

Messenger

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Day School

1343 Penniman Avenue

Plymouth, MI 48170

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A Wonder of Creation

Creation is a blast! A trophoblast, that is. At least it is for that "blob of tissue" medical science has labeled: "fetus. "

According to research cited in an article entitled Baby Immunizes Mother:

"As we have learned more about the immune system, doctors began asking themselves why a pregnant mother's body doesn't reject the foreign tissue of the baby growing inside her. . . . From conception the unborn child is a genetically unique individual. It appears that under normal conditions the trophoblast is a special set of cells that the body cannot identify as foreign. In addition, the trophoblast makes cells that encourage the mother's immune system to protect it. Scientists now believe that this amazing feature may actually be provided by the father's genetic information. In effect, the baby, with the help of the father, immunizes the mother's system so that it doesn't reject the baby! So, even before birth, the mother nurtures and the father protects the child." [Creation Moments, July 13, 2006, <http://www.creationmoments.com/>]

Wow!!! That IS a blast, isn't it? A blast to evolutionists and pro-abortionists alike.

Trophoblast fits perfectly with God's revealed Word of the Bible in regard to both the history of creation and the promise of salvation. While evolution requires millions and billions of years of trial and error and death in order to develop genetic characteristics that will enable life to survive and develop into more advanced forms, trophoblast is evidence of a genetic programming that protects a life which already contains everything needed to develop into its mature, advanced form. According to genetic research, there is NEVER a time, from conception to death, that human life is ever anything short of fully human - the chromosomes remain the same.

According to the psalmist, "Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." [Psalm 51:5]

The human trophoblast cells that beg a Creator also confess a Savior. This built in protection of a little sinner is God the Father's means to deliver that sinner from the amniotic waters of the womb to the baptismal waters of the church.

Just as no one is born into this world without a mother, no one is born again into the kingdom of heaven without church. Trophoblast is one earthly means that Our Father has created and continues to use in order that His command -- as spoken by His only begotten Son -- may be fulfilled and come to fruition:

In [John 3:5](#), "Jesus answered [the Pharisee, Nicodemus], 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.'" [NKJV]

Or as we learn from the Small Catechism explanation to the Apostles' Creed, "I believe that I cannot

by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith."

Thankfully, just as God has created and continues to use the earthly means of trophoblast cells to protect and deliver human life into the world, so He has instituted and continues to use the earthly means of the spoken and sacramental Word of the Gospel to deliver and protect human life in His church by faith - for in this, and this alone, is the kingdom of heaven and eternal life.

Indeed!! Creation is a blast from God. And God does everything to protect and deliver His creation - especially those whom He has made His own children by Baptism.

Let us pray to the Father that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we baptized and forgiven children of God will always abide in the Word - never forgetting or betraying Him who has created human fathers and mothers to nurture and protect their babies in order to bring them into the world and also to the Baptismal font that bestows forgiveness of sins and faith unto eternal life.

I pray this short article whets your appetite to learn more of the wonders of creation and salvation in our special four week study-presentations of the wonders of God's creation. It is also a fabulous opportunity to share your faith in another way with your friends and neighbors! Please note the article in this Messenger for more details.

In Christ,
Pastor Schaefer

Music Department

Lent and Holy Week have meant an intensified singing schedule for the St. Peter's musicians. We were happy to serve St. Peter's for this time of repentance, meditation, and joy. Our next festival celebrations are The Ascension of Our Lord at 7:00 p.m. on May 14 (with the school children singing), Pentecost on May 24, and Trinity Sunday on May 31. The summer singing schedule will once again feature our soloists: Lois Bude, Mark Castellese, Jim Cutler, Joan Kalish, Doris Tomlin, and Julie Webber. We all appreciate their fine voices.

The St. Peter's teachers and staff are planning music for school graduation on Friday, June 5 at 7 p.m. All are welcome to this annual event, which includes a reception after the service.

I would like to thank all the members of our Senior Choir and the Handbell Choir for their faithful service this past year. Please give prayerful consideration to join us in singing and/or ringing next fall! We are sad to lose one of our organists, Christine Baganz, who is moving to New Ulm, Minnesota. Christine often made time from her busy schedule to help us and other congregations with divine services and weddings. Thank you, Christine!

Thanks also to Michele Diener, Kim Pappenfuss, and Laura Schroeder for teaching music to our school children. The students are singing beautifully!

Jan Jacobi
Music Director

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The school year is rushing to its end. But along the way there will be a track meet, Wolverine Camp, Softball, School Picnic, and Graduation. In the rush let's not forget what should be the climax of every school year, the third Sunday in May, CONFIRMATION! What a blessing for the young people and encouragement to the congregation, as another set of young believers confesses their faith.

We will also be wishing Godspeed to Christine and her family and they follow God's call to Minnesota. We will officially thank Christine on June 4 during the graduation service. Please plan to attend.

There are many varied activities being planned for the summer at St. Peter's. Please take note of them and volunteer to help with the activities. Safety Night, Creation Series, Vacation Bible School and the rest will also give you opportunities to invite friends and neighbors to St. Peter's. With the variety we are planning, I hope there will be some way for everyone to participate. As always, thanks for all of the prayers and encouragement you share with the staff at St. Peter's.

Creation Summer at St. Peter's

Session 1

Thursday, July 9, 2015 – Dr. Kevin Peil 6 Days or Millions of Years

Lecture and discussion on origins. God's infallible word vs. man's changing theories.

Conclusion on origins – it takes more faith to believe evolution than the Bible.

Session 2

July 16, 2015 – Pastor Schaefer The Fall, Death, and the Promise

Is death the mechanism of evolution or the punishment for sin?

Protoevangelium and the first sacrifice.

