

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	

January 2022



Pastor Kent

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

(Colossians 3:23-24 ESV)

It's that time of year when many of us make resolutions. We do so, viewing the new year as a new beginning. Recognizing our flaws, recognizing our sins, we want to do better.

Looking at it in terms of our faith, this is a good attitude. It's a healthy attitude. As we live an ongoing life of repentance and faith, we turn from our sin and we look to Christ.

However, as we make resolutions, as we seek to better ourselves, I've noticed something. Christ is not the focus of the changes we want to make. We are.

The goal for many of us, with the new year, is to lose weight. This is why gym memberships take off at the beginning of each year. And, again, our motivation for doing so is to improve our health. It's to improve the way that we feel.

The same is true when it comes to our eating habits. Many of us resolve to improve this aspect of our lives. And, again, our motivation for doing so is our own health. It's to improve the way that we feel.

Many of us focus on other aspects of life. We resolve to live a simpler life. We resolve to buy less and to save more. And we resolve to be more generous.

Even though this sounds laudable, our motivation is once again ourselves. By doing this, we're told, our life will be less stressful. Living in this way, we're told, will reduce worry from our life.

Still others among us see that we need to be more forgiving. And, as we seek to do so, we focus on the

personal benefits of forgiveness. We say that we offer forgiveness not for the sake of the person who wronged us, but for our own benefit. We do so because it frees us from bitterness and resentment.

There may be truth in each rationalization we make. Losing weight and eating better will certainly improve our health and the way that we feel. Living a simpler life will certainly reduce stress. And forgiving others does offer to us a sense of freedom.

However, even if we receive these side benefits as we repent of our sin and resolve to make these changes, Christ should be our primary motivation. We should desire to make these changes in service of Christ. And we should desire to make these changes for the glory of Christ.

In the third chapter of Colossians, Paul was instructing believers how to live with each other. He tells wives to submit to their husbands. He tells husbands to love their wives. He tells children to obey their parents. He tells fathers that they're not to provoke their children. He tells servants to obey their masters.

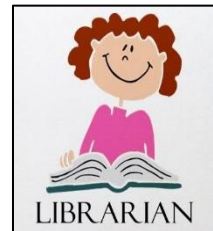
Now, it's certainly true that doing these things will lead to a more peaceful life. It will result in less conflict. It will lead to personal blessings as well as blessings for those who surround us.

However, he closes with the verses above. After telling them to do these things, after instructing them to live in this way, he tells them that, whatever they do, they are to work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men. In other words, their focus was not to be on man, but on Christ.

Wives were to submit to their husbands for the Lord's sake. Husbands are to love their wives for the Lord's sake. Children are to obey their parents for the Lord's sake. And servants are to obey their masters for the Lord's sake.

Even though, as we follow these instructions, it's clear that others will benefit, and even though it's true that we ourselves will benefit, this shouldn't be our primary motivation. We should do these things out of our love for the Lord. We should do them in service of the Lord. And we should do so knowing that he is the source of all blessings.

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



Lots of new stuff has been ordered – they will be ready soon! Please check your shelves and book racks to see if you have any items that need to be returned to POP.

Worship Attendance

11-21 - 138
11-21 - 45 Annual meeting
11-24 - 50 Thanksgiving Eve
11-28 - 145
12-05 - 129
12-12 - 159
12-19 - 160
12-24 - 276 Christmas Eve
12-26 - 74



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 January 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 February 6, 13, 20 & 27. Send an email to the office or call to reserve a Sunday broadcast!



From the Chairman – Marvin Sigman

The Best is Yet to Come!

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.

(Colossians 3:1-2 NLT)

Do you feel as if your best years have passed you by? Hogwash. You will do your best work in heaven. Do you regret wasting seasons of life on foolish pursuits? So do I. But we can stop our laments. We have an eternity to make up for lost time. Are you puzzled by the challenges of your days? Then see yourself as an uncut jewel and God as a lapidary. He is polishing you for your place in his kingdom. Your biggest moments lie ahead, on the other side of the grave. So seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God" (Colossians 3:1). Scripture uses a starchy verb here. Zeteite ("to seek") is to "covet earnestly, strive after, to inquire for, desire, even require."

Seek heaven the way a sailor seeks the coast or a pilot seeks the landing strip or a missile seeks heat. Head for home the way a pigeon wings to the nest or the prodigal strode to his papa. "Think only about" it (3:2 NCV). "Keep your mind" on it (3:2 GW). "Set your sights on the realities of heaven" (3:1 NLT). "Pursue the things over which Christ presides" (3:1 MSG). Obsess yourself with heaven! The best is yet to come!

