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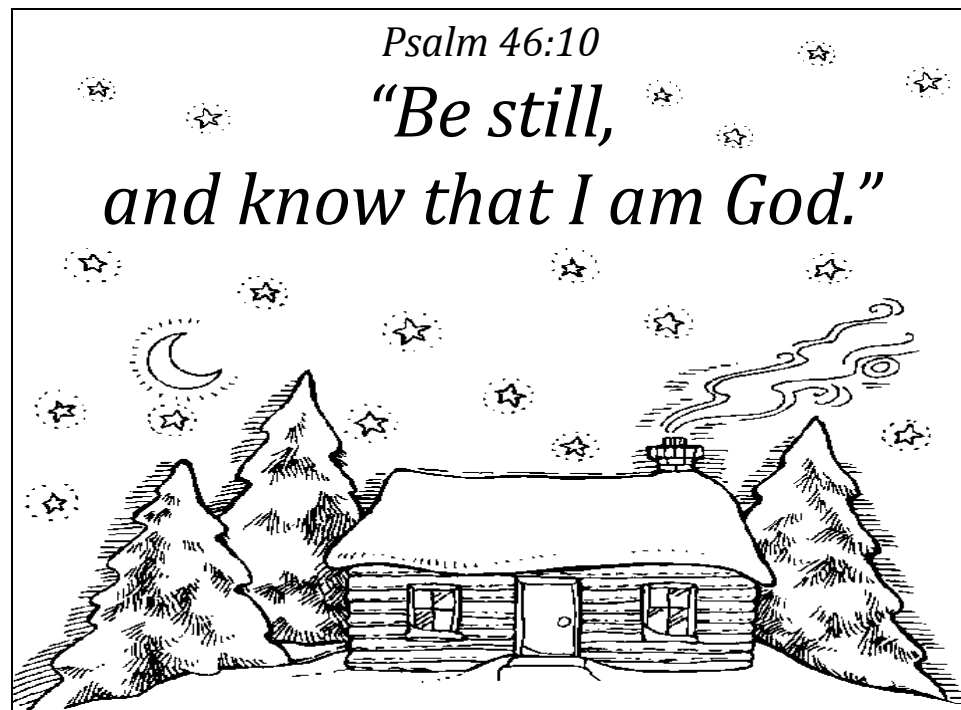
**Worship** every Sunday @ 9 am  
 every Thursday @ 7 pm  
**Bible Study** Sundays @ 8 am  
 Tuesdays @ 9 am  
 Thursdays @ 9 am & 7:45 pm  
**Sunday School** Sundays @ 10:15 am  
**Pioneers** 2nd & last Sunday @ 1 pm



*Messenger of Peace* is a publication of:  
 Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
 Wautoma, Wisconsin.

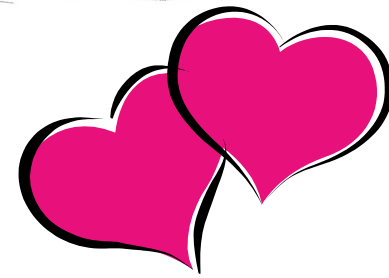
**Purpose**  
*Messenger of Peace* serves the Peace Ev.  
 Lutheran Church family with information  
 about people and events that are part of the  
 Peace ministry and with articles that  
 encourage Christian living.

**Articles**  
 Please forward information and articles to  
 Christine in the office by the third Sunday of  
 each month. Put in the office or email it to:  
 peacechurchwautoma@gmail.com

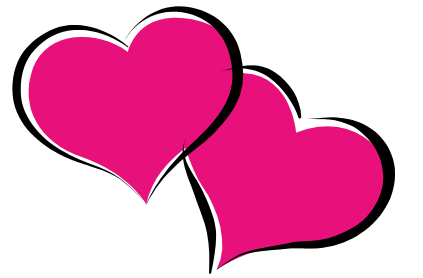


# Messenger of Peace

February 2016



## 2015 Annual Report



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### Lent & Easter Schedule "Shadows of the Savior"

#### Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 10  
 Worship with Holy Communion at 12 pm & 7 pm (same service)  
 No Worship on Thursday, February 11

#### Midweek Lenten Services

Thursdays, February 18, 25, March 3, 10, and 17  
 Dinner 5-6:30 pm  
*The entire family is invited to come for a free dinner & fellowship prior to worship*  
 Worship 7 pm

#### Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 20  
 Worship 9 am

#### Easter for Kids

Sunday, March 20 11:30 am  
*Kids ages 4K and up are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun and learning about why we celebrate Easter!*

#### Maundy Thursday

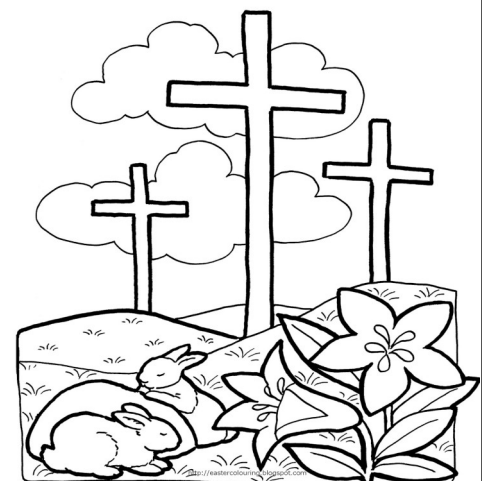
Thursday, March 24  
 Worship with Holy Communion 12 pm & 7 pm (same service)

#### Good Friday

Friday, March 25  
 Good Friday Worship 12 pm  
 Tenebrae Worship 7 pm

#### Easter

Sunday, March 27  
 Sunrise Worship 7 am  
 Easter Breakfast 8 am  
 Easter Song Service 9 am



### Same Old...

Have you ever said that, or felt that way? Sigh. "Same old..." Another boring year. Same dead-end job. Health hasn't improved. Bills keep coming. Same troublesome neighbors. More out-of-control government. More cold and more snow. Ugh...it's just the same old thing, one year after another.

We can start to sound a little like Eeyore, the pathetic little donkey friend of Winnie the Pooh. "Don't bother being happy on my account. Same dreary life." When we are experiencing a monotonous routine, we may find ourselves growing weary and disgusted with the 'broken record' patterns of life.

