Pastor's Paragraphs

The liturgical calendar never stands still. From the wonders and promises of Pentecost Day, the third major feast day of the Church, we move into the second half of the calendar…the Time of the Church. The first half is designated as the festive half of the Church year. The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, the Transfiguration, the Feast of the Resurrection, the Ascension, and Pentecost Day highlight this half. Now, moving into the second half, the Church implements what we have celebrated during the first. We focus on making the Incarnation matter. We confess that Jesus is the Son of God. We incorporate the resurrection into our daily living and witness. We rejoice that at the right hand of the Father Jesus intercedes for us. We pray for the guidance and inspiration of God the Holy Spirit as we live from day to day. Welcome to the Time of the Church!

As you read these paragraphs, The Texas District will be in convention in San Marcos. This triennial gathering of the congregations of the district from 4 to 6 June will allow elections and the debate of resolutions pertaining to the direction of the district for the next three years. As I see it, the Texas District is the premier district in the LCMS. We do it right. I solicit your prayers for this convention. On a personal note, I am nominated to be elected as Vice President of Area D (read: greater Houston area) for the fourth, and final, time. Assuming election, I suspect that I will be ranked first Vice President of the district for the third time. For me there is an appreciation of being involved in a much broader understanding of the Church, the 370 congregations of the Texas District.

A blessed Father's Day to all who celebrate this month! As the "priest" for his family, a father, who serves as the spiritual head of his family, fulfills a God-given role. May God continue to uphold you in this noble and necessary position. Take a clue from God, our Father!

Vacations lend themselves to recreation, relaxation and restoration. Spending the time to do something difference refreshes us and reinvigorates us for return to the daily schedule. Weekly worship does the very same thing as vacations. Take advantage of this Sabbath time of returning to our God and learning of his goodness.

Speaking of vacations, Vacation Bible School starts up on the 22nd of June. We will be inviting 200+ youngsters to campus to learn more about Jesus. What a great opportunity for us to witness the joy we have as followers of Jesus Christ. Thanks to all who volunteer to make this week special for these young people.

Notes from Pastor

CONFIRMATION — Sixteen of our young people at Hope were confirmed on Pentecost Sunday. They are: Mitchell Ahrens, Ashley Alff, Grace Brooks, Hannah Craft, Andie Frank, Gabriel Gonzales, Elisabeth Guzman, Thomas Hamre, Ben Haverty, Elizabeth Hawkins, Zachary Little, Zachary Peterson, Brooke Pfleeger, Collin Rhodes, Travis Rhodes and Elizabeth Ricaldi. Congratulate them on their hard work. But most important, praise be to God for bringing these young people to faith, and growing and strengthening their relationship with Jesus through Word and Sacrament to give public confession of that faith in the Rite of Confirmation. We as a congregation are charged with helping them and all the faithful in our community to grow in faith and relationship with their risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

This summer we will offer a class for current confirmation students. We will be taking a look at some issues that don't get a lot of time during our regular confirmation classes, such as: "Why Does Life Hurt?", "The Family of Faith" and "Telling the Jesus Story." Each Sunday, beginning June 7th, we will meet to talk about these and other topics. So if you're here on Sunday, join us in Room 101.

Also, pencil in your calendar for July 10th — NERF WARS — The Summer Nerf-pocalypse!

WEBSITE — Work continues on the rebuild of our website. It may be close to completion by the time this newsletter goes to print. Check www.hope-lutheran.org frequently to watch for the update on our external face to the whole world.

COMMUNITY GARDEN — What's going on with the garden? Go out there and take a look! Potatoes should already be harvested by the time this newsletter goes to print. Tomatoes and beans are starting to come in as well. Later this summer, we will have peppers, cucumbers, yellow squash, and okra. And a couple of the trees are showing the beginning of fruit! It is our intent to give as much of this away as we can. Two outlets for this produce will be Mercy Tree and Christian Helping Hands. What to help out? Just let me know.

STEPHEN MINISTRY — A class to train new Stephen Ministers will begin January 2016. If you are interested in potentially being a Stephen Minister, let us know! We can start talking about it and praying about it now. It's not an easy decision. Stephen Ministry is a serious commitment that requires careful, prayerful consideration and many hours of study. If you are truly interested or feel moved to join this caring ministry at Hope, let me or any other Stephen Minister know. We want to help you, answer your questions, and walk alongside you as you prayerfully consider.

