

Reaching an Ever-Changing World With God's Never-Changing Word

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January, 2017



Pastor Kent

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever..."

(Psalm 136:1-3 ESV)

We typically spend our time focusing on what we want God to do for us. We look at the promises, given to us in Scripture, and long for them to be fulfilled. We offer to him our prayers, again and again, laying our requests before his feet. And we wait anxiously to have our requests satisfied.

The longer we wait, the more discontent we become. The longer we wait, the more we begin to question God. The longer we wait, the more we doubt his love and goodness.

However, have you ever taken the time to contemplate God's faithfulness? Have you taken

the time to consider all that he's done for you? In Psalm 136, the Psalmist does just that. He then responds to each remembrance of God's faithfulness with the reminder that the love of God endures forever.

He remembers, first of all, God's work of creation. He goes on to remember God's work of deliverance, in bringing Israel out of Egypt. He then remembers God's work in leading his people through the wilderness. And, finally, he remembers how God granted the people victory over the inhabitants of the Promised Land, giving it to Israel.

Like the Psalmist, we can remember that it's God who made us and who's given us life. We can remember his deliverance from sin and death, provided to us in Jesus. We can remember his guidance and provision. And we can remember how he's brought us into the good place in which we find ourselves.

As we do so, as we look back upon the work God has done for us, as we remember the blessings he's bestowed upon us, it changes our perspective.

No longer do we question God. No longer do we become frustrated as we await his answer to prayer or the fulfillment of his promises. We, instead, live life in the knowledge of his unending love.

This is a great practice for us as we enter into the New Year. As others spend their time focusing on changes they want to make in their life, we can focus on the blessings God has given us. We can look at where we are and remember from where he's brought us. And this will only encourage us as we anticipate his continued provision and blessing, along with the fulfillment of the promises he's given us.



Join us January 8th during our worship service for special music from **Ben B Rutabara** – a Christian contemporary singer/musician.

Ushers for January

1-01-2017 Marvin Bauer, Fred Bieri, Darrin & Leeta Olin, Todd Seibel, Vern Boehm
1-08-2017 Robin Richter, Robert Hafner, Dalton & Sylvia Zeiszler, Shane Haugen, Ron Frei
1-15-2017 Marvin & Jan Sigman, Gary & Marj Murray, Jim & Rusty Plienis
1-22-2017 Jim Wenning, Emily Wenning, Blake Martin, Rebecah Martin, Riley & Cheyanne Schreifer
1-29-2017 Kevin Lee, Lynette Flemmer, Marlene Buehner, Dean Fandrich, Jim Wenning, Jay Seibel

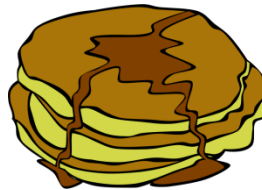
Fellowship service for January

1-01-2017 no fellowship
1-08-2017 Marlene Beuhner, Dan & Rebecah Martin, Wes & Jane Gunsch
1-15-2017 Ella FAndrich, Jay & Karen Seibel, Les & Joette Buchmann
1-22-2017 Lillian Boeshans, Mildred Hanks, Scott & Heather Funk
1-29-2017 Bill & Kris Keller, Bernerd & Judy Tolosky, & a volunteer?



Community Meal

January community meal at Prince of Peace will be Saturday, January 14 from 11am to 1pm. Please consider volunteering for this event.



Men's Breakfast/Bible Study

Saturday January 21, 2017 @ 7:00am.



Prayer Request

Prince of Peace is part of a community wide prayer chain. If you have something you would like added to the email prayer chain or would like to receive the prayer emails – please email the church office. If it is after office hours, please email Margie Lee at lee@beu.midco.net or text Darcee @ 870-2122.



Library news...

We have a lot of new books & movies in our library. Come check them out.

Thank you, Bonnie & Deb



Threads of Love Quilters

Meet on Wednesdays at 9:00am. Everyone is welcome to join!



Sunday School Corner

The weather outside is frightful! That song comes to my mind every time the snow falls or the winds blows and especially this year! Unfortunately, due to this we had to cancel the Christmas program. There will be no makeup program.

Sunday School will resume January 8th. Please take note and print the attached calendar that details important dates for Spring half of Sunday School. The dates and activities are subject to change so please watch for Friday emails and notes from your Sunday School teachers.

Sunday School is going well. The Board of Christian Ed is so very appreciative of our teachers and helpers who help teach our children. Please take the time to thank our teachers.

The Church has requested before that children fourth grade and under be with parents or adults when going through the Fellowship line. We would like to gently remind everyone that is important for families to be with their children during this time.

