

Catchall

APRIL
2014



Calvary Free Lutheran Church

PO Box 303
Arlington, SD 57212
605-983-5254



From The Pastor's Desk: **Hallelujah, What A Savior!**

“He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth. When He was reviled, he did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting Himself to Him who judges justly. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls “ (1 Peter 2:22-25 (ESV).

Easter is always a wonderful event that many of us look forward to celebrating with friends and family. It is something I look forward to with great anticipation! As a pastor, I get the privilege of preaching the "Good News" of Jesus Christ rising from the grave. It is the greatest

privilege anyone could participate in. But what are we really celebrating?

Often times this blessed holiday can be overshadowed by chocolate bunnies and preparations for family gatherings. In the hustle and bustle of preparing we can easily become detracted by everything that surrounds Easter, and miss the true meaning of Easter itself. We sometimes miss the forest for the trees, meaning we miss the big picture of the redemption that was realized and made available the day Jesus rose from the dead.

In our text the apostle Peter encourages his readers who are experiencing suffering and persecution. Peter reminds us of a simple truth in his potent epistle, that in this life there will be suffering, but because of what Jesus has accomplished through His life, death and resurrection, that suffer-

ing will not be in vain. Those who have and continue to place their trust in Jesus have, *"an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time (1:4&5)."*

Jesus fulfilled all that the prophets wrote concerning the Messiah and one day Jesus will return to bring those who are His home to live with Him in a place with no more sin, sickness and death. Somebody say, "Amen!" This is what gives the believer in Christ Jesus hope in the midst of trials, joy in the midst of pain, comfort in the midst of sorrow; because by His wounds, we are healed.

Through Christ's atoning sacrifice He has provided a way for us to have a genuine relationship with the Triune God of all creation. Easter is

(continued on page 2)

when believers examine their response to this great gift and allow the power of God's saving grace to inspire and empower them to become more like Jesus and less like themselves. This Easter season don't miss the forest for the trees!

Do not allow any distraction to hinder your celebration of the saving work of Jesus Christ! Make it personal this year and allow the Holy Spirit to ignite a passion in your relationship with Jesus. He loves you more than you could ever know; He loved you enough to be nailed on a cross in order to save you, He loved you so much that the tomb couldn't hold Him, and because He lives, you too can face tomorrow. Hallelujah, what a Savior!

~Pastor Brian Ricke

Children In Worship

This has been shared by several moms and grandmas who thought it worth repeating here. It's from a blog titled "That Mom" by a stay at home mom to two little boys who happens to be a pastor's wife.

Dear Parents with Young Children in Church,

You are doing something really, really important. I know it's not easy. I see you with your arms overflowing, and I know you came to church already tired. Parenting is tiring. Really tiring.

I watch you bounce and sway trying to keep the baby quiet, juggling the infant car seat and the diaper bag as you find a seat. I see you wince as your child cries. I see you anxiously pull things out of your bag of tricks to try to quiet them.

And I see you with your toddler and your preschooler. I watch you cringe when your little girl asks an innocent question in a voice that might not be an inside voice let alone a church whisper. I hear the exasperation in your voice as you beg your child to just sit, to be quiet as you feel everyone's eyes on you. Not everyone is looking, but I know it feels that way.

I know you're wondering, is this worth it? Why do I bother? I know you often leave church more exhausted than fulfilled. But what you are doing is so important.

When you are here, the church is filled with a joyful noise. When you are here, the Body of Christ is more fully present. When you are here, we are reminded that this worship thing we do isn't about Bible Study or personal, quiet contemplation but coming together to worship as a community where all are welcome, where we share in the Word and Sacrament together. When you are here, I have hope that these pews won't be empty in ten years when your kids are old enough to sit quietly and behave in worship. I know that they are learning how and why we worship now, before it's too late. They are learning that worship is important.

I see them learning. In the midst of the cries, whines, and giggles, in the midst of the crinkling of pretzel bags and the growing pile of crumbs I see a little girl who insists on going two pews up to share peace with someone she's never met. I hear a little boy slurping (quite loudly) every last drop of his communion wine out of the cup determined not to miss a drop of Jesus. I watch a child excitedly color a cross and point to one in the front of the sanctuary. I hear echoes of Amens just a few seconds after the rest of the community says it together. I watch a boy just learning to read try to sound out the words in the worship book or count his way to Hymn 672. Even on weeks when I can't see my own children learning because, well, it's one of those mornings, I can see your children learning.

I know how hard it is to do what you're doing, but I want you to know, it matters. It matters to me. It matters to my children to not be alone in the pew. It matters to the congregation to know that families care about faith, to see young people... and even on those weeks when you can't see the little moments, it matters to your children.





