



****Correction from November**

An article was published with the name Rev Lori Stevens. Rev was to be removed.

Ask the Pastor

By Rev Cody Mills

Last newsletter, Lori Stevens asked the question between Disciple and Apostle. She also asked where we go to find reliable information about the scriptures that we read to learn and grow in what God revealed to us. There were many questions to answer, and I will try to cover them over the following newsletters.

What is the difference between Disciple and Apostle?

Disciple- a disciple is a term used to describe those who sat at a teacher's feet to listen to the wisdom they had to offer and engage in the conversations. One of the most significant instances of discipling is that of the disciples of Plato. The disciples were students who sat at the feet of Plato. The learning

occurred when the disciples listened to Plato regularly speak about the meaning of man (hence the meaning of life is philosophical). When the students attended long enough, they conversed with Plato to deepen their learning. We could learn from this way of wisdom when it comes to theology. Theos means God, and logos is word, knowledge, study. Studying the Word of God. We should model this in bible study and coming to a pastor to hear the word of God, study it, and have discourse. Look closely, and see the root "Dis" as in discipline.

Apostle- Apostle means one who is sent to speak across the lands. This would also include the Apostles of Plato and Socrates. The root of this word is complicated. Apo - in Latin is go away from, after, or finish. Stel- means to stand, equip, and prepare. Put these two together; you get one who goes out after learning the art of conversations in God's Word to stand and make an apology (speak about and defend). Look close to the word

Apology – Apostle. An apology gives an understanding of the Logos (wisdom) of God.

So here we stand as apostles. The best description we have in scripture is Matt. 28:-19-20 – Go and make disciples of all nations" and the parable of the Sower Matt. 13.

The parable of the sower tells us to go forth and spread the seed - *the Gospel* - carelessly and haphazardly. Do it generously and abundantly, don't be shy. Throw it far and wide and allow the source to land where it may. Often people turn this sower parable inward to talk about themselves and hear lousy teaching, "Are you the good soil?" This is the wrong understanding of the parable of the sower. Apostles spread it far and wide and allowed God to put the heaping amounts of manure on those willing to hear. The parable isn't about us as rocky or good soil; it is about spreading God's Words far and wide carelessly, generously, and all over the place.

I hope this is helpful for us to understand our role in the timeline as Christians interacting in a world that God has created. Our understanding is important for all of us. I would

suggest reading Dialogue with Trypho by Justin Martyr.

Financial Report

By *Lori Stevens*

Beginning balance 11/01/2021	\$14793.96
November income	\$4509.00
November expenses	\$3874.20
Ending Balance 11/31/2021	\$15428.76

Hazel Run Lutheran is in desperate need of funding to continue to support the church. We need people to volunteer to bring in treats and serve coffee, income to keep the building running.

Please consider helping support the church any way that you can.

We are currently in need of paper donated for the printer in the office.

Merry Christmas to all of you as members of Hazel Run Lutheran Church. We as a church extend greetings and love. I know the church has been rocky. However, I hope the healing processs can work for all of us.