

## Reaching an ever-changing world with God's never-changing Word!

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## December 2022



Pastor Kent

*"...you shall call his name Jesus, for he  
will save his people from their sins."  
(Matthew 1:21 ESV)*

Although Christmas is a Christian holiday, it's truly a worldwide celebration. It's a holiday that's enjoyed by Christians and non-Christians alike. It's even a holiday that's celebrated and enjoyed by people of other faiths.

Even knowing that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus' birth, it's clear that, for many of us, the true meaning of the holiday has been lost. It's clear that we don't understand the significance of his birth. And it's clear that we don't understand the reason for this holy day.

This is true, even knowing that Jesus is our Savior. It's true even knowing that he is our Deliverer. It's true even knowing that he's our Redeemer.

We recognize the correct terms. And we use the correct terms. But we do so without fully grasping their meaning.

As I've said a couple of times recently, if Jesus came to save us, there is clearly something from which we need to be saved. And it's this that we fail to grasp. We do not recognize our bondage, nor do we want to.

As the angel told Joseph in the above passage, the child to be born was to be named Jesus, which means "The Lord is Salvation." This was to be his name because of what he was to do. He would save his people from their sins.

It's this that we fail to believe about ourselves. It's this that we fail to acknowledge about ourselves. And if we do, our tendency is to soften it.

We don't want to acknowledge the fact that we are sinners. We might acknowledge the fact that we are imperfect. And we might acknowledge the fact that we make mistakes. But we struggle to believe or to acknowledge that we are sinners.

We also don't want to believe or acknowledge that we're deserving of the consequences of sin. We don't want to believe or acknowledge that we're

deserving of death. And we certainly don't want to believe or acknowledge that we're deserving of hell.

But this, you see, is exactly why Jesus was born into the world. He was born to save us from sin. He came to deliver us from death and hell.

He did this, of course, by his death on the cross. He did this by offering himself as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. He did this by taking upon himself the penalty that we've incurred.

This is the reason why we celebrate his birth. He came to do for us what we're unable to do for ourselves. And, in this way, as we trust in him, we are granted the blessings of forgiveness and life everlasting.



### **Sunday School Corner**

It is time to prepare our hearts for the Christmas season. It is hard to not get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the business and forget the true meaning of Christmas. That being said I am not trying to add too much stress to your schedule, but we are working on a Christmas program for December 18<sup>th</sup> during the church service. We are going to do a traditional program as a group this year. I will send the parts home on December 4<sup>th</sup>. From what I currently have put together at this point it doesn't appear that there will be any long parts, and it would be appreciated if the kids memorized their lines. There will also be 5 traditional Christmas songs in the program- I am planning to incorporate bells into 2 of the songs. I will send the words to the songs home also on the 4<sup>th</sup>. We will practice during SS on the 11<sup>th</sup> and again on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>. I don't have a time for the 17<sup>th</sup> quite yet. I will let you know so you ASAP. My plan is that every child will have a speaking part, so it is important to let either the teacher or I know if you don't plan to attend so we can plan accordingly. We won't have SS on December 25 or January 1st. We will resume January 8<sup>th</sup>. I know society is in full swing for Christmas already but I wanted to give you parents a Thanksgiving note: Thank you for bringing your kids to SS and knowing the importance of raising you child in the word of God. The seeds planted will not return void and will accomplish what God intends them to. Also, thank you for helping your children memorize their Bible verses. I am impressed at how many kids are able to recite their verses and some of them aren't easy! Great Job and thanks again!



**Our POP Sunday School Christmas program will be during our Worship service**

**on December 18!**



### **Prayer request**

Prince of Peace is part of a community wide prayer chain. If you have something you

would like added to the prayer chain – please email the church office.

In His Hands,  
Donna Bieri

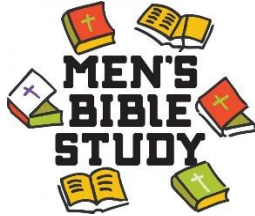


4:30pm December 24

## **Men's Breakfast & Bible Study**

Men's breakfast/Bible study is on Saturday December 17 @ 7am.

