



Gerald Mansholt Interim Pastor (985) 727-9200

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...and the Word became flesh and lived among us...full of grace and truth." (John 1:1, 14)

A Merry Christmas to all of you and a blessed Epiphany in the days to come. In these holy days of Christmas and Epiphany we celebrate how the glory and truth of God came in a human being, Jesus, born of Mary, and set up shop in this broken world. The Evangelist John goes on to say this Word incarnate, this very glory of God in flesh and blood, was Light and Life in the darkness of this world.

I am Pastor Jerry Mansholt and I look forward to serving as your interim pastor. My wife Anita and I plan to arrive in Mandeville on January 20, traveling from our home in Appleton, Wisconsin. I expect to be in the office the next day and lead worship the Sunday thereafter.

I am looking forward to getting to know the people of Hosanna Lutheran Church and learning about your life together and the mission to which God has called you. Already I have heard of many ways that God has been working good among you and empowering you in service and witness beyond the walls of the Church.

We are living in exceedingly hard days, the pandemic causing hardship among us all, the political climate exacting a toll on the life of the country. Last spring as we were beginning to live into the reality of the pandemic, I said to the people of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin where I was serving as bishop, "for these days we have been baptized."

When we walk through difficult times, when illness wears us down or turmoil upsets our lives or death rears its ugly head, we have the assurance that our lives are bound up with the life of Christ. In the waters of baptism we have been so deeply united to Jesus Christ that whatever happens to him happens also to us. So he who came as Life and Light for all the world will lead us also through the darkness of the present into Life and Light. The times may be tough, the journey longer than expected, the toll more exacting than anticipated. But we have the assurance that God's love is steadfast, Christ is with us, and the one who conquered sin and death, will lead us also to life and salvation.

Living in Louisiana will be a new experience for my wife and I. Anita grew up in Colorado, me on a farm in central Illinois. We've lived pretty much in the Midwest—Missouri, Kansas, and most recently, Wisconsin. She was a middle school math teacher, I a pastor and later a bishop. We've two daughters, both married and 4 grandchildren. Anita and I look forward to this new adventure in 2021, getting to know something of your life in Louisiana and walking with Hosanna toward God's Promised Future.

What does an interim pastor do? Most importantly, I am called to keep the main thing the main thing, that is, to keep the Good News of Jesus Christ at the heart and center of the life of the congregation. Then with the Good News of God feeding hearts, minds and souls, I will be with you to help you get ready for the calling of a new pastor further down the road. That will mean working with your leadership to address issues that have gotten in the way of the life God has given you and the mission to which you have been called. I'll say more about that later when I am with you and working among you. For now just know that during an interim there is work to be done as the Holy Spirit calls us through the Gospel of Jesus Christ to incarnate the very life of Jesus in our life together and to live into God's Promised Future.

A Merry Christmas and a blessed Epiphany to all of you, from the youngest infant and child among you, to the eldest, most gray-haired senior. You are all God's dear children, for whom the Word was made flesh and came with Life and Light for all.

In Christ's peace and love,



Hosanna Lutheran Church

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(985) 727-9200 FAX (985) 727-9275

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GET CONNECTED: CLICK ANY LINK

hosannalutheran.com

FACEBOOK.COM/HLCPAGE



Notes and News:

Join the Hosanna Family

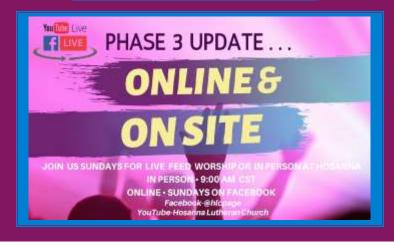
in person, at 9:00 am Sunday or watch the recorded service after 12:00 pm on Sunday on Facebook.

- We are asking that everyone please wear a mask.
- We will have greeters at the door that will take your temperature and give you hand sanitizer.
- We won't have coffee or the tables in the Narthex.
- Members will immediately go to the sanctuary and find a place to sit in the chairs that will be spaced throughout the sanctuary. We will be able to have 140 people in the sanctuary for the service. If we have more than this number, then we will have to utilize the Narthex for worship space as well.
- The Nursery will not be open, and we will not have the kids' bags available yet.
- Offering plates will be kept at the back of the Sanctuary rather than passed down each row.
- We will have music, but we will ask that the congregation not sing at this time.
- Communion will be held at the end of the service.
 There will be little disposable cups of juice and wafers available for you to pick up as you leave the Sanctuary.

