

Prince of Peace

THE BELLS



November 2016

Volume 42, Issue 10

Election Day: What's a Christian to Do?

Dear Friends in Christ,

On November 8th, the people of this country will gather at the polls to elect senators, representatives, and the President. To say that this has been a combative election season would be something of an understatement. So what is a Christian to do? We should begin by remembering what Luther taught about how God established two different kingdoms for the Christian – the Church and the State.

In the Church, which is the assembly of his believers, God works to nurture his believers with both Law and Gospel.

The Law reminds us of our need for a Savior and guides us in the manner in which we ought to live. The Gospel is the good news that Jesus died for all people, that in Him we have light and life. The Word of God as revealed to us in the Bible is the only standard for what is right and wrong and for what is true and false.

The State is different in many ways from the Church because it is comprised of both believers and unbelievers. While the Church governs by the Word of God, the State is governed by natural law and reason. The purpose of the State is to keep order, dispense justice, protect its citizens, and foster the common good. It uses laws, penalties, money, and power – or as Luther described it, it “rules by the sword.” We may be frustrated by the government, but Paul says, “[The government] is God’s servant working to do you good” (Romans 13:4).

Church and State – Christians should not confuse the two. The Church has no authority to exert its influence over society by using force or finances. Likewise, the State has no authority to exert its influence over the Church. It is for this reason that the 1st Amendment in the Bill of Rights says, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

Note well that the “free exercise” of religion demands the freedom of speech, the (printing) press, and peaceful assembly.

Does that mean that we as Christians should not be involved in “State” issues? Of course not, in a free democracy like ours, a Christian ought to participate in the political process. And we ought to begin with prayer. The Scriptures tell us more than once that we are to pray for the government (Jeremiah 29:7; 1 Timothy 2:1-3). We know that all things are in the hands of our gracious God, and he invites us to bring our concerns to him in prayer. He promises that he will hear us.

We also can oppose government policy that conflicts with Christian principles. Christians can voice their objection by voting, by writing letters, by participating in demonstrations, offering testimony at legislative hearings, and supporting candidates by volunteer work or contributions. You could, for example, join the Lutherans for Life at the January 27th, 2017 March for Life

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<http://marchforlife.org/mf1-2017/>. Or to see a Lutheran in action before congress, watch our synodical President Harrison address congress in 2012 <https://youtu.be/3OVag2qmjKU>.

Politics can be, and often is, a cesspool. What are we to do when it seems that no candidate supports a Christian worldview? What are we to do when our choice seems to be the “lesser of two evils” and no matter what we do we may be sinning in our choice? Well, if I’m allowed to paraphrase Luther, make the best possible choice you can, and then let your trust in Christ be stronger than your trust in your vote. Rejoice in Christ who is the victor over sin, death, and the world. No sin can separate us from Him, not even a sinful vote.

In Christ’s Name,

Pastor Michael

WORSHIP WITH US

Saturday: 6:30 PM

Sunday: 10:15 AM

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November Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Carol Helkowski	3
Tara Dulski	7
Darryl Gunther	7
Pamela Licht	10
Peter Humphrey	13
Dustin Parker	14
Joleen Mesing	16
Betty Haffely	18
Brendan Doerr	19
Gene Reddel	22
Joan Coe	28
Matthew Parker	28
Beau DeThomas, Jr.	30
Joan Doerr	30
Kaitlyn Schultz	30

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Carol Helkowski	
Dan Helkowski	
Rich Clayton	
Hannah Bendekovic	1
Ethan Bendekovic	1
Luke Bendekovic	1
Tom Shively	1
Joslyn Mesing	12
Tammy Eckstrom	16
Karl Borgman	20
Carole Alberts	27
Tara Dulski	28
Betty Haffely	30

ANNIVERSARIES

Bob & Barbara Blank	21
Charles & Joan Coe	21
Milt & Christie Scott	30



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

6-Stephan/Mirka Fatschel
13-Mary Neurge/Tara Dulski
20-Tom/Colleen Sigler
27-Doug/Tammy Eckstrom

