

Grace to you and Peace,

Last month, Hosanna hosted a gathering of local ELCA Pastors. We gather regularly to share ideas, support and pray for each other, study scripture, and drink coffee. During the coffee time, we ultimately get to talking about the congregations we serve and this week we wondered how y'all think about God. It is an awesome discussion. I spend more time than you know wondering about what you are wondering about. I study the words of hymns, consider your reaction to the words or images I use in preaching, I listen carefully to your prayer requests and I wonder.

What do you think about when you think about God? Is God near or far? Is God pleased or angry? Is God involved in the tiny details of life, like where should I park, or does God have only a big picture view of the world? What do you think?

When we think about God in these terms, we often uncover a lot about ourselves. One of the pastors gathered the other day started telling a story about how his congregation was considering selling off some unused property. Some congregational members saw this as a great opportunity; an infusion of money in exchange for this property that was mostly just growing weeds. This opportunity could then be exchanged for new ministries, sending kids to camp, repairing other parts of the property, etc. Other members of the same congregation saw selling off the property as a threat! Who knows what could be built there? How would we protect our footprint? What if we need it for something in the future? Once it is sold it is gone forever!

Goodness! That is a lot to think about! What do we think about when we think about God? Is it scarcity or abundance? Does the Lord really provide, or does the Lord help those who help themselves? Will we lose all we have? Will we have more than we know what to do with? What do you think? One or the other? Both?

Another Pastor started telling stories about her congregation. Some time ago, they were in the process of adding a projector and a screen. While some in the congregation were opposed, others thought it was a great idea. Ever heard of anything like that in a church? One group welcomed the addition of a visual element, some older members were eager to have their hands free of a heavy hymnal, so they were better able to balance themselves. Younger folks were less eager to change to a method they dealt with in their work lives. A few were unsure of how to create visual media and some thought it would take away from their beautiful sanctuary. All of this wondering on how to share God's Word in the world. What do we think about when we think about God?

In our congregation, we are having these discussions concerning staff. How do we allocate resources that were tied into one ministry position and spread it out to fund youth and small group ministries? We will continue to move forward in these discussions and it is awesome to see how we think. How do we expect God to act? How we live out faithful lives. It is super-wondering! Later this month our Sr. Highers will be wondering about the national youth gathering at an overnight lock-in. Next month we will wonder with families during baptism. We will be wondering who these children might grow up to be. In May we will wonder with High School Seniors as they celebrate graduation, and this summer we will wonder, where do all these VBS kids get their energy? And I wonder if I can have some!?!

And we have more to wonder about. In June, we will be adding a new worship service, Sunday nights at 6pm. This experiment will incorporate some pieces I believe will help us minister to busy families. I wonder if it will work! I wonder how we will get all the pieces in place. I wonder about the details, but I don't have to wonder for a moment if God is moving. I know God is encouraging us to be faithful to our mission statement. We proclaim this Good News to All People.... And We wonder... We watch... We listen and of course We pray. After this, We act.

As I sat there, drinking coffee with pastors, listening to stories my mind wandered off. I started to look around at our building, wondering about the faces I see on Sundays. Wondering what you think about when you think about God. Wondering how God is moving in your lives and the lives of your loved ones. Wondering about the blessings we will see in this congregation in the next ten or twenty years... Hmm, I wonder.

Jay Grave Senior Pastor

(985) 727-9200

rev.jgrave@hosannalutheran.com

Blessings, Pastor Jay



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Upcoming Events at Hosanna



Did you know that every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. Sign up at the info center to help make this years blood drive a success!



