

PRINTS OF PEACE



Our Mission: God's family united to..., ...Preach God's Word, ...Teach God's Grace, ...Reach God's World

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Special points of interest:

- The “dog days of summer”...
- So this summer make...
- We are truly blest...
- Rachel and I already feel
....
- But to those who
genuinely...
- Sunday, August 11...
- We have several
activities...

HE IS RISEN! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Dear Friends in Christ,

As a baseball player and one who thinks running around a field in ones pajamas chasing down flies, taking batting practice, and getting dirty is the greatest thing! There is something special about hearing the sound of the crack of a bat in the springtime air. Being at the ballpark is a welcome relief after the dreariness of winter. Baseball is exciting at the beginning of the season when teams are coming together and hopes are high. When July and August roll around, that time of the season is commonly referred to as “the dog days of summer.” It is hot, players are tired, and for some the season cannot end quickly enough!

For many, even those who do not play baseball, we experience times that could be called, the “dog days” of our lives. It is that time in life where one is tired and weary. One does what needs to be done and no more. There is not a lot of excitement. It is as though all one can do is trudge on.

The “dog days of summer” can also affect the church. Like in the heat of summer for baseball where players know the routine of showing up, warming up, playing, cleaning up, and moving on to the next game, the church has its own routine. Service times are the same, Divine Service is mostly the same, Sunday school is the same, and the people are the same. It becomes easy to fall into the “dog days of summer” in the church.

What keeps the ballplayers going is the same thing that keeps the church going. The chance of making it to the big game! The World Series! It is the big reward at the end of the season. We too have the end game in sight. The big difference is in baseball only one team can win the championship. In the church we all win! Living life this side of heaven is tough. It is wearisome. It sometimes feels like drudgery.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians about the “dog days of summer.” He says, “Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So *I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.*” He then says in 2 Timothy 4 that, “*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to **all** who have loved his appearing.*” The author of Hebrews says, “*Therefore, since we are surrounded*

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by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Scripture is telling us how to endure "the dog days of summer" by keeping our eyes on the goal...the Lord Christ! Keeping our eyes on the goal is easy to say but when in the middle of those dog days we do not have the strength or energy to do anything but suck air. This is where the Holy Spirit does the work for you. He is the one who draws you to his safe place to be refreshed. To be washed clean and fed. It is the Holy Spirit who keeps your eyes focused on the Lord Christ. He is the one who strengthens you to take one more step in the journey of life. He is the one who carries you to the finish line and then takes you across that line!

During "the dog days of summer" in your life continue rejoicing in what our God is doing in and for you!

Looking forward to seeing you at the finish line!

Pastor Brynestad

Elder's Corner

Feeding the Soul

Summer is here. It's time for that well deserved summer vacation. It's the one we do every year and plan months in advance. The car is serviced, fueled up and ready to go. The luggage is packed to maximum efficiency in the car. All of the lodging has been booked. The itinerary is planned to the last minute. Every meal and bathroom break is scheduled. There is no room for deviation. And yet with all that careful planning we still forget that one thing, the most important thing of all, the nourishing of our soul.

Jesus says, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4) But yet, this need is often the most neglected of all. We would never forget to feed ourselves or make sure we have a place to lay our head down at night. So why is it that we "forget" to spend time in his word? Or, why are we "so busy" that we don't take time to receive his sacramental gifts to us?

So this summer make sure you take your bible and devotional with you. With today's technology it's easier than ever. There are plenty of good bible apps that are free and available for your phone. You wouldn't leave home without your phone, why would you leave home without your bible? Also, take time to check out the LCMS church locator at locator.lcms.org. It can quickly and easily help you find an LCMS church in your area. It will give you the address and even direct you to the church's website. Check out what it says about Peace if you want to practice.

Dan

Elder

"Plenteous of grace, descend from high

Rich in Thy sev'n-fold energy;

Make us eternal truths receive

And practice all that we believe.

Give us Thyself that we may see

The Father and the Son by Thee." (Rhabanus Maurus, TLH 236)



Share Jesus's Love to everyone you see!

Our Lord created us in His image and enables us to share our gifts with one another...

Genesis 1:26-27 and Romans 12:4-8

We are truly blest to be a blessing!

