

## PRINCE OF PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume 38 Issue

APRIL 2012

### In Defense of Our Faith

Dear Friends in Christ,

It happens every year like clockwork. As we enter into the Easter season, a television program, a new book, some professor at some prestigious university will promote a new theory on why our faith cannot possibly be true. Recently, we heard how “scholars” found the family tomb of Jesus, with the remains of Mary and Joseph, Jesus’ wife and children. This contradicts the theory that Jesus and his family left Israel and move to what is now France, their family eventually becoming the royal family there.

Of course, this kind of story-telling has been going on since the chief priest paid the Roman soldiers to say that the disciples came by night and stole the body of Jesus away (Matt. 28:11-15)

This month, I’d like to share with you a very positive story I recently read on how some dealt with attacks on the Christian faith.

In 1930, Nikolai Bukharin, one of the leaders of the communist party in Russia, traveled from Moscow to Kiev to address a large gathering on atheism. “Addressing the crowd he aimed his verbal assault at Christianity, hurling one insult after another, offering arguments and proof against those foolish enough to profess faith in such a myth. This went on for an hour. When he finished his assault not only against Christians but Christ himself, he looked out at what seemed to be the smoldering ashes of men’s faith in front of him and sneeringly asked, ‘Are there any questions?’ A deafening silence filled the room. Then, just before the long silence was ready to declare atheism the winner, one man meekly walked to the platform and stood up to the podium next to the communist leader. He looked out over the crowd, first looking to the left and then to the right. Then he shouted the well-known and well loved greeting within the Russian Orthodox Church, ‘CHRIST IS RISEN!’ His confession of faith broke the silence within the hearts of the faithful. What followed silenced Bukharin. The whole auditorium rose to its feet and as one voice shouted, ‘HE IS RISEN INDEED!’”

Scripture says that when we are confronted by those who challenge our faith we should “Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,” (1Pe 3:14-15 ESV)

Often we overly complicate what is means to “make a defense” of our faith. We believe we need to know every little detail, to understand every theological point, to have all the Scriptures memorized in order to make a defense against the falsehoods and heresies that are brought against the faith. But in reality, all we have to do is be willing to confess what has been taught by the church since our Lord founded it. The hope we have in eternal life, the hope we have in salvation from the sins of this world is placed in the resurrection of our Lord. And so we can boldly say, “HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!”

In Christ Jesus,  
Pastor Michael

#### Worship with us

Saturday: 6:30 PM Worship  
Sunday: 9:00 AM Sunday School  
Adult Bible Class  
10:15 AM Worship

#### Contact us

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## SEDER DINNER

Please join us on Thursday, April 5th at 6:00 pm for a unique worship experience. During the Seder dinner, we celebrate how God delivered His people in the Old Testament and also how He delivers us from our sins through Christ's death on the cross. We will come to a fuller understanding of how the Old Testament Passover was a foreshadowing of Christ's ultimate deliverance. This will include a full meal, time for fellowship, and the celebration of Holy Communion. There is no charge for this supper.

*If you would like to attend please call (as soon as possible, please)  
Mary Podeszwa at 724.650.3693!!!*

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## EASTER SERVICES AT PRINCE OF PEACE

Thursday, April 5th	Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner, 6:00 pm
Friday, April 6th	Good Friday Service—7:00 pm
Saturday, April 7th	Easter Vigil—6:30 pm
Sunday, April, 8th	6:30 a.m. Cemetery Service 7:00 am Easter Dawn Service 10:15 am Feast of the Resurrection

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## EASTER CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Join us on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am for our traditional Easter breakfast.

Sign up is posted on bulletin board at church or contact Joleen Mesing.

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## APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Anniversaries:

Crissy & Bob Nadzam –April 10  
Ted & Alicia Fessides April 27

### Birthdays:

Bethany Parker	2
Dean Parker	2
Faye Brockmiller	4
Mary Palmquist	7
Carl Blank	9
Bobby O’Palka	9
Ben Applequist	14
Chance Merceir	15
Eric Bendekovic	17
Jim Lugo	19
Ken McClellan	21
John Alberti	24
Sean Veloski	24
Marissa Charlton	25
Sandy Kostelnik	30
Justin Mengel	30
Hannah Schrauder	30
Ruthann Weedon	30

## SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

### Greeters:

1-Ruth Miller/Avis Miller  
8-Kathy Voland/Rachel Eckstrom  
15-Wendy/Derek Mengel  
22-Rich/Ethel Clayton  
29-Ed/Sandi Morgan

### Readers:

1-Jennifer Ciccone  
8-Sam Osten  
15-Alex Remmers  
22-Tom Sigler  
29-Jean Taylor

