

# Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & School

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**May 2012**

From the Pastor's desk:

**A**fter Easter, the disciples of Jesus continued to meet in Jerusalem. Jesus had told them to wait in Jerusalem until they received power from on high. On Pentecost the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on them and the preaching of the good news of what God had done in Christ began. On that day, about three thousand were baptized and became part of the Body of Christ.



**S**ince that time, one of the joys and responsibilities of the church has been to proclaim the forgiveness of sins through Jesus. This is not a message that is always well received, even among Christians. In order to desire the forgiveness of sins, one must first admit that they are not living in the way that God has called on people to live. The joy comes from our being accepted by God as His, even though we often do not live like we are part of the family.

**O**ne day Jesus approached a tax collector by the name of Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus had heard that Jesus was going to pass by and so he had climbed a tree to get a good view of Jesus. Jesus came up to Zacchaeus and declared that he was going to visit Zacchaeus at his home that day. This shocked the crowd. No religious Jew would ever contaminate himself by entering such a sinner's home. (Tax collectors were considered terrible sinners because they collected taxes for Rome, the occupying power.) The act of eating with Zacchaeus signaled that Jesus found him acceptable, part of the family. Zacchaeus was overwhelmed by his acceptance by Jesus and publicly announced that he would give one-half of his possessions to the poor and repay those he had cheated four times over. Jesus said, even as the crowd grumbled about His going to Zacchaeus' home, *"Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."* (Luke 19:9-10)

**W**hat happened to Zacchaeus after this? Was his repentance real? According to Clement of Alexandria (a famous second century Christian leader and teacher), Zacchaeus was named Matthias by the apostles and was given a place among the twelve apostles after Jesus's ascension. He replaced Judas Iscariot, who had betrayed Jesus.

**I**n worship, the confession and absolution (forgiveness) remind us of God's love and acceptance of us. It is there that we pause for a time to agree with God that we have not done what He asks and have done what He forbids. We then ask for cleansing in Christ knowing that our heavenly Father forgives us for the sake of Christ and restores us as His children. Like Zacchaeus, we are also a child of Abraham, who once was lost but now is saved in Christ Jesus.

In Christ,

**J**ust as  
you have  
received  
Christ  
Jesus  
as Lord,  
continue  
to live in Him.

Colossians 2:6

## From our Church Council President

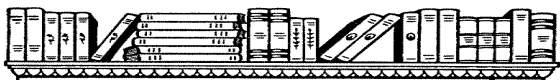
Dear Friends in Christ,

I'll share a single brief item with you this month. In the March Newsletter, I advised you that we were forming our nominating committee in preparation for our June Voters' Assembly when we will elect new church officers, members of the boards of elders and trustees, and committee chairpersons. The nominating committee that is headed by Mike Bumbaco and includes Diane Current and Jim Ostberg has been hard at work seeking volunteers for several positions that will become vacant as terms of incumbents expire. The committee is doing well but there are still some vacancies that need to be filled. If you are approached by a committee member and asked to serve in a position in the congregation, please give it your most prayerful consideration.

Scripture provides us with many verses that counsel us to step forward in support of our faith. They can be summarized by the words in Colossians 3:23 – "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."

In His Service,  
*Paul Smith*

## Prince of Peace Book Club



The next Book Club meeting will take place on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at the home of Sharon Sides at 12:30pm. The book to be discussed is:

"Major Pettigrew's Last Stand" by Helen Simson.

This will be our last meeting until the fall so please bring book suggestions for next season. If you have any questions, contact Cherie Spencer at 617-6008.

"No entertainment is so cheap as reading, nor any pleasure as lasting." *Lady M.W. Montague*

**The deadline for the June Newsletter is Monday, May 21.** Please have all articles and schedules in the newsletter mailbox or e-mail to: [office@princeofpeacevb.org](mailto:office@princeofpeacevb.org)



## Vacation Bible School – Helpers Needed!

A planning meeting for our Vacation Bible School will be held Thursday, May 17, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is for all volunteers so we can set dates and divide responsibilities. The proposed dates for Vacation Bible School are June 25 – 29. For more information please contact Pastor.