Every Spring Sunday School coordinates a church wide mission project. This year the Board has selected Project Ignite Light. The non-profit provides comfort bags including fleece blankets for youth removed from homes for a variety of reason including abuse. In April the church will host a blanket tying party. Every family is encouraged to bring fleece for a blanket and tie them at church as a group. Please check out their website at IgniteLight.org and find out more about their cause.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

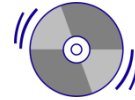
If you would like to receive the monthly Newsletter by email, please email the church office at churchoffice@princeofpeacebeulah.org with your email address. The newsletter is printed and ready by the fourth Sunday of the month. The newsletter is also available on our website. If you have anything you would like put in the newsletter, please email or call the office at 873-560.

RADIO BROADCAST



Please Contact the office if you are interested in sponsoring a radio broadcast. The cost is \$35. The Radio Broadcast is heard on Sundays at 11:30 AM on KDKT, 1410 AM. Available Sundays to sponsor are January 8, 15, & 29 and February 5, 12, 19, & 26. The radio broadcast is a very important ministry to those that are home bound. Please consider sponsoring/funding this ministry.

Missed a Sunday church service?



or



Did you know that each Sunday's Sermons are recorded? If you would like a CD copy, the cost is \$1.00. You may have the entire service or just sermon recorded onto the CD. You can get up to 2 sermons on one CD. Please call or email the office and we will get one to you! The sermon is also available on our website by the following Monday

Worship Attendance

- 11-23 - 75 Thanks. Eve
- 11-27 - 158
- 12-04 - 202
- 12-11 - 193
- 12-18 - no service
- 12-24 - 326 Christmas Eve
- 12-25 - 22 Christmas Day



Prince of Peace has several mission opportunities that are in the planning stages - India, Cuba and Alaska. Please be in prayer for those individuals as they make their preparations. Please also pray for their hearts and for the hearts of those they will be serving.



Prince of Peace
Women's Missionary
Federation (WMF)

The Mission of the WMF of Prince of Peace is to study and share the Good News of Jesus, through word and deed, at home, in our community and throughout the world.

Hope you were able to celebrate Christmas well with Christ at the center!

We finished up our 2016 WMF Bible Study on Colossians at our Dec. 12 WMF Coffee House gathering. "We are made perfect in Christ. That's news worth sharing!" is one of the last statements the author made as we closed the study. It was a good lesson. And we had sweet treats and delicious lattes and Italian sodas. Thank you to those who were able to come out on that cold night.

The 2017 WMF Bible study is "Lessons in Acts: A theme study through the book of Acts". We will begin with Lesson 1 on January 16 at 10:30 am and 7:30 pm in the church library. That is the third Monday. The books are \$11.00. Extras have been ordered so don't use the excuse that you didn't order a book to not come. If anyone is interested in having this study on a different day or time feel free to get started. Call me if you have any questions.

These are some of the things that were decided during the business meeting:

1. Our offering from Monday night will be sent to the National WMF General Fund.
2. Our officers for the coming two years will be President: Judy Tolosky;
Secretary: Joan Schumaier; Cradle Roll Secretary: Lynell Renner. Our other officers are Vice President: Margie Lee; Treasurer: Elsie Wiedenmeyer; Mission Secretary: Darcee Wenning.
3. We chose Joni Sliver and The Miriam Infant Home to be the recipients of our "Love on Our Missionary" fund raising event in February. Half of the money will

be designated to Joni and half to the Home.

4. A winter retreat for women will be held on Saturday, January 21 or 28. We have a speaker lined up. It will be a morning event that includes brunch. More details to come.
5. Some of the missionary updates were: the Raans are back in the US and the Pillmans in Ecuador have a new baby. Our Mission Secretary wasn't there.

Happy 2017! Keep Christ at the center of the whole year!

Sincerely,
Judy Tolosky 873-2131 or 870-2131
(WMF Bible study books for 2017 are here!)

January Birthdays!!!

