

"I know I can"

One of my son's favorite books is the old book "The Little Engine that Could." If you remember the book, this little train engine filled with all kinds of toys and good food for children breaks down on its way over the mountain. The toys then try to find another train engine to get them over the mountain. They can't find one at first, but then this little Blue Train Engine comes along. She is not sure she can get them over the mountain, but she is willing to try.

If you remember, the repeated line in the book, which is what it is most famous for, is the Little Engine saying, "I think I can, I think I can, I think I can."

Now it is a great phrase if you are trying to motivate yourself to pull train cars over a mountain, but it isn't so great when we think about our faith in Christ. We can't "think I can" our way to heaven through our good works. We can't adopt the attitude "I think I can" when it comes to faith matters because Scripture is clear we cannot affect or contribute to our salvation. It all has to be by grace and God's power.

It also isn't the right attitude when approaching whether we <u>think</u> the Lord can use us for some good. Rather, we should confidently say, "I know I can"... be used by my Lord for good. "I know I can"... be used in service to Christ and His church. "I know I can"... be empowered by the Holy Spirit to carry out His work.

I was reminded of that this week as I was studying the account of the Lord appearing to Moses in the burning bush. The Lord hand picks Moses to be the future leader and spokesman for Israel. The Lord says to him, "Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

Moses' response? **"Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"** Moses is saying, "I am a nobody. Why select me?"

The Lord reassures him. "I will be with you." God gives him the signs of his staff turning into a snake and his hand turning leprous to prove to Moses He would be with him, but still it wasn't enough for Moses.

He says, **"Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue."** Moses was convinced, "I think I <u>can't</u>." He is trying to convince God that there must be someone else to select for this important task.

But the Lord reminds him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak."

Amazingly, Moses still isn't convinced by this. He is still says to himself, "I think I can't", as he says, **"Oh, my Lord, please send someone else."**

It can be the attitude we can be tempted to adopt as well. I don't think I am gifted enough or eloquent enough or confident enough to fulfill your calling, O Lord. Yet the Lord would treat us the same as Moses, with patience and then with a reminder. **"Who gave you your mouth? Who gave you your lips?"**

Therefore, the right attitude for us as Christians should never be "I think I <u>can't</u>", but rather to say, "If you will, O Lord, I know I <u>can</u>."

Maybe you have considered getting involved in church, but aren't sure if you are the right person. Well, put that thinking to rest. Know you can through Christ.

Maybe you have considered speaking up to that friend or family member about your Christian faith and talking with them about Jesus, but you are not sure whether you can. Well, put that thinking to rest. Know you can by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Maybe some of you don't think you can take on that leadership role in the community or step into that management position at work. Well, put that thinking to rest. Know you can if the Father wills. He will equip you for the task.

Therefore, the best thinking isn't, "I think I can", but that "I know I can" with the Father's blessing, the Son's strengthening, and the Spirit's guiding.

Moses didn't think he could and the Lord had the last laugh as He used Moses as a leader over Israel for forty years. You may not think you can too, but remember who gave you your mouth. With the Lord, <u>you can</u>!

Peace to you in Christ! Pastor Chris

Worshipped			Com	<u>muned</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u> 2	023
February 4	267	240	79	38	7000 6	681
February 11	199	162	0	134	10,582 6	014
February 18	161	167	130	107	6200 5	828
February 25	165	163	95	134	5893 4	411
Averages	198	127	76	98	7419 6	5132

Lent Midweek Series 2024

"Walking with Jesus: St. John Passion" This Lenten season, we are going to be going through a Lent Midweek series called, "Walking with Jesus: St. John Passion." We will go through the Passion account of St. John. Here is a brief synopsis of the series:

"Our midweek Lenten services prepare us to consider our identity and connection with the Passion of Christ as the baptized children of God. We do so through the eyes of the Holy Evangelist, Saint John, as we hear, in John 18–19, of Jesus' betrayal and arrest, Jesus facing Annas and Caiaphas, Jesus before Pilate, Jesus delivered, Jesus crucified, and Jesus' death and burial. Look for this Lenten season to provide a deeper understanding of your Baptism into the passion and death of Christ, with the result as Paul describes it: we are "always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies" (2 Corinthians

4:10)."



