



# ST. JOHN-ST. PETER NEWS

## JUNE 2008

### Why We Do What We Do When We Do It: What about a worship and praise service?

I certainly haven't had people clamoring for what many have called "contemporary worship," but in our circles, even in our area, that call is going out. So what about a contemporary or as we will call it from now on, a worship and praise service instead of a liturgical service?

Way back in our first article, we determined that the liturgy is a group of songs that tell the good news about Jesus. Essentially, the liturgy proclaims the gospel. However, not everyone throughout history has seen gospel proclamation as the goal of worship. St. John Chrysostom developed a liturgy that focuses more on *sensation* rather than *proclamation*. Professor James Tiefel of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary writes, "Aiming other worldly music and ambiance directly at human emotions, the Eastern rite transports worshipers to an ethereal realm of the divine. This worship objective matches Orthodox teaching perfectly; salvation in the Orthodox system is deification (*theosis*)."<sup>1</sup>

And what makes this extremely pertinent to us is that even though they have very distinct theological differences; the American Evangelical churches of today agree that worship is not primarily proclamation. And why is that? Because Evangelical doctrine focuses on the individual's personal decision as the power behind Christian living rather than the gospel. Therefore, a worship that focuses on sensation and "experiencing God" is going to be more appealing. Liturgical worship sees all elements as proclamation; a worship and praise service sees praise as just pure praise.

It is worship from this background that is making its way into our circles and into our area. As Christians, we realize that the forms our worship takes is neither commanded nor forbidden by God. We really should ask ourselves, "Even though this is permissible, is it really beneficial?"

What could be the problem if praise is just pure praise? After all, Psalm 34:3 says, "**Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.**" But like any good Bible student we want to ask the question, "what does the context say?" And wouldn't you know it, the following 19 verses of Psalm 34 **proclaim** what the Lord has done. What is better praise, to say, "God you're awesome," or to say, "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world"? Doesn't it say so much more when we proclaim God's Word rather than tell God how much we love him?

Far too often, worship variety is trumpeted as the reason to incorporate the worship and praise elements into our worship. Our hymnal has three different services that incorporate the basic liturgy, as

well as two services from the daily office. That's five different services! Also available are numerous different musical settings for those services. That's more variety than most of us could handle! And all that variety without sacrificing the proclamation of the gospel, the primary purpose of our worship!

Why do we do what we do when we do it? Worship and praise services may be permissible, but the benefits for enabling us to proclaim Christ crucified just aren't there!

By: Pastor Nathan Berg, Cataract Wisconsin

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**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE** Don't forget we have two opportunities to worship each week during the summer; Wednesday at 7:00 pm and Sunday at 9:00 am.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY** God gives us Father's Day to thank the Lord for faithful Christian fathers. God gave an awesome responsibility to Christian fathers. Pray for the fathers in your life that they carry out their responsibility as their family's spiritual leader.

**MONTHLY SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL** The first summer Sunday school will be Sunday **June 8<sup>th</sup>**. This twenty minute Sunday school will take place during Pastor's sermon. Please join us as we hear God's Word and enjoy a snack. Everyone is welcome.

**MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY** classes will continue during the summer. Classes will take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. Here is a list of the Bible Class dates for this summer:  
June 9 June 16 July 14 July 21 Aug 11 Aug 18

In September we will be back to the schedule of every Monday evening.

**ST. PAUL'S LADIES AID** invites all ladies of our congregation to their guest day on **Thurs. June 12<sup>th</sup>**. A light lunch will be served at noon in the commons, followed by a program in the church. The program will feature "Hymns Old and New." The Loersch family will present instrumental & vocal renditions of favorite hymns, and share some background stories about hymns and hymn writers. Kevin Loersch has recorded two vocal hymn CD's which he will have available for purchase. ***There is a sign up sheet in the back of church if you plan on attending. Please reply by June 1<sup>st</sup>.***

**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped make MLHS lunch a success!

**SCRIP** June weddings, graduations, birthdays, etc... remodeling, painting, gardening and flowers. Use scrip cards for all your parties and household projects too. Grocery and gas cards are always available. Why not give Scrip a try! There is no easier way to help fund some of our church's wish list.

**PIONEERS** The scavenger hunt on May 18<sup>th</sup> was a huge success! If anyone is interested in adding donations to what the Pioneers collected or, if we were not able to get to your house, you may leave your donations in the entry – we will be taking donations until **June 8<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you!

**We will be doing another can drive.** Please put your cans in the garage on the south side. All bags have to be clear; we are not allowed to use black bags for we will be penalized if black bags are used. Thank you!

