

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

Church Office: Pastor Kent Sperry Pastoral Intern Joe Larson Youth Director Cody Halverson Church website churchoffice@princeofpeacebeulah.org ksperry@princeofpeacebeulah.org jlarson@princeofpeacebeulah.org chalverson@princeofpeacebeulah.org www.princeofpeacebeulah.org

701-873-5650 815-501-9629 320-305-9521 701-490-1427

March 2023



Pastor Kent

"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:16-18 ESV)

Lent is a time of year when it's traditional to fast. Most of us are familiar with the Catholic tradition of fasting from meat on the Fridays of Lent. And many

of us do something similar.

We give up something that's part of our everyday life. We give up something we will miss. We give up something that will truly be a sacrifice.

Many people will give up something like chocolate or soda. They do so, recognizing that they like them too

much. And they do so, recognizing how unhealthy they are.

In recent years it's been fashionable to fast from something related to technology. People have fasted from social media, recognizing how much of a time drain it's become. And others have fasted from TV or video games for the same reason.

Perhaps, with Lent upon us, you're considering such a fast. Or, perhaps you've already begun one. The question we need to consider, however, is the reason we're doing so.

The gospel assures us that we're saved only by Jesus. It assures us that we're saved only by the grace of God. And it assures us that we receive this grace through faith in Christ alone.

We have no intrinsic quality that makes us deserving of salvation, nor can we do anything to earn it. Fasting, then, must not be looked at as something we do to merit the salvation of God. It must not be viewed as something that we do to make ourselves deserving of his mercy. Not only do we seek to earn God's approval through efforts like fasting. We seek also the applause of men. We seek the approval and the admiration of others.

We find in the passage above, however, that fasting is not to be publicly practiced. It's not something that we're to announce to others, or to make obvious to others. We're not to do so because the obvious temptation of fasting is to make ourselves appear pious and righteous before others.

Jesus tells us that, if we do so, that's all the reward we will get. And he instructs us to keep our fast between ourselves and God. He says that we're to anoint our head and wash our face so that our fasting may be in secret.

What, then, is the purpose of fasting? If we cannot merit the salvation of God in this way, what's the point? And if we're not to seek the admiration of others in this way, why would we bother with it?

The purpose of fasting is to remind ourselves, in a tangible way, that the Lord is sufficient. It's to remind ourselves that he alone is to be our focus. And it's to remind ourselves that he alone is the source of life and salvation.

Our fast, then, points us to Christ. It drives us to the gospel. And it motivates us to trust in the Word and promise of God.

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 or call the church office.

Men's Breakfast & Bible

<u>Study</u> Join us Saturday March 11 @ 7am for study, food and fellowship.





Sunday School Corner

We only have a few months left of the SS year. It doesn't seem possible that it is almost March. If it works out with KRCC, we plan to go March 19th. If that day doesn't work for them then we will try to pick another day. We will sing some of our songs and complete a craft with the residents. If someone has a Thrivent card that they would be willing to donate, I would appreciate it. We could use a few more prizes for our memory verse box too. Any extra funds on the card could be used for that. I don't think that we will sing for church on the 19th as it is spring break for the schools. I think that we will sing for Palm Sunday.

In His Hands, Donna Bieri



From Hunger to Hope

Our Feed My Starving Children Group has started meeting again. Please mark your calendars for September 8 and 9th for our Mobile Pack. One of our first fundraisers will be serving fleishkeuchkle at the Dodge vendor show on April 1st. We are also planning to an egg bake brunch after church and drive through fleishkeuckle feed. We haven't picked a date yet for either of those events. We plan to have a meeting on March 2nd at 5:30 at the church to get our events organized. Normally we have quick meetings after church for about 20 minutes. If you are interested in joining our group, we would love have you!

In His Hands, Donna Bieri



If you can not be with us in our Sanctuary for worship, please know that our service is available on YouTube. You can access the link via our Facebook page or subscribe to Prince of Peace Free Lutheran Church Beulah ND

<u>Threads of Love</u> <u>Quilters</u>



Our quilting ladies meet on Wednesday mornings @ 9am. All are welcome! It is a wonderful time of working together and fellowship.

