

The Peacekeeper

February 2012



We are on the Web!

www.popwels.org

Pastor Steven Olson Church: 706-860-1600 Cell: 706-339-5886 email: pastor@popwels.org
Mr. Jason Schultz School: 706-860-1655 Cell: 706-294-0328 email: family@popwels.org

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and is located at: 3703 Old Petersburg Road in Martinez, GA. 30907

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." 1 Peter 4:8

Sunday Worship Schedule

- * Worship is at
- * 8:00 am & 10:30 am
- * 9:15 am Sunday School for children 3 yrs and up
- * 9:15 am Bible Study for teens and adults
- * Holy Communion for congregants is offered on the 1st and 3rd Sunday each month
- * A staffed nursery is available during all Sunday morning events (Changing stations are available in both restrooms)

Lenten Worship Schedule

- * Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
- * February 22nd—March 29th
- * Supper is served before the service beginning at 6:00 pm. All are welcome!
- * Holy Communion is offered on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd.
- * A self-service nursery is available for your use.
- * Changing stations are located in both restrooms.

Dear Friends,

Wikipedia defines Valentine's Day this way: *"(It) is an annual holiday held on February 14 celebrating love and affection between intimate companions. The day is named after one or more early Christian martyrs named Saint Valentine, and was established by Pope Gelasius I in 496 AD. It was deleted from the General Roman Calendar of saints in 1969 by Pope Paul VI. It is traditionally a day on which lovers express their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). The day first became associated with romantic love in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished."*

So "love is in the air!" But what do we really know about love. St. Peter's take on the subject from this one verse of the Bible travels down an avenue few like to take! Love is all about forgiveness! If you want to do something special for the people you care most about in life, then forgive their faults and their sins and love them as God has loved them in Christ.

The Bible says in another place, "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

In his Sermon on the Mount Jesus taught his disciples that Christians are to "love your enemies" (Matthew 5:43).

You don't have to read very far in the Bible to realize that if we are to learn anything at all about love, we

will have to learn it from God because human beings aren't inclined to have a clue of what it means to love.

For most, love is a very selfish thing. It is easy to love those who love us back. If we aren't receiving any affection, we are reluctant to share any either! If we show affection, we have expectations of getting something in return. So, for many, love is not about sacrifice. Love is not about forgiving one another as God has so graciously forgiven us for Jesus' sake. Love is often very self serving. Maybe instead of some gushy Hallmark card to give on Valentine's Day, we could do something for those whom we have hurt. Or, better yet, maybe we could extend a kindness to someone who feels guilty and sad because he (or she) knows that they have hurt us deeply. After all, "love covers over a multitude of sins."

Listen to people talk about Valentine's Day this year. Ask them what they are going to do that day. If I were a betting man, my guess would be that most people aren't thinking about doing something special for their enemies or for those who have sinned against them and caused all kinds of hurt feelings. My guess is that most people will show kindness to the same folks they do year after year. My guess is that the people we love will love us back.

I wonder what would happen if this year for Valentine's Day we asked the people we love to join us in extending our love and kindness to those who would least expect to receive such expressions from us. I wonder what a difference we could make in the lives of many people this year if we patterned our lives after Christ.

In Christ,
Pastor Olson

Valentine's Day



Dinner and a Movie—We would love for you to enjoy a steak dinner with your Prince of Peace family on Saturday evening, February 11th at 5:00 pm. The cost for the meal is \$15/person. The menu includes steak and baked potato, salad, desert and all the trimmings. Please make payment to Raymond Bain on or before February 5th so that the food may be ordered.



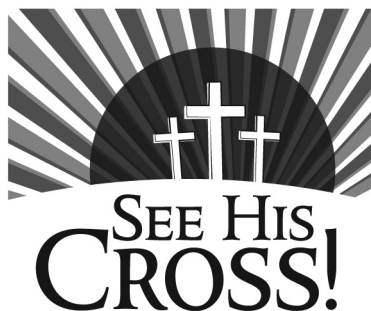
Crocheting Class—Saturday, February 11th & 25th—10:00 am

Come and join the ladies from Prince of Peace for a morning of crocheting and fellowship. To know what size needle(s) to bring contact Kelly Egebrecht (706-364-7340) or Barb Smith (706-860-9936).

Whether you are an old pro or a novice, you will enjoy yourself!



Lenten Services



SURPRISING WORDS FROM OUR SAVIOR'S PASSION

In this series, we receive insights into God's plan of salvation for us as Jesus goes on his journey to the cross.

The Lenten schedule:

Feb 22	Jn 18:4-11	"Put Your Sword Away!"
Mar 1	Jn 18:19-24	"It's No Secret!"
Mar 8	Mk 14:61-62	"It's God's Plan from Beginning to End!"
Mar 15	Lk 23:26-31	"Shed No Tears for Jesus!"
Mar 22	Jn 17:1-5	"Glory Be To Jesus!"
Mar 29	Jn 18:36-37	"Our King Is Crucified!"

