

Prince of Peace Tidings

Volume 14

January 2011

Issue 1

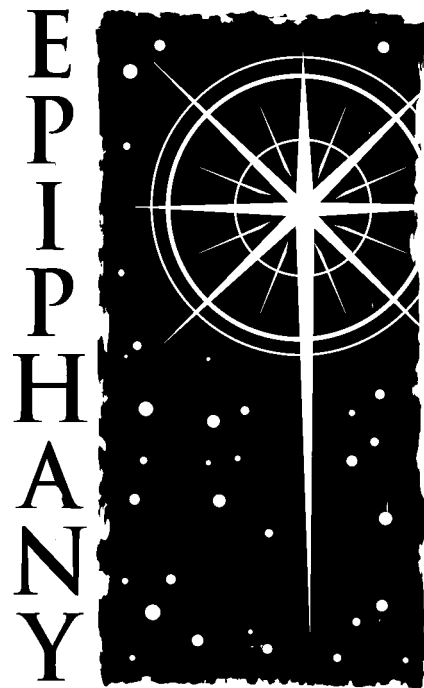


The New Year inevitably brings new promises, and new ideas about how to solve old problems. This is often a time when people begin new patterns trying to accomplish one goal or another. We make promises about those changes calling them “resolutions” (some time ago I made a resolution not to make new year’s resolutions...funny, it’s actually working).

In many ways, God’s promises are the opposite of ours. We may make a “resolution” only to quickly see it go by the wayside. God on the other hand makes promises that He faithfully keeps. It may take Him few thousand years, but He fulfills His promises when the time is right.

In Isaiah 43 and again in Jeremiah 31 God talks about the new thing that he is promising to do. (Go ahead read it...it will be my new challenge to you this year...**be in the Word**). In Isaiah, He is trying to get his people to focus on Him as their present provider rather than looking back on the glory days of the past. In Jeremiah, God is looking further into the future. Jeremiah 31:31-33 God announces through His prophet what we have seen fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus (see Heb 8). But in verse 34 God speaks of a day when there will be no need to teach people about being a disciple of Jesus. If that has already happened, then I suppose our mission statement in need of serious review. Not to mention the fact that Jesus Himself told us to make disciples of all nations. Which means that what was spoken in Jer 31:34 hasn’t happened...yet. The time vs. 34 talks about will reach it’s fulfillment only

with the Lord returns on the Last Day. He has promised that he will come again, and he will keep His promise. As the New Year begins full of promise, I believe that we have in His WORD all the promise any year could hope to hold, and a solid mission statement to work from. I am eager to see the work that the Lord is doing through His people. To that end, I am looking forward to gathering around the Word with you discussing the long term, big picture goals and plans that we can work toward as we exists to be a disciple making community for the Lord Jesus Christ. Yes we know that the Lord has promised a great and marvelous life in His Light our Prince of Peace. Now we look together for ways to let that light so shine before others that they would see...and glorify our Father in Heaven (Matt 5:16).



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Dear Fellow Disciples,

Advent, beginning four Sundays before Christmas, is the season of the Church year that emphasizes the anticipation for the first coming of Christ to this earth. There are countless prophecies from Genesis to Malachi that tell of the One promised Redeemer Yahweh God would send. Even as the nation of Israel was conquered, first by Assyria, finally by Babylonia, and taken into captivity, the people continued to believe in the promised One. For centuries faithful Hebrews looked for their Messiah with great longing and expectation, echoing the prayer that He would “ransom captive Israel”. The tragedy of tragedies, however, is the Biblical and historical fact that He did come “to his own” to establish an eternal spiritual Kingdom of Jew and Gentile alike, “but His own did not receive him”. In this season of the church year it is most fitting that we sing “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” Originally this well known hymn was a series of 12th century Antiphons (responsively sung phrases of liturgy) during the Advent season. Each one of the Antiphons prepared to greet the coming Savior with one of the many titles given to Christ in the Scriptures: Emmanuel, Wisdom from on high Lord of Might, Branch Jesse, Key of David,

Day-Spring, Desire of Nations, Adonai and ruler, King of Nations. We will experience some of this in the Advent Litany that will be a part of our Services throughout this season.