Join us for study, food & fellowship.



If you can not be with us for worship, our worship services are on youtube. You can subscribe or you can go on Facebook to get the link to stream the service.

## **Threads of Love Quilters**

Our quilters meet on Wednesday mornings @ 9am. All are welcome. It is a wonderful time of working together and fellowship. Please join us!



## **Communion prep for December**

Jim and Darcee Wenning

## **Communion prep for January**

Gina Feist



## **from the Chairman**

*"For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."*

*John 6: 33*

The grain –to-bread is a demanding one. The seed must be planted before it can grow. When the grain is ripe, it must be cut down and ground into flour. Before it can become bread, it must pass through the oven. Bread is the end result of planting, harvesting, and heating.

Jesus endured and identical process. He was born into this world. He was cut down, bruised, and beaten on the threshing floor of Calvary. He passed through the fire of God's wrath, for our sake. He "suffered because of others' sins, the Righteous One for the unrighteous ones. He went through it all- was put to death and then made alive- to bring us to God" (1 Peter 3:18 msg).

Bread of Life? Jesus lived up to the title. But an unopened loaf does a person no good. Have you received the bread? Have you received God's forgiveness?

In Christ Marvin C. Sigman

## **Hunger to Hope.**



Thanks to all who helped in anyway this past year! We have been able to feed hundreds of children for a year! How amazing! At times I wish we could see from above how many people that we have positively reached in one way or another to change their lives. I am sure there are people who have been blessed on every continent from your good deeds.

In His Hands, Donna Bieri



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Prince of Peace  
Women's Missionary  
Federation (WMF)

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*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.*

“And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” --Luke 2:12 ESV

Can you believe it is December!?!? Like my Lisa said when she was in second grade, “Time does go by faster when you get old.” She had heard that said a few times I guess. Years do seem to zip by so quickly while a day may seem to never end. We are to live each day as it comes to us with God by our side and the Holy Spirit in our heart and Gods word in our mind. Praise the Lord!

WMF will be having a **WMF Coffee Christmas Gathering at three o'clock on Sunday, December 4.** Our baristas will be making specialty coffees and Italian sodas. If you have a Christmas treat to share bring it along if you'd like. Not a requirement. We will look at Psalm 100. It is the last lesson in the WMF Bible Study. Even if you haven't been to Bible Study it won't matter. Each lesson stands on its own. And we will have fabulous fellowship as December begins.

The usual monthly WMF Bible Study will **NOT** be held on the third Monday of this month because of the WMF Coffee Christmas Gathering.

Come **Wednesdays at 10:30** for fellowship. This is for all ladies of the church. We need each other. We take care of issues that may

need addressing. The quilters are working and you just might get hooked.

We can **order books for next year's Bible study “Women of Redemption”** by Michele Mobley and Tami Demo. They cost \$13.00. An envelope and sign-up sheet will be on the WMF bulletin board that can be found between “soon to be pastor” Joe's office and our own youth director Cody's office. There are other interesting things on this bulletin board. Check it out!

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. --John 1:14 ESV

Merry Christmas!  
Judy Tolosky



## **WMF Christmas coffee gathering**

Sunday, December 4 @ 3:00pm.

### **POP Worship Attendance**

10-30 - 141  
11-06 - 153  
11-13 - 148  
11-20 - 181  
11-20 - 36 Annual meeting



# Warehouse Report

With the snow changing our lives for at least the next coming months, it caused me to stop and think about how something else happened during the Christmas time that changed the world for the rest of time. We celebrate the time of Christmas remembering how Jesus came from heaven to earth to be born as a baby. Unlike winter which only affects us for a few months, the fact that Jesus came to earth on the first Christmas is still impacting and will continue to impact our lives for the rest of eternity. As we get busy with this season. Remember the reason for the season.

POPFly has had lots of fun with weekly studies, the Bake Sale and the Youth Coffee house.

