

# Prince of Peace Tidings

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Dear Fellow Disciples,

Spring has sprung...although with 8 inches of snow in late April, I was a bit confused. Never the less, spring being upon us means that gardening and lawn care are about to become more time consuming. The long, slow, cold death that is winter melts away and life is there in its place. At the Schockman house we are working on a few new plantings, some of which required quite a bit of roto-tilling and digging to prepare for. As well as a major pruning of that poor overgrown lilac (I took more of it to the brush pile than I left on the bush). Even with all that effort enacted, the actual growing of plants will not be something we can make happen. Certainly Colette and I can cultivate, fertilize, plant and water, but it is still **only God who gives the growth.** (1 Corinthians 3:7)

Spring time also means that Confirmation Sunday is coming upon Prince of Peace. On that day of rejoicing this year we will welcome four of God's children to the Table He has provided us. They will receive the Lord's Supper for the first time, His body and Blood, forgiveness, salvation, and a new life of nourishment by Word and Sacrament will be given to them... (*insert your ALLELUIA here*). Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>, these four brave youth will stand before the congregation (gathered in the fellowship hall after worship – *hint: stay for the Bible study hour that day*) professing faith in the Risen Christ. They are publicly voicing the work that the Spirit began in their Baptism; the same work that has continued through the Word as they have been taught by their parents and heard His Word regularly in Worship and Sunday School. They are only acting as plants that have been given growth. This day of Confirmation is a day to rejoice,

but it is NEITHER the beginning NOR the end of a life-long learning about the love of the Lord. During the service of confirmation, as Lutherans we publicly confirm the work of the Spirit in a person's life. The service commemorates the work of the Spirit through Baptism and the Word, leading a person to publicly confess faith in **the foundation which is Jesus Christ.** (1 Corinthians 3:11)

The day of confirmation is not about the choice that some young person makes to agree with the teachings of the scripture. It is about the church together rejoicing in the work of the Spirit of God that brings life and faith to us. For **no one can confess that "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit** (1 Corinthians 12:3). As the day of confirmation comes and goes, my prayer is that we each continue to grow in the Word as the Spirit of truth leads us to Christ, the Way the Truth and the Life. At times it will take cultivating. In some cases we may have to cut out an overgrowth of misunderstanding or non-biblical belief. Yet, by the **Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation..** (Romans 1:16) we will all continue to **..grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.** (Ephesians 4:15)

In His Grip  
Pastor Jason



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# Prince of Peace Tidings

## May Worship Schedule

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

**Sunday, May 1**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 5:29-42; Psalm 148;  
1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

**Sunday, May 8**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-14;  
1 Peter 1:17-25; Luke 24:13-35

**Sunday, May 15**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23;  
1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

**Sunday, May 22**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 6:1-9; Psalm 146;  
1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

**Sunday, May 29**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 17:16-31; Psalm 66:8-20;  
1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

## E-Mail Prayer Ministry

You are invited to submit your prayer requests to our e-mail prayer chain at [popprays@gmail.com](mailto:popprays@gmail.com).



**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.**

**Ministry @ Prince of Peace** – We pray: that joined together in Christ we would see clearly the good work that we have been prepared to walk in; that the planning and action of the congregation would be filled with wisdom of the Spirit, leading to the glory of the Father.

**Prayer for our Community** – Welcoming God, Your Son's embrace of the outcast was limitless. Break down all the barriers that would keep us from sharing Your acceptance and love with others and help us to treasure and value each person as one who is precious to You through Your Son's sacrifice.

**Prayer for the World** – God of the Nations, we pray for Kendall Fuentes serving your church in Jaco, Costa Rica. That you would use the Bibles and gifts delivered by Heidi Lyga to expand Your kingdom of Grace in the lives of those who do not yet know the redeeming love of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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## We Need More of You!

We could really use your help on Sunday morning! Would you be willing to serve as an usher or a greeter or a song leader or a money counter? Ideally, people volunteering for these jobs would be scheduled every one or two months.

How about giving it a try?  
Contact Debbie at the church office, mornings, 786-3938.

## A Note From Elaine

I would like to thank everyone involved with this year's 'Journey to the Cross', including all those who brought props, helped se-up, take-down, and baked, as well as those who participated. We had a good turnout even though the weather didn't cooperate.

Thank you, thank you, thank you, and we'll see you again next year.

If anyone has any suggestions for changes to make things better, please let the evangelism committee know—LuAnn Fletcher, Heidi Lyga, Bill Stichman, and Elaine Schmidt.

God's Blessings to all,  
Elaine Schmidt

## Roses for Mother's Day

We will be supporting the local chapter of 'Wisconsin Right to Life' again this year.

On Mother's Day, May 8, roses will be available to purchase for \$2 each.

