

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

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May, 2018



Pastor Kent

I've recently been reading a book titled: *Broken*. The subtitle of this book is: *7 "Christian" Rules That Every Christian Ought to Break as Often as*

Possible. It was written by Jonathan Fisk and published by Concordia Publishing House.

The second chapter of this book deals with the issue of moralism. This resonated with me because I've become convinced, in recent years, that a majority of our teaching in the church is nothing more than that. It's become nothing more than a system of laws, a system of right and wrong.

As a result, our faith has become a system of making good people. It's become a system of doing good things. And the message of the gospel becomes lost.

Moralism is defined as the belief that access to God can be achieved through our own personal efforts

or attempts to improve ourselves. And, as Fisk rightly points out, moralism is nothing more than the worship of our own works. It's a dependence upon ourselves and our own efforts to attain salvation.

Please don't misunderstand me. We do have to deal with issues of morality in the church. God has given to us his Law that we might see our sin and our need for a Savior. And, if we fail to understand our sin, we'll never understand our need for Jesus or receive the grace offered to us by God.

However, we have to realize that our faith is more than just a system of good morals. We must realize this because we are a sinful people, incapable of living up to God's standards. And we must not begin to think that, if we only try harder, or if we can only fix ourselves, we'll be acceptable to God.

When this becomes our version of Christianity, we're lost. As Paul tells us in Galatians 3:10, "*For all who rely on works of the law are under a*

curse..." If we are trusting in the Law for salvation, if we're trusting in our efforts to attain the forgiveness of sins, we stand condemned.

We must take to heart the message of the gospel. We must trust in the message of Christ, and what he's done for us. We must believe that the Son of God became man, that he might give his life on our behalf. We must know that he died on the cross, paying the penalty of our sin. We must understand that, through faith in him, we can receive the forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. And we must proclaim this message to one another, as well as to the world around us.

Yes, as Christians, it'll be our desire to serve God. We'll want nothing more than to turn from our sin and live the life to which he's called us. Yet we must always realize that our salvation is found not in what we do, but in what Christ has done for us. As we're told in 1 John 2:2, *"He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world."*

Library news...

Keep an eye out for overdue or missing Prince of Peace library books & movies while doing your spring cleaning!!! (So others may also enjoy them besides the dust bunnies)



Community Meal

May Community meal at Prince of Peace will be Saturday, May 12 from 11am to 1pm. Please join us for the meal or stop in to help! It is a great opportunity to serve your community and your church.

Sunday School Corner

Sunday School is speeding towards the end of the year! We have had great year of children learning the great story of our Savior and fellowship with one another. As the year comes to a close there are some important dates for everyone to remember.

May 7th-Confirmation Sunday with no Sunday School classes

May 13th-Regular Sunday School Day

May 20th-End of Year Sunday School Event

May 20th will be our End of Year Sunday School Event. The Event will include recognition of the 2018 Seniors, Teacher Appreciation, and our Sunday School students, Preschool-6th, will perform during the church service. After church the youth will serve a free will brunch of caramel roll, egg bakes, and fruit. This event is very important to celebrate a year of walking in faith and recognizing all who attend and help make Prince of Peace what it is. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending!

On a side note, if you have a student grades 5th-11th who is interested in raising money for FLY 2019 or any other POP Youth event, please see Angie Wanzek to help sign up and service the end of year brunch. It is a very easy event to help with!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL! is right around the corner. Our dates are June 3rd-7th and it will once again take place in the evening. We love VBS and are so excited for our amazing theme-Shipwrecked! Our VBS program relies on two things, you registering your kids and grand kids, and second, you helping. There are lots of ways to help with VBS: sign up to host a team, bring items for snacks, help in a classroom or with crafts, or host the team at the church for supper. Please take a look at the clipboards on the registration table and please sign up!



