

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

Church Office:
Pastor Kent Sperry
Youth Director Cody Halverson
Church website

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January 2024



Pastor Kent

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

(Luke 2:14 ESV)

As we celebrate the season of Christmas, we are often reminded of this refrain. We hear it in church, as the Scriptures are read. We read it in our children's Bibles, as we share with them the Christmas story. And it's something we both hear and sing in many of the carols familiar to this season.

In Jesus, God has provided us with peace. Peace is received by those with whom God is pleased. It's received by those upon whom his favor rests.

This, however, can seem confusing as our world is anything but peaceful. Wars rage around the globe, even as we speak. And even our own streets, even our own cities and towns, are anything but peaceful.

The peace he's referring to, however, is not a worldly peace. An outward peace, a societal peace, is something that will only be enjoyed only when Christ returns and sin becomes a thing of the past. It's something that will be enjoyed as we experience life eternal in his everlasting kingdom.

What the angels are referring to, as they praise the Lord, is peace with God. We read about this in Romans 5:1, where Paul writes: "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Through Jesus, he says, we have been brought into a state of peace with God. We, in other words, are no longer his enemies. We are no longer in a state of condemnation and wrath. Rather than being under his curse, we are now in his blessing.

And this is received through faith in Christ. It, therefore, isn't something that we deserve. Nor is it something we earn. It's a gift of God, provided to us in his Son.

Jesus provided this blessing to us, as he took on flesh, becoming man. He provided it to us as he lived

the perfect life, we're unable to live. He provided it to us as he died on the cross, paying the penalty of our sin. And he provided it to us as he rose from the grave, victorious over death.

So even if we are struggling, and even if we don't feel at peace with God, this remains true. It remains true because it isn't dependent upon us in any way. It's dependent only upon Christ and what he has done for us.

As we, then, trust in Christ, we can know that we have peace with God. We can have full assurance of this peace. And this truth can offer us comfort in this world that is anything but peaceful.

Children's Message

We will be having a children's message on the third Sunday – January 21.

Noisy Offering

Our Sunday School children will be collecting change in our noisy offering on Sunday, January 21. Bring your pockets full of change!

Radio Broadcast

Please contact the church office if you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday radio broadcast. **The cost is \$45**. The radio broadcast is heard on Sundays at 11:30am on KDKT 1410 AM. Available Sundays to sponsor are January 7, 14, 21, & 28 and February 4, 11, 18, & 25. Please email or call the church office to reserve a Sunday to sponsor.



Sunday School Corner



Thank you to all who helped with the Sunday School Christmas program! The kids did a wonderful job of spreading the Good News of Great Joy!



Stop by and checkout what is going on in our Prince of Peace Library and feel free to contact Kelsey with any questions. (701)710-0616

or Kelsey.glynn@outlook.com Kelsey continues to expand and update our wonderful library. Please prayerfully considering donating to this wonderful ministry so we can keep providing new and exciting materials to this congregation.

POP Library website: www.libib.com/u/poplibrary



From the Chairman

Freely Given, Freely Give

My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

God doesn't just love, he lavishes us with love (1 John 3:1). He doesn't dole out wisdom; he "gives generously to all without finding fault" (James 1:5). He is rich in "kindness, tolerance and patience" (Romans 2:4). His grace is "exceedingly abundant" (1 Timothy 1:14) and "indescribable" (2 Corinthians 9:14-15).

He overflowed the table of the prodigal with a banquet, the vats at the wedding with wine, and the boat of Peter with fish, twice. He healed all who sought health, taught all who wanted instruction, and saved all who accepted the gift of salvation.

God "supplies seed to the sower and bread for food" (2Corinthians 9:10). The Greek verb for "supplies" (epichoregeo) pulls back the curtain on God's generosity. It combines "dance"(choros) with the verb "to Lead" (hegeomai). It literally means "to lead a dance." When God gives, he dances for joy. He strikes up the band and leads the giving parade. He loves to give.

