

Peace Notes

A PUBLICATION OF PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEACE NOTES — FALL/WINTER EDITION



THE GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO PASTOR MARK

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and Peace to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

What is your purpose in life? This is a challenging and puzzling question. For thousands of years, philosophers have discussed and speculated about the purpose of life. Through faith, we know that God has created us and that we exist for His purpose. Furthermore, God's Word tells us that He "will fulfill His purpose for [us]" (Psalms 138:8)!

To help us understand our purpose, we will be exploring a number of texts that help us understand God's design for us. It's called **Stewards Living with Purpose**. We will spend four weeks looking at God's Word focusing on our God-given purpose. As His stewards, we are expected to manage faithfully all that God entrusts to us. We understand that God is the owner of everything and everyone. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to leave behind our selfish ambitions which focus on the here-and-now in order to embrace God's higher calling to fulfill His purpose. The Apostle Paul wrote, "For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One has died for all, therefore all have died; and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him Who for their sake died and was raised" (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).

The four weekly themes for our study are:

October 30, "Rescued by the Word"

You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God (1 Peter 1:23)

November 6, "Called to Serve as Saints"

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple (Revelation 7:14-15)

November 13, "Do All to the Glory of God"

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

November 20, "Be Generous in Every Way"

"You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9:11).

We pray that God will use these four weeks to draw you closer to Him and to open your eyes and hearts to the purposes He gives to you.

Serving Christ together,

Pastor Mark Schumm

God's Wish List - From the board of Outreach

This is the time of year many put together "lists." Some have "to do" lists that list daily tasks, projects to complete or goals.

Others make up their weekly "grocery list" especially as Thanksgiving approaches adding their "guest list" of who to invite. Then comes that important "Christmas wish list" for boys and girls to share with Santa. There may be other lists but what about God's wish list?

What might that include?

Looking into His "wish" book, we see:

1. Love the Lord your God with all your heart...*Matthew 22:37*
2. Love your neighbor as yourself. *Matthew 22: 39*

IF my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and PRAY and SEEK my face and TURN from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (*2 Chronicles 7:14*)

These are among the many commands (rather than wishes) and come with promises.

"If you remain in me and my words, ASK whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."
John 15:7

The Bible also includes the gifts God gives us freely: His love, mercy, forgiveness, peace, joy, faith, grace, hope, life, etc.

In this season of lists...does He get the top-the way you start your day? Do you ever make a list of His blessings as a way to spend time in prayer and give thanks? When it comes to giv-



ing, do you offer Him your best gift? After all, His best gift came wrapped in swaddling clothes. What will you offer Him this season?

God wish is for you to know Him and love Him. Put that at the top on your list today.

Here is a starter list of upcoming ways to be part of this season of blessing others:

1. Pack a shoe box for Operation Christmas Child as we assemble boxes for Samaritan Purse distribution centers to ship to children throughout the world with

the Gospel message on Sunday, November 6, after worship. Make a donation of \$10 for shipping or donate a "wow item"(toy).

2. Make a list of friends, neighbors or people who serve you to invite to our upcoming Advent/ Christmas services. Pray for them now.
3. Enjoy an afternoon of music and attend the Novi Chorales holiday concert on Sunday, December 4, 2022, here at Prince of Peace. Hear the sounds of joy!
4. Come serve at Family of God the third Monday each month and be a blessing!
5. Donate a blanket and the gift of warmth to Family of God

Keep CHRIST in CHRISTmas and put Him on top(not the bottom)

Remember: Every good and perfect gift is from Above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadow. In this ever changing world, go to God's wish book and find all He desires to give to you.





Life is a

Miracle



awpc 2022 Fall Banquet • October 27, 2022 • awpcfriends.org/events

Located at the Italian American Banquet & Conference Center (39200 Five Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48154) starting at 6 pm.

LIFE IS A MIRACLE, YOUR LIFE IS A MIRACLE.