Communion prep for March

Darcee Wenning <u>Communion prep for April</u> Wes and Jane Gunsch

POP Worship Attendance

01-01 - 96 New Year's Day 01-08 - 136 01-15 - 140 01-22 - 145 01-29 - 123 02-05 - 183 02-11 - 48 AFLC Gospel Choir 02-12 - 146 02-19 - 158 02-22 - 74 Ash Wednesday



Believe That He Will

All of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord--- who is the Spirit --- makes us more and more like him as we changed into his glorious image. 2 Corinthians 3:18

You want your life to matter. You want to live in such a way that the world will be glad you did. But how can you? How can I?

There are one hundred and twenty answers to that question. One hundred and twenty residents of ancient Israel. They were the charter members of the Jerusalem church (Acts 1:15). Fishermen, some. Revenue reps, others. A former streetwalker and a converted revolutionary or two. Truth be told, they had nothing more than this: a fire in the belly to change the world.

Thanks to Luke we know how they fared. He recorded their stories in the book of Acts. Let's listen to it. That's right--- listen to the book of Acts.

Listen to the doors opening and walls collapsing. Doors into palaces, prisons, and Roman courts. And walls. The thick and spiked division between Jew and Gentile---Crash! The partitions that quarantine male from female, landowner from pauper, master from slave, black African from Mediterranean Jew--- God demolishes them all.

Acts announces, "GOD IS AFOOT!"

Is he still? We wonder. Would God do with us what he did with his first followers?

YOU can bet and believe that he will.

IN Christ Marvin C. Sigman



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.

No article submitted

Children's Message

We will be having a Lenten children's message every Sunday throughout Lent.

Devotionals

We have a large selection of devotionals for you to choose from at the back of the Sanctuary. Pick one up for yourself or someone you know!

Noisy Offering

Our Sunday School children will be collecting change in our noisy offering on Sunday, February 19. Bring your pockets full of change if you are interested! This month's offering will go to the **Community Coat Closet**.



Please join us every Wednesday evening during Lent @ 5:45pm –for a family style meal then worship with us at 7pm.

Fellowship for March 2023

March 5 : Perry & Deb Sayler, Garrett & Michelle Placke March 12: Sperry family, Shane & Amy Haugen

March 12: Sperty family, Shale & Any Hauger March 19: Jerry & Marlys Reichenberg, Sodie Peabody, Betty Unruh March 26: Jim & Darcee Wenning, Bruce Neuberger, Kayla Palmer

Fellowship for April 2023

April 2 : Don & Teresa Buck, Jeff & Chrisy Rotondo
April 9: NO fellowship due to Easter
April 16: Dalton & Sylvia Zeiszler, Jim & Joan Schumaier
April 23: Wes & Jane Gunsch, Ryan & Brandi Tolosky
April 30: Darrin & Leeta Olin, Bill & Nancy Swanson

Ushers for March 2023

March 5 : Fred Bieri, Darrin & Leeta Olin, Angie Wanzek
March 12: Keith Peterson, Dalton & Sylvia Zeiszler, Ron Frei, Nancy Wright
March 19: Garrett Placke, Marvin Bauer, Shane Haugen, Steve & Krystal Finsass
March 26: Jim Wenning, Dan & Rebecah Martin, Garrett Sayler

Ushers for April 2023

April 2 : Hottman family, Jared Glynn
April 9: John & Carmen Mohl, Frank & Sarah Senn
April 16: Marvin & Jan Sigman, Bill & Kris Keller,
Vern & Lisa Pederson
April 23: Jerry & Marlys Reichenberg, Klaudts
April 30: Kevin Lee, Jim Wenning, Jay Seibel, Vern & Karla Boehm

Woments (Fr.) Gave Center?

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Women's Care



Women's Care Center Baby shower!

Warehouse Report

With February come and gone, we look ahead for the spring time. March might be cold, but it doesn't have the same bitter bit like the January cold does. The warmth of spring is almost here. We have this hope of warmer days to come, because we can trust in the warm weather eventually returning to our area. This is a time of looking back on the winter and remembering the cold dark days. Those days are past us now. We can live life to the fullest and we can enjoy the sun!

This reminds me of Jesus's disciples, how they were hiding after Jesus was crucified. Those where some dark times for those who trusted in Jesus. Jesus was just killed, and they feared they would be next. Then news of His return brings hope. Yet, fear and confusion still floods the minds of the disciples. Then they see Jesus and can give Him a hug or a high five. They forgot about the pain of the last few days. Life was going to be smooth sailing from then on right? We all know how the next years in history turned out for the disciples. Yet, with the ups and downs they were able to live life to the fullest, because they could enjoy the promise of Jesus.

