

March 2014
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The Bells

WORSHIP WITH US

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

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Creation Evidence

Dear Friends in Christ,

Last month Prince of Peace hosted the viewing of the debate between Bill Nye, the Science Guy and Ken Ham, of the Creation Museum. The debate was well received with many interesting facts presented by both sides. It was a lot of fun and I hope that we will have many opportunities to have events like that in the future.

There was one question, which came after the main debate that caught my eye. One question, that I thought, would be good for us to talk about. From the audience came this question, "What would it require for you to change your mind?" In other words, "what would it take for you to abandon creation and believe in evolution?"

And the answer is, "Evidence."

I'm not talking about "finding the missing link" between apes and man. I'm not talking about observing evolutionary change from one kind of animal to another. I'm talking about a different type of evidence altogether – the evidence related to the resurrection of Jesus.

There are four minimal facts that both friends and foes of Christianity agree to; 1) Jesus lived, died on the cross, and was buried; 2) His tomb was empty and no one ever produced a body; 3) His disciples believed they saw Jesus resurrected; and 4) Jesus' disciples were transformed by their observations.

Here's the thing about creation; Christians don't believe creation because it's in the Bible. We don't believe creation because scientific evidence points to it (and a lot does). We believe in creation because the Son of God, the Author of Life, Jesus of Nazareth points to creation; [Jesus] "answered "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female." (Mat 19:4 ESV)

Jesus, "for whom and by whom all things exist," (Heb 2:10 ESV) points to creation as the means by which God brought the cosmos into existence. He created man out of the dust of the earth; He breathed life in Adam's nostrils the breath of life and formed Eve from Adam's rib.

What would it take to abandon the belief that God created everything? Evidence: Show me the body of Jesus. Prove that He didn't rise from the dead. Prove that He didn't ascend into the heavens. Prove that He wasn't who He said He was – the great I AM.

You see, if Christ hasn't been raised from the dead, our faith is futile and we are still trapped in our sins. "We are", as Paul says, "of all people most to be pitied." But Christ has been raised; He is the firstfruits of all those who have died – in Him all shall be made alive. And we wait joyfully until He comes again.

In this life, we will be confronted by the "Bill Nye's" of this world, those who are filled with the wisdom of this world. But as God's chosen people, we know that this wisdom is folly with God. We put our trust in Jesus, who was raised from the dead. And in Him, we too walk in newness of life.

In Christ Jesus,
Pastor Michael

Prince of Peace Poem

A Poem by Doris Mesing

*As most of you are aware a very dear, long time member, Doris Mesing passed away last month. Doris wrote many poems in her life and some of us were fortunate to have read a few of her poems that were displayed at her sympathy meal held here at Prince of Peace. This poem written on January 7, 1976 was originally published in the February, 1978 issue of **The Bells**.*

Our condolences and prayers continue for the Mesing/Parker families and friends.

Prince of Peace

Two little churches: One in the country, and one in town
A highway came through, one was torn down.
The two congregations united, but we had no room to expand;
Then God answered our prayers: we were given a gift, some land.
As God's people, we spiritually grew, we thanked Him every day
Soon a beautiful church was built, and we were on our way.
Sometimes we disagree, and there is some conflict and struggle within
But, our church has a special closeness, and God forgives our every sin.
We share a bond of love and friendship that will never cease;
Thank you, God, our Creator, for our church, "Prince of Peace".

Altar Guild

Thanks to Carol Helkowski, Bonnie Keen, Linda Weimer, Amy Wilson and Rachel Eckstrom for doing extra duties this year in setting up the altar on Saturday and Sunday. If you would like to help we still need a hand during the month of December on both Saturday and Sunday. Thank you!
Kathy Voland

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.

Mission Trip

We're so excited to have the opportunity to partner with the Strand Theater, in Zelienople, to host a movie event to raise funds for our upcoming mission trip. There are many ways to help. Please join us for an organizational meeting after church on Sunday, March 9th.

