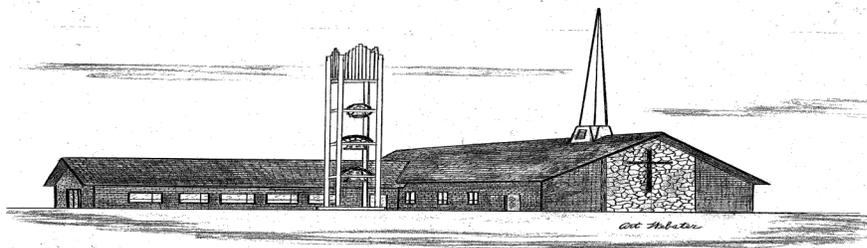


The Bells

JUNE 2013

Volume 39, Issue 6



Excel in Everything

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Dear Friends in Christ,

I think it has something to do with graduation. At least, I believe it has something to do with all the commencement activities going on right now. You see, a few weeks ago, appearing in my mailbox, there was a plea for a donation to Concordia Seminary St. Louis, quickly followed by one from Concordia Ft. Wayne.

It didn't end there. At least four of the ten Concordia Universities requested donations, as did my alma mater, Bradley University. But the schools were just the beginning. The Red Cross, March of Dimes, American Cancer society – and many others – have been knocking on my door asking for money.

Of course, it's no different inside the church. We've had financial requests for the National Youth Gathering and the Preschool. We've had them for Lutheran Hour Ministries and Lutheran World Relief. This summer at the Synodical Convention, there will be a special offering for various agencies within the church. And then there's Darryl's note.

I urge you to read what our Financial Secretary has written for this article of the Bells, but the short version is that our income has decreased this year, which means will have trouble making our budget goals for this year.

So is this just another request for money? Is this just another way to pry a few more dollars out of you? Heavens No! Because if I have to pry it, it becomes LAW – something you must do in order to be saved.

For that reason, stewardship is a difficult subject within the Church. Salvation comes by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone. Whenever a teaching leaps up as something we must do, it takes away from what Jesus has done for us. Saint Paul addressed the Corinthians about this in his second letter to them. (Read 2 Corinthians 8, especially verses 8 and 9). Here he encourages the Corinthians to excel in their giving, not as a command but as a way for the genuineness of their love to be seen by those around them. He encourages them to give, not as a command but as a joyful response to the riches we have in Christ Jesus.

As we give out of those riches, we need to be "as wise as serpents." There are many worthy groups, and probably many more that either full of thieves and liars or simply mismanaged. Sites like <http://www.charitynavigator.org/> can help us be good stewards of the gifts God has given us.

But there is one thing that these secular organizations cannot do: they cannot preach the good news of Jesus Christ. That's something that only the Church can do. Therefore, I encourage you, out of love for your neighbor and love for God, to prioritize your giving so that the needs of the Church is met so that the Gospel can be proclaimed to all people.

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor Michael

WORSHIP WITH US

Saturday: 6:30 PM Worship

Sunday: 10:15 AM Worship

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Tell It on the Mountain **Where Jesus Christ Is Lord**

Prince of Peace Lutheran VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL & CHRIST CAMP

June 24 - 28, 2013

6:00—8:30 PM

Ages 4 & up !

*\$5.00 donation will be collected on Monday, June 24th
A light meal (optional) will be offered from 6:00 to 6:30 pm*

*Register Now!
724.728.3881 or*

Forms located on table in Narthex

*Sing upbeat songs
Create crafts
Play games
Participate in Bible lessons*

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Willis Voland	1
Chase O’Palka	5
Susan Ozenich	5
Ethan Bendekovic	7
Scott Gunther	11
Bill Mallary	13
Ruth Rose	15
Brett Lehocky	16
Helen Miller	16
Maggie Dietrich	18
Brad Weedon	18
June Shively	21
Karol Kiessling	23
Dan Helkowski	25
Dayton Rose	26
Becky Mallary	29

Baptismal Birthdays

Beth Lehman	
Avis Miller	1
Jase Wilson	2
Chance Mercier	3
Ruthann Weedon	6
Matt Sigler	9
Susan Ozenich	12
Matthew Gunther	13
Robert O’Palka	18
Luke Mesing	21
Tanner Mesing	21
Margaret Rombold	24
Karol Kiessling	24
Craig Rombold	24
Christopher Wallace	24
Jackson Wallace	24
Jim Nord	27
Milan Fatschel	29
Kaydi Dietrich	30

Anniversaries

Dustin & Stephanie Parker	1
Jeff & Tara Dulski	6
Charles & Karen Veloski	7
Tim & Kathleen Ormiston	7
Ron & Karen Doerr	8
Rich & Ethel Clayton	10
Roger & Mary Nuerge	12
Peter & Terri Humphrey	18
Tom & Colleen Sigler	18
Eric & Allison Bendekovic	23

Servants in Ministry

Reader

- 2-Kathleen Ormiston
- 9-Sam Osten
- 16-Diane O’Palka
- 23-peter Humphrey
- 30-Karl Borgman