We enjoy the warm weather when it is here. Yet deep down we know that it won't last forever. So we get ready for the pain of snow once again come the fall. Just like we know that life is not always the dream we wish it could be. Sometimes this life feels more like a nightmare. Yet, when the days seem the darkest and we don't feel we will ever see another good day again. We must remember the promise of Jesus. "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God;^a believe also in me.² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?¹⁰ ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going." John 14:1-4. One day we will get to go home with Jesus and we won't have to worry about shoveling the driveway anymore.

Coming up in March.

Please support the youth as they serve the congregation with lent meals before the service on Wednesday nights. Meal starts at 5:45pm and the service starts at 7pm.

March Birthdays

2-Mar	Bentley Lenzen
3-Mar	Kynlie Plienis
4-Mar	Liliya Reinhardt
6-Mar	Austin Babcock
7-Mar	Chris Palmer
8-Mar	Wes Gunsch
8-Mar	Bruce Neuberger
10-Mar	Marlys Reichenberg
12-Mar	Esther Fleisher
12-Mar	Bradley Gunsch
13-Mar	Macy Bieri
13-Mar	Miranda Bieri
17-Mar	Lexie Glynn
19-Mar	Adam Novak
20-Mar	Heidi Horning
20-Mar	LaRue Schwarz
20-Mar	Dalton Zeiszler
22-Mar	Cindy Peterson
23-Mar	Nikki Martin
24-Mar	Nicole Buchmann
24-Mar	Kendra Finck
24-Mar	Ashley Olsen
25-Mar	Carley Haugen
25-Mar	Jared Seibel
28-Mar	Shelley Giese
28-Mar	Lawrence Taylor
30-Mar	Kayla Fandrich
30-Mar	Hunter Keller
31-Mar	Dawn Reinhardt

INFORMATION

The Western North Dakota District of the AFLC is hosting an **informational meeting** at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Bismarck on Sunday, March 5th, at 5:30 pm. Food will be provided. The purpose is to discuss a possible church plant in the Bismarck/Mandan area. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please pass this info on to them, and feel free to attend with them.

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

February 9, 2023

President's Report – Marvin Sigman

Marvin discussed the north walkway concerns and celebrated his 80th Birthday recently

Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent

Attended our deacons meeting, and staff meetings.

Participated in ministerial prayer, as able.

Video meeting with a committee looking at the possibility of planting a new AFLC church in Bismarck.

Our Wednesday night Bible study just finished our study of Romans. As Lent begins on the 22nd, we will not resume for now.

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 done my best to keep up with our shut-ins and nursing home residents.

Tickets have been purchased for the mission trip to Uganda with our World Missions director. We'll be flying out of Minneapolis on the 14th of March and returning on the 29th.

Intern Pastor's Report – Joe Larson

1/13–15: Enjoyed attending Youth Worker's Weekend at the ARC

1/16: Passed through the gauntlet of on-campus board interviews

1/18–19: Teaching youth group and MSBS

1/21–22: Fargo charity fundraiser was a great success, thank you!

1/30: Gaining some counseling experience every other week

2/5: Leading of service and preaching at Trinity Parish

3/1+: Can consider and accept calls. Please keep us in your prayers!

Preaching at POP: 2/19, W3/1, 3/19, W3/22, 3/26, and then maybe 4/16?

Preaching at Trinity Parish: 3/5, and 4/2

Youth Director's Report – Cody Halverson

Senior High Youth Group

We are continuing in the new "series" of looking at topics in life through a Biblical way of thinking. This has been really good for the youth, it allows them to ask questions that they are facing today, and get the answers from God's Word.

Middle School Bible Study

We are continuing to have fun and learn about the Bible and like the older youth, look at how to live life in a Biblical way. This group seems to be more open about talking with what goes on in their home lives. During Lent we will be starting a study on 1 Peter looking to work through this book of the Bible in the 6 weeks of lent.

Sunday School

We enjoy having fun games and the lesson is really fun and I believe the youth are learning a lot with the lessons.

FLY

Registration is paid for the 12 students and me and Sierra.

We need at least 1 more guy and 1 more gal chaperone for FLY. We would also need another big vehicle. Fly wants 1 adult per 4 students.

Before lent meals and Easter breakfast the youth are about \$2,000 short as a group. This will be cut down drastically after lent meals and Easter breakfast. We are looking good!

Easter breakfast- The youth have chosen to cook a big breakfast this year.