Benefit Pancake & Sausage Dinner

Big Knob Grange, Big Knob Antique Tractor Club, Boy Scout Troop #444 and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans are sponsoring a benefit Pancake dinner on Tuesday, March 4th to benefit Cody Zedak who was injured in an car accident this fall. Details posted on the bulletin board.

Birthdays

Jim Nord	2
Kathleen Ormiston	2
Katrina Podeszwa	2
Jeremy Osten	3
Christie Scott	6
Jeff Kerr	7
Ben Davis	10
Mirka Fatschel	11
Mary Podeszwa	16
Karen McCracken	17
Colton Blank	18
Jeff Doerr	18
Charles Szabo	18
Nathan Taylor	19
Doug Eckstrom	20
Jase Wilson	23
Joshua Humphrey	26
Sophia Fatschel	28
Linda Bruce	30
Sandy Parker	31

Baptismal Birthdays

Amber Gremer	5
Rachel Humphrey	5
Joan Bowen	8
Rory McCracken	8
Ariana Gremer	8
Briana Dulski	10
Justin Veloski	10
Minnie Nowry	12
Amy Wilson	12
Ron Nowry	15
Katrina Podeszwa	18
Bonnie Keen	20
Joleen Mesing	20
Jeremy Osten	21
Sierrah Altenburg	22
Ben Forsyth	22
Ethel Clayton	25
Mary Dietrich	26
Patrick Jena	28
Bob Licht	28
Carole Alberts	29
Justin Mengel	30

Servants in Ministry**Altar Guild**

Carol Helkowski & Mary Nuerge

Greeter**2-OPEN**

9-Doug/Tammy Eckstrom

16-Eric/Luke Bendekovic

23-Ed/Sandi Morgan

30-OPEN**Reader**

2-Faye Brockmiller

9-Mary Nuerge

16-Tammy Eckstrom

23-George Mesing

30-Joleen Mesing

Acolyte

2-Connor Ciccone

9-Sophia Fatschel

16-Carrick Skuse

23-Matthew Muto

30-Jase Wilson

Audio Visual

2-K. Ormiston/D. Eckstrom

9-L. Gunther/D. Gunther

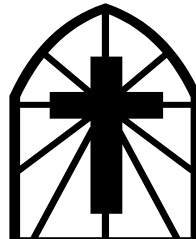
16-S. Fatschel/M. Gremer

23-J. Ciccone/K. Ormiston

30-D. Gunther/K. Ormiston

Anniversaries

Tracy & Linda Bruce	15
Brad & Jennifer Weedon	23

**Prayer Concerns**

- ❖ The Mesing/Parker family for the loss of Doris Mesing
- ❖ Betty Wunnenberg, hospitalized for heart murmur
- ❖ Kathy Voland as she heals from surgery on her finger
- ❖ Kathy Osten's brother, Brian who is recovering from surgery
- ❖ Several members of the Humphrey family, Aunt Carol, who suffered a stroke and also has a contagious viral infection, Peter's grandfather, who has congestive heart failure and pneumonia. Terri's brother and sister-in-law, Michael and Danielle who have gone into labor early, baby Gabriel, is in distress
- ❖ Kathy Osten & Nathan Taylor, skiing accidents
- ❖ Marcy Kughn, (Sylvia Clayton's niece) at West Penn complications with pregnancy
- ❖ Chuck Taylor & Meghan Sigler, car accidents
- ❖ Brittany Mavrigh, (PoP friend) back problems
- ❖ Teresa Aranda (friend of the Ciccone family) for eye problems and an upcoming eye surgery
- ❖ Monica Grunnagle (preschool friend) recuperating from double mastectomy surgery
- ❖ Sandy Majors, Daine Tomako (friend of Lynn Gunther), lung cancer, Rose Reiley (friend of Sallie Mannino), Margaret Rombold, Kristanya Zittlow, Milt Scott, Twila DeThomas' stepfather, Philip Forsyth, battling cancer.