**PIONEER CAMPING TRIP** will be **June 20-22**. We will be camping at Long Lake. We will meet in the church parking lot at 4:00pm on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. **Please sign the sheet on the back table if you are interested in going.**

**JOIN THE SCHOENIKE FAMILY** Join Aaron, Randee, Noah, Emma, and Jonah Schoenike for a fun time in Cleveland. The Schoenike's will be vacationing in WI this summer. Please join them on Wednesday, **June 18<sup>th</sup>** from 1:00pm to 9:00pm at the VFW in Cleveland. "It would be great to see **y'all!** If you have questions, call us in TX at 469-549-0774."

**FLOWERS** If you have signed up to put flowers on the altar for the next few months please have the flowers at the church for the Wednesday evening service. That way they can be enjoyed on Wednesday and Sunday.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** Will be held **August 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>**. Anyone who would like to help with Vacation Bible School this year, please contact Pastor Endorf.

**CHURCH PICNIC** Mark your calendars, the church picnic will be held **August 10<sup>th</sup>**. More information will follow.

**TUITION ASSISTANCE** If your child is attending a parochial school, please feel free to fill in an application for Tuition Assistance. Funds from our Endowment/Trust Fund (Tuition Assistance Fund) will help you above-and-beyond the 50% tuition reimbursement provided by our congregation. Applications may be gotten from the Pastor, the secretary, or the entry of the church. **The applications should be returned** to our church secretary, Kris Mahler, **by July 1<sup>st</sup> 2008**. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Endorf or one of the Endowment Committee members: Tom Haupt, Nancy Oehldrich, or Elroy Jaeger.

**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF MARATHON** Join us for "54 Holes or More" on Monday **June 9<sup>th</sup>**. Golf, fun and fellowship plus the personal satisfaction of helping the Lord's lost lambs at Calvary are the most often given reasons for golfing in Calvary Academy Ministries' Annual Golf Marathon. It will be played at Camelot Country Club, east of Lomira, WI. For costs and more detailed information, please see the poster in the entry bulletin board.

**LADIES RALLY** will be held on Saturday (not the usual Wed. rally) **Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>** at St. Johns Lutheran Elementary School, 3607 45<sup>th</sup> St. Two Rivers. The theme is "Whatever you do for one of the least of these—you did for me"; Matt. 25:40. Speakers will be John Kramer representing "Mission to the Children" in Mexico and Lenore Italiano, who has done volunteer work with WELS Kingdom Workers in Louisiana. More information will follow in August.

**FOSTER CARE** Did you know that there are 513,000 American children in foster care? These youth need stable, loving care until they can either safely reunite with their families or establish other lifelong relationships with a nurturing adult. No matter how much time you have to give, you have the opportunity to do something positive that will "Change a Lifetime" for a young person in foster care. For more information on foster care visit [www.fostercaremonth.org](http://www.fostercaremonth.org) today. For information in Sheboygan County call 920-459-3236. For information in Manitowoc County call 920-683-4289. Please see information on bulletin board in the entry.

You may have missed seeing these members in our services. They are now living in a nursing home, but they welcome your visits and your prayers.

Virginia Chasensky  
Shady Lane Nursing Home  
1235 South 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Manitowoc, WI 54220  
684-8254

Adela Grotegut  
1239 South 24<sup>th</sup> St. #205A  
Manitowoc, WI 54220  
686-9886

Helen Hahn  
Sheboygan Retirement Home  
930 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street Rm410  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
451-0844

Irma Kramer  
River Bend Health & Rehab  
960 South Rapids Road  
Manitowoc, WI 54220  
684-1144

Declining strength or poor health limits the mobility of the following. They are at home but often not able to get out. They, too, cherish their ties with you. Visit them, call them, send them a greeting. It gives them a happy moment.

Martin Belitz  
4606 Mishicot Road  
Two Rivers, WI 54241  
794-1950

Dorothy Klessig  
916 Huron Ave. Apt 301  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
459-7975

Lorraine Fiedler  
2422 North 27<sup>th</sup> Place  
Sheboygan, WI 53083  
457-7306

Dale Schuette  
Staying with Wayne Schuette  
5212 Cty Rd. X  
Cleveland, WI 53015  
693-8044

Margaret Freis  
10621 Westview Rd  
Newton, WI 53063  
726-4718

Willis & Delores Voss  
9319 CTH X  
Newton, WI 53063  
693-8419

Valeria Goerke  
424 W. Suhrke Rd Apt 4  
Plymouth, WI 53073  
893-8084

Marilyn Zill  
1220 South 39<sup>th</sup> Street  
Manitowoc, WI 54220  
901-4252

