

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Time, “time marches on” and “time does not stand still” even if you need to “give it time”, you quickly realize that “time marches on”!

In the Old Testament, in the book of Ecclesiastes 3:1, we read of time: “For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:”!

Well, this week is called “Homecoming Week” in Ely, Minnesota for Ely Memorial High School.

“Time marches on” and “time does not stand still” so as I pause to consider the concept of “Homecoming Week”, I realize that I am very far, far, removed from the experience of “Homecoming” and “Homecoming Week”, they are but a distant memory.

What I do remember of “Homecoming Week” way back in the day, is something about special attire days, pep rallies, unique events, a big football game, a “Homecoming King and Queen”, and a very special dance which was called the “Homecoming Dance”.

Ah yes, seasons change, summer to fall, fall to winter, winter to spring, and spring to summer. We are now entering **FALL** which also means **HARVEST!!!**

“For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1) and this is the beginning of **HARVEST** time and “Homecoming Week”.

Way back when, back in the day, as I vaguely recall it, “Homecoming Week” was a week for school spirit and a celebration of a community located in a school setting!

Speaking of seasons, speaking of time, speaking of weeks like seasons “time marches on” and “time does not stand still”, Sunday becomes Monday, becomes Tuesday, becomes Wednesday, becomes Thursday, becomes Friday, becomes Saturday, becomes Sunday.

“For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

SUNDAY is a day for developing the spirit, not within the school, but within the **FAMILY of GOD!!!**

SUNDAY is a day for celebrating sense of community, not within the school, but within the **FAMILY of GOD!!!**

“For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1) **SUNDAY** is a time for **HARVESTING** spirit and community through **WORSHIP of GOD** and **FELLOWSHIP** as the **FAMILY of GOD!!!**

SUNDAY is a gift from **GOD** to the **FAMILY of GOD** which has been set apart by God as a “Homecoming” of sorts nurturing **SPIRIT** and celebrating **COMMUNITY** with God and with each other as children in the Family of God!!!

“For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1) “time marches on” and “time does not stand still” even if you need to “give it time”, you quickly realize that “time marches on” and **SUNDAY** comes back around so we can participate in developing a **GOD** centered spirit while celebrating a sense of community as the **FAMILY of GOD!!!**

Love in Christ,

Pastor Dana