

# The Churchman

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

250 Woodside Road, Riverside, Illinois 60546 \* (708) 442-5250

*“Faith Active in Love”*

www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

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*We are called together by the Holy Spirit around Word and sacraments to glorify God the Father, creator of all things, through our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust God to nurture lives of faith and hope, as we serve and give witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world.*

**Open Air Worship in the Church Gardens  
with the Blessing of Animals  
Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Observance of the  
Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi,  
Renewer of the Church, died 1226 (October 4<sup>th</sup>)**



*Francis was the son of a wealthy cloth merchant. In a public confrontation with his father, he renounced his wealth and future inheritance and devoted himself to serving the poor. Francis described this act as being “wedded to Lady Poverty.” Under his leadership the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans) was formed, and they took literally Jesus’ words to his disciples that they should take nothing on their journey and receive no payment for their work. Their task in preaching was to “use words if necessary.” Francis had a spirit of gladness and gratitude for all of God’s creation. This commemoration has been a traditional time to bless pets and animals, creatures Francis called his brothers and sisters. A prayer and a hymn attributed to St. Francis are included in Evangelical Lutheran Worship (p. 87, #835).*

**The liturgy on October 2<sup>nd</sup> will include a blessing of animals, so feel free to bring your pets to worship with us that day.**

Gracious and loving God, you place all living things into the care of humankind. We pray that companionship with household pets will deepen our care for animals everywhere. Help us to balance our needs with theirs, and lead us in ways of life together that will be sustainable for all. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen

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## Images of the Season: Autumn



A visit to an antique shop or second-hand store reveals the “in between” way in which objects are categorized. An old tattered quilt, an incomplete set of dishes, a refinished chest of drawers, faded paintings and pictures that are too good to throw away—all of these items remind us that times passes, yet has not concluded. Likewise, an item's worth can change: its value increases for some and it decreases for others. An in-between time, betwixt the beginnings and endings, the

feasts and the fasts—this is autumn liturgy.

In a way, autumn is an arbitrary and ambiguous time of the year. With the post-Pentecost season's length extending from early summer to early winter, the church often struggles with a focus at this midpoint. Of course, it is a time for continuing growth in faith, a time for building on the foundations that have been witnessed through the resurrection appearances. Yet the challenge of this time of year often overwhelms. Where is the church headed? It is like waiting for a train that can be heard in the distance, yet seems to take forever to arrive.

The biblical stories are familiar and well-worn. They have tinges of memories associated with them. They have been heard before. Once in a while, there is something new and fresh, vital and surprising about the stories; more usually, though, they are retold with a rehearsed expectation and familiarity. They are, after all, part of the celebrated canon. They are a given.

Yet, at the very same time, it is the richness found in the retelling that offers a breath for new life. That which is well-worn is revitalized through an intimacy in a deep and abiding recollection of what is true and good, honorable and pure. Autumn liturgy is a time for homecoming, a coming home to Christ.

Autumn itself always brings about a number of changes. The seasons are marked by cycles of reversals: the stars shift in the sky; the natural world finds new ways of living. Likewise, school's days begin or end, new calendar years are established, old patterns of living are undertaken. A cabin might be closed for the winter, new windows put up on the house, clothing styles changed—these are marks of a shifting and transitional time.

*—continued on next page...*

Even though this change is apparent, it takes different ears and eyes to notice that the changes are not always dramatic or even recognizable. Conversion is much the same, seldom happening in an earth-shaking way. More often, transformation takes place in the ways that are hidden in the heart.

Perhaps it is the time of year to look for the subtle and simple nuances that contribute to a common faith. Perhaps it is the time of the year to revisit those aspects of faith that are considered understood and agreed upon. That would give an opportunity to interrogate and discover anew the richness of a life lived within the liturgy of the church.

