

# Messenger

*St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Day School*  
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## Some thoughts on the Church's Year

In this year's *Messenger* articles, I intend to share insight about the church year and the pattern it gives to annual review of the whole counsel of god. This information will be drawn from a number of sources including *Christian Worship: Manual*, Northwestern Publishing House, 1993. This will be a four part series following the church's calendar. This portion is the third installment.

### *The Sundays after Pentecost*

The first half of the Christian year (Advent-Pentecost) has been termed the *The Time of Christ*. Please see installment two for the full details. The second half of the year is termed *The Time of the Church*. The themes of the Sunday focus on the growth of the church inwardly in the hearts of the faithful and outwardly in the gospel proclamation of Christ, bringing others outside of the church to trust Christ.

The Pentecost Season begins with **Trinity Sunday** on the First Sunday after Pentecost. This festival began in northern Europe in the Ninth and tenth centuries to honor our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### *The Season of End Time*

Unique to *Christian Worship* lectionary is the designation of the last four Sundays of the Christian year as End Time. The first—Reformation Sunday—falls on the last Sunday of October or the first Sunday in November, depending at the start of Advent. It marks the beginning of the Reformation with Martin Luther's nailing of the Ninety-Five Theses on October 31, 1517. The Second Sunday of End Time—Last Judgment—reminds the church of Christ's second coming to judge the living and the dead. The third—Saints Triumphant—eternal glory of heaven for the saints who have died. On this Sunday at St. Peter's we also read the names of the members of our parish who entered into eternal rest during the past year. The Last Sunday of the Church Year is Christ the King Sunday. We are reminded that the entire year of the church is under the rule of Christ now and forever.

I hope this short summary of the church year has helped you appreciate the flow and pattern of the church's worship throughout the year. Every year we are reminded of Christ's work for us during the festival half of the church year and what his work means for the life of the church. In the last installment I will discuss the series of readings, minor festivals, and other topics that are closely related to liturgical worship. If you ever have any questions about worship, please ask.

In Christ,  
Pastor Paul Schaefer

# A Note from the Principal

Last school year went by quickly and now summer is doing the same. Over the summer there have been CPR and First Aid certification classes, volleyball camp, basketball and conditioning sessions, Fantasy Art Camp, dissecting class, and floor hockey. It has been a busy summer.

School will start on August 25, but before school starts there are more activities scheduled. Safety Night is from 5:30 - 8:00 on Tuesday, August 5. This is an opportunity for you to bring friends to church and school, learn about safety, and enjoy fellowship and food. Please sign up to help.

Preschool and school registration is on Monday, August 11. The evening will begin at 6:30 with registration for all. Preschool parents will meet with Mrs. Baganz in the gym at 7:30. K-8 will meet with Mr. Pappenfuss in the gym at 7:30. Registration will continue until 8:30 for those who were unable to register earlier in the evening. Registration packages have been placed in your narthex mailboxes. Please complete all the necessary forms and have them ready to drop off at registration.

Saturday, August 16 we have a cleaning and work bee scheduled. In addition to the regular school cleaning tasks, we are hoping to construct a play structure that will be preschool size. We are thankful for the donation to help cover this added cost. If you are interested in construction, plan to join us. We will begin at 8:30 and hope to finish by noon.

There will be no school on Friday, August 29 and Monday, September 1 for the Labor Day holiday.

St. Peter will be joining St. John for soccer and volleyball. Look for game and practice schedules in future communications and newsletters. We will have our own cross-country and floor hockey teams.

New items for the upcoming school year include Chromebooks to replace our old computers. We are planning on one Chromebook for each 5-8<sup>th</sup> grade student. Also, we are thankful to have received a donation for the Robotics material that we will incorporate into our science classes in grades 5-8, we are also hoping to have an after-school robotics club. Other donations for the school include fans to keep the air in the gym circulating and a diaper-changing station.

Parents and Tots (formerly Mommy & Me), our two-year-old program will once again meet this school year. Classes are on Wednesday from 9:00 – 10:30. If there are enough students we will have an afternoon session meeting 1:45-3:15.

Three-year-old preschool has 2 day (Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday), 3 day (Monday/Wednesday/Friday), and 5-day options. Ten students are already registered for 3 yr. preschool, but there is room for more. Four year olds have 3 day (Monday/Wednesday/Friday) and 5- options. Currently there are six students in the 4 yr. preschool with room for more. Mrs. Abbot will once again this year be the aid for preschool. All preschool classes run from 8:30 - 11:30.

Please share information about our two, three and four-year-old programs with family and friends who may be interested in early childhood learning. Kindergarten - 8 grades also have room for more students. Our Kindergarten program offers both half (8:00 – 11:30) and full day (8:00 – 3:00) options.