Crawfish, corn & potatoes

\$10 Adult

\$5 Child

\$35 Max. Cost/Family (Soft drinks & Water provided)

In order to plan on the proper amount of food, we need a head count. Please purchase tickets at the information center:

Jambalaya will be available the day of event to purchase for \$6/bowl or 2 for \$10

Church Calendar

Click HERE for the online church calendar

April 1	Easter
April 2	Financial Peace University
-	HIS Planning meeting
	Church Office Closed

April 4 Divorce Care April 5 Ouilters

April 5 Quilters
April 8 Student Leader Meeting
Youth Night

April 9 Financial Peace University
April 10 Stephen Ministry Meeting

April 11 Divorce Care

April 12 Quilters

April 15 Blood Drive
Lutherhill Mandatory Meeting
Student Leader Meeting
Youth Night

April 16 Church Council Meeting Financial Peace University

April 17 Open forum discussion

April 18 Divorce Care

April 19 Casting Crowns Concert

April 20 Gathering Overnighter

April 21 Gathering Overnighter

April 22 Crawfish Boil
Student Leader Meeting
Adult Leader Meeting
Youth Night

April 23 Financial Peace University

April 24 Congregational Care Team Meeting

April 25 Divorce Care

April 26 Quilters

April 28 HIS Ministry Service Project

April 29 Student Leader Meeting Youth Night

April 30 Financial Peace University



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Hosanna Quilters

Meet every Thursday 9:00 AM- 12:30 PM and on the second Thursday of each month 12:30 PM-3:00 PM for quilting tutorial to learn new skills and for quilting. No experience necessary. All are invited to come see what love creates!

Blessing of the Quilts



On Sunday, May 6 2018 at both our 9:00am and 10:30am services we will have our semi-annual Blessing of the Quilts. These quilts which, more often than not, fill the sanctuary, are the work of an eclectic group of volunteers who meet on the church campus every Thursday throughout the year. The Hosanna Quilters, made up of church members and non-members, male and female, perform a muchappreciated service for the St. Tammy parish community and beyond. These quilts will be distributed to hospices, cancer centers, crisis pregnancy centers and a youth sextrafficked center. Through donations of money and fabric the quilters have been able, for 20 years, to let those less fortunate or in a difficult situation know they are not forgotten. To date, thousands of quilts have adorned our sanctuary every spring and fall. Along with the quilts, the members of Hosanna Quilters crochet blankets and caps for premature

infants as well as sew dresses for missions in Africa. Won't you join us in our celebration of love?

-Jerry Barbier

Chemo Care Bags

Update on the Chemo Care Bag Project: The Quilters have donated fabric and a dozen ladies have volunteered to sew colorful bags for the patients at Mary Bird Perkins at St. Tammany Hospital. Now we need to collect fillers for the bags:-small bags of mint or lemon -candies -cozy socks -unscented lip balm -unscented lotion -Journals -scarves -books (puzzle, coloring, or word search) -fleece blankets (approx. 40" X 60")

A container will be placed in the Welcome Area to receive these items. Thank you for sharing in this important ministry to our community. Donations to purchase these items will be accepted as well, just note "Chemo Bag Project" on your check to Hosanna. Thank you for continuing to support this ministry in our community.



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HIS Ministry Service Projects will be April 21st April 27th April 28th HIS Planning Meeting-May 1, 7:00pm



Do you have muscles?? If so we need your help on Saturday, April 21st to help move a family in "our own congregation". We are especially asking the <u>senior high boys</u> if they can help with this project as their will be a lot of lifting of boxes, stepping stones & furniture as we transition this "Hosanna family" from their house in Mandeville to an apartment in Covington. Please help support our own! We will meet at the church @ 7:30am & then off to their house in Mandeville. The more people we have the faster we can finish. Anyone with a trailer that can lend a hand in moving them would be very much appreciated. If you have any questions feel free to call Jill Smith @ 985-276-4546/Cell 789-1861. A sign up sheet will be at the information center.

Also other projects this month:
Friday April 27th-Cabinet installation for WEROC in Bogalusa/Franklinton Area-If you can help let Brad know.
Saturday April 28th-Camp Nora -yardwork and carpentry in the chapel.-Meet at church at 7:30 AM leave at 8:00am hope

Next HIS Planning meeting Monday May 1st @ 7:00 PM at church in the kitchen.