This summer is a busy one for me personally. Right after school ends, I go to San Marcos as Hope's pastoral delegate to the Texas District Convention June 4th — 6th. VBS is June 22nd — 26th. And right after VBS, my family goes on vacation for 10 days.

Have a blessed summer, take time to slow down and enjoy our Lord's creation, and don't be a stranger! We'd love to see you here on campus!

His Peace Be With You,
Pastor Jon

Music Ministry

To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise,
To you, Song Incarnate, we give all our praise,
To you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,
Be glory for ever, through life and through death.

As we begin our summer Sabbath, I would like to thank all the musicians who faithfully serve in worship. We run our music programs from August through May, and these folks commit to weekly rehearsals, regular Sunday worship services, and spending major church festivals in the balcony. It is amazing that we have such dedicated volunteers who use their gifts and talents in service to our Lord and Hope Lutheran Church.

I would also like to thank a special group of people who serve on our Sound Team. They are responsible for troubleshooting problems in the middle of worship and providing sound for whatever combination of instruments / vocals we throw at them. We greatly appreciate their service! Thank you, Sound Team!

The children's music ministry program will also be on Sabbath for the summer. I would like to thank all the parents who help us with the children and all the parents who bring their children to rehearsals. Also, a special thank you to Penny Thomas for leading the children's choirs and chime choirs for us this year!

Summer Music Camp is right around the corner! We invite everyone to come and watch the production of The GO Tour, our summer musical. The performance will be at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 16th in the Family Life Center.

Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord!

Stephanie Poyner
Director of Music

Off to camp. . .

It's our summer at Camp Eagle and we're hitting the ground running just days after school gets out, 40 teens and adults are accepting the challenge. We follow a three-year rotation with mission trips, National Youth Gathering and camp and each could claim my favorite for different reasons. Camp specializes in bringing the crew together, in drawing out relationships and challenging personal growth. Hurdles will include trusting one another in pitch blackness, overcoming heights and depths, pushing physically and emotionally and lengthy amounts of time digging deeper and deeper into God's Word. There is the refreshment of the waterfront, the camaraderie of the dining hall and the chaos of coming together with more than one hundred other teens for energetic worship and praise. We come back changed every time, blessed in ways some will only discover later in life. We're off to camp — see you at VBS!

A grand thank you for all of the support, encouragement and financial contributions to our youth ministry program already in 2015! Special thanks to the Matthijetz family for our grand new gaga pit! The game is a popular choice any time we are at camp and has been on the youth wish list for a long time — thanks also to John Loessin and Ace Hardware-Pearland for the contribution of lumber to complete the pit which can be used in or outdoors. Additional thanks to the Fruits of the Spirit Small Group who put in long, sticky hours creating a garage sale that raised more than $1,300 for youth ministry, helping kick off funding for the summer 2016 trip. Thanks to those who hired youth for yard work, who padded the babysitting payment, who simply wrote a check, who cooked the spaghetti, loaded up furniture and assemble the game. We are immeasurable blessed in our faith family!!!

CALENDAR:

BASIC (Senior High) will meet intermittently over the summer, please watch your email, Facebook, etc. for notice of activities.

Coming soon: VBS Crew training, VBS crew fun day and summer Nerf Wars!

Everest VBS ~ Conquering Challenges with God's Might Power
June 22nd — 26th, 9:00 a.m. — noon

We still need some crew leaders and helpers in a few of our stations. Please look over the sign-up boards in the Narthex to find a place you can serve.

Adult crew chiefs are also needed and make a BIG difference in helping VBS to run smoothly.

Please see Krista Beken, Director of Children's Ministry, with any questions: 281-482-7943 ext. 116 or kbeken@hope-lutheran.org.

Wednesday, June 17th — MANDATORY crew leader training and youth work meeting — 7:00 p.m. in the Great Rom.

CrossTraining

All Sunday School students will stay with their current classes throughout the summer. We will have Rally Day in the fall to jump start the new school year and promote to new grade level classes.

Cross Training Summer Teachers Needed:

Our Cross Training teachers do a wonderful job of faithfully leading and teaching our children throughout the school year. We would like to give them the chance to relax and refresh during the summer.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering a few hours of your time during Cross Training beginning in June. Even leading a class for just one Sunday would make a big difference. All teaching materials and supplies will be provided for you.

To volunteer, please see the sign-up boards in the Narthex, or contact Krista Beken, Director of Children's Ministries at 281-482-7943 ext. 116 or kbeken@hope-lutheran.org.