The Lutheran Hour—March Sermon Schedule

March 2 "**God's Reality Check**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

The story of Jesus' death and resurrection is not an ancient urban legend. (2 Peter 1:16-21)

March 9 "**Life God's Way**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Satan tempts us to adopt his flawed idea of God's design for our lives. (Matthew 4:1-11)

March 16 "**Re-Born Free**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Spiritual rebirth is not a work for us to do but a gift to receive. (John 3:1-17)

March 23 "**Surprise, Surprise**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

A surprise encounter with a stranger at a well brings about a surprising blessing. (John 4:5-42)

March 30 "**The Bogeyman**" Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus

Pastor Ken Klaus says God is not out to get you. (John 9:1-41)

Ministry for Transportation

Some members of our congregation are unable to attend church service regularly because of transportation issues. Maybe their car has broken down, maybe they can no longer drive. We are looking for members who are able to provide transportation. If you are interested in helping or know of someone who might need a ride please contact Natalie Osten at n.osten21@gmail.com or call 724-996-4787.

Getting the Word Out

Please contact Mirka mfatschel@zoominternet.net if you would like to be added to the POP email list for announcements/cancellations, etc. Indicate if you **do not** want to be included in the email prayer requests. Also forward any POP events you would like advertised locally/online with 3 week's notice. Thank you!

Show Me the Sign

Help sponsor a sign for Prince of Peace! We are going to have one large and one small sign displayed on two of the Cranberry Township Athletic fields. One sign will be for our preschool and the other for the church. Thousands of people go to these fields in the spring and summer. A large sign costs \$500 and a small sign is \$250. We already have a large sign paid for a part of the small sign. If you would like to donate please see Lynn or Darryl Gunther. Thank you!

Couples Dinner

Join us on Friday March 21 at Atria's in Wexford for our monthly get together. Sign up is posted on the bulletin board. Thank you!

9th Annual Fashion Show

"Americana" will be held Saturday, May 17 at Butler Country Club and features "Fashions by Phyllis." Tickets are \$35 per person including valet parking. The event benefits the Good Samaritan Endowment Fund. Please call Concordia Lutheran Ministries Public Relations at 724.352.1571 x8266 to make your reservations. Deadline is May 1.

February Preschool News ... Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Nikki

Well it's that time of year when summer fever hits and we all are ready for the beach!! The children are having a lot of fun and everyone seems to enjoy coming to school! All the classes love story time and really got into the chapel song this month! They really enjoy singing! They are so much fun to watch too.

So if you haven't seen these little angels in action yet, you need to come to chapel and see them do their thing! Both classes had a pajama party and we all came to school in our jammies! We watched movies, played games and ate some popcorn. A good time was had by all!!!!

The Bible lesson for both classes was about Noah's Ark. We made Arks, matched animal crackers up two by two and we took pictures of children with their Noah beards. They were on display in the hallway! Kudos to Ms. Twila for the great craft!

Three year olds

Our lessons for the month were: Counting, Valentine's Day, and Shadows. We did some shadow matching and shadow dancing! We had so much fun dancing around with our shadows! We counted just about everything we could and they loved coming in to see what we were counting that day! We made some Valentines for our families. They are working hard and some of the things they say are so funny.

Four year olds

The lesson this month was about the five senses! We had so much fun with this and the children really enjoyed it! We played a game called "egg full of sounds". I placed twelve different sounds in a dozen of plastic eggs and they had to guess the sound. Then they brought in their own "egg full of sound"! We had so much fun with this! We also played sound bingo, where they only used their ears to listen. They are doing a great job and we are enjoying them!

The four year olds went on a field trip too this month. We visited Monte Cellos in Cranberry! The kids had a blast and so did the parents and teachers! We ate pizza and subs for breakfast!!!

Each child got to make their very own pizza! We got a tour of the restaurant and saw how a pizza is made. The children loved it and Joe and Vicki Savage, the owners, were so good with the children!

