

July, 2008

Dear St. Peter Parents of Entering 7th graders (2008-09),

Greetings in the name of the Lord! Thank you to those who participated in our recent parents' meetings. We heard good comments that helped us fine-tune our Confirmation program at St. Peter. We're grateful to God for your partnership in our ministry.

This letter will share our plans for Junior Confirmation instruction beginning this fall, September 2008. This new program involves all 7th grade Confirmands, St. Peter Day and Public school students.

For our Day School students, you will learn the Bible stories during your regular class session with Mrs. Dunklau and Ms. Rank. As possible, pastors will also join you in class to highlight some of the rich truths God reveals in His Word.

For our Public School students, parents and confirmands may **choose one of two learning experiences**...

A. On **Sunday mornings, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.** This learning session will be held in Kaiser Hall and will include a study of key Bible stories. This is our preferred track, because we'll combine both instruction time with fellowship and building relationships.

B. **An at-home "family portfolio."** This "independent study" learning allows parents and Confirmands to explore the Bible stories and to engage in family discussion within their homes. Parents and confirmands will work through the same material and share two "portfolios" with pastors (one every 5 weeks). Family packets will be available on the Church Web site and on the Confirmation rack (outside the church office). *Note: At the end of each 10-week family portfolio, pastors may contact families for an in-home visit.*

If you're doing the family portfolio and wish to join in a Sunday learning experience, you are always welcome! In addition, if your weekend schedule changes after the beginning of the new year, you are welcome to change your preferred track too. A family that cannot make Sunday classes in the fall may be able to make Sunday morning in winter/spring. When we begin a new "season," you are free to change your track for your Confirmand.

For the learning experiences, we'll have two "seasons," fall and winter/spring, of 10 weeks each. An orientation session for both 10-week seasons will introduce the key themes, directions, and dates. The dates for the 10 weeks are listed on the 2008-2009 schedule. Please note all the scheduled "breaks"—no classes—during the year. We hope this helps with your vacation plans!

If your Confirmand has special learning needs, we sincerely ask you to contact one of the pastors. We'll work with you and your Confirmand, but we need to hear from you to chart out the next steps. Please don't hesitate to call! God bless you all!

Pastor Ken