There is something that doesn't change from year to year (although I wish that it would). We are the same old sinners. We commit the same old sins. We're often discontented. We complain too much. We take credit when it is not due to us. We are easily angered. We are frequently disappointed, especially when things don't go our way. We are selfish and rude. We are greedy and impatient. Same old us. Same old sinners. Still deserving God's punishment for our sin and guilt.

It would be great if our daily love affair with sin would end. But there is one routine that is good. I challenge you to see that much of the pattern we see in life is a blessing from God. Consider the reading of Genesis 8:22 (NIV '84) "***As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.***"

There is a level of comfort and familiarity with a recognizable pattern. God's blessings surround us from day-to-day and year-to-year. He promises it. The seasons and weather patterns come with a certain amount of variation, but they are always here. The Lord provides us with seedtime and harvest. He feeds and provides for all His creatures this way. There is day and night, every single day of our existence. Our Lord is a God of wisdom and order. That remains unchangeable from day-to-day and year-to-year. Some might sigh in disappointment and say, "Same old..."

Do we? Are we no longer thrilled at the beauty of the seasons? Have we lost all interest in the mind-blowing variety of foods the Lord provides? Have the Lord and His patterns in our lives and in our world been denigrated to a 'ho hum' status in our heads and hearts? Has the message of God's love for us through Jesus and His cross become something we take for granted? Is the daily reminder of our salvation and eternal life in Christ barely raising our eyebrows?

God's pattern of loving and providing for us is the same old routine we have seen since we first met Him in the Scriptures. And that is terrific! We woke up this morning to enjoy another day of His grace! Today is a new day to feast on a variety of blessings which our gracious Lord pours out on us. We have a home, heat, clothing, food, life, breath, and many other physical gifts. And don't forget the greater gifts of God's never-failing presence, the forgiveness of our sins, new life in Christ, His promise to use all things (even those difficult things in life that don't seem like blessings) for our good, and the assurance of endless life with Him in heaven through faith in Jesus.

In this month's newsletter we examine the statistics of our annual report and thank our gracious Lord for another year of blessings. There are things that might lead us to say, "Same old..." But again, I challenge you to see how the Lord has blessed us in 2015 and gives us the confidence to serve Him boldly in 2016. Same old? Perhaps. But I like to think about it this way: the Lord gives us the same wonderful blessings year after year. We have His Word and His sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the structure of the liturgy in weekly worship. We have a family of Christians to serve and by whom we are served. We have seasons, planting and harvest, life and breath – all that we need. Praise the Lord! He continues to be our same old, reliable, faithful, loving, gracious, and generous God. Enjoy His blessings in this new year!

Pastor Roger Riedel

## A Short Story



### Jesus is the Suffering Savior

**He was despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering....  
He was pierced for our transgressions,  
he was crushed for our iniquities,  
the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.**

Isaiah 53:3,5

### God's Words of Love

Valentine's Day cards contain words that are chosen very carefully. They are meaningful words of love and affection. Sometimes when we are sending a valentine to someone, we might even agonize over which words to use. We want to choose the right words that express the deep love we have.

How about the words printed above by the prophet Isaiah? Would you include any of his words in a card to your loved one? At first thought you would say, "Absolutely not!" Words like "despised... rejected... sorrows... suffering... punishment" would be the last choice for a Valentine's Day card! But the Bible surprises us. These words from God are really a wonderful expression of his true love for people.

The first thing to understand is that Isaiah was writing about Jesus. Jesus, God's Son, was sent to earth to be the world's Savior. The Bible tells us that because of sin there was punishment looming for all people. But Jesus took that punishment on himself. Jesus is our Savior who suffered for sinners. He took all this suffering on himself, including death on a cross, so that people wouldn't suffer eternally.

The second thing to remember is that we are talking about something very personal to all of us. We were the ones Jesus came to suffer for. We were the ones who were headed to the punishment of eternal separation from God. Our sinful thoughts, words, and actions condemned us. But as the prophet wrote, "***He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.***"

Jesus' love for us is deep and long-lasting. It's not a shallow love that we might receive from others, or a love that is here today and gone tomorrow. Jesus' love is eternal. He promises that since he suffered and gave up his life for us, he will continue to love us each and every day.

Every time you open the Bible it's like Valentine's Day. These are God's words of love for you.



## Bringing Church to Those Who Cannot Come

By Randy Johnson, pastor at Our Savior, Perry, Mich.  
Let me tell you about a group of Christians who face real obstacles to getting to church. They sound like these: "I really cannot get out of bed." "I can't get into my wheelchair without help." "My walker is out of reach." Or simply, "I forgot." These are not feeble excuses. They are genuine obstacles. These are Christians who would gladly and eagerly be in church on Sunday, if only they could. These are the things I hear when I go to one of two elder care facilities in my area to conduct worship. In the Michigan District of WELS, there are nearly 25 pastors leading services for seniors in residential care facilities. These aged Christians may not be able to get to the chapel or common area without help. They may not remember what day it is. They may be feeling ill. They may have hurting feet and arthritic joints. But they want to worship. They desire to hear God's Word and be assured that their sins are forgiven. They long for encouragement to live another day. They hunger for a little snapshot of heaven to help them look forward to the joys that await them when the Lord finally calls them to his side. That is what we provide when we bring church to our elderly and aged. They may not know what day it is, or sometimes not even remember where they are, but when they gather to sing familiar hymns, recite the Apostles' Creed, and say the Lord's Prayer, they do so with tears of joy, smiling faces, and thankful hearts. They hear that even in their old age, they are still "Jesus' little lambs." Serving the spiritual needs of our elderly is not only rewarding but necessary. As the population of our aged Christian brothers and sisters grows, so do our opportunities to minister to them.

"He satisfies my desires with good things,  
so that my youth is renewed like the eagle's"  
(Psalm 103:5).

Peace Lutheran Church offers chapel services on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 10:30 am at Heartland House and Pastor fills in at Wild Rose Manor as needed.

## Connecting WELS Members

The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod offers several ways to connect members through social media:  
facebook.com/welslutherans  
twitter.com/welstweets  
Instagram.com/welslutherans  
vimeo.com/wels

**WELS Women's Ministry Conference**  
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, WI

# Mentors

July 21-23, 2016 Mequon, Wisconsin



**/Men-tôr/** - A Christian woman who lovingly shares her faith and life through relationships, to build up fellow believers and show Christ to unbelievers.