Lenten Services and Dinners

A Lenten Dinner will be served at 5:15 pm and will be followed by a Lenten Service at 6:30 pm on the following Wednesdays: 3/6, 3/13, and 3/20.



The Trustees will be providing the meal on 3/6 which will include Chicken, Broasted Potatoes, Cole Slaw, and Italian Bread.



Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Worship Services



We will have worship service Maundy Thursday on March 28th at 6:30 pm and Good Friday worship service at March 29th at 7:00 pm.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30th 9:00 am - 10:30 am



Children up to 12 years old are welcome

to join us for an Easter Egg Hunt. The children will hear a special message, search for eggs, and enjoy some special treats.

Children should bring their own basket for the egg hunt, and bring a friend.

EASTER BREAKFAST

On March 31st there will be an Easter Breakfast

in between the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Easter

Services.



A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex on the table under the Project Tree.





Scrip –Youth Group Fundraiser: Gift Card Order due March 17th

Use for Easter Baskets or pay for everyday expenses, AND help our church's youth at the same time. Available cards include Kohls, Target, Walmart, Best Buy, Office Depot, Amazon, Home Depot, Menards, Pick N Save, Festival, Walgreens, Kwik Trip, BP, Speedway, Panera, Starbucks, and more.



Pre-paid orders **are due by Sunday, March 22nd**, to get cards the following week. Order forms are in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Gina Janke, 262-880-6207 or <u>gmaiorana@aol.com</u>.

MONTH (UPCOMING HOLIDAY)	Order by (Sunday noon):	Cards Available by:		
MARCH (EASTER)	3/17	3/22		



The Youth Gathering kids are hosting a carry-out spaghetti dinner **on March 9th from 5-7:00 pm.** Meal prices are as follows: \$12.00 per adult, \$10.00 for Seniors, \$8.00 for kids ages 4-12, and free for ages 3 and under. Gluten Free options are available. All dinners come with one dessert. We are also asking for donations of pre-packaged homemade desserts for this event. They can be dropped off to the kitchen on Friday, March 8th or Saturday morning, March 9th. Tickets on sale thru Sunday, March 3rd. Please see a Youth member after services for tickets or contact Julie Maiwald at 262-488-1259.Thank you!

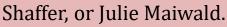
YOUTH GROUP ROLLER SKATING

We will be going roller skating on Sunday, April 14th, at Traxside Roller Rink in Burlington. The event is open to all Youth. Younger siblings are welcome to attend also. Cost will be \$10.00 per person and includes pizza and soda. The concession stand will also be



available for other purchases. We will meet at church at 1:00 pm that day to caravan/carpool down to the rink. A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex. Please sign up by April 3rd so we can give the roller rink an accurate count of how many people to expect as the rink is reserved solely for our group that day.

FUSED GLASS FUNDRAISER FOR YOUTH GATHERING Join us on **Friday, April 19th, from6:00-8:00 pm**, or on **Saturday, April 20th, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm** for a fused glass class. You have the option of making either two plant stakes or three sun catchers (see samples below). The cost is just \$45.00 per person and open to ages 10 and up. These would make great Mother's Day gifts! We will be serving light refreshments at this event. Sign-up sheets are located in the Narthex. Space is limited to 20 per class so sign up soon! Classes need to be paid for by April 1st. Payment can be given to Amy Herron, Cara





Next Youth Group Night Sunday, March 10th from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

MILWAUKEE PRETZEL FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who ordered pretzels from us. We earned over \$700.00 for our trip!





The Board of Fellowship will be sponsoring another Talent Show. It will be held on **Saturday, April 20th at 5:30 pm** (following the service). If you have a talent you would like to share please sign up on form located in the Narthex under the project tree. Subs, chips, and drinks will be provided. Come join us for fun, fellowship, and laughter.