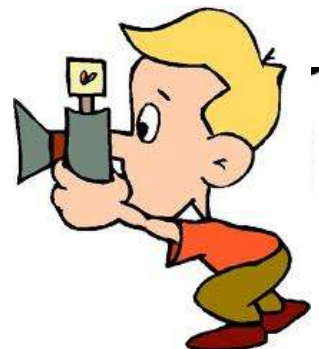
WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM

Church Directory

We hope to print a new church directory by the end of the month. A rough draft of the addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of our membership is sitting on the table in the narthex area of the church. Please look it over sometime soon and let us know if all the information there is correct. If changes are to be made,

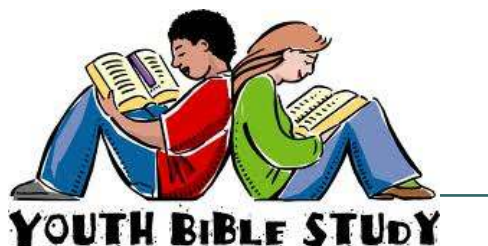
make the changes on the page. If everything is correct, put a check (✓) mark next to your name. If you want a different picture taken for the directory, speak to Mike Hilbert about getting your picture taken after one of the services.

Thanks for your help!



ROCK Ministry—Parent / Student Meeting

Parents of all teens between 6th-12th Grade are encouraged to attend a short informational meeting following the second service February 5th. Parents and teens will learn about the upcoming ski trip with Hope Lutheran (Irmo, SC) at the end of February (23-26), the WELS International Youth Rally (June 27-30) in Knoxville, TN, along with upcoming Bible Classes, and service opportunities!



Get Up and Walk

Parents, this coming Sunday, February 5th, we will have a special guest tell the story of Jesus healing the paralyzed man (Mark 2:1-12). While Kevin Grubb is not paralyzed, he knows

what it means to be unable to walk since both his legs are amputated. In spite of this loss, Kevin, like the healed man, realizes that the real miracle is the forgiveness God uses to heal our sin-filled hearts.

Also the children will be singing "Agnes Dei" during communion so we look forward to practicing in Sunday School and hearing their voices in worship!



New Sunday Morning Bible Class begins on February 5th!

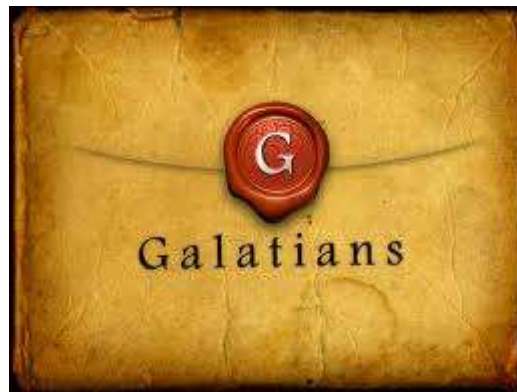
Instinctively we feel an urge to do something to get right with God. That temptation has always plagued the Christian Church. In medieval times, people believed that the penance, good works and merits of the individual coupled with Christ's work earned a person eternal life. It is no coincidence that Martin

Luther considered Galatians his favorite epistle. He was so attached to it that he considered himself "married" to it. It was in fact his "Katherine von Bora." in 21st century America we still love this epistle because it teaches us that salvation is purely the gift of God, by grace alone, through faith alone in

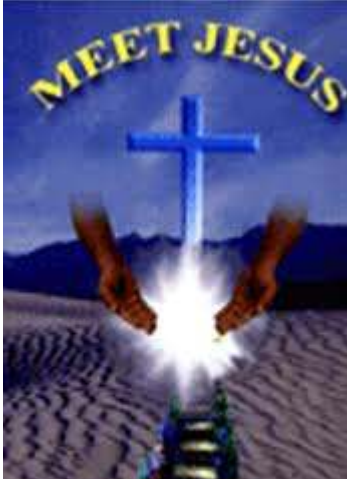
Jesus Christ, without any works on man's part.

Join us at 9:15 am on Sunday

and walk with us through the pages of this short epistle so that you might learn to love it as much as your dear spouse!



Who do you know that wants to get to know Jesus better?



If you know someone who is struggling to with every day life issues, maybe even matters of life and death, God has brought you into that person's life to point the individual to Jesus. You can help that person to face the challenges of every day life by sharing with them the good news that Jesus has lived and died to save us all. We offer introductory classes to Christianity to anyone who is interested in reviewing the basic teachings of the Bible or to those who have no understanding at all of the Christian faith. Don't be shy about asking the pastor to work with you and your friends to gain a better understanding of what God has done for us in Christ. There is nothing more important for us to do with our lives than to share with others our hope in Christ. Call the pastor if you would like to introduce a friend to Jesus. Maybe we can do it together!

Prince of Peace Preschool is Going Full—Time!



In case you haven't heard, the budget that the congregation adopted for 2012 included plans to operate our preschool full—time beginning this fall (2012). We will still offer a part-time option as we have the past several years but will now offer families the options of going 5 days a week with before or after school options as well.

To promote this good news, Prince of Peace Preschool recently partici-

pated in a preschool fair and handed out over 40 packets of information to prospective parents.

Some of our preschool moms have been sharing their positive experiences on facebook with friends!

You will likely notice new preschool signs near the road over the next few months!

But there is more to be done. You can help as well. Tell co-workers, neighbors, and friends about the changes!

Pray for the preschool, our teachers (Ms. Chris Henry and Ms. Marie Herndon), the families, and that God may be glorified as we share his Gospel message with our community!

Check out what's going on in our preschool on our church's website and the church's facebook page!

