



Reaching an Ever-Changing World With God's Never-Changing Word

Church Office:	churchoffice@princeofpeacebeulah.org	701-873-5650
Pastor: Kent Sperry	ksperry@princeofpeacebeulah.org	815-501-9629
Youth Pastor: Jordan Langness	jlangness@princeofpeacebeulah.org	701-880-0115
Church Website	www.princeofpeacebeulah.org	

December, 2017



Pastor Kent

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

(Luke 2:11 ESV)

Christmas, in the United States, tends to be quite elaborate. There is a way that we celebrate the day. Although we put our own little twists on it, depending on our family, most of it is largely the same.

In contrast, the very first Christmas was quite ordinary, by all regards. The shepherds were out doing their job, taking care of their sheep. But, suddenly, they received good news. A host of angels appeared proclaiming to them that the Christ had been born.

After I was ordained, I immediately moved out to San Diego as I began serving my first congregation. And that first Christmas, the Christmas of 1998, was strange. Everything that was familiar about the holiday was suddenly gone.

The most notable difference was that, for the first time in my life, I would not be spending Christmas with my family. I now lived hundreds of miles away from them. And, even though that distance can be covered very quickly by plane, my position required that I be there for Christmas services. I was also single, at the time, meaning I had no family whatsoever with whom to share the holiday. It was also the first Christmas I'd ever felt lonely.

There were other differences as well. Being alone, I did very little decorating. It was the first Christmas I'd spent without many of the traditional embellishments. I only put up a small tree in my home.

It was odd seeing Christmas lights in palm trees, rather than pine trees, as I drove through the city. It was the first Christmas I'd spent in the warmth, with no winter weather at all. In fact, I spent part of Christmas Eve at the home of the senior pastor, with whom I served, sitting by his pool. It was too cool to swim, but it was lovely on the patio.

Yet, in spite of the differences, and in spite of the simplicity, it was still Christmas. The message of the season and the hope brought by it were the same. I found that, even though our traditions are nice, they are not what define the day.

You could have the trees and the snow, you could have the family gatherings and presents, but without the gospel, without the message of Jesus' birth, it would not be Christmas. The other aspects of the day may be fun, but they are not what make it Christmas. It's Jesus that makes the day what it is.

This is something that we should each consider: Would Christmas be Christmas without a beautiful tree? Would Christmas be Christmas without snow? Would Christmas be Christmas without a big family dinner and time with our loved ones? Would Christmas be Christmas without the weeks of shopping and gift exchanges? Would Christmas be Christmas if all you had was the simple message of the day and the time to glorify God for his salvation?

Christmas Service Schedule

9:00am December 24 - Regular Advent
Worship Service

4:30pm December 24 - Christmas Eve
Service

no service on December 25.

9:00am December 31 – Regular Worship
Service



Community Meal

November Community meal at Prince of Peace will be Saturday, December 9 from 11am to 1pm. Please join us for the meal or stop in to help!



Library news...

December library news: Lots of new books in our Church library – stop and check them out! (Literally – check them out.)



Prayer Request

Prince of Peace is part of a community wide prayer chain. If you have something you would like added to the email prayer chain or would like to receive the prayer emails – please email the church office. If it is after office hours, please email Margie Lee at lee@beu.midco.net or text Darcee @ 870-2122.

Ushers for December

12-3-2017 Mark Gerde, Kenny Klein, Don Buck, Robert Buck, David Hottman, and Walter Wagner
12-10-2017 Brad & Teresa Klipfel, Eugene & Dara Hausauer, John & Carmen Mohl
12-17-2017 Marvin & Janice Sigman, Keller family, Torie and Tia Horning
12-24-2017 Jerry & Marlys Reichenberg, Klautt family
12-31-2017 Kevin Lee, Lynette Flemmer, Marlene Buehner, Dean Fandrich, Jay Seibel

Fellowship service for December

12-3-2017 Wennings, Alts, Darrin & Leeta Olin
12-10-2017 Jim & Joan Schumaier, Bernard & Judy Tolosky, Linda & Holly Doe
12-17-2017 Kevin & Marie Lee, Jason & Heidi Ulland, Shane & Amy Haugen
12-24-2017 Volunteers?
12-31-2017 Volunteers?

Remember to email the office by mid-December if you want to change any of your responsibilities on service lists (for example: communion prep, usher, serving groups, fellowship service, service leader, sound booth etc...) If you want to get on one of these lists – let me know! I will get the info to the list makers.