Wednesday Evenings 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

DivorceCare helps you recover from the pain of separation and divorce. You will learn how to deal with the pain of the past and look forward to your future.



Christ caring for people through people We all experience challenges in life. There are times when we Tould benefit from the support of a caring Christian friend that will keep our visits confidential. Stephen Ministers are ready to pro-M I N I S T R Y vide the emotional and spiritual care one needs when faced with a difficult time. If you, or someone you know in the congregation

or community, could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, please call or ask the person to call the number below.

Stephen Ministry is **CONFIDENTIAL** Contact: Lois or Blair Sundquist (985) 327-7047.

ongregational Care Team

The Congregational Care Team of Hosanna Lutheran Church spends time praying and caring for individuals and families who are going through illness, are home-bound or facing any personal struggles. The group keeps in contact with them by sending cards, making phone calls and visits. They also find out if they need help or anything else during their time of struggle. If you need help or know of anyone please contact Lois Sundquist (985-327-7047), Julie Dauzat (985-264-5951) or the church office (985-727-1020)



19200).



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Thanks to all who donated underwear for Ozanam Inn homeless shelter! Over 300 items (underwear, bras, socks) were collected.

Starting June 3rd join us for our new Sunday Evening Worship Service. 6:00pm-6:45pm



The Bible in 90 Days (B90) program has helped well over a quarter of a million people all over the world to successfully read through the entire Bible in just 90 days. And you can too!

Join us during service starting June 3rd as we start reading the bible in 90 days!

Church Council

Church Council installment service Sunday, April 22nd

President-Tara Bremond **Vice-President**- Julie Brown **Secretary**- Ryan Weber **Treasurer**- Brad Phillips

Purpose Area Liaison

Worship— Carlos Pearse Discipleship— Ginny Sirera

Evangelism— Alex Abram Fellowship— Ron Entzel

Ministry— Stephen Wetekamm

See end of Newsletter for February Church council meeting minutes.

Congregation,

I have decided not to seek re-election to the council. When I joined the council, the Church was in chaos and I wanted to be a part of helping us get back on track. Now we have a new pastor and a council that I have full faith in. When I told Pastor Jay that the biggest reason I was stepping down was him, he had a big frown....until I told him it was because of the great way he is running the church! I truly believe we are going in the right direction and our church will grow. It really makes me smile to see so many children and young adults at our church. That is a sign of our health.

I am so happy that our Church has recovered. I am so grateful that I am part of this wonderful church. I will still be attending church regularly and all the events we have. And of course, I will be cooking whenever I am asked!! God Bless you all and may we have many more good years to come.

Greg Thompson



The theme of this year's ELCA National Youth Gathering is "This Changes Everything!" The "this" they are referring to of course is the Gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ, living out a life of faith. *This* does change everything! The way we see our neighbors, how we spend our time and resources, the good we do in the world. *This Gospel* changes who we are and our understanding of whose we are. *This* changes our goals and our ambitions, and *this* is what Hosanna Youth Ministry is all about.

Hosanna, as a congregation declares a bold mission statement that we will Proclaim the Love of Jesus Christ to All People, so they may Know Jesus Christ, Grow in Faith, and Follow Christ. We do this when we invite our friends and neighbors to youth activities. We do this when we participate in worship. We do this as we prepare for life-changing experiences like confirmation, Bible camp, and the Gathering. Our youth ministry is all about putting this mission statement into action.

We have a lot of action here.

On **April 15** there will be an informational meeting for all parents and students interested in going to Lutherhill Bible Camp. Mr. Troy is organizing this trip again. Bible camp is a fantastic way to grow in faith, grow closer as a church family, and have a blast. This camp trip includes students in 6th grade to 8th grade. Campers will be on site in La Grange, Texas and also experiencing the wilds of Texas Adventure. See you April 15 after the second service.

