

Prince of Peace

THE BELLS



March 2017
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Bearing Fruit

Once upon a time, there were four people... Everybody, Somebody, Nobody and Anybody. Whenever there was an important job to be done, Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. When Nobody did it, Everybody got angry because... it was Somebody's job! Everybody thought that Somebody would do it, but Nobody did it. So, consequently, Everybody blamed Somebody...when Nobody did what Anybody could have done in the first place!

WORSHIP WITH US

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Sunday: 10:15 AM

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Have you heard the above story? It a pretty simple parable about indifference and unresponsiveness that occurs in organizations when there is work to be done. Many times people will see a task to be done, but assume that somebody else will do it. As often happens, nobody ends up doing the work.

How does this apply to us at Prince of Peace? Paul writes, "You are the body of Christ and individually members of it." (1Co 12:27 ESV) Christ is the head of the Church, and we are His members – His hands and feet, fingers and toes, eyes, ears, mouth and nose. It is through us He does His work here on earth.

It's hard to do work when a part of your body is hurting, or worse, missing. When you stub your little toe, the whole body aches with pain. And just imagine how difficult it would be to put toothpaste on a toothbrush using only one hand. In doing its work, the Church feels that loss as well when members are hurting or missing.

The work of Jesus is to bring salvation to all people. The work of the Church is to bring the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ to those who do not yet know Him, to equip and train the saints for this work, and to strengthen and comfort those in the Church who are hurting. Jesus compares the work of the Church to a harvest, and commands His Church to pray that there are sufficient laborers for the harvest.

Over the next few months, you're going to hear those two words that bring fear and nervousness to all members: "Nominating Committee." This year the following positions are up for vote, Vice President, Treasurer, Board of Evangelism, Board of Youth and Family Ministry, Board of Social Ministry, Board of Church Properties, and at least two men for the Board of Elders. But we also need to fill two positions that have been empty for a while; Financial Secretary and Board of Stewardship.

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None of these positions work alone. The entire Council works as a unit to carry out the tasks of this church. Sure, we don't always get things perfect, but when do we ever get things perfect? And yet, it's not just Council, the whole Body of Christ is to be engaged in the work of the Church. The simple truth is that when the body cannot or does not act together, the good works that was prepared for us by God (Eph. 2:10) doesn't get done.

As we approach the time for elections, put aside the idea that "Somebody would do it." Because when we think this way, Nobody ends up doing it. Instead, pray for laborers in Christ's field. Pray that you are strengthened by the Spirit to walk in the good works that God has prepared for you.

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor Michael

MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Jim Nord	2
Katrina Podeszwa	2
Jeremy Osten	3
Joyce Hewlett	4
Christie Scott	6
Mirka Fatschel	11
Mary Podeszwa	16
Karen McCracken	17
Jeff Doerr	18
Chuck Szabo	18
Nathan Taylor	19
Doug Eckstrom	20
Jase Wilson	23
Matthew Muto	23
Joshua Humphrey	26
Sophia Fatschel	28
Sandy Parker	31

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

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

ANNIVERSARIES

Brad & Jennifer Weedon 23



SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

"But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you."

Greeter

5 – Bill/Becky Mallary
12 – Kathy Voland
19 – Don/Betty Wunnenberg
26 – Milt/Christie Scott

Reader

5 – Doug Eckstrom
12 – Kathy Osten
19 – Christie Scott
26 – George Mesing

Altar Guild

Linda Weimer/Mary Nuerge

Acolyte

5 – Sierrah Altenburg
12 – Hannah Bendekovic
19 – Nikolai Podeszwa
26 – Ethan Bendekovic

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please keep the following members & friends in your prayers:

- Rachel Humphrey, recovering from foot surgery.
- Continued prayers of healing for Willis Voland's sister; Betty Ann.
- Joel, a young friend of the Mesing family, Hodgkin's lymphoma.
- Additional prayers for those battling cancer: Bob Greer, Carol Helkowski, Milt Scott and Erica Davids.
- Layana (Granddaughter of Karen & Joe Meinert) for her mental health.
- Thomas Haffely who was hospitalized for cardiac arrest.
- Milt Scott recovering from pneumonia.
- Bill Humphrey, father of Peter and grandfather of Joshua and Rachel who is recovering from surgery.
- Barb Bishop, leukemia.
- Mary Lou, Kathy Voland's sister, health concerns.
- Jim Garrett, Ethel Clayton's brother, medical concerns.

