

Prince of Peace Tidings

Volume 14

February 2011

Issue 2



Dear Fellow Disciples,

In this second month of the year we typically stop on the fourteenth day to celebrate love. I've already seen it everywhere. The local quick trip and the newly opened Walgreen's are stocked with pink and red candy, the pajama section at Old Navy is overflowing with 'love' themed pants, and heart shaped chocolate boxes are available pretty much everywhere.

We will spend as a nation close to 15 billion on Valentines gifts this year. While this may be the retail reality, buying gifts to celebrating the strong feelings that we tend to categorize as love, I think there is more to true love than this. Remember first and foremost that "God is Love" (see 1 John 4). If you want to know what that means you don't have to look any farther than the second person of the trinity, Jesus.

In Him, God was pleased to demonstrate His love. Romans 5:8 says: **"God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."** Jesus was sent to be the sacrifice for the sin of those who hated him (that's us). That kind of love is not based on a sappy emotional response. It is a dedicated decision to do what is best for others, even when it is uncomfortable for you. That love is a choice.

Thank God that his love knows no bounds. His choice to love the unlovable is what gives us the strength to believe the unbelievable. That despite our frequent failures and sinful short-comings we are loved by God. And what is more is that love is made sure and certain in the person and work, the life, death and resurrection of the second person of the trinity. The sin soaked sacrifice of the Son of God has made it plain. There need be no doubt that you are loved.

If you need still more encouragement, look to your Baptism and be secure. There God placed his name on you. But more than that, he made you a part of the death and resurrection of Christ (see Romans 6). You could say He poured His love out on you. Much like the water and word were poured out on the day you were made part of the kingdom.

It wasn't even close to 15 billion, still God paid the ultimate price to show you His love. He continues to richly and daily provide all the love that you could need in His Son.

As we celebrate love this month, I pray that His love given to us in body and blood would enliven our hearts to share His love with those around us, even when it may be uncomfortable for us.

In the Fullness of His Love.

Pastor Jason

Romans
5:8
...God demonstrates His
own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.

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February Worship Schedule

*Worship services are offered
every Sunday at 9:00 A.M.*

Sunday, February 6
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 58:3-9a; Psalm 112:1-9;
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16);
Matthew 5:13-20

Sunday, February 13
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8;
1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

Sunday, February 20
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18;
Psalm 119:33-40; 1 Corinthians 3:10-23;
Matthew 5:38-48

Sunday, February 27
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 49:8-16a; Psalm 115:(1-8) 9-18;
1 Corinthians 4:1-13; Matthew 6:24-34

E-Mail Prayer Ministry You are
invited to submit your prayer requests to
our e-mail prayer chain at
popprays@gmail.com.



Eternal God of Love and Life, as we walk humbly each day in the tasks you have already prepared for us to do, give your people by the promised Holy Spirit, the strength and forgiveness to love and serve those around us, just as you in Christ have first loved and served us.

Prayer for our community. Almighty God, You know that we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. In Your Love and Mercy grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry through us your Word of rescue and hope through Jesus Christ, that others may see, and glorify our Father in heaven.

Prayer for our World. O God, protect the tempted, the distressed, and the erring, and gently guide them. By Your great love bring them into the way of peace and truth. Graciously regard all who are in trouble, danger, temptation, or bondage to sin, and those to whom death draws near. In Your mercy draw them to Yourself; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

We pray that 2011 would be a year marked by a renewed thirst for the Word of God and hunger for the Righteousness of Christ that we only find in Word and Sacrament. That by the guidance of that Word, we at Prince of Peace would be unified and strengthened in our efforts as a congregation called by the revelation of the Gospel.

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SCHEDULES

Elder Schedule

February 6- Ed Schmidt
February 13- Randy Otto
February 20- Russ Brunk
February 27- Gary Fletcher

Usher Schedule

February 6- Mel & Barb Alsobrooks
February 13- Lyle & Glenda Anderson
February 20- Les & Linda Mull
February 27- Russ & Sharie Brunk

Greeter Schedule

February 6- Otto Family
February 13- Schmidt Family
February 20- Freismuth Family
February 27- Stolpa Family

Song Leaders

February 6- Ben Fletcher
February 13- Diane Ethridge
February 20- Ben Fletcher
February 27- Praise Team

Money Counters Schedule

February 6- Alsobrooks & Otto
February 13- Taylor & Dunnum
February 20- Schmidt & Wilhelm
February 27- Greene & Dunnum

Altar Guild

Marlene Wilhelm
Penney Repensek

Attendance and Giving

Through the month of January, our average weekly worship attendance was ***. Our regular offering for these weeks was \$***, with an additional \$*** given toward our mortgage fund.

Sign Up

There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall for bringing treats after church.
Please sign up!

Voter's Meeting Highlights

Members present voted unanimously to approve the 2011 ballot as presented.

President-Dave Robaczewski

Vice-President-Vern Ruffi

Treasurer-Les Mull

Secretary-Diane Ethridge

Board of Education-Linda Mull, Patty Horstmann, Kay Nelson, Lori Peters, Colette Schockman

Board of Evangelism-Heidi Lyga, Elaine Schmidt, LuAnn Fletcher

Board of Trustees-Jeff Bredlau, Aaron Nicks, Mike Ethridge, Ben Fletcher, Bob Petry, Joe Scholze

Board of Preschool-Kim Premo, Carrie Horstman, Renee Schweinfus, Barb Alsobrooks

A motion passed to form a committee to discuss plans/ways to pay off the mortgage loan. Bob Petry will head the committee.

