

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

Church Office:	churchoffice@princeofpeacebeulah.org	701-873-5650
Pastor: Kent Sperry	ksperry@princeofpeacebeulah.org	815-501-9629
Youth Director: Seth Larson	slarson@princeofpeacebeulah.org	815-351-7063
Church Website	www.princeofpeacebeulah.org	

December 2021



Pastor Kent

"Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery."

Hebrews 2:14-15 ESV

The Christmas story is one that is known by most everyone. It's known not only by those who believe in him. It's known also by those who reject what Scripture says of him. However, even though believers and unbelievers alike know the story and get caught up in the celebration of Christmas, many objections are raised to its message.

One such objection involves the incarnation itself. Besides wondering how it's possible, some wonder why God had to become man in the first place. They wonder why he took on flesh and lived among his creation.

We find the answer to this question in the above passage. The author of Hebrews tells us, first of all, that Jesus became like us. He partook of flesh and blood. And the reason he did this is that he might accomplish our salvation.

As most of us know, this was accomplished by Jesus' death on the cross. In this way, he paid the penalty of our sin. He died on our behalf and satisfied the wrath of God.

However, one of the things that stands out as we consider the nature of God is that he cannot die. God is not mortal. He's immortal, eternal, and unchanging.

If he, then, was to pay the penalty of our sin, he had to become man. If he was to die on our behalf, he had to take on flesh. If he was to satisfy the righteous requirement of God's justice, he had to take on our nature.

In this way, by taking on human flesh and dying on the cross, he destroyed the devil. He destroyed the one who accuses us before God. And he delivers us from our slavery to the fear of death.

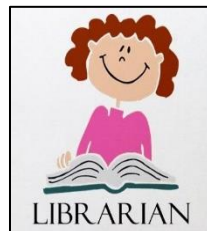
In other words, because of Jesus, we no longer have to live in fear of death. Because he took on flesh, we're no longer held in bondage by our fear of death. And because he died on our behalf, we know that life eternal is ours.

Some will object that none of this was necessary. They tell us that God could have forgiven us apart from Christ's sacrifice. And they tell us that he could simply overlook our sin. Nothing, however, is further from the truth.

Because he is righteous, God cannot allow sin into his presence. Because he is holy, he cannot tolerate wrongdoing. And because he is just, the penalty of our sin has to be paid.

By the incarnation, you see, the nature and the character of God were upheld. They were in no way violated. And, at the same time, our salvation was realized.

Prince of Peace needs volunteers to help with the **church library!** Please call the office to get in on the fun 😊



Also, if you would like any books or movies ordered for our library – let us know! Please check your shelves and book racks to see if you have any items that need to be returned to POP.

Worship Attendance

10-03 - 113

10-10 - 126

10-17 - 168 kids sing

10-24 - 110

10-31 - 151

11-07 - 149

11-14 - 129

11-21 - 138

11-21 - 45 Annual meeting



Night in Bethlehem

Please join us for a Night in Bethlehem on Saturday, December 4th at 5:00 PM. The event will feature:

- Supper of homemade soups and bread
- The Christmas Story and message
- Crafts
- Cocoa and apple cider bar with desserts
- Photo booth
- Handbell "play along" to Christmas Songs

It will be a wonderful evening of fellowship and enjoyment for church and community members of all ages. Please mark your calendars and invite a friend!



From the Chairman – Marvin Sigman

The Kindness of God

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. Titus 3:4-5

“How than can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?” Genesis 29:9

God’s kindness stirred Joseph’s holiness. The temptation Potiphar’s wife so freely offered was likely strong. Joseph had seen the kindness of God, the grace and mercy that rescued him from the bottom of a well. And Joseph simply could not sin against God’s kindness.

God’s grace does the same in us. “For the grace of God... teaches us to say ‘No’ to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age” (Titus 2:11-12 NIV). A robust grace this is, that both convicts and comforts! Let it convict you. If you ever catch yourself thinking, I can do whatever I want because God will forgive me, then grace is not happening to you. Selfishness, perhaps. Arrogance, for sure. But Grace? No. Grace creates a resolve to do good, not permission to do bad.

And let grace comfort you. Look to Christ for your beginning and ending. He is Alpha and Omega. He will hold you. And he will hold on to the ones you love. Do you have a prodigal? Do you long for your spouse to return to God? Do you have a friend whose faith has grown cold? God wants them back more than you do. Keep praying and don’t give up.

Marvin C. Sigman



We are busy working on the Christmas program. The parts have been handed out, so if your child can't find theirs let me know and I will get them a copy. I would encourage memorizing if possible (as many have Bible verses to recite) and if not please have them very familiar with their parts. I also sent home a list of 4 songs that the kids will be singing during the program. Please work on the words with them, as we only have 20 minutes in opening to work on the songs so that isn't a lot of time. The one that needs the most work is "While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks By Night".