In these two scriptures, our Lord created us in His image...and encourages us to share our gifts with others. Just do it! This has been a volunteer mantra forever, and many spend their life going from cause to causes our community requests. This month would be an excellent time to include service as part of our summer routine. The reasons are many and can be part of our faith growth in sharing ourselves with others. We have something for everyone in every community, every lifestyle. Service at our church and school is a wonderful way to grow in our own faith while helping others in need:

Share our love for Jesus!

Experience personal satisfaction that we can make a difference!

Find we are more connected to others as we live a lifestyle Jesus called us to do!

Witness to our family and our friends as we are showing a positive role model!

If you are a volunteer, I thank you for all of your service as you commit to “Be a Blessing”. If you have a few minutes to spare in your day, or on your daily walk about, be sure to start your venture with a prayer and ask that our Lord enable you to Be a Blessing. Make a list of things you can do with your gifts, knowledge, abilities.

I have found that playing hymns on the piano while visiting my mother at the assisted living home gathers folks together, and before long we have a beautiful choir singing praises to God. Another time I was walking with my mom as she learned to manipulate a wheelchair after a fall, and before long there were three others “walking along with us!” The next time I came, the group was ready and we wheeled around the halls, out to the courtyard, and came back to the commons to cheers from the staff and others as well as getting a treat and lemonade. A simple act and everyone was smiling and it was the “best walk we ever went on” according to another wheelchair buddy. His comment: “If life gives you sour lemons, we know how to turn them into lemonade!”

I played a rendition of Jesus Loves Me on the piano during the Sunday worship offering recently, and suddenly I heard voices singing! At first it was very quiet, and very soon became a beautiful impromptu choir that gave me shivers of joy! Our hearts are always full of ‘gifts’ we have. Reach out, give of yourself, get joy in return!

July Tea and Chat will be a special project!

Come help make “Be a Blessing” name tags for our Peace students backpacks!

July 17 at 9:30 – 11:00

In joy and blest!, Cynthia, RN, Parish Nurse at Peace

peaceparishnurse@comcast.net

School News

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and his son, Jesus Christ.

The Sawyer's have arrived! God's travel mercies were with Rachel and me as we completed our 2354 mile voyage here. We have been welcomed with open and ready arms to unload boxes and lend muscle to our unpacking. Thank you for your generosity and housewarming gifts. Rachel and I already feel like a part of this community. We are officially being installed at Peace Lutheran Church July 21st. We would love to have you with us. My family lives in Casablanca, Morocco so they won't be in attendance, but Rachel's mom is flying up from Santa Barbara, California to be a part of the celebration. I am already working in the office getting to know the amazing people that run God's ministry here, feel free to pop in and introduce yourself. I enjoy putting faces to names and making connections. I'm learning how to let people in with the security system, so you might need to ring twice. We look forward to our ministry here and the amazing things God would have us do with his help.

Kerrick Sawyer, Principal

WITH A SPIRIT OF EAGERNESS, CHEERFULNESS, AND LOVE

Whenever the topic of stewardship and giving comes up, the conversation inevitably turns to the question: "How much should I give?" Answers will vary because the motive behind such questions also vary.

Sometimes the motive behind asking this question is for self-justification. Even though, as Lutherans, we know we are not saved by our works but by grace through faith because of Jesus' substitutionary atonement, the natural religion of fallen man is to earn God's favor by what we do.

Take, for example, the response of our Lord to the rich young ruler who asked, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus first tells him to keep the commandments. The rich young ruler responds by indicating that all this he has kept from his youth. But Jesus tells him that he lacks one thing: He must sell all he has and give it to the poor and then follow Him.

This rich young ruler went away sad because he was quite wealthy and could not part with his possessions. Here we see that those who seek to justify themselves by their giving will hear a response that intensifies the duty that God places upon them. Indeed, they will hear a response that makes it impossible to win God's favor by their works.

But to those who genuinely desire to know their duty as Christians in the arena of giving, we look to the Bible for our answer. We believe the Bible is the Word of God. And we know that the Word of God has been "breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

So, we begin to answer the question, "What should I give?" with the question, "What does the Bible say about how much we should give and to whom?"