Reader

6-Peter Humphrey
13-Darryl Gunther
20-Doug Eckstrom
27-Tom Sigler

Acolyte

6-Ethan Bendekovic
13-Skylar DeThomas
20-Sierrah Altenburg
27-Hannah Bendekovic

Altar Guild

Jean Taylor/Amy Wilson

Audio Visual

6-Darryl Gunther/Mike Gremer
13-Stephan Fatschel/Doug Eckstrom
20-Matthew Muto/Doug Eckstrom
27-Lynn/Darryl Gunther

Prayer Concerns

Please keep the following members & friends in your prayers:

- For Rachel Humphrey for chronic back pain.
- Continued prayers of healing for Willis Volland's sister; Betty Ann and Terry McCall.
- Edith Mallary recovering from a heart attack.
- Additional prayers for those battling cancer: Bob Greer (youth leader at Darryl Gunther's former church), Carol Helkowski, Pastor Michael, Milt Scott, Erica Davids and Joan Doerr.
- Joel, a young friend of the Mesing family, who was recently diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma.
- Layana (Granddaughter of Karen & Joe Meinert) for her mental health.
- Thomas Haffely who was hospitalized for cardiac arrest.
- Blaise Fischer, son of friend of Liz Shuttleworth, heart issues.
- Edith Mallary, recovering from a heart attack.

LUTHERAN HOUR – NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

November 6

"Do You Want This Blessing?"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Jesus came to bless you; He takes the initiative to reach out to broken lives with His love and help.
(Matthew 5:1-12)

November 13

"The Day of Hope Is Coming!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
There is hope when God acts in the midst of our helplessness.
(Malachi 4:1-6)

November 20

"In Christ, Deliverance Is Sure"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Jesus breaks through into our dark world to bring us light and hope from above.
(Colossians 1:13-20)

November 27

"The Perfect Christmas"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
The first Christmas was anything but perfect. Then again, if everything had been just as it should be, we wouldn't have needed a Savior.
(Galatians 4:4-5)



www.lcmsfoundation.org 800-325-7912

Many Reasons to Give – Many Options for Giving

When two people fall in love and become one in the holy union of marriage, they typically share all that is to come, including material wealth. Most couples hold wealth in joint ownership. A few with considerable property might plan to separate assets in order to conserve taxes or maintain administrative protection. Yet in most cases, people commingle their property because it reflects their attachment and commitment to each other.

There also exists an emotional attachment, especially in connection with "objects of our bounty." Generosity and giving are natural expressions that communicate the message, "I love you. You belong to me." Giving can flow both during life and after.

Those who hear the Call of God's Love through faith have similar connections that often transcend human ties. For some, generosity steeps up from the conviction that all that they have is a gift. For others, the desire to share and give comes from deep within the heart. Sadly, decisions to act on such aspirations often don't get made because of a lack of knowing how to proceed or the resolve to get started.

All of us have more options to structure gifts than is often understood. A relevant question to ask is, "What is the most effective way to give in each circumstance?" Answering this question often requires advisors who understand methods and vehicles that govern economic, tax and legal processes.

But we find that many people don't discuss this with their professional advisors. This means they may miss the best ways to match their generous intent with the optimal charitable vehicle.

Have you ever thought about seeking spiritual counsel on these gifting issues as a part of the process? Charitable advisors can help you align your hopes for blessing others with the most effective financial strategy for your particular situation.

For more information, contact Robert Wirth, LCMS Foundation Gift Planner @ robert.wirth@lfn.org or 716-863-4427.

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Miss Jill's Preschool News

Happy Fall to you ALL! The leaves are falling and we all know what that means.....winter is on the way! I know I'm not ready for it at ALL, but I think the children are!

I am happy to report that all 6 of our butterflies hatched and we were able to release them all into the beautiful sunshine! Each preschooler was able to hold the butterfly, it was such a great experience and its one of my favorite lessons to teach!

Time is sure flying and we have all settled into our daily routines! Although their favorite time of the day is snack of course!

3 Year Old Class The three year olds are working hard and are doing such a great job! They love to sing songs at circle time and listen to our story. We talked about growing pumpkins, took a field trip to Yecks pumpkin Farm, Fall changes and the many shapes of Halloween and Fire Safety. We carved a Jack O Lantern for our room and made a pumpkin report on our Pumpkin! As it turned out our pumpkin did float and did have many seeds! Most of them guessed that it would sink and that he wouldn't have any seeds! The surprises on their face was priceless!

