

## Seventeenth Annual St. Michael Liturgical Conference: September 29, 2014

PLANNING IS UNDERWAY for the seventeenth annual St. Michael Liturgical Conference. The conference will be held Monday, September 29, 2014. This year the conference falls on the Feast of St. Michael, which will be commemorated at the Holy Mass and Solemn Vespers.

### Overview

Since 1998, Zion has hosted the St. Michael Liturgical Conference for pastors and others concerned with the Evangelical-Lutheran Liturgy. Stressing the practical application of Lutheran liturgical theology, the conference informs participants of the liturgy's rite, rubric, and ceremony so that they may make informed decisions about local customs in their parishes.

The conference has three major components:

#### ✦ Worship

Worship in the Church during the conference consists of the Holy Mass, and the Divine Office of Sext and Vespers.

#### ✦ Keynote Address

#### ✦ Sectional Presentations

The keynote address establishes the theme for the conference, and the sectional presentations are designed to study in detail the conduct of the liturgy.

Time for conversation among participants occurs during lunch, the breaks, and the reception held following the conference.

### Conference Speakers

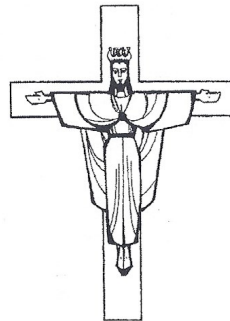
This year's keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, pastor of Emmaus—South Bend, IN, who will present on "The Pastoral Care of Catechumens and Communicants: First Communion and Ongoing Catechesis within the Fellowship of the Church."



Sectional Speakers include: the Rev. Dr. Daniel G. Reuning, kantor at Redeemer—Fort Wayne (Gregorian Pointing and Chanting of the Psalms); the Rev. Fr. Joel R. Baseley, pastor of Emmanuel—Dearborn (C.F.W. Walther on Confirmation and First Communion); the Rev. Dr. Burnell F. Eckardt, pastor of St. Paul's—Kewanee, IL (Touch: An Incarnational Expression of the Gospel); and the Rev. Fr. Mark P. Braden, Zion's Pastor.

### The Conference and Zion

The St. Michael Liturgical Conference is a big event for the Zion parish. It fosters goodwill and encourages the recovery and celebration of the Holy Liturgy among our synod and the greater Christian church, promotes the mission and work of Zion, and establishes Zion as a leader of the study and celebration of the Holy Liturgy around the world.



### How You Can Help

- ✦ **Serve on the conference committee:** Help to plan the conference, including logistics, publicity, transportation, conference packets, lunch, snacks, reception, and the budget. Watch the bulletin for meeting dates.
- ✦ **Work at the conference**
- ✦ **Publicize the conference:** Encourage all clergy that you know to attend, and invite family and friends who are interested in the Holy Liturgy.
- ✦ **Attend the conference:** There is no cost for Zion members. If you cannot attend the entire conference, be sure to attend the Holy Mass and Solemn Vespers.
- ✦ **Provide a financial donation:** Registration fees do not cover the cost of the conference. In order to keep the fees reasonable, we need financial donations from Zion members and friends.

If you can help or have questions, please contact Fr. Braden. ✦

"Blow the Trumpet in Zion" (Joel 2.15)



# Zion Trumpet

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Detroit

July/August 2014

## The Visitation

by Father Schultz

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH celebrates the miracle of God becoming man (the Incarnation) throughout the year. The chief day celebrating this miracle is the Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day.

This sacred mystery is so great that we also commemorate the events leading up to Our Lord's birth, such as the ANNUNCIATION (March 25) and the NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIZER (June 24).

We honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as the chosen vessel to bear the Savior, "the maidservant of the Lord" (St. Luke 1.38), the *Theotokos* (Greek: "God-bearer"). As such we commemorate days in her life: her birth (September 8) and her entrance into heaven, the DORMITION (August 15). For a time she was as the tabernacle, carrying God in the flesh, the eternal, almighty Lord, present for His people. Commemorating both an event in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary and in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, for centuries the Church has celebrated the VISITATION on July 2.