To investigate the pattern of the liturgy might be a good place to start. To see the possibilities within the pattern of gathering, receiving, experiencing, and sending through the word and sacraments affords the chance of liturgical formation. This is not to say that everything ought to be explained in great detail. That kind of didactic teaching can rob the liturgy of its multiple meanings. Rather, to reflect briefly in a homily or in a Sunday bulletin about the pattern that shapes community life—that might be the way to look anew at what is given, to see afresh what is gift. Liturgical formation is reflecting on how an understanding of the liturgy can help to shape the Christian life.

Patterns of formation are abundantly present in the texts for this time of year: teachings and healings, parables and ponderings. This was the reason Jesus gathered people together, to shape both their understanding and their living—to form them as children of God. This is the task of any catechesis: to shape individuals as individuals and to shape them all into one community.

Likewise, to revisit the historic creeds and confessions provides another opportunity to eke out new and profound commitments to the oldest expressions of faith to which the church attests. It might be the right time to look at the Small Catechism. Or work more intentionally with the church year's lesser festivals and commemorations. Working in consultation with ecumenical partners, the lengthy Pentecost season provides ample chances to explore common convictions and unique gifts.

It could also be the time of year to consider exploring hymnody at a greater depth. Telling the stories of composers or poets or bringing a practicing composer or poet to the congregation would add layers of meaning to all of the hymns. Calling upon musicians and artists in the community to share their talents and understandings could be a way to enhance appreciation for the old but new story.

In Christ, what is old can become new. That is why the liturgical year has a lengthy time of reflecting on the saving and redemptive work of the Christ who lives in the daily-ness of existence. Using the ordinary to usher in the extraordinary, drawing attention to the commonplace to bring to light the uncommon truth, pointing beyond the seen to the unseen, these are the tasks during autumn liturgy. When, for instance, the community gathers around a paten with some bread on it and a chalice with some wine in it, mystery across time speaks. The servers hold the real presence of Christ's body and blood which time itself cannot hold.

Antiques have value not only for how they function, but for how they form a frame of reference for our experience. They have stood the test of time with generations of hands cleaning them faithfully, wiping dust from them. Old beds have been wrapped in blankets of prayers providing rest and refreshment to generations. An antique clock speaks about the confirmation or the wedding that was the occasion of its giving. The sideboard recounts the sustenance that has been prepared by generations. Through the subtle changes that are seen in the common and ordinary, a deepening and abiding faith is nurtured and sustained.

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## News from Riverside Preschool at Sts. Peter and Paul

October will be filled with Fall and Halloween projects as we celebrate the month along with a visit from the Fire Department. It's sure to be a batty month!

—Lisa Manganiello, Preschool Director



Oct. 1	Ekaterina Riha	Oct. 18	Jonathon Meyers
Oct. 2	Jason Skudrna	Oct. 19	Michael Vercimak
Oct. 3	Karen Kubik		Janina Yezo
Oct. 5	William Bute	Oct. 22	Sandra Spilotro
Oct. 8	Janice Hapgood	Oct. 23	Helena Galdun
Oct. 9	Matthew Bute		Tanya Jech
Oct. 11	Charles Langsett	Oct. 24	Kathy Ganschow
	Olivia Lauritsen	Oct. 28	George Pagurko
Oct. 16	Robert Melnyk	Oct. 29	Helen Gaydusek
	Mildred Mendel	Oct. 30	Donald Haase
	Earl Mika, Jr.	Oct. 31	BettyAnn Mocek
Oct. 17	Aidan Altavilla		
	Bryan Galdun		

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

October 1, 1988: Kenneth and Joyce Hurbanis  
 October 6, 2001: Janet and John Broussard  
 October 6, 1962: Edward and Joanne Sefara  
 October 10, 1964: Robert and Julie Barcik  
 October 15, 1988: John and Juanita Jakubec

### It's a Boy!

Congratulations to Nick and Ekatarina Riha, on the birth of their son Isaiah Stephen, 8 lbs., 2 oz. on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Isaiah is the grandson of Robert Melnyk, Carol Melnyk and Deanna Riha.