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.

As 2017 draws to a close, I'm looking back at the WMF Bible Study for this past year. Each month ended with asking us to write out a certain Bible verse. As I read over these, I was struck by the verse for September from Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth." Of course one of the reasons that verse caught my eye was due to the teaching of Pastor Jim Rasmussen at our recent Spiritual Life Meetings. I need to constantly be reminded that we are to be His witnesses as our mission statement is: "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."

We will finish the WMF Bible Study on December 11 (Monday) at 7:30 at our WMF Coffee House. This will be for both the 10:30 and the 6:30 Bible study groups, it's fun to finish up together and of course we will enjoy our specialty drinks as well as Christmas goodies. There will be a short business meeting as we will be electing a Vice President, treasurer and Mission Secretary. These are the positions that need to be filled and we are praying that women will step forward and agree to fulfill one of these rolls. None of them are real time consuming but all of them are important. Please visit with one of the board members if you have questions. The board members are: Judy Tolosky, Margie Lee, Elsie Wiedenmeyer, Darcee Wenning, Lynell Renner and Joan Schumaier.

Preparing and serving the Community Meal went very well. We were blessed with cheerful volunteers and about 95 were served that day.

Doing this made us again realize just how dedicated are the few who do this every month. I would urge people to step up and help out with this project, either in the preparation of the meal or the serving and clean up. The church expects, and will welcome, men, women and youth helping out with the Community Meal.

Please sign up for the 2018 Bible Study "A Study of Hope". Sign up sheet and information is on the table in the back of the sanctuary. This month's article is respectfully submitted by:
Joan Schumaier – WMF Secretary.



If you would like to donate a poinsettia to decorate our alter for Christmas Eve in honor or in memory of a loved one - please deliver Wednesday - Friday Dec 20-22. Thank you!

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

If you would like to receive the monthly Newsletter by email, please email the church office at churchoffice@princeofpeacebeulah.org with your email address. The newsletter is printed and ready by the fourth Sunday of the month. The newsletter is also available on our website. If you have anything you would like put in the newsletter, please email or call the office at 873-560.

RADIO BROADCAST

Please Contact the office if you are interested in sponsoring a radio broadcast. The cost is \$35. The Radio Broadcast is heard on Sundays at 11:30 AM on KDKT, 1410 AM. Available Sundays to sponsor are December 3,10,17,24,31 and January 7,14,21,& 28!!!! The radio broadcast is a very important ministry to those that are home bound. Please consider sponsoring/funding this ministry.

December Birthdays!!!

Arlo Sailer	12/3
Jacey Duttenhefner	12/4
Angie Faut	12/5
Briella Schmit	12/5
Chris Iverson	12/6
Sharon Schneider	12/9
Savannah Johnson	12/11
Nick Kasanke	12/12
Brooklyn Keller	12/12
Judah Novak	12/13
Linda Schnaidt	12/15
Charlie Wanzek	12/16
Shane Goetz	12/17
Shaylyn Gunsch	12/17
Zachary Neuberger	12/17
Morgan Mattheis	12/18
Lynell Renner	12/19
Lisa Pederson	12/20
Aiden Green	12/22
Simon Novak	12/25
Holly Doe	12/26
Sandy Weigel	12/27
Haven Weltikol	12/29
Cheri Sperry	12/30
Rebecca Alt	12/31
Deb Kasanke	12/31
Willis Kasanke	12/31

Missed a Sunday church service?

Did you know that each Sunday's Sermons are recorded? If you would like a CD copy, the cost is \$1.00. You may have the entire service or just sermon recorded onto the CD. You can get up to 2 sermons on one CD. Please call or email the office and we will get one to you! The sermon is also available on our website by the following Monday.



Men's Breakfast/Bible Study

Men's breakfast/Bible study will be Saturday, December 16 @ 7:00am. We are studying the life of Abraham. Join us!

