

Prince of Peace

THE BELLS



January 2022
Volume 48, Issue 1

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Dear Members of
Prince of Peace,

Happy New Year!
When did this party start? It was over 4,000 years ago in Babylon! The original celebration was the day after the first new moon after the vernal equinox. Over the years as civilizations around the world developed calendars, most of them tied the first of the year to agricultural or astronomical events.

In the year 46 B.C. Julius Caesar, realizing the calendar and the sun didn't sync, introduced the Julian calendar, which is close to the Gregorian calendar in use today. He instituted January 1 as the start of the new year in honor of the Roman god, Juaus, whose two faces enabled him to look back into the past and forward into the future.

Don't we do that ourselves on January 1st as we look back on what we did or didn't do, or events throughout the past year and wonder what if? Then we make those resolutions: lose weight, exercise, spend more time with family, get a new job, study more -- the list goes on and on. Sometimes we stick with it for a few days or maybe even months or, if we're really dedicated, a few years.

Many of these resolutions are good for our physical bodies, but what about our spiritual well-being? Where does attending church and Bible class on a regular basis, reading the Bible or praying daily fall on our list of priorities? If it makes the list, is it near the bottom?

With the help of the Holy Spirit, that can change. There are many resources that can be used in your quest to "put on the full armor of God." The next time you're at church, pick up a copy of "Portals of Prayer" and make a commitment to read it daily. If you prefer on-line options, check out the "Daily Devotions" at Lutheran Hour Ministries site (lhm.org). Stick with it and you'll read the entire Bible in one year—all in less than 30 minutes a day!! While it won't help you lose weight, it will definitely make you spiritually stronger.

Doug Eckstrom
President

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday:
11:30 AM

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Please keep the following members & friends in your prayers:

- Dave (Twila’s Stepfather), with recurring lung cancer.
- Zachary Weldon for health concerns.
- Tony Mannino (Sallie’s son).
- Joan Bowen.
- Bill Hewlett, health concerns.
- Betty.
- Nick.
- Dave.
- Ian.
- Karen.
- John.
- Sue.
- Debbie.
- Jen.
- Bill Waddel (Joan Bowen’s Son).
- Sue Szabo.
- Tammy Eckstrom’s nephew, Craig, recovering from a car accident.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Erich Borgman	1
Joanie Gremer	1
Mike Gremer	2
Amy Wilson	2
Ethel Clayton	6
Sallie Mannino	7
Brooke Lehman	10
Sandi Morgan	10
George Mesing	15
Colleen Sigler	17
Mary Nuerge	21
Kathy Volland	24
Joan Bowen	25
Brianna Dulski	26
Robert Steigerwald	31

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Ed Morgan	1
Skylar DeThomas	8
Matt Parker	18
Kaitlyn Schultz	21
Don Wunnenberg	22
Mike Gremer	29

ANNIVERSARIES

Robert & Deborah Seigerwald 29



LUTHERAN HOUR – JANUARY SCHEDULE

The Lutheran Hour can be heard on channel 1320 WJAS On Sunday Mornings at 7:00 am

January 2

"Gospel Power for Personal Patience"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

No one likes to wait! Hear God's promises for impatient people.

(Luke 2:40-52)

January 9

"Facing Rejection"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

How does one deal with rejection? Push through it? Rise above it? Or start over?

(Luke 3:1-22)

January 16

"Hazed and Confused"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God is against our pride because He wants to give Himself to us.

(Luke 4:1-37)

January 23

"Caught"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Luke 4:38 - 5:16)

January 30

"TBD"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JANUARY 16 THERE WILL BE A THANK YOU lunch for Pastor Cwynar. Chicken will be provided and we are asking those attending to bring a side dish to share. A sign-up sheet will be posted the hallway for you to sign-up what you are bringing as well as to how many will be attending.

JANUARY 23 WILL BE THE INSTALLATION SERVICE of Pastor Walters at 3:00 pm. A dinner will be held after the service.

REVERSE DECORATING PARTY: There will be a potluck lunch on Sunday January 9th, after church. Then we'll take down the Christmas decorations and put them away until next year. Please bring a dish to share. We have lots to do, but it shouldn't take long. Thank you in advance for your help! Please contact Linda Weimer with any questions at 2xlweimer@gmail.com or 724-584-7327.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The sign-up sheet for 2022 is in the hallway. Please consider sponsoring a week, to give glory to God, honor a loved one, or for a special occasion (anniversary, birthday, etc.) There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway. The cost is \$20 a week. Make checks payable to Prince of Peace and place the payment and info in the Altar Guild mailbox. Thank you. Contact Linda Weimer at 2xlweimer@gmail.com or 724-584-7327 with any questions. The flowers are yours to take after the service.

ALTAR GUILD needs your help. We need 2 or 3 more people to help set up communion. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway. It takes a little time before and after church. Please consider helping us. We're happy to work with you until you feel comfortable. Contact Linda Weimer with any questions at 724-584-7327.

Meet Robert...

Robert works on the International side of the ministry.