Treasurers Report – Margie Lee

General Fund	\$ 10,064.43
Building Fund	\$ 41,635.16
Coffee Hour Fund	\$ 237.92
Intern Fund	\$ 19,523.12
Van/Storage Fund	\$ 4,550.00
Total Bank Acct	\$ 142,911.62

Deacon's Report – Kevin Lee

Lent is all planned and ready to go. Joe, Cody, and Pastor are preparing for both Sunday and Wednesday services, as well as Holy Week. Ash Wednesday, Feb 22nd, will be a communion service.

Spiritual Life Meetings – Everything is confirmed with Pastor Michael Brandt for April 23rd-26th. Meetings will be held at typical times. We will also have the council and staff gather with him on Saturday the 22nd from 9:00-12:00.

The Eastern and Western ND districts are prayerfully considering a church plant in Bismarck. We are looking into hosting an informational meeting with the director of home missions on Sunday evening, March 5th. There is a possible Pastor interested already.

Youth ministry update: Cody and Sierra enjoyed the youth worker weekend. Youth groups have been discussing family issues and dating. A full Easter breakfast plus caramel rolls are planned between the 6:30 and 9:00 A.M. Easter morning services. We also discussed how discipline issues could be handled in youth group settings.

We discussed options to deal with the slippery north entrance walkway. Possible fixes included spray-on pickup bed rubber texture, thick rubber textured mats for winter use, or grinding in many traction grooves. These ideas will be passed on to the Trustees.

Trustees – Jeff Rotondo

Ryan Tolosky has been working with Legend Air with a few furnace issues. Snow removal has been going well, could still use a few more volunteers to sign up. Cody's printer issue was resolved today.

Christian Ed – Angie Wanzek

VBS- Planning for May 30th-June 8th as we will not be getting a team. Volunteers will be needed. A family supper will be served each evening at 5:30pm-6pm. VBS opening will begin at 6pm each evening. Saturday June 8th 9:30am-12pm with lunch served after the kid's program. Offering will again be given to the local food pantry.

Church in the Park- We discussed possibly making this a council event instead of only Christian Ed putting it together. Angie will discuss this at their next meeting. We are looking at Aug 27, 2023. We agreed that the potluck worked great!

We will be purchasing a prayer journal called Torn for the adults for lent and a verse study for the kids. Angie is looking for someone to deliver the children's message on Sundays during lent.

We need someone to clean quiet bags for the kids as they have been in use.

Easter Event: Will be April 8th at 10:30am this will consist of an egg hunt, craft, decorating cookies, and the Easter story.

Kids will plan to sing and do a craft at KRCC on March 19th 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

Tithe – We approved splitting our Tithe of \$2,959.45: \$500 to Free Lutheran Bible College for the Gospel Team that is coming to POP February 11 and \$1,959.45 to AFLC Youth Ministry

Lots for Sale - Currently there are four lots available north of the church. The city of Beulah is seeking a minimum price of \$.50 per square foot. Auction for the lots is March 8th. We approved to call a special Congregational meeting on February 26 to discuss the purchase.

North Walkway- The north walkway has been very slippery. We approved a motion for the Trustees to purchase mats for the walkway.

Killdeer AFLC Church Building- The new Killdeer AFLC church is looking at purchasing a building and is looking for financial support. This will be discussed at the February 26th special congregational meeting.

Noisy Offering - Kelsey Glynn emailed a list for the year of possible places to donate. The monthly noisy offering has been between \$250 and \$315.

January	Project Ignite Light
February	Women's Care Center in Bismarck
March	POP Coat Closet
April	Mom's Club (Local Bible-based club
	of moms of preschool and school-
	age kids)
May	Women's Action Resource Center
June	Family Bible Camp Scholarship
July	Heaven's Helpers Soup Café &
	Closet in Bismarck
August	Backpack Club (working with local
-	Police Department for needs)
September	Feed My Starving Children
October	Local family in need
November	Operation Christmas Child
	Shoeboxes
December	Angel Tree

Marriage Seminar – We approved the local Mom's Club having a one-night Marriage Seminar on March 14 at Prince of Peace.



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 March 5, 12, 19 & 26 and April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30. Please email or call the church office to reserve a Sunday to sponsor.