He dispenses his goodness not with an eyedropper but a fire hydrant. Your heart is a Dixie cup, and his grace is the Mediterranean Sea. You simply can't contain it all. So let it bubble over. Spill out. Pour forth. "Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8). In Christ Marvin C. Sigman

Communion prep for January

Dena Kemmet

Communion prep for February

Marvin & Joyce Bauer

POP Worship Attendance

11-05 - 165 Communion

11-12 - 160

11-19 - 170 SS kids singing

11-22 - 51 Thanksgiving Eve worship

11-26 - 132

12-03 - 167

12-10 - 180

12-17 - 190 SS Christmas Program

12-24 - 83 Christmas Eve morning

12-24 - 185 Christmas Eve Candlelight

Ushers for January 2024

January 7: Fred Bieri, Dan & Rebecah Martin, Angie Wanzek, Cody & Sierra Halverson

January 14: Keith Peterson, Dalton & Sylvia

Zeiszler, Ron Frei, Nancy Wright

January 21: Garrett Placke, Marvin Bauer, Shane

Haugen, Steve Finsass

January 28: Darrin & Leeta Olin, Garrett Sayler

Usher for February 2024

February 4: Fred Bieri, Dan & Rebecah Martin,

Angie Wanzek, Cody & Sierra Halverson

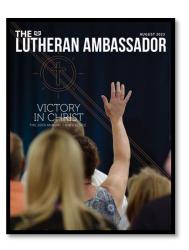
February 11: Keith Peterson, Dalton & Sylvia

Zeiszler, Ron Frei, Nancy Wright

February 18: Garrett Placke, Marvin Bauer, Shane

Haugen, Steve Finsass

February 25: Darrin & Leeta Olin, Garrett Sayler



Did you know that you can access the Lutheran Ambassador magazine online? You can go to our website and click on the tab at the top on the right!



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.

Happy New Year!

We will begin our new WMF Bible study, *Philippians--Exuberant Joy!*, on Monday, January 15, at 10:30 in the morning and 6:30 in the evening. There will be a book for you even if you didn't order one. All women are welcome.

We will be meeting on **Wednesdays at 10:30**. It is **an informal gathering** where we are able to connect with the women we worship over coffee, conversation, and fellowship. We need each other.

Our combined WMF Bible study was held on Sunday, December 10, at 3:00 pm. It's fun to get together. We studied Abigail in 1 Samuel 25. She was a discerning woman who made wise choices. Look up her story. She was a wise woman, a humble woman, and also brave.

We had lots of goodies of course, with specialty coffees and Italian sodas. We took an offering and \$350.00 will be sent to Casey McLoughlin who is doing missionary work in Brazil. Her dad is Pastor Shane McLoughlin in Minot and she is engaged to marry a Brazilian man. Casey was at the WMF Rally in Golden Valley. It was fun to see her and hear her news.

As the new year gets under way remember

Psalm 121: 1-8.

I lift up my eyes to the hills--where does my help come from?
My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip--He who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, He who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD watches over you--the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all harm--He will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going now and forevermore.

God bless us, and may we be a blessing to Him!

Fellowship for January 2024

January 7: Perry & Deb Sayler, Lillian Boeshans, Bruce Neuberger

January 14: Fred & Donna Bieri, Ryan & Brandi Tolosky

January 21: Jim & Darcee Wenning, Kevin & Margie Lee

January 28: Lynette Flemmer, Kameron & Cassie Plienis, Margret Rosaaen

Fellowship for February 2024

That list is currently being generated. Talk to Joan Schumaier if you have any questions.

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! There are always new ones – so keep checking it out!



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

https://www.youtube.com/@princeofpe acefreelutheranc1973/streams



In order to log into the POP church directory – please use the email address that you have supplied to the church office. If you have any problems, please contact the office. Send me your updated family photo!!!