In March we started a discussion concerning the way we staff our Youth Ministry Program in the future. This forum brought up some great questions and started us thinking in new ways. I would like to invite parents, students, mentors, and youth night volunteers to join me in the evening of **April 17** to continue this discussion. I have prepared job descriptions and I even have a chart to help our conversation of 40 hours of Youth ministry for our Children, Teens, and families. The open forum will begin in the sanctuary at 6:30 PM

From 10 PM **April 20**th until 10 AM on the 21st Hosanna youth and volunteers going to the ELCA Gathering will be overnighting at the church! No need to bring a sleeping bag; we will be having too much fun to take a break! We will be creating gifts to share, learning about our Gathering speakers, talking about the trip and of course eating snacks.

Youth night doesn't meet on Easter Sunday but continues throughout the month of April. Thanks to all our fantastic and dedicated volunteers who give their time for Hosanna youth. We couldn't do it without you.

A few notable events coming in May:

During our second service on May 13, Hosanna will celebrate Confirmation. Our confirmation class has prepared for this momentous event in their faith lives over the past two years. They have carefully considered the sacraments, they have studied Holy Scripture, they have learned from the small catechism and they have prayed for each other in this time. Please join them for worship this awesome day!

We have a treat in store for us at the end of the month. Our Hosanna Seniors will lead our worship and share heartfelt words with us at our Graduation recognition service at 10:30 on May 20th. This is a fantastic day to lift up these young adults and wrap them in prayer as the enter a new stage in their lives.

Goodness, sounds like another wonderful month at Hosanna.

God Bless and I'll see you on Sunday, Pastor Jay

youth & family ministries

DATES TO REMEMBER

Lutherhill Mandatory Parent Meeting April 15th after second service

> Open Forum Discussion April 17th 6:30 pm

Mentor Dinners April 22nd 5:30 pm

Confirmation Symposium May 6th 5:30 pm

Graduation Celebration May 20

Vacation Bible School
June 11-15

ELCA National Youth Gathering June 26-July 2

Lutherhill Camp July 7 – 13

will be Sunday, May 20th. For each Graduate we need three pictures: Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Please email to secretary@hosannalutheran.com.or

Graduation Recognition Service

secretary@hosannalutheran.com or bring by the office by May 10th.



Hosanna Lutheran's 2018 Shipwrecked Vacation Bible School is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences for kids to see, hear, touch, and even taste! Science-Fun, teambuilding games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. June 11th-15th 9:00am to 12 noon. For children going into kindergarten thru 4th Grade. Cost is \$10 per child plus \$5 extra per child if you would like a t-shirt. Visit Hosannalutheran.com click programs to find VBS to register or click the register button!





Our new Splash program provides support for families and provides Faith Practices which can be used in

the home. Home is Church Too! Each month, a newsletter will arrive with ideas for gameplay with your child, prayers, blessings, and they are all developmentally appropriate for your child's age. If you would like your child to be a part of this program, please see contact the office.

Milestone Ministry



Congratulations to the following who celebrate their First Communion:

Allee Bild, Dylan Bild, Hunter Boynes, Savannah Boynes, Tara Boynes, Noah Carlin, Molly Dowd, Juliet Gaffney, Lexie Lalanne, Cooper Slye, Emma Slye, Allen Thompson and Ann Weber



Congratulations to the following who were baptized in the month of March:

Received into God's Family on March 11th through

Holy Baptism was

Noah Anthony Carlin, Son of Stephen Carlin & Jessica Daigle.

Received into God's Family on March 18th through Holy Baptism was Thørin Alexander Grave, Son of Pastor Rev. Jay Grave & Elizabeth Grave.



If you are interested in being baptized or having a child baptized.

Contact the office.

Milestone Ministry Website





We proclaim God's love to the world as we grow and develop together as a faithful community.

Youth Calendar

Click **HERE** for the online church calendar

April 8 Youth Night

April 15th LutherHill Mandatory Parent Meeting

Youth Night

April 19th Casting Crowns Concert April 20th Gathering Overnighter April 21st Gathering overnighter

April 22 Mentor Dinner

Youth Night

April 29 Youth Night

Youth Night Menu



April 8 tacos, Mexican rice and refried beans

April 15 TBD

April 22 TBD

Youth Night Food Cost

Hey Parents! Have you made your \$50 Youth Night Meal donation for the 2017-2018 school year? Checks can be included in the offering, please mark Youth Night in the memo! If your youth brings a friend they eat for free!