## Prince of Peace Food Closet

Thanks to all of you for your contributions of food, paper products, brown bags and monetary donations. We use this money to buy Grocery Store gift certificates to give to families for milk, or eggs, etc. We also use money to replenish needed items. At this time, our shelves are well stocked. Our next scheduled service days are June 26 & 28.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Westbrook  
Marilyn & Jim Doyle

## Prince of Peace Preschool

It is always difficult to end our year but this year is even more difficult for me since I will be leaving. I wanted to thank each one of you for your wonderful support. I will miss Prince of Peace in many ways but mostly the children's bright smiling faces that greet me each morning. You are welcome to attend our end-of-the-year program on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00. You will be in for quite a treat. Again, thank you for all you have done for me and our wonderful school. I wish you all the very best.

Janet Beaulieu  
Preschool Director

## NEWS FROM THE MYERS FAMILY



Our Missionaries in Macau, China

### **You shall have no other gods before me.**

*What does this mean?* Recently, when my children and I discussed this while studying the catechism, they said that this commandment is broken when we focus our lives on what material things we can get, our hobbies and the things that we like to do. Then we are focusing on ourselves, and not putting God first in our lives.

Our ministry team has been struggling with hearing about some of our students who study the Bible with us and who have expressed belief, recently taking part in the traditional worship practices of Tomb Sweeping day just before Easter. Exodus 20:4 describes the practice that is foreign to us, but very much alive and well here in Macau. I described this local holiday in my newsletter last year, which is another occasion for Chinese to take care of and worship deceased relatives. The problem is that it is deeply embedded in their culture. How can they reconcile the two belief systems of Christianity and Idolatry? Jesus said that no one can serve two masters, so how can they so quickly forget what we have taught? We wonder, "why is their faith so weak?"

This issue of ancestor worship is clear to non-Chinese American Christians. It is easy for us to see the proverbial log in our brother's eye, and not see our own. How great the Grace of God is that even when we were still sinners, Christ died for us! The same applies to them, and we remind them in every Bible Study. We don't want this great gift of salvation for which Jesus paid so great a price to be taken for granted. To that end we talk with them and explain that Christ died for a reason, and that is to free us from fear, bondage to sin, tradition, and unbelief. An older student of ours remembers vividly the difficulty he experienced when Macau was still a colony. He doesn't want foreigners to think of local people as inferior, pagan, someone that we have to teach the difference between right and wrong.

So we continue with gentleness and reverence as we are taught in I Peter 3:15, remembering our own struggle with sin, and with the purpose of sharing with them the truth that can set them free from their bondage to their beliefs. The truth is that Jesus Christ is Lord. He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed, Hallelujah!

*Kim & Matt Myers*

### **Blood Drive May 14**

The next Little Neck Churches Blood Drive sponsored by the American Red Cross will take place on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Methodist Church.



### **In-carnation**

The official flower of Mother's Day is the carnation, the favorite flower of the mom of the holiday's founder, Anna Jarvis. Over time, the custom arose of wearing a white carnation on Mother's Day if your mother has died and a red one if she's living.

In fact, many carnation colors have special meanings. Pink carries the richest Christian symbolism. According to legend, carnations first appeared on earth as Mary wept while watching Jesus carry his cross. Where her tears fell, there appeared pink carnations, symbolizing a mother's undying love.

According to one theory, the English word for carnation comes from *carnis*, Latin for flesh. From the same root comes *incarnation*, God's coming to earth in flesh. Thus, carnations remind us of our loving mothers as well as our loving Savior.