Warehouse Report

With the turning of the new year I'm reminded of a phrase that I'm sure you will recognize, it may not be as popular today, it goes like this, "new year new me". As I stopped and wondered about that little phrase, what does that really look like? I understand the want to make ourselves better in the new year, yet we often think of the things we like about who we are. We don't want those things to change, we mostly want the negatives in our year to not happen again. Yet we want the New Year to be filled with great new opportunities and fun things for us and our family. Yet what would a new you look like? What would you want to look like? The only answer that is worth it is to be like Jesus. In this new year my hope and prayer is that you stop and think about how you can be more like Jesus, it will be difficult at times, often feel impossible. Yet the Jesus is with you every step of the way.

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

I plan to be gone Jan. 12-14 for Youth workers weekend in Wisconsin.

A reminder that Lent meals are starting in Feb. if you would like to have one as a fundraiser please contact me.



Threads of Love quilting ladies meet every Wednesday @ 9am in our POP fellowship hall. You don't have to sew to join them!

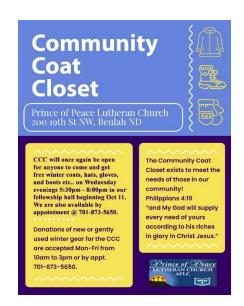
Prayer request

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.

Our members have access to the church at any time – just call the office to get the code for the altar door. For safety and security that code changes regularly – so always call ahead!

2024 POP Church 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	Nicole Buchmann	
	Donna Bieri	
	Chrisy Rotondo	
	Ashley Olson	
	Anna Sayler	



We are looking for volunteers to be our shopping attendant on Wednesday evenings. The sign up sheet is at the back of the Sanctuary. We are always accepting donations of gently used winter gear or financial donations. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Peterson.

January Birthdays

1-Jan	Nancy Hafner
1-Jan	Blair Wiedrich
4-Jan	Trytin Helfrich
4-Jan	Kendra Ungerger
7-Jan	Michala-Jo Senn
7-Jan	Alyson Wiedrich
8-Jan	Kacey Klaudt
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

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

December 14, 2023

<u>President's Report – Marvin Sigman</u>

Marvin went to the Deacon's meeting and has been busy with family events.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent

I'd like to thank all of you for the generous gifts presented to me for Christmas. They're very much appreciated.

Attended our deacons meeting, staff meetings, and the safety team meeting.

Organized the visit of Pastor Nate Jore, missionary to Uganda.

Communed our residents at KRCC.

Conducted a Sunday afternoon worship service at KRCC.

Conducted a service at Senior Suites.

Participated in the ministerial Thanksgiving service.

Conducted our Thanksgiving worship service.

Helped with the Night in Bethlehem event.

Confirmation has been going well. A vast majority of the students passed our first quiz, covering the Ten Commandments. A few will be retaking it. And we've started our study of the Lord's Prayer.

Wednesday night Bible study continues to go well as we look at the book of Acts.

Adult Sunday School is also going well. For this class, we're studying the gospel of Luke.

I participated in our men's breakfast and led our study. We're looking at the life of David. We looked this past month at how God worked to bring everything together that David might assume the throne of Israel.

<u>Youth Director's Report - Cody Halverson</u> Sunday School

I have really enjoyed working through the SALT study, it tackles some very hard-hitting questions and does so very smoothly.

High School Youth Group

Working through 1 Peter still, it is hard with all the activities that the youth are in to get a consistent group.

Middle School Bible Study

This group of youth really wants to come to church and have fun, studying God's Word, playing games and enjoying snacks.

Other things

Book Club has been going great we have 3 students that enjoy coming and talking about books written on Biblical topics.

Discipleship has continued with one student we have just started working through the book of Judges.

The Bake sale went very well! Thankful for the support of the congregation.

Thank you for the Christmas gift.