Session 3

July 23, 2015 – Dr. Kevin Peil The Flood: Myth or Reality

The worldwide flood as the mechanism that shaped what we see today.

God's promises to us after the flood.

Session 4

Aug. 6, 2015 – Pastor Schaefer Genesis 1-14: Allegory or History

Some claim the Biblical language of creation through Noah is poetic or allegorical. Why Lutherans believe it is true history.

Please note the dates. Schedule was adjusted due to conflict, but the topics remain the same.

Each session will start at 7:00 and run until 8:30. We intend to offer a meal from 6:00-6:45 before each of the presentations. Pulled Pork, brats, hamburgers, and pizza have been suggested. For the sessions and the meals, we will need volunteers.

Look for information in the bulletin and on line. If you are interested in helping with one of the sessions, please contact Mr. Pappenfuss or Mr. Jon Townsend. Please be ready help as we reach out to the community with this truth from God's Word.

Safety Night, June 23 from 5:30-8:00

This year we are having **Safety Night** in the beginning of the summer instead of the end. We are hoping to attract visitors on Safety Night to other activities at St. Peter's during the rest of the summer. We will be offering a variety of safety topics like we have in the past. If you have thought of a topic that we have not done, let us know. If you would like to make a presentation, we are also interested in that. As in the past, the more volunteers the merrier.

The Spring Rally of the LWMS Alpha Circuit was held at St. John's Westland, on Saturday April 18. There were 39 ladies, 6 pastors, and 1 visitor in attendance.

After a fellowship breakfast, Pastor Furno led us in the opening devotion: Christ the Cornerstone. Pastor Jahnke led the Bible Study: The Great Commission

The Rally's speaker was Pastor Robert Krueger from Immanuel, Finley, Ohio. He is on the Home Mission Board of the Michigan District. The Board of Home Missions was formed in 1957 and has funded 600 congregations since 1960. 73 missions are now receiving financial aid. More are approved for funding but the funds for them are not yet there. He gave us updates on the missions within the District.

Crown of Life – Cadillac: Holding Arts/Crafts and Soccer Bible Camps and VBS with the help of other WELS congregations and reaching out individually to people in the community.

Spirit of Life – Caledonia: Location next to nature preserve gives them great exposure. Large narthex has facilitated Christian fellowship before and after services.

Shepherd of the Lakes – Fenton: Were able to buy an old LC-MS church in a growing community and are looking to receive funding for a full time pastor.

Palabra de Vida – Detroit: They have called their second pastor, Rev. Ismael Sialer from Peru. The ministry is his second career. He was allowed to set up an information table at a corner store and now has 42 people in serious Bible study. ESL classes also attract people to the church. They are in need of additional funds due to the economy of the neighborhood.

Beautiful Savior – La Porte, IN: Reaching out to the community through soccer camp and a Holy Week message brought in 80-100 children. Now several families are attending worship regularly.

Ascension – Macomb Township: WELS Church Extension Fund enabled this growing congregation to buy an existing church facility.

Contributions to these missions may be sent to:

Mission District Mission Board

c/o Craig Ehinger
1028 St. James Ct.
Toledo, OH 43609

At the afternoon business meeting, we voted on our Mission Projects.

World: #WM-2014-28 The Apache Christian Training School (ACTS)

Home: #HM-2014-03 Children's Ministry Assistance.

Each of these will receive over \$800 in mite box funds. The remaining \$539 will be sent to the National LWMS to be disbursed at the National Convention this June.

We elected new officers to the posts of President, Treasurer, Spiritual Growth Pastor and Laywoman.

The 52nd Annual LWMS National Convention is this June 25-28 in Rapid City, SD. The theme is:
Lift High the Cross in the Hills

The registration deadline for this event is May 1. The registration form is available at www.lwms.org. Please check out the excellent LWMS website: www.lwms.org. There you will find mission updates, devotions, and other mission information.

Lois Bude – LWMS Reporter

Preschool

Here we are, into May, with another school year drawing to a close. Life in the school turns busy this time of the year, and this year is no exception. We are busy with all the usual end-of-the-year activities: making Mother's Day projects, preparing for the end-of-the-year program, and trying to squeeze in one last field trip or fun activity. It seems like every year speeds by a little faster.

We just completed one of our big projects on Friday, April 24 with the production "The Little Red Hen". Children from the three-year-old class, four-year-old class, kindergarten and first grade worked for over a month to learn songs, lines and actions. The kids had a good time practicing with children from other classrooms. It was neat to see some friendships form from their time together.

We are currently enrolling for the 2015-2016 school year and still have openings in both the three and four-year-old classes. Sessions will run from 8:15-11:15 a.m. next year. The three-year-olds attend on Tuesday and Thursday and the four-year-olds on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If there is enough interest we will add Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for those four-year-olds who want to attend five days. Mrs. Lohrmann will teach both groups. Anyone interested in more information may call the school office at (734) 453-0460.

Your sister in Christ,
Christine Baganz

Pastoral Acts

Baptisms

Isabell Grace Tutt
Jordyn Kay Tutt
Oliver Shmyr

Burials

Walter Trapp
Lucy Wilhide
Ruth Fitzpatrick

Transfer to Sister Congregation

Beth Carr to Gethemane, Oklahoma City, OK
Byron Buermele to St. Stephen, Adrian, MI
Paula Buermele to St. Stephen, Adrian, MI

Memorial

Janis Krug (Member, Immanuel, Fort Worth, TX)

Member Received by Adult Confirmation

Curtis Krallman

Loss of Member to Heterodox

Michael Anderson
Karen Anderson

Roster Updates

New Address

(Matt) & Sarah Shmyr
35953 West Chicago
Livonia, MI 48150

Delete

Lucy Wilhide