OCTOBER 2015 Volume 41, Issue 9

# **The Bells**

WORSHIP WITH US

**Sunday: 10:15 AM** 

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, thank you for the WARM welcome to Freedom, PA and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. I am just wrapping up my fourth week here, and the days are still nice and warm.

I have met many people in the last four weeks, more than I can remember by name yet, but that will come with time. If we haven't met, please stop by the church office any Wednesday, or better yet, come and join us for worship Sunday morning at 10:15 a.m. (NOTE: As of October 1 the Saturday evening services have been suspended until further notice).

Let me tell you a little bit about who I am. My full name is Manfred Poeppel, but you can call me Pastor Fred. I was born in February, 1952 in my Dad's house in Goslar, Germany and was baptized in the Lutheran church in my Mom's home town of Quakenbruck. We emigrated to the USA in October of that same year. I grew up as a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Cabot, PA. I was confirmed in 1966, and attended Confirmand's Camp at Pioneer, which was an important event in my spiritual life. I graduated from Knoch High School in 1970. I received a B.S. degree in Chemistry with a minor in Secondary Education from Penn State in 1974 after student teaching in the Panama Canal Zone.

In May 1975 I married Janet Lang, whom I met in our youth group, but didn't start dating until after my H.S. graduation. We had a long distance romance for 5 years since we went to different schools together. Janet got her B.S. in Elementary Education from Clarion in 1975. From 1980 to 1985 the Lord blessed us with three sons, Kurt, Keith, and Scott; and Janet was able to be a full time Mom until we went to the Seminary.

From 1974 to 1981 I was employed as a research analytical chemist with the Ag Division of American Cyanamid in Princeton, NJ. In 1981, I returned to the Pittsburgh area to work for a small company in RIDC Park that manufactured mass spectrometers. I held various positions in technical support, sales, and marketing during my 10 years with that company.

In the fall of 1991 I resigned in order to prepare for the pastoral ministry at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO. My sons were 6, 8, and 10 years old when we moved, but the Lord provided us with all we needed. I served my vicarage (internship) in 1993-94 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Big Spring, TX, where Janet finally got to use her teaching degree as a substitute. In May 1995 I received my Master of Divinity degree, and accepted my first call as pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Albion, PA, where I served until June, 2012.

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During those 17 years I served on the Pioneer Board of Directors for 12 years (6 as chair) and the Eastern District Board of Directors for 6 years. The last three years I was Circuit Counselor of the Pittsburgh NW circuit.

While serving Holy Trinity, Albion I also served several neighboring churches as a vacancy pastor:

1996-1997 Zion, Ashtabula, OH (conflict arose with the next pastor)

2000-2004 Faith, Girard, PA (failed attempt at a dual parish with Albion in 1992)

2009-2011 Trinity, Erie, PA (Pastor Mark Sallach died in office, Dec. 2009.)

While serving at Trinity, Erie, I received training for Intentional Interim Ministry at two one week courses at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

Well, that's certainly enough about me. I am looking forward to serving you in this unusual type of interim ministry that the Lord seems to have been preparing me for all my life. I am filling in part time for Pastor Michael while he is on disability leave due to his physically exhausting chemotherapy and radiation treatments. I am not here with any kind of "agenda," except to serve you as you carry out your mission with as little disruption as possible. My goal is to turn over a healthy congregation to Pastor Michael when he is able to return to his full time pastoral duties. That's what we'll be working on while I'm with you for the next two months or as long as I'm needed.

Once again, please do introduce yourself. You can visit me at the office on Wednesdays or by appointment, or I'll be happy to come and visit you wherever suits you best. I live at Conneaut Lake, PA, about 80 miles north of PoP, about 7 miles west of I-79. My cell phone # is 814/323-1679. My e-mail address is pfpoeppel@yahoo.com.

See you in church! Bring a friend!—Pastor Fred

### Hats Off to the Caregivers of the World

I may not remember the first step I took, my first day at school, or the first time I felt truly on my own, but I do have a real sense of how blessed I was by the people who loved me and helped my through these experiences.