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.*

R U PLUGGED IN was the theme of the WMF District Spring Rally held on Saturday, April 21, 2018 here at Prince of Peace. The theme verse was "Why do you say, O Jacob, and complain, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God'? Do you not know? Have you not heard? **The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary, and increases the power of the weak.** Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; **but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.**" **Isaiah 40:27-31** As usual the day was a day of inspiration and encouragement to all in attendance. Fellowship with likeminded women who love the Lord is such a blessing.

Mafu and Ednay Abel were our guest missionary speakers. The morning Bible study was lead by Ednay and she spoke in her native language of Portuguese while her husband interpreted it in English for us. Not only is the love of Jesus and their work in the mission field to which they have been called is clearly obvious, but the love they

have for each other is unmistakable to any observer.

The message that I heard from Mafu was that we need to be plugged into God our Creator and Jesus our Savior not only in prayer to get through each day, but we need to be in a worship relationship with our Lord in all we do. Instead of complaining about our situations and accusing God of not caring, of not knowing, of not hearing we are to look to God and see who He is. He is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth, untiring, never weary, and always understanding. When we are plugged into His promises with **HOPE**, He gives us strength and power when we feel spent.

Lacey Wenning lead us in a medley of hymns and praise music. It was a pleasure to sing along with her as she accompanied us on her guitar. For such a young lady, she has had several interesting missionary experiences. She shared how God has called her to go to places to share her love of the Lord and her desire to teach children. And how next August she will be going to Asia to teach and share God's love with people there. She and her sister Anna sang a lovely duet with Anna at the piano and Lacey on the guitar. I was blessed!

The Abels and Lacey asked for prayer as they are at work in the mission field. And they also need financial support for daily sustenance. As a part of the WMF this is a responsibility for each woman to consider as you feel lead by God.

Of course we ate well. Thank you to all who brought breakfast muffins and breads. Thank you to the work group who

served us so graciously and made the fellowship hall so inviting. Thank you, Ella for the delicious knephla soup. Thanks for all the errand runners and thinkers and planners who were involved since last February to the last minute on Saturday. Couldn't have done it without you!

Upcoming things to look ahead to are:

1. WMF Day on Tuesday, June 12 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Dickenson, ND
2. 2018 AFLC Conference June 13-15 in Dickenson, ND
3. Women's Event at District Family Bible Camp on **Tuesday, July 24 at Mount Carmel**
4. **POP WMF is also serving a meal at family camp** that week (More info to come)
5. Fall District WMF Rally in Stanley, October 13, 2018
6. Our own WMF Bible studies on the Monday, May, 21st at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm doing lesson 5, ROCK SOLID HOPE

In His service, Judy 870-2131



Hearing Assistance Available

We have 6 "over the ear" headphone packs available for those that need hearing assistance during any of our worship services.

For those of you with hearing aids that pick up T-Coil signals – please contact the sound booth person because they can help you get your hearing aids connected with our sound system! No headphones needed. We want you to be able to hear the things that are going on here!!!



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 Darcee at Churchoffice@princeofpeacebeulah.org



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 May 27 June 10, 17, & 24, July 1, 8, 22 & 29. Send an email to the office to reserve a Sunday broadcast!

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 and on our KDKT Radio broadcast at 11:30 on Sunday mornings.

Ushers for May

5-6-2018: Mark Gerde, Kenny Klein, Don Buck, Robert Buck, David Hottman, Walter Wagner

5-13-2018: Brad & Teresa Klipfel, Gene & Dara Hausauer, John & Carmen Mohl

5-20-2018: Marvin & Janice Sigman, Keller family, Horning family

5-27-2018: Jerry & Marlys Reichenberg, Kameron Plenis, Klaudt family

Fellowship service for May

5-6-2018: Mike & Kendra Finck, Jeremy & Heather Brandt, Marie Kemmt

5-13-2018: Klaudt family, Dustin & Nicole Buchmann, Jim & Joan Schumaier

5-20-2018: Barbot family, David & Steph Hottman, Margaret Rosaan

5-27-2018: Dalton & Sylvia Zeiszler, Ron & Milda Frei, Betty Hausauer

Worship Attendance

04-01 - 31 Sunrise Service

04-01 - 253 Easter Sunday

04-08 - 144

04-15 - 159 SLM #1

04-15 - 44 SLM #3

04-16 - 50 SLM #4

04-17 - 53 SLM #5

04-18 - 68 SLM #6

04-21 - 63 WMF mtg

04-22 - 190



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 873-5650

Chairman's Thoughts...