St. Luke records Mary's visit to her relative Elizabeth in chapter 1, verses 38-56. When Mary greets Elizabeth, it is not just Elizabeth who rejoices! The Scripture records that "the babe leaped in her

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*There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.*

ISAIAH 11: 1

*from the Gradual for the Visitation*

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womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.”

There is life in the womb — both of Elizabeth and the Blessed Virgin! The unborn John leaps and rejoices with his mother at the presence of Jesus.

St. Bede the Venerable (672-735) describes Elizabeth’s reply:

“She recognized the great gifts of God and sensed that He whom she knew to be present everywhere was also present bodily there... She was not capable of praising the Lord with the devotion of a moderate voice. Being full of the Holy Spirit, she was on fire, harboring in her womb the one than whom no one of those born of woman would be greater (St. Luke 7.28). She rejoiced that He had come there—He who, conceived from the flesh of a virgin mother, would be called, and would be, the Son of the Most High.”

We have just celebrated the Nativity of St. John the Baptizer. John’s leaping in the womb foreshadows his important work as the last and greatest prophet. Most of the saints we commemorate in the liturgical year celebrate their death as the entrance into heaven. In addition to John’s martyrdom (August 29), we celebrate his birth.

Origen (182-254) describes the beginning of the relationship between St. John the Baptizer and Our Lord:

“Better men go to weaker men to give them some advantage by their visits. Thus the Savior came to John to sanctify John’s baptism... Jesus was in her womb and He hastened to sanctify John, who was still in his own mother’s womb. Before Mary came and greeted Elizabeth, the infant did not rejoice in her womb. But as soon as Mary spoke the word

that the Son of God, in his mother’s womb, had supplied, John leaped in joy. At that moment, Jesus made his forerunner a prophet for the first time.”

The Christian life is about living with Christ. We order our time based on the Christian calendar in the liturgical year. Our parish is privileged to celebrate Holy Mass for many festivals in addition to Sundays and Major Feasts. Join us in celebrating the life and work of Our Savior Jesus.

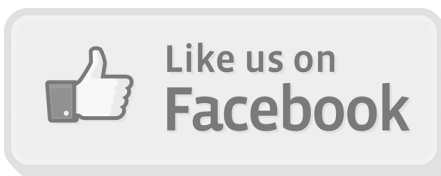
Holy Mass for the Visitation is Wednesday, July 2, at 10am in the Church. The Rev. Fr. Brian P. Westgate, pastor of Faith—Butler, Pennsylvania, will be the guest preacher and celebrant.

#### Note About Mass Times

Fr. Braden and I work closely with the Board of Deacons to ensure that Mass during the week and on Feast Days is held at times that are convenient for the most people. Many of our Feast Day Masses are held in the morning. If having the Mass repeated in the evening would be beneficial for your schedule, please speak with Fr. Braden and the deacons about your suggestions.

#### Like us on Facebook

If you are on Facebook, be sure to “like” our Zion page [www.Facebook.com/ZionDetroit](http://www.Facebook.com/ZionDetroit). Special Masses, church activities, weekly sermon summaries, and other articles of interest to Zion members and friends are publicized. Share our page with family, former Zion members and friends. Additionally, the Yahoo! group ZIONNews continues to be an electronic venue to learn about Zion activities. ✕



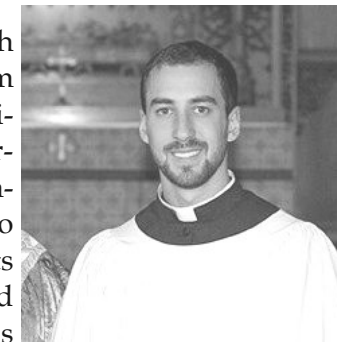
#### Pastor’s Letter continued from page 3

Our Zion liturgical calendar is quite full this summer. We have a good number of special Masses, and opportunities for all our members and friends of Zion to receive God’s saving Gifts, and to grow in your knowledge of God’s Word in the many studies and groups that will meet at Zion this summer. I hope you’ll plan to join us! ✕

### Vicar Eckardt’s Greeting

DEAR MEMBERS OF Zion,

On May 23, I graduated with my Masters of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary. I want to take this opportunity to thank the dear members of Zion for continuing to support me with your thoughts and prayers this past year and to let you know what my plans are for the summer and next year.



