

Prince of Peace in Print

March 19, 2009

Remember therefore what you have received
and heard . . . (Revelation 3:3a)

FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Family and Friends,

Greetings in the repentant Spirit of our Lenten season as we seek our God of forgiveness and reconciliation.

I am certain that everyone reading this newsletter knows that in every community in this country there are many churches or congregations. Some of these churches are large. Many of them are small. Some of these congregations are growing while others have plateaued or are declining. Some are busy with many activities while others offer little more than Sunday worship. Some congregations are working on social projects and community outreach while some seem to care very little if anyone new or strange darkens their door. In the face of all this diversity, church experts struggle to determine if a given congregation is succeeding or failing. I say all this to ask you what you think: Is Prince of Peace a church that is succeeding or a church that is failing? This is an underlying question when the elders or the counsel meet. Over the years that I have been at Prince of Peace, this question has had a variety of answers. During the first part of this year, a common theme has seemed to emerge. The counsel members and elders have indicated that they are sensing a new “spirit” amongst the members of our congregation—a new excitement about worship and activities, and they are seeing a greater and growing love between our members. There has been some suggestion that Prince of Peace has been “reborn” and “revitalized.” So I ask you: How is Prince of Peace doing? What do you “feel” or “sense” about the members and the events at Prince of Peace? I hope that you think Prince of Peace is succeeding. And maybe even more than that, I pray you feel a certain “excitement” about what God is doing at Prince of Peace.

1
Bible
1
Year



Larry Andrew celebrates St. Patty's Day with green garb and a Mexican dinner at El Charro.

This past month has been a busy one and there is little let up in sight as we approach Holy Week. February ended with the largest Men's Group breakfast to date. It was a wonderful time of food and fellowship. Our midweek Lenten services have been a joy and a blessing. Each week we have had visitors from CrossRoad Lutheran Church. It is always a privilege to strengthen the bonds between congregations. Youth Sunday was a big success. Many members told me that the young people did a wonderful job. I appreciated the words shared by a number of our members on “Support Your Church Sunday.” It is great to know the love that people feel for their church. And following the service a wonderful time of fellowship was enjoyed by all at Boss Hog BBQ. “Green Day” was tremendous. It was amazing to see how many “green” foods people could conceive and prepare. Our night

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Lutheran Church
(LCMS)

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Pastor
Rev. Warren R. Pellom

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Communion Schedule
Saturday - 1st & 3rd
Early (8:00 a.m.) - 1st
& 3rd
Late (10:30 a.m.) -
2nd, 4th, & 5th

at El Charro Mexican Restaurant was a success. I know we impacted their bottom line that night.

Looking ahead a Game Night is scheduled for March 27. Bring your favorite board or card game and come for fun and laughs. Pizza and drinks will be supplied. A work day is scheduled for Saturday, April 4. We will work to clean the facilities and spruce things up for Easter. Moving into Holy Week, we will have our Maundy Thursday Communion Service and our Good Friday Worship Service both at 7:00 p.m. On Saturday, April 11, we will hold our annual Community Easter Egg Hunt from 9 to 11 a.m. Easter Sunday will begin with Sunrise Worship at 7:00 a.m. Following our first worship service will be the traditional and delicious Elders Breakfast followed by the church Easter Egg Hunt. We will conclude our Easter celebration with a second worship service at 10:30 a.m.

May our focus during Holy Week give us a profound appreciation for the grace of God through the sufferings, death, and resurrection of His Son, deepening our faith and quickening our relationship to Him now and forevermore. Amen.

Love and Prayers,
Warren R. Pellom
Pastor

Elders Report

Dear Friends in Christ.

Lent is the time of year that we as followers of Christ and the Bible reflect on all of the glorious deeds of our Lord and Savior. It is a time of year that we as Christians look to our inner selves to repent for our sins and transgressions. It is a time of the year for us to also thank God for what he has done for our salvation. All we have to do is BELIEVE.

The elders also remind all of our members of our Pastor's goal of one new visitor every week for the entire year. To this point in the year his goal has been met and for that we must thank God. Our pastor is showing all of us the power of Pray Until Something Happens. It will take our help for him to continue to meet this goal. We can all ask our friends, neighbors, fellow workers or family members to come and worship with us and they might just find something they like. I encourage all of our members to greet these visitors with the warmest welcome possible.

P U S H
Pray
Unitl
Something
Happens

A few weeks ago we had a youth Sunday in our church. The youth helped present the entire service from Praise Team for songs to helping me deliver the sermon Pastor had prepared. I am encouraged by their participation in the service because they are the future of the church in the world. All of our members need to promote their participation in every service and any way possible. These days we hear things like church memberships are down from where they were a few years ago and the only way these numbers will rise again is by getting

young people involved in the church. They are the future of the church.

