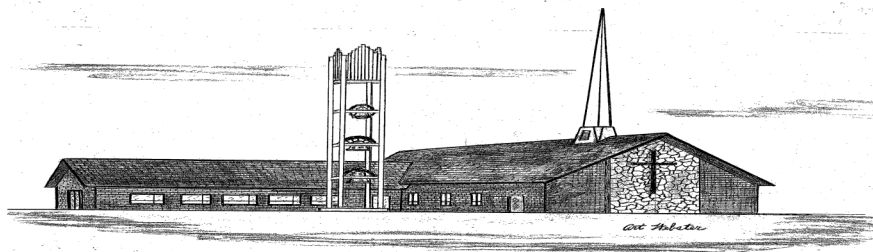


The Bells

January 2013

Volume 39, Issue 1



It's the End of The World, Not!

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Dear Friends in Christ,

If you're reading this, then you know that the world did not end on December 21, 2012 as some say the Mayans predicted. Nor did the world end on October 21, 2011 (or September 6, 1994) as predicted by Harold Camping. Nor did the world end as the Jehovah's Witnesses predicted in 1914 (1925, 1931, 1941, 1966, 1975 and 1994).

In fact, all predictions about the exact date for the end of the world have not come to pass. Yet each year many people claim to know the date, claim to know when the Last Day will happen. Because of the prominence of the Mayan 12/21 date, I thought it would be wise for us to take a brief look at what the Bible actually says.

First, the world will end. Rejoice! For this is **good news**. It's good news that the world is going to end. Scripture teaches that the ground is cursed because of our sin, and that it groans in anticipation of the Last Day. For on that day, God will destroy the earth and **recreate** it. It will be a perfect world; there will be no more curse, no more weeds or thistles.

Second, on that day the dead will be raised from their graves. And if we are still alive on that day, we shall be changed in the twinkling of an eye. Our bodies, which are falling apart due to the corruption we suffer in a sinful world, will be transformed into imperishable bodies. This, too, is **good news**. In this new era, we won't need glasses or medicines or canes, because our bodies will be perfect. Even better, we won't have the desire to sin anymore. The temptations that we face in this life will be gone forever.

So when will this happen? Well, frankly it could happen at anytime. It could happen before you receive this article, or moments after you read it. It is important to remember that we are already living in the last days. (Hebrews 1:2). Jesus' birth began the Day of the Lord. That's one of the reasons we celebrate Christmas, because His coming brought healing and forgiveness.

Now we wait, we wait for the final coming of our Lord and Savior. We wait for the Day of Judgment. "Concerning that day and hour," Jesus says, "no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only." (Mat 24:36 ESV) But for the believer, it's not a day to fear. God has already pronounced judgment on us, "there is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." (Rom 8:1-2 ESV) The verdict is known; we have been declared not guilty in Jesus Christ.

It's the end of the world, no. It's the beginning of something new and better; something that we can barely imagine or comprehend. So let's rejoice and celebrate.

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor Michael

WORSHIP WITH US

Saturday: 6:30 PM Worship

Sunday: 10:15 AM Worship

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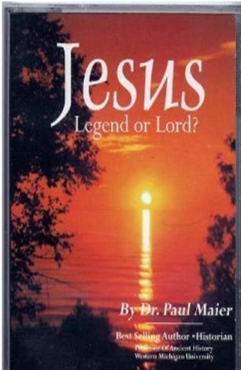
60 Rochester Road
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Ladies Thursday Evening Bible Study – Jesus: Legend or Lord

On January 3, 2013, we will begin an 8-week class to study the history of Jesus using a seminar on DVD presented by Dr. Paul Maier.

“Dr. Maier travels a three-lane highway into the past through geography, history, and archaeology -- "God's back-up systems." His lectures, illustrated by slides and motion-pictures, illuminate the world of Jesus, the circumstances of His birth at Bethlehem, His youth in Nazareth, and His public ministry in Galilee and Judea. Culminating this series are penetrating new insights and evidence into His trial, crucifixion, and resurrection, including even the explosion of Christianity after Pentecost.”