Worship Attendance

10-15	-	192
10-22	-	164
10-29	-	173
11-05	-	210
11-05	-	30 Home Missions Presentation
11-12	-	189 Spiritual Life Message #1
11-12	-	25ish SLM #2
11-12	-	38 SLM #3
11-13	-	30 SLM #4
11-14	-	33 SLM #5
11-15	-	40 SLM #6
11-19	-	166
11-19	-	38 Annual Meeting



Sunday School Corner

It is hard to believe it is December! The Sunday School year has flown by. The big Sunday School event for December is of course, the Christmas program. The program will take place Sunday, December 17th during the regular worship service at 9:00 AM. Practice for the Sunday School program will be every Sunday from now until the 17th. If you would like your child to participate, please make sure they are attending Sunday School. Students in grades 3rd-6th grade will have an extra practice on Saturday, December 16th at 10:00 AM. **This practice is only for grades 3rd-6th.** All other ages of Sunday School students will be practicing during the normal Sunday School time. On Sunday the 17th, we would like all students to be at church by 8:40 to prepare for the program. If you have any question or would like to help with the program please talk to Angie Wanzek.

Operation Christmas Child was once again a great success. The church packed over 94 shoe boxes for children across the world. It is amazing to see our kids think about the needs and wants for others and to put so much thought and care into them. Christian Ed is so excited and is already planning for next year.

Please encourage your children to continue to work on their “Read the Word” section of their take home sheets. Sunday School will resume after the holiday on January 7th at its normal time!



Prince of Peace Children's Christmas Program will be held during the worship service on Sunday, December 17@ 9:00am.

Youth Coffee House Fundraiser will be during fellowship on December 17. Stop by for a latte or an Italian soda (free will donation).



Youth

The Actor

By Jordan Langness

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. [Heb 4:12 NASB]

I was recently going through a Bible study with a friend and we came across this passage. In the study, the question was raised as to why we thought the author used such strong imagery to describe the word of God. As I was preparing for the study and going through this question myself, I noticed something that seemed significant.

In this verse, it is true that the imagery is quite strong. Double edged swords, piercing and cutting...slashing through bone and joints. This must be some serious stuff. These are things that I had observed plenty of times prior while reading through this passage...but what struck me this time is who was the actor in the passage. In other words, to what party are the actions being attributed? Throughout the description, it is God's word that is active: it is sharp, it pierces, it judges.

I know, this probably seems like a “duh” moment for many, but I believe that this is very significant for us today. You see, it is very common, if not in confession then at least in practice, for us to reverse the roles. We believe that it is our job to discern the Scripture...to figure out what it really means on certain issues or as it pertains to certain topics. You don't have to go far today to find a church that seems to dance around something that

appears clear in Scripture but yet gets muddled by persuasive arguments built on reason, emotion, or experience.

This reality is one reason why there are so many different teachings in our land today that all claim the title of "Christian". Some of these doctrines are very much at odds with one another. So, as each one of us continues our search for truth and understanding, may we first consider how we view Scripture. Do we understand that God's word is the authority, or do we have the final say of what we should do in certain situations? Do we understand that God's word is active and always accomplishing its purposes or do we think that we have to do the work in our hearts?

God's word is sufficient, it is effective, and God uses it to work miracles of regeneration in our lives every day. Instead of wrestling for control and fighting for what we feel to be right, let us instead trust the Author of Life and the words He has given to us. Also, let us not neglect to be in it. In fact, whenever we get hungry and think about beef being what's for dinner, maybe we can think instead "Scripture...it's for the sinner" which is all of us. Be encouraged and Strengthened in His word and work of forgiveness in your life today.

Upcoming Youth Events

- December 7th: M.S. Early release cookie day
- December 20th: High School Ugly Sweater Youth Group Day
- December 21: M.S. Christmas Party day

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

President's Report – Delton Schnaidt

This past weekend I was able to take part, along with 8 other men from our congregation, in the Men's Retreat at Epping ND,. The retreat focused on 5 Solas (*Latin word for only*) that Martin Luther pointed out during the Protestant Reformation 500 years ago. These solas were

the five key teachings that defined the biblical pleas of the Reformers against the Roman Catholic Church in 1517.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent

I had a lengthy meeting with the AFLC World Missions Committee by Go-to-Meeting.

Participated in our ministerial prayer meetings.

Visiting and keeping up with members, especially those who are ill and shut-in.

Confirmation is going well, with 11 students. We just looked at the Fifth Commandment and will be taking our first quiz next week.

Led the study at our October men's breakfast, looking at the fact that, like Abraham, we are men of sin even as believers in Jesus. It's for this reason that we're in continual need of God's grace.

I led worship services at Senior Suites, and KRCC.

I communed residents at KRCC.

Attended the District Men's Retreat in Epping, ND.

I'm scheduled to attend meetings of the AFLC World Missions Committee in Plymouth from Nov. 30th-Dec. 2nd.