IN Christ Marvin C Sigman



Thanks to everyone who helped with the Christmas program! The kids did a great job learning their parts and performing them! We don't have a date for singing for church set for this spring. The third Sunday of the month has been the Sunday that we have typically performed, but this spring almost every 3rd weekend is a 3 or 4 day weekend. We will resume Sunday School on January 9th.

In His Hands,
Donna Bieri



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



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.

Psalm 90: 1,2 "Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God." This is where we will begin our new Bible Study, "Behold Our God".

The authors of the study are four sisters: Karen Floan, Anne Presteng, Gwen Berge and Wendy Westlake. They write:

"As we behold God in Psalms 90-100, we are overwhelmed with His mighty power as Creator and Ruler of heaven and earth. We are humbled by His holiness and His plan of Salvation. We see His faithfulness in our lives and throughout all generations.

"Overwhelmed by joy or overtaken by sorrow, God hears the cry of our hearts, He draws us to Himself and His presence changes us. It is the Almighty God who lovingly commands us to praise Him for our good and His glory.

"May you be blessed as you "Behold Our God" in the Psalms."

Monday, January 17, at 10:30 am or 6:30 PM we will meet to look at Lesson 1, **BEHOLD THE ETERNAL ONE** by Karen Floan. We have study guides available in the church. All women are invited to join us at either time. Even if you haven't been involved previously we would love to have you. We are extremely

informal and you don't need to do the lessons in advance. Please come check it out.

At 10:30 on Wednesday mornings all women are invited to come to the fellowship hall for coffee and fellowship. We sometimes take care of WMF business that needs attention. We mostly just enjoy being together and talking... The quilters meet on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 and often take a break and join in our fellowship.

A little something from my 1990 Women's Devotional Bible...

"Jesus promised that satisfaction will come to those who seek the good things of God. He says that they will be filled--not with the material goods of this world, not with an easy way of life, not with something of limited value that can be taken away from them...but with the joy and contentment that come from doing God's will. The filled people are the truly happy people in life."

By Colleen Townsend Evens

In His love,
Judy Tolosky 870-2131

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

“Speak Up God!”

“Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.” Jeremiah 33:3

I hope we all know, wherever we are in our lives, that God talks to us. It’s not always in the same way, but God does talk to us and hopes that we listen. So what does that mean for us during times when we are looking for God’s guidance or his words, but we don’t feel or hear anything?

One of my favorite stories about talking and listening to God in the Bible is the story of Job. If you don’t know, the Book of Job is the story of a man named Job who is tested by God to grow Job closer to God. Job loses basically everything and is tested more than most people ever have to live through, and he never curses God through all of it. One thing that we tend to overlook about the story of Job is that God doesn’t talk to Job until the very end of the book. Job is constantly asking God what is happening and what he did wrong, but with no reply. And in the middle of the worst of everything, Job says, “I know that my redeemer lives and that in the end he will stand on the earth” (Job 19:25). In the midst of everything being terrible for Job and him feeling hopeless, he still knows that God is God and that God is there for him no matter what, and that’s not going to change. And that was enough to keep Job going.

This is the same for us today. Sometimes, when we feel alone and unheard by God, He tells us in his perfect presence that He is there for us, and He will never

leave us or forsake us. Because He was there when we were made, and He will be there for us long after we leave this Earth.

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me” Psalm 23:4

Youth Director Seth Larson

Upcoming Youth Events

- December 5th- HSYG Starts after Winter Break
- December 6th- MSYG Starts after Winter Break

Ushers for January

January 2: Fred Bieri, Darren & Leeta Olin, Angie Wanzek

January 9: Keith Peterson, Dalton & Sylvia Zeiszler, Ron Frei

January 16: Garrett Placke, Marvin Bauer, Shane Haugen, Jeff Gooss

January 23: Jim Wenning, Dan & Rebecah Martin, Garrett Sayler

January 30: Kevin Lee, Jim Wenning, Jay Seibel

Ushers for February

February 6: Fred Bieri, Darren & Leeta Olin, Angie Wanzek

February 13: Keith Peterson, Dalton & Sylvia Zeiszler, Ron Frei

February 20: Garrett Placke, Marvin Bauer, Shane Haugen, Jeff Gooss

February 27: Jim Wenning, Dan & Rebecah Martin, Garrett Sayler

Fellowship servers for January

January 2: Novaks, Wanzeks, Haugens

January 9: Boehms, Lil Boeshans, Betty Hausauer

January 16: Gary & Susan Miller, Wennings

January 23: Dan & Rebecah Martin, Klaudts

January 30: Kam & Cassie Plienis, Carl & Bev Sorensen

2022 Fellowship list is coming soon!

January Birthdays

1-Jan Nancy Hafner

1-Jan Blair Wiedrich

4-Jan Alec Babcock

4-Jan Kendra Ungerger

7-Jan Alyson Wiedrich

8-Jan Kacey Klaudt

9-Jan Clancy Bauman

10-Jan Lynn Flemmer

13-Jan Delton Schnaidt

14-Jan Robert Hafner

14-Jan Travis Horning

14-Jan Emersen Olsen

16-Jan Mark Gerde

23-Jan Erika Ochsner

24-Jan Lona Moos

24-Jan William Wanzek

25-Jan Joan Schumaier

26-Jan Katie Klipfel

27-Jan Gina Feist

30-Jan Gary Miller

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent

I attended our ministerial meeting.