Greetings

I've always felt that its important to remind ourselves where we have come from in regard to our faith walk, to take serious our claim that the Word of God is without error, and also to remember our purpose here at Prince of Peace. A good place to start is by memorizing and acting on our adopted mission statement of "Reaching an Ever-Changing World With God's Never-Changing Word." We might ask ourselves. "what does this mean for me?" Well..... to me it means that if I'm going to be a witness for the Christian faith, and although I am a sinner in need of forgiveness, just like everyone else, I must regularly make confession to God, repent of my sin, and share the good news of God's love and salvation to my friends, to my neighbors, to my co-workers, relatives, and also to people that I may not know very well. I believe I must also walk the talk. If I claim to be a follower of Christ, it's important that my actions and the words I speak don't bring embarrassment on the Christian faith. It's important for me, and it's important to you that we continue to grow in our faith walk. There are many opportunities here at Prince of Peace. If you are not already attending, consider this a friendly invitation to be a part of our Sunday School (including adults), Wednesday evening bible study, worship service, spiritual life meetings, youth activities for the youth in including youth bible study. There is room for everyone. Don't be "Missing In Action." If you're wondering what you can do and you're not actively involved now, I encourage you to get involved and join the fun as we serve others and grow in faith together.

Serving Christ as we serve Others (Matthew 25:45)
Delton



Men's Breakfast/Bible Study

Men's breakfast/Bible study will be
Saturday, May 19 @ 7:00am.

Youth

This spot will remain empty for now.

Be in prayer for our new Youth Director!



FLYBEYOND2018

BELONG

WELCOME AUTHORIZED ASSOCIATE
TEAM FIT APPROVED FAVORABLE RELATE
CONNECT UNDERSTOOD LINK

PLACE AGREEABLE RECOGNIZED RESIDE HARMONIZE
PERTAIN HIS KINGDOM
EQUIPPED BECOME UNITE TOGETHER FAMILY RELATIONSHIP ATTACH
ADVANTAGEOUS

CHRIST CHOSEN ACCEPTED EXIST FASTEN FULLY KNOWN
PIECE LOVED HIS BODY

FLY BEYOND 2018 || PHIL. 3:20-21

NATIONAL YOUTH EQUIPPING CONFERENCE
JULY 16-20, 2018

Featuring Trainers:
 
Pr. Brett Boe Tim Barnett

Best Rate by April 30, 2018
Students & Adults = \$425
Staff & Children 11 and under = \$100

Online registration opens the end of January 2018
www.aflc.org/youth

Evening Speakers:
AFLC Pastors & Leaders

May is a busy Month!

May 6 – Confirmation Sunday
May 13 – Mother’s Day
May 20 – POP Graduate Recognition,
Last Day of Sunday School, Preschool-
Grade 6 will sing, Graduate and Teacher
Recognition, End of Year Brunch

May Birthdays!!!

