APRIL 2014

Volume 40, Issue 4

# The Bells

# **Game Plan**

Dear Friends in Christ,

It happens all the time; the half-court game winning shot, the ninth-inning home run, the Hail Mary pass. Fans who have already started leaving their seats rush back to the roar of the remaining crowd. In a moment, winners become losers and losers become winners. And as exciting as these plays may be, as enjoyable the game becomes when this happens, you never hear a coach say, "This was all part of our game plan." You never hear the star quarterback or the winning pitcher say, "We planned on luring them into a false sense of security." No one ever wants to be losing in the last seconds of the game, planning on that last-second play for the win.

Doesn't Easter seem to be just like one of those last minute plays? Jesus was arrested, suffered, and died. His body was removed from the cross and placed in a grave, sealed, and guarded. The disciples were depressed, dejected, and despondent. Like the fans in a losing game, some had already left Jerusalem, heading to Emmaus. Others hid in the upper room and locked the doors in fear of their lives.

And then, at the last minute, as dawn breaks, the stone is rolled away, the grave is empty. The crowd goes wild – well, two of the disciples ran seven miles to tell the others about seeing Jesus. And I'm pretty sure that there was much rejoicing in that upper room that first Easter night.

But unlike that Big Game, this last-second miracle was all part of the game plan before day one. Paul writes in Ephesians, "He chose us in him **before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and blameless before him." Jesus Himself tells the disciples that it was necessary that He had to suffer these things – crucifixion and death and then be raised on the third day. (Luke 24:26 ESV)

Isn't this wonderful, before the first ray of light, before the first mote of dust, God knew that His Son would have to suffer and die so that we might be saved – **and He went ahead and created everything anyway!** That's how much He loves us; knowing that we would sin, knowing the sacrifice needed to save us He still made us and loved us.

The Easter miracle was all part of the game plan. He planned for and allowed events to occur that seemed like He lost, yet in losing we won. As Easter comes, we rejoice and give thanks to God for His Son who won victory over the grave and death for us.

In Christ Jesus, Pastor Michael

WORSHIP WITH US

Saturday: 6:30 PM Sunday: 10:15 AM

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#### **Prince of Peace**

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# **King's Faith**

#### Eighteen Foster Homes ... Nine Arrests ... One Life-Changing Moment

Prince of Peace is sponsoring a showing of this powerful movie as a way to raise funds for our mission trip this August. The movie will be shown on Sunday evening April 27th at 7:00 at the Strand Theater in Zelienople. For this event to be a success for Prince of Peace and a blessing to the community we need your help. Please check out the following ways you can be a part of this important event.

For general information, please contact Tammy Eckstrom.

#### **Tickets**

We hope to sell 200 tickets. Each ticket costs \$10. We would like to sell the majority of tickets pre-sale but there will be tickets available at the door. The movie is geared towards teens and adults and because of the subject matter it is not recommended for younger children. Please consider inviting family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

For ticket information, please contact Lynn Gunther.

#### **Publicity**

We want to share the opportunity to see this film with the community. Please consider if you can help with placing posters where you work or shop or at other churches in your neighborhood.

For publicity information, please contact Mirka Fatschel.

#### **Concessions**

Refreshments will be available for sale before and during the show. Please consider donating 2-liter bottles of soft drinks, bottles of water, or cash to purchase popcorn, snacks and paper products.

For concession donation information, please contact Pam Licht.

#### **Raffle Baskets**

Please consider donating gift cards or items to use in raffle baskets or cash to purchase items. The baskets will be provided and assembled; we just need the items to put in them. Some basket theme ideas are:

- Pittsburgh sports teams (Steelers, Penguins, Pirates),
- Food (Italian, Mexican, coffee NO ALCOHOL PLEASE),
- Games and sports (board games, video games, sports equipment),
- Gift cards (take advantage of the Prince of Peace SCRIPS cards!)

We will also gladly accept donations from local businesses or any other ideas you may have. The items should be family-friendly and should be of interest to teens and adults. Item donations will be received through Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup>, however, cash donations and gift cards will be accepted through Easter.

For basket donation information, please contact Kathleen Ormiston

#### **Prince of Peace**

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#### **Birthdays**

Bethany Parker	2
Dean Parker	2
Faye Brockmiller	4
Chaz Lindell	6
Mary Palmquist	7
Carl Blank	9
Bobby O'Palka	9
Chance Merceir	15
Eric Bendekovic	17
Jim Lugo	19
Jakob Lehnman	22
Sean Veloski	24
Marissa Charlton	25
Sandy Kostelnik	30
Justin Mengel	30
Hannah Schrauder	30
Ruthann Weedon	30

<b>Baptismal Birthdays</b>				
Karen Doerr	1			
Natalie Osten	1			
Matthew Osten	1			
Nathan Taylor	7			
Allen Lee	10			
Larry Weimer	10			
Jeff Kerr	11			
Diane O'Palka	12			
Mary Podeszwa	14			
Genevieve Leonberg	16			
Erich Borgman	18			
Sandy Parker	19			
Chuck Szabo	24			
Andrew Wallace	24			
John Dietrich	25			
Karen McCracken	25			
Mary Palmquist	30			

#### Servants in Ministry

<u>Altar Guild</u> Bonnie Keen & Tara Dulski

#### <u>Greeter</u>

6-Ruth/Avis Miller 13-Kathy Voland/Rachel Eckstrom 20-Eric/Luke Bendekovic 27-Rich/Ethel Clayton

#### <u>Reader</u>

6-Jeff Doerr 13-Sam Osten 20-Tom Sigler 27-Kathy Osten

#### Acolyte

6-Kyle Borgman 13-Matthew Osten 20-Connor Ciccone 27-Sophia Fatschel

#### Audio Visual

6-K. Ormiston/D. Eckstrom 13-L. Gunther/D. Gunther 20-K. Ormiston/M. Gremer 27-D. Gunther/K. Ormiston