Up Coming events for POPFLY

Daycare day- Dec. 10. Please have your young kids signed up before Dec. 5

We are hoping to have a "lock in" for the HSYG after Christmas

We are planning to have a "half night" for the MSBS after Christmas

## Fellowship for December

**Dec 4:** Betty Unruh, Betty Hausauer, John & Carmen Mohl

**Dec 11:** Randy & Beth Zimmerman, Kameron & Cassie Plenis

**Dec 18:** Lynell Renner, Marj Murray, Kevin & Margie Lee

**Dec 25:** No fellowship

## Fellowship for January

Jan 1: No fellowship

Jan 8: Carey Mattheis , Lillian Boeshans, Bill U Nancy Swanson

Jan 15: Larue Schwarz, Sodie Peabody, Jay & Ashley Olson

Jan 22: Jim & Joan Schumaier, Jim & Darcee Wenning

Jan 29: Lynette Flemmer, Margaret Rosaaen, Bill & Kris Keller

## Ushers for December

**Dec 4:** David & Stephanie Hottman, Jim & Chris Alt

**Dec 11:** John & Carmen Mohl, Frank & Sarah Senn

**Dec 18:** Sigmans, Pedersons, & Kellers

**Dec 25:** Reichenbergs & Klaudts

## Ushers for January

List not generated yet

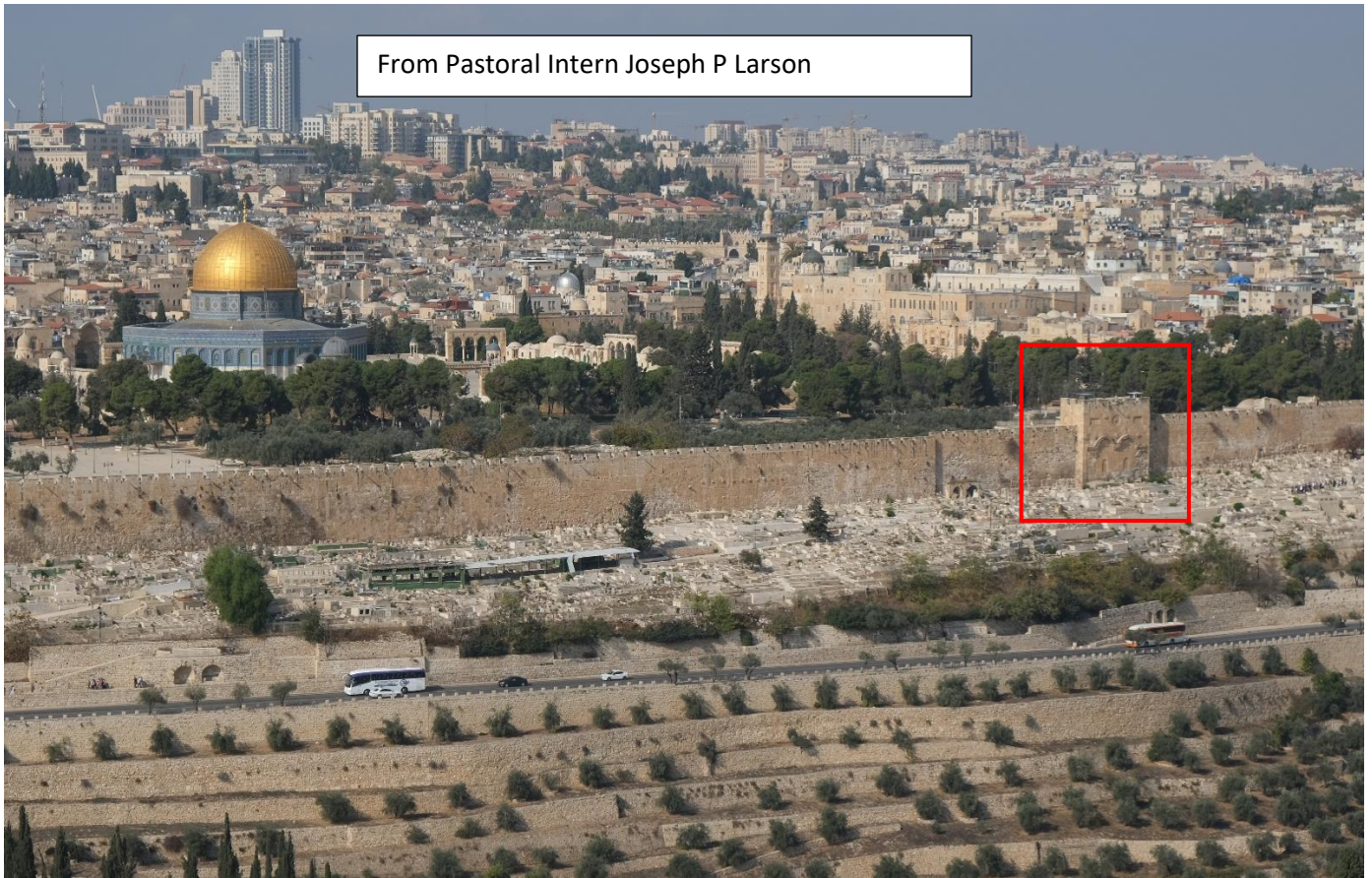
## December Birthdays

3-Dec	Arlo Sailer
4-Dec	Jacey Duttonhefner
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
24-Dec	Tenley Behm
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



Join us for Sunday worship  
@ 9am on December 25  
and January 1<sup>st</sup>! There will  
be no fellowship on those  
Sundays.

From Pastoral Intern Joseph P Larson

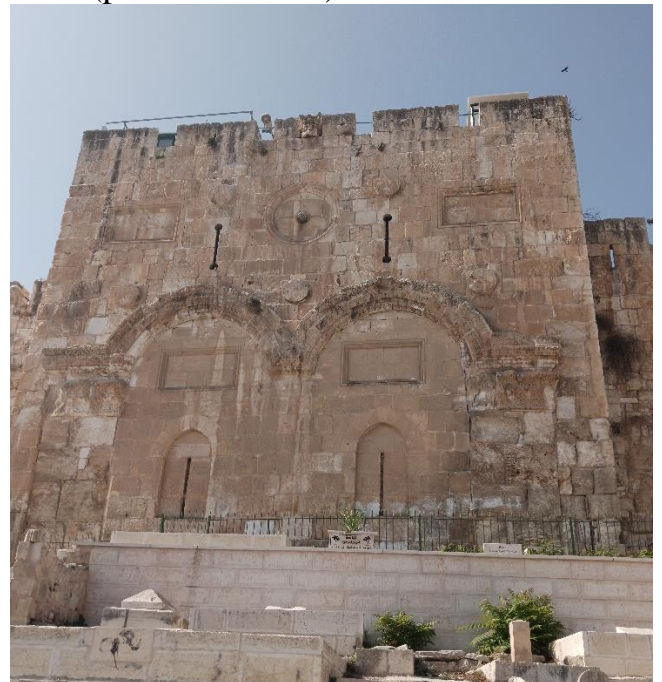


As many of you know, I was blessed with a chance to visit Israel recently along with a few of my fellow seminarians. Because of this, I thought it would be a good idea to use my remaining newsletter portions to share a photo or two from the trip and talk about ideas from Scripture that came to my mind.

Following the order of our trip, the first place to show off is the city of Jerusalem. During our first few days on the ground, we explored the old city as well as the nearby important sites, such as the garden tomb and the Mount of Olives.

The picture above is taken from the Mount of Olives. Heading down the mountain and across the valley, you can see along the right side of the wall a high spot where a gate was once open. This gate is known as the Golden

Gate (pictured below).



The Golden Gate was filled in with stones in years past, but because of how it opened right into the area near the temple, it is very likely that this is the gate that Christ used in His Triumphal Entry on Palm Sunday.



I share this because two ideas sprang into my mind when reflecting upon this gate and the entrance to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives. Both of these ideas are connected to the season of Advent. In Advent, we are called to prepare our hearts for the coming Savior. Advent is a time of hopeful anticipation. The Prophet Isaiah spoke of this preparation, which was called for by John the Baptist in the time of Christ.