Youth Pastor's Report – Jordan Langness

Middle School: We have completed our unit on Spiritual warfare and it seemed to go well for the depth of the material that was covered. It isn't something that is much talked about other than what is seen in horror movies which are not a good source of theology. We are now on a unit that focuses on specific characters that show up in Scripture.

Youth Group: Youth group continues to be strong this year with a very good batch of seniors coming. We have completed our study on Doctrine and have moved into a study through 1, 2, and 3rd John with Tony Evans.

We have been having a lot of fun together and there has been some great conversation as we have gone through the studies. We have extended our meeting time an extra 30 minutes to try to build in relational time along with the study.

Other Ministry: I have continued my coaching through Lead 222 and will be adding Garrett Placke in my trainee group. I was blessed to be able to lead one of the sessions at the District Men's retreat, and will be preaching at the community Thanksgiving service in the next few weeks. This past month also included some youth board meetings and a FLY Beyond planning team meeting.

Treasurers Report – Margie Lee

General Fund	\$	37,215.20
Building Fund	\$	41,155.80
Coffee Hour Fund	\$	403.35
Community Meal Fund	\$	515.13
Congr. Mission Trips	\$	87.00
Intern Fund	\$	34,297.37
Total Bank Acct	\$	119,627.94

Loan Borrowed 4/2015	\$	250,000.00
Loan Balance	\$	160,541.33

Deacon's Report – Kevin Lee

Met with the organists; Donna Bieri, Michele Klein, Lynell Renner, and Cindy Peterson, to discuss their individual preferences and what division of playtime would suit them and the church best. After a pleasant discussion, the following schedule was planned. Donna will continue to play for the 1st and 3rd Sunday traditional services and some Special services. Michele will continue to play for the 2nd and 4th Sunday contemporary services and some Special services. Lynell will play for some Spiritual Life and other Special services. Cindy will play prelude music for 1st and 3rd Sunday traditional services and some Special services. Donna, Michele, and Cindy will rotate through the 5th Sunday "Pick a Hymn" services.

Garrett and Kevin will continue to see what can be done to do Live streaming of our service/message.

Confirmation – Going fine at this point. First quiz over the introduction and the first five commandments next week.

Trustee's Report – Randy Schneider

The window in the fellowship hall was replaced again and it didn't crack during installation. The Trustees built a container to store the new banners. There isn't a bid yet for new furnaces.

Christian Ed Report – Michelle Klautt

Christmas Program - Pre-K will have a narrator talk while kids move on stage and do finger plays. Grades 1 & 2 will each have a line to say and sing a medley of traditional Christmas songs. Grades 3 - 6 will perform a shadow play. Angie will ask about having puppets in the program also. Program will be Dec 17 and since it is doughnut Sunday will just have doughnuts and not cake. Practice will be during SS hour on Dec 10.

OCC - Angie will ask confirmation kids to set up for OCC on Nov 1st.

OLD BUSINESS

Feed My Starving Children – Jordan has had people express interest in coordinating Feed My Starving Children so it looks like we will host it in 2018 again.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Meeting on 11/19/2017 – discussed agenda and budget

Increased security at Prince of Peace –We had discussion on panic buttons, weapons, locking the doors after church has begun and codes for the doors.

Tithe – Our tithe of \$2819.29 was given to All Ministries.

2017 Annual meeting booklets are available in the office!

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3. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
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2018 Council positions

President	Delton Schnaidt (2018)
Treasurer	Margie Lee (2018)
Secretary	Deb Sayler (2018)
Deacons	Don Buck (2018)
	Riley Schriefer (2019)
	Kevin Lee (2020)
	Garrett Sayler (2020)
Trustees	Bill Keller III (2018)
	Randy Schneider (2019)
	Joe Barbot (2019)
	Les Buchmann (2020)
Christian Education	Rebecah Martin (2018)
	Michelle Klaudt (2019)
	Kelsey Timmer (2019)
	Angie Wanzek (2020)

I will be glad to help you put the directory app on your smart phone if you are having trouble!
ALSO – if you have not submitted a family photo, or would like to update your family photo – Please just email the photo to me. It is so ez to take care of. I just need your help in getting the photo ☺

Please check out the directory to see if any of your family information needs to be updated and **you are welcome to send me an updated family photo!** The directory updates every time you open it on your device.

I will be printing hard copies of the new directory in January. Please send me any updates!