With these changes, we are trying to offer a service in the cleanest, safest environment for everyone. We can't wait to see you! For those members that would still like to continue to worship from home, please follow our service online.

To watch Online go to:

https://www.facebook.com/hlcpage





Church Calendar

Click **HERE** for the online church calendar

Jan 6	Wednesday Food Ministry		
Jan 7	Quilters		
Jan 9	Un-decorate the Church		
Jan 10	Sunday AM Service		
Jan 11	Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO		
	Executive Committee		
Jan 13	AM Bible Study		
	Wednesday Food Ministry		
Jan 14	Quilters		
Jan 17	Sunday AM Service		
Jan 18	Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO		
Jan 20	AM Bible Study		
	Wednesday Food Ministry		
Jan 21	Quilters		
Jan 24	Sunday AM Service with		
	Pastor Jerry! Welcome		
Jan 25	Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO		
	Council Meeting		
Jan 27	AM Bible Study		
	Wednesday Food Ministry		
Jan 28	Quilters		
Jan 31	Sunday AM Service		
Feb 1	Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO		
Feb 3	AM Bible Study		
	Wednesday Food Ministry		

Wednesday Bible Study with Marc Reed

We will be resuming January 13th studying the book of Romans







Start the new year right by getting connected with other Hosanna family and getting involved. Here are 2 great opportunities to serve!









Office Staff: Officer Manager
Grace Schneider



Secretary/Bookkeeper Janice Robin



The office has re-opened. The new office hours are: 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM, Monday - Thursday

Congregational 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 homebound 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 Julie Dauzat (985-264-5951) or the church office (985-727-9200).



Hosanna Quilters

Hosanna Quilters meets every Thursday.
For more information contact:
Debbie Coleman
(504) 905-6162





Welcome to the world!

KARL ALFRED SCHNEIDER II

8lbs 90z · December 16, 2020 · 4:54 pm CONGRATULATIONS GRACE AND WALTER!







Director: Marilyn Boudreaux

(985) 624-5525







Registration begins January 4th for the **2021-2022** school year!

Our parents love us and we love their family:

My 16 yr. old went here and now my 3 yr. old will be an alumni too, amazing school amazing staff! ~ Kasi

This is such an amazing loving school. My boys love going here. The staff is out of this world. ~ Colleen



Hosanna (Preschool) has done some amazing things for my girls. We are so blessed to have found y'all. ~ Claire

Don't miss out! Get your little one's spot reserved today









We are still collecting 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.







Church Council

See end of the Newsletter for the Church council meeting minutes.



2020-2021 Council Members:

Teresa Abram— President
Sarah Kezar— Vice President
Doug Burbank— Treasurer
Sandy Nieto— Secretary
George Michell— Worship
Kim Dauzat-Thompson—
Fellowship
Steve Beene— Ministry
Ashley Burbank— Fellowship
Rob Rhea— Evangelism

Hello Hosanna Family and Friends,

"During this time of uncertainty is a good time to turn to Christ. Actually, there is never a time NOT to turn to Christ. But you may find your prayers a little longer of late. I know you are isolated and for a lot of you; financially unsure. But hang in there, because it will get better. Keep on praying."

Above is how I started my May Newsletter. Believe me it is still true, but I honestly thought that COVID would be over by now. Christmas Season is over by the time you read this letter, but COVID is not. This will make it a year since this started. My prayers go out to the families struck by this deadly virus.

There is a service being held now, and it is at 9:00 AM. It is a blended service, part Traditional and part Contemporary. We are in Phase II of the Pandemic shut down, so we are allowed to fill over half of our pews. The count is getting up there. Our Easter in October had 76 attendees. There are currently 55 – 65 attending each service. We are wearing masks, not handing out bulletins, not going around greeting each other, not passing the offering plate (it is in the back of the Sanctuary for your convivence), and communion is not served but is available in a cup as you leave the service. In addition to the service, it is streamed on Face Book as well, at a later time. It is looking as if we will be starting a 2nd service sometime in the early part of 2021. This will give the people who sleep in a service to attend.