The firemen from Big Knob came to visit us and we got to ride in the fire truck!! This is such an enthusiastic group and we enjoy having them in our class!

4 year old class The four year olds topics for the month were: Fire Safety, Growing pumpkins, Fall changes. The fours got to go on two fieldtrips, Yecks Pumpkin Patch, and the Big Knob Fire Station! While we were at the fire station we not only got to ride in the fire truck with sirens and the horn in full force! It was awesome! Getting to spray one of the hoses was lots of fun too! That was lots of fun for everyone!! Including the teachers!!! The biggest attraction was "Hydro" the 2 year old Dalmatian of one of the fire fighters, who also has a preschooler here!

We are working very hard on printing our letters and we have started to print our names in upper and lower case letters, please try and practice as much as you can at home.

This month's Bible lesson was about Noah's Ark. Our students learned that God told Noah to build the Ark because Noah was a good man. He built the Ark and the animals came two by two to get on the ark with Noah and his family. Then God shut the doors of the Ark and it rained for 40 days and 40 nights. Then God placed a rainbow in the sky as a promise of his love and that he will never flood the earth again. We sang our song about Noah at Chapel. The kids really go into it and loved singing the song!

Mrs. Shuttleworth and Ms. Jill

Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila's Preschool News

*All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children. –
Isaiah 54:13*

Welcome Fall!! The month of October was chocked full of teachable moments. First, we celebrated Fire Safety week. Our three year old class received a special visit from Big Knob's own Fire Chief and his fire engine to learn some fire safety tips. Our four year old classes took a field trip to visit the Fire Department and learn fire safety. The highlight of the visit was meeting the department's mascot, "Hydro" a three year old Dalmatian dog.

We added three new letters to our writing skills this month; A, O, and H. During letter A week, we focused on Autumn and the changes occurring outside. We also talked about the many kinds of apples and how they taste. Letter O week was a discussion about October as we started creating Halloween arts and crafts. Our four year old class did a fun science experiment with pumpkins. We tested whether a pumpkin will sink or float in water. We made a hypothesis and then followed through to find our actual answer. No matter how big or small a pumpkin is, it will always float in water. In addition, all the preschool classes took a field trip to Yeck's Farm and enjoyed a hayride as well as choosing a pumpkin to take home. Finishing out the month we focused on the letter H. The letter H represented Halloween and the fun costume party we had just in time for trick or treat. A special "Thank you" goes out to the wonderful parents for making this a fun and safe time for our students.

During our Bible study this month we learned Noah's Ark. The students learned that Noah built the Ark to protect Noah and his family from the flood waters. He invited animals; two by two to get on the ark. A dove was sent to check for safety while the floods were receding. When the water finally disappeared God placed a rainbow in the sky as his promise to never flood the Earth again. God gives us rainbows and animals, which are students' favorite answers. When the children participate in the question and answer sessions during class we try to provide a little treat to entice their minds. Lollipops work wonders! Chapel was celebrated during the last week of October.

Every year the Big Knob Fire Dept. volunteers to teach our preschoolers about fire safety and asks for nothing in return. This year we would like to make a monetary donation to their department on behalf of Prince of Peace Church and Preschool. Anyone wishing to donate cash can place it in an envelope and drop it in Miss Twila or Kelly Smith's mailbox to be included. Deadline for donations is November 15th. Thank you for your consideration!

Until Next Month, May God Bless each and every one of you!
Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila

November 2016

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2 11:00 Bible Study	3 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	4	5 6:30 Holy Communion
6 All Saints' Day 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	7	8 6:30 Council	9 11:00 Bible Study	10 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	11	12 9:00-11:00 Men's Club 6:30 Holy Communion
13 26 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	14	15	16 11:00 Bible Study	17 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	18	19 6:30 Holy Communion
20 Last Sunday of the Church Year 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	21	22	23 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Elders Meeting	24 HAPPY THANKSGIVING 	25	26 6:30 Holy Communion
27 1 st Sunday of Advent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	28	29	30 11:00 Bible Study			