Though I graduated, I am not yet going to receive a call into the ministry. I will be staying at the seminary for one more year to pursue an additional masters that the seminary offers, a Masters of Sacred Theology (STM). This will allow me to study an area of theology more in-depth and at a higher level. The program culminates with the writing of a thesis. I plan on doing my research and thesis in the area of exegetical theology, looking at the New Testament’s use of the Old Testament and investigating thereby the Christological hermeneutic of Jesus and the apostles.

Staying an extra year to do an STM will not only allow me to grow and mature as a theologian and better prepare me to enter into the Office of the Holy Ministry, but it may also afford me various teaching opportunities in the future, such as Fr. Braden has had in Venezuela and with the seminary’s online Greek course.

I want you to know that my entire vicarage experience at Zion has had a profound influence on my theological education and life since returning to the seminary. Particularly, the trip to Venezuela with Fr. Braden last August has caused my interest in Spanish-language ministry to grow expo-

entially. In the past year I have been trying to learn more Spanish: I bought a set of Spanish lessons on CD to listen to while in the car and have had conversations with Spanish-speaking friends at the seminary. With help, I even managed to write two sermons in Spanish, which I preached at Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chicago, a vacant congregation with Hispanic ministry.

Now that I have been introduced to Hispanic ministry and to foreign missions in Spanish-speaking countries, I am all the more eager to learn Spanish proficiently. To that end, I am embarking on a Spanish-learning trip to Guatemala this summer. I am going to spend four weeks at a language institute in the city of Antigua, which is known for its several Spanish academies, with people coming there from all over the world to learn Spanish. I will have four hours of one-on-one instruction a day and will be living with a Guatemalan host family. LCMS Missions is supporting me by paying for the bulk of my flight, on the condition that I spend a week visiting the LCMS mission in the Dominican Republic after my stay in Guatemala. That additional week in the DR will be exciting and rewarding, too. The entire trip will still cost me around \$1600, but I was very excited to hear from Fr. Braden that Zion, via the Deacons, has agreed to provide me with some additional financial support to alleviate the costs of this Spanish-learning endeavor. For this generous support I am very grateful and wish to thank Fr. Braden, the Deacons, and all the members of Zion.

I hope that knowing Spanish will be a great asset as a pastor, whether I do Hispanic outreach in the parish or get involved in foreign mission work. There is a great need here and abroad for Lutheran pastors and missionaries who can do Spanish-language ministry.

I am looking forward to my Spanish-learning trip this summer, to my STM studies during the school year, and to my call into the ministry that I will receive—God willing—next spring. Thank you again for your continued prayers, support, and encouragement.

In Christ,  
Vicar Peter Eckardt ✕

## Birthdays Anniversaries

### July

1 Terry Grable  
 1 Alan Kroske  
 2 Patricia Braden  
 4 Robert Murdock  
 5 Gregory Gramzow  
 5 Leticia Kelly  
 7 Katherine Gramzow  
 9 LaNeil Prince  
 13 Florine Kaiser  
 14 Lisa Hendrickson  
 31 Susan Kiraly  
 31 Paul Sibert

### August

2 Brenda Chadwell  
 5 Sydney Atkins  
 9 John Chavez  
 9 Keith Holder  
 13 Tramaine Dalton  
 14 Jennifer Balaska  
 14 Carol Hodge  
 15 Leah Edwards  
 17 Rosell Cross, Jr.  
 26 Danny Cross  
 27 Joshua Chavez  
 28 Robert Werner

## Baptism Anniversaries

### July

1 Eugene Brown  
 1 Khalil Smith  
 2 James Gramzow  
 4 Susan Spicer  
 7 Pauline Rivard  
 10 Alan Kroske  
 12 Katherine Gramzow  
 14 Paul Wilkewitz  
 16 Anthony Barbee  
 18 Jason Balaska  
 20 Patricia Braden  
 31 Florine Kaiser