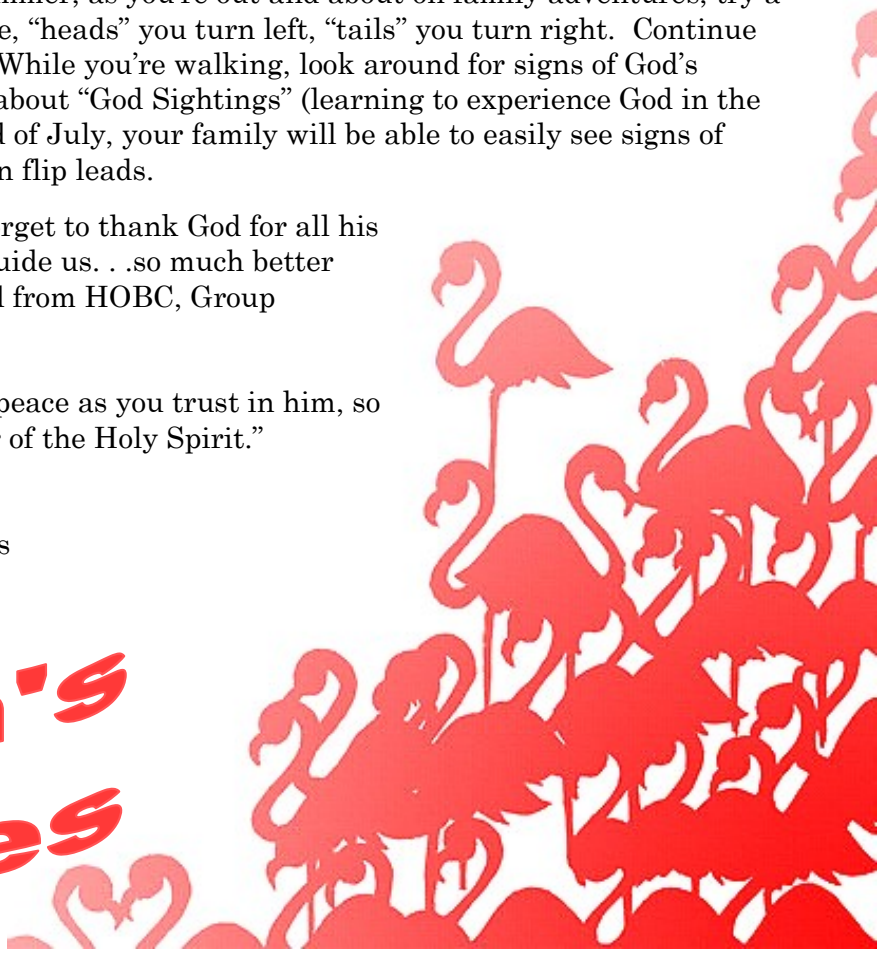
Heads or Tails

One of our last lessons in the *Hands on Bible* curriculum for this school year was about The Holy Spirit being our guide. (John 16:5-15) This summer, as you're out and about on family adventures, try a twist and let a coin be your guide. For example, "heads" you turn left, "tails" you turn right. Continue this at each corner, stop sign, or intersection. While you're walking, look around for signs of God's presence, or "God Sightings." We'll talk more about "God Sightings" (learning to experience God in the every day) during VBS. Hopefully, but the end of July, your family will be able to easily see signs of God's handiwork, no matter which way the coin flip leads.

At the end of each walk, don't forget to thank God for all his creations, and for sending the Holy Spirit to guide us. . .so much better than the flip of a coin. (Coin flip walk adapted from HOBC, Group Publishing)

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15:13

Krista Beken, Director of Children's Ministries



Children's Ministries

Attention: All Crafters

Would you like to share a booth with other Hope members at the Hopefest craft fair?

You may bring several handmade items for a two-day booth fee of just $7.00. Any type of crafts acceptable, wood, cloth, paper items, plants, canned goods, ceramics, etc. You price your items and the proceeds go directly to you.

Call to reserve your space.

Janet Burtzlaff — 281-482-7763
Donna Battenfield — 281-992-0454

Ladies Guild Support System

Support and Serve are two of our Ladies Guild mainstays. We've will be serving at Hope's VBS Ice Cream Social marking yet another God-blessed gathering of young children learning of Jesus. We continue our monthly support to Lutheran World Relief and to a Lutheran Bible Translator. Not only do these translators go to live in foreign countries, they must learn the language so as to translate the Good News.