The Old Testament is explicit. The expectation is that the people of God would give a tithe – 10 percent – of the first fruits of their labor to support the full-time ministry of the Levites. This is what the Lord gave Moses to teach the people:

"You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always.

"And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you

desire – oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves.

“And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household. And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

“At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.” (Deut. 14:22–29)

This principle of tithing is carried over into the New Testament, though not explicitly by calling it a tithe. St. Paul teaches the Church at Corinth the following:

We are to give to the church regularly (1 Cor. 16:1–2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first fruits (1 Cor. 16:1–2; Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23). And all of this is because the “Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living by the Gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14), just as the Levites did.

This is our New Testament standard. Since Christ became poor for us in order to make us rich in Him – blessing us with the riches of heaven – so we have also been so blessed to follow the example of our Lord and Savior and give of ourselves and the work of our hands to bless others with the same.

If we have been lax in this, let us, like our Lord, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross and scorned its shame, likewise begin to work toward this goal of regular giving of a generous proportion of the first fruits of God’s giving to us.

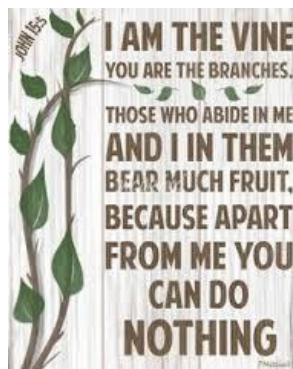
And let us do so not begrudgingly, but for the joy set before us – with a spirit of eagerness, cheerfulness, and love – to share the blessings of God with those placed into our care.

PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

SAVE THE DATE!! Sunday, August 11, during the Adult Bible Study hour, Lutheran missionaries Darwin and Alma Jackson will be speaking about their experiences as the roving missionaries in Mexico. In a nutshell, they provide support and education to Lutheran congregations through-out the country. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear first-hand the work of the Holy Spirit in Mexico and learn of our brothers and sisters in Christ living in Mexico.

Thanks! Or Muchas Gracias!

Mary



Gods Riches At Christ's Expense



God's Never Ending Love

Pack 4506

It is official! We have crossed over into our new ranks. Summer is here and we couldn't be more excited. We recently camped at Fort Flagler and had a great time. We had different stations set up at camp for the scouts to learn new things and brush up on old skills: setting up a tent with reviewing the outdoor code and leave no trace principles; starting a fire without matches and learning how to purify water; knot tying; and STOP(Stop, Think, Observe, Plan)/signaling/survival kit. We also roasted marshmallows, had a talk from a ranger, and took an adventurous hike to the bunkers.

We have several activities planned during the summer months, each one of our AOL scouts will be planning and hosting their own event for the Pack to enjoy as part of their requirements to make rank. Alessandro will be having a nerf war at Kiwanis Park in Bremerton on June 19th at 1pm. Jack will be hosting a nerf war at Blueberry Park in Bremerton on June 24th at 6pm. We also have daycamp coming up at the local fairgrounds in July where we will get to do archery, bb guns, first aid, crafts, cooking, games, an obstacle course, and many more fun activities. This is a great time to try out scouting if you know anyone interested. Tiger cubs are the only ones who have to have an adult come to daycamp with them, everyone else can come on their own or have a parent volunteer be with them as well. Registration and more information can be found on the Seattle BSA website under the Orca District.

Awesome Sweet Potato Casserole

Servings: 16 · From www.allrecipes.com



INGREDIENTS

- 1 (8 ounce) can crushed pineapple, drained
- 1/2 (14 ounce) bag flaked coconut, or more to taste
- 3 cups cooked mashed sweet potatoes
- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans

STEPS

- Preheat an oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.
- Beat the pineapple, coconut, sweet potatoes, white sugar, eggs, vanilla extract, milk, and 1/2 cup melted butter together in a large mixing bowl until smooth. Pour mixture into the prepared pan; set aside.
- Mix the flour, brown sugar, 1/3 cup butter, and pecans in a bowl. Sprinkle pecan mixture over the batter.
- Bake in the preheated oven until the casserole is bubbly and the topping is browned, about 30 minutes.