THANK YOU!

To everyone that ordered Easter Flowers. Please wait until after the 10:30 Easter Service to take them home. Each plant will have a label with your name on it. Your donations are very much appreciated!





DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS Daylight Saving Time begins on March 10th. Don't forget to "Spring Ahead".

Spring Craft Fair & Bake Sale

On **Saturday, March 23rd, from 9:00 am-2 pm**, Concordia School will have their Craft Fair & Bake Sale. It will feature: Home baked goods & bread, Spring/Easter decorations, baby blankets/afghans, hand embroidered dish towels & aprons. Easter goodies, wood crafts, bird houses/feeders, coasters, quilts, Tupperware, home canned goods, Christian books & cards and many additional crafter/vendor booths. This event is sponsored by the Faith Lutheran Church's Christian Service League. It will be in the gymnasium at 8500 Durand Ave., Sturtevant.





The Giving Tree



The Fellowship Committee would like to thank the Prince of Peace Family and Friends. Prince of Peace sincerely thanks everyone whose prayers and donations have helped reach many of the goals of the Giving Tree. Through the amazing response of many members and visitors, we have reached 75% of the total estimated cost. This generosity is a blessing to Prince of Peace and the Lord!!

Here are some updates on some of the projects:

- 1. The new refrigerator is already making church events easier. Everyone loves the larger size and the working ice maker. The previous refrigerator is still in the kitchen and is being used for child care/preschool.
- 2. The communion rail cushions are a comfortable addition (even though we are still working on how to keep them in place).
- 3. You will notice, during Easter, that instead of removing Jesus from the cross, he will be covered with a black cloth. This is being done to reduce the risk of damage to him and to the individuals who remove and remount him.
- 4. The new windows are going in and should result in some energy savings, be more secure, and work correctly. Church members are volunteering to install the windows.

If anyone has any ideas for the Giving Tree, please tell a member of Fellowship or Pastor about them. As ideas come up, the Giving Tree will be updated with new items. It is always your choice if, or what, you contribute and any amount is appreciated. Thanks also to those who chose to donate anonymously.

Thank God for Prince of Peace and its members and friends!!

INFORMATION FOR VOTING IN 2024



(all on Tuesdays) April 2nd Spring Non-Partisan General Election and Presidential Preference Election August 13th Fall Partisan Primary Election November 5th Fall Partisan General Election and Presidential Election



Bible Study Opportunities



<u>Sunday Morning Bible Class</u>: Offered both in-person and online through Zoom at 10:30 a.m. The link is sent in email. Studying the topic: "Hot Topics"

Tuesday Morning Bible Class: Meets at church at 11:00 a.m. Studying Philippians.

Friday Men's Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. every Friday at Prince of Peace. We are studying the book of Hebrews.

Saturday W.O.W (Women of Worth) Gathering: Every 2nd Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Their gatherings consist of a devotion/study, food, and an activity/craft.

<u>Saturday Men's Breakfast Bible Study:</u> Meets every 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:00 am. Studying a video series called, "The Great Deceiver". Next Study is March 16th.

<u>Saturday Bible Study for College/Post-College Age:</u> Led by Joe Herron. They are examining the book "5 Things You Can Do to Witness Christ." Contact Joe at 262-744-2730 if interested. Next Meetings on Saturday, March 2nd and 16th at 10:00 am.

WOMEN OF WORTH LADIES FELLOWSHIP NEWS

WOW picks back up on **Saturday, March 9th at 10:00 am.** WOW monthly gatherings are for ALL women of the church.

We would love for you to join us for the wonderful food and fellowship

that we enjoy. Please let us know if you are interested by contacting Erika Skuhra at 262-

818-3675, Corinne Lockie at 262-383-1235, or Dana Johnson at 309-363-6031.