Nancy Hafner	1/1
Blair Wiedrich	1/1
Alec Babcock	1/4
Trytin Helfrich	1/4
Kendra Ungerer	1/4
Anna Faut	1/5
Kacey Klaudt	1/8
Amy Ferebee	1/10
Lynn Flemmer	1/10
Delton Schnaidt	1/13
Robert Hafner	1/14
Travis Horning	1/14
Mark Gerde	1/16
Alison Schaper	1/18
Taisha Bauer	1/19
Emily Alt	1/21
Nancy Felch	1/21
Erika Ochsner	1/23
Lona Moos	1/24
William Wanzek	1/24
Joan Schumaier	1/25
Katie Klipfel	1/26
Sandra Richter	1/26
Gina Feist	1/27
Gary Miller	1/30



Youth

Holidays in the Darkness

Jordan Langness

"Hear my prayer, Lord; let my cry for help come to you. Do not hide your face from me when I am in distress. Turn your ear to me; when I call, answer me quickly. For my days vanish like smoke; my bones burn like glowing embers. My heart is blighted and withered like grass; I forget to eat my food. In my distress I groan aloud and am reduced to skin and bones....But you, Lord, sit enthroned forever; your renown endures through all generations." Psalm 102:1-5, 12

Right now we are in the coming out of the most intense holiday season of the calendar year. Beginning with Thanksgiving and continuing through New Year's we hop from one festive gathering or event to another wishing everyone around us happiness and cheer. Our days and weeks get so packed first with our need to be grateful and thankful for all that we have been blessed with, and then our minds shift to the chaos of hunting for those perfect gifts and being assaulted with the onslaught of Christmas carols on the radio and in every store we enter. Then, once Christmas passes, we prepare ourselves to bring in the New Year in which we hope contains brightness and cheer while leaving behind all of the sadness of the previous year.

For most people, the cheer of the season is infectious and they hop on board with the rest of the people that are celebrating, but there are at the same time many people who feel as if their life holds no purpose...as if all the people that they ever loved have already moved on or that they are simply forgotten. Depression is not something we talk of often in the church, but it is a very real thing. Even during the seasons when marketers would make us think we should be most happy, the holidays, our emotions can bring us to a very dark place.

One of the struggles of wrestling with depression while being a part of the body of Christ is the guilt that can come when someone feels like they are failing at following the Lord because they should simply trust in Him and feel better. While it is true that joy is a fruit of the Spirit and that the joy of the Lord is our strength, we are not expected to be people whose only emotion is happiness. Take a look at these very personal words from the psalmist written at the beginning of this article. These words were written by someone who was not feeling happy...who was struggling to remember the joy that is available in our Lord. Instead, they felt the crushing weight of sorrow. These words, which are just as inspired by God as the Gospels, remind us that our feelings are a real thing...and yet, while our feelings feel real at a visceral level, they do not determine reality.

Notice how the psalmist continues through the psalm. After writing about his personal sorrow and feeling the full depth of that emotion, he then changes his focus from his personal pain to the Lord and His promises. He is reminded of who is on the throne and who is in charge. Now, does this immediately make all of his problems go away? No, and that is not the point. For all of us that struggle with sorrow, looking to Christ will not immediately free us of those feelings of depression, but they do point us to the source of hope and light that can bring us through and out of the mental muck of depression.

So, as we enter the New Year, don't be afraid to feel. There will be sorrows and dark times and they will not be evenly distributed amongst the people in our church, community, country, or world. But, when these times come, instead of focusing on these trials, focus on Jesus and remember what He has done and the promises He has made. There is your freedom, and there you will find your joy restored.

Upcoming youth activities:

January 6-8, Youth Worker Retreat

January 13-15, Jordan gone for Pennsylvania speaking engagement

January, FLY Registration opens



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent

Conducted worship at Senior Suites in Hazen. I've also been asked to do this periodically in 2017.

Visiting and keeping up with members who are ill and shut-in.

Wednesday night Bible study has continued our study in the book of 2 Corinthians. We are nearing the end of this study and, after New Year's, will start the second part of a study on Islam that we began last spring.

Men's breakfast/study is going through a video based series titled "Real Men." We've been having good attendance and participation.

I attended meetings of the AFLC World Missions Committee in Minneapolis on Dec. 2-3.

I met with those considering the India mission trip in August of 2017.

I've been working to schedule speakers for our spring and fall spiritual life meetings in 2017. I think we have some very interesting speakers and topics lined up that will appeal to many.

Youth Pastor's Report – Jordan Langness

Middle School: Our conversations continue to be fruitful and deep. I am so grateful for all of the wonderful helpers that have stepped up to help serve this year!

Youth Group: Our last few weeks have been spent gazing at the wonder of creation as we examine the realm of science. We have been reminded how truthful Romans chapter 1 is where the Lord tells of how He has made His existence plain to everyone based off of creation. This is also evident by the quotes of several scientists that state they know that spontaneous generation cannot be what started everything, but that is the only thing left...as well as how they have to keep reminding themselves while looking at the intricacies of life that "it was not designed...it was not designed". They are working hard at suppressing the truth...and God's creation is an absolute wonder!

January is a BIG month for the FirstChoice Clinic's Family Boutique across the state! This is the month they restock the shelves for the families participating in the "Earn While You Learn Program", an educational program through which moms and dads are taught skills to help them become better parents.

This year they are especially in need of **diapers and gift cards** but will accept any new baby items such as:

- Baby wipes
- Newborn sleepers
- Newborn onesies
- Baby wash
- Baby lotion
- Baby bath towels

Every expectant and new mother deserves to be surrounded by loving support, no matter her circumstances. This is especially true if the pregnancy is unplanned. FirstChoice Clinic, a non-profit FREE pregnancy resource clinic exists for just this reason: to provide unconditional support to those facing unplanned pregnancy. Through medical care, education, and practical support, FirstChoice Clinic empowers young women and men to make informed, healthy choices for themselves and their children.

Prince of Peace will host a baby shower/fill the playpen event here during the month of January. Please feel free to drop off baby items for First Choice Clinic throughout the month!

Relational Ministry: Thanksgiving was a great time to spend with family and I took advantage of that. Concerning the youth, we had two families over for games, had the snow cave day, and regular interactions with students.

Upcoming Plans: Church quick connect event, snow cave sleepover, MS marshmallow war and FLY

Treasurers Report – Margie Lee

General Fund	\$ 59,998.60
Building Fund	\$ 22,273.72
Coffee Hour Fund	\$ 309.09
Community Meal Fund	\$ 202.60
Congr. Mission Trips	\$ 219.15
Intern Fund	\$ 23,297.37
Total Bank Acct	\$ 113,351.18
Loan Borrowed 4/2015	\$ 250,000.00
Loan Balance	\$ 206,678.38

Deacon’s Report – Del Schnaidt

Discussed ideas for speakers for Spiritual Life meetings. This fall the speakers will be Creation Ministries. This spring (week of April 23) we talked about having Pastor Tom Brock from the Minneapolis area.

Marvin Aberle will be building the communion table soon.

Trustee’s Report – John Mohl

No report – they had a work meeting and fixed a number of items one evening. Still working on the furnace issues.

Christian Ed Report – Michelle Klaudt

1. Trunk or Treat - This went very well again. This is a lot of work and Michelle did not get as much help this year as she could have used. Next year if we don't get more help and more people willing to open their trunks we will evaluate if this activity continues. Possibly look at how to make it simpler too.

2. Duties and when terms are up -

Michelle - 2019 - Chair

Kelsey - 2019 - OCC & VBS

Stephanie - 2018 - trunk or treat & spring mission project

Rebecah - 2018 - Secretary

Angie - 2017 - SS & Christmas program

3. Nursery and busy bags - We want to get some new toys for the bags; small clip boards for paper and sewing cards. Rebecah will order these things with a \$100 budget. The rotation for cleaning nursery for 2017 is as follows:

Jan - Stephanie, Feb - Kelsey, March - Michelle, April - Angie, May - Rebecah, June - Stephanie, July - Kelsey,

Aug - Michelle, Sept - Angie, Oct - Rebecah, Nov - Stephanie, Dec - Kelsey.

OLD BUSINESS

Building Project Update - 5 or 6 guys covered the speakers above the altar with cloth.

NEW BUSINESS

Media Invite –This online group has Bible studies, continuing education, video illustrations, youth things, marriage resources, finances that would be available to anyone in our church. It's like a Christian Netflix. Cost is approximately \$1,500 per year. We voted to try it out for 1 year.

Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack 2017 – will be held August 25 and 26th.

Staff Christmas Gifts – approved purchasing staff Christmas gifts.

Tithe – Our Tithe will be split: \$2,000.00 to the AFLC All Ministries and \$913.79 to the POP Community Meal Fund



Pastor Kent, Jordan, Darcee, Chris and Alec would like to thank the congregation for their generous Christmas gifts. We appreciate your generosity. (gift cards to Bronson's & 2 K meats, Cenex)

Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text – right from the directory app.

It's Easy!

1. Go to your device's App Store.
2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
3. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
4. Enter the assigned password into the app to begin syncing.



I will be glad to help you put the directory app on your smart phone if you are having trouble!



As a gift to you , Prince of Peace would like to bless you with a free subscription to Right Now Media which is a Netflix like streaming system full of Bible studies, conferences, children's programming, and much more! If you have not received an email invitation to this subscription and would like one - please contact the church office. This is a great resource for our families. If you have any questions regarding Rightnow Media – please give us a call!!!!