It wasn't until the 1800's that the Hymn as we know it was developed from the earlier Latin Chants, the earliest form of singing in the Church. Translated by

John M. Neale we sing with the Church throughout the ages “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” rejoicing with God's people because Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God did appear some 2000 years ago. What HE accomplished was nothing short of the perfect redemption of Adam's fallen race, opening wide our Heavenly home.

And yet, we wait still, with eager anticipation and even urgent expectancy as did the Israel of old. We wait for the piercing of the clouds, for death's dark shadows put to flight. We wait for the second Advent, the return of the Resurrected Jesus bringing the fullness of his power to save and victory over the grave.

We are waiting.... O come, O come, Emmanuel!

In His Grip

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January Worship Schedule

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

Sunday, January 2
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER
CHRISTMAS

1 Kings 3:4-15; Psalm 119:97-104;
Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52

Sunday, January 9
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-11;
Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, January 16
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11;
1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42a

Sunday, January 23
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1-9;
1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-25

Sunday, January 30
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER
THE EPIPHANY

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15;
1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

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



Great Father of Mercy, as we are called each day to the tasks you have already prepared for us to do, give us your people gathered here by your Holy Spirit the forgiveness to love and the strength to serve each other and those around us, just as you in Christ have first loved us. **Prayer for our community.** O Great Light of the World, we thank you for chasing away the darkness of our sin by Your life, death, and resurrection. As the seasons change, and the days grow brighter, help us to shine the light of Your grace for those who by their own choices or because of the choices of others find themselves in need, and give us your wisdom in doing so.

Prayer for our World. O Emmanuel of Epiphany, grant that the light of your Gospel would shine in the dark corners of the world. Though evil men strive to suppress the truth by their unrighteousness, grant that Your kindness would continue to lead to repentance those who have hard hearts. **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

January 2-Ed Schmidt
January 9-Randy Otto
January 16-Russ Brunk
January 23-Gary Fletcher
January 30-Dan Moen

Usher Schedule

January 2-Randy & DeAnne Otto
January 9-Les & Linda Mull
January 16-Moen & Steenberg
January 23-Abbott & Taylor
January 30-Ed & Elaine Schmidt

Greeter Schedule

January 2-***
January 9-Horstmann Family
January 16-Rick Nelson Family
January 23-Wilhelm & Fisher
January 30-Stolpa Family

Song Leaders

January 2-***
January 9-Praise Team
January 16-Ben Fletcher
January 23-Lori Peters
January 30-Holly Ford

Money Counters Schedule

January 2-Alsobrooks & Dunnum
January 9-***
January 16-Otto & Schmidt
January 23-Wilhelm & Greene
January 30-Taylor & Dunnum

Altar Guild

Glenda Anderson
Sharie Brunk

Attendance and Giving

Through the month of December, our average weekly worship attendance was 171. Our regular offering for these weeks was \$11,119.03, with an additional \$445.00 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

What a fun time we had in December with stories about angels and shepherds and most importantly, Jesus' birth. We also did many holiday related crafts and art projects. The children seemed to have a good time working with glitter glue, stickers, markers and other craft materials. We also learned that E is for Egg by gluing crushed egg shells onto a large E. In January the children will learn how Jesus grew as a little child, just like them.

It was so nice to have the children sing in church on the 15th. Hopefully we can have them sing a couple more times this year. We give a special thank-you to Kim Hylton for her help in guiding the practices and performance.

As you know, our spaghetti dinner which was planned for the 12th had to be postponed again, this time due to weather. It was finally held on the 19th. Thank you all for being so cooperative with the changes. The total made from the dinner is not available at this time but the turn-out was great. Thank-you to Patty and Brian Horstmann for their donation of the hamburger used in the sauce. Thanks also to Mel Alsobrooks for preparing all of the sauce and guiding us in the kitchen. Our next fundraiser will be a Valentine Dinner on February 12th. More information will be coming soon. Thank-you also to Linda Mull for donating educational supplies this month.