We continue our support to the Good Samaritan homes that house physically handicapped and to Christian Helping Hands who provide food to those in need in local areas.

And our Mite Boxes are designed to be filled with coins (and folding money) to support mission fields throughout the world. It was on this that the Lutheran Women's Mission League was founded. God bless its continuation. . .

Some fellowship plans are underway for a Family Night on June 30th. This will be a fun evening for all of Hope, a time to visit, eat and be entertained (a little bit) and just relax. We might offer a fashion show, promising nothing from Macy's, Dillard's or even Goodwill, or a skit sharing an opening night and a closing night, never to be seen on Broadway. . .well, come see.

Ladies, if you have not visited or joined the Guild, please give it a try. . .something for every God -given gift to be used for His service.

Summer Volunteers in Action

As you plan for your summer gatherings, vacations, etc., don't forget to give yourself the best gift you can give — the gift of service to others. There are so many opportunities to serve at Hope during the summer months. Vacation Bible School is June 22-26. It is always exciting to see these students grow in their faith! Please check with Krista Beken if interested.

July 13-17 is Music Camp. Music and faith; what a great way to inspire our kids! Contact Stephanie Poyner if you would like to see how you can help.

We also need Coffee Hour hosts for July and August. Gather your family and friends and host for one, two, or more Sundays. Our Coffee Hour is a wonderful serve as we join together in fellowship. Please contact Rita Henderson at 281-482-7943 ext. 114 or rhenderson@hope-lutheran.org if you want to volunteer and she will give you all the details.

Looking forward to seeing you at Hope.

Stephen Ministry Q & A

A Stephen Ministry Question and Answer Time? Here is some information that can help. Usually, we want to know just "what is it?" about most everything new or different. Stephen Ministry, of course, is not new or different, but if you never needed this care, you might be a bit vague on the particulars. If you have had difficult days, troubled relationships, heartache or stress, you already know what a caring friend can mean.

Why the name "Stephen Ministry?"

Just as Biblical Stephen was assigned to care for the fellow believers around him, so God has called and gifted men and women from Hope to do the same.

What experience do Stephen Ministers have that enable them to help today's life experiences?

50 hours of concentrated training precedes formal commissioning and on-going education follows. This, added to the wealth of life experiences and the resources available, provide a wide knowledge base from which to draw. And know, that God calls those whom He will also equip.

We all have different concerns. . .do many ask for help? If not, why not?

Crisis and stress come in many forms, health, vocation, family. . .someone may be embarrassed or afraid of loss of privacy. Some fear being told what to do and some may expect a "cure." The truth is no one is judged or made to feel guilty just as no solution is promised.

Then, just what can be expected?

When true, God-centered listening occurs, problems are openly explored. This leads to ones working toward goals and strategies to ease and redirect stress and relationships. The worth of relief and peace in this caring setting is invaluable, filled with new resolve, direction and courage.

When will I have a Stephen Minister?

Only you can answer this, know this. Pray for the strength and courage to ask when you have the need. Soon as you do, Pastor Jon will see that a personal Stephen Minister is assigned for you, for as long as needed.

It Takes a Village

Dear Church Family,

Larry and Nancy Stiles took in two teens last year to give them guidance, support, and help navigating into adulthood. These two sisters have no parents, no extended family — just four older siblings. Their mother died when they were in elementary school and have never known their father. These girls have been reared by their sisters and basically raised themselves. We stepped in last summer and have been blessed to have them in our lives to offer a safe home, stability, and guidance.

Joalma Molina is 19 (birthday: August 3) graduated from High School last year, attended San Jacinto College this year, and will transfer to Stephen F. Austin in the fall to study nursing.

Justine Molina, an 18 year old senior (birthday: August 16) graduated in May from Friendswood High School and will attend Alvin Community College for the next year to get her core classes completed before transferring to a Texas University.

Since they have no family, we are asking our church friends to fill in the gap and send them good wishes and prayers as they reach these huge milestones in their lives. Would you be willing to send them a graduation card and other good wishes card so they know they are other adults praying for them on their new journeys? We have made a lifetime commitment to be their family and would appreciate your support.

If so, please mail to 1905 De Sota Street, Friendswood, TX 77546.

Thank you, Larry & Nancy Stiles

Upbring Krause Children's Center

Please join Upbring, The New LSS, in their mission to break the cycle of child abuse by empowering children, families and communities.