### WHAT IS THIS CONFERENCE ALL ABOUT?

- Biblical presentations on Christian mentoring
  - Practical application to everyday mentoring/ministry situations
  - Focused discussions on relevant issues facing mentors today
  - Proven methods for formal and informal mentoring
  - Networking with women to share ideas and resources
  - Sharing and brainstorming sessions for ministry teams
  - Useful information on opportunities for service
  - Personal coaching on ministry efforts
- Come be encouraged, nurtured and equipped in Christ.**

**Speakers & Presentations include:**  
*The Glorious Te Deum of Our Lives as Masks of God*  
Prof. Rich Gurgel  
*Follow My Example as I Follow the Example of Christ*  
Kathie Wendland  
*Jesus - A Mentor for Me* Dawn Schulz  
*Scripture's Women of Influence* Naomi Schmidt  
*Mentoring for Such a Time as This* Jill Schultz

Find out more or register at  
[wels.net/wmconference](http://wels.net/wmconference)

## Transformed: Devotions Connecting Teens to Christ

We recognize the challenges that our teens face in standing firm in faith and growing in that faith. The WELS Commission on Youth and Family is launching a weekly devotional series "Transformed: Devotions Connecting Teens to Christ." Check out a new devotion each week at [wels.net/transformed](http://wels.net/transformed) or subscribe to get them delivered to your e-mail at [wels.net/subscribe](http://wels.net/subscribe).

### Church Council

Donald Nelson, President  
787-5035 [donalddhlpcc@gmail.com](mailto:donalddhlpcc@gmail.com)  
James Schroeder, Secretary  
787-4331 [schroederjimjan@gmail.com](mailto:schroederjimjan@gmail.com)  
Robert Wedell, Treasurer  
715-228-3957 [themayor@uniontel.net](mailto:themayor@uniontel.net)  
DuWayne Bartel, Board of Elders;  
Financial Secretary  
787-7488 [jean2bart@gmail.com](mailto:jean2bart@gmail.com)  
Thomas Welty, Education-  
Communication Committee  
715-927-0550 [wthomaslinda@gmail.com](mailto:wthomaslinda@gmail.com)  
Robert Lang, Building & Grounds  
Committee  
414-313-0662 [bnlangs42@gmail.com](mailto:bnlangs42@gmail.com)  
Terry Proctor, Outreach Committee  
920-420-8190 [AllSeasonsQuality@att.net](mailto:AllSeasonsQuality@att.net)  
Roger Jansen, Stewardship Committee  
920-622-5165 [rzejansen@centurytel.net](mailto:rzejansen@centurytel.net)  
Pastor Roger Riedel  
920-787-7078 920-765-2883  
[revriedel8@juno.com](mailto:revriedel8@juno.com)

### Church Secretary

Christine Bohn

### Organists

Jean Bartel  
Verona Kloehn  
Donna Kuenn  
Beth Riedel

### Treasurer

Robert Wedell  
Barbara Bartel, Assistant

### Audit Committee

Russ Neero  
Neal Roebke  
Bob Sittig

### Budget Committee

Allen Treichel  
Russ Nero  
Watson Woodruff

### Finance Committee

DuWayne Bartel, Chairman  
Mary McKay, Asst. Financial Secretary  
Robert Wedell, Officer  
M/M Lynn Anderson, Counters  
Bernice Baranyk, Counter  
M/M Richard Ihlenfeld, Counters  
Dallas Krueger, Counter  
M/M Rod Nelson, Counters  
M/M Watson Woodruff, Counters



### Board of Elders

DuWayne Bartel, Chairman  
James Schroeder, Secretary  
Pastor Roger Riedel  
James Bower  
Roger Jansen  
Allen Treichel  
Watson Woodruff

### Lay Altar Assistants

Lynn Anderson  
Robert Lang  
James Lichtenberg  
James Schroeder  
Robert Wedell

### Worship Committee

Pastor Roger Riedel  
Marilynn Chesbrough, Chairperson  
Jean Bartel, Organist  
Verona Kloehn, Organist  
Megan Kubasta  
Donna Kuenn, Organist  
Beth Riedel, Organist; Sunday School

### Worship Elders

DuWayne Bartel  
Thomas Kuenn  
James Lichtenberg  
Neal Roebke  
James Schroeder  
Richard Vollrath  
Robert Wedell

### Computer Music

Samuel Riedel, HymnSoft Operator  
Richard Vollrath, HymnSoft Operator

### Hymn Boards

Samuel Riedel

### Education- Communication Committee

Thomas Welty, Chairman  
Pastor Roger Riedel  
Barbara Bartel  
Ahnsharee Klusmeyer  
Beth Riedel  
Beverly Walker  
Emily Bohn & Emily Riedel, Library  
Kevin & Christine Bohn, Pioneers  
Joshua Klamm, Sunday School

### JAM Session

Thomas Welty  
Pastor Roger Riedel

### Library Committee/Historian

Emily Bohn, Librarian  
Emily Riedel, Librarian  
Thomas Welty  
Pastor Roger Riedel

### Pioneers

Christine Bohn, Caravan Counselor  
Kevin Bohn, Trainmaster  
Rebecca Bohn, Junior Leader  
Ahnsharee Klusmeyer, Leader  
Beth Riedel, Sunbeams  
Emily Riedel, Junior Leader  
Pastor Roger Riedel, Leader & Chaplain  
Thomas Welty

### Sunday School

Joshua Klamm, Superintendent  
Pastor Roger Riedel  
Beth Riedel, Music; 2/3 yr old  
Emily Riedel, 4K/5K  
Rebecca Bohn, 4K/5K  
Jan Schroeder, 1/2/3 grades  
Christine Bohn, 4/5/6 grades  
Thomas Welty

### Sound System

Lynn Anderson  
Emily Bohn  
Kevin Bohn  
Megan Kubasta  
Samuel Riedel  
Richard Vollrath  
Thomas Welty