The stain glass is completed, thanks to Carl Hilt and Bob Busfield. It is really nice. If you have not been to church and want to see the changes, please drop by during office hours and take a look. All the other upgrades are completed as well. We have already started a new list.

As you probably already know, Pastor Jay has retired. We are currently getting guest speakers, but our interim Pastor Gerald (Jerry) Mansholt will be here on January 21st and his first Sunday will be the 24th. We will be reaching out to the congregation for a Call Team to start the process of obtaining a new Pastor.

Have a Great Year 2021! God Bless you all, George Michell – Worship Purpose Council Member





Katie Sepcich Youth Director youthdirector@hosannalutheran.com

We have made it through 2020! I hope each of you take time give yourself some praise for making it through an unexpected and everchanging year.

As we enter this new year, I feel similar to how I felt in praying about delivering the Christmas Eve message. As I sat down to prepare the message, I kept telling God about how this season feels different. How it is hard to celebrate Christmas when we are still waiting on so many things. Entering 2021 prompts the same feelings. How are we to celebrate the new year when we are still in a pandemic; still waiting for a pastor; still in this period of being ready but not yet.

As I typed those worries out, I am reminded that we can celebrate because of who the Lord is. He is walking with us and leading us through, and we can celebrate Him during this weird time. In my message, I talk about what resting in the Lord looks like, and how the shepherds in the Christmas Story model this posture. The shepherd tells the angel about how he is scared, but he still goes forth. It reminds me of the story of Lazarus and how his sister, Martha, tells Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that you are who you say you are". I read that and am encouraged that the shepherd and Martha are examples of how we should posture ourselves when entering the new year. We can bring our worries, struggles, and all the feelings to the Lord while also moving forward with Him into 2021.

I hope as you take time to reflect on the new year, you also take time to talk to God. To be honest with where you're at leaving 2020 and moving into 2021. I hope you know that He is with you. That He loves you, and that you can rest in Him as we enter the new year.

With Love,

Katie Sepcich
Jr. & Sr. High Youth Director
Hosanna Lutheran Church

Monday Might Meals Hosanna Teens

Will Be Starting Up Soon!

Resources and Information

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.

office@hosannalutheran.com



New Online Resources

Check out our new additions the church website:

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



Online

Visit hosannalutheran.com and click ONLINE GIVING

Text to Give

Text HOSANNALUTHERAN to 77977

We are now on YouVersion Bible app: Get the YouVersion Bible App on your phone to follow along with Pastor Jay's message each Sunday. Download the app, select 'More' in the bottom right corner, then select 'Events'!

Did you know?

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Hosanna Lutheran Church. AmazonSmile is the same

Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your church by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.



Baptism Milestone

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

Contact the office.

Milestone Ministry Website

Milestone Ministry



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.

January Birthdays!

Jan 3	R.J. Murphy	Jan 10	Richard Hodgson	Jan 23	Mason Johnston
Jan 3	Thomas Warren	Jan 11	Mable Rees	Jan 23	Rachel Entzel
Jan 3	Kathryn Duris	Jan 15	Harland Johnson	Jan 24	Sue Provo
Jan 4	Jace David	Jan 17	Peyton Kemp	Jan 24	Nathan Miller
Jan 4	Jorden Meader	Jan 18	Graham Peck	Jan 24	Madison Gray
Jan 4	Steve Mayfield	Jan 18	Todd Tournillon	Jan 25	Chase Colbert
Jan 5	Joyce Meyer	Jan 19	Ashley Ruth	Jan 25	Ronnie Couvillion
Jan 6	Michael Lemmond	Jan 19	John Coleman	Jan 25	Vera Grauch
Jan 6	Bethany Putnam	Jan 20	Cathy Gomila	Jan 27	Mathew Deason
Jan 6	Jake Gros	Jan 21	John Gomila	Jan 28	Jill Smith
Jan 7	Rachel Gelbke	Jan 22	Derek Brown	Jan 29	Morgan Abram Carleen Chase
Jan 8	Lee Pearson	Jan 22	Channing Thompson	Jan 29 Jan 30	Hunter Boynes
Jan 9	Cole Brown	Jan 22	Ryan Dwyer	Jan 30	Allen Thompson
Jan 9	Hannah Gowland	Jan 22	Robert Francke	Jan 31	Shavondria Jackson
Jan 10	Nathan Gunn	Jan 22	Robert Honold	TIME	0 40
Jan 10	Matthew Decker	Jan 23	Johnny Griffitt		
Jan 10	Olivia Starner	Jan 23	George Heffker		