Jake Sperry	5/1
Heather Funk	5/2
Lisa Lenzen	5/2
Kameron Plenis	5/2
Maiya Gerde	5/3
Kayla Palmer	5/5
Rita Larson	5/6
Emily Wenning	5/6
Ross Lenzen	5/7
Eden Barbot	5/8
Elaine Schumaier	5/8
Jenna Yeager	5/8
Dara Hausauer	5/11
Kermit Wiest	5/11
Betty Hausauer	5/12
Ezekiel Langness	5/12
Scott Funk	5/14
Karen Knell	5/14
Rachel Sperry	5/15
Joette Buchmann	5/16
Wade Murray	5/16
McKenna Duppong	5/17
Teresa Klipfel	5/18
Liam Gerde	5/19
Mariah Richter	5/19
Jason Mohl	5/20
Eric Timmer	5/20
Heather Brandt	5/22
David Hottman	5/22
Joyce Bauer	5/23
Ty Schaper	5/23
Gary Renner	5/24
Sierra Vasilakes	5/27
Marlene Goetz	5/28
Greyson Riegel	5/28
Tom Doe	5/29
Garner Sailer	5/30
Violet Schnaidt	5/30
Bryan Aalund	5/31
Dan Martin	5/31

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! ALSO – if you have not submitted a family photo, or would like to update your family photo – Please just email the photo to me. It is so ez to take care of. I just need your help in getting the photo ☺

Please check out the directory to see if any of your family information needs to be updated and **you are welcome to send me an updated family photo!** The directory updates every time you open it on your device.

Hard copies of the directory are available— just let me know in the office!

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

We received thank you notes from Bismarck Cancer Center for donation of knitted hats made by Nancy Wright and from AFLC President for our donations to their ministries. Also had a letter from Lacey Wenning who is going on a year-long mission trip to Asia outlining what she will be doing and how we can pray and help.

President's Report – Delton Schnaidt

I've always felt that it's important to remind ourselves where we have come from in regard to our faith walk, to take seriously our claim that the

Word of God is without error, and also to remember our purpose here at Prince of Peace. A good place to start is by memorizing and acting on our adopted mission statement of "Reaching an Ever-Changing World with God's Never-Changing Word." We might ask ourselves, "what does this mean for me?" Well..... to me it means that if I'm going to be a witness for the Christian faith, and although I am a sinner in need of forgiveness, just like everyone else, I must regularly make confession to God, repent of my sin, and share the good news of God's love and salvation to my friends, to my neighbors, to my co-workers, relatives, and also to people that I may not know very well. I believe I must also walk the talk. It's important for me, and it's important to you that we continue to grow in our faith walk. If you are not already attending, consider this a friendly invitation to be a part of our Sunday School, bible study, worship service, spiritual life meetings, youth activities for the youth in including youth bible study. If you're wondering what you can do and you're not actively involved now, I encourage you to get involved and join the fun as we serve others and grow in faith together.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent

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

Confirmation is going well, with 11 students. We just finished our look at the Lord's Prayer and will be taking our last quiz next week. Students are finishing up their work for the year, and the ninth graders are working on their statements of faith.

Sunday School is going well as we look at the return of the Jews from their exile.

I led worship at Senior Suites.

I prepared for and led the study at our men's breakfast. We looked at the fact that Abraham was a man of mercy. As God prepared to judge Sodom, Abraham interceded on behalf of the faithful. He didn't want to see them suffer the same fate as the wicked. In the same way, we should have a heart for the people of God who are suffering.

Treasurers Report – Margie Lee

General Fund	\$ 36,321.32
Building Fund	\$ 44,889.74
Coffee Hour Fund	\$ 208.62
Community Meal Fund	\$ 756.01
Congr. Mission Trips	\$ 87.00

Intern Fund	\$ 39,297.37
Total Bank Acct	\$ 126,380.52
Loan Borrowed 4/2015	\$ 250,000.00
Loan Balance	\$ 145,709.13

Deacon's Report – Kevin Lee

Pastor Jason Gudim, from Minneapolis, accepted our invite to preach our fall spiritual life meetings. He will be talking about serving God in our day to day life/responsibilities (vocations). The dates we've set are September 23rd-26th.

We discussed Lent/Easter services. Is there anything we'd like to do different? It was decided to have the youth involved in future Palm Sunday services with their Palm branches. Attendance at the 6:00 AM service was quite low and continues to drop, while attendance at 9:00 service was good. Do we want to continue with the sunrise service? Unsure at this time. It was brought up that it would be good to have Lenten meals on Wednesdays before the Lent services. Possibly a youth and their family could serve each meal.