### Acolytes:

1-Jane Wilson  
8-Jeremy Osten  
15-J P Humphrey  
22-Ruthann Weedon  
29-Erich Borgman

### Audio Visual:

1-Kathleen Ormiston  
8-Kathleen Ormiston  
15-Lynn Gunther  
22-Darryl Gunther  
29-Jennifer Ciccone

### Altar Flowers:

1-Bob Licht  
8-Diane O’Palka  
15-Delores Simmons  
29-Dan & Carol Helkowski

### Altar Guild:

Bonnie Keen & Tara Dulski

## BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

### Baptismal Birthdays:

Karen Doerr	1
Natalie Osten	1
Matthew Osten	1
Putri Mesing	3
Nathan Taylor	7
Olivia Baker	7
Larry Weimer	10
Jeff Kerr	11
Diane O’Palka	12
Mary Podeszwa	14
Genevieve Leonberg	16
Erich Borgman	18
Sandy Parker	19
Ted Fessides	23
Alicia Fessides	23
Mark Fessides	23
Madison Fessides	23
Noah Fessides	23
Crissy Nadzan	23
Chuck Szabo	24
Andrew Wallace	24
John Dietrich	25
Karen McCracken	25
Mary Palmquist	30

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## PRAYER CONCERNS

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

- Landon, Jean Taylor’s nephew’s three week old son hospitalized for meningitis
- Jim, Jean Taylor’s brother, having problems regulating blood pressure
- Tom Pudelski (Terri Humphrey’s father) hospitalized for pneumonia and congestive heart failure
- Kathy Osten’s mother who is suffering from a skin infection
- John Krill, (neighbor of Sandi & Ed Morgan) diagnosed with leukemia awaiting bone marrow transplant
- Robbie Couch, (Faye Brockmiller’s mother) transitioning home and recuperating from recent heart attack
- Tonya Schoch, friend of Bill Andrews, health concerns
- Minnie Nowry recovering from stroke; Buck Patzer
- Christina Schuliger and Angela Schwab (friends of Lynn Gunther)
- LuAnn Shonk (Bev Kohler’s daughter), lung problems
- Francine (family friend of Karen & Ron Doerr), Mare Miller, Connie Mannino, Alan Singleton, Joanie Gremer, Philip Forsyth, Marie Teets, battling cancer.

## The Bells



# THE LUTHERAN HOUR

*Proclaiming Christ for 75 Years.*



### April 1—**"April Fools? Or an April Call to Faith?"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

A servant Messiah? A humble King? This is no April Fool's joke. It's an April call to faith in Jesus for life, now and forever. (Phil. 2:5-11)

### April 8—**"Jesus' Resurrection: God's Public Guarantee for Lasting Hope!"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Jesus' resurrection is God's public guarantee that life is worth living because life in Christ never ends, starting now. (1 Corinthians 15:17-19)

### April 15—**"What Is Precious, Holds"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Take hold of life, confidently, joyfully, and lightly, knowing that God's grip on you is sure and certain. (1 John 1: 1-3)

### April 22 —**"Repentance Refreshment"**

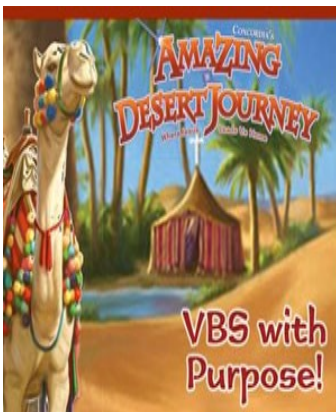
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

God calls us to repentance so that we might know the refreshment of His grace and forgiveness. (Acts 3:18-21)

### April 29 **"Not All Paths"**

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

Counterfeit dollars are without much value. They are deceptive and disappointing. The same could be said of futile, false faiths. (Acts 4:12)



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**PRINCE OF PEACE VBS &**  
**COMRADES FOR CHRIST**  
**VBS Amazing Desert Journey**

**June 24 - 29, 2012**

**Evenings**

## **The Holy Spirit – The Lutheran Difference**

“Are you filled with the Holy Spirit?”

“Sure ... well, aren't all Christians filled with the Holy Spirit?”

As Lutherans interact with other Christians, they often find themselves struggling to explain their beliefs and practices. Although many Lutherans have learned the “what” of the doctrines of the church, they do not always have a full scriptural foundation to share the “why.” When confronted with different doctrines they cannot clearly state their faith, much less understand the differences.

Because of insecurities about explaining particular doctrines or practices, some Lutherans may avoid opportunities to share what they have learned from Christ and His Word. The Lutheran Difference Bible study series will identify how Lutherans differ from other Christians and show from the Bible why Lutherans differ. These studies will prepare Lutherans to share their faith and help non-Lutherans understand the Lutheran difference.