Greeter

- 2-George/Joleen Mesing
- 9-Robin/Brittany Young
- 16-Mary Nuerge/Tara Dulski
- 23-Tom/Colleen Sigler
- 30-OPEN

Acolyte

- 2-Connor Ciccone
- 9-Jeremy Osten
- 16-Ruthann Weedon
- 23-Kyle Borgman
- 30-Brendan Doerr

Audio Visual

- 2-D. Gunther/D. Eckstrom
- 9-L. Gunther/K. Ormiston
- 16-K. Ormiston/M. Gremer
- 23-J. Ciccone/D. Eckstrom
- 30-S. Fatschel/K. Ormiston

Altar Guild

- Carol Helkowski &
Rachel Eckstrom

Prayer Concerns

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

- The Moyer/Doerr family for the loss of Joan’s father, Cliff Moyer
- The Mannino family, for the loss of Connie
- The Singleton family for the loss of Nancy Singleton
- Edna Gaertner, for the loss of her brother, Dale Kaufmann
- The Lehman family for the birth of their son, Jakob
- Prayers of strength and awareness for Bob Trakoval, brother in law of Kathy & Will Voland, who suffered a stroke
- 88 yr. old neighbor of Eric Bendekovic dying of cancer and in extreme pain
- Diane Kopas, cousin of Ed Morgan, Kristanya Zittlow, Milt Scott, Twila DeThomas’ stepfather, Philip Forsyth, battling cancer.

The Lutheran Hour

June 2 **“A Surprising Life For You”** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
Do you want to live a surprising life that makes a difference? Such is the life that flows from faith in Jesus. (Luke7:1-10)

June 9 **“A Match for Mayhem”** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
In Jesus, mayhem meets its match. (Luke 7:11-17)

June 16 **“Squaring Things Up”** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
Jesus “squared things up” through the cross in order to unleash God’s mercy for all. (Isaiah 40:1-11)

June 23 **“Our New Identity”** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
God calls us to receive a new identity, in Christ, bonding us together in His forgiving love. (Galatians 3:23-29)

June 30 **“A Word That Changes”** Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus
A little word, only three letters long and yet it often spells disappointment and heartbreak. What is it? (Luke 9:59-60)

Message from the Financial Secretary

The chart below shows a comparison of income between 2012 and 2013. This is year to date income through the end of May. As you can see, our weekly Envelope Offerings are down an average of almost \$376 per week. For those who do not use offering Envelopes, Cash Offerings are down about \$50 per week. For a 52 week year, this adds up to a decrease in income of over \$22,000 for 2013 versus 2012. Envelope and Cash offerings are the main source of income used to pay the necessary bills of the church. This includes things such as salaries, insurance, utilities, and other things necessary for us to keep our doors open.

I don't want to be the bearer of bad news. I am sending this through the Bells just to get the information out to everyone, and to put this potential problem in front of everyone's eyes. It has been noted at the last several Voter's Assemblies, but unfortunately, only a small percentage of our members attend those meetings. It is not too late for us to turn things around. Through prayerful giving and evangelism, we can increase our giving and eliminate this potential problem. This is also something the Council will be looking at in more detail in the coming months as we prepare a budget for 2014.

As a side note, you will see that Preschool Income has increased this year, but that is because enrollment increases allowed for an afternoon class this year that we did not have last year. Plus, the preschool income is used to pay teachers and aides, and cannot be used to pay other bills.

YEAR TO DATE GIVING THROUGH THE END OF MAY

	<u>TOTALS</u>		<u>WEEKLY</u>	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Envelope Offerings	\$70,896.31	81,438.64	3,376.01	3,701.76
Cash Offering	4,476.02	5,802.52	213.14	263.75
Flower Fund	195.00	135.00	9.29	6.34
Building Fund	685.00	1,030.00	32.62	46.82
Preschool Income	23,177.00	18,675.00	1,103.67	848.86
Preschool Other	215.00	90.00	10.24	4.09
Preschool Registration	525.00	1,250.00	25.00	56.82
Other-Budgeted		116.08	0.00	5.28
TOTAL:	100,169.33	108,537.24	5,892.31	6,029.85

Note: 2012 through the end of May had 22 weekends, and 2013 had 21.

Upcoming POP Events

2nd ANNUAL POP YARD SALE

We are having our 2nd annual church yard sale Sat., June 29 at 9:00. It will be outdoors, weather permitting. There is a \$10 per table fee which will benefit the church. Set up time will be between 8:00-9:00 am and will be advertised in local papers, Penny Saver and Craig's List. It is a good excuse to clean out closets, basements and garages. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for those who wish to participate.

YOUTH FOR HIRE

Looking to get a break in the weather for some yard work? Or are you just looking for someone to GIVE you a break from that yard work? Some of our hard working teens are looking for a creative way to raise a little more money to fund their trip to the 2013 National LCMS Youth Gathering in San Antonio. Contact Mary Podeszwa if you would like a helping hand!

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

CONCORDIA SUMMER FESTIVAL

Join the fun on July 28th from noon—6pm for a celebration with family and friends. The afternoon includes good food, entertainment, children's activities, campus tours and much more. For more information, call Public Relations at 724.352.1571 x 8266. Admission is free!