# Preschool

The wordless book Changes, Changes by Pat Hutchins is a favorite of mine. I like to use it with my transportation unit. There are no words so the reader gets to make up the story as he looks at the pictures. The premise of the book is that the two main characters transform their building block house into other things depending on what the situation calls for. When their block house catches on fire, they turn it into a fire engine to fight the blaze. When the water from the hoses gets too deep, the fire engine is transformed into a boat, and so forth. Eventually, they end up more or less back where they started – in a house that is slightly altered from the first.

This book could be our story this year. Our school and preschool are undergoing some changes. What will we look like in a year? What will St. Peter's Lutheran Preschool and School look like in five years? In some ways, we hope and pray that we do not look the same in the future as we do now. Some change, even though it may painful, can be beneficial or even needed.

So, what are some of the changes you will see in the preschool this year? Well, for one thing there will be more than one preschool teacher and more than one room. If you happen to peek into what used to be the kindergarten room, you will notice a transformation taking place. The walls have been painted a light gray (almost white) with bright accents throughout the room in stoplight colors. Lots of fun learning areas are being set up – a circle area, art area, kitchen, rice table, and science center to name a few. Mrs. Lohrmann has been putting in some long days and nights preparing for this coming year. She is “transforming” from a first and second grade teacher into a preschool teacher. She has been tackling these projects whole-heartedly.

Another change you might not notice is the number of days the kids can come. Three-year-olds can now come two, three, or five days a week – this is a big change from the past. In fact, we have so many coming on Mondays and Wednesdays that we have opened up Tuesday/Thursday as another two day option. The four-year-old students can come three or five days a week. What a blessing to be able to share God's Word with the children more! Like last year, we have the privilege of sharing God's Word with people of other nationalities.

Mrs. Abbott will be coming back to help as an aide. Here, too, is another change. She will mainly be helping in the three-year-old classroom. Her previous experience of working with the preschool age will be a blessing to Mrs. Lohrmann, I am sure.

We will be adding something new to the curriculum this year. Gym Time, the time we work on gross motor skills, is not new. I have always had that time set aside in the schedule and in the last few years have made the program something I am proud to say I do. What is new, is that we will actually have a curriculum that extends throughout the entire school. Most, if not all of the school, will be using SPARK, a research-based curriculum, for physical education. I am very excited to use this program. One of the goals of physical education is to educate children on how fearfully and wonderfully their Lord has made them. We want children to love and care for their bodies throughout their lives. This program attempts to give them a base on which to build - not just the jocks - but all children. All of us can find some form of physical activity we enjoy.

In the book Changes, Changes the blocks are transformed many times. At the end, however, the blocks are returned to their original state. St. Peter's has undergone and will continue to undergo many more changes over the course of the years. Please pray for us. Pray that He bless our efforts. Pray that He guide the decisions being made and that we boldly and confidently proclaim His Word in its truth and purity. Pray that many more people come to believe in Him as the Savior through the work of the Holy Spirit. For while many changes are being made at St. Peter's, one thing never changes: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews13:8)

In Christ's Service,                      Christine Baganz

# Huron Valley Lutheran High School

A number of changes are taking place as HVL prepares for a new school year. Perhaps the biggest change is in staffing as our Athletic Director and Math and Phy Ed Teacher, James Ott, has accepted a call to Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School. However, we have been blessed with a replacement, Brian Kasten, who comes to us from St. Paul's Lutheran School in Cudahay, WI. Brian has already begun his duties at HVL and his wife will be teaching Kindergarten at Peace Lutheran School in Livonia. They have two children with a third on the way in September. To help Mr. Kasten ease into his new role, Mr. Ott's soccer coaching duties have been taken over by Matt Stockdale, an HVL alumnus, and boys basketball will be coached by Joe Zabrzanski, a highly respected coach who has coached for many years in AAU basketball and at much larger schools.

Meanwhile, the girls' athletic programs hope to continue their recent success this year. This fall they will be trying to win their third consecutive District title in volleyball. The softball team won their third consecutive District title this past spring and went on to win the first Regional title in HVL history. Three Senior girls from last year were awarded college athletic scholarships and will be sorely missed, but many other talented athletes return for another year.

Another new development at HVL for the coming year is that International students can now choose to attend HVL for up to four years. So far one student from China and two from Senegal have enrolled, and several more have asked for information. In addition, nearly 80% of all of last year's eighth grade students in our Lutheran Elementary schools have enrolled at HVL as Freshmen, the largest percentage in school History. There has also been a net gain of four transfers in the upper classes, including the three International students. With all of this, enrollment in the fall is expected to be about 90, well up from 77 students at the end of last school year.

Other changes have taken place this summer in the area of technology. The network and servers have been upgraded to add additional wireless capabilities throughout the school. A new policy is in place for students to bring their own devices to school in the form of laptops and tablets. To take advantage of this, teachers will be able to use Moodle course management software to enhance lessons with online components and to allow students to submit assignments electronically. Course offerings continue to increase through online courses, and this fall students will be taking online AP courses in Statistics and Psychology.

Despite the changes, the mission of HVL remains the same, to train young people for lives of Christian service. God's unchanging Word will remain at the center of all our classes and all our work at Huron Valley Lutheran High School.