Upbring is sponsoring a golf tournament on Monday, June 15, 2015 at Black Horse Golf Club, 12205 Fry Road, Cypress, TX. Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. with a Shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. Tournament fee is $250.00 per person (raised or pay).

For more information on how to register, please contact Diane Covert at Diane.Covert@Upbring.org.

Thrivent

Thrivent members will meet on Sunday, June 14 at 9:15 a.m. during coffee hour for a short meeting. The purpose of this meeting is as follow:

- To ascertain a universal project for Thrivent Choice Dollars for one quarter or for a year (to be decided by group).
- To ascertain how many members would be willing to lead a Thrivent Action Team at some future time.
- To begin laying the ground work for future meetings as the Thrivent Galveston chapter will be ending.

Fiscal Year (04/01/15 - 03/31/16)
As of April 2015

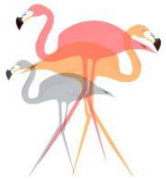
	ANNUAL	Y-T-D	Y-T-D	% OF PLAN
Operating Receipts	$1,089,012.00	$81,168.98	$72,968.44	89.90%
Early Childhood Tithe	$45,000.00	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	100.00%
Total Receipts	$1,134,012.00	$84,168.98	$75,968.44	90.26%
Outreach	$74,405.00	$5,946.25	$5,727.00	96.31%
Education	$9,250.00	$273.50	$175.44	64.15%
Children	$2,350.00	$0.00	$0.00	0.00%
Youth	$15,200.00	$326.97	$279.17	85.38%
Music	$5,500.00	$306.30	$224.73	73.37%
Assimilation	$2,600.00	$50.00	$37.78	75.56%
Misc. Ministries	$11,600.00	$666.67	$488.15	73.22%
Personnel	$633,157.00	$49,362.01	$47,706.14	96.65%
Finance	$101,950.00	$7,806.90	$7,806.71	100.00%
Facilities	$225,750.00	$17,811.93	$11,870.95	66.65%
Office & Worship	$42,750.00	$2,971.03	$2,406.09	80.99%
Omnibus	$9,500.00	$916.65	$639.70	69.79%
Total Expenditures	$1,134,012.00	$86,438.21	$77,361.86	89.50%
Income Less Expenses		($2,269.23)	($1,393.42)	

Debt: $1,457,939.38

Birthdays And Anniversarie

Gruener, Barbara	6/1
Pampell, Rodney	6/2
Lobaugh, Shane	6/3
Centeno, Brianna	6/6
Pirker, Dana	6/6
Walls, Paul	6/6
Dippel, Kirk	6/7
Nelson Jr., Roy	6/7
Petersen, Junelle	6/7
Bacon, David	6/9
Bubendorf, Gilbert	6/9
Kuehnle, Ryan	6/9
Korth, Joy	6/10
Warren, Anthony	6/10
Hinga, Kristen	6/11
Phillips, Dale	6/11
Gebhardt, Levi	6/12
Rebstock, Jordan	6/13
Wenzel, Austin	6/13
Brown, Bruce	6/15
Howard, Theresa	6/15
Melcher, LaVerne	6/15
Goldsmith, Anne	6/15
Chauvin, Matthew	6/16
Guzman, Albert	6/16
Leveritt, Dawn	6/16
Schulz, Daryl	6/16
Manis, Alyssa	6/17
Sieraski, Rene	6/17
George, Brett	6/18
Mulsow, Erika	6/18
Mulsow, Madelyn	6/20
Singh, Rexanne	6/20
Foshee, Hannah	6/22
Walleck, Sammy	6/22
White, Becky	6/22
Hinga, Thomas	6/23
Raymond, Kay	6/23
Little, Zachary	6/24
Foshee, Charles	6/25
Ott, Kinsley	6/25
Bors-Koefoed, Kathy	6/26
Ott, Summer	6/26
Zalkin, Chad	6/26
Aman, Mason	6/27
Foshee, Ann	6/27
Petersen, Fred	6/27
Wilson, Krystle	6/27
McCollum, Scotty	6/28
Mortensen, Faye	6/29
Scheer, Michelle	6/29
Birch, Shawn	6/30
Fisbeck, Dorothy	6/30
Gary & Patricia Doerre	6/1
John & Barbara Gruener	6/1
Doug & Kimberly Koch	6/5
Calder & Mary Gibson III	6/6
Dale & Christine Peterson	6/6
Allen & Karen Hawkins	6/8
Russell & Sarah Chauvin	6/9
Henry & Margie Riley	6/10
David & Michele Wilson	6/10
Chad & Angie Zalkin	6/11
Chad & Dawn Leveritt	6/12
Robert & Julanne Lott Jr.	6/12
Robert & Mary Beth Davis	6/13
John & Candice Blaylock	6/14
Charles & Sarah Gabriel	6/14
Gary & Kim Orsak	6/14
Ivo & Ineke Dabelic	6/15
Glenn & Carol MacRill	6/15
Richard & Susan Hahn	6/17
Kevin & Carrie Cox	6/18
Roy & Leisa Nelson Jr.	6/18
Eddy & Melissa Hovorka	6/19
Harvey & Donna Braswell	6/20
Shane & Jennifer Lobaugh	6/20
Brian & Lauren Weth	6/20
Jon & Junelle Petersen	6/24
Kenneth & Karen Yarborough	6/25
John & Brittany Hobratschk	6/26
Dale & Katherine Kohn	6/26
Tom & Pat Anderson	6/27
Donald & Judith Clark	6/28
Ray & Jill Fournier	6/30
John & Rebecca Todd	6/30