The preK and K class will be doing the traditional program and the 1-5 grade will tell the Christmas story from the view of the busy Bethlehem Inn the night that Jesus was born. That will be the beginning of their program and then we will transition to our modern-day busyness. I was able to incorporate some of the lessons from class, Bible verses that the kids have memorized and include some of the 10 commandments into the program it is so cool how it is all tied together.

A couple of things. We will practice during the SS hour December 12th so please have you kids there if possible. We will practice again Saturday December 18th at 10:15. I am not sure how long that practice will be yet. I am thinking about an hour, but I will let you know as the time gets closer. Also, if your child plays an instrument and would like to play something let me know and I will get a list together. We usually have them play prior to church starting depending on how many students that we have. The program will be during the church service on December 19 which starts at 9 am. We won't have SS December 19, 26 or January 2nd. We will resume class on January 9th.

In His hands, Donna Bieri



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.

REJOICE

O Lord, there just aren't enough choir boys
to sing what I feel.
There aren't enough trumpets to blow.
O Lord, I want bells to peal!
I want to dance in the streets of Bethlehem!
I want to sing with the heavenly host!
For unto us a son was given
And he was called *God With Us*.
For those of us who believe,
The whole world is decorated in love!
-Ann Weems

WMF Bible Study will be on Monday, **December 13**, at 10:30 and 6:30. This is the second Monday, but the usual 3rd is the weed of Christmas. We will finish up the Timothy study with lesson 11.

There is an envelope on the WMF bulletin board to sign up to order the 2022 WMF Bible study book and drop off your payment. The books are \$13.00. We will be looking at Psalms 90-100 as we "***Behold our God***".

WMF is in the process of updating our Serving Groups for POPLC. It is close to five years since this has been done. Serving groups are made up of all adult members of Prince of Peace and those who worship with us. There are 8 serving groups at this time; three day-time and five weekend/evening. If you have gone from landline phone to cell we need your new number. If you want to be in a different group than you are now in or have any other concerns please contact me, Sylvia Zeiszler or Jan Sigman.

Serving groups are asked to help serve food at special events and to clean the kitchen and fellowship hall as clean as they found it. The

special events include funerals, weddings, anniversaries, potlucks, and special fellowship times like the Pie Social on the Eve of Thanksgiving.

Helping out in this way allows us to be God's hands and feet in action. As we serve we can be like Jesus and share His love with others. This is an important ministry of the church.

There will be a special WMF meeting on Wednesday, December 1, at 10:30 am in the fellowship hall. We will be discussing some of the issues regarding what will be expected from individuals when called to work for funerals especially. Serving groups are entirely different than the groups that serve coffee on Sunday mornings. We meet at this time every week anyway but we want input from some more of you.

Merry Christmas and Bless God as you celebrate Jesus Christ's birth.
Love, Judy 8702131

RADIO BROADCAST 

Please Contact the office if you are interested in sponsoring a radio broadcast. **The cost is \$40.** The Radio Broadcast is heard on Sundays at 11:30 AM on KDKT, 1410 AM. Available Sundays to sponsor are December 5, 12, 19, & 26 and January 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. Send an email to the office or call 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 available on our youtube channel, and the audio is also available on our website by the following Monday, or on our KDKT Radio broadcast at 11:30 on Sunday mornings.



Youth

Quiet Time with God

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.” Psalm 23:1-2

Many people rarely go anywhere without a cell phone, iPod, laptop, or pager. We have become accessible 24 hours a day. Some psychologists see this craving to stay connected as an addiction. Yet a growing number of people are deliberately limiting their use of technology. Being a “tech-no” is their way of preserving times of quiet, while limiting the flow of information into their lives.

Many followers of Christ find that a daily time of Bible reading and prayer is essential in their walk of faith. This “quiet time” is a disconnection from external distractions in order to connect with God. The “green pastures” and “still waters” of Psalm 23:2 are more than an idyllic country scene. They speak of our communion with God whereby He restores our souls and leads us in His paths. All of us can make time to meet with God, but do we? In Robert Foster’s booklet “7 Minutes With God,” he suggests a way to begin: Start with a brief prayer for guidance, then read the

Bible for a few minutes, and close with a short time of prayer that includes adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication for others. It’s vital to take time today to connect with the Lord, who is our life.

By: David C. McCasland

Normally I like to write my own newsletter, but this is a devotional from “Our Daily Bread” from last year that I found incredibly helpful and encouraging, and I hope that you will as well. Have a very happy Thanksgiving!