LUTHERAN HOUR – MARCH SCHEDULE

March 5

"A Savior Who Fights for You!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Satan is a bully, but Jesus is the Savior Who fights for you.

(Matthew 4:1-11)

March 12

"The Power of a New Beginning"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Real help comes to us from the outside. In Christ, new beginnings and greater endings are still possible.

(John 3:1-17)

March 19

"A Well That Runs Deep Because You Need It"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Jesus is determined to meet you today with the water of grace only He can give.

(John 4:5-26)

March 26

"God's Got It In For Me"

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

God can use our troubles and crosses for a higher purpose that we may not understand until we reach heaven.

(John 9:1-41)

ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES: Have you signed up for your 2017 Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend? Marriage Encounter invites married couples on a journey—a deepening of your love. The program allows husband and wife to eliminate all distractions and focus solely on each other for the weekend. A \$100 per couple registration fee gets you signed up; plus toward the end of the weekend, you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish toward continuation of the program. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included. The 2017 Northeast US Weekends are:

- March 24-26, 2017 at Toftrees Golf Resort Conference Center -- a peaceful resort nestled in 1500 wooded acres in State College, PA.
- April 28-30, 2017 in Lancaster, PA, at the all newly-renovated Heritage Hotel Lancaster, home of the unique tree-house-inspired restaurant, "Loxley's."
- September 15-17, 2017 at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA, a new hotel-style facility on Spruce Lake in the heart of the Pocono Mountains – an hour north of Allentown.
- October 6-8, 2017 at the Black Swan Inn in Lee, Massachusetts. Nestled in the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains, a hidden gem overlooking Laurel Lake – an hour north of Hartford, CT.

To sign up online, go to: www.GodLovesMarriage.org and pay the \$100 registration fee using your credit card, or mark the option to mail in a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Northeast US Area Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or email: fjschamber@comcast.net. Registrations are limited, so act TODAY to ensure that you can attend the Weekend of your choice!



40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

March 1 - April 9

HELP SAVE LIVES IN PITTSBURGH!

Here's how to take part:

- **Vigil location:** Outside Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Ave., downtown Pittsburgh
- **Vigil hours:** 7 am to 7 pm daily
- **Local contact:** Nikki Bruni, nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com or 412-926-9413 (text or call)
- **Learn more** and get involved by visiting our campaign at the address below!

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 725,000 volunteers!

With God's help ... we've seen proven results in 19 coordinated campaigns:

- **12,668 babies** saved from abortion
- **141 abortion** workers converted
- **75 abortion** centers closed

40daysforlifepittsburgh.com or 40daysforlife.com/Pittsburgh

POP OUTREACH TEAM

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, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. 1 Peter 3:15-16

These verses from 1 Peter really hit home, especially the part about “*always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.*” And what better way to make people curious about the joy within than to perform acts of kindness and service for others. We often think these acts must be monumental or earth-shattering. Fortunately, that’s not the case at all.

We recently had a chance to serve families from the community through kid’s night out. What an awesome opportunity to get to know the children and give their parents or guardians a much-needed break. It wasn’t difficult to serve a simple meal, help with some crafts and pop some popcorn. These are things that most people can do with ease. In exchange for a little bit of our time we got to see kids enthusiastically make sand-art crosses and place them around their necks. And we were touched by the children who kindly made them for us to wear as well.

In about a month, we’re going to have another opportunity to share Jesus with our young families. On April 1st is our Easter Egg Hunt. We’ll stuff eggs with stickers and candies that carry the message of Easter and they’ll make a craft that will be a reminder of how much Jesus loves them. And by serving lunch, we’ll have an opportunity to get to know those parents and children better.

We hope you will commit to volunteering in one (or many) ways. There are about 900 eggs that need to be stuffed with items to be donated out of the kindness of your hearts. We could use help serving a lunch and, of course, we need able-bodied people to hide those eggs on the day of the hunt.

More details will be provided as the date gets closer. In the meantime, don’t hesitate to contact Twila DeThomas, Tammy Eckstrom (724-316-3766) or Willis Voland (412-889-5511) for more information.