Serving Christ and His Church,
Al Peimann
Head Elder

From the Desk of the Treasurer

Year-to-Date Funds Received as of February 28, 2009:

2009 Year-to-Date	Received	Expenses	Ending Balance
General/Operating Fund:	21,668.12	(24,894.42)	(3,226.30)
Kids Club Fund:	100.00	0.00	100.00
Building Fund:	600.00	0.00	600.00
Elders Benevolence Fund:	100.00	(412.31)	(312.31)
Confirmand's Remodeling Room Fund:	376.00	0.00	376.00
Bathroom Remodeling Fund:	142.00	0.00	142.00
Valentine's Day/Fellowship Fund:	196.00	(196.00)	0.00
Memorial Fund-Ed Childs Received:	50.00	0.00	50.00
Balances	23,232.12	(25,502.73)	(2,270.61)

A story received through email called "A Child of God"

A seminary professor was vacationing with his wife in Gatlinburg, TN. One morning, they were eating breakfast at a little restaurant, hoping to enjoy a quiet, family meal. While they were waiting for their food, they noticed a distinguished looking, white-haired man moving from table to table, visiting with the guests. The professor leaned over and whispered to his wife, "I hope he doesn't come over here." But sure enough, the man did come over to their table.

"Where are you folks from?" he asked in a friendly voice. "Oklahoma," they answered.

"Great to have you here in Tennessee," the stranger said. "What do you do for a living?"

"I teach at a seminary," he replied.

"Oh, so you teach preachers how to preach, do you? Well, I've got a really great story for you." And with that, the gentleman pulled up a chair and sat down at the table with the couple. The professor groaned and thought to himself, "Great . . . Just what I need . . . another preacher story!"

The man started, "See that mountain over there? (pointing out the restaurant window). Not far from the base of that mountain, there was a boy born

Thank You!

A big thank you to Donna Koehler for volunteering each week to clean our church.

An extra special thank you to the young people who lead the worship service on Sunday, February 22. Thank you for greetings, ushering, collecting the offering, reading the Readings, and helping deliver the sermon.

A very special thank you to all who brought words of appreciation on "Support/Love Our Church Sunday." Thank you for all the wonderful words of encouragement and love.

Church Council Members 2009

Chair
Rusty Vollmer

Vice-Chair
Rick Kresge

Secretary
Deborah Bailey

Treasurer
Richelle Smith

Board of Elders
Al Peimann (Head)
Jim Bodenstab
Tom Wack

Discipleship
Tammy Heidrick

Evangelism
(vacant)

Fellowship
Debra Romine

Stewardship
Doug McGee

Worship
Mary Wanda Wack
(—Non-Voting)

Monthly Statistics

February

Average Attendance

Saturday Service
11

Sunday Early Service
22

Sunday Late Service
57

to an unwed mother. He had a hard time growing up, because every place he went, he was always asked the same question, 'Hey boy, who's your daddy?' Whether he was at school, in the grocery store or drug store, people would ask the same question, 'Who's your daddy?' He would hide at recess and lunchtime from other students. He would avoid going in to stores because that question hurt him so bad. When he was about 12 years old, a new preacher came to his church. He would always go in late and slip out early to avoid hearing the question, 'Who's your daddy?' But one day, the new preacher said the benediction so fast that he got caught and had to walk out with the crowd. Just about the time he got to the back door, the new preacher, not knowing anything about him, put his hand on his shoulder and asked him, 'Son, who's your daddy?' The whole church got deathly quiet. He could feel every eye in the church looking at him. Now everyone would finally know the answer to the question, 'Who's your daddy?' This new preacher, though, sensed the situation around him and using discernment that only the Holy Spirit could give, said the following to that scared little boy . . . 'Wait a minute! I know who you are! I see the family resemblance now. You are a child of God.' With that he patted the boy on his shoulder and said, 'Boy, you've got a great inheritance. Go and claim it.' With that, the boy smiled for the first time in a long time and walked out the door a changed person. He was never the same again. Whenever anybody asked him, 'Who's your Daddy?' he'd just tell them, 'I'm a Child of God.'"

The distinguished gentleman got up from the table and said, "Isn't that a great story?"

The professor responded that it really was a great story!

As the man turned to leave, he said, "You know, if that new preacher hadn't told me that I was one of God's children, I probably never would have amounted to anything!" And he walked away.

The seminary professor and his wife were stunned. He called the waitress over and asked her, "Do you know who that man was—the one who just left that was sitting at our table?"

The waitress grinned and said, "Of course. Everybody here knows him. That's Ben Hooper. He's governor of Tennessee!"

Someone in your life today needs a reminder that they're one of God's children!

Blessings to All,
Richelle Smith
Treasurer

Fellowship Fun

Don't forget the following events are coming up:

Friday, March 27, Games Night 7:00 p.m. at the church. We will order pizza and have cold drinks and hopefully have a wonderful night of fellowship with lots of love and laughter. This event is for everyone hope to see

A Poem from Laura

God is in our every breath,
prayer should be like breathing.
When we find, we hurt, can't rest,
we are in God's keeping.

Should we find our ups are downs,
prayer should be like breathing.
God will fill our every sigh,
with His Spirit's free-ing.

