

An Apostle's Life – March 2019

This year in my pastor's page each month I will be telling you about the life of one of the Apostles of Jesus. I will be doing this in the first person, as if I were that Apostle talking to you about my life as an Apostle of Jesus. Not all of this information can be found in the Bible but it is what Bible scholars would say is what the Apostles life could have been like. My hope is that you will learn more about this Apostle and learn how you too can be a disciple of Jesus as they were.

My name is James the son of Zebedee. I am the oldest son of Zebedee. My father runs fishing boats in the Sea of Galilee and is also a member of the Sanhedrin, the ruling congress of the Jewish people of my time. From the time that I was born it was expected of me to be the man in charge. I was in charge of the fishing boats when my father was in Jerusalem dealing with the tasks of the Sanhedrin, though to be honest, Peter, a good friend of mine, and my brother John, often took charge of determining where and when we went out to fish. Though I was expected to be in charge of the situation my nature was more to sit back and see what was going to happen and deal with the situation the best I could. That could be why I'm not mentioned very often in the Gospels even though I was there with all of the Apostle up to my death.

That's how it was for John, my younger brother and myself even as disciples of Jesus. Jesus had found Peter and his older brother Andrew fishing on the shore of the Sea of Galilee and John and I were working on our nets on that day when He called us to be His disciples. We left what we were doing and followed Him for some three years before His death, resurrection and ascension. In fact, Peter, John and I became the threesome that were privileged to be with Jesus when He brought the daughter of Jairus back to life, the Transfiguration of Jesus on the mountain and the agony that Jesus went through in the garden of Gethsemane. Though I was part of the inter three that were given some privileges it wasn't because I had earned them or even wanted them. I was most of the time just the guy that got the work done and didn't look for the credit even though others thought that I should have gotten some credit.

I made my mistakes after going up on the mountain of Transfiguration with Jesus, Peter and John. As we were headed from Galilee to Jerusalem we went through Samaria and John and I were sent to a small village to see if we could find some accommodations for the large group we were traveling with. The people of the village didn't have any accommodation for us if we were just passing through the area and not staying there. So, John and I got a little angry about their response and asked Jesus to call down the fires of heaven on that village. Jesus rebuked us for our attitude and called us the sons of thunder. The other time was when our mother asked Jesus to have John and me sit at the right and left of Him in his kingdom. Jesus said to us, **"The cup that I drink you will drink and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."** (Mk 10:39 – 40)

Oh, I was the first to drink the cup that Jesus drank in sharing the love of God with the world. For a few years after Jesus' resurrection and the Holy Spirit got into our lives I was one of the leaders of the Apostles and was out proclaiming God's good news to the people of Jerusalem when King Agrippa got a hold of me and to earn favor with the Jewish leaders had my head cut off with a sword. That might seem like a horrible thing, but it got all the disciples of Jesus out into the world proclaiming all the good news of God's love for all of us and that just what needed to be done.

My hope is that you will grow in your faith for the mission that God has given to you to accomplish in this world, so that others will come to know the love of God given to all people in this world so that we can all live with Jesus forever.

Pastor Pete Scheele

March 2019 Scripture Readings

This year we are reading through the Bible by reading in Biblical order a book from the Old Testament and then reading a book from the New Testament along with a Psalm for each day. So far this year we have read Genesis, Exodus, Matthew, Mark. This month we will finish Leviticus and then read Luke, and Numbers along with Psalms 56 - 86.

In Leviticus we continue to see how God organizes the people of Israel around God and the Temple and how God is going to give the people His grace, mercy and love for them.

Luke writes His Gospel after carefully investigating all the facts about Christ. He interviewed many of the people who were around Jesus the most and thus we get to know the women who were still alive when Luke has some time to go out and interview them. That's why Luke gives us more detail than Matthew and Mark about Jesus and other followers of Jesus other than the disciples.

In the book of Numbers we follow the travels of the Israelite people from Mount Sinai, where they meet God and God gives them the plans for building the Tabernacle and all the things that are contained in it to center their lives around God, to the promised land entrance at the south, where they rebelled against God and then along their 40 years of travel till they get on the Eastern side of the promised land with a new generation that is more trusting in God's Ways.

After reading each days reading see what kind of answers you come up with to the questions found in the bulletin each week.