### Memorial Flowers

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>: In memory of dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather +Alfred Kovalsky+ on the 98<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth on September 3<sup>rd</sup> by remembering wife Luddy, son Bill, daughter Linda, and their families.

August 2022	
Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering	
Budgeted Offering: \$2,500.00	
Date	Offering
8/7	\$2,586.00
8/14	\$1,356.00
8/21	\$2,320.00
8/28	\$1,868.00

## Memorials and Honorariums

### ❖ For the Church ❖

Ruth Hurbanis, in memory of +John Taylor+.  
Carolyn Kosika, in memory of +Betty Mocek+.  
Edward and Joanne Sefara, in celebration of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

### ❖ In memory of Paul J. Gavac ❖

Anne Gavac, in memory of dear son.  
Susan, Joe, John and Sheryl Hassel, in loving memory of dear brother and uncle.  
Robert Tuidier  
Saundra and Peter Spilotro  
George and Joy Hodul  
Edward and Joyce Svancara  
Martin and Ann Pennino  
Lois Michaels  
Beverly Podzamsky  
Edward and Joanne Sefara  
William Boor  
Mildred A. Londak

## October Worship Servers

### Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>: (Outdoor Worship)

Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies  
Lector: Tom Michaels  
Live Stream: Paul Watkiss  
Usher: Fred Kuzel

### Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: John and Shirley Kostelny  
Assisting Minister: Tom Myers  
Lector: Beverly Tarbox  
Live Stream: John Broussard  
Usher: Janet Broussard

### Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Fred Kuzel  
Assisting Minister: John Broussard  
Lector: Fred Kuzel  
Live Stream: Charles Matthies  
Usher: Rafael Martinez

### Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Greeters: Edward and Joanne Sefara  
Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss  
Lector: J. T. Tarbox  
Live Stream: Fred Kuzel  
Usher: John Kostelny

### Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: Walter and Judith Cudecki  
Assisting Minister: Brandon Michaels  
Lector: Tom Myers  
Live Stream: John Broussard  
Usher: Walter Cudecki

**Sacristan and Altar Care:**  
Janice Hapgood

## November Worship Servers

### November 6<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Sandy Garvey  
Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels  
Lector: Emily Bittner  
Live Stream: Paul Watkiss  
Usher: Rafael Martinez

### November 13<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: John and Shirley Kostelny  
Assisting Minister: John Broussard  
Lector: Jane Lauritsen  
Live Stream: Charles Matthies  
Usher: Janet Broussard

### November 20<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Karyn Bute  
Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies  
Lector: George Valek  
Live Stream: Fred Kuzel  
Usher: John Kostelny

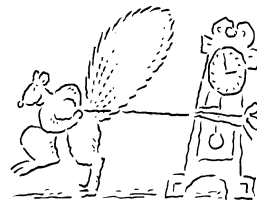
### Thanksgiving Day, November 24<sup>th</sup>

Greeter: Fred Kuzel  
Assisting Minister: Tom Myers  
Lector: Tom Michaels  
Live Stream: John Broussard  
Usher: Fred Kuzel

### November 27<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Ann Kmet  
Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss  
Lector: John Kostelny  
Live Stream: Paul Watkiss  
Usher: Walter Cudecki

**Sacristan and Altar Care:**  
Beverly Tarbox



## Fall Back

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to turn your clocks back on Saturday evening.

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An electronic copy of this newsletter is posted at our website and can be accessed at:  
[www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org](http://www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org)

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DATED MATERIAL



## **RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE**

**Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
**(Rummage half-price between 1 and 2 p.m.)**

**Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church**  
**31<sup>st</sup> Street and Desplaines Avenue in Riverside**

**Home Baked Goods and Homemade Salsa,  
Rummage Tables, Used Toys and Books,  
Jewelry, Raffle, and Holiday Decorations**

**Lunch will be available for purchase  
including potato pancakes.**

*Contributions of homemade bakery items would be greatly appreciated.  
Please drop off your baked goods on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>  
between 1 and 3 p.m.*