We discussed updates to the usher responsibilities. Kevin will type up the discussed changes and we will review them at the next Deacons meeting.

Kevin will check with Darcee to see if we should add more people to our scripture reader list.

Del or a Deacon is in charge of unlocking the doors and setting the thermostats Sundays.

Trustee's Report – Randy Schneider

The keypad lock for the east door behind the altar has been ordered and should be here in a couple of weeks.

Les Buchmann presented one of the bids to replace furnaces. Bismarck Heating and Air gave us a bid of \$108,100. This would replace the 2 rooftop units and 1 unit that is in the rafters on the fellowship side of the building. This would be replacing all the ductwork and all outside furnaces. Each furnace would have its own air conditioner. Job would take one to two months.

We would need to close up the holes and shingle after the rooftop units would be removed.

Les is still waiting for HA Thompson's bid.

Discussed waiting for one more bid to compare prices before making a final decision. This project would have to have congregational approval.

Christian Ed Report – Michelle Klaudt

Sunday School: May 13 will be teacher's discretion for the lesson, if behind can catch up, review, or party day. End of year brunch will be May 20 hosted by Board of Ed with help from the youth (gr. 5 & up) to raise money for youth accounts. Each student signed up and each board member will bring an egg bake. Angie will use a Thrivent card to help pay for caramel rolls and fruit.

Puppets: They are struggling a bit with lack of helpers. Performing Palm Sunday, Easter event, and 9 am Easter Sunday.

VBS - Dates set for June 3-7. Ship Wreck theme and need to order kit. We will share team with Tom Olson's church and will split the cost of team. Theirs will be in the morning and ours is at 6:00 to 8:30 pm. They will host lunches and we will host dinners. We will provide host homes Sat - Thurs and GV church will provide for Fri night. We will be buying Medora Musical tickets as a thank you gift. GV church mentioned supplying them with some spending cash. Kelsey will be Director and head of snacks, Angie will be head of decorations, Rebecah head of crafts, Michelle registration and float around as needed.

Easter Event - We are collecting candy and cookie decorations but may need to buy more. Kelsey will put in Fri e-mail announcement we need more candy and frosting and add it to the bulletin. Cheri has said she has things under control. We will use confirmation kids and anyone willing to help stuff eggs after Maundy Thursday worship service.

Nursing Home - We will bring SS kids on April 22 with a craft. We have a "Jesus is Risen" craft. We thought it would be good to just plan on visiting the nursing home in April each year because will be past the cold and flu season.

OLD BUSINESS

Youth Committee –We will announce the need for this committee. The Youth Committee would be

helpful to have in place when Seth Larson comes on board as our new Youth Director.

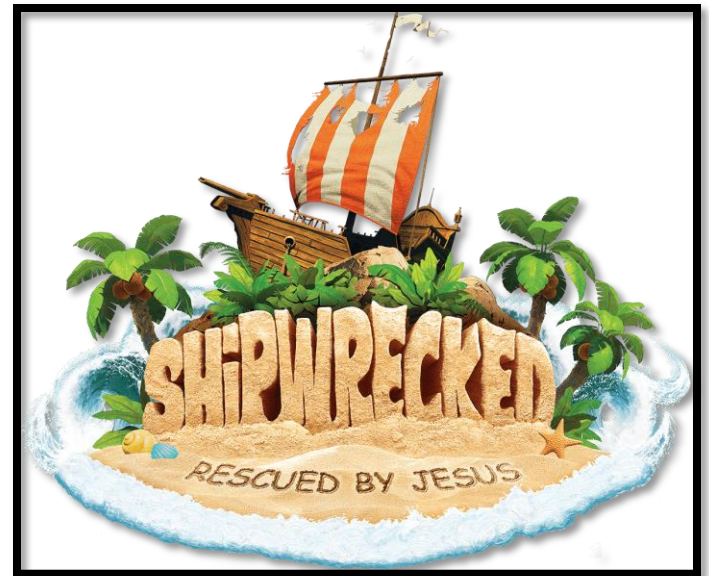
NEW BUSINESS

Youth Director Apprenticeship –Voted to do the AFLC 1-year Apprenticeship at cost of \$1,800 for Seth. He will have a mentor and have conference calls with other new Youth Workers.