Date	Reading	Date	Reading
March 1	- Leviticus 16- 17, Psalm 56 Psalm 71	March 16	- Numbers 1 - 2,
March 2	- Leviticus 18- 19, Psalm 57 Psalm 72	March 17	- Numbers 3 - 4,
March 3	- Leviticus 20 - 22, Psalm 58 Psalm 73	March 18	- Numbers 5 - 6,
March 4	- Leviticus 23 - 24, Psalm 59 Psalm 74	March 19	- Numbers 7 - 8,
March 5	- Leviticus 25 - 27, Psalm 60 Psalm 75	March 20	- Numbers 9 - 10,
March 6	- Luke 1 - 2, Psalm 61 76	March 21	- Numbers 11 - 12, Psalm
March 7	- Luke 3 - 5, Psalm 62 77	March 22	- Numbers 13 - 14, Psalm

March 8 - Luke 6 - 7, Psalm 63 March 23 - Numbers 15 - 16, Psalm
78
March 9 - Luke 8 - 10, Psalm 64 March 24 - Numbers 17 - 19, Psalm
79
March 10 - Luke 11 - 12, Psalm 65 March 25 - Numbers 20 - 21, Psalm
80
March 11 - Luke 13 - 14, Psalm 66 March 26 - Numbers 22 - 24, Psalm
81
March 12 - Luke 15 - 16, Psalm 67 March 27 - Numbers 25 - 27, Psalm
82
March 13 - Luke 17 - 18, Psalm 68 March 28 - Numbers 28 - 29, Psalm
83
March 14 - Luke 19 - 21, Psalm 69 March 29 - Numbers 30 - 31, Psalm
84
March 15 - Luke 22 - 24, Psalm 70 March 30 - Numbers 32- 33, Psalm
85
March 31 - Numbers 34- 36, Psalm
86

Minutes for the Church Council meeting for February 19, 2019.

The meeting began at 7:10 pm with a pray from Pastor Scheele with Dick and Carl Hodges, Paul and Kathy Puseman, Bud Sloniger, Pastor and Glenda Scheele. Diane Sloniger came into the meeting, as the meeting was finishing at 7:50 pm, because traffic was bad on 285!!!

Dick Hodges read scripture and a devotion that related.

We had no minutes for the January 15th meeting till Diane made it to the meeting, so we moved on to the reports

Financial Secretary's report was written out and there was no discussion. When compared with Kathy's report there was some difference that needed to be worked on.

Kathy Puseman gave out her written Treasurer and people compared them with the comment that we are running behind in our budget for the year by almost \$1000. Kathy though has been able to make all payment so far.

The Public Relations office is vacant still with no one volunteering to do the job at this time. Pastor Scheele has mailed

Post Cards to visitors and Glenda Scheele got information about the Youth Valentine Dinner to the Flume.

Bud Sloniger reported for the Elders and said that there have been some good discussions during the Men's breakfast. The way to get the men to come is to call them up a few day before to remind them of the breakfast. Bud asked Ken Cole if he would consider being an Elder to replace Doug McKay and he said, "No, Not at this time due to the demands of his job."

Paul Puseman reported for the Board of Properties and said the there is still more Electrical work to be done around the Church and the house and it will be complete after the weather get warmer. The outside lights have been fixed and the sign has been rewired so that it works better now.

Glenda Scheele reported for the board of Christian Education that the Youth had a successful Valentine Dinner and earned \$840. It was asked how much do they need to earn? And it was said that there was several thousand dollars already in the Youth account from the past, but to make the full payment for this years National Youth Gathering they need to earn around \$1,000 per person and there are 9 people going the National Youth Gathering this year. It would be nice if they could earn about \$4,000 more before they go in July.

There was no report from Evangelism.

Carl Hodges reported for Parish Fellowship and said that things were doing OK.

There was no report from Stewardship and Missions.

Pastor Scheele had handed out a written report and everyone look through it. Comment was made about 45 people in the congregation not attending Church this year and Pastor's comment is that many of them were in church in December they just didn't attend yet in 2019. Which is not good but not unusual for this congregation.

OLD Business:

Everyone reviewed the goals for 2019 and no comments were made. Kathy commented on her inquiries about allowing people to use a credit card to make a offering and said that it would cost the church a monthly fee and around 3.5% of all funds receive through the credit card. It was suggested by several that people could make a direct deposit into the church account from their credit card if they wanted to, but they would need to set it up with their credit card or bank and Kathy would be glad to give them our bank routing

number. That would have to be done individually with Kathy. At this time it does not seem like a good Idea to allow credit card payment for offering because the money is not what we need but the people to be in Church hearing God's Word so God can be working on their faith.

Bud Sloniger reported that he found the wire needed to improve the Sanctuary Audio so now we need to figure how much of it we need to install.

No other old business was brought up.

NEW Business:

Glenda Scheele said that she would be getting a sign up sheet out to start the organizing for the Seder meal coming up on April 18th. There will be an organizational meeting for the Seder meal in March.

The next Church Council meeting is April 16th at 7 pm. We will have a Voter's meeting on March 10th during the Bible Study and the main business will be reports from each of the boards.

The minutes for the January Minutes were passed around and looked at but there were no comments.

The Synodical President election is coming up soon and the pastor and the lay voter need to get registered to vote.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. A 40-minute meeting was very nice since it was cold and icy outside.