**Isaiah 40:1–5 (ESV)** — **1** Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. **2** Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. **3** A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. **4** Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. **5** And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

The first photo shows off both hills and a valley. But in preparation for Christ, the lows are to be made high and the highs are to be made low. In Advent, this call goes forth to us. Where we are proud and boastful, we are called to humble ourselves in light of the coming King. Where we have been broken and crushed into lows, we are given a hope in the Savior King that raises us up from our despair. The glory of the King levels the playing field and shows the great need every one of us, from highest to lowest, has for the Savior who is to come.

The Golden Gate also makes me think of the wonderful Advent hymn "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates." In our Ambassador Hymnal, this is the first hymn, making the beginning of the year in the Church calendar that calls us to look ahead to the birth of Christ. As you read through this hymn (or even sing it), may these photos and verses come into your mind as you consider the Savior who has come.

Think of how He calls us to repent of our pride. Think of how He comforts us, as Isaiah said, by telling us that our iniquity, our sins, are pardoned. Only the forgiveness of Christ can lift us up from our lows and give us a foundation firmer than the gates and walls of Jerusalem. May the Savior King lift you up this day and fill you with hope in His saving work for you!

*"Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
Behold, the King of glory waits;  
The King of kings is drawing near;  
The Savior of the world is here!"*

*O blest the land, the city blest,  
Where Christ the ruler is confessed!  
O happy hearts and happy homes  
To whom this king in triumph comes!*

*Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
Make it a temple, set apart  
From earthly use for heaven's employ,  
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.*

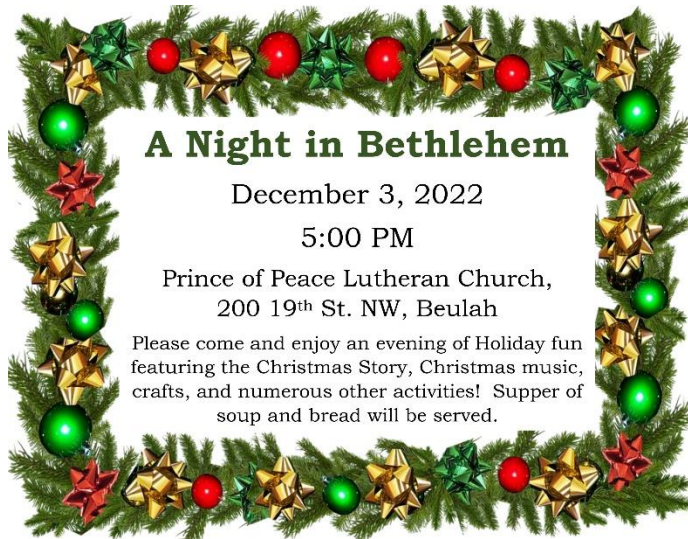
*Redeemer, come, with us abide;  
Our hearts to Thee we open wide;  
Let us Thy inner presence feel;  
Thy grace and love in us reveal."*



## **Radio Broadcast**

Please contact the church office if you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday radio broadcast. The cost is \$40.

The radio broadcast is heard on Sundays at 11:30am on KDKT 1410 AM. Available Sundays to sponsor are December 4, 11, 18, & 25 and January 2023 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Please email or call the church office to reserve a Sunday to sponsor.



## **POP Church Council Highlights from Nov 10, 2022 meeting**

### **Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent**

I attended our deacons meeting, staff meetings, and the meeting of our Beulah ministerial.

We hosted the meeting of our Western ND district pastors.

Confirmation is going well, thus far. We're currently studying the second article of the Apostles' Creed.

Wednesday night Bible study continues to go well. We are working through the book of Romans.

The adult Sunday School class has continued working through our curriculum titled "Enduring

Faith" which focuses on answering the difficult questions of faith with which people struggle.

I've been conducting our new member's classes, which now consists of only one couple. They will complete the class this Sunday and will be received into membership during our service on the 20th.

I conducted a service at Senior Suites.

I conducted the funeral for Linda Buchman.

I spent some time with Joe's seminary supervisor, as he came to conduct his evaluation.

Advent starts on the 27th.