It matters that they learn that worship is what we do as a community of faith, that everyone is welcome, that their worship matters. When we teach children that their worship matters, we teach them that they are enough right here and right now as members of the church community. They don't need to wait until they can believe, pray or worship a certain way to become welcome here, and I know adults who are still looking to be known that.

It matters that children learn that they are an integral part of this church, that their prayers, their songs, and even their badly (or perfectly timed depending on who you ask) cries and whines are a joyful noise because it means they are present.

I know it's hard, but thank you for what you do when you bring your children to church. Please know that your family – with all of its noise, struggle, commotion, and joy – are not simply tolerated, you are a vital part of the community gathered in worship."

APRIL 2014

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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|--|-----------|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | 1 7:00 pm WMF (women's) Bible Study Meeting | 2 7:00 PM LENT SERVICE | 3 1:30pm WMF (women's) Bible Study Meeting | 4 | 5 |
| 6 9:00 am Prayer 9:30 am SS 10:30 am Worship Allen Nelson's 80th BD | 7 | 8 | 9 7:00 PM LENT SERVICE | 10 6:30pm Deacon's Meeting 8:00pm Full Council | 11 | 12 10:00 am-12Noon BEAD FOR LIFE PARTY 5:30pm -Family Bible Study |
| 13 PALM SUNDAY 9:00 am Prayer 9:30 am SS 10:30 am Worship  | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 9:30 am -Quilting! 7:00 pm- MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE | 18 7:00 pm- GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE  | 19 |
| 20 EASTER 6:15 pm-Sunrise Service 7:30-8:30 am-Breakfast 9:15 am- EASTER CELEBRATION  | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:00 am Prayer 9:30 am SS 10:30 am Worship  | | 29 | 30 | | | |

CFLC CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

The council met on 3/13/2014. Joel called the meeting to order and led with scripture and prayer.

Present: Joel Schneider, Mike Barker, Marty Haufschild, Dan Kleinjan, Paul Danielson, Larry Groon, Jody Weiss, Joe Spilde and Alan Boyd.

SECRETARY REPORT:

The minutes of last month's meeting were read.

Motion made to approve minutes by M. Barker, 2nd by P. Danielson, motion carried

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer's report was given by Marty Haufschild.

Total funds for the month of January = \$46,341.12, General Fund Balance = \$19,615.78.

Motion made to approve by D. Kleinjan, 2nd by A. Boyd, motion carried.

TRUSTEES REPORT:

Water softener, furnace and air conditioner have been installed. Al presented a preliminary draft of the building project. Parsonage roof is leaking and may need new shingles. Motion to get a bid and shingle the parsonage by M. Barker, 2nd by M. Haufschild, motion carried.

DEACONS REPORT:

Connie wants to do a "Bead For Life" fundraising event, all were in approval. Communion rail expense has been donated. There was a wonderful response for recent funeral.

PASTORS REPORT:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Rear parking lot plans were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Estimate of 4 long pews came in at \$5,250. Request to have coffee party for Allen Nelson's 80th birthday on 4/6/2014, all in approval. City bill was discussed and Joe will check with the city finance.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by L. Groon and 2nd by A. Boyd, motion carried.

D. Kleinjan closed in prayer.

Secretary: Joe Spilde



Bead for Life
ERADICATING POVERTY
ONE BEAD AT A TIME®

You Are Invited...

Bead for Life Party - Fundraiser

Saturday, April 12

10 am - 12 Noon

Open House - Come and Go as you wish

This is a fundraiser for the

Youth Mission Trip to Brazil in July.

Part of the proceeds will also benefit women in 3rd world countries!

Contact Connie Ricke for questions.

HOPE to See You There!

An Update From the Voice of Martyrs

Vani, a 30-year-old widow, spent 15 days in jail after being charged with kidnapping and forcing a child to convert to Christianity. During her two-week stay, she witnessed to more than 70 women, 14 of whom became Christians. Vani was charged in connection with an incident in early February, when she helped a teenager and introduced her to some other believers. Vani was arrested after the girl's parents reported her to police. While Vani was in jail, the jailer encouraged her to share the gospel and pray for the other women because he had seen dramatic change in those who accepted Christ. Vani has been released from jail and is now interested in continuing prison ministry.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

Matthew 25:40 says....."I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Our Calvary Free Church family has the opportunity to help supply the Arlington Food Pantry with the following non-food items which we will be collecting until Sunday, April 13th.

toothpaste....toothbrushes....shampoo and conditioner....deodorant....toilet paper....bar soap....body wash...dish soap....laundry soap

Calvary Free Mission Outreach



CHRIST THE LORD
IS **RISEN TODAY!**



We have another new book in the library: "Words That Hurt Words That Heal" by Carole Mayhall. Easy to read but very important, about the tongue which is small, but has an awesome power. The author lists the tongue's five most troublesome slips as bragging, complaining, gossip, unchecked anger, and careless remarks. James compares it to a wild horse, a wandering ship, or a raging forest fire.