### Building & Grounds Committee

Robert Lang, Chairman  
Kevin Bohn, Maintenance  
Daniel Baranyk, Groundskeeper

### Outreach Committee

Terry Proctor, Chairman  
Pastor Roger Riedel

### Mornings with Mommy

Ahnsharee Klusmeyer, Program Director  
Beth Riedel, Lead Teacher  
Pastor Roger Riedel

### Peace Pantry

Emily Riedel

### Stewardship Committee

Roger Jansen, Chairman  
Pastor Roger Riedel

### Circle of Peace Ladies' Group

Donna McKay, President  
Bernice Baranyk, Vice-President  
Barb Bartel, Treasurer  
Beverly Walker, Secretary  
Pastor Roger Riedel

### LWMS

Marilynn Chesbrough, Reporter  
Barbara Bartel, Spiritual Growth

**Vacant:** Choir, Long-Range Planning,  
Men's Club, Nominating Committee

## NEW MEMBERS

Brendan Rooney  
Clair Mueller

## CONFIRMATIONS

Dayna M. Lemke  
Samuel R. Riedel  
Joshua J. Wedde  
Steven Rouse, adult confirmation

## BAPTISMS

Brentin Alexzander Nigl  
*Born 5/20/2013 baptized 3/28/2015*  
Eli Leroy Nigl  
*Born 1/30/2015 baptized 3/28/2015*  
Madilyn Sandra Ruth Darnick  
*Born 2/2/2015 baptized 3/28/2015*  
Jerika Jamie Rooney  
*Born 12/3/2014 baptized 5/31/2015*  
Justin Michael Barzano  
*Born 4/25/1992 baptized 7/5/2015*  
Tyson Alexander Paepcke  
*Born 2/20/2013 baptized 7/5/2015*  
Moses Christopher Hansen  
*Born 11/1/2015 baptized 11/8/2015*  
*by Pastor T. Klusmeyer at Camp Phillip, Wisconsin*  
Brielle Rae Gutierrez  
*Born 3/18/2013 baptized 11/20/2015*



## BURIALS

Kenneth C. Schwesenska  
*Born 7/17/1935; died 1/3/2015; burial 1/9/2015*  
Leonard E. Sittig  
*Born 1/24/1924; died 1/14/2015; burial 1/17/2015*  
Nancy R. Bartel  
*Born 10/17/1938; died 2/11/2015; burial 2/15/2015*  
Harold J. McKay  
*Born 2/7/1945; died 1/19/2015; burial 3/1/2015*  
Edwin A. Bruskwewitz  
*Born 9/4/1912; died 4/18/2015; burial 4/22/2015*  
LaVerne Keihl  
*Born 9/21/1928; died 4/19/2015; burial 4/25/2015*  
Arden A. Fenner  
*Born 5/1/1924; died 6/11/2015*  
Ruth M. Sampson  
*Born 5/20/1927; died 8/2/2015*  
Pastor Donald F. Johnson  
*Born 7/17/1931; died 10/24/2015; burial 10/31/2015*  
*@ Trinity, Redgranite*

## TRANSFERS OUT

Jacqueline Tesch to Living Water, Oshkosh  
Rebecca Tesch to Living Water, Oshkosh  
Peter & Trish Reitz to St. Peter's, Fond du Lac  
Walter & Carol Miller to St. Peter's, Eldorado

## RELEASED

Sharon Nelson  
Sara Siegel  
Sara Wilcox  
Renee Winklemann Autumn & Andre Stern

## Membership Statistics

### Worship Service Attendance

	2015	2014	2013	2012
Sunday	5878	6065	6496	7271
Thursday	879	1323	930	769
Total	6757	7388	7426	8040
Average	130	142	143	155
Special services average	61	70	67	71

### Bible Class Attendance

Average weekly attendance 43

### Membership

	2015	2014	2013	2012
Total Membership	260	267	290	287
Communicant Membership	224	235	247	247
Sunday School (2yo-6th grd)	26	28	30	40

### Communion

Total members received	2523	(2014: 2447; 2013: 2140; 2012: 2653)
Avg. per communion week	97	(2014: 94; 2013: 89; 2012: 102)



## News About Our Church Family

John 15:13

**Greater love has  
no one than this,  
that he lay down his life  
for his friends.**



## THANK YOU!

Thank you members of Peace, chairmen of committees, presidents of groups, and everyone who contributed articles and information to this year's Annual Report. Our 2015 Annual Report is one of the most complete reports that we have had. Thank you!



**YOUR Synod, YOUR News**

Subscribe to the WELS Together e-newsletter to stay connected with your synod and its ministry.  
[wels.net/Together](http://wels.net/Together)



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## Anniversaries

2/26 Steve & Heather Jansen (16)



## Birthdays

2/1 Donna McKay  
2/3 Gloria Raatz  
2/5 Carson Sigourney  
2/7 Emily Bohn  
2/8 Nathan Klusmeyer  
2/10 Colleen Zahn  
2/11 Woody Woodruff  
2/12 Carol Greathouse  
Jean Lemke  
2/14 Michelle Wedde  
2/19 Jackie Putskey  
2/20 Jan Schroeder  
2/22 Bev Walker  
2/24 John Benz  
2/26 Bob Wedell  
Keri Ihlenfeld



**F.Y.I.** If we missed your birthday or anniversary, that means the church does not have it. Please drop off dates at the church office, call 787.3856 or email [peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com](mailto:peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com)

*Your Father knows  
what you need before  
you ask Him.*

-Matthew 6:8





## Midweek Lenten Dinners

Our midweek Lenten Dinners will be on Thursdays, February 18, 25, March 3, 10, and 17. If you are interested in hosting a midweek meal, please use the sign up sheet on the back table in the fellowship hall.

Please see Christine Bohn (920-787-3856) with any questions about our midweek meals.

And, even if you don't host, your entire family is invited to join us on those evenings from 5-6:30 pm for a free meal and great fellowship prior to our midweek Lenten worship services. Bring a friend or neighbor!

## Big Projects, Little Projects

Our congregation at times is faced with projects of varying costs. One such project was the kitchen remodel in the parsonage. That project is complete, and under budget. The thanks for that goes to Bob Lang and Roger Jansen.

The projects are funded by different means. Examples include gifts, memorials, budgeting or loans from member of the congregation.

A small project that still needs to be completely funded are the new ranges in the church kitchen. If you haven't looked at them, be sure to stop by the church kitchen and have a peek! If you'd like to help with this, please designate on your check memo line or on the outside of an envelope "Church Kitchen Stoves".