The deadline to submit information for the next newsletter is May 1st at 9:00am
Click here to submit information

Confirmation retreat in Orange Beach

Confirmation Mentor dinner is coming up on

April 22nd at 5:30!



On April 15 there will be a mandatory informational meeting for all parents and students interested in going to Lutherhill Bible Camp after the second service.



From 10 PM April 20th until 10 AM on the 21st Hosanna youth and volunteers going to the ELCA Gathering will be overnighting at the church!



Funny Name. Easy Fundraising.

Scrip is a fundraiser to help youth who will be attending Camp Lutherhill or going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. You are invited to buy Scrip gift cards for a variety of stores and websites. A portion of all Scrip that you purchase will help pay the cost of summer youth trips. There are cards for all of your basic expenses like gas and groceries, and we sell them each week at the Info Center. Stop by and ask for more information or to start buying your Scrip. Our youth thank you for your support!

Scrip can be purchased on Sundays after service or online!

To order online register at ShopWithScrip.com and put in the Hosanna code 2D129L3F73L and our youth will receive credit from your purchases. Use your login at MyScripWallet.com to reload and purchase more script on your phone!





Thank you to Noah Saacks and his crew for redoing the barn stairs as part of his Eagle Scout project!



Director Marilyn Boudreaux (985) 624-5525 hosannapreschool.com



facebook.com/hosannachristianpreschool



Dominos Pizza Night
Every 3rd Thursday of the
month. Pick up a flyer at the
Info Center and bring it in
to your local Dominos to
raise funds for Hosanna
Christian Preschool.

Community Coffee Labels

Save your Community Coffee proof of purchase labels and place in container at the Info Center to help raise fuds for supplies for Hosanna Christian Preschool.

Where to find Proof of Purchase:

Coffee Filter Boxes Cream & Sugar Dispensers Bags of Coffee Boxes of K-Cups Boxes of Tea







Registration

For the 2018-2019 School Year

Is Open







Director Marilyn Boudreaux (985) 624-5525 hosannapreschool.com

facebook.com/hosannachristianpreschool

More Highlights from the Preschool!



May Birthdays!

Bethany Growden May 2 Eli Lucas May 2 Jessica Gray May 3 Nicholas Hannan May 3 Larry Gunn May 3 Hannan Parker May 3 **Jackson Nieto May 4** Melanie Wetekamm May 4 **Tara Bremond May 4** Lisa Murphy May 4 Dave Brown May 5 Miranda Batte May 5 Jane Quillin May 6 Sean Goodgion May 6 **Elaine Burbank May 7** Jan Sawa May 7 **Greg Sawa May 8** Robyn McKnight May 9 **Heather Burbrink May 10 Emmett Johnson May 10** Valarie Cole May 11 Desiree Bild May 12

Ansley Couvillion May 12

Karlyn May Ball13

Phyllis Melkild May 13 Phyllis Giffin May 13 Logan Cundiff May 14 **Griffin Helmlinger May 14** Ann Weber May 15 Jim Murphy May 15 Wayne Wells May 17 Eally Smith May 17 **Amy Ettinger May 18** Catherine Collier May 19 Kayla Bennett May 19 **Emma Goodgion May 19** Cody Gereaue May 20 **Brenna McCarthy May 21** Paul Stich May 21 **Keegan Colbert May 21** Dian Phillips May 21 **Gabriellel King May 22 Stephanie Decker May 22** Julie Dauzat May 22 **Deborah Bettncourtt May 23** Tammy Meyer May 24 **Debbie Coleman May 24** Kale Wetekamm May 24

Eli Ulfers May 26 Dar Barke May 27 Mattilyn Gereaue May 27 Kenny Naka May 27 **Ethan Mayfield May 28** Laurie Wetekamm May 28 Kim Walters May 30