Proverbs has much to say on this subject. Prov. 19:21: The tongue has the power of life and death. 10:11: The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life. 10:20: When a good man speaks, he is worth these virtues tightly. Write them deep within your heart. 27:2: Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; someone else, and not your own lips. 13:3: He who guards his lips guards his soul, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin. 12:18: Reckless words pierce like a sword but the tongue of the wise brings healing. (Swallowing angry words is easier than having to eat them).

Lines from the LIBRARY

Henry Ward Beecher, 19th century preacher: Speak when you are angry and you'll make the best speech you'll ever regret.

James 3:19-11: With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?

Mayhall reminds us: Remember, to God our thoughts are words. It is a proven psychological fact, as well as a truth of Scripture, that we are what we think. What we think about is going to spill out in what we say. That's why our thoughts need to be wholesome so that our speech will become more pleasing to God.

Every morning this should be our prayer: Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips (Psalm 141:3). ~Ferne Liebsch

The Women's Retreat at the ARC was titled, It is Well with My Soul, focusing on the theme of "Peace". The three speakers and worship leaders were Amy Skogerboe, Jen Erickson and Katy Dahl. This group of gals were apparently an encouragement for more of our younger women to attend, praising the Lord and worshipping together as AFLC women. Another real blessing is the Christian fellowship enjoyed by the three of us from CFLC while traveling and rooming together.

We were immersed in the Word of God about having peace, *true peace*, in our lives. Here are tidbits from my notes that I hope will be food for thought to search the scriptures and accept God's gift of peace as it is promised in His Word.

John 14:27 *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

Colossians 3:15 *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.*

Romans 8:6 *The mind of a sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace.*

John 20:19 *On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"*

The interesting lesson was given to us that Jesus came to the disciples, with the doors locked. He comes to us also, thru any walls we may build around us and comes to say, "Peace be with you!"

Just a few more one liners to share:

- ~Search for God, not just His will.
- ~He hasn't failed before. Why would He start now with me?
- ~Trust is not achieved. It is received.
- ~What is a one word prayer? JESUS
- ~The price was paid by Jesus for ALL our sin.
- ~"Be still and know that I am God."

In closing, **John 16:33** *Because of Jesus we can claim the peace of Christ, even in the most troubled times.*

-submitted by Jan Mobley

Area Bible Studies

Please call or email for more information.

605-983-5254

info@cflconline.org

Arlington

Wed. 8:30 p.m.
At Calvary Free
Larry- 605-983-3316

Lake Preston

Wed. 7:00 p.m.
Jan-605-847-4700

Oldham

Wed. 7:30 p.m.
Joel- 605-482-8404

Brookings

Wed. 7:00 p.m.
Bob- 605-693-4668

Family Bible Studies

Friday 6:30 p.m.
Elizabeth- 605-983-5098
Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Jesse or Holli Spilde
530-5424 or 230-1052

Youth Bible Study

Sun. 5:30 p.m.
At Calvary Free

Get Plugged In!!



**Missionary Focus for February
~Pastor Paul & Becky Abel and family~**

Missionary Focus for the Month:

Pastor Paul and Becky Abel serve AFLC World Missions in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil. Their daughter Joanna, her husband Silvo and three children, Deborah, Sarah and David live in Brazil. Their other daughter Christina and her husband Daniel also live in Brazil. Andrew is married and lives and works in the Minneapolis area and Matthew is serving as a STA in Brazil. Since 1985, the Paul Abel's have established three churches in suburbs of Curitiba, as well as the Brazil ARCA retreat center, where they now make their home. Paul and Becky are rejoicing in the dedication of a fourth church. This church is in the suburb of Campo Largo.

Prayer Concerns: Ministry among mothers & infants & their salvation: evangelism opportunities, The faithful commitment of members to our churches emotional and spiritual stability, Christina and Daniel and they live and work in Brazil, For Joanna and Silvo their work in the church and their 3 children, For Paul as he supervises the missionary work in Curitiba and reaches out to other Free Lutheran Congregations through special weekend courses, God's continued provision for the work in Brazil, For safety and health

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