### August

4 Tiana Hooks  
 5 Pamela Ruffin  
 15 Jeanne Beauplied  
 15 Susan Kiraly  
 17 Jennifer Balaska  
 18 Sydney Atkins  
 18 Gregory Gramzow  
 21 Keith Holder  
 26 June Cobb

## Marriage Anniversaries

### August

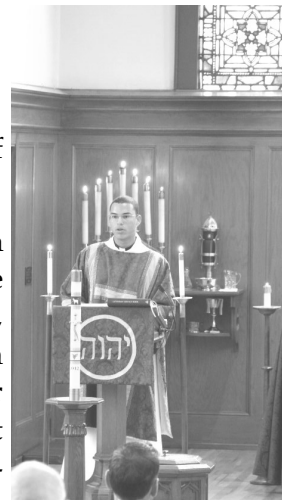
14 Gregory and Jennifer Gramzow

station" in Richmond, IN. Being in the military and attending seminary at the same time has been challenging, but I have gained quite a bit from it. I currently hold the rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and I will be stationed at Fort Lee until August 25 when I complete BOLC. Once I finish up here, I will be joining you in Detroit. I am very excited to get back to the mid-West.

I have three sisters: Stephanie, Victoria and Cynthia. Stephanie is the oldest, and like any big sister she did an excellent job when we were little of both protecting me, and also reminding me she was the oldest for a reason. She has been married for a few years, and lives in Fort Wayne. My other two sisters are younger than me. I am 26, Victoria is 21, and Cynthia turns 20 this August. Both of them are in college. My mom and dad were married for 28 years before he died in a car accident four years ago this August. He now enjoys the marriage feast of the Lamb, which has no end. "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord." My mom, Gail, lives in Fort Wayne. She has accepted an assignment by the LCMS to be a missionary in Indonesia. We are still not exactly sure when she will leave, but we are all avid Tigers fans (except for my two little sisters who are odd balls), so I am sure you will have the opportunity to meet her.

I have sung with the Fort Wayne Bach Collegium and was a member of the board of directors. I also absolutely love to play chess and tennis. I ran track in high school and freshman year of college, but tennis is much more fun than running repeat 200 or 400 meter sprints. My two favorite books are *The Hobbit* by J.R.R Tolkien and *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S Lewis. In terms of my social life, I have many friends scattered across the country, and I am currently single. Being single however, has allowed me to become your vicar, and there is nowhere else I'd rather be. I have had a love of theology and God's Word since I was very little, and I am deeply humbled at the privilege and opportunity to serve our Lord in the capacity as your vicar. My training is going well here, and by God's grace I will see you next month.

Yours in Christ,  
 Vicar Winston Grieser ✝



## Vicar Grieser's Greeting

**G**REETINGS BROTHERS AND sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ:

My name is Winston Grieser, and I am very much looking forward to spending the year with you. I grew up in Fort Wayne, and have attended Redeemer Lutheran Church my entire life. It was at Redeemer that I first met Father Braden. I spent most of my college career at Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne (IPFW), where I received a B.S in Physics.

I am currently writing you from Fort Lee, VA. I joined the Army National Guard before the start of my final semester in college. Since that time I have gone through Basic Combat Training (BCT) and the Officer Candidate School (OCS). I am currently at my Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC). Since I am in the National Guard, one weekend a month I will have to go to my "drilling

**The Zion Trumpet** is the informational and educational newsletter of Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church. It communicates the news of Zion and instructs members in various aspects of the Christian Faith.

The **Trumpet** is published six times each year. It is free for members of Zion. Non-members are invited to contribute toward the production and mailing of the **Trumpet**.