Youth Pastor, Seth Larson

High School Youth Group Christmas party will be @ 6:00 December 22.

MS and HS youth groups will resume Jan 5 and 6.

Ushers for December

Dec 5: Mark Gerde, Don Buck, David Hottman

Dec 12: Jim & Chris Alt, Gene & Dara Hausauer, John & Carmen Mohl

Dec 19: Marvin & Janice Sigman, Bill & Kris Keller, Vern & Lisa Pederson

Dec 26: Marlys & Jerry Reichenberg, Klaut family

Fellowship servers for December

Dec 5: Jeff & Chrisy Rotonado, Joan Schumaier, Margret Rosaan

Dec 12: Garrett & Michelle Placke, Jay & Karen Seibel

Dec 19: Missions group

Dec 26: Willis & Deb Kasanke, Dave & Steph Hottman



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



Friday, December 24 @ 4:30pm



Poinsettias for the Altar

This year the poinsettia fundraiser for Women’s Care Center to fill the Prince of Peace altar at Christmas with poinsettias will be earlier! Because of shipping delays we will have to have our orders in early. Please have your orders in by December 5. The order form is at the back of the Sanctuary or you can call the office and I will get you on the list 😊

December Birthdays

- 3-Dec Arlo Sailer
- 4-Dec Jacey Duttonhefner
- 6-Dec Chris Iverson
- 9-Dec Sharon Schneider
- 11-Dec Jake Mohl
- 12-Dec Nick Kasanke
- 12-Dec Brooklyn Keller
- 13-Dec Judah Novak
- 15-Dec Morgan Lenzen
- 15-Dec Linda Schnaidt
- 16-Dec Charlie Wanzek
- 17-Dec Shane Goetz
- 17-Dec Shaylyn Gunsch
- 17-Dec Zachary Neuberger
- 18-Dec Morgan Mattheis
- 19-Dec Lynell Renner
- 20-Dec Krystal Finsaas
- 20-Dec Lisa Pederson
- 22-Dec Aiden Green
- 22-Dec Coleton Littig
- 25-Dec Simon Novak
- 26-Dec Holly Doe
- 27-Dec Sandy Weigel
- 30-Dec Cheri Sperry
- 31-Dec Deb Kasanke
- 31-Dec Willis Kasanke
- 31-Dec Brandi Tolosky



to everyone who came for the Soup to Go fundraiser. You are so generous! Please pray over me and my team in 2022 😊 Mom will keep you updated on my outreach field location.

Emily Wenning – YWAM Missions

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

President's Report – Marvin Sigman

The Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack packed 1,088 meals. We have \$8,000 left in the account and can use it within 2 years if someone signs on within 1 year. Two people are considering chairing it. Marvin went to the Deacon's Meeting and the Personnel Committee Meeting.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent

I attended our deacons meeting and staff meetings.

I participated in ministerial prayer, as able.

I attended our AFLC district meeting in Bismarck.

I made several visits for hospice this month.

Confirmation is going well. We just finished our section on the Ten Commandments and will be taking our first quiz next week.

I attended the district men's conference.

I organized and helped with our Spiritual Life Meetings.

I led our first Bible study for our men's breakfast, where we're looking at a series titled: *One Truth, Many Lies*.

Youth Director's Report – Seth Larson

Disciple Concert at Beulah High School was cancelled due to Covid in Band, rescheduled for May

FMSC (had 15-20 kids helped) and Lock-in in between shifts

HS Youth Trip to the Woman's Care Clinic Bingo Night in Bismarck November 10th

HS Youth Trip to Soup Kitchen on November 12th
11:30 am to 6:00 pm

Youth Bake Sale on November 21st

Treasurers Report – Margie Lee

General Fund	\$ 15,291.37
Building Fund	\$ 52,360.43

Coffee Hour Fund	\$ 273.22
Intern Fund	\$ 41,885.35
Van/Storage Fund	\$ 24,259.92
Total Bank Acct	\$ 142,910.53

Loan Borrowed 4/2015	\$ 250,000.00
Rate of 4.5%	
Loan Balance	\$ 0

Deacon's Report – Kevin Lee

Last year, we had a one-day men's conference in February with Pastor Paul Nash. It seemed to go well and had good participation. We tied it in with our theme (Bible study topic) for the year. We want to plan something like this again. Pastor Kent has two pastors in mind as possibilities. Pastor Andy Coyle, who planted and serves the congregation in the Black Hills of SD. He was also a missionary to Ukraine for a time. The other is Pastor Adam Osier, who serves as dean of our Bible College.