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Paul Gesling  
6 Florcerfina Wadey  
9 Bill Bostelman  
10 Jim Doyle  
Gail Huber  
Eldridge Myers, Jr.  
12 Alison Bostelman  
13 Michael DeBoer  
15 Allen Weber  
16 Caroline Vennard  
LaCosta Wilson  
17 Theron Robinson  
18 Madison Willenbrink  
20 David Bussey  
22 Helga Koehn  
Gus Perrotti  
Antar Wilson  
24 Kaitlyn Bostelman  
25 Sandra Janssen  
27 Mildred Harper  
28 Michelle Sinibaldi  
29 Lucille Passarelli  
30 Kiti Schatz  
31 Marilyn Ostberg  
Carol Sinibaldi

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Delmar & Gay Lynn Hasselbacher  
11 James & Marilyn Ostberg  
12 Mark & Kathleen Judson  
20 Adam & LaCosta Wilson

## MAY SERVERS

### ACOLYTES

- 6 (E) Sophia & Gus Perrotti  
(L) Madison Willenbrink & Megan Hughes  
13 (E) Joseph & Drew Haney  
(L) Caroline Case & Drew Schaeffer  
20 (E) Casey & Caroline Lessmann  
(L) Trey & Elle Walters  
27 (E) Sophia & Celeste Perrotti  
(L) Jill Lessman & Zach Mullen

### ELDERS

- 6 Lee Heup  
13 Michael Fairbanks  
20 Al Blackburn  
27 Jim Ostberg

### READERS

- 6 (E) Shawna Gugel (L) Jessica Lessman  
13 (E) Sandi Janssen (L) Em Lee Fuson  
20 (E) Edie Houck (L) Sharon Sides  
27 (E) Dave Schreiber (L) Carol Sinibaldi

### COMMUNION SERVERS

- 13 Brian Hess & George Schmidt  
27 Jack Snelling & Lee Heup

### COUNTERS

- 6 Sandra Janssen & Dave Schreiber  
13 Richard Thieman & Michael Bumbaco  
20 Paul & Gloria Smith  
27 Bill Pore & Lynn Scarcelli



## **Organ and Sound System Update**

A contract has been signed for the first phase of the moving of the pipe organ's console and pipes to their new locations. Included in the contract is the replacement of the mechanical actions with modern solid state electronics. It is anticipated that the work will take place in late September or in October. To date \$17,307 toward our goal of \$22,000 has been received.

The sound system upgrade, an Aviom monitor system for the musicians, has been purchased and installed. This has enabled greater control over how the sound system performs providing better sound quality in our worship services.



April 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

# May 2012

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Virginia Beach, Virginia

June 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>6</p> <p>8:30a Traditional Worship 9:45a S.S. &amp; Bible Class 11:00a Contemporary Worship</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00p Christian Education Com.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30a Ladies Bible Study 12:00p Braille Press 7:00p Elders Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:30p New Glory 6:30p Confirmation</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:30p Choir</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00a Trustee Work Day</p>
<p>13</p> <p><i>Mothers' Day</i> 8:30a Traditional Worship 9:45a S.S. &amp; Bible Class 11:00a Contemporary Worship</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:15a Men's Bible Study Breakfast 9:30a Ladies Bible Study 12:00p Braille Press 7:00p Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:30p New Glory</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00p Vacation Bible School Meeting</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p><i>Armed Forces Sunday</i> 8:30a Traditional Worship 9:45a S.S. &amp; Bible Class 11:00a Contemporary Worship</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Newsletter Articles Due</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30a Ladies Bible Study 12:00p Braille Press</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:00a Preschool Closing Program 5:30p New Glory</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Preschool last day of school year</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p><i>Pentecost</i> 8:30a Traditional Worship 9:45a S.S. &amp; Bible Class 11:00a Contemporary Worship 11:00a Confirmation</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Memorial Day</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30a Ladies Bible Study 12:00p Braille Press</p>	<p>30</p> <p>5:30p New Glory</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Southeastern District Convention LCMS</p>		