

Messenger

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church and Day School

1343 Penniman Avenue

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February 2016

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Ash Wednesday is almost upon us once again. It falls on February 10 this year. It is the beginning of the Lenten season of the church year. In the Christian church, it is a season of repentance as we reflect on the great love of God for us in Christ. During the Scripture lessons we recount Christ's journey of love from the upper room to the cross. In that upper room on Maundy Thursday, Jesus answers questions for his fearful disciples about his upcoming betrayal, trial, death, and resurrection.

These are words we fearful disciples need to hear and be assured with as we journey in this life. Often we, like the Twelve, worry Jesus will abandon us, when in reality we are the ones who betray him. Jesus calls us to repentance (a turning from sin back to him in faith and love). May we each be encouraged as we are with Jesus in the upper room.

WITH JESUS IN THE UPPER ROOM

February 10 (Ash Wednesday)	Divine Service		Pastor Schaefer
February 17	Lenten Vespers "Lord, Why Can't I Follow You Now"	John 13:31-38	Pastor James Frey
February 24	Lenten Vespers "How Can We Know the Way?"	John 14:1-6	Pastor Thomas Schroeder
March 2	Lenten Vespers "One of You Will Betray Me"	John 13:18-30	Pastor Paul Schaefer
March 9	Lenten Vespers "Why Do You Show Yourself to Us and Not to the World?"	John 14:15-27	Pastor James Frey
March 16	Lenten Vespers "Wash Me, Lord"	John 13:1-17	Pastor Paul Schaefer

Please join us for each of these special Wednesday Lenten services. All of these services are at 7:00 PM. Each service will be preceded by a meal provided by an organization of the congregation. A free will offering for the food will be received to defer expenses.

A Note From the Principal

Friday, January 15 was the end of the second quarter. We are off to a good start on the third quarter and preparing for the Lenten season. The preschool through grade 8 will be part of the Palm Sunday service on Sunday, March 20.

Academically, students at St. Peter's are continuing to improve their skills in a variety of ways. We took the MAP tests January 19-22 and will get the results soon. One way grades 6-8 are learning is through robotics. We have 4 Lego EV3 Mindstorms Kits. We have completed our robots and are moving into the programming stage. We plan to have a demonstration of our program ready for the congregation to see on Wednesday, March 9. The demonstrations will be before and after the Lenten service. Grades 6-8 will also be preparing spaghetti for the congregation on this evening. Mark your calendar: **March 9 - Robotics, Spaghetti, and Worship!**

Our basketball team will have tournaments on February 5 and 6 at Michigan Lutheran Seminary and March 4, 5, and 6 at HVL. We are planning a Family Fun Night on Friday, March 18. The night will be a time for all St. Peter's to enjoy fellowship and basketball activities. C-team will play their parents, A-team will play their parents, and alumni will play games. We will also have a free throw contest and other activities. More details about activities, volunteering, and food will be available in the bulletin.

Also, keep in mind that St. Peter's will continue to run its preschool. We have programs for children ages 2-4. If you know of any families that are looking for a preschool or have preschool children, let Mrs. Lohrmann know of them. We are also developing material that you can share with family and friends regarding the programs we offer.

Preschool

Emmanuel, God with us. We talked about these words at Christmas. We sang these words at the preschool Christmas Service. At Christmas, it is easy to remember that God sent Jesus to be with us. It is important to remember that God is still with us, even though we do not physically see Him. The children are learning about the miracles that Jesus did while He walked on this earth. We are talking about how God loves us and is taking care of us even though we can't see Him. He is with us when we are afraid and He even has power over death. We will soon be talking about how Jesus died and rose again so that we may have everlasting life in heaven.

The children continue to work on their numbers and letters, along with life skills. In Michigan in the winter, it is important to be able to put on all of the extra clothing needed to go outside to play. I am amazed at how well the children are able to do this! (Of course, if help is needed, Mrs. Abbott and I are there to help them.) The students spend some time in the kitchen each month. In January, we made pancakes and popcorn in paper bags during our focus on the letter p.

We have two very special activities coming up. The preschoolers have been invited to join grades K-8 for the Processional for Palm Sunday on March 20th. We will also be putting on a play with grades K-2 on April 22nd in the evening. We hope that you are able to join us!

We will have an opportunity for our students in the two-year-old program and their parents to come into the three-year-old classroom on Wednesday, February 17th.

I am thankful that the congregation has decided at this time that the preschool will remain open. Please keep us in your prayers as we share God's Word with these young children and their families.

In Christ's Service,
Rebecca Lohrmann

Bd. of Stewardship

Recent Activities Sponsored by the Bd. of Stewardship:

- The Board of Stewardship along with many volunteers decorated the church on November 28th and took down the Christmas decorations on January 9th.
- Postcards were designed and printed up with the times of the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services for members to pass out to friends, relatives and neighbors inviting them to these services.

Upcoming Activities being sponsored by the Bd. of Stewardship:

- We are designing postcards to be mailed out and for members to hand out inviting friends, relatives and neighbors to Easter Services.
- Meals are being planned for before each Lenten Service.
- On Palm Sunday, March 20th, we will be hosting a Fellowship Hour following the service with light refreshments.
- The Wels Connection will be shown monthly in the Church Basement before Bible Class.