Caregivers have held my hand, given me encouraging words, and offered me prayer support that helped me over the rough spots in my life. Such support transcends the physical world and connects me in a spirit of oneness with loving, caring people.

The love of God is expressed by family, friends, teachers, health care workers, and all others who have helped us to know that we can accomplish so much more than we ever realized at the time. Yes, I am so thankful for the caregivers of the world and in our congregation. Keep up the good work!

"Remember I am here for you."

"But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children."

1 Thessalonians 2:7





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#### **Generosity In Your Own Words**

How would you put it? How could you tell others about generosity? Would you, like St. Paul did, communicate to people you love that we **should not keep the grace of God to ourselves**? Saint Paul framed his generosity teachings through a discovery that came late in his life. Rather than fuming with a hatred for sinners, as Paul was taught to do from childhood on, he found out that God actually loved him in his fallen humanity. Wow! Paul writes about God's generosity to the Corinthian church. "For the love of Christ compels (controls) us, because we have concluded that one has died for all, therefore all have died." This Jewish leader had been led to believe that the Jews, especially the ones who kept God's law zealously, were in the privileged line. He was surprised to learn that we "all have died." This discovery shed new light on his understanding of generosity. "... And He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised." Paul realized how true generosity can't be understood in an earthly way of thinking. Paul now looked at being generous through the lens of Christ, and his entire life was changed. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. . . . All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. . . and is entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. "What Paul learned from God is that generosity is about God's love for others and our opportunity to share that love. Paul found a renewed purpose in living as an ambassador of God. "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God is making his appeal through us." Have you ever thought about sharing such generosity with the people you love and the ministries you care about? For help, consult God's Word in 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 and 6:1. Also contact Robert Wirth, LCMS Foundation Gift Planner @ robert.wirth@lfnd.org or 716-863-4427 for help.

#### The Lutheran Hour—October Sermon Schedule

#### October 4

"Title: Fight for the One Next to You"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz Who's fighting for you? Who are you fighting for? (Hebrews 2:14-18)

October 11

#### "Clearing the Clutter"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Is there room in your life for that which is truly meaningful, important, and precious?

(Mark 10:17-22)

#### October 18

#### "Someone Up There Must Like Me"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Faith in Jesus means you can live knowing that Someone "up there" really, really loves you (Mark 10:23-31)

#### October 25

#### "Reformation Freedom, Reformation Faith"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

People have risked and even sacrificed their lives so that we could come to know the joy of God's forgiving love for us in Jesus.

(Romans 1:16-17)

## **October Birthdays and Anniversaries**

<b>Birthdays</b> Pat Bretheim 2 Cathy Goble Genevieve Leonberg	3	<b>Servants in Ministry Greeter</b> 4-Mary Nuerge/Tara Dulski	<b>Prayer Concerns</b> Please keep the  following members &  friends in your prayers:
Michael Szabo Carole Alberts Mark Fessides Beau DeThomas, Sr. Zach Eckstrom Andreas Fatschel Hannah Lindell Sarah Nuerge Robin Blank	5 9 9 16 19 19 24 29	11-Tom/Coleen Sigler 18-Bill/Becky Mallary 25- <b>OPEN Reader</b> 4- <b>OPEN</b> 11-George Mesing 18-Faye Brockmiller 25- <b>OPEN</b>	<ul> <li>Gene Reddel recovering at home.</li> <li>Continued prayers of healing for, Twila DeThomas's stepfather and niece, Carl Blank, Zelda Parks, Willis Voland's</li> </ul>
Anniversaries Joel & Heather Nuerge Bob & Lisa Dietrich Don & Betty Wunnenberg George & Joleen Mesing Bob & Pam Licht	4 9 14 17 20	<b>Acolyte</b> 4-TBA 11-TBA 18-TBA 25-TBA	sister; Betty Ann and Andy Kostelnik.  Prayers for comfort for Theresia Olmstead.  Additional prayers for those battling cancer: Rich Kardos (Tom &
Baptismal Birthdays: Lynn Gunther Alice Dietrich Carl Blank Stephan Fatschel Cora Harris Sue Szabo Tyler Borgman Robert Blank Ron Doerr Cari Skuse Sylvia Stedina Lawrie Borgman	7 10 11 12 12 20 24 27 27 27 31	Atar Guild Tara Nuerge  Audio Visual  4- Darryl Gunther and Doug Eckstrom 11- Stephan Fatschel and Mike Gremer 18- Matthew Muto and Doug Eckstrom 25- Lynn and Darryl Gunther	Colleen Sigler's nephew), Bob Greer (youth leader at Darryl Gunther's former church), Mary Guthrie (wife of Darryl's coworker), Carol Helkowski, Pastor Michael, Margaret Rombold, Milt Scott and Joan Doerr, who is undergoing treatment for brain cancer.