Robert is spending the week with us at the Atlanta Processing Center serving as a Table Coach. He shared how incredible it has been to join us and experience all we do on this side of the shoebox to make the other side of the shoebox possible! He truly appreciates all of the volunteers who work so hard. He thanks God for our shoebox packers and processors...and their heart for the ministry.

He shared with us
1 Peter 2:9

"But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light."

He focused on the fact that we are CHOSEN ..and because we are Chosen and called out of darkness into light, we are called to share with others who then can come out of darkness into God's wonderful light! We can do that through Operation Christmas Child.

He wanted to share about one of the most spiritually darkest areas. There are 1.2 BILLION people who have NOT HEARD ABOUT JESUS! That's 1.2 BILLION LOST SOULS! It is the GREATEST CONCENTRATION OF LOSTNESS ON EARTH!

He shared an impact story that happened in one of the most remote villages in that region with an Unreached People Group (UPG) . The people are very poor, they live in mud huts, and have no running water. They have for generations practiced worshipping false gods, they are steeped in witchcraft and fortune telling, and demon possession is very common. They are violently opposed to outsiders. They often hurt any outsiders that try to come into their village.

A local Pastor has a church not far from this people group and he has been very burdened to tell them about Jesus. He has tried many times to get into the village to talk with them but he has always been denied. This local Pastor heard about Operation Christmas Child and became one of our Ministry Partners. It was OCC shoeboxes that opened the way for the Pastor to get into the village !

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The Pastor got permission for the outreach and the day he went to the village He was nervous how he would be received since they have hurt others when they tried. Incredibly, He was greeted by every single person that lived in the village. They had set up a tent, had their instruments playing and welcomed Him with open arms. There were 140 children and they all heard the Gospel! Then they asked the children if they'd like to go through The Greatest Journey....people who up to that point had never heard the name of Jesus...and 80 children showed up for Discipleship Class.
PRAISE THE LORD!

There was one little boy who never had a pair of shoes in his whole life! When he received His shoebox, to his surprise he received a brand new pair of sneakers...that fit him perfectly! His parents proclaimed for days how they were just the right size! He wore them everywhere showing them off . They couldn't understand why someone who didn't know them would send them such an amazing gift. The Pastor shared how this was a tangible expression of God's LOVE! God gave His only Son to die for us so we could have the free gift of salvation and eternal life with Jesus. The Pastor asked them to come to church, people who practiced witchcraft and they accepted his invitation and the Pastor is now building a relationship with them .

Join us as we pray for this People Group...and the many other doors that the Shoeboxes are opening up to share and proclaim the name of Jesus. Pray that the generational darkness in these communities will experience JESUS' WONDERFUL LIGHT!



Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila's Preschool News

Glory to God in the Highest, Peace and Goodwill toward Men.

The month of December was spent worshipping God and preparing for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This Bible concept is what we focused on with both the three year old and four year old classes.

This year's preschool Christmas program was nonexistent! Unfortunately Covid-19 has put a damper on most traditions for the preschoolers. Miss Twila did, however, create with the four year olds a beautifully orchestrated video of the students playing their roles in a short clip by clip video to tell The Christmas Story. Miss Twila is an excellent liaison between church and preschool!

Instruction time was limited this month due to the short three weeks leading up to Christmas break. We did have time to fit in some holiday decorations and crafts. We also made time to refresh our memories with colors, shapes, and coloring. The preschoolers enjoyed reading a story in class which was about the state of Pennsylvania. There was actually a great deal of geography in the book, *Santa's coming to Pennsylvania*. The children laughed when they recognized some of the historical landmarks through Pennsylvania that Santa would make a stop at on Christmas Eve.

December is a very special month for multiple reasons. Let us not get caught up in all the tinsel and lights; and remember the true meaning of the season. We hope this year left you with precious memories with your loved ones young and old; and this coming New Year will be filled with continued blessings of health and happiness for your friends and family. On behalf of myself and Miss Twila we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

We Welcome 2022, Covid FREE!

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

PRESCHOOL BIBLE LESSON

This Christmas season things were a lot different at POP Preschool. During normal years, you can hear the children practicing for their upcoming Christmas program. Their little singing voices echoing throughout the hallways as they dance and sing in the sanctuary.

We were all very sad not to be able to do this performance this year.

It was very important to us that we do something with the children so they could show off all they've learned about the true meaning of Christmas. There was an awesome video of the kids shared on our preschool's FaceBook page & it was also sent through email to all of the members of the congregation.

We hope you had a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

God's Blessings,
Ms. Twila & Ms. Michelle

January 2022

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 2 ND Sunday After Christmas 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 Service	3	4	5 12:00 Midweek Bible Study	6	7	8 5:30– 7:00 Kidz Club
9 The Baptism of Our Lord 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 Service Reverse Decorating Party	10 6:30 Council Meeting	11	12 12:00 Midweek Bible Study	13	14 6:30 Joining Jesus on His Mission	15
16 2 ND Sunday After the Epiphany 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 Service Thank you Luncheon	17	18	19 12:00 Midweek Bible Study	20	21	22
23 3 RD Sunday After the Epiphany 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 Service 3:00 Installation Service Dinner	24	25	26 12:00 Midweek Bible Study	27	28	29
30 4 TH Sunday After the Epiphany 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 Service	31					