The Ladies Thursday evening Bible study will resume on April 12 when we will begin a six to eight week study on the Holy Spirit – the Lutheran Difference. If you are interested and would like the study materials in advance, please contact Kathleen Ormiston. Thank you!

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### **Sunday Morning Bible Study**

Bible study on the Old Testament prophet, Amos. God called Amos, a shepherd, to declare His Word to six nations concerning their waywardness. Was he speaking to us also?

Come and join us Sunday at 9am to hear more!

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## **LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE EASTERN DISTRICT**

### **34th BIENNIAL CONVENTION**

JUNE 8th—10th, 2012

Double Tree Willow Valley

Lancaster, PA

Questions???? Please contact Mary Lehocky 724.728.1301

or visit the district website:

[www.east-dist-lwml.org/](http://www.east-dist-lwml.org/)



## Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Chris's Preschool News

Is it true that spring is right around the corner? We sure hope so! The weather seems to be on our side, let's hope it stays that way! We have faith though and we are hoping it is just around the corner! What a great month we had! It was filled with lots of fun and lots of learning! Time is just flying by and it's hard to believe that our year is coming to an end. The bible story for both classes was about Daniel in the lion's den. 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!

### 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 a weather wheel 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. Ward & Ms. Carrie's Preschool News**

"For the winter is passed. The rain is over and gone. The flowers are springing up. And the time of the singing of the birds has come." - Song of Solomon 2:11-12

**Special March Birthdays:**  
Katrina Podeszwa~ March 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Sammie Krut~ March 13th

*"Oh baby, the places you'll go..."* March is Dr. Seuss month nationally. We spent a great deal of time talking about Dr. Seuss this month and we enjoyed many of his classic books. Both classes tried green eggs and ham. This most certainly brought an uproar of giggles in the classroom. Their faces were priceless when the boys and girls were asked to taste green eggs! We also played "Dr. Dr. Seuss", (Duck, Duck Goose). The three year old class had great fun watching their teachers chase after them!

The four-year old class also focused on all different kinds of weather and St. Patrick's Day. Did March come in like a lion or a lamb? We did some great science experiments in conjunction with this topic. As a consensus, we really like the warm weather, so that we can get out to that playground! We are nearing the end of our alphabet and number books. That means it's time to start reviewing. I can't believe we are getting to that time of the year already!

The three year old class concentrated on all different kinds of transportation and St. Patrick's Day. We discussed the importance of seat belt safety and following signs, such as walk/ do not walk when crossing the street. In addition, we talked about the difference between red, yellow, and green on a traffic light. The boys and girls made edible traffic lights. Yum! As mentioned earlier, the three year old class is also nearing the end of their ABC and 123 books. We will start reviewing and continue to work on writing our letters and numbers.

Until next month...get outside and start enjoying the fresh air, new things growing, and the sound of birds chirping!

**Smiling at You,**  
**Mrs. Ward & Miss Carrie**

# The Bells

## APRIL 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Palm Sunday 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	2 9:00 Millvale Braille 6:00 Braille 7:00 God Loves Moms	3 8:30 Braille 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ 7:00 Bible Study	4 11:00 Bible Study- <i>Lutheranism 101</i>	5 6:00 Seder Dinner	6 7:00 Good Friday Service	7 Vigil of Easter 6:30 Holy Communion
8 Resurrection of Our Lord 6:30 Cemetery Service 7:00 Easter Dawn 8:00 Easter Breakfast 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Feast of the Resurrection	9 6:00 St. Luke's Braille 7:00 God Loves Moms	10 8:30 Braille 9:00 Circuit Meeting 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ 7:00 Bible Study	11 9:00 Women's Bible Study 11:00 Bible Study- <i>Lutheranism 101</i> 6:30 Council	12 11:00 Forest Hills Braille 7:00 Choir 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	13	14 9:00 Men's Club 6:30 Holy Communion
15 Second Sunday of Easter 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion Voters Meeting	16 9:00 Haven Braille 6:00 Braille	17 8:30 Braille 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ 7:00 Bible Study	18 9:00 Women's Bible Study 11:00 Bible Study- <i>Lutheranism 101</i>	19 7:00 Choir 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	20	21 6:30 Holy Communion
22 Third Sunday of Easter 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	23 6:00 Braille	24 8:30 Braille 9:00 Preschool Chapel 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ 7:00 Bible Study	25 9:00 Preschool Chapel 9:30 Women's Bible Study 11:00 Bible Study- <i>Lutheranism 101</i>	26 7:00 Choir 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Elder's Meeting	27	28 9:00 Council Planning Meeting 6:30 Holy Communion
29 Fourth Sunday of Easter 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	30 6:00 Braille					