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church is a parish of the one, holy catholic and apostolic Church and is affiliated with the English district of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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## Pastor's Letter

by Father Braden

**P**ERHAPS YOU'VE ALREADY noticed a change in this issue of the **Trumpet** – the lead article is written not by me, but by Fr. Gary Schultz, our Kantor and Pastoral Assistant. The position of Pastoral Assistant is historic to Zion, and mentioned in our constitution. I am very thankful for Fr. Schultz's hard work as Kantor, and on newsletters, bulletins, Ordos, website, Facebook page, and ZIONNews. He has also been working hard inside and outside of the Rectory. As part of the Pastor's report to the Voters' Assembly, Fr. Schultz attached a summary of his duties and activities since the October meeting. As you daily pray for Zion, please keep Fr. Schultz and his work among us in your prayers.

Recently Zion has returned to her historic practice of educating Vicars. This has been great for Zion, great for the Vicars, and great for our synod. Our most recent Vicar, Peter Eckardt, writes a column in this issue of the **Trumpet** to give our congregation an update on his work as he prepares to become a pastor in our synod. His time at Zion had quite an influence on him, and you have perhaps already seen in his update. Please keep Vicar Eckardt in your prayers.

Our incoming Vicar, Winston Grieser, writes his first column in the **Trumpet** in this issue. I am thankful that the seminary honored my request for Vicar Grieser, who I did request by name. There are never any guarantees in the placement process, so I am thankful to our Fort Wayne seminary and the vicarage coordinator that we received the vicar we requested. Please keep Vicar Grieser in your prayers as he prepares for his vicarage and moves to Detroit.

I just returned from a short trip to Medellín, Colombia. While I was only there a few days, we accomplished a lot! I gave a presentation on the trip at Bible Class on Trinity Sunday, June 15. I am scheduled to be in Bolivia in July. I'll be teaching a course for pastors, vicars and seminarians. While I'm away, Fr. Frank Pies has graciously agreed to serve at Zion's altar.

I've also planned a couple of weeks of vacation this summer, before the fall and our St. Michael Liturgical Conference. During the first week in July, I'll be in Stratford, Ontario for the Shakespeare Festival. The last week in August I'll be away as well, but I haven't planned that trip yet. I'll be back in time for the induction of our Vicar on September 7. I hope you'll join us for that important event.

On a personal note, Sarah graduated from Lutheran High School Westland, and we're planning a party at our home on Saturday, July 12, from 1-4pm. All Zion members and friends are welcome. Please RSVP to me so we can estimate the food we'll need.



## Christian Education

THESE ARE MANY opportunities to study God's Word at Zion. The study of the Holy Scriptures is essential to the life of every Christian. If none of these days or times work with your schedule, please suggest an alternative time to Fr. Braden or Fr. Schultz

**SUNDAY ADULT STUDY** 11:30AM | UNDERCROFT | Our current study is "A Survey of the New Testament." This class enables parents to study the Holy Scriptures while their children attend Sunday School. Coffee and snacks are provided. Thanks to those who provide snacks. Anyone is welcome to bring donuts, bagels, fruit, etc. to share. This class is for age 13 through adult.



**WEDNESDAY ADULT STUDY** Immediately following Holy Mass, this study is reading "Ministry, Word, and Sacraments: An Enchiridion" by Martin Chemnitz (1522-1586), an important leader in early Lutheranism. Coffee and snacks are provided. Often the group goes out to lunch following the study.

**YOUTH CATECHISM** DAY AND TIME TBD | RECTORY | This class teaches the chief parts of the *Small Catechism* to learn the essential beliefs of Christianity as taught in Holy Scripture. This study of the Catechism prepares students in third – eighth grades for First Communion.

**WOMEN'S GROUP** TWO SATURDAYS A MONTH 1PM | RECTORY | Gathering shortly before 1, we move to the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory to pray the Office of Vespers and then continue with the study. Coffee and snacks are provided. We are currently studying the book of Jude. All women are encouraged to attend and bring guests.

**MEN'S GROUP** ONE THURSDAY A MONTH 7PM | RECTORY | Gathering shortly before 7, we move to the Church to pray the Office of Vespers, and then return to the Rectory for our study. Following the study, there is food and *Gemütlichkeit*. We are studying the Solid Declaration of the *Formula of Concord*. All men are encouraged to attend and bring guests.