## **Prayer Concerns**

- Betty Haffely's son, Tom who is recovering from ankle surgery
- The family and friends of Edie Rice who passed away
- Chuck Taylor, still in hospital and recuperating from back surgery
- Willis Voland's sister Betty Ann, recent fall
- The Hilliard family and friends for the tragic loss of their daughter Emily
- Teresa Aranda (friend of the Ciccone family) for eye problems
- Monica Grunnagle (preschool friend) recuperating from double mastectomy surgery
- Sandy Majors rare form of leukemia; Rose Reiley, Bill Patterson, Margaret Rombold, Kristanya Zittlow, Milt Scott, Twila DeThomas' stepfather, Philip Forsyth, battling cancer

#### The Bells

## The Lutheran Hour—April Sermon Schedule

April 6 "**God Digs Deep**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz When our lives were on the line, Jesus dug deep to defeat sin and death. (John 11:1-45)

April 13 **"A Hero? No, a Savior!"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz More than a hero, Jesus is the only Savior of sinners. (Philippians 2:5-11)

April 20 **"Get Your Head into the Clouds"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz With eyes focused on the risen Christ, we can take whatever the world dishes out, overcome it and give thanks through it all. (Colossians 3:1-4)

April 27 "What Will It Take?" Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus Why didn't Jesus' enemies produce a corpse and nip this new faith in the bud? (John 20:25)

## **Easter Continental Breakfast**

The Parish Fellowship Committee will be hosting a continental breakfast from 8am – 9am in the Fellowship Hall. A sign up list will be posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please sign up if you plan to attend so we can be sure to accommodate everyone that is able to make it. Thanks! Questions? Please see Joleen Mesing.

## Egg Hunt

Comrades of Christ Youth Group will be holding a community egg hunt and pancake breakfast on Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 11:00 am. Candy donations are being accepted. See Eric Bendekovic to volunteer or for more information.

## **Gangway to Galilee**

VBS NEEDS YOU! June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm – 8:15pm. Please contact Twila DeThomas at twiladethomas@yahoo.com. Cost will be \$1 per child per day for ages 4 and up!

## **Food Drive**

Please continue to support our partnership with the Unionville United Methodist Church Food Pantry by bringing in your non-perishable food items such as cereal, soup, mac & cheese, peanut butter, jelly, cookies, etc. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## **Clean Up Day**

Clean up Day at Prince of Peace will be held from 11:00am -2:00pm on Saturday, April 12th. A sign up is posted on the bulletin board. Please join in some fellowship as we spruce up for our biggest holiday. Independent projects can be done on other days if you are not available then. See Jennifer Ciccone for information.

## **Mission Trip**

We will be traveling to the Buffalo area for a mission trip the weekend of August 1-3. This trip is open to ages 13 and up. Sign up is posted on the bulletin board. A deposit of \$20 will be due by May 15th to hold your spot. See Jennifer Ciccone for information.

## March Preschool News ... Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Nikki

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. The Bible story for both classes was about Jesus walking on water. 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. Shuttleworth & Ms. Nikki

## March Preschool News ... Mrs. Smith & Ms. Twila

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

ROAR!! March sure came in like a LION! Let's pray the month goes out like a LAMB! Our Bible lesson during the month of March was "Jesus Walks on Water". We explained that there were twelve disciples who were followers of Jesus. As the storm came in his disciples needed help. Jesus called Peter out to him on the water. Peter lost focus and began to sink. With focus and guidance of God, ALL things are possible!

The three year old and four year old classes both learned four new letters in March; **G**, **U**, **K**, and **R**. Next month we will finish up the final two letters we need to practice from the alphabet.

March 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 <u>One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish</u>. The four year old class favorite Dr. Seuss book was <u>The Cat in the Hat</u>. As the month progressed each class celebrated the anticipation of Spring. 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, <u>Luckiest Leprechaun</u> would come to life. Each class had a surprise during snack time on the school days surrounding St. Patrick's Day. The <u>Luckiest Leprechaun</u> spilled Lucky Charms cereal all over our tables. PESKY LEPRACHAUN...!

At the end of the month we participated in Chapel during class. Both classes sang the song, *Footprints on the Water*. All the students made an art project headband in the shape of a fish. The fish signified the life in the sea Jesus walked on. This little ditty was adorable yet worshiping at the same time. The students put together a well thought out plan with our fish headbands. All the colors and glitter were a special touch to the headbands during our song. We would like to thank all our parents, friends, and neighbors who attended Chapel in March. April will be our last Chapel presentation due to our four year old class graduation that will take place in March.

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 still accepting 2014-2015 registration 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

## **Prince of Peace**

### **The Bells**

## **April 2014**

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	2 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Service	3 7:00 Choir	4	5 6:30 Holy Communion
6 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	7	8 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	9 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 6:30 Council 7:00 Midweek Service	10 7:00 Choir	11	12 9:00-11:00 Community Egg Hunt 11:00-2:00 Clean Up Day 6:30 Holy Communion
13 Palm Sunday 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	14	15 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	16 11:00 Midweek Bible Study	17 7:00 Maundy Thursday	18 7:00 Good Friday Service	19 9:00-11:00 Mens Club 6:30 Easter Vigil
20 Resurrection of Our Lord 7:00 Easter Dawn 8:00 Easter Breakfast 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Feast of Resurrection	21	22 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	23 11:00 Midweek Bible Study	24 7:00 Choir	25	26 6:30 Holy Communion
27 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	28	29 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	30 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 7:00 Elder's Meeting			