Lacey Wenning Mission Trip in Central Asia – Voted to give Lacey \$300 from our monthly tithe for a year beginning August, 2018.

AFLC Family District Camp – Approved giving \$300 to help cover costs of family camp.

Tithe –Tithe of \$2,801.10 will go to AFLC Youth Ministry



June 3-7th in the evenings! Register your students ASAP!

We need volunteers to make this program happen – there will be signup sheets at the registration table at the back of the sanctuary.



I am looking for someone to fill in for me in my office June 26-29. Let me know if you are interested!

President	Delton Schnaidt (2018)
Treasurer	Margie Lee (2018)
Secretary	Deb Sayler (2018)
Deacons	Don Buck (2018)
	Riley Schrieffer (2019)
	Kevin Lee (2020)
	Garrett Sayler (2020)
Trustees	Bill Keller III (2018)
	Randy Schneider (2019)
	Joe Barbot (2019)
	Les Buchmann (2020)
Christian Education	Rebecah Martin (2018)
	Michelle Klaudt (2019)
	Kelsey Timmer (2019)
	Angie Wanzek (2020)

Threads of Love quilters are done for the season! They have given quilts to many organizations and missions/missionaries. Thank you for your donations. They will resume quilting in the fall.



Register for AFLC Annual Conference @ AFLC.org. It is in Dickinson this year June 12-15. Come check it out!!

Also **WMF day** is Tuesday June 12 @ 9am - download the registration form at AFLC.org.

Statement of Core Beliefs

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (AFLC)

Beulah, ND

Adopted November 21, 2010

Ratified November 20, 2011

Statement of Mission: ***Reaching an Ever - Changing World*** ***With God's Never - Changing Word.***

This means bringing the message of salvation in Jesus Christ to the lost, through the Word as revealed by the Holy Spirit, through personal and congregational outreach to the community and through world missions.

2 Samuel 22:31 “As for God, His way *is* perfect; The word of the LORD *is* proven; He *is* a shield to all who trust in Him.”

Psalms 12:6 “The words of the LORD *are* pure words, *Like* silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times.”

Psalms 119:160 “The entirety of Your word *is* truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments *endures* forever.”

Matthew 28:19 Jesus said: “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”

Mark 16:15–16 “And [Jesus] said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.’¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

2 Corinthians 2:14–16 “Now thanks *be* to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.¹⁵ For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.¹⁶ To the one *we are* the aroma of death *leading* to death, and to the other the aroma of life *leading* to life. And who *is* sufficient for these things?”

2 Corinthians 3:17 “Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty.”

2 Corinthians 5:20 “Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.”

Statement of Authority

- 1. We accept and believe in the Holy Bible as the complete written Word of God, preserved to us by the Holy Spirit for our salvation and instruction. We endorse the statement on the Word as found in the United Testimony on Faith and Life and would quote here the following: "We bear witness that the Bible is our only authentic and infallible source of God's revelation to us and all men, and that it is the only inerrant and completely adequate source and norm of Christian doctrine and life. We hold that the Bible, as a whole and in all its parts, is the Word of God under all circumstances regardless of man's attitude toward it."***

Proverbs 30:5–6 “Every word of God *is* pure; He *is* a shield to those who put their trust in Him.⁶ Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.”

Psalms 119:105 “Your word *is* a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.”

Matthew 5:17–18 Jesus said: “Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.”