I made a couple visits for hospice this month.

Confirmation is going well. About half of the kids passed their quiz over the Ten Commandments, and the rest will be retaking it. We've also moved into our study of the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday School also continues to go well. We are continuing in our look at the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed, focusing on Jesus, his identity, and the redemption he secured.

I led our Bible study for our men's breakfast, where we're looking at a series titled: *One Truth, Many Lies*. We looked at the false teaching, that evil is preexistent and equal in power with God, and what Scripture has to say about this.

I attended meetings of the AFLC World Missions Committee in Minneapolis, as well as the Christmas concerts offered at the Bible College.

I twice communed our church members at KRCC.

Youth Director's Report – Seth Larson

- HS Youth Trip to Women's Care Center in Bismarck
- HS Youth Trip to Soup Kitchen
- Youth Bake Sale
- Night in Bethlehem
- Preached on December 5th
- POP Christmas Party Dec 17th
- HS Christmas Party at our house Dec 22nd
- MS half-nighter at POP from 7PM-12AM Dec 30th
- Youth Ski Trip Feb 20th-21st

Treasurers Report – Margie Lee

General Fund	\$ 11,220.96
Building Fund	\$ 55,116.46
Coffee Hour Fund	\$ 308.65
Intern Fund	\$ 42,885.35
Van/Storage Fund	\$ 25,284.92
Total Bank Acct	\$ 143,738.63

Deacon's Report – Kevin Lee

Spiritual Life Meetings – We discussed possible topics and speakers. It was decided to go with a theme related to "having a servant heart". Possible speakers were: Rodney Johnson, Lyndon Korhonen, Jim Johnson.

Men's conference – Pastor Kent has visited with Pastor Adam Osier, dean of our Bible College, who seemed open to our invitation.

We divided up deacon responsibilities for 2022: Kevin Lee – Secretary and Sound board schedule,

Shane Haugen - Service leader schedule, Jim Wenning - usher schedule, Garrett Placke will be covenant Eyes oversight.

Seth wasn't back from vacation yet, but he provided a detailed written Youth ministry update.

Trustee's Report – Ryan Tolosky

We did not have a meeting in December. No trustees had any other concerns. Keith Peterson has been waxing floors. Bruce Neuberger is the new trustee. Shoveling list is out by entryway. I will send out an email asking for volunteers or ask Darcee to send it.

Christian Ed Report – Angie Wanzek

First Responder Care Packages were assembled.

Night in Bethlehem: December 4th @ 5pm. Chrisy Rotondo will take care of the kitchen duties and ordering bread. Rebeca Larson is overseeing crafts. Angie Wanzek/Donna Bieri is in charge of puppets. Helpers will be needed.

Christmas Program: Donna Bieri left us with a copy. It's going to be a fun program with great messages!

VBS: Team requests open December 1st. We are going to try for June 5th-11th first choice, July 10th-16th second choice, July 24th-30th last choice depending when Mt. Carmel Family camp is.

NEW BUSINESS

Tithe – We voted to split our Tithe of \$2,330.88: \$600 to Emily Wenning YWAM Mission and split the remaining \$1,730.88 with \$100 to each of the missionaries that we currently support and the balance going to the ARC.

Copier Cleaning – The copier needs to be cleaned since it's not working properly. The copier is no longer under a service agreement since it's old. Secretary Darcee Wenning had a bid of \$500 to clean it. We discussed if it was worth it to clean the old copier or purchase a new one. We tabled this until the next month and will do some research in the meantime.

Safety Team –Garrett Placke will look at first aid kits for the van. Keith Peterson is researching what should be in the van for winter survival kit, the spare tire and spare tire changing gear. We discussed requiring passengers to have a coat, cap

and gloves in the winter. When the van is left here at the church it should be locked.

They wanted to make sure the exit lights and are functioning. Keith Peterson had already checked them and they are functioning.

Correspondence

Thank you notes were received from Lacey Crowell from the Alaska Mission for the WMF for their gifts off their Alaska Registry, from Women's Care Center for our continued support, AFLC Congregations for our donations and prayers, from WARC for our donations and from Association Retreat Center

2022 POP Church Council

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