One of the larger projects is replacing the church parking lot. To date, estimates are \$55,000-60,000. We do have a fund started with about \$20,000 for this project. To fund this, we may need to borrow money from the members of the congregation. If anyone wishes to remember someone or a special occasion, please keep these projects in mind. Thank you, The Stewardship Committee.

## Circle of Peace

**Saturday, February 13 9 am**

Curious what we do? Interested in women's ministries? Want to serve but don't know where? Join us at Circle of Peace! All the ladies of Peace are invited to join us!

## Is Your Family Involved?

It's never too late to join in on the fun we have here at church with our various youth groups!

### Mornings with Mommy

1st & 3rd Mondays at 10 am

An educational playdate for moms and their infants through preschoolers. Pre-registration is required for each session. \$5 per family fee per session.

Contact: Ahnsharee Klusmeyer 920.539.3560

### Sunday School every Sunday at 10:15 am

Classes for ages 2 years old- 6th grade

Contact: Pastor Riedel 920.765.2883

### Lutheran Boy & Girl Pioneers

2nd & last Sundays at 1 pm

The Pioneers is a youth ministry, open to ages Kindergarten and up, that serves to teach life and leadership skills, and to nurture Christian friendships that last into eternity.

Contact: Christine Bohn 920.765.2147

### JAM Session 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 5:30pm

We do not currently have a JAM Session leader!

If you are interested in leading this exciting group, or just helping out, please contact Pastor Riedel!

Contact: Pastor Riedel 920.765.2883



## Pine Car Derby

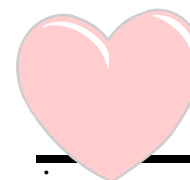
**Sunday, February 28, 2016 at 1 pm**

Cheer on your favorite car or get your own Pine Car and enter the Open Class of the Pioneers 2016 Pine Car Derby!

Join the fun as we race our way to victory!

Appetizers & Pine Car Registrations 12:30-1 pm  
If you wish, you can bring an app-to-pass  
Races start promptly at 1 pm

Please see Kevin Bohn (920-765-2146) to get a car if you'd like to enter the Open Class.  
The Open Class is open to anyone, any age, who isn't a Pioneer. The cost to enter the Open Class is \$5 to cover the cost of the car.



## Board of Elders Annual Report

Please see page 3 for a complete list of the Board of Elders membership.

The Elders are ministers of Christ and assistants to the shepherd (our pastor).

Our church bylaws Section 4B states:

"This board shall concern itself with the total spiritual life of the congregation.

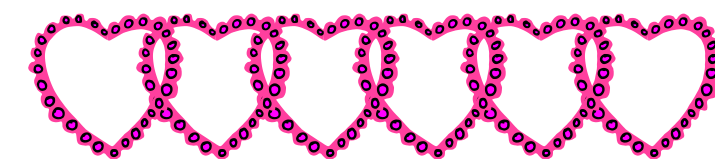
It shall visit, counsel and encourage members who have manifested a lack of concern for hearing God's Word, and the reception of the Lord's Supper and who have shown a general disregard for the works of the church."

Working with Pastor to restore inactive members continued to be a major effort in 2015 and will continue to be in 2016. I urge each of you to personally and lovingly encourage our fellow members, who have strayed from hearing God's Word, to return and worship with us. A visit, phone call or note from you means so much more to a straying person than a contact from Pastor Riedel and the Elders. Think about it; is there anything more important than a person's eternal soul? After numerous contacts and visits are made, we thank our Lord that some of our straying members have returned to worship again with us. Sadly, some will not be interested in returning to worship with us and will be removed from our membership roll; yet we continue to pray for their return.

In His service,

DuWayne Bartel (920-787-7488)

Chairman, Board of Elders



## Bible Studies

There are a variety of opportunities to dig into God's Word at Peace. Please feel free to attend the following courses. And if there is a topic you wish to study, let Pastor know- he is always looking for input. As we gather around the Word, we grow in knowledge and faith, and we are equipped for service in God's kingdom.

### Bible Information Class (BIC)

This is an overview of basic Bible doctrine. It is designed for those who wish to join our congregation, but is great for anyone who wishes to "beef up" on their knowledge of the basic teachings of Scripture. Call Pastor to schedule this class.

### Sundays at Peace

Our Sunday morning study meets in the "chapel room" at 8 am. Men, women, and teens at all levels of Bible knowledge are invited to attend.

### Tuesday & Thursday

Our Tuesday morning study meets in the "chapel room" at 9 am. Thursday morning class meets at the Lakeshore Restaurant from 9-10:30 am. Men and women of all ages and Bible knowledge are welcome.

### Confirmation

*Level 1 Confirmation* is a brief study of the Old & New Testaments. The course, "From Promise to Glory," uses an interactive DVD to make learning visual, stimulating, and fun. The class is an overview of the Bible's history, walking the students through God's promise of salvation in the Garden of Eden, to the glorious home in heaven for which we are preparing. Level 1 is for first year Confirmation students.

*Level 2 Confirmation* is our "traditional catechism class." Designed to be more in-depth, this class takes the students deeper into the doctrines, or teachings, of God's Word. We study the chief parts of the Bible as outlined in Luther's Catechism. Level 2 is for 2nd and 3rd year students and meets on Sundays at 10:15 am.

### Sunday School

Sunday School is where you'll find the younger sect of our congregation. We offer classes for all children, 2 years old through 6th grade on Sunday mornings, September- May, at 10:15 am. 7 & 8 grade students are either in Confirmation or are invited to assist with the Sunday School program.

**For more information on any of the Bible Classes offered at Peace, or for current topics, please talk to Pastor Riedel.**



## Audit Committee Report

We have reviewed the records of the treasurer and financial secretary and found them to be in good order. The Audit Committee  
Russ Nero, Neal Roebke & Bob Sittig

## Building & Grounds Committee

There may be some confusion and misunderstanding as to what the Building & Grounds Committee actually does. We do not build buildings. We do maintain buildings and grounds; we repair buildings and grounds; we improve buildings and grounds. It may also surprise some members of Peace Lutheran as to how much work goes on behind the scenes on a weekly basis. And each project requires a different skill to accomplish. Electrical problems require someone with electrical knowledge. A plumbing problem requires plumbing knowledge. Heating and cooling problems require someone with HVAC knowledge. Where do all these people with these skills come from? Look to the right of you, to the left of you, in front of and behind you on any given Sunday or Thursday. They are your fellow members. Peace Lutheran is extremely blessed and lucky to have members with these skills in the right place at the right time.