### **Intern Pastor's Report – Joe Larson**

10/14: Assisted policy book editing team

10/16: Helped with Puppets of Praise: skit and song (practices twice a month)

10/16+: Attended Spiritual life meetings

10/24: Visiting Viola in KRCC on hospice. She passed on 11/1, communion day

10/28–29: Attended Men's Retreat, which had great fellowship and solid teaching

10/30: Leading of service and preaching here at PoP  
11/6: Doing service/adult SS/preaching here at PoP; seminary faculty observation

11/8: Hosting district pastors' meeting here at PoP

11/9: Departing to Minneapolis and then to Israel, returning to Beulah on 11/20

11/23–25: approved family Thanksgiving in Mpls (Vacation 5/8 + holiday + day off)

11/27, 12/4 and 1/1: Preaching at Trinity Parish

12/11: Leading of service and preaching (Also: 12/25, 1/8, and 2/5)

1/13–17: Youth Worker's Weekend at the ARC before board interviews

### **Youth Director's Report – Cody Halverson Senior High Youth Group**

This group of students keeps surprising me. In the best ways, when asked what they would like to study next, they had lots of topics yet at the center of most the topics and questions. They really want to learn how to look at the world with a Biblical Worldview. Always teaching from the Bible, looking at things that face the youth today. Enjoyed taking students to the Pumpkin Patch, having a student go to "Up Close" and Faith, Food & Football.

### **Middle School Bible Study**

It might seem that this age of students don't or can't understand what is being taught to them on Thursdays. It may even seem that they don't want to



learn, although some might only come for the snacks. I have been greatly encouraged by this group. We might be copying the topic lesson style from the older youth or might keep going in the Old Testament, unsure at this moment. Thankful for the snacks provided by Margret.

### **Sunday School**

This group tends to be much smaller in number, and that is ok. The youth really seem to understand the topic of Apologetics, and as we get further along in the lessons the more, they can see the big picture. It is also really important to hear what they are faced with today in the culture and school. This helps give a real-world application to Apologetics.

### **Events**

Nov. 30 Movie night

### **FLY**

We have 10 youth registered with possibly more to come!

### **Treasurers Report – Margie Lee**

General Fund	\$ 7,028.25
Building Fund	\$ 41,729.54
Coffee Hour Fund	\$ 60.41
Intern Fund	\$ 28,655.34
Van/Storage Fund	\$ 1,179.73
Total Bank Acct	\$ 143,317.81

### **Deacon's Report – Kevin Lee**

The small group studies are all organized and meeting.

Spiritual Life Meetings – The Deacons thought that the Spiritual Life Meetings with Pastor Swanson went well. Future possible speakers mentioned were: Micah Hjermstad, Michael Brandt, Wayne Hjermstad, Paul Kneeland

Advent begins on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Joe and Pastor Kent have worked out a series that will run through Christmas morning which will be titled: The Promise. We'll be looking at several of the OT promises of the Savior. It would be good to get church decorating started about November 29<sup>th</sup>. We will have Christmas Eve service on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> and a normal Sunday worship service on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>. No Sunday school or fellowship on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Children's Christmas program during service on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Youth ministry update- Pastor Jason Holt (AFLC Director of Youth Ministries) will be in Beulah in a few weeks to check on Cody

### **Trustee's Report – Ryan Tolosky**

#### **Discussed the year's events:**

Concrete project complete

Purchased new mower

Building project "progress"

New printer

#### **Things left to do:**

Lighting is ongoing

Men's bathroom stall freshen up

Warehouse door

West FH fascia (need to install the new piece)

Distribute the much-anticipated snow shoveling list for the 2022/2023 snow season

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Tithe** - We voted to split our Tithe of \$2,893.38: \$500 for shipping Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, \$500 to our AFLC District Family Camp, \$949.69 to Home Missions to be designated for the Killdeer Home Missions Church and \$946.69 to the AFLC Association Retreat Center (ARC).

### **Correspondence**

Thank you note was received from Pastor Gideon from the Killdeer AFLC church plant thanking us for our prayer and financial support.

### **2022 POP Church Council**

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