



Gerald Mansholt Interim Pastor (985) 727-9200

## March 2021

"For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will find it." (Mark 8:35)

These are really hard words that come from Jesus. Just ask Peter who had objected to what Jesus had to say. Peter tried to challenge God's Anointed One only to hear Jesus tell him he was on the side of Satan.

I wonder how these words might be addressed to Hosanna congregation. Can you imagine Jesus saying, "If Hosanna Lutheran Church wants to really thrive and grow, there are some things Hosanna will first need to lose." Yikes, we might say! I can imagine some of us responding just like Peter!

What would Jesus have Hosanna congregation lose for his sake and for the sake of the Gospel? Maybe there are cherished traditions that are valued too highly and get in the way of Jesus' love. Perhaps there are attitudes and behaviors that need to die so the congregation might live for God. Maybe the congregation gets so caught up in its own thinking and its own plans that it simply can't see things from God's perspective. The congregation's own agenda gets in the way of God's agenda. Maybe people haven't even thought about going to God in prayer and asking what God's agenda for the Church might be!

Hosanna has a beautiful mission statement recited at the end of each worship service and marked above the doorway. People can read it as they leave the church: *To proclaim the love of God to all people so they may know Jesus Christ, grow in faith and follow Christ.* That's a pretty good mission statement. But I wonder what in Hosanna's life needs to be emptied out, turned over, and lost for good that new life might emerge. Until the Kingdom of God fully comes, that kind of question needs to asked in every generation.

I don't have answers for these ponderings and you may not either, at least not right away. But when Jesus calls us to take up the cross and follow, he most certainly wants us to be wrestling with what all this means.

This past Sunday, the first Sunday in Lent, I spoke about how loving Jesus means we follow Jesus into the wilderness. We are called to wrestle with questions about our identity and mission. Who are we and what has God called us to do? Our Lord and Savior was tested in the wilderness and then emerged victorious for us and for salvation. Lent calls us to believe the Good News of our salvation. Lent calls us to throw our lives wholly into the grace and mercy of God and lose some significant baggage, all the stuff that keeps us from embodying God's love for us and for all creation.

As we journey into the heart of this Lenten season and then on to the cross, let's keep wrestling with these questions. What would Jesus have Hosanna lose for the sake of the Gospel, so Hosanna might find and save its life? If you have thoughts about the above, I would love to hear what you have to say.

In Christ's peace and love,

Pastor Jerry Mansholt



## Hosanna Lutheran Church

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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 in the afternoon, Sundays on Facebook.

- We are asking that everyone please wear a mask.
- We have hand sanitizer at the door.
- 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

# ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

Sunday March 7th, immediately following the church service.

# \*March 2021

## **Church Calendar**

Click <u>HERE</u> for the online church calendar

Mar 1 Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO

Hosanna TEENS

Mar 3 AM Bible Study

Lenten Noon Devotional Wednesday Food Ministry

Mar 4 Quilters

Mar 7 Sunday AM Service

Annual Meeting

Mar 8 Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO

Hosanna TEENS

**Executive Committee** 

Mar 10 AM Bible Study

Lenten Noon Devotional Wednesday Food Ministry

Women's Book Club

Mar 11 Quilters

Mar 14 Sunday AM Service

Mar 15 Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO

Hosanna TEENS

**Church Council** 

Mar 17 AM Bible Study

Lenten Noon Devotional

Wednesday Food Ministry

Mar 18 Quilters

Mar 21 Sunday AM Services

Mar 22 Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO

Hosanna TEENS

Mar 24 AM Bible Study

Lenten Noon Devotional

Wednesday Food Ministry

Mar 25 Quilters

Mar 28 Sunday AM Services

Mar 29 Hosanna Hot Meals TO GO

Hosanna TEENS

















**Office Staff:** Officer Manager Grace Schneider



Secretary/Bookkeeper Janice Robin



Office hours are: 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM, Mon. - Thurs.

# 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).



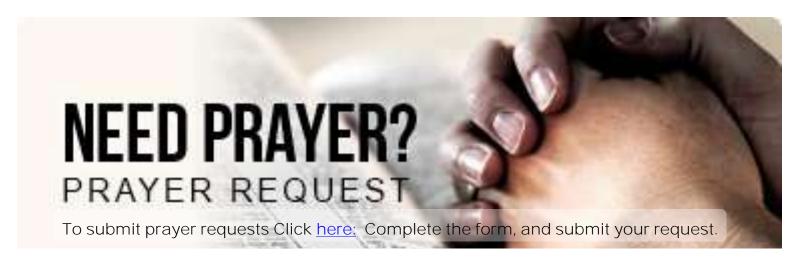
## Hosanna Quilters

Hosanna Quilters meets every Thursday.