Blessed? Yes. Lucky??? Maybe. Romans 12:6-8 tells us:

*We have different gifts according to the grace given to us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.*

Is God in control? Of course He is. Does He see our needs? Of course He does. Will He answer our prayers? Yes, in His own way.

Time, Talents, Treasures. We all have God-given talents. We all have God-given treasures. Time can sometimes be limited, but if we look at our priorities, we may realize the most important use of our time is not pastime.

Please ask yourself what YOU can do for YOUR church. Join your fellow church family members and give back a portion of what God has given to you. You never know- you may meet new friends and enjoy the experience.

*A list of committee members is on page three.*

Prayerfully submitted,

Bob Lang (414-313-0662)

Maintenance Committee Chairperson

## Education- Communication Committee

Pioneers are in their tenth year at Peace, with 5 leaders and 26 Pioneers- more than we've ever had before! The JAM Session has been on hiatus this year, as we search for a new leader. Sunday School, in addition to class, hosts coffee hour, participates in a Christmas service and sings often during church. Level 1 is team-taught by Pastor Riedel and Nathan Klusmeyer and meets on Wednesday nights. Level 2 Confirmation meets on Sunday mornings. Tuesday Bible study is held at 9 am & Thursday Bible study is held at Lakeshore at 9 am, with growing attendance. There is also Bible Class on Sundays at 8 am. The church librarians have been very busy and will continue to be busy!

Check out the church website at [wautomapeacelutheran.org](http://wautomapeacelutheran.org). Many thanks to Pastor Klusmeyer for being our non-paid webmaster! We are on Facebook- become a fan! We post regularly.

We gladly give to our members, free of charge, Forward in Christ (the WELS monthly magazine), My Devotions (a quarterly devotion booklet for kids) and Meditations (a quarterly devotion booklet for adults).

The goal of the EDU Committee is to reach each and every one of our members with the Word of God. Education is not just for the children of congregation, it's for each one of us!

*See page three for a list of our committee members.*

2016 welcomes a new Chairman, Tom Welty. I have no doubt that he will be Jesus-focused and committed to the charge of Christian education here at Peace. I pray that our congregation sees the benefits of Christian education for all ages and I hope we all keep growing in the Word!

Everett Schulz (414-940-3293)

Outgoing Education-Communication Committee Chair

## Finance Committee

THANK YOU MEMBERS OF PEACE! With your support, the sale of property and some line items coming in under budget, we were able to end 2015 with the budget in the black!

The Budget Committee did a great job with this year's budget, holding it to a 1.3% increase. With the new year comes new opportunities to show our love for the Lord. There are still some repairs

# Financial Reports

## 2016 Budget

REVENUES	2015	ACTUAL	2016
General Fund	194,500	187,721.37	197,000
Property Sale		2,544.68	
Interest		54.97	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>194,500</b>	<b>190,321.02</b>	<b>197,000</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Pastors salary	42,181	42,181.00	42,943
Mileage Allowance	4,000	3,426.44	4,000
Housing Equity	633	633.00	644
Organist	2,700	1,440.00	2,700
Office Secretary	15,990	15,744.02	16,380
Custodians	4,000	311.90	4,000
Treasurer/Financial Secretary	1,000	1,000.00	1,050
Employer Social Security Tax	5,315	4,835.56	5,361
Health Insurance	22,000	23,280.00	25,000
Pension	2,500	2,800.00	3,000
Guest Pastor/Organist	1,200	2,466.60	1,500
Electricity	5,000	4,371.33	5,000
Heat	8,600	6,117.07	7,000
Water & Sewer	2,800	3,168.54	3,500
Telephone/Internet	1,500	1,528.52	1,110
Bldg. & Grds.	9,300	8,696.02	9,300
Insurance (BLDG,LIAB,WC)	5,200	5,284.00	5,400
Local Missions			
Communication/Ed Budget	8,000	8,058.80	9,400
Outreach Committee Budget	1,200	1,201.80	1,300
Stewardship Committee Budget	100	.00	100
Kitchen Supplies Budget	500	879.24	800
Worship Committee Budget	300	200.00	200
Circle of Peace Budget	500	643.77	500
Financial Secretary Budget	400	422.59	425
Office Budget	3,000	3,246.72	3,300
Treasurer Budget	200	252.08	430
School Tuition	20,000	20,002.19	16,000
Missions	19,200	19,200.00	19,800
Camp Phillip	1,800	1,800.00	1,800
LWMS dues	75	75.00	75
Peace Improvement Fund	2,400	2,400.00	2,400
Loan Payments	2,400	2,400.00	2,400
Misc./Other	506	860.78	182
<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>194,500</b>	<b>188,926.97</b>	<b>197,000</b>





## 2015 Financial Statement

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE – January 1, 2015 (checking acct)</b>		46,732.30
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
General Fund	187,721.37	
Gifts	17,863.87	
Checking Acct. Interest	54.97	
Reimbursements	1,850.08	
Memorials	2,105.00	
Insurance Claim Settlement	1,012.77	
Property Sale	2,544.68	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		213,152.74
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>		259,885.04
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Pastors Salary	42,181.00	
Mileage Allowance	3,426.44	
Housing Equity	633.00	
Organist	(1,440.00) 1,329.83	
Office Secretary	(15,744.00) 13,827.62	
Custodians	311.90	
Treasurer/Financial Secretary	(1,000.00) 923.52	
Social Security & Withholding Tax	7,130.41	
Health Insurance	23,280.00	
Pension	2,800.00	
Guest Pastor/Organist	2,466.60	
Electric	4,371.33	
Heat	6,117.07	
Water & Sewer	3,168.54	
Telephone/Internet	1,528.52	
Bldg. & Grds.	8,479.36	
Insurance (BLDG,LIAB,WC)	5,284.00	
Local Missions		
Communication/Ed Budget	8,058.80	
Outreach Committee Budget	1,520.73	
Stewardship Committee Budget	-	
Kitchen Supplies Budget	919.24	
Worship Committee Budget	200.00	
Circle of Peace Budget	643.77	
Financial Secretary Budget	422.59	
Office Budget	3,246.72	
Treasurer Budget	252.08	
School Tuition	20,318.69	
Missions	19,200.00	
Camp Phillip	1,800.00	
LWMS dues	75.00	
Peace Improvement Fund	-	
Loan Payments	2,400.00	
Misc./Other	860.78	
Non-Budget Expenditures	37,026.70	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		224,204.24
<b>ENDING BALANCE – December 31, 2015 (checking acct)</b>		35,680.80
Funds Balance in the checking acct	30,243.39	
<b>Total Usable Funds</b>		5,437.41