CARING HEARTS MINISTRY

The Caring Hearts Ministry will be meeting during Sunday School on the 1st Sunday of each month. Caring Hearts is part of the Stephen Ministry program here at Prince of Peace. This program is open to all women who may need another woman to talk with. If anyone has any questions, please contact Tracie Ratz at 262-681-2987.

BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

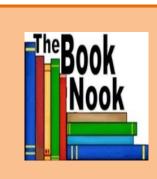
updated library. Any appropriate

We are looking for book donations for the

books such as devotions or history would be

PRINCE OF PEACE BOOK NOOK

Do you love to read, and have books that you would like to recycle? Please drop them off for others to enjoy! All appropriate books are welcome. If you see a book you would like to read, we ask for \$1.00 donation. All proceeds will be used for church repairs.



appreciated.







HEARTS THAT CARE

HOLY COMMUNION FOOD NEEDS FOR MARCH

For the month of March, the food pantry is asking for the following items.



Chicken Noodle Soup Egg Noodles Peanut Butter Side Dishes

Instant Potatoes Jelly



The pantry continues to be very busy. Even with two days of bad weather, the pantry served 1077 individuals in 300 families in January, and quite a few were new clients who had not been to the pantry before. They are also looking for children's Bible storybooks, Brown Paper Bags and lightly used plastic bags. Thanks to all of you who donate to our pantry. We could not continue this ministry without your help!

AMAZING GRAYS SENIORS LUNCHEONS

Senior luncheons will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month thru May 2024.

The schedule is as follows:

Luncheons at Raymond Community Church (8217 West 6 Mild Road, Franksville) are scheduled for January, March, and May. Luncheons at North Cape Lutheran Church (2644 Raynor Avenue, Franksville) will host the luncheons in December, February, and

April.

Entertainment will begin at 11:00 am and the meal will be served at noon.

There is no cost, but a freewill offering is accepted and all area



seniors are welcome.







March News from Child Care

REGISTRATION 2024-2025

Prince of Peace Preschool, as of March 1st, has open registration for the 2024-2025 school year. Please note that registration is open to the community and taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. The programs currently being offered are:

M-W-F mornings (4 year olds) 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

T-TH mornings (3 year olds) 9:00 am - 11:30 am



Year round child care (2-1/2 – 9 years old) open from 7:00 am - 6:00 pm

If you know anyone who is interested in preschool or child care, please make sure they contact us. *Word of mouth is our best advertising source!* We appreciate so much any recommendations you may give about our program of eligible students! Thank you for supporting us in this way!

PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Our 11th Annual Classic Car Show is scheduled for Saturday, August 17th, from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Pre-registration forms will be available on the website in the near future. We had over 200 cars in attendance last year and are looking forward to another great year. Packer HOP LeRoy Butler will be joining us and will be selling autographed copies of his cookbook, pictures, jerseys, and other merchandise. We will also have fresh, delicious concessions on hand and a few of our local vendors. If you have any questions, please contact Carla Able or Julie Maiwald.

CALENDAR



Please take careful note of the special days and days closed on the Center calendar. Also, note that holiday breaks may be slightly different than Racine Unified's although we try to follow their schedule fairly closely.

SNOW DAYS – During the coming months of winter, we may close school due to the snowy or cold weather. To find out if we will be closed, listen to the radio or watch the news. If Racine Unified School District has called off school **due to weather** – we will automatically be closed as well.



We are now enrolling 3K (currently full), 4K and childcare for the 2024-2025 school year. If interested, contact Carla Abel by phone at 262-639-1277 or email at poppscc.racine@gmail.com