Pastor has meetings for the AFLC World Missions Committee in Minneapolis December 3rd-4th. The Bible College has their winter concerts on those same dates. He would like to attend the concerts as Rachel will be performing (and as in-person attendance was not allowed last year). But it would mean missing church on the 5th. In terms of vacation time, he has one last Sunday available. For these reasons, Pastor asked if it's possible to take Sunday, Dec. 5th as a vacation day. The deacons agreed that this would be good. Les Buchman could teach adult Sunday School during Pastor's absence. Seth agreed to preach on Sunday the 5th of December.

Youth ministry update – Seth reported that the youth programs continue to thrive by the grace of God. Seth will continue to attend Deacon meetings where he can contribute to discussions and report on his daily activities for the church.

The deacons agreed to give \$500.00 to the Beulah ministerial for helping those in need.

Trustee's Report – Ryan Tolosky

The concrete contractor was delayed this year due to situations out of his control.

Keith fixed lots of things over the course of 2021. Replaced many lights in the fellowship hall. The Sunday school room was remodeled by Keith and other members of the congregation. Broken floor tiles were replaced in the Sunday school rooms and

fellowship hall. The insulation in the ceiling of the fellowship hall was secured to the ceiling joists to prevent future sagging and falling insulation. I am sure he did way more than what is listed here.

In the early part of November, the fellowship hall floor was waxed. We will continue as needed and when time permits to wax the Sunday school rooms, kitchen, hallway to the warehouse and warehouse kitchen.

Jeff has been working on computer/sound booth projects throughout the year

Will need to replace the outside entry door to the warehouse.

Will need to look at purchasing a new lawn mower for next year.

Garage project is still being discussed and planned. Dustin is working on getting a couple of bids from some local contractors.

There is a sign-up sheet being passed around to volunteer to shovel/snow blow around the church during the snowy months. This is just for the sidewalks and steps. The parking lots are cleared with machinery.

Christian Ed Report – Angie Wanzek

Christian Ed did not meet before council meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Tithe - We voted to split our tithe of \$3,094.17: \$600 to Emily Wenning YWAM, \$2,494.17 to All Ministries.

Safety Team – Anyone wanting to be on the Safety Team will need a background check. The Safety Team did de-escalation training.

Personnel Committee Minutes – the church council recommended giving Youth Director Seth Larson an extra 3 days of vacation in addition to his salary increase. This will need to be approved at the Annual Meeting.

Staff Christmas Gifts – We approved Christmas gifts for Pastor Kent Sperry, Youth Director Seth Larson, Church Coordinator Darcee Wenning and Janitor Amy Haugen.

Correspondence

Thank you note was received from AFLC World Missions for our gifts and partnership in the Gospel.

2021 POP Church Council

President	Marvin Sigman
Treasurer	Margie Lee
Secretary	Deb Saylor
Deacons	Don Buck
	Jim Wenning
	Kevin Lee
	Shane Haugen
Trustees	Keith Peterson
	Dustin Buchmann
	Ryan Tolosky
	Jeff Rotondo
Christian Education	Angie Wanzek
	Donna Bieri
	Rebecah Larson
	Chrisy Rontondo

2021 Annual Meeting Highlights

OLD BUSINESS

North Entrance Walkway and Southeast Sloped Walkway Replacement – M Construction has been contracted to do the concrete work and it will be done Spring of 2022.

Van Storage Building – The project will need approval from the congregation when there are firm costs and plans that the Trustees are working on.

NEW BUSINESS

New member acknowledgement

Statistics Report:

Membership 11-22-2020	512
Members Received	8
Members Removed	26
Membership 11-21-2021 Adjusted due to previous membership program using incorrect parameters	429

Baptisms	3
Adult Class or Transfer	5
Deaths	6
Removed by Transfer/Other	20
Members Confirmed	1

Elections

Chairman – Marvin Sigman 1-year term

Treasurer – Margie Lee 1-year term

Deacons – Garrett Placke 3-year term

Trustees – Bruce Neuberger 3-year term

Christian Education – Donna Bieri 3-year term

Auditing Committee – Wayne Hoffner and Kim Pacht both 1-year terms

Personnel Committee – Carl Sorenson 1-year term

Nominating Committee – Marj Murray, Janice Sigman and Marvin Bauer all 1-year terms

2022 Annual Budget – Approved the budget as printed. Our new sanctuary building loan was taken out in April 2015 for \$250,000 and is at the Union Bank at 4.5% interest rate and has been paid off.

AFLC Seminary Intern – Congregation approved asking for an AFLC Seminary Intern

Additional Vacation for Youth Director Seth

Larson – Congregation approved giving Seth Larson an extra 3 days of vacation. Seth has a 6-day work week and currently receives 12 days of vacation.