January Anniversaries

Jan 2	Aaron & Becky Day	Jan 21	Eally & Jill Smith
Jan 2	Greg & Kim Thompson	Jan 22	Greg & Gina Weber
Jan 5	Nathan & Erica Hoffman	Jan 26	Peter & Carol Torrey
lan 17	Marc & Dana Reed		

Hosanna Lutheran Church Council Meeting

November 16, 2020

Call to order by Teresa Abram at 7:05 p.m.

Quorum established. Members present: Teresa Abram, Sarah Kezar, Kim Dauzat-Thompson, Rob Rhea, Steve Beene, Sandy Nieto, Ashley Burbank and Doug Burbank.

Opening Prayer: Teresa

President's Report:

- ELCA membership: Steve motioned we stay in ELCA, George seconded. Discussion ensued. All were in favor so motion passed.
- Budget meeting agenda Nov 22: Prayer
 - Budget Review by Doug, Vote
 - Statement from council: Stay in ELCA, Pastors have been lined up for all Sundays for Nov and Dec
- Doug will explain SWOT results in December newsletter
- VBS insurance case: Parents of the sister and brother who were injured (broken arms) playing in the GAGA pit during VBS 2 years ago are suing Hosanna. Our insurance, Guide One, is handling this.
- Dec. 5th Praise Night, Cross Dedication, Plaques will be presented honoring those who worked on stained glass cross.
- Call Committee: Tammy Meyer interested on being on this committee

Pastor's Report: Pastor Jay 's last day was yesterday

• Interim Pastor Paperwork: Filled out job description This will be submitted to Bishop's assistant Tracey. One possible candidate for Interim (Jerry Mansholt) is a retiring bishop In Wisconsin. We may do ZOOM call with him after he takes a look at our paperwork. Will need to help him find a rental home. He will receive same salary and benefits that Pastor Jay had.

VP Report: Sara and Grace will send out communication to all members on our roll to find out communication preference and if they are still members.

Secretary Report: Sara motioned that minutes be accepted and Steve seconded. All were in favor. Tammany utilities declined to provide water/sewer to church property because of lack of servitude. Will need to get 3 bids for our sewer plant repair or replace since it is not working properly.

Purpose Area Reports:

Worship(George): More volunteers needed for A/V and stream team(consider setting up training session), George will start working on lining up pastors for Sunday services for January. Discussed council's desire to return to 2 services but decided to wait until Interim Pastor on site to begin this.

Discipleship (Ashley): N/A

Ministry (Steve): 1300-1400 meals served per month. Many folks being served meals have needs that H.I.S. ministry could help with., FAITH gardens with good water supply now. Grants for 80x80 building (expanding kitchen and adding preschool rooms) are being pursued. Steve recommends we consider additional revenue streams such as before and after care at preschool. Establishing a preschool in Madisonville with a faith garden, HHM, and streaming worship on Sundays would qualify for a \$30,000 grant from ELCA

Fellowship (Kim): Shower for Grace, Women's Night in and Bon Voyage for Graves went well. Nov 28th to decorate church. Christmas fellowship will be Dec 5th in conjunction with Night of Praise music program. There will be sweet treats after the music outside among the Christmas lights.

Evangelism (Rob): Logan will be putting in prayer garden Nov 28th. Donations for this almost reached the \$1500 amount he estimated would be needed. Offer interim candidate plane ticket to check us out if needed.

Treasurer (Doug):

- Checking account balance was \$150,000 in March
- We have \$130,000 in investments
- Checking account now has \$70,000
- We take in \$5000/week(income) but spend \$7000/week(expenses)

Rob motioned to adjourn meeting and George seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Minutes submitted by Sandy Nieto