<b>FUNDS BALANCE</b>	
Pastor education	193.19
JAM Session	827.32
Sunday School	75.22
Hymnals	20.30
Library	92.36
Choir	1,376.84
Hearing Devices	200.30
Pioneers	33.72
Organ Fund	1,661.07
Student Assistance	1,018.17
Playground Equipment	492.33
LWMS	.00
Improvement Fund	2,845.81 **
Website	20.00
Vacation Bible School	101.00
Parking Lot Fund	19,663.59
Flower Fund	166.01
Montello Tuition	.00
Outreach	177.98
Shut In Ministry	1,078.83
Parsonage Kitchen	.00 **
Kitchen Stoves	.00 **
Property Sale	.00 *
Computer/Peripherals	199.35
<b>Total Checking Acct.</b>	30,243.39
<b>LOAN BALANCE</b>	7,922.94

\* Property sale money was added to the general fund.

\*\* The Parsonage Kitchen Fund & Kitchen Stove Fund was consolidated into the Improvement Fund.

to do in the parsonage. Our sound and video systems need some updating and down the line, we need to do something with the parking lot. I know some will say, "We just finished one budget and already he is asking for money." That is not the case. I believe in open communication and I believe if the members of our church know what is ahead of them in 2016, it will get done!!!! Please see page three for a list of our committee members and offering counters. May the Lord guide us in our giving throughout the year.

DuWayne Bartel (920-787-7488)  
Financial Secretary

### Outreach Committee

We had a busy year for the Outreach Committee! We walked the Christmas parade route in Wautoma and handed out over 300 flyers! Christmas for Kids saw a record attendance- 36 children joined us for all or part of the afternoon! We had a booth at the County Fair- thanks to all our volunteers! We helped the Pioneers financially be able to offer discounted ticket prices for the Timber Rattler game to guests. At Easter for Kids, we served around 20 children. We assisted the Pioneers and Mornings with Mommy with their booths at Blue Ribbon Kids' Day. We look forward in 2016 to serving our community and our church!

2016 welcomes a new Outreach Committee Chairman, Terry Proctor, and we are certain that he will continue our tradition of reaching out to our neighbors and community. Everett Schulz (414-940-3293)  
Outgoing Outreach Committee Chairman

### Worship Committee

The Worship Committee was created approximately nine years ago with the purpose of assisting the Pastor with planning of the worship services. There is a lot of thought and planning that goes into every service conducted in our church. Pastor Riedel leads the planning with input from the committee. Pastor first presents the readings for a service, including Old Testament and Gospel, along with the sermon text before choosing hymns, special music and other additions which may be appropriate. We usually meet monthly but sometimes more time is needed in planning at certain times of the year and an

extra meeting is necessary. This usually occurs during Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. A list of the members on this Committee is on page 3. A member of the Elder's Committee may also attend if a concern arises that this committee needs to address. If any member has any concerns or input regarding our service planning, please feel comfortable speaking with any of the members of the committee. Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Chesbrough (920-787-2519)  
Worship Committee Chairperson

### Church Library

This past year, we had our monthly Summer Story Hours and also added lots of new material to our library including DVDs and books. We also now subscribe to the magazine "Answers" which offers a Biblical worldview on creation and science issues. Be sure to check it out- it's so interesting! Inside each magazine is a mini-magazine entitled "Answers for Kids." Emily B. attended the WELS Librarians' Organization's Fall Conference at Good Shepherd in Wisc. Rapids. We are both planning on attending the Spring Conference in April. In 2016, we will continue with our Summer Story Hours. We are interested in what you want! If there is a book, DVD or CD that you would like to have in our library, please let either Emily know your suggestion! We look forward to serving you and the Church Library! Emily Bohn (920-765-2146) & Emily Riedel (787-7078)  
Librarians

### Circle of Peace

Circle of Peace has now met for two years. We have had the privilege to serve meals for a number of funerals and for Advent and Lenten dinners. The ladies make changes to the altar as needed for different parts of the church year, maintain flowers that have been donated, and organize our wonderful volunteers who keep our church clean. We also have representatives from LWMS who report to us about some of our mission fields within the synod. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to join us for meetings which take place on the second Saturday of each month at 9 am. It is a wonderful time to spend time in God's Word, have fellowship with each other as well as discuss the various ways we are able to serve the church. Come check it out sometime. We would love to see you at our next meeting. Ahnsharee Klusmeyer (920-539-3560)  
Outgoing Circle of Peace President



## JAM Session

JAM (Jesus And Me) Session is a youth group for all teens, 8th grade –12th grade and usually meets the first and third Wednesday of each month from 5:30-7 p.m.

**We have no JAM Session leader right now!**

If you are interested in helping out with JAM, or leading the group, please see Pastor Riedel (920-765-2883).



## Lutheran Boy & Girl Pioneers



With each year that passes, I am amazed at how the Pioneers has touched the lives of not only the families and the youth who participate, but mine as well. Ten years ago, I stood up in front of a group of ten kids and stuttered my way through our very first meeting. How time has calmed my nerves, and given us, as leaders, opportunities to share our lives with these kids in ways I never imagined!

The Lutheran Pioneers and Lutheran Girl Pioneers, national organizations, affiliated with WELS, but completely self-sufficient (no synod money goes to either the Boy or Girl Pioneers), were started about 60 years ago, in response to the Scouting movement. People in the WELS wanted to give our youth someplace to experience a group like the Scouts without the underlying doctrinal errors found in the Scouts.