We said a sad good-bye to Ada Hylton on the 16th. She and her family moved to Tennessee. We will really miss her. In

January we welcome Grace Schockman and Brynlee Kelly to our classroom.

Please feel free to drop in, help out with projects, or volunteer to read. We always welcome volunteers to our room. One way you can help is to be a "Rocking Reader" and share a book or two with the children. Don't forget to keep saving Campbell's Labels.

Thank you for your continued support.

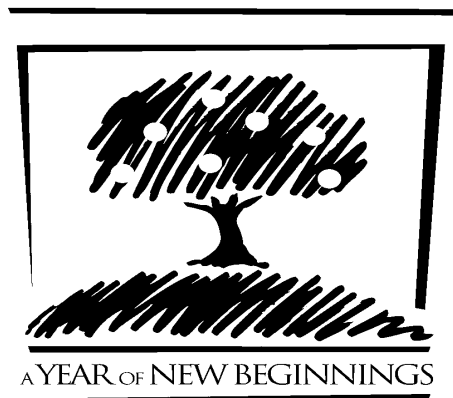
In His Service,
Barb Alsobrooks, Preschool Teacher

A Note From Ty & Kim

We would like to thank the congregation for the book of pictures and well wishes! As we settle in our new home in Tennessee, it is nice to have the book to remind us of all the people back home at Prince of Peace. And thanks for the continued prayers – they are very much appreciated. God's Blessings to all of you!

From Ty, Kim & Ada Hylton

Ty & Kim's new address is:
3004 Shelby Street
Apartment 312
Bristol, TN 37620



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Applying Biblical Teachings

Because of God's love for us, as shown through the redemptive work of Christ, we as Christians are moved to respond with great generosity. For God the Father "... did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" (Rom. 8:32). God's love is unconditional and unselfish.

Think about some of God's good gifts:

God gives the seed (Gen. 1:11).
God gives the rain (Job 5:10).
God gives life (Acts 17:25).
God gives health (Jer. 30:17).
God gives strength (Isa. 40:29).
God gives riches (1 Chron. 29:12).
God gives forgiveness (Col. 2:13).
God gives eternal life (Rom. 6:23).

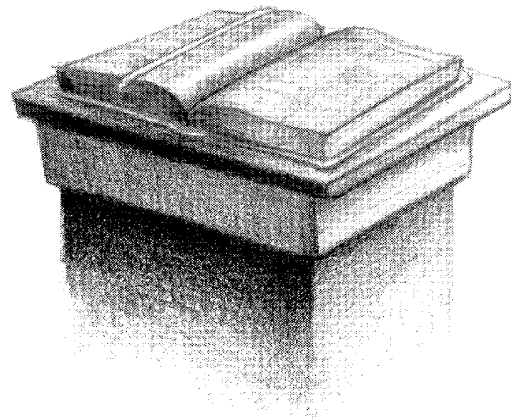
Christians have been given the most precious gift, eternal life. We have also received countless other spiritual and earthly blessings.

Perhaps you have heard the oxymoron, "stingy Christian." These two terms are contradictory. "Stingy" and "Christian" when used together make a sad commentary.

At times we give good reason for the term "stingy Christian" to be applied. We often find it difficult to give. We are constantly tempted, through our wants and fears, to accumulate for this life. Our human nature has difficulty putting its undivided trust in the Lord.

St. Paul reminds us in Ephesians 2:10 that "... we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works. ..." Through the Holy Spirit, we are filled with Christ's love. Our trust and confidence in our Lord are constantly encouraged. We Christians are stimulated by the Holy Spirit through Word and the Sacraments to do the good works for which we were created. In Christ's wonderful love, we are freed to give generously. The term "stingy Christian" has no place in our lives.

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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