## Roster Updates

We are currently updating our roster and will publish a new one this fall. Please check the one at the communion registry and mark any updates for you and your family.

# Board of Elders

## Understanding the Liturgy

Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis, Sanctus, Agnus Dei, Nunc Dimittis – you see these words in our liturgy, but do you really understand what they mean and why they are there? What do the parts of the Divine Service mean? Can you explain these to a visitor coming in for the first time who may find the order of service confusing and intimidating? Our historic liturgy is solidly based on God's Word, enabling us to receive His gifts in Word and Sacrament. We need to understand how this is done.

Saint Peter's has a new pew card, "The Divine Service - an Explanation", which explains what Lutherans do in worship and why. Each part of the service is explained in detail, along with scriptural references. This will help visitors and members alike understand the incredible depth and beauty of the Divine Service. It's also useful as a teaching tool for confirmation or Bible classes to help members deepen their knowledge and appreciation for the worship they experience each week.

Use this card to enhance your own understanding and appreciation of the Divine Service. Share it with visitors and others.

In service to Christ and his Church,  
James R Cutler, Chairman, St. Peter's Board of Elders

## PARENTS & TOTS

Greetings!

Where has the last quarter gone?!? While I am not ready for summer to end, I have been missing the little ones terribly, and am excited to be working with them soon!

There are quite a few changes in store for our 2-year-old program, starting with the name ~ Parents and Tots ~ to better reflect the adults that accompany the toddlers to class. We will be spending time in both the gym and the extra classroom. I hope this enables me to interact better with both the children and their caregivers. Due to the Lehmann's call, the program was short an aide for this year, but God continues to shower us with blessings. Karen Beckerman, Christy Nelson, Rachel Recto, Johanna Townsend, and Diane Wendland have all graciously volunteered their time to work on a rotational basis as the aides. Finally, there will be a nominal fee of \$100 per child to help cover expenses.

We have a good start on registrations, but there is room for more! Please tell neighbors, relatives, and co-workers about the class and have them contact me if they have questions. Flyers can be printed at [splp.org](http://splp.org) (go to the school tab and click on the "Learn More" link). If we get at least 5 families that are interested, we will start an afternoon session.

I am truly grateful to have the privilege of working with some of God's youngest lambs. Please continue to keep this program in your prayers.

Your sister in Christ,  
Shenal Smith

# MUSIC DEPARTMENT

During the summer months, the Music Department has continued to support St. Peter's worship activities with vocal music in service to our Lord and to the congregation. I have heard many appreciative comments about our soloists Lois Bude, Mark Castellese, Jim Cutler, Joan and Robert Kalish, Tom and Carol Schwartz, Doris Tomlin, and Julie Webber, with Paula Buermele, our flute player. Thanks to them for the faithful use of their considerable talents and for the time taken to prepare their selections. You will continue to hear from them throughout the year.

As the new school year begins, our adult choir begins a season of singing to the glory of God. This is a good time for those of you who wish to serve our Lord with your musical talents to join our Senior Choir. Please give prayerful consideration to participating in our group. The commitment is one hour during the week, plus singing two or three services per month. The rewards are many: the joy of making music in praise of our Lord, the development of musical abilities, and the fun of fellowship with other Christians. Senior Choir meets at 7 p.m., every Thursday evening, starting August 28, in the church balcony. We are finished by 8 p.m. When the Senior Choir sings, we practice at 8 a.m. on Sundays, before Bible class. Any instrumentalists are also welcome to join us for special services such as Reformation, the Candlelight Service, and Easter, as needed.

The Handbell Choir will play for the Candlelight Service as well as occasional Sunday services. We can always use ringers! We will be starting our Thursday rehearsals (6:30 p.m.) around September 18.

St. Peter's school teachers also prepare their students to sing for worship services once a month.

An important date to put on your calendars is the annual St. Peter's Candlelight Service on **December 14 at 6:30 p.m.** This year we will feature Scripture readings from the historical Advent and Christmas lectionary. Old Testament prophecies and New Testament fulfillment will be read, and responses will be sung by the Senior Choir, Chamber Choir, and school children. The handbell choir and other instrumentalists will have a large role in the evening's music.

If you have any questions about music activities at St. Peter's, don't hesitate to call me, Jan Jacobi (Music Director), at 248.924.2147, or email me at [janjacobi@comcast.net](mailto:janjacobi@comcast.net).

## Pastoral Acts

Below are Pastoral Acts since the last Messenger.

### **Baptisms**

Harper Linnelle Anderson  
Zachary Quinlan Sheehan  
Graham Patrick Sheehan  
Rory Thomas Sheehan  
George Patrick Barbet  
Curtis Krallman

### **Member Received by Child Confirmation**

Kimberly Beckerman  
Joseph Nelson  
Damon Pearce

### **Loss of Member by Release to Heterodox**

Grace Overlander  
(children: Margherite & Thomas)