John 17:17 Jesus said: “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”

2 Timothy 3:16 “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”

2 Peter 1:19–21 “And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; ²⁰ knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

2. ***The gospel of Jesus Christ is the central message of the Bible. This declares that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation for all of humankind.***

John 3:16 Jesus said: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

Acts 4:12 “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Romans 10:9–10 “That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Ephesians 2:8–9 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

3. ***The whole of Scripture is vitally important to and directly supportive of this central message of the Bible.***

Isaiah 7:14 “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

Zechariah 9:9 “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your King is coming to you;

He is just and having salvation,

Lowly and riding on a donkey,

A colt, the foal of a donkey.”

John 8:31–32 “Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, ‘If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.’”

John 10:35b Jesus said: “the Scripture cannot be broken.”

2 Timothy 3:16–17 “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Hebrews 4:12–13 “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

Statement of Purpose

“...To Plant a Tree” – Martin Luther

This is part of a quotation from Martin Luther. The whole quotation is: “When asked, ‘What would you do if you knew the world was going to end tomorrow?’ Martin Luther replied, ‘I’d plant a tree.’” This is a statement of hope and trust in the providence of God. It is also statement of obedience to preach and live the gospel to the very end. We live in a world that challenges, tests, and frustrates us and the church of Jesus Christ. But God gives us the hope to continue to trust him. At times we may want to rage against this world, or we may want to curl up in a ball to shut out the world. But we need to calmly trust in God and take some positive and hopeful action. For Martin Luther, it was “to plant a tree”. For some Beulah Christians in 1993, it was to form an AFLC church.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church’s uniqueness is that we believe God’s Word is unchanging, without error, and is for today’s world. On this we wait upon the Holy Spirit to accomplish these purposes. We exist to bring Jesus Christ into the lives of people in our community such that:

1. *We each have a personal relationship with the Son of God.*

John 1:12–13 “But as many as received [Jesus], to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

John 3:1–8 “There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, ‘Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.’ Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.’”

Acts 4:12 “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Romans 10:9–10 “that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Ephesians 5:1–2 “Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”

Revelation 3:20 “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.”

2. *We honor and glorify the creator in worship.*

John 1:1–3 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 4:23–24 Jesus said: ““But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴ God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.””

2 Corinthians 3:17 “Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty.”

Revelation 4:11 “You are worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory and honor and power;
For You created all things,
And by Your will they exist and were created.”

3. ***We experience caring support and teaching in the congregation to bring us each to be more like Jesus Christ.***

1 Timothy 4:6 “If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.”

2 Timothy 4:2 “Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.”

Titus 1:9 “holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.”

4. ***We serve our neighbors as Jesus would.***

Matthew 20:28 “just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 25:35–40 Jesus said: “³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I *was* naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’

³⁷ Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.’”

Galatians 6:10 “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

Ephesians 2:8–10 “⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Statement on the Family

1. ***God has ordained marriage between one adult man and one adult woman until parted by death. He blesses this intimate union.***

Genesis 2:21–24 “And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. ²² Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

²³ And Adam said:

‘This *is* now bone of my bones
And flesh of my flesh;
She shall be called Woman,
Because she was taken out of Man.’

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”

Matthew 19:4-5 “And [Jesus] answered and said to them, ‘Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning *‘made them male and female,’* and said, *‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’* ?”

2. ***Children are a gift of God and are to be nurtured within the family circle. The primary responsibilities for teaching children the Word of God belongs to the parents. The church assists the parents with this important task.***

Psalms 127:3-5a

³ Behold, children *are* a heritage from the LORD,
The fruit of the womb *is* a reward.

⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior,
So *are* the children of one’s youth.

⁵ Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them;

Psalms 139:13-14 For You formed my inward parts;

You covered me in my mother’s womb.

¹⁴ I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made;

Marvelous are Your works,

And *that* my soul knows very well.”

Deuteronomy 11:18-21 “Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ¹⁹ You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ²⁰ And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, ²¹ that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, like the days of the heavens above the earth.”