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Nikki

February Preschool News ... Mrs. Smith & Ms. Twila

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

Chilly February to you all! Please pray that our boys and girls in preschool have the opportunity to complete a full week of preschool due to weather delays and cancellations. Spring time is a MUCH anticipated break from the bad weather this year. The first few delays were exciting, but by the end of the month we are all ready for a bit of a warm up. Brrr.....

The month of February was spent reviewing the Bible story of Noah's Ark. We taught both the three and four year old classes what God said... "So make yourself an ark out of cypress wood. Make rooms in it. Cover it with tar inside and out. I am going to bring a flood on the Earth." And so he did... The students learned that by building an ark, Noah could save two of each animal and replenish the Earth. We taught that it rained for forty days and forty nights. Noah sent a bird to find dry land and see that the water from the flood had dried up. A dove found a leaf which proved a dry theory and Noah built an altar to honor the Lord. A rainbow was finally a sign of his covenant; which was to never flood the Earth again. The three year old class created a craft using a picture of themselves disguised as Noah, then we added their picture into an ark made of construction paper. The students loved seeing their photos in the finished product. The four year olds created an art project representing the rainbow God created to promise he would never flood the Earth again. Always entertaining with many colorful questions.

We learned four new letters during our writing skills time in preschool. We learned the letters; **E**, **V**, **I**, and **M**. During the letter "**E**" week we addressed an **E**nvelope to send to our valentine later in the month for Valentine's Day. Also, at the beginning of the month we watched carefully as the groundhog, Phil, saw his shadow. Both classes even made a Groundhog's Day hat to take home. During the letter "**V**" week, we held a teacher run **V**alentine's Day party filled with crafts, music, games, snacks and Valentine's. Students were also practicing their name recognition skills as they distributed their valentines. During letter "**I**" week, students told me where they thought **I**gloos could be located on a map. You should have heard some of their responses. (Florida?, Pennsylvania?) Their imaginations are wonderful. During letter "**M**" week the students talked about their recent field trip to **M**onte Cello's in Cranberry where we had a wonderful time making our own personal pizzas, taking a tour of the many part kitchen, and learning how they make the pizza dough and even grind the cheese for the pizza toppings. On the last day of school this month we had a "**P**AJAMA DAY". We just decided to sit back and put our feet up while everyone enjoyed a video and we played games in our P.J.'s.

Chapel was a success once again with both classes combined. The students sang a short song about "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it..."! Cute as always! We always try to thank the friends, families, and neighbors who attend Chapel with our students. The children were a little timid this month, but Miss Twila and I both feel the kids had a pretty good understanding of what Noah did for God. Cannot wait until next month.

Just a reminder: We are now accepting **2014-2015** registration for both three year old and four year old preschool classes. Please contact one of us at preschool should you have any questions or need the information for someone else. Referrals are ALWAYS appreciated!

Let's hope Spring comes in like a Lion, BUT goes out like a LAMB! I think we could all use a break in the weather.

**Blessings to you and yours,
Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila**

Prince of Peace

The Bells

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1 6:30 Holy Communion
2 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	3	4 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	5 7:00 Ash Wed. Service 11:00 Midweek Bible Study	6 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	7	8 9:00 Men's Club 6:30 Holy Communion
9 1 st Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion Mission Trip Mtg.	10	11 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	12 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Service	13 6:30 Council Meeting 7:00 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 Choir	14	15 6:30 Holy Communion
16 2 nd Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	17	18 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ	19 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Service	20 7:00 Choir	21	22 6:30 Holy Communion
23 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	24	25 6:30 Kidz Klub 6:45 Comrades of Christ <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Pr. Michael in Owego NY @ Young Influentials Conference</div>	26 11:00 Midweek Bible Study 7:00 Midweek	27 9:00 3yr Chapel 7:00 Choir	28 9:00 4 yr Chapel	29 6:30 Holy Communion
30 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	31					