Ministry

Reader

- 3-Jennifer Ciccone
- 10-Darryl Gunther
- 17-Peter Humphrey
- 24-Kathleen Ormiston

Greeter

- 3-George/Joleen Mesing
- 10-Robin/Brittany Young
- 17-Mary Nuerge/Tara Dulski
- 24-Tom/Colleen Sigler

Acolyte

- 3-Matthew Muto
- 10-Connor Ciccone
- 17-Ruthann Weedon
- 24-Jeremy Osten

Audio Visual

- 3-K. Ormiston/D. Eckstrom
- 10-L. Gunther/K. Ormiston
- 17-J. Ciccone/M. Gremer
- 24-D. Gunther/D. Eckstrom

Altar Guild

Carol Helkowski/Mary Nuerge



Anniversaries

- Tom & Cheri Shively 12
- Lorena Hamara & Ron McWilliams 14
- Scott & Beth Lehman 19

Prayer Concerns

Please keep the following members and friends of Prince of Peace in your prayers:

- Brianna Michelle, new baby girl of Jeff & Tara Dulski
- Anne, friend of Darryl Gunther's, suffering a heart attack and on life support
- Marlene Norton (Crissy Nadzam's mother) still hospitalized at Mercy for blood clots
- Liz Shuttleworth's mother, Katherine, hospitalized after falling
- Beverly Kohler healing from ruptured appendix
- Kim Singleton's mother, mass found near her bladder
- Milt Scott hospitalized at UPMC Shadyside for clots in lung
- Madisyn Lawrence, one year old daughter of friends of Sandi Morgan, for upcoming cranial surgery
- Carole Alberts recovering from surgery
- Connie Mannino, Twila DeThomas' stepfather, Milt Scott, Joanie Gremer, Philip Forsyth, Marie Teets, battling cancer

The Lutheran Hour

February 3

"When Life Overwhelms, God Provides"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Life is hard, but God provides real strength to face everyday struggles.

(Jeremiah 1)

February 10

"Do You Need a Miracle Today?"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Jesus' miraculous Transfiguration tells us God is very real and He sent Jesus to help you in your time of need.

(Luke 9:28-36)

February 17

"Overcoming Temptation with the Word"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Jesus countered Satan's temptations with the power of God's Word. He is the Savior for all who are overwhelmed by their sin and failures.

(Luke 4:1-13)

February 24

"Never Alone"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus

Jesus understands our loneliness, but we will never fully comprehend his.

(Psalm 25:16)

Dinners for Eight

We will be continuing our evenings of fun and food on Friday, February 22nd. Please volunteer to host/hostess our next get together by putting your name on the sign up sheet in the hall. As host/hostess you will provide the main part of the meal and your guests will bring the side dishes and/or dessert. If more than eight people sign up, their name will go to the top for the next time, or if enough sign up we can have two groups going at the same time.

If you have any questions please contact Joyce Hewlett at 724.591.5475.

Thank You!



Valentine's Day Dinner Party

"Love songs that will get you on the floor dancing"

Friday, February 15

Appetizers at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Menu

Salad

Stuffed Chicken Breast or Chicken Cordon Bleu

Vegetable ~ Mashed Potatoes

Rolls & Butter

D.J. & Dancing

Bring your own wine

RSVP by Monday, February 4th

724.728.3881

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Chris' Preschool

Well it is that time of year again, when we get the snow suits out and dress children over and over again! I love a good snowball fight and making snow angels in the fresh fallen snow! Winter is definitely here! The children are all busy working on their alphabet books and their number books. They have grown in so many ways since the beginning of the school year. You should be very proud! We are! I will say that I do believe that they have spring fever and the teachers do too!!! They have a lot of energy to run off so we have been doing just that. We have been playing musical snowflakes and playing in the fellowship hall with many balls and some hockey nets. Boy they have been enjoying that!!! It's also great exercise for the teachers.

Three year olds

The three year olds lesson for this month was Nursery Rhymes. I was glad to see that some of them knew some! We did some fun activities too. Mitten Matching, Mitten Measurement, Musical Snowflakes, and in honor of the Three Little Kittens, we had some pie—Peanut Butter Pie! Wow did they like that! We even wished upon our own stars! This is such a fun unit to do with them. We had a lot of fun with the kids. Thanks for sharing them with us.

Four year olds

The four year olds lesson for the month are hibernation and rhyming words. Once they caught on to the rhyming, they had a lot of fun with it! We even made up silly rhyming words, like Dr. Seuss is known for! The children had so much fun with this! We discussed the many animals that sleep for the winter and how other animals prepare for the winter and we talked about how we prepare for the winter too. We are still working hard on our number and alphabet books. We have started printing our names in upper and lower case letters. Everyone is doing a great job and time is sure flying.

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Chris

Mrs. Ward & Ms. Twila's Preschool News

Psalms 127:3

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him.

January was a fun and exciting month at Prince of Peace Preschool! The boys and girls jumped right back in after Christmas break! January flew by and we are gearing up for a very busy February!

The four year olds focused on hibernation for the month of January. We talked about what hibernation means and what animals hibernate for the winter. We read a lot of great stories in conjunction with this topic! We also made a bird feeder! We touched on the winter weather. The boys and girls made edible snowmen and played musical snowflakes! As always, we are continuing to work on our ABC's and 123's in preparation for kindergarten! This month, we discussed rhyming. The children had a fantastic time rhyming words! It's just the little things in life that make us happy.

The three year olds spent the month of January learning about nursery rhymes. We learned all the rhymes, but the three's particularly liked "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" and "Little Miss Muffet"! They too made edible snowmen! Yum! In addition, we played a mitten matching game. The boys and girls had a great time. They are such a joy to have in class! The three's are continuing to work hard on their ABC's and 123's.

Our report cards came home this month! I think you will be pleased with the progress your boys and girls have made thus far. Ms. Twila and I are very proud! Until next month....may you stay warm, as winter is here! Hurry spring!

**Smiling at You,
Mrs. Ward & Ms. Twila**

February 2013

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1	2
						6:30 Holy Communion
3 Fourth Sunday After Epiphany 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion *WMC Meeting following service	4 Millvale Braille	5 A.M. Braille 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ 7:00 Hebrews Bible Study	6 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 6:30 Council	7 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	8	9 9:00 Men's Club 6:30 Holy Communion
10 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	14 St. Luke's Braille	12 A.M. Braille 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ 7:00 Hebrews Bible Study	13 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 7:00 Ash Wednesday	14 Forest Hills Braille 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	15 6:00 VALENTINE'S DINNER & DANCING	16 6:30 Holy Communion
17 1st Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion VOTER'S MEETING	18 Haven Braille	19 A.M. Braille 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ 7:00 Hebrews Bible Study	20 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Lenten Service	21 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	22 6:00 Dinners for 8	23 6:30 Holy Communion
24 2nd Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	25	26 A.M. Braille 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ 7:00 Hebrews Bible Study	27 9:00 Preschool Chapel 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Lenten Service	28 9:00 Preschool Chapel 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	*WMC—Worship & Music Committee	