CONCORDIA ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

This year's outing will be on Monday, July 8th at Treesdale Golf & Country Club. \$175.00 per golfer. Sponsorships are available. Please call 724.352.1571 x8363 to reserve your spot for you and your foursome. Proceeds benefit the Good Samaritan Endowment Fund to support charitable care provided to those we serve.

"BACK IN MOM'S KITCHEN" COOKBOOK

Mrs. Sabatini's "Back in Mom's Kitchen" cookbook is back by popular demand. The proceeds from this cookbook have been generously donated by the author to Good Samaritan Hospice. Get yourself a copy of this bestseller for only \$20 by contacting the Development Office at 724.352.1571 x 8363 or x8291.

CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE

Give the gift that builds for your graduate's future while also empowering ministries! Open an investment for your grad at Lutheran Church Extension Fund. Saying congratulations with an LCEF investment shares a great example of your commitment to helping ministries today while growing a gift for your graduate's life in Christ. Call 800-843-5233 or visit lcef.org for details and current rates.

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Chris' Preschool News

Well it's hard to believe that our year has come to an end! It has been another great year and it will be hard once again to see the four year olds move on to kindergarten. We are really going to miss them. They are such a special group of kids that have once again touched our hearts! A big thank you to all the parents for all your help over the years! We couldn't do it without you!

Three year olds

The three year old topic for the month was Under the Sea! We made a jelly fish with it long tentacles. We talked about how fun it is to visit the beach and swim in the ocean! We are so excited for this class to be returning for another fun and exciting year!

The three year olds graduated on May 23rd. They are now officially FOUR YEAR OLDS! Thanks to all the parents for baking cookies for the graduation. They were delicious! Keep on Shining!

Four year olds

The four year olds topics for the month were outer space and Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. This is a story about all the alphabet and it's a great way to review the letters! The other topic, which was a big hit, was outer space. They really got into it. We learned that we have only eight planets...yes Pluto is now a moon. We learned that the sun is the biggest star! We made a "galaxy of stars in a jar" and made a wish upon a star as we put them in our jars! We blasted off to the moon in our balloon powered rocket ships! The four year old graduation was held on May 22nd. Look out kindergarten...here they come!!!! They all looked so cute in their caps and gowns...a few tears were shed for they all will be missed. It has been amazing watching them grow over the last two years! They have blossomed into beautiful flowers and are ready to take on the next big step...Kindergarten! Thank you for sharing them with us! Thanks to all the parents for their help over the years...it was greatly appreciated! Have a safe and blessed summer! Don't forget to stop in and see your preschool teachers when you can!!! We would love to hear all about kindergarten!

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Chris

Mrs. Ward & Ms. Twila's Preschool News

“Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end”

“When you're not sure what to do or say,
just watch Jesus and He'll show you the way.”

May was filled with many fabulous days! This month our four year old class focused on “Mom's and Mother's Day”, “Outer Space”, and “Graduation”. We spent time celebrating our summer birthdays, reviewing our numbers and alphabet and taking a nature walk! We had our annual Mother's Day Brunch. The boys and girls worked really hard on their gifts for their moms! They were so excited. I can't believe how they have grown since the beginning of the year. I am so proud of them.

Our three year old class spent the month learning about “Mom's and Mother's Day”, and “under the Sea”. They were eager to share all of their handmade crafts with their moms during the brunch. In addition, we spent time this month reviewing the alphabet, numbers and shapes. We made an “Under the Sea” bottle. I am so excited to have the opportunity to spend more time with group next year. They have really matured. “Go dig in the dirt, and have some fun, when the summer is over, we'll be back as one!”

The graduation ceremony was delightful. Tears welled in my eyes as they walked to the graduation March. These kids are stars and will shine in whatever they do. I wish you the best of luck as you close one chapter of your life...and open another. Best wishes in Kindergarten! “Kid, you'll move mountains...” Remember to come back and visit us!

Have a wonderful summer, soak up the sun, and be safe!

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

June 2013

SUN.

MON.

TUE.

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

						1 9:00-1:00 Clean Up Day 6:30 Holy Communion
2 2nd Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion VBS Meeting	3 Millvale Braille	4 AM Braille 7:00 Hebrews Bible Study	5 11:00 Midweek Bible Study	6 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	7	8 9:00 Men's Club 6:30 Holy Communion
9 3rd Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion Mother's Day	10 St. Luke's Braille	11 AM Braille	12 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 6:30 Council	13 AM—Forest Hills Braille 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	14	15 6:30 Holy Communion
16 4th Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion Confirmation	17 Haven Braille	18 AM Braille 9:00 PAL's Meeting	19 7:00 Elder's Meeting	20	21	22 6:30 Holy Communion
23 5th Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	24	25	26	27	28	29 8:00 Yard Sale <i>Set Up</i> 9:00-12:00 Yard Sale 6:30 Holy Communion
30 6th Sunday After Pentecost						

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND CHRIST CAMP
GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN 6:00—8:30 PM**