Pastor Jason shared his preliminary thoughts about strategic planning.

It was mentioned that the water softener purchase bill should be paid off. Since the meeting, a gift was given to the church to pay that bill.

Prince of Peace Tidings

Lord's Little Lambs Preschool

It is hard to believe that January has come to an end already. Only four more months of school before summer vacation! No more coats, boots and hats to put on every time we want to go outside. May 26th will be the last day of preschool for this school year.

We have been learning about Jesus growing from a baby into a man who called men to be his friends and special helpers. For activities, we made play dough and added glitter to create snowmen and other fun shapes. We also used cake batter to make finger "paint".

In February we will learn more about Jesus' ministry. February is Dental Health Month and also American Heart Month so we will be talking about healthy lifestyles, taking care of our bodies and making good food choices.

Two new students joined our preschool in January: Grace Schockman and Brynlee Kelly. They are a great addition to our group.

The Valentine Dinner Fundraiser is February 12 from 5-8. Proceeds will be split between the preschool and the church youth group. The menu is home made ravioli, salad, key lime pie and beverage. Cost is \$10 and includes child care. Please help support our youth.

Lord's Little Lambs will have a table at the West Salem Child Development Days on February 11 and 12. Thanks to Cyanne Bredleau for photographing the kids and putting together a slide show for the event.

Thank-you also to Julie Peters and her children for donating a number of toys and games to our school. We have already had fun playing a couple of the fishing games. They fit in great with our Bible story of Jesus calling his disciples to be Fishers of Men.

Remember you are always welcome to drop in anytime to visit or volunteer. Thank you for your continued support.

In His Service,
Barb Alsobrooks, Preschool Teacher

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Applying Biblical Teachings

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights . . . ” (James 1:17). God only gives good and perfect gifts. He is utterly incapable of giving any gift that would, by His design, be harmful or evil. He “ . . . does not change like shifting shadows” (James 1:17). His “faithfulness . . . endures forever” (Psalm 117:2).

It is man alone who is responsible for the abuse and misuse of God-given gifts. “Everyone who is tempted is attracted and seduced by his own wrong desire” (James 1:14, New Jerusalem Bible). God is not the author of any man’s sin.

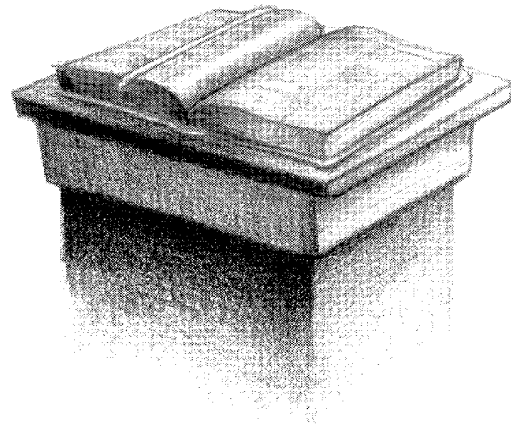
In His perfect and steadfast love, God gave the perfect sacrifice, His Son, so all may be saved from their sins. In His perfect and steadfast love, He gave His Word so all may have the knowledge of the truth. In His perfect and steadfast love, God sends the Holy Spirit to work the perfect gift of faith in our hearts. In His perfect and steadfast love, God showers us with countless gifts.

By God’s grace, we have been born anew, becoming God’s children, “ . . . that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created” (James 1:18). According to James 1:21, we “ . . . get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word” planted in us.

As God’s “firstfruits,” we are set apart from the sinful world. “We are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works . . . ” (Eph. 2:10). We are creatures of God, freed to use His perfect gifts to honor Him.

Through Christ, we respond to God’s perfect and steadfast love. We freely and joyfully serve Him. We use the gifts that we have been given to glorify God and serve our neighbor. By the power of the Gospel, we are able to give generously of ourselves, of our money, and of our possessions.

Study ^{the} Bible
with us



Sunday Morning Adult Bible study Schedule

January 2 nd	-Haggai
January 9 th	-Malachi
January 16 th	-“God’s Word to You” Lutheran Basics
January 23 rd	-“God’s Word to You” Lutheran Basics
January 30 th	-“God’s Word to You” Lutheran Basics

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Lutheran Hour Ministries Regional Outreach Conference

Lutheran Hour Ministries has developed a Regional Outreach Conference that will be put on in five regions in the United States. The conferences are designed to help us connect with ministries that can help us share the gospel. The conference in our area will be held at the Arrowhead Resore in Alexandria, MN on March 18-19. This conference is designed for the whole family with activities for all ages.

A new program for youth called Five14 is based on Matthew 5:14-“You are the light of the world.” For information about the program, go to lhm.org. On the webpage, click on ROC; or look at www.lhm.org/five14.

During the conference there will be general sessions and also breakout sessions offering a variety of topics including: ‘Trustworthiness of the Word’, ‘Using Technology for the sake of the Gospel’, ‘Help! My neighbor is Muslim or Mormon and/or doesn’t go to church’, ‘Engaging Your Community – Can We Do It?’, and “Engaging the Post-Church Culture for Christ’.

Registration is \$69 per adult, \$49 per teen (grades 8-12), \$29 children’s program (K-7) and younger children are free. A family fee is offered for \$175. Registration includes Saturday meals and events. You can register online at lhm.org. Resort rooms are \$99 plus tax. Up to four water park passes are included for \$119. For resort reservations call 866-386-5263.

For a local contact call Ed and Elaine Schmidt at 486-8887 or Roger Fisher at 782-6886.

Children’s Corner

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