FEBRUARY 2025

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. Romans 10:17

The usually long, cold days of February are broken up by Valentine's Day which lands right in the middle of the month. St. Valentine was a real person who died for confessing faith in Jesus in the third century. Valentine was executed because he confessed without hesitation where true love is found - in our Lord Jesus who lays down His life for us.

Not as well known in the month of February is the remembrance of Aquila, Priscilla, and Apollos whose day comes on the thirteenth: one day before St. Valentine's Day. They also confessed the love of God found in His only-begotten Son. But they're not remembered as martyrs (someone who is executed for believing in Jesus). They're remembered as ones who loved to spread the love of God. They loved to break up the long, cold days of unbelief by bringing the Gospel to those who needed to hear it.

Aquila and his wife, Priscilla, were forced out of Rome and joined the apostle Paul in Corinth where they proclaimed Christ even as they made tents as a trade (See Acts 18:1-3). They then went with Paul to Ephesus where the two of them established a home that served as hospitality headquarters for new Christians. It was in Ephesus that Aquila and Priscilla met Apollos. Apollos was an eloquent man and spoke boldly in the synagogue concerning our Lord Jesus. Aquila and Priscilla helped Apollos mature in the faith and later he traveled from Corinth to Achaia where he "showed by the Scriptures that the Christ was Jesus" (Acts 18:28).

Their love of proclaiming and spreading the Word of God is not only something to be remembered in the middle of a cold February but also a beautiful example to us. We too should want to mature in the faith and bring the love that Jesus has revealed to us to others. We want missionaries to be sent and to help support and pray for them. We want to be eloquent where God has placed us and share the Gospel with our families and the place we live. We want the long, cold days of unbelief to be replaced with the bright warmth of John 3:16 - "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son."

The Prayer of the Day for Aquila, Priscilla, and Apollos:

Triune God, whose very name is holy, teach us to be faithful hearers and learners of Your Word, fervent in the spirit as Apollos was, that we may teach it correctly against those who have been led astray into falsehood and error and that we might follow the example of Aquila and Priscilla for the good of the Church You established here and entrusted into our humble care; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God. now and forever.

In Christ, Pastor Suggitt

LIFE QUOTE

All life is sacred. Your life is sacred. Every life has infinite worth and eternal value. Your life matters—from conception to natural death to eternity. The psalmist declares: 'I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well' (Psalm 139:14).

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

The Lutheran Hour is heard Locally on WLEW Bad Axe at 11:10am Sundays and WSAM 1440 Saginaw at 8:30 a.m. Sundays. OR listen to it anytime anywhere on the Lutheran hour APP on your phone. Download the Lutheran Hour Devotions app and click on Lutheran hour sermons. You can also find the Lutheran hour sermons on the Lutheran hour website at lhm.org. You can also dial 1-800-944-3450 and you will get the recorded instructions. Hit 3 then 1 and the whole Lutheran hour sermon will play just like you are receiving a phone call.

IN HIS IMAGE

Navigating Christian Sexuality in a Post-Christian Culture

With the legal redefinition of marriage, the confusion regarding gender, and rapidly changing sexual mores in society, biblical educators, pastors, singles, couples, and parents are looking for guidance in articulating and promoting a positive view of the Christian vision for marriage and sexuality.

Saturday, February 22

8:30am Registration; 9:00am Prayer Office; 9:45am Session 1; 10:45am Break 11:00am Session 2; 12:00pm Lunch - Provided; 1:00pm Session 3; 2:00pm Break 2:30pm Session 4; 3:30pm Q&A; 3:45pm Closing Prayers

Topics include:

The Christian Worldview and Sexuality; GPS Essentials for Traveling Through Demanding Conversations; Caring for the Child who Identifies as Transgender - Understanding the Big Picture; Christian Responses to Conflict in a Sexually Toxic Culture

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, LINKVILLE

7292 Kilmanagh Rd. Pigeon, MI 48755 989.453.2271

*Please register on the sheet located at church or call St. Paul
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