2023 POP Council

President	Marvin Sigman
Treasurer	Margie Lee
Secretary	Deb Sayler
Deacons	Kevin Lee
	Garrett Placke
	Les Buchmann
	Steve Finsaas
Trustees	Ryan Tolosky
	Dustin Buchmann
	Jeff Rotondo
	Bruce Neuberger
Christian Education	Angie Wanzek
	Donna Bieri
	Chrisy Rontondo
	Nicole Buchmann

<u>Prince of Peace</u> <u>Lent/Easter Schedule</u>

Each of the Lent services begin with a family style meal in the fellowship hall served by the youth of our congregation. All are welcome

03-01-2023 7pm - Lenten service 03-08-2023 7pm - Lenten service 03-15-2023 7pm - Lenten service 03-22-2023 7pm - Lenten service 03-29-2023 7pm - Lenten service 04-02-2023 9am - Palm Sunday service 04-06-2023 7pm - Maundy Thurs. service 04-07-2023 7pm - Good Friday service 04-08-2023 10am - Family Easter party 04-09-2023 6:30am - Sunrise Easter service 04-09-2023 7:30am - Breakfast 04-09-2023 9am - Resurrection service

Intern's Israel Corner – Mar. 2023: Galilee

After a lengthy car ride back north, our little seminary team found ourselves refreshed by a change in climate. Gone was the scorching heat of the desert. Instead, gentle hills and the cooling waters of the Sea of Galilee lay before us.

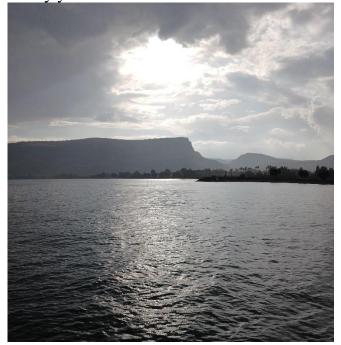


Although some of the hillsides have been covered in modern buildings, many of these hills don't look all that different than when Jesus strolled across them with His disciples.

Even though many accounts of Jesus' ministry took place near where we were at, two accounts stuck out in my mind as I reflected on the two natures of our Lord: fully human and fully divine.

The divinity of Jesus was certainly hidden to a great degree during His time of "emptying Himself" in His humiliation. But His power was shown by His authority on the very sea that we seminarians were sailing on. On one occasion, Jesus was awakened by His disciples who were terrified by a storm. Jesus simply rebuked the storm with His powerful words and it promptly ceased.

Another time, it was Jesus, walking on the water, who terrified His disciples. Matthew 14:25-33 says: 25 And in the fourth watch of the night [Jesus] came to them, walking on the sea. 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." 28 And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." 29 He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. **30** But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."



How marvelous it must have been to reach the other shore safely and see a sight like this! Not only because of the beauty of the landscape, but because they had been delivered by the very Son of God!

And yet, this Son of God had a very real humanity. While Peter recognized His divinity, Peter was also a key part of an account of His humanity even after the resurrection. Jesus, appearing to the disciples who were fishing after His passion, commanded them to cast their nets into the water one more time. They then caught fish, lots of fish. But after they hauled it in, look at what our Lord did on the beach with them between the miraculous catch and the restoration of Peter.

John 21:9 When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." 11 So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. 14 This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.



Breakfast! Here, the risen Lord was back again and He wanted to share breakfast with His hungry disciples! Our savior was no mere spirit, He was the risen king, fully alive forever more.

Before restoring Peter (hence the church built there to commemorate this even), He wanted fish!

Jesus had to be <u>fully divine</u> so that His work could be perfect. His divinity assures us that God is the one who works to save His people. It also shows us that He is to be worshipped. Not only that, but as the Son of God, Jesus was born without sin and so He alone could pay the penalty demanded by the Law of God. He was the spotless lamb.

AND STILL

Jesus had to be <u>fully man</u> so that WE were the ones who would be redeemed. His life was given for our life. If Jesus was merely a spirit, we would have no share in His salvation. But, since Christ is also our brother in the flesh, He can cover us with His righteousness. His blood was human, yet perfect and without sin. He became the new and greater Adam and intercessor, spreading life, not death, to all who believe in Him.

On the shores of Galilee, one more piece of Jesus' humanity struck me. Jesus knows us. Jesus understood the fear of His disciples. Jesus had sorrow for Peter and longed to restore Him after His resurrection. Even today, Jesus knows *your* pain and suffering, as He himself was burdened with human weakness. He knows difficulty, grief, and bitterness. Your savior is certainly the divine Son, but He is also human. He understands our needs and cares far more than we could ever imagine. Yet He also provides for us so perfectly in life and salvation. So bring to Him your sorrows and fear; He'll understand and bear them, just like He bore all of your sins so that you might be forgiven.