1105-57-183 **Mark E. Kidwell** (mek@usna.edu), 368 Dewey Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401, and **Joshua Lee Steves*** (m156432@usna.edu), 2320 Blue Bonnet Blvd, Houston, TX 77030. *Pretzel Knots and Tesselations.* Preliminary report.

I would like to show that in general given integers p, q, r greater than 1, there is a homomorphism from $\pi(\mathbb{S}^3\backslash K)$, the fundamental group of the complement of a (p,q,r) pretzel knot, onto $\triangle(p,q,r)$, the group generated by reflections of a triangle with angles $\pi/p, \pi/q, \pi/r$ on a tessellated plane in a suitable geometry. The geometry will be chosen to be spherical, Euclidean, or hyperbolic based on whether or not $1/p + 1/q + 1/r$ is $>, =, or <$ than 1 respectively. This work has been motivated by an example from Herbert Seifert, who used a similar homomorphism onto a tessellated hyperbolic plane to prove that the (7, -3, 5) pretzel knot, which has Alexander polynomial equal to 1, was not the unknot. In addition to Seifert's example, I will use examples from each geometry to show how these groups operate and what can be learned about pretzel knots by employing this homomorphism. (Received September 19, 2014)