March Birthdays

- 2 William Wellerritter
- 3 Fennic Kilb
- 3 Jordan Reeves
- 5 Connor Borkowski
- 6 Jayne Badtke
- 6 Douglas Johnson
- 8 Alyssa Bukowski
- 9 Michael Kauth
- 10 Shirley Ludvigsen
- 10 Corrine Lynn
- 12 Nickole Wefler
- 13 Katherine Klingelhofer
- 13 Tim Schroettner
- 13 Bentley Wefler
- 16 Justin Reeves
- 17 Amanda Koch
- 17 Elliana Lampshire
- 17 Timothy Ludvigsen
- 19 Suzette Koceja
- 19 Jack Makovsky
- **19** Matthew Pederson
- 20 Corinne Lockie
- 20 Jan Schroettner
- 21 Berkeley Hibbard
- 24 Keith Mills
- 25 Lillian Pritzl
- 27 Emily Schuh
- 28 Constance Busby
- 29 Julie Maiwald
- 29 Tom O'Dell
- 31 Kayla Gonzales





March Anniversaries

- 3 Michael & Ruth Benben
- 10 Justin & Jackie Reeves
- 17 James & Cynthia Sullivan
- 22 Randall & Dana Johnson

**If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office.

Lutherans For Life

March 3 – Lent III

The Lord God closely associates life and family. He stands commands about parenting and marriage on either side of the prohibition against killing (Exodus 20:12-14). He holds human life as highest priority and will not accept any other creatures as replacement (John 2:15-16). Body and sexuality serve to enrich life – our own as well as one another's – and not to eliminate it.

March 10 – Lent IV

Surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis come with risks and costs. But as with the ancient Israelite serpent infestation, the real enemy is neither one's neighbor nor the Maker (Numbers 21:8). Only impaling the snake (not terminating each other) brought deliverance, and the antidote called for faith instead of death. Christians insist God has sent us His Son for extending lives and not ending them (John 3:17).

March 17 – Lent V

Jesus Christ embodies the God who abides beside us in our ailments and frailties. Our incarnate and crucified Savior suffers with and for those who cannot sustain or save themselves. He regards even human beings beset by weakness or sickness high enough to take on our condition Himself (Hebrews 5:7-9). The Gospel just leaves no room for abortion or assisted suicide.

March 24 – Palm Sunday/Passion of Our Lord

Sinful nature prizes popularity, property, and power. It despises dependence and discards aging or gestating neighbors because of it. But Jesus proves that God has designed humankind to rely on Him and each other. His salvation comes about by humbly and happily entrusting oneself to an Almighty Father (Philippians 2:6-8). We need not take life and death into our own hands when we can rest upon His.

March 31 – Resurrection of Our Lord

The Scriptures do not limit the sanctity of human life to a few isolated passages. Almighty God has made survival and salvation, abundant and everlasting, the point of the whole story. He intends His resurrection to encompass and affect every member of our race and every moment of our existence, from fertilization to forever. This is nothing less than the Gospel of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)!

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT NOW MORE THAN EVER

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9:30 am Men's Bible Study	2 10:00 am Witness to Christ Study 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion
3 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:30-Bible Class/Sunday School hour	4	5 11:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Adult Confirmation Class	6 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner 6:30 Lent Service	7 6:00/6:30 pm Board Meetings	8 9:30 am Men's Bible Study	9 10:00 am WOW Meeting 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion 5-7:00 pm
10 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:30-Bible Class/Sunday School hour *Daylight Saving Time Ends* Youth Group Night 6-7:30 p.m.	11	12 11:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Adult Confirmation Class	13 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner 6:30 Lent Service	14 6:30 pm Council Meeting	15 9:30 am Men's Bible Study	Spaghetti Dinner 16 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast 10:00 am Witness to Christ Study 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion
17 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:30-Bible Class/Sunday School hour	18	19 11:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Confirmation Class	20 5:15 pm Lenten Dinner 6:30 pm Lent Service	21 6:30 pm Elder's Meeting	22 9:30 am Men's Bible Study	23 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion
24 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:30-Bible Class/Sunday School hour	25	26	27	28 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service	29 7:00 pm Good Friday Service Good Friday	30 9:00-10:30 am Easter Eog Hunt 4:00 pm Worship/Communion
31 8:00 am Worship/Communion 9:00 am Easter Breakfast 10:30 am Worship/Communion			SCRIPT DUE ON 3/17			