Mark 10:14-16 “But when Jesus saw *it*, He was greatly displeased and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.’ ¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, laid *His* hands on them, and blessed them.”

Ephesians 6:4 “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”

Statement on Social Concerns

1. Sexual relationships:

- A. ***Outside of marriage are hurtful and destructive and are forbidden by the Word of God.***

Exodus 20:14 “You shall not commit adultery.” [The 6th Commandment]

Matthew 15:19-20 Jesus said: “‘For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. ²⁰ These are *the things* which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.’”

1 Corinthians 6:15-20 “¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make *them* members of a harlot? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her*? For ‘*the two,*’ He says, ‘*shall become one flesh.*’ ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*. ¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.’”

Galatians 5:19–21 “Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

B. Between people of the same sex [gender] are against the natural order and are forbidden by the Word of God.

Leviticus 18:22 “You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.”

Leviticus 20:13 “If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood *shall be* upon them.”

Romans 1:26–27 “For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.”

Matthew 19:4–6 “And [Jesus] answered and said to them, ‘Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning ‘*made them male and female*,’ ⁵ and said, ‘*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh*’ ? ⁶ So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.’”

1 Corinthians 6:9–10 “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.”

C. The use of pornography is destructive and is contrary to the Creator’s purpose for human sexuality.

Matthew 5:27–28 “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘*You shall not commit adultery*.’ ²⁸

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

Philippians 4:8 “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”

2. Sanctity of life:

A. The unborn child is a human being, possessing the right to life.

Exodus 20:13 “You shall not murder.” [The 5th Commandment]

Jeremiah 1:5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;

Before you were born I sanctified you;

I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

Luke 18:20 Jesus said: “‘You know the commandments: ‘*Do not commit adultery*,’ ‘*Do not murder*,’ ‘*Do not steal*,’ ‘*Do not bear false witness*,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’”

1 Corinthians 3:16 “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?”

B. All human life is protected from the practices of abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia by the commandment of God not to murder.

Exodus 20:13 “You shall not murder.” [The 5th Commandment]

Psalms 139:13–15 “For You formed my inward parts;

You covered me in my mother’s womb.

¹⁴I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made;
Marvelous are Your works,
And *that* my soul knows very well.

¹⁵My frame was not hidden from You,
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.”

Jeremiah 1:5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;
Before you were born I sanctified you;
I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

Luke 18:20 Jesus said: ““You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’” ”

C. *Emotional and physical abuse of children or adults is contrary to Scripture.*

1 Corinthians 10:23–24 “All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify. ²⁴ Let no one seek his own, but each one the other’s *well-being*.”

1 Corinthians 15:33 “Do not be deceived: ‘Evil company corrupts good habits.’”

Ephesians 6:4 “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”

3. *Living in a Fallen World:*

A. *Our fellowship recognizes that Christians are vulnerable to all the struggles common to humanity and provides, under the guidance of God’s Word and His Holy Spirit, a counseling ministry, lay and professional, to bring healing to hurting people.*

Galatians 6:1–2 “Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. ² Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

B. *Recognizing our own shortcomings it is our desire to extend God’s grace, mercy, and love through our Lord, Jesus Christ to all people.*

Luke 1:77–79 “To give knowledge of salvation to His people
By the remission of their sins,

⁷⁸Through the tender mercy of our God,
With which the Dayspring from on high has visited us;

⁷⁹To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death,
To guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Galatians 6:10 “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

Ephesians 4:32 “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”

Procedure to change the Statement of Core Beliefs

This Statement of Core Beliefs may be amended through the following procedure: A resolution to amend this Statement of Core Beliefs must be made in writing at a meeting of the congregation. If the resolution is passed, it will not be enacted until said amendment has been considered again at the next annual meeting, at which a quorum of eligible voting members shall be present and shall be passed by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by eligible voting members. (All Scripture references in this document are taken from the NKJV translation)