### The Zion Parish Record

For May & June 2014

#### Additions

*By Confirmation*

*Adult Confirmation* (May 18, 2014): Michael and Sherry Edwards, Elijah Edwards

*Youth Confirmation* (June 8, 2014):

Anna Michelle Edwards

Josiah Matthew Edwards

Robert Joseph Kelly IV

#### Removals

*By Transfer*

Allen Kerkes to St. Paul – Royal Oak, MI (May 4, 2014)

*Death*

Sylvia Schleif (May 14, 2014)

**Membership** 218 Members



## Institute on Liturgy, Preaching, and Church Music

by Father Schultz

EVERY THREE YEARS, the Commission on Worship of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod holds a conference. The 2014 conference will be held at Concordia University – Seward, Nebraska. I attended the conferences in 2002 at Concordia University – Mequon, Wisconsin and 2005 at Carthage College – Kenosha, Wisconsin. This year's conference is "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People: Praying, Preaching, and Singing the Comfort of Christ to the Troubled Conscience and Broken Heart."

The plenary session speakers include Dr. John W. Kleinig, professor of Old Testament at Australian Lutheran College; Fr. Bryan Wolfmueller, pastor of Hope – Aurora, CO and co-host of Table Talk Radio; and Dr. Robin A. Leaver, professor of sacred music at Westminster Choir College.

Of 11 choices for the seminar, I chose "It's Not Only What You Do; It's What You Get Them to Do" which explores the topic of inspiring beautiful singing. I hope this will be a helpful choice to accentuate leading the Zion Choir.

There were 80 choices for workshops, of which each participant chooses five. I will attend: "Psalms Ancient and Modern" by Henry Gerike; "Choral Reading for a Small Choir" by Kenneth Kosche; "A Guided Tour: LCMS Hymnals" by Peter Reske; "Your Virtual Narthex: Improving Your Church's Website" by Bob Lail; and "Anxiety's Hold: Finding Peace in Anxious Times" by Mark Rockenbach.

## Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary Friday, August 15

THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the Dormition ("sleeping") of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15. At Zion, we keep this Feast with a sung Mass in the Church at 10am. Tradition holds that she fell asleep in the faith in Ephesus under the care of St. John the Evangelist. Mark your calendar to celebrate this special event. ✠

**HOLY MASS** is celebrated every Sunday and Wednesday at 10am, and on major feasts as announced.

**THE DIVINE OFFICE OF MATINS** is prayed Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:45am in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory. Matins is not prayed when there is a morning Mass.

**COMMUNICANTS ARE BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS** who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical-Lutheran Faith. If you desire to commune at Zion, please visit with the Pastor before approaching the Altar.

**PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** is available on Saturday from 9-10am or by appointment.

**PASTORAL CONSULTATION** based on the Holy Scriptures is available by appointment.

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM** is for infants and adults, and may be arranged by contacting the Pastor.

**COUPLES DESIRING HOLY MARRIAGE** should contact the Pastor before finalizing the wedding date. Bible instruction in Holy Marriage is required. All marriages are conducted by the Pastor according to Zion's usual order.

**NEW MEMBERS** are received by baptism, confirmation, transfer or profession of faith. Instruction in Luther's Small Catechism and Private Absolution are required for all new members. Visit with the Pastor for further details.

**THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** are visited regularly by the Pastor. Please contact the Parish Office if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

**PARISH ORGANIZATIONS** Adult Choir, Altar Guild, Children's Choir, Jubilate Deo Women's Choir, St. Seraphim Prayer Guild, Society of St. Samuel (Altar Boys), Usher Club, Zion Endowment Board.

**DEACONS** William Gramzow, III, Thomas Habitz, Jr., Eric Russell; **TRUSTEES** Roderick Atkins, Gregory Gramzow, Paul Snoes; **BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION** Shirley Cross, Alan Kroske, Pamela Ruffin; **OFFICERS OF THE VOTERS** Roderick Atkins (chairman), Jason Balaska (vice-chairman), Kristi Russell (secretary), Jessica Chavez (financial secretary)