

Words of Peace

JAN. 2024

January 2024 Elder Words of Peace Article

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! We have just celebrated the birth of the Christ child. It is a time of newness of Faith, Hope and Love. We have all three: Faith, Hope, and Love in a single package.

Faith considers God's promise and pledge. Faith holds this through the Word. From this kind of promise and pledge of God, out of pure grace and mercy to us, springs hope. Hope is nothing but abandoning one's present self and awaiting that which is not yet seen. The third part of the Christian life is love, which immediately flows out of faith and hope. Love is the greatest of the three.

From Jesus' teachings, He summarized the Law with the two great commandments as follows: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. The second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself."

I pray that we all put any petty differences aside and focus on Christian love toward one another in our homes, in our families, in our church, and in our community.

It is not

always easy to walk in love to your neighbor; however, we love our neighbor in response to what Jesus commanded and taught. As we move into the new year, we need to thank the Lord for all he has done for us and mankind. That we may walk in peace and fervent love toward our God and toward one another.

We are all truly blessed. May 2024 bring you new faith, hope and love. Joy to the World, the Lord is come!

Words of Peace

Peace had a booth at Santa's Village this past December. You may remember that the Santa Ana winds were very strong on this day, 61 mph in Camarillo. Fortunately, they moved all of our spots inside. We had a great time connecting with the community, plus several of our members stopped by to say hi. The children were drawn to our booth to have their picture taken as a snowman or in our sleigh or with the baby Jesus in the manger. We passed out the legend of the candy cane with an invitation to join us for one of our Christmas services. Dave Miller walked around dressed as a Christmas tree handing out candy canes, yes Dave is still a kid at heart. We want to thank all the members who helped make this event possible. Gary Taylor, Sharon & Mike McCracken, Dave Miller, Leslie Stenke, John Johnson, Lelia Langston, Donna Schedler and her daughter Linda.

Your Evangelism Committee



*Trust in the Lord
with all your heart,
And lean not on
your own understanding;
In all your ways
acknowledge Him,
And He shall
direct your paths.*

Proverbs 3:5-6

**It's a TRUST WALK -
remember those?**

Our youth over the years received their introduction to those Trust Walks at camp - both Summer and Winter Lutheran camps we visited. The Trust Walks truly were a concrete lesson that got the point across. What was the point? Basically, it was a blindfolded, bodily experience of the Proverb that tops this column: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart." The blindfolded youth had to TRUST her sighted guide who took her hand and led her all around camp. Sound wise? Well, it was King Solomon, himself, who is quoted above. He is reputed to be the wisest man in the Scriptures (outside of the Lord Jesus Christ, Himself, of course!). That kind of simple but absolute trust is certainly easier said than done - except maybe for little children. Perhaps that is why Jesus lifted the up a totally dependent little child as our example, instead of grown-ups who have gotten so good at introducing their own haunting doubts at just about every turn in life. We need to get back to that "child-like faith" probably now more than ever. The re-assuring thing as we move forward trusting in God our Savior is that He patiently takes each one of us by the hand and whispers His loving Word to us - a light to our path. So let's resolve to take our loving God at His Word and TRUST Him when He reminds us, "I will never leave you or forsake you." No mere words. Any doubts should be immediately stilled if we keep an eye on the cross of Christ. The cross answers those old creeping doubts. Praise the Lord for that! - Pastor Mike

Pastors Corner...

PASTOR MIKE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS HIS THANKS TO SO MANY OF YOU WHO KEEP REMINDING HIM THAT YOU ARE KEEPING HIM IN YOUR PRAYERS. IT IS TRULY SO UPLIFTING TO KNOW THAT. LET ME ALSO SAY "THANK YOU!" FOR THE CARDS & GENEROUS GIFTS OFFERED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. I AM HUMBLLED BY YOUR KINDNESS & SUPPORT!

GALATIANS 4:4

Peace in Christ

- pastor mike

JANUARY 2024 SERVERS

Date	Elder	Ushers	Altar	Readers	Greeters	Acolytes
9am Jan. 7, 2024 Communion	Dave Schmidt +++++	Gary Taylor Karen Taylor Bill Young +++++ Mike McCracken Tom la Jeunesse Rick Poore	Linda Young	Bill Young +++++	Luci Pommers	Marshall Denninger +++++
11am	Dave Hutter			Tom Waddell		Lucas Williamson
9am Jan. 14	Dave Schmidt +++++	Blaine Wanke Henry Andermann Todd Harter +++++ Dave Schmidt Roy Poehler Jim DeVries	Linda Young	Linda Young +++++	Cindy Klittich	Michelle Ullerick +++++
11am	Dave Hutter			Brian Nomi		Samuel Williamson
9am Jan. 21 Communion	Dave Schmidt +++++	Glenn Benitz Scott Ehlers Steve Rusch +++++ Mike McCracken Tom la Jeunesse Rick Poore	Linda Young	David Hudnell +++++	Charlo Stuart	Blake Denninger +++++
11am	Dave Hutter			Susan Weaver		Gavin Nava
9am Jan. 28	Dave Schmidt +++++	Gary Taylor Karen Taylor Bill Young +++++ Dave Schmidt Roy Poehler Jim DeVries	Linda Young	Al Bosman +++++	Connie Morris	Noah Ylizaliturri +++++
11am	Dave Hutter			Stacy Hunter		Samuel Williamson

Happy Anniversary

Mike and Lori Schultze	01/10
Jim and Kerry DeVries	01/26
Stuart and Norma Regalia	01/27

Happy Birthday

Anna Pettit	01/06
Edith Anderson	01/07
Derek Olewiler	01/07
Steve Rusch	01/07
Nicholas Pettit	01/10
Livia Lourenco	01/11
Hal Williams	01/14
Eunice Harter	01/13
Eveline Schmidt	01/16
Bill Ullerick	01/19
Al Fox	01/20
Shane Muller (Rebensal)	01/23
Matthew Ullerick	01/24
Jim Langston	01/27
Jim DeVries	01/31