If you are interested in participating in the exciting study, please contact Kathleen Ormiston.



Thank You!

Dear fellow baptized of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church:

Please receive this letter of thanks for hosting me this past 13 October 2012 during my Home Service travels throughout the United States. I greatly appreciated your hospitality. I am grateful for both your interest in learning of the Lord's work of grace and mercy in Leipzig and broader Europe and your willingness to consider a committed, supportive role in this endeavor. If there is any way that I can be of further assistance in this regard, or if I can bring any advantage to your congregation and its life and work, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I thank our God for the relationship that we share. May the Lord bless you in Christ Jesus through the Holy Spirit during this Advent Tide.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,
Rev. Dr. Christopher S. Ahlman
Strategic Mission Developer, Eurasia
Office of International Mission

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversaries:

David & Susan Voland 4

Birthdays:

Erich Borgman 1
 Joanie Gremer 1
 Tom Applequist 2
 Mike Gremer 2
 Amy Wilson 2
 Karen Doerr 3
 Jason Bruce 5
 Ethel Clayton 6
 Sam Osten 6
 Sallie Mannino 7
 Brooke Lehman 10
 Sandi Morgan 10
 Olivia Baker 14
 Stephen Baker 15
 George Mesing 15
 Karen Meinert 17
 Colleen Sigler 17
 Karen Koenig 18
 Ted Fessides 21
 Mary Nuerge 21
 Natalie Osten 21
 Susan Voland 23
 Kathy Voland 24
 Joan Bowen 25
 Sylvia Clayton 27

Baptismal Birthdays:

Charles Coe 1
 Peter Humphrey 1
 Bill Mallary 1
 Joseph Meinert 1
 Donna Lugo 6
 Skylar DeThomas 8
 Don Wunnenberg 22
 Mike Gremer 29
 Delores Simmons 29
 Sam Osten 31

Servants in Ministry

Reader:

6-Karl Borgman
 13-Dana Hankinson
 20-Kathy Osten
 27-Diane O’Palka

Greeter:

6-C. Nadzam/M. Daubenspeck
 13-Milt/Christie Scott
 20-Darryl/Lynn Gunther
 27-Stephan/Mirka Fatschel

Acolyte:

6-Jeremy Osten
 13-Ruthann Weedon
 20-Kyle Borgman
 27-Brendan Doerr

Audio Visual:

6 - K. Ormiston/Doug Eckstrom
 13—Lynn Gunther/K. Ormiston
 20—S. Fatschel/Mike Gremer
 27-D. Gunther/Kathleen Ormiston

Altar Guild:

Linda Weimer, Robin Young
 Crissy Nadzam
 & Madi Daubenspeck



Prayer Concerns

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

- Carole Alberts recovering from surgery
- Delores Simmons
- Ora Edmundsun, Susan Voland’s mother
- Terri Humphrey recovering from recent surgery
- Connie Mannino battling cancer
- The Singleton family for the loss of Kim’s father, Alan
- Continued prayers for Richie, Tom & Colleen Sigler’s nephew
- Twila DeThomas’ step-father; Milt Scott, Joanie Gremer, Philip Forsyth, Marie Teets, battling cancer.

The Lutheran Hour—January Sermon Schedule

January 6— “In Christ, a New Day is Dawning, for You!”

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

The reality for all who trust in Christ: because of Him, a new day has dawned for you. (Isaiah 60: 1,3-6)

January 13— “Jesus, the Pilot of Your Life”

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

When life seems so beyond our skill or control, we need Jesus, the Pilot who alone can rescue us and bring us safely home. (Luke 3:15-22)

January 20— “The Lord Who Brings Celebration to Life”

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltzer

Jesus turns the bitter water of our despair and defeat into the wine of eternal life. (John 2:1-11)

January 27— “Getting the Right Gift”

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus

With His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus gave us sinners the most precious, personal gift we could receive, and we...well, we were too busy playing with the box. (Mark 1:35-39)


TRIVIA NIGHT

Prince of Peace Church will be hosting its 1st Annual Trivia Challenge on Friday, January 18th from 7 - 11 pm in our fellowship hall.