## SCHEDULES

### Elder Schedule

May 1-Russ Brunk  
May 8-Gary Fletcher  
May 15-Dan Moen  
May 22-Ed Schmidt  
May 29-Randy Otto

### Usher Schedule

May 1-Ed & Elaine Schmidt  
May 8-Les & Linda Mull  
May 15-Randy & DeAnne Otto  
May 22-Mel & Barb Alsobrooks  
May 29-Russ & Sharie Brunk

### Greeter Schedule

May 1-Fisher & Wilhelm  
May 8-Stolpa Family  
May 15-Bill Peters Family  
May 22-Ron Nelson Family  
May 29-Horstmann Family

### Song Leaders

May 1-Ben Fletcher  
May 8-Lori Peters  
May 15-\*\*\*  
May 22-Holly Ford  
May 29-Diane Ethridge

### Money Counters Schedule

May 1-Wilhelm & Alsobrooks  
May 8-Otto & Greene  
May 15-Taylor & Dunnum  
May 22-\*\*\*  
May 29-Wilhelm & Dunnum

### Altar Guild

Kay Nelson  
Linda Mull

# Prince of Peace Tidings

## Applying Biblical Teachings

The formula “ $e$  equals  $mc^2$ ” is familiar to many, but is understood by only a few people. Most of us know it had something to do with Einstein and was the formula that led to the release of enormous energy. Similarly, in the operation and ministry of a local church, “ $e$ ” might stand for *effectiveness*, “ $m$ ” for *members*, “ $c$ ” for *commitment*, and the “ $2$ ” for the *effort multiplied by itself*. The fruit of that kind of effort is much more powerful than what Einstein discovered.

We here at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church have been given the power of the Gospel. We are a congregation blessed with people who have many talents and gifts. Trusting in God, we have great vision, for we know what God has stated about His Word: “. . . It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it” (Isaiah 55:11).

Yet, at times our trust is found lacking in the *effectiveness* of the promise. When trust is lacking, we set up for ourselves stumbling blocks that affect our faith. One such stumbling block is the use and giving of our wealth and money.

Jesus Himself gave a warning, “So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?” (Luke 16:11).

We may think we understand the formula for great *effectiveness*. Do we? Let’s look at the formula.

The “ $c$ ” is the *commitment* of Jesus, as Lord and Savior, to the *members*, “ $m$ ,” of His church. The *effort multiplied by*

*itself*, “ $2$ ,” is the never tiring work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

God’s work is done *effectively* through us. His *commitment* to His members and His *effort multiplied by itself* many times over equals the *effective* carrying out of His desires.

Our faith embraces and keeps the true riches, the heavenly goods, and exhibits itself by doing what God desires. The stumbling block is avoided, for genuine, God-given faith cannot be wrong.

By the power of the Gospel, we are trustworthy and place the proper priorities on the use of our money as we give glory to God and serve our neighbor, especially our fellow believers. We remember the words St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, “You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion. . . .” (2 Cor. 9:11).

## Attendance and Giving

Through the month of April, our average weekly worship attendance was 182.

Our regular offering for the month was \$13,307.45, with an additional \$570.00 given toward our mortgage fund. That makes a total of \$13,877.45 for the month.



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## Lord's Little Lamb Preschool

In April we learned how much Jesus loves us. He showed us His love by dying on the cross and coming alive again so we can live forever with Him in Heaven. We also heard about little children praising Jesus with palm branches, Phillip and the Ethiopian and Timothy who was taught about God's love by his mother and grandmother. As we continued to learn the alphabet, the children discovered that "P" is for popcorn, "Q" for Q-tips, "R" for rice, and "S" for string.

The end of April, we started a unit on gardening. We are planting some seeds so we can observe the growth of the root system and the stems. We will talk about what different seeds look like inside and out, and end the unit with a plant growth booklet. With our unit about farms, we will talk about farm animals, and sing "Old McDonald Had a Farm". Thursday, May 12 is Pajama Day at preschool. The children (and I) will be wearing pajamas to school and I will be sharing a book called "Going to Sleep on the Farm" about how farm animals sleep.

Registration is continuing for next school year. We are offering a 3 day program for four year olds and a 2 day program for three year olds. Hours will remain the same as this year. **If you are planning to register your child for next year**, we would really appreciate it if you could turn in a registration form so we can hold your spot. Also, please consider referring friends and/or relatives to our program. We are licensed for up to seven children and would love to see a full preschool next year.

Thank you again for purchasing Scholastic Books and saving Campbell's labels. You are always welcome to visit the class anytime. If you have ideas to make our program better, don't hesitate to share them with me. The last day of preschool is Thursday, May 26. I have loved being your preschool teacher this year and will miss everyone very much.

In His Service,

Barb Alsobrooks, Teacher/Director

### Batter Up!

Anyone interested in playing softball in a church softball league this summer?

There is the possibility of a league forming in our area if enough people are interested.

If you are interested, let Pastor Jason know.

### Confirmation

### Celebration

### May 8

On Sunday, May 8, we will be welcoming four catechumens to the Lord's Table. They are Maria Otto, Hannah Moen, Jordan Marcou and Cameron Robaczewski.

Maria, Hannah, Jordan and Cameron will be sharing their faith statements during the Sunday School hour.

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