We can find we touch His heart,
in our very being.
We will know we are His own,
when we pray unceasing.

God is in our every breath,
prayer should be like breathing.
We will be forever blessed,
when we pray like breathing.

With Love,
Laura McCawley

you there.

I can hardly believe Easter is just around the corner. We are planning a Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11, if you are interested in helping or have any ideas please let me know.

May the Lord help you to . . .
Cultivate the habit of happiness.
Believe that you are good.
Appreciate the wonders of life.
Nurture your emotional and spiritual growth.
Say good-bye to the past.
Give yourself credit for what you have to offer.
Make enthusiasm a daily exercise.
Let love change the course of your world.

God's Peace,
Debra Romine
Fellowship Chair

Worship Writes

Dear Friends,

“Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing”—Spiritual Folk Song
“Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord. Let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise”—Psalm 95

Please feel you are welcome to come, join the choir, and practice with us. We are learning new songs every Wednesday and some are songs from our past. We are loving every minute of it. We are having fun and celebrating our Christian faith. “All God’s People Sing” is our new choir book from Concordia Publishing House. This book is a collection of liturgies and songs to help us pray, praise, and give thanks.

Spring is God’s way of saying “One more time!” according to Barbara Johnson. Thanks for Your attitude of excitement these past few Sundays. Let’s encourage each other and say to one another we can be kind one to another one more time. We will grow as a congregation when people see that we do love one another and forgive each other one more time.

We are looking forward to Easter, April 12. Another special Sunday will be “Flower Sunday,” May the 31st. This entails you bringing cut flowers or potted plants and I will put cards on them from Prince of Peace. The flowers will be given to a nursing home in the community. Let’s let people know we care at Prince of Peace.

“Sing”cerely,
Mary Wanda Wack
Worship Person

NEWS FOR THE WOMEN OF PEACE . . .

First Saturday in April! IT WILL BE A WORK DAY!

The Women of Peace will have their April 4 gathering 9:00 a.m. at the church. Since it is an “official” church work day, we will be “sprucing” up the building and working on the Rummage Sale.

What I Love About This Church

- 1) I love that we are about serving others and not ourselves—that we may be small in number, but huge in heart.
 - 2) I love that Pastor “teaches us” and doesn’t preach to us.
 - 3) I love that we study the word as written and not in a way that serves anyone’s ego.
 - 4) I love the fact that we are more concerned about making a joyful noise than always being in tune and on pitch.
 - 5) I love the fact that we cling to tradition, but that we also are willing to listen to the possibility of change.
 - 6) I love that we care enough to hold each other accountable and that is what makes us family.
- So this is what I love about this church.
—Shared by Deborah Bailey on “Support/
Love Your Church” Sunday

Habitat for Humanity

Want to build another house???
The planning meeting for the coming year for Habitat for Humanity will be at Christ the King on Saturday, April 4, 2009. Hopefully, the representatives from Prince of Peace can attend and bring back news of another wonderful opportunity to take part in this terrific program. Stay tuned for news!

Newsletter Deadline

The next church newsletter will be published on Friday, April 17. All materials (articles, pictures, etc.) should be turned in to Liz Fairbanks no later than noon on Tuesday, April 14.

“Son”Shine Sale

Think Spring!!! Think Cleaning!!! Think Rummage!!!
Think “Son”Shine Sale!!!” — Saturday, May 2, 2009.
This is a big event for Prince of Peace, let’s come together and make it happen!!!

From the Entire Childs Family

As you all are aware, we have recently suffered a great loss with the passing of Ed Childs. On behalf of the entire Childs family, I would like to thank each of you for your support and care during this most difficult of times. Many of you responded with gifts of flowers or food for the family. It was very comforting just to have someone come up to one of us and share stories about Ed and to tell us what a great man he was. Words cannot express our gratitude to all of you. We are very blessed to be members of such a loving and caring congregation. Thank you all very much.
(reprinted with correction from the last newsletter)

Building Committee

The Building Committee is meeting to discuss the pros and cons of renovating the double wide mobile home. Other options for renovating the bathrooms are also on the agenda. Stay tuned for this news!

Church Night at El Charro Mexican Restaurant



Richard and Bettye enjoying a night out.



Phil's all smiles and Debbie's wondering why.



Jo put on her finest hat and she is giving that menu a good look over.



PJ and son having a good time.



Debra is holding on tight to Lee.

Holy Week Events
Palm Sunday, April 5—Worship at 8 & 10:30 a.m.
Maundy Thursday, April 9—Communion service at 7 p.m.
Good Friday, April 10—Worship service at 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 11—Community Easter Event 9–11 a.m.
Easter Sunday
Sunrise Communion Service at 7 a.m.
Elders Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.
Church Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 a.m.
Morning Communion Service at 10:30 a.m.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
8089 U.S. Highway 51 North
Southaven, MS 38671



Saturday Night Worship Service 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Early Worship Service 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Late Worship Service 10:30 a.m.