Admission is \$8.00 for individuals or \$50.00 for teams of up to 8 players. The winning team will take home \$100 cash prize. Gift baskets of fun prizes will be up for grabs with a Chinese Auction. Bring your own picnic basket and your favorite foods to enjoy with your friends. Soft drinks will be provided. Proceeds will be used to send a group to the National Youth Gathering in San Antonio Texas.

Contact the church office at 412-728-3881 or Jennifer Ciccone (stewardship@princeofpeacefreedom.com) to register or for details.

Advanced registration is recommended to secure your spot!



SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Friday, February 15, 2013

5:30 — ????

*Prince of Peace
Annual Valentine's Dinner*

D.J. & Dancing

B.Y.O.B.

*Look for delicious dinner menu
details in next month's newsletter!*

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Chris' Preschool News



What a busy month we have had! The children have been practicing very hard for their Christmas programs! They worked very hard and it was such a joy watching them perform! Both classes did a super job and we are so proud of all of them! A big **THANK YOU** to all the parents who made costumes and baked cookies for our programs! We could not do it without you!

The four and three year olds are still working hard on their letters and numbers. Our main topic for the month was The True Meaning of Christmas. We had a tree decorating party and made some very pretty ornaments for our tree.

We started on evaluations and we will be finishing them up after Christmas break! The fours will start working on printing their name in upper and lower case letters.

Thank you for sharing your children with us! We are having so much fun with them and they are a joy to have! Have a blessed Christmas and A Happy New Year!

Smiling at You,

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Chris

Mrs. Ward & Ms. Twila's Preschool News

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above. — James 1:17

Time is flying by. It seems like just yesterday we were meeting for orientation. The preschool students are making wonderful progress. They are blossoming before our very eyes. We see them sharing, "using their words", forming friendships and learning. Nothing is more amazing than watching them grow throughout the school year. Our 3 year old class is successfully reciting all of our prayers now. We are proud and we hope you are too.

We spent the month of December talking about the birth of Baby Jesus. We also spent a great deal of time preparing for our Christmas program. The children were very proud of themselves. They did a fabulous job. In addition to these things, we also had some fun. We decorated our Christmas tree, made a countdown for Christmas, made Santa's beard from our very own handprints, and had our Christmas party! A special thank you goes out to all of the parents for helping with the Christmas party and making this a joyous time for the boys and girls. As always, we are continuing to work on our ABC and 123 books. Ms. Twila and I are pleased with the progress your children have been showing since the beginning of the school year!

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Psalm 126.3

Until next month...I hope this holiday season left you with precious memories and a new year with continuing blessings, excellent health, friends, family, good work, and great fun! Happy 2013!

Smiling at You,

Mrs. Ward and Ms. Twila

JANUARY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1 New Year's Day	2	3 7:00 Ladies Bible Study - "Jesus: Legend or Lord?" 7:00 Choir	4	5 6:30 Holy Communion
6 Epiphany of Our Lord 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	7 9:00 Millvale Braille 6:00 Braille	8 8:30 Braille 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	9 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 6:30 Council	10 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	11	12 9:00 Men's Club 6:30 Holy Communion
13 Baptism of Our Lord 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	14 6:00 St. Luke's Braille	15	16 11:00 Midweek	17 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	18 7:00 TRIVIA NIGHT	19 6:30 Holy Communion
20 Second Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	21 9:00 Haven Braille	22	23 11:00 Midweek	24 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	25 6:00 Dinners for 8	26 6:30 Holy Communion
27 Third Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	28 6:00 Braille	29	30 11:00 Midweek 7:00 Elder's Mtg.	31 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir		