

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

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# **August**, 2017



### **Pastor Kent**

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?" (Matthew 16:24-26 ESV)

In American society, as well as in much of the world today, we believe that life is about our happiness. We encourage people to follow their heart. We encourage them to do whatever makes them happy. And that's how we live our life as well.

Our happiness has become the basis for the decisions we make and for the actions we take. "What's wrong with that?" you may ask. We fail to take into consideration how our decisions and actions affect others. And, even more important, we fail to consider if our

decisions and actions are in line with the will of God.

We forget that our heart is sinful. We forget that it desires those things that oppose God's will. So, if we follow our heart, if we do what makes us happy, we will almost certainly violate God's Word and his will for our lives.

Jesus reminds us in the above passage that following him means denying ourselves. It means denying our desires. It means surrendering our wants. It means giving our life into his hands even if it leads to our demise.

While, on the surface, that sounds crazy to us, it actually makes a lot of sense. After all, life is found in him. Eternal life is received from him. We cannot willfully separate ourselves from him and expect to receive these blessinas.

This is what Jesus points out in the second half of the above passage. It profits us nothing if we gain the whole world, if we have everything our heart desires, and lose our own soul. It means nothing if we thoroughly enjoy

80 years in this life and enter into eternal judgment.

While denying ourselves may seem like a sacrifice, it's actually a great blessing. We deny ourselves only of that which harms us. And this is nothing like passing up the cupcake to keep our waistline in check. It's not the same because, while this may help us in the short term, denying our sinful nature and following Jesus preserves our life for eternity.

And, as we follow Jesus, something else takes place. Those things that once made us happy no longer do so. Instead, following Christ fills us with joy. We want nothing to do with the sins of our past, and we want nothing more than to live for Christ.

### **From the Deacons**

With the summer season beginning to wind down, I would like to highlight the opportunities available to study God's word further.

The Men's breakfast and Bible Study meets the third Saturday of each month at 7:00 A.M. in the fellowship hall.

There are several women's studies available:

The WMF meets the third Monday of each month at 10:30 A.M. and also at 6:30 P.M. Non-denominational Precept Bible Study meets each Tuesday at 9:00A.M. at the Church of God. Men can attend also.

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There are currently four adult groups with couples and singles attending. These are great opportunities for fellowship and strengthening your faith. It would be great to get more involved in these studies. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary for those that would like to be involved in a study beginning this fall. If you have questions talk to Darcee, Pastor Kent, or Kevin Lee.



August Community meal at Prince of Peace will be Saturday, August 12 from 11am to 1pm. Please consider volunteering for this event, contact Bev Sorensen. Our Community meal team is wondering if anyone has Thrivent Community Action cards/funds that they would like to apply to the Community meal. They are also always looking for available helping hands. Please contact the office and I will get you in touch!



#### **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.

### **Ushers for August**

8-6-2017 Marvin Bauer\*, Fred Bieri, Darrin & Leeta Olin, Todd Seibel, and Vern Boehm
8-13-2017 Robin Richter\*, Dalton & Sylvia Zeiszler, Shane Haugen, Ron Frei
8-20-2017 Marvin & Jan Sigman, Gary & Marj Murray, Jim & Rusty Plienis
8-27-2017 Wennings, Martins, & Schriefers

### Fellowship service for August

8-6-2017 Dalton & Sylvia Zeiszler, Marie Kemmet, Wanzek Family
8-13-2017 Ron & Milda Frei, Dustin & Nicole Buchmann, Wayne & Shawn Hoffner
8-20-2017 Ella Fandrich, Jay & Karen Seibel, Dan & Serena Schmit
8-27-2017 Mike & Kendra Finck, Gary & Marj Murray

## Sunday School Corner

It is hard to believe but Sunday School will start in less than 45 days! We are so excited to start teaching the members of Prince of Peace no matter what their age. And as it is every year, we will need a few good men and women to teach those classes. Below I have listed all the classes available and an estimated average Sunday attendance. Please use this information when you are considering teaching. In addition, you will see that we are looking for two teachers per classroom. It is the experience of the board that co-teaching is the best for everyone.

Preschool/ Kindergarten	7-9	3 Teachers
First and Second Grade	6-8	2 Teachers
Third and Fourth	4-5	2 Teachers
Fifth and Sixth	3-4	2 Teachers
Seventh and Eighth	9-10	1 to 2 Teachers

Please pray and consider teaching our youth. We are called on to teach and spread God word. Laying a foundation in the lives of the POP children is so important. If you have any questions or would like to teach, please contact Angie Wanzek at <u>wanzek@beu.midco.net</u> or 748-5460. As we prepare for Sunday School we are looking for large area rug or kids play mat for our Preschool/Kindergarten room. If you have one and would like to donate it, please contact Angie Wanzek.



## Library news...

We still have a few weeks of summer left – pop in to grab a good book to read while relaxing at the lake or on your deck/step!

#### **NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

If you would like to receive the monthly Newsletter by email, please email the church office at <u>churchoffice@princeofpeacebeulah.org</u> 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 at873-560.

### 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 August 6,13,20, & 27 and September 3, 17, & 24. 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?

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.



At Prince of Peace on August 25/26. Get your packing teams ready and your fundraising rolling!!! Sign up to reserve your packing shift on our website under church events. Don't forget that we have a Friday shift available too! Turn in your gathered change donations early.



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.

Just when I think I have all the time in the world to put together an article for the newsletter, it's Thursday before the day we take off on another road trip: Heading to Minnesota again. Driving up to Silver Bay where Bern grew up. Going to see a Twins game. Spending Athena's birthday with her. Bringing her back with us for a visit. Seeing family. Putting lots of miles on GMAJUDY.

We will resume the WMF Bible study on Monday, August 17 at 10:30 and 6:30 with Lesson 7, ENCOURAGING ACTS. Encouragement is a spiritual gift!

The board will be meeting sometime this month so we can make some plans for the coming school year...when life settles into some type of routine after the hectic summer.

Anyone can come and give input for future plans. I'll try notify everyone know of the time and place so you can join us.

I'm really thinking ahead: It's our turn to host the WMF District Spring Rally which usually takes place on a Saturday in April. We also need to be thinking of our spring mission fund raiser. Let's let God in on the planning by praying about these events.

Sooner than that, we will need women willing to put their name on the ballot for WMF officers. We hold elections in December. Offices that need to be filled are vice president, treasurer and mission secretary, I think.

I read a book: **Sent & Received: This Mournings Emails Packaged with Prayer.** The story is so sad and yet joyful at the same time. It is not a novel. It is a compilation of emails Pastor Mike Brandt sent to family and friends during his wife, Jeannie's, battle with cancer. The Brandt's third daughter, Kayla Brandt, provides a narrative between the emails that tells the daily goings on during these four months in 2005. This brings better understanding to this true story. It is an encouraging story!

"Jeannie Johnson Brandt claimed Jesus as her Savior when she was a little girl. She had loved Him as long as she could remember, never wavering from that faith...At 14, she dedicated her life to Christ claiming II Corinthians 5:14-15 as her life verse: For the love of Christ controls us, because we are convinced that One has died for all; therefore all have died. And He died for all, that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for Him who for their sake died and was raised." Please read this book so I can talk about with you.

Pray for rain, pray for peace, pray for our missionaries, pray for each other.

In His service, Judy Tolosky, 870-2131



Remember to keep our POP mission teams in your prayers – <u>Asia</u> (Pastor Kent, Rachel Sperry, Dalton Zeiszler, Marvin Sigman, Andrew Quanbeck and Torie Hafner) They arrive home August 5.





"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'" -Jeremiah 30:21 "This is what the Lord says- your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; 'I am the Lord your god, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go.'" -Jeremiah 48:17

Before I get too far into this article, I want to acknowledge that the context of the passages listed above remains important even though it is not cited. I do not want us to walk away with an inappropriate understanding of these verses. Your challenge is to explore what the Lord meant when He gave these messages to His people through the Prophet Isaiah. However, even though I am not digging into the context in this article, these passages do have something to say to us in a broader application. Despite the fact that they were given to a specific people at a specific time in history who were experiencing a unique set of circumstances, there is a broader application that is for us as well; and that is simply that the Lord guides His people.

It seems that difficult choices are a part of everyday living. For some of us, those difficult decisions can seem as simple as what should I make for supper, what board game should we play, or what should I wear to this event. To some people, these questions seem fairly trivial, but in the midst of facing them, they can seem almost defeating by their simple presence. Then there are the biggies...the ones that really hang us up. Some of these questions may be where

should I go to college, should I go for four years or a two year tech program, where should we live, should we buy a house or rent, is it time for a career change, is it time to retire. What a comfort we have knowing that no matter what situation we are facing, the Lord not only desires to, but has promised that He will be our guide. Yes, His guidance may not be what we want to hear, and it may not come at the precise time that we want it to come, but His directions for us are good, clear, and will result in His glory. The wait may seem excruciating and alternative paths or even our own desires may tempt us to take a different path when His voice seems silent, but our task in those times is to continue to walk towards Him, seek His face, practice patience, and trust in His goodness and His promise to be our guide.

Where will His call lead me? Where will it lead you? I cannot say for that is between Him and each one of us. I will say though that no matter where He calls or when He calls, may He find us ready and receptive to that call, prepared to follow Him no matter where He leads.

Upcoming youth activities:

August 9th: Middle School Lake Day August 11-12: High School Lake Days August 25-26: Mobile Pack August 27th: The Gathering (Community Youth Group) September 27th: See You At The Pole & See You After The Pole



## <u>August Birthdays!!!</u>

<b>Robin Richter</b>	8/1
Chere Allard	8/3
Sarah Langness	8/3
Perry Sayler	8/4
Jason Doe	8/5
Loren Novak	8/5
Jim Wenning	8/5
Karla Boehm	8/7
Cruz Buchmann	8/7
Darcee Wenning	8/7
<b>Ray Mattheis</b>	8/8
Rita Becker	8/13
David Hausauer	8/13
Lucas Schnaidt	8/14
Lacey Wenning	8/15
Kevin Lee	8/17
Arlett Gerde	8/19
Kristine Keller	8/20
<b>Colton Mohl</b>	8/21
Twyla Barbot	8/22
Leona Mattheis	8/22
<b>Carmen Mohl</b>	8/22
Darrin Olin	8/23
Tyler Hoffner	8/27
<b>Courtney Kemmet</b>	8/29
<b>Ethan Finck</b>	8/31
Deb Sayler	8/31

### Worship Attendance

- 06-18 144
- 06-25 130
- 07-02 148
- 07-09 154
- 07-16 Community Service
- 07-23 140

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

### President's Report – Delton Schnaidt

As I reflect on the message that Pastor Sperry shared with us this past Sunday, titled "The Lust for Power", I am reminded of the appreciation that I have in the AFLC structure. The hint of power has never been one that I have seen in our leaders of the AFLC. Humility and servant hood is more the tone that I have seen modeled in the AFLC leadership. In fact, I remember the very words AFLC President Robert Lee shared with many of us when we were seriously considering joining the AFLC back in 2003. He shared with us that at the time when the baton was passed on to him to be president, he was told "Now remember...., you have no power."

#### <u> Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent</u>

I'd like to begin by expressing my thanks to all of you for your generosity toward myself and Rachel for the mission trip. Your heart for missions, and for us, is clearly evident. We praise God for all of you and for this church. We hope and pray that the trip will be a blessing not only to those we serve, but also to Prince of Peace as a whole.

I've been conducting some counseling.

I've been assisting our local hospice as the volunteer chaplains are both out of the area.

Conducted a worship service at KRCC and communed residents at KRCC.

#### Youth Pastor's Report – Jordan Langness

Youth Group: We had our first community youth event of the Summer... the attendance was small but we are still exploring options and the students seemed to enjoy it very much.

**Relational Ministry:** This past month included a student baseball game, NDSU Extension cooking class interactions, VBS, and lots of time at FLY

**Other Ministry:** I have been working on keeping the website up to date, communicating about and fundraising for the Mobilepack, working on the community service on Sunday, prepping for FLY both logistically and for my session, planning Summer events and contacts, and Youth board responsibilities. **Upcoming Plans**, Community Youth Group, District Family Camp, Lake Days, and Mobilepack

<u> Treasurers Report – Margie Lee</u>				
General Fund	\$	51,479.81		
Building Fund	\$	34,576.55		
Coffee Hour Fund	\$	349.90		
Community Meal Fund	\$	954.60		
Congr. Mission Trips	\$	(13.00)		
Intern Fund	\$	30,297.37		
Total Bank Acct	\$	123,676.87		
Loan Borrowed 4/2015	\$	250,000.00		
Loan Balance	\$	182,767.62		

#### Deacon's Report – Kevin Lee

Sherwin Raile has videos about the gospel of John. On the last two Wednesdays of August, we will show these videos. Discussed the men's breakfast Bible study and may do a topical Bible study instead of video series this year. We will encourage people to get involved in small groups in the fall.

#### Christian Ed Report – Michelle Klaudt

**VBS:** We had approximately 55-60 kids attend VBS and one helper per room worked well this year. Next year we should try to get 2 helpers per class as well as having people help check the bathroom. The fruit pizza, fig newton cross, and fruit palm trees were a hit. Next year ask for prebaked sugar cookies for the fruit pizza. Next year only request 3 gallons of ice cream and extra cups. Bibles were also a hit and should be done every 5-6 weeks. \$300-\$400 was raised for Feed My Starving Children.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

### Emergency Medical Equipment – We approved ordering the following items:

1. Stethoscope and adult BP cuff

2. Automatic portable wrist BP and pulse monitor

3. Portable oxygen tank

4. Kit with bandages, gauze, tape, aspirin, tourniquets and Benadryl

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Immanuel Baptist Pulpit Fill for Pastor Utecht – Pastor Kent and Jordan will be helping out by preaching some Sundays before Sunday school begins. 2<sup>nd</sup> Janitor Position – Angie Wanzek is helping out when needed.

**Tithe** – Our tithe was split: \$2,000.00 to the AFLC Seminary and \$539.90 to Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack.

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