THE NEW “ARK ENCOUNTER” TOUR:

Some of the women of Prince of Peace are planning a bus trip to Cincinnati to see the full-size replica of Noah’s Ark and to visit the Creation Museum. The Ark is actually built to the dimensions given in the bible. Imagine.... seeing The Ark as Noah and his family saw it! This should be an amazing experience and has been described by some as “life-changing”.

This trip is planned for September 11th – 13th. The total cost is \$639 (single). A deposit of \$150 is required. Of course, there is so much more to this trip. There will be some shopping and more importantly there will be fellowship. And when the women of Prince of Peace get together the word fellowship takes on a whole new meaning. There is love and laughter and lots of fun.

The more of us we can get to join this trip, the more of us there will be to come back and share the experience with our congregation.

Please consider joining us. There is information out of the table. Be sure to take a look. Don’t miss this opportunity!

If you have any questions please contact Linda Weimer, 724.776.5542

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Miss Jill's Preschool News

Well it's that time of year when spring fever hits and we all are ready for warmer weather!! The children are having a lot of fun and everyone seems to enjoy coming to school!

This month's bible story was about Jesus walking on water. The kids learned how Jesus sent his disciples to cross the sea. Jesus went up the mountain to pray to God, His Father. Then He walked on the water out to His disciples who were struggling in the wind to cross the sea. When the disciples first saw Jesus they thought He was a ghost. Jesus said, "take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." Peter said, "if it is you, tell me to come to you." So Jesus said, "come." Peter got out of the boat and walked to Jesus but the big waves scared him and he began to sink. Jesus grabbed his hand and said, "have faith." They both climbed into the boat and the wind died down. Then they all said, "truly you are the Son of God."

All of us have really enjoyed singing this month's chapel song *Footprints on the Water*. It is a very catchy tune and, once you hear it, it will be stuck in your head.

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. They children loved it and Joe and Vicki Savage, the owners, were so good with the children!

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Ms. Jill

Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila's Preschool News

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

February weather has been confusing this year! Is Spring almost here? Springtime is a much-anticipated break from the crazy, mixed up weather.

During the month of February we focused our Bible lesson on Jesus walks on water. We taught the kids that one evening Jesus sent his disciples out onto the water in a boat. Jesus realized they were struggling against the wind and waves so he walked out onto the water and approached them. At first glance the disciples thought he was a ghost. Jesus said, “take courage, it is I, so don’t be afraid.” Jesus called Peter to walk with him. Peter took two steps and took his eyes off of Jesus which made him begin to sink. Jesus reached out to Peter to save him sinking. Jesus said, “You have little faith, why did you doubt?” Jesus and Peter returned back into the boat; the storm was calmed and they were all able to cross the lake.

Jesus is always there for you.

We learned three new letters this month during writing skills. We learned the letters; E, V, and I. During letter E week we touched on the different kinds of animals that started with letter E. Elephant was the most popular! Also during letter E week we learned to address an ENVELOPE and send “someone special” a Valentine. During letter V week we drew and colored a valentine in our writing skills books. During letter I week we talked about ice and how we would make an igloo. This winter has not cooperated with this concept though.

Ha-ha

Both four year old classes took a very special field trip to Monte Cello’s Restaurant in Cranberry Twp. We had a wonderful time making our very own personal pizzas, taking a tour of the many part kitchen, and learning how they make the pizza dough and even grind the cheese. Monte Cello’s always puts on a great time for our students!

Just a reminder: we are now accepting OPEN enrollment for the 2017-2018 preschool year for both the three year old and the 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!

Let’s hope Spring STAYS around like a LAMB and goes out like a LAMB too!!

Until Next Month, Many Blessings,
Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila

March 2017

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 11:00 Bible Study 6:00 Meager Meal 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service	2 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	3	4 6:30 Holy Communion
5 1 st Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	6	7	8 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Lenten Service	9 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	10	11 9:00 Men's Club 6:30 Holy Communion
12 2 nd Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	13	14	15 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Lenten Service	16 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	17	18 6:30 Holy Communion
19 3 rd Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	20	21	22 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Lenten Service	23 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	24	25 6:30 Holy Communion
26 4 th Sunday in Lent 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	27	28	29 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Lenten Service	30	31	