


THE VOICE
Of Pentecost Lutheran Church

As forgiven children of God, we, the Pentecost Family of Faith, are committed to show everyone Life in Christ.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As many of you know, last month, I was afforded a wonderful opportunity to visit Israel with Imagine Travels on a 10-day tour of the Holy Land. Back in June, a pastoral friend from college extended the invitation to join him and a group from his congregation to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

It's difficult to summarize a trip that had our group seeing so much every day. It is my hope to share my adventures, stories, pictures, and learned knowledge with anyone who would like to hear them. My first goal is to put together a slide presentation with some of the highlights and things that would be interesting to others for our Sunday morning Bible study on February 10th. Then later this Summer, I will do a deeper dive into some of our stops while tying my pictures and stories into the Biblical events that brought us to those particular sites. Here are just a few of my favorite memories:

We started our adventure from the shores of Caesarea, where King Herod the Great built his palace and a magnificent harbor that saw goods from around the known world stop at its shores. This is the same city where Peter witnessed to Cornelius, the centurion (Acts 10) and where Paul was held prisoner before appealing to Rome (Acts 23-25). Sadly much of the city has fallen into ruin, due to earthquakes, the weather, and the Mediterranean Sea all taking its toll on the once magnificent port city. But the thought of sitting on the stones that imprisoned Paul brought on the realization of how real Paul's ordeal was and how bold he was to be willing to travel to Rome for the sake of the Gospel was incredible.

Our group boarded a "Jesus Boat" (probably not a fisherman's boat, but for us tourists, it worked just fine) and set sail on the Sea of Galilee. First off, we shouldn't get the impression it was a mighty sea...in reality it was and still is a lake. At its widest part it is about 8 miles across. Surrounded by mountains at the northern end, one could see how a storm could arise so quickly on the Disciples. On our morning excursion the winds were quite strong (as I nearly lost my hat!) and we stayed relatively close to the shoreline. The two thoughts that were most poignant in my mind were Jesus' walking on water (somewhere near where we were) and the fact that many of the disciples were once casting their nets into the waters we found ourselves on, some 2000 years ago!

It was an adventure where history came alive! We marvel at our own nation's history, which is about 250 years old and that is just a drop in the bucket compared to some of the sites I visited. I give thanks and praise to our God who kept me safe throughout the journey and am blessed to have such a wonderful wife who took care of 3 sick children while I was away and allowed me to walk in the footsteps of Jesus and see the Bible come alive!

Pastor J



Steve Matter – 02/01
 Matt Preuss – 02/03
 John Boehme – 02/05
 Shirley Vakos – 02/06
 Bill Hasko – 02/07
 Katy Wagner – 02/08
 Awniah Ali – 02/11

Preston Galipeau – 02/11
 Sawyer Hamilton – 02/14
 Karen Jackowski – 02/15
 Tim O' Neill – 02/15
 Lois Perman – 02/18
 Addie Barthel – 02/21
 Shana Jacob – 02/22
 Tanya Hensel – 02/24
 Kevin Kinney – 02/27
 Zachary Scott – 02/29



*Karen & Bill Jackowski – 46 years
 February 10th*

*Tim & Lindsay O'Neill – 9 years
 February 16th*



The youth ski trip and lock-in will be Saturday, February 16th. We will meet at the Parish House to travel to Wilmot Mountain for skiing, snowboarding, and tubing. Afterwards we will return to Pentecost for a lock-in led by a Concordia University WI youth ministry team. Dinner will be provided Saturday night and breakfast Sunday morning. Registration forms are available from Tim Hasko or e-mail him at: timhasko@wi.rr.com. If you are interested in driving, chaperoning, or helping out with the breakfast, please let Tim know.



Sunday School Mission update: Thank you to the Sunday School Students and with support from members of the congregation we are able to purchase 30 small animals, including 6 chickens, 6 rabbits, and 18 ducks as well as \$250 worth of school supplies for families in need through World Vision. All this with the \$425 donated from September through December. Praise God!

The mission project selected by the students for the rest of this year is a project in our church, to be determined. If you would like to support the children and this cause you can donate in the offering and designate it for the Sunday School. *Thank you!*



Make a quick trip ... to Kwik Trip! If you use gas.....and like Kwik Trip for gas, or other road trip beverages and snacks, this is the gift card for you! Our church recently started participating in the Kwik Trip Scrip program. The church purchases Kwik Trip gift cards at a 5% discount, and resells them to you at FACE VALUE. Literally, you get what you pay for. In addition to the 5% discount, the church also receives an additional rebate when these gift cards are used to purchase things other than gas at Kwik Trip (with certain exclusions). Gift cards are available in \$10, \$25, \$50 and \$100 amounts. Please contact Tom Hasko at TomHasko@gmail.com or call or text him at (414) 828-7365 to reserve your cards.



Stewardship Corner

1-1-1



Although she can barely reach the top of the offering container, Addie knows what to do with her **1-1-1** offering. Thanks to all who have participated. In spite of the snow and very cold weather, so far we have collected:

1/6/19	\$10.41
1/13/19	\$34.81
1/20/19	\$34.61
1/27/19	\$101.11
TOTAL	\$180.94

Remember: This is your opportunity to give a little extra this year. You set a goal for yourself to give each week. If you want your offering listed on your giving statement, please use a pew envelope and write your name and envelope number on it. We will vote on what church project to use the money collected for and 10% will be given to missions.

THANK YOU NOTES

At the January Council meeting, president Tim suggested thank you notes to people who have done a lot around the church and often don't get noticed for it. We started with notes to Mary Boudreau – thanks for painting the Parish House sign, Trustees Dan Geyer for coordinating so many projects around the church – roof,

siding on front and back, Parish House railing, etc. and Matt Luxem for sanding and painting the partition in the men's bathroom and work he has done on getting quotes and blueprints for a handicapped bathroom, and Bob Winterle for coordinating our Christmas decorations. Also included was one Tim didn't suggest – one to Tim for the work he has done as congregation president and the many projects he has worked on at church.

This is an ongoing project. We already have a couple suggestions for this month or future months. If you have any suggestions of people you feel should be recognized for the special things they do, please let Tim or the Stewardship Committee (Joyce Hasko, Katie Gullicksrud, Jenna Geyer) know.

Ripples of kindness

"I drop kindness pebbles in still water every day, and I watch the effect they have on other people's lives. My favorite kindness pebbles are compliments. Drop a compliment and watch the ripple effect that it has in your life."

Remarkably, these cheery words come from a father who has faced many dark, difficult days. In *6 Minutes Wrestling With Life*, John Passaro tells of his daughter's heart-wrenching battle with meningitis. The struggles didn't make him bitter; rather, he frequently offers uplifting words on social media.

What if we followed Passaro's example and complimented people regularly? Philippians 4:8 (NIV) instructs us to think about things that are noble, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy. By extension, turning those positive thoughts into words causes "kindness pebbles" to spread God's light in ripples throughout someone's day — and, doubtless, through ours.

Thine, not mine

Sheillah Sheldone Charles, an articulate 9-year-old Kenyan featured in a BBC News Africa video, attributes her artistic gifts to God. It's comical to hear her say, "I also teach children," but her rationale is profound: "If you have a talent, don't just say: 'It's mine alone. I should not teach others.' So you should also share your talent out there."

Jesus' parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30 teaches us to share our God-given abilities for purposes larger than our own. Sheillah is a fine example: Besides teaching children, she often draws women to highlight their suffering and their importance. Surely the Master exclaims, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" (v. 23, ESV).