I would like to thank the members of the congregation for supporting us and knowing how important the Pioneers ministry is. It gives the kids a sense of belonging here. It gives them the hope of faith and the fun of being with other Christians.

This is our tenth year at Peace; we are celebrating with the largest group we've ever had— sixteen Girl Pioneers, seven Boy Pioneers, two junior leaders and five leaders. Eight of our Pioneers are not members at Peace and of those, four Pioneers are unchurched. Beth Riedel is our Sunbeams leader (girls, kindergarten– 2nd grade), Christine Bohn is our Girl Pioneers leader (grades 3-8), Kevin Bohn is the Trainmaster (boys, all ages), Pastor Riedel is our Chaplain and also helps lead the Boy Pioneers, and Ahnsharee Klusmeyer assists wherever needed.

This year, we hosted our annual Chili Dinner and the Girl Pioneers hosted Advent by

Candlelight, we cleaned the church kitchen in January, will host our annual Pine Car Derby in February, go camping with a Pioneers group from Marshfield in the summer and so much more!

Looking back, we see the fun we've had; looking forward, we see unlimited possibilities for our ministry.

If you or someone you know would like to help at meetings, or if there is a child in your life, ages Kindergarten and up, who would like to join Pioneers, please give us a call!

Your Pioneers leaders,

*Kevin & Christine Bohn (920-765-2147)*

*Pastor & Beth Riedel (920-787-7078)*

*Ahnsharee Klusmeyer (920-539-3560)*

## LWMS

*(Lutheran Women's Missionary Society)*

Peace congregation is a member of the Wolf River Circuit of LWMS. The purpose of our organization is to support our synod missionaries in whatever way we can to encourage them and let them know they are not alone whether it be a Home mission or a Foreign mission. Ways in which we support our assigned missionaries is through regular prayers, special gifts for various occasions or cards to them or family members.

This 2015 year our missionaries were: (World Missions) Joel Sutton in Whiteriver, AZ and Thomas Zimdars in Phoenix, AZ. Missionary Zimdars serves a Hispanic congregation in metro Phoenix. The Wolf River Circuit hosts two rallies every year, one in the spring and one in the fall. On April 11, 2015 the rally was hosted by St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, Town of Center, rural Appleton. Our featured speaker was Pastor Ben Kuerth from Victory of the Lamb Lutheran Church in Franklin, WI. It was an outstanding presentation on starting a church in a city that already had several WELS churches but his attention was focused on the unchurched. On October 17, 2015 the rally was hosted by Divine Savior Lutheran Church in Shawano. The theme was "Let Your Light Shine: Glorify Your Father in Heaven". The featured speaker was Pastor Gary Lupe. He is pastor at the Apache Mission in Whiteriver, AZ. With of the support of all congregations in the Circuit, the air fare from AZ to WI was covered. The plate offering at the rally was designated for the Apache Christian Training School.

The mission offering which was collected at all churches of the Circuit (of which Peace is a part) amounted to \$4,004.85. The plate offering on rally day amounted to \$1,734.42 of which Pastor Lupe's Training School will receive a large portion.

Thank you members of Peace for your generous contribution to LWMS. We hope the pink envelopes in your envelope box are convenient and helpful in making an offering. Unfortunately, none of our members were able to attend the 2015 LWMS annual convention in Rapid City, SD. The 2016 LWMS convention will be held in St. Charles, IL. The Spring rally of the Wolf River Circuit will be held on April 16, 2016 at Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church in Black Creek, WI. We thank the Lord for you, members of Peace, for all your support of LWMS. Please consider joining us at our Spring rally.

In His Service,

Marilynn Chesbrough (920-787-2519)

*LWMS Reporter*

## Mornings with Mommy

We have been meeting on the first and third Monday of each month. So far, we have been able to serve and get to know a number of families from our community. We have a lot of fun singing, playing together, working on arts and crafts, and exploring fine and gross motor skills.

In April, we spent the morning at Blue Ribbon Kid's Day and hope to do the same this upcoming year.

If you are interested, we still have some cookie cookbooks for sale for \$10. They make great gifts! We have brochures and business cards available to hand out to people you think could benefit from this program.

Please see me, Everett Schulz, or stop by the church office to pick some up.

Thank you for all of your prayers and financial support. We are truly blessed through you!

Ahnsharee Klusmeyer (920-539-3560)

*Mornings with Mommy Program Director*

## Peace Pantry

*The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. ~ Psalm 145:15,16*

The Peace Pantry is located in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Lutheran Church. It is a well-stocked cupboard filled with everyday items that may be taken anonymously whenever anyone is in need of something. It is opened to everyone in our community. There is no fee.

The Peace Pantry is supported solely by free-will offerings and donations. We are very grateful to all of the wonderful people who have donated many items to the Peace Pantry. Your kind actions are greatly appreciated. If you are interested in donating some items, please call the church office.

If you or someone you know is in need, please make use of our pantry.

Emily Rose Riedel (920-787-7078)

## Sunday School

We have classes for 2 years old through 6th grade (7 & 8 graders are in the Level 2 Confirmation class taught by Pastor, held at the same time as Sunday school classes; those not in confirmation are invited to assist Sunday School teachers) and meet each Sunday from 10:15-11:30 am September through May.

*Please see page three for a list of our staff.*

We have are in year three of the new Christ-Light curriculum specifically designed for Sunday School use. The teachers and students are enjoying using this resource, which differs from Lutheran day school curriculum— no more do we hear: "We did that in school!" Talk with any staff member with any questions about the curriculum. The Sunday school rarely stays the same from year to year; we are often trying different things. This year, as we did last year, classes are separated differently than the usual two grades in each class. First, second and third grades are together and fourth, fifth and sixth grades are together. This arrangement seems to be working well for the students. It is also working well for staff, as we are down one teacher.

Parents: Please check your child's papers when they get home from Sunday School to see what they're learning. Sunday School is an extension of your family! We are here to assist families in their job of teaching and preparing these young Christians for life.

If you ever have questions or issues about anything that your child is learning, please contact us! We encourage you to visit your child's class, to talk to your child's teacher and be as involved as possible!

The Sunday School staff would like to thank everyone who supports this ministry, financially, with prayers, and with service.

Joshua Klamm (262-989-8872)

*Sunday School Superintendent*