This Month at Hope

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	6/1/2015	**6/2/2015**	**6/3/2015**	**6/4/2015**	**6/5/2015**	**6/6/2015**
	Braille 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:00 AM Small Group (Henderson) 10:00 AM Small Group (Huning) 7:30 PM		Small Group (Erickson) 10:00 AM	**TEXAS DISTRICT CONVENTION** Small Group (Hinga) 7:00 PM Small Group (Women's) 7:00 PM	Small Group (Petersen) 6:30 PM	
6/7/2015	**6/8/2015**	**6/9/2015**	**6/10/2015**	**6/11/2015**	**6/12/2015**	**6/13/2015**
TEXAS DISTRICT CONVENTION Eucharist 8:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM Confirmation 9:45 AM High School Sunday School 9:45 AM History of Christianity 9:45 AM Men's Ministry 9:45 AM Parent Study Group 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Together with Jesus 9:45 AM Video & Discussion Group 9:45 AM Women's Study Group 9:45 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Small Group (Butler) 5:00 PM	**MEALS ON WHEELS** Staff Meeting 9:00 AM Stephen Ministry 7:00 PM	**CAMP EAGLE - HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH** Ladies Guild 7:00 PM		Lakeview Quilt Guild 9:00 AM Small Group (Women's) 7:00 PM		Small Group (Kerch) 5:30 PM
6/14/2015	**6/15/2015**	**6/16/2015**	**6/17/2015**	**6/18/2015**	**6/19/2015**	**6/20/2015**
CAMP EAGLE - HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH Eucharist 8:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM Confirmation 9:45 AM High School Sunday School 9:45 AM History of Christianity 9:45 AM Men's Ministry 9:45 AM Parent Study Group 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Together with Jesus 9:45 AM Video & Discussion Group 9:45 AM Women's Study Group 9:45 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Raising a Modern Day Knight 12:30 PM	Staff Meeting 9:00 AM Small Group (Henderson) 10:00 AM Small Group (Huning) 7:30 PM		***Newsletter Deadline*** Small Group (Erickson) 10:00 AM VBS Volunteer Training 7:00 PM	Small Group (Hinga) 7:00 PM Small Group (Women's) 7:00 PM 	Small Group (Petersen) 6:30 PM	
6/21/2015	**6/22/2015**	**6/23/2015**	**6/24/2015**	**6/25/2015**	**6/26/2015**	**6/27/2015**
Eucharist 8:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM Confirmation 9:45 AM High School Sunday School 9:45 AM History of Christianity 9:45 AM Men's Ministry 9:45 AM Parent Study Group 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Together with Jesus 9:45 AM Video & Discussion Group 9:45 AM Women's Study Group 9:45 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Small Group (Butler) 5:00 PM	**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** Stephen Ministry 7:00 PM 			Board of Directors' Meeting 7:00 PM Small Group (Women's) 7:00 PM		Small Group (Kerch) 5:30 PM
6/28/2015	**6/29/2015**	**6/30/2015**				
Worship 8:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM Confirmation 9:45 AM High School Sunday School 9:45 AM History of Lutheranism 9:45 AM Men's Ministry 9:45 AM Parent Study Group 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Together with Jesus 9:45 AM Video & Discussion Group 9:45 AM Women's Study Group 9:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM	Staff Meeting 9:00 AM					

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Jonathan E. Petering, Associate Pastor