Music Department

The wonderful seasons of Advent and Christmas have come and gone for 2015, but the message of Christ's coming to save us remains throughout the year 2016. The St. Peter's musicians hope your festivities were enhanced by the beautiful music that they prepared and presented for the edification of your faith. We appreciate our choir members setting up the fellowship reception that followed the Candlelight Service: Sue Brooke and Chris Abbott; and Jim and Barb Cutler for recording the service. We appreciate everyone who helped move music equipment from the balcony and the basement to the sanctuary; then helped put it back in its normal places. All of the school children participated in the service. Thanks to the teachers and parents for their extra effort during preparations.

The Senior Choir has started to prepare for Lent and Easter. Ash Wednesday will be observed on February 10, and Easter's date is March 27. The Handbell Choir will start rehearsals on February 4 for ringing throughout the winter/spring season.

The Huron Valley Lutheran High School choir will be singing at St. Peter's on March 13 for the Sunday morning service. We hope you will be present to show your support for HVL and to greet visiting parents of the singers.

The St. Peter's school children will be traveling to Huron Valley for their Palm Sunday concert on March 20 at 3 p.m. You are all invited to attend.

Other services to remember are The Ascension of our Lord at 7 p.m. on May 5, for which the school children are singing; and Confirmation Sunday on May 15.

The suspension of operations of St. Peter's school means potential changes to the Music Department activities. We will miss the lovely voices of the school children in our worship services. The Senior Choir will lose a faithful singer, Michele Diener, who has been a lower grades teacher at the school for many years. Kim Pappenfuss' departure will affect the Senior Choir, the Handbell Choir, and the organ staff. We hope you will pray for wisdom in making plans for future music service. Several members of our choirs have volunteered to work with the Focus Future Committee to help with these plans.

Pastoral Acts

Baptisms

Claire Sienna Abbott
Vivian Grace Anderson

Burials

Eugene Schaening
Dorothy Zauha

Loss of Members by Transfer to Sister Congregation

Jonathan Townsend to St. John, Ann Arbor, MI
Johanna Townsend (children: Alistair & Raleigh)
Jeff Anderson to Immanuel, South Lyon, MI
Betty Anderson (children: Jeffrey & Elizabeth) to Immanuel, South Lyon, MI

Roster Updates

Delete

Eugene Schaening
Dorothy Zauha
Jonathan, Johanna, Alistair & Raleigh Townsend
Jeff, Betty, Jeffrey & Elizabeth Anderson

*February
Birthdays*

1 Thomas Constantine
4 James List
5 Karen Beckerman
6 Joyce List
8 Nicole List
9 Albert Glotzhofer
Devanie Haroney
10 Natalia Dilacovo
12 Renee Wendland
13 Patrick Runkle
14 Barbara Cutler
Austin Runkle
15 Sarah Bealafeld
16 Rebecca Lovell
17 Katherine Beckerman
Pastor Schaefer
19 Cynthia Ash
LeeAnn Carr
20 Sherry Adlof
Leilaini Lamb
Clayvert Marjani
21 Emerson Recto
Zachary Winkler
23 Christine Abbott
Christine Baganz
Judy Smith
24 Marie Gentz
Beatrice Reeves
25 Haley Talaga
26 Michele Diener
28 Joseph Richter
Charles Widmaier
29 Daylin Pearce

*March
Birthdays*

1 Kirk Steudle
Sarah Janshego
2 Randy Eschelbach
Ronda Shafer
5 Warren Stobbe
7 Theresa Good
9 Matthew DeBeau
Barbara Helmke
10 Ryan Cording
Matthew Smith
11 Barbara Ash
Tracy Dilacovo
12 Samantha Honke
13 Eryn Smith
16 Debbie Michalik
Kurt Richter
17 Kourtney Barber
Winton Crawford
Derek Ince
18 Joseph Dilacovo
20 Julia Crawford
William Tomlin
23 Jennifer DeBeau
Heidi Good
24 William Fitzpatrick
Lori Schroeder
26 Andrea Jenkins
Ronald Wendland
28 Jacob Hittinger
Thomas Shelton
Lauren Ziolkowski
31 Sarah Shmyr

April Birthdays

2 Haley Jacobi
Zachary Nelson
Jonathan Townsend
Diane Wendland
3 Kevin Clinansmith
Aaron Lanza
Alexander Romain
4 Ashley Button
Renee Ince
Rachel Laycock
7 Debora Carr
8 Oliver Shmyr
9 Ben Adlof
Nicholas Alaniva
LuAnn Eckles
10 Alexander Brooke
Carl Cutler
Harold Schultz
11 Raymond Douglas
Avery Recto
12 Lucille Babcoch
John Steudle
15 Cindy Dault
17 Daniel Pearce
Danielle Tyler
21 Nena Ash
23 Mary Kingston
Aaron Lanning
Ryan Majeske
Lauren Sylvester
24 Joseph Nelson
25 Brandon Berridge
Kevin Seppanen
28 Damon Pearce
29 Yvonne Ash
30 Marilyn Bealafeld
Tyler Cording
Edwin Good