May Anniversaries

Gary & Christine MoskauMay 22
Ron & Janet Clark May 21
Gary & D'Wanna Hanes May 17
Ronnie & Rachael CouvillionMay 22

Ronnie & Rachael CouvillionMay 22

Brian & Cindy Nichols May 20

Mike & Lisa Murphy May 3

Scott & Jane Quillin May 22

Michael & Sheri LemmondMay 11
Robert & Christine Johnston May 10
Doug & Dawn Knebel May 17
Josh & Katy Soong May 28
Allen & Sandy Sanders May 26
Kyle & Rachel Entzel May 17
Ryan & Anna Dwyer May 30

Report of Council Meeting February 19, 2018

Members Pres Guest: Troy King	ent: Tara, Ginny, Gina, Pastor Jay, Erica, Alex, Stephen, Brad Katty L.	
Opening Prayer	Tara	
Establish quorui	Agenda additions/President comments	
Guest Presentati Gaga Ball	on Troy	
	ortant ministry of Hosanna Lutheran Church, we recognize Hosanna Christian Preschool's contribution to Hosanna min ntain transparent financial records, we feel that preschool expenses should be first managed through the preschool acco	
A letter to the Pre	chool board to be written by: Tara	
Motion: To appro M/S/P Stephen, E	e Steve Burbrink as the lead of the Audit Team and empower him to identify at least two members for council approva	l.
Nominating Tea	n Report Ron/Pastor Jay/Gina	
	the Ballot is as follows. The Team continues to meet. t 4 nominees for Council	
C: Greg The	mpson (2 nd term)	
C: Brad Phi	ips (2 nd term)	
C: Tara Bre	nond (2 nd Term)	
C: Jim Joyn	r	
C: Julie Bro	vn	
C: Carlos Po	arse	
C: Ryan We	per .	
C: Brain N	hols	
We will ele	t 3 nominees for Nominating Committee	
Nominating	Committee	
NC: Roy Ke	enan	
NC: Katty I	ıvasseur	
NC: Matthe	v Saacks	
NC:		
NC:		
Proposed v	ting members for the Synod Assembly to be held in Houston, TX May 17-19:	

Ron and Vicki E

Purpose Area Reports

Discipleship Erica

Erica gave an update on a variety of educational events. Highlighted adult ed offerings and shared information

MOTION: Approval of Troy King's proposal of creating a more permanent GaGa ball pit. Pending council approval of location. M/S/P Brad, Stephen

It was agreed to extend the meeting at 9:29

Fellowship

Crawfish Boil

Ronnie and Rachel C are excited to be fellowship leaders and they are investigating an April event which may be a crawfish boil.

Stephen

Stephen reported that there has been interest by members who want to participate in the worship service.

Worship Evangelism

Alex has been reading the Bible. It is becoming a transformative experience for him. He is considering how Hosanna might become more Biblically literate.

Pastor Report Pastor Jay

Pastor Jay gave an update on our new support staff. Things are going well. He also reported upcoming programs and a vision for ministry staff that will be highlighted in an upcoming newsletter article and followup congregational forum on March 11.

Vision conversation/moving forward

Adjourn with prayer

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Dr. Jay Grave

New Online Resources

Check out our new additions the church website:

- **ONLINE COMMUNITY**
- Online Church Calendar
- Find a Group List
- Online Directory (Log in required)
- **New Online Giving**
- Register for Events or Classes

Upper Room Daily Devotionals

The March/April are available in the Welcome Area Click here to read the Daily Devotional online.

This video Bible study library is for every person in our church.

Watch over 2,000 kid's episodes in the RightNow Media Kid's Library. Stream them in the living room or on the road. These Bible-based shows will educate and entertain children of all ages.

Contact the Church Office for access.



Online

Visit hosannalutheran.com and click ONLINE GIVING

Text to Give

Text HOSANNALUTHERAN to 77977