When you consider everything that has happened for you to be here, you can clearly see that each person's life is an incredible miracle. We are not even talking about the odds that you are where you are in life or that you found AWPC, we mean the odds that you exist.

Your life began when two cells met and your entirely unique DNA was created. That was you, and it is a miracle that those exact two cells came together. The odds of that being 1 in 400 trillion. Now consider that the same thing had to happen throughout the lineage of your family tree in order for those exact two cells to exist that could create you. Now the odds that your two parents met so those cells could come together.

All in all, it is a statistical miracle that you exist, that your leaf is on your family tree. God has given you this life, He has given each of us our lives and they matter. And each person deserves the chance to experience life, to make the most of what God has given them. That is why we are here. So that preborn babies can have the opportunity to live their lives and so that families experiencing unexpected pregnancies can be supported, uplifted, and offered an abundant life in Jesus Christ. Mom, Dad, baby, child, teen, and preborn, God loves them all and has called us to do the same.

At this banquet, we will remember what a miracle life is. We will hear from our amazing guest speaker, Claire Culwell, and praise God that she survived abortion and was given the opportunity to grow and experience life.

Bible Studies Updates!

We offer Bible study opportunities continuously throughout the year! Check these updates for a study that appeals to you!

Thursday night Bible study and **Ladies' Bible study** we will continue through the Epic of Eden, a video series led by Dr. Sandra Richter who has a doctorate in Old Testament studies. We will continue to examine how God wove together that plan for salvation through Messiah Jesus.

Our meetings will be in person and via ZOOM up to Thanksgiving. Then to avoid the inclement weather, we will meet via ZOOM only. We have devices we can loan to those who would like to ZOOM but don't have a device or don't know how to make the connection. We can help you. Please talk to John or Kim Rinn to get you going!

Wednesday afternoon study will be on hiatus through the season of Advent and will resume in the new year! Watch for re-start updates!

Sunday morning Bible study will continue and topics include.....

Join us!



FOREVER YOUNG

Forever Young is a monthly gathering of seniors (and not so senior!) from the NW suburbs of the Detroit area LCMS congregations! We get together to enjoy a **monthly activity** and a meal together. Our purpose is to share and strengthen our bonds of Christian faith and fellowship with one another, and to reacquaint with and meet others from our sister Lutheran churches. We've had a grand time attending local concerts, museums, plays, lectures, Detroit riverboat tours and bus tours!! Our meals have been picnics, boxed lunches, pizza parties, potlucks and restaurant visits. Your friends, neighbors and relatives are always welcome too!

In November, we will be saluting our veterans! We'll be attending a veteran's tribute concert, "Our American Heroes" on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11 from 7:30-9:00. The concert is at St. Kenneth's Catholic Church in Plymouth, located on Haggerty Road south of 5 Mile Rd on the west side of the street. The cost is \$22 at the door. We have seats set aside for our group, but you must register soon by contacting Barb Karowich (734) 480-1644 or Linda Waara (734) 245-5733 or Christ Our Savior Lutheran church office (734) 522-6830. We have no dinner event planned this time, but please feel free to make your own arrangements with one another beforehand! **SEE YOU AT THE CONCERT!!**

This ADVENT Season

The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 27! We will be hosting mid-week Advent worship services here at Prince of Peace beginning on Wednesday, November 30 and continuing through Wednesday, December 15. The best part, **Advent Suppers** have returned! Make it a night out, enjoying dinner and worship. Dinner is at 6 and worship is at 7. For those of you who prefer online worship, service outlines will be sent via email each week for you follow along. Be sure to check your email and let the church office know if your email address has changed.

Christmas Eve worship will be at 5pm and Christmas Day at 9:30 am. Prince of Peace is not holding a New Year Eve worship service but will celebrate the new year on Sunday, January 1 at 9:30 am

Please plan to join us as we anticipate and celebrate the Birth of our Lord and Savior! Renew your plan to keep faith, prayer and worship at the forefront of the coming year!
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