<u>Treasurers Report – Margie Lee</u>

General Fund	\$ 26,071.58
Building Fund	\$ 41,519.58
Coffee Hour Fund	\$ 218.89
Coat Closet	\$ 237.56
Intern Fund	\$ 13,243.16
Radio Broadcast	\$ 4,145.96
Van/Storage Fund	\$ 786,42
Total Bank Acct	\$ 143,256.33

Deacon's Report - Kevin Lee

Brent Raan, missionary to Uganda, is planning furlough beginning in January. We'll be setting up a date/time soon for a visit/presentation. John and Hannah Lee are also coming back on furlough.

The local Christian mothers' group is planning to start meeting at Prince of Peace using the fellowship hall and nursery twice a month on Tuesdays.

Lent starts on February 14th this year, which will be the date of our Ash Wednesday service, and the start of our midweek services.

Garrett Placke agreed to continue compiling the usher list and Steve Finsaas will continue with the Service Leader list. Kevin Lee will serve as secretary. Les Buchmann will do everything else. ©

Youth ministry update: Cody gave a complete update on youth activities.

Trustee's Report - Ryan Tolosky

The Trustees haven't met in December. Ryan found a company called Accurate Door out of Bismarck to get a quote for a door. He will reach out to Matt Clarys about the earlier bid from Western Steel.

Ryan looked at the steps on the east side that don't drain water since M Construction didn't put a pipe in to drain the water. The steps are not in good shape. M Construction will repair them next spring. One of the hand rails on the north side got clipped and will need to be repaired.

Dustin Buchmann and Ryan discussed putting a slab of concrete instead of the asphalt pad on the handicap parking spots on the north parking lot. It would be more cost effective if we poured the concrete ourselves instead of getting a paving crew.

Christian Education – Angie Wanzek

Old Business: Discussed food, craft, and puppets for Night in Bethlehem. Cindy will also work with the kids to do the bells. Pastor will do the Christmas message and Cody will also help. Kevin Lee will help with sound.

Lynell Renner applied for a Thrivent card for Christmas devotionals for the kids.

Annual Report is done

New Business: Christmas program Donna gave us an over view into this year's angle;)

Safety Team - Garrett Placke

More cameras were purchased.

A tablet was purchased for the Safety Team to use for larger views of the cameras.

Fire extinguisher is mounted in the garage.

Key pad door and garage door codes were updated.

Keith Peterson will purchase sleeping bags to keep in the van during the winter since some of the blankets that were kept in there were thrown out.

Discussed Warehouse doors and size of windows.

OLD BUSINESS

Lighting South Parking Lot – We need to look at getting better lighting for the south parking lot. We can't install any lighting during the winter so will wait till spring time.

NEW BUSINESS

Tithe - split our Tithe of \$2,624.44: \$480.00 to AFLC Home Missions, \$330.00 to AFLC World Missions, \$852.00 ARC and \$962.44 Ambassador Publications

Mom's Community Group use of Church – Brandi Tolosky requested permission for the Mom's group she is involved in to meet at Prince of Peace on Tuesdays. The church council members approved this request via email.

2024 Noisy Offering – Margie Lee will visit with Kelsey Glynn about ideas of organizations the 2024 Noisy Offering will be donated.

Combining Lots – Heidi Hamelton who works at the Beulah City Hall talked to Ryan Tolosky about the numerous lots Prince of Peace owns. She discussed combining all our lots into one parcel to make her record keeping easier.

Our discussion included if POP wanted to sell some of the lots how would we be able to do that if they're combined. We would not have to update the abstracts. If the lots were sold, the buyers would pay to update the abstracts. When a variance is granted in the city, good records aren't always kept at City Hall making it difficult to sell years later. We are not sure where the four north lots start and what lot or lots the new garage building is on.

The council tabled this until we can get more information as we were not sure this would be in our best interest.

Correspondence

Thank you notes were received from Kevin Lee with FLAPS, AFLC Ministries, AFLC World Missions and Samaritan's Purse (Feed My Starving Children) for our prayers and donations. Received a newsletter from Steve and Glenda Kvale with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Also received a thank you from the Alaska Mission Team for the quilts that our quilting ladies sew and mail to Naknek.