### **Kidz Klub**

Youth Group is back in full swing. Please remember to wear comfortable clothing and tennis shoes.

Our schedule for the evening is as follows:

6:00 – 6:15 Opening Prayer

6:15 - 6:30 Dinner 6:30 - 7:00 Games 7:00 - 7:30 Lesson

Closing Prayer 7:30

Questions? Contact Eric Bendekovic

A Prayer Request box has been placed in the Narthex area where you can submit prayer requests for Pr. Michael to review.

## Mrs. Shuttleworth & Miss Kristina's Preschool News

We are off to a great start! During the month of September our Science topic was the caterpillar and the butterfly. The children were very enthusiastic about it! They asked so many questions.

The Bible story for this month was about Creation. Both classes learned how God created our earth. The three and four year olds will be singing about God creating our Earth.

3 YEAR OLD CLASS The three year old class started their alphabet book and **love** story time. We read Jack and the Beanstalk and planted our very own "beanstalk"! Make sure it gets plenty of sunshine and water. Everyone is working to recognize their own name. We play fun games like the "Name Game" and "Musical Names." The three year olds are getting use to all the rules of the room so they can settle into a routine and become pros just like the four year olds!

<u>4 YEAR OLD CLASS</u> The four year olds topics included: All About Me, Families, Where I Live, And most importantly we discussed:

## "What makes us special?" —GOD MADE US!

We started counting in Spanish and are learning some words in Spanish as well! The children are picking it up fast! They love learning a new word each week. We have started our alphabet books and everyone is doing a great job!

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Miss Meyer

# Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila's Preschool News

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. (Psalms 127:3)

Thank you to all the families of Prince of Peace who have chosen to put their trust in Miss Twila and me to teach your children, as we begin a very busy school year. Since the summer weather is over already...who can believe it's that time of year again? We have been very blessed with new and returning faces of our students as we embark on our 169 day journey through this 2015-2016 school year.

The month of September has been a month all about Creation in both classes during Christian religion. We taught the students how many days it took God to create the heavens and the Earth, and that he rested on day seven. God created us and that is what makes us all special! We will be following up with the Bible story and song and dance during Chapel celebration in October.

During this school year, Mrs. Shuttleworth's classes and ours will be learning the alphabet out of order, starting with the letter W. The letter W represented a WELCOME week for all classes. The other letters we focused on this month were B, F, & C. During B, week we focused on the Monarch butterflies life cycle. When we started the letter F, it was the first day of Fall and we created an art project using paper towels cut into leaf shapes with paint that would run together creating vibrant fall colors.

At the end of September, our students brought their best smiles for picture day! We are off to a wonderful start in both classes. We are looking for positive attitudes toward learning from all the boys and girls and their families. The children are full of energy and so much fun; we are learning to channel the energy for the good of the classes. Thank you for sharing these precious gifts with us each and every day.

Donations are always welcome and accepted, but if anyone is looking to donate to the preschool we could always use stickers and bottles of hand sanitizer. Thank you in advance.

Blessings to you and Yours, Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila

## **October 2015**

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	2	3 12:00-4:00 Fall Festival
4 19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	5	6	7 11:00 Bible Study	8 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	9	10
11 20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	12	13	14 11:00 Bible Study	6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	16	9:00-11:00 Mens Club
18 21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion Explorer's Club	19	20	21 11:00 Bible Study	6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	23	24
25  22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion	26	27	28 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Elders Meeting	7:00 Choir 7:00 Ladies Bible Study	30	31