For more information contact:

Debbie Coleman (504) 905-6162





## Getting to Know the Mansholts!

Anita grew up in Pueblo, Colorado. Pastor Jerry married the gal from the mountain state and together they climbed the highest mountain in Colorado, Mt Elbert, elevation 14,439.

Jerry grew up on a small farm in central Illinois, so he enjoys John Deere tractors, fields and livestock, and learning about agriculture in different parts of the country, dairy cows and cheese in Wisconsin.

The two of them met in college, and celebrated their 50th yr. of marriage in 2020. They have 2 daughters, both married, and 4 grandchildren.

Anita was a math teacher in middle school. She enjoys reading, walks, and keeps up to date on good nutrition...making sure Jerry eats healthy!

Pastor Jerry enjoys exercising, jogging/walks outdoors, fly fishing, and traveling to new places (like Louisiana!). The Louis Cardinals are his favorite baseball team, and he is a fan of both, the Green Bay Packers and the Kansas City Chiefs (we wont hold that against him. Geaux Saints!).

Jerry Pastored 24 years before becoming a Bishop, which he served until December of 2020.

Serving as a bishop has given them the opportunity to travel globally on behalf of the church. The have visited churches in Papua New Guinea, many cities in Russia, South Africa, the Holy Land and beyond. We look forward to getting to know them better, as they lead Hosanna in preparation for the upcoming new things that the Lord has for Hosanna Lutheran Church!

Welcome, Pastor Jerry and Anita Mansholt!









## Director: Marilyn Boudreaux

(985) 624-5525







# Registration is open for the 2021-2022 school year!

## **March Events:**

- The Art Show is March 18 from 6:00 to 8:00. The theme this year is "Masks we want to wear"
- No school Friday March 12 and Friday March 19
- Dominos Pizza night March 17
- Summer Camp Registration begins in April













## 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.







# Hosanna Preschool













Mrs. Boudreaux's Tea Party

















# Church Council

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



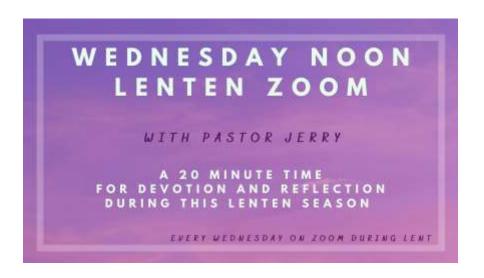
## 2020-2021 Council Members:

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

Pastor Jerry's sermon on Sunday reminded us that Lent is a time for us to reflect on the fact that God has chosen us to be part of his mission in the world. He encouraged us to spend this season thinking and praying about how God is calling us to embody that love in witness and in service to ALL people. I hope you will spend time each day considering the possibilities for renewal at Hosanna. There are many opportunities to get more involved in our church community including Hosanna Hotmeals, Hosanna in Service, Church Council and soon, the Call Committee. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact the office or any of the Council members.

God's peace,

Sarah Kezar Council Vice President







## Katie Sepcich Youth Director youthdirector@hosannalutheran.com

Dear Hosanna Congregation,

At the end of last month, I sent a letter to the Hosanna Council and then to our Hosanna Teens parents and students. Almost three years ago, I began working at Hosanna two weeks before starting law school. I am now in the middle of my final semester and preparing for a new season of life. In consideration of my upcoming graduation and after numerous discussions with Pastor Jay, Pastor Jerry, and our Council President, Teresa Abram, I have come to the decision that this will be my last school year leading the Hosanna Teens Program.

This has been an unprecedented school year, and it is important to me to finish it out with our students. Therefore, my last day at Hosanna will be June 2, 2021. In honoring my role as a leader to our students and as we enter this interim period with Pastor Jerry, I felt it was important for the success of the Hosanna Teens program to formalize and be transparent about my departure date as early as possible. However, until then, it is my greatest intention to continue to work toward the betterment of our Church and our Hosanna Teens Program.

I often tell students who are graduating that no matter where life takes them, I will always be their friend and cheerleader. I hope each of you know that no matter where life takes me, I will still always be your friend and cheerleader. I again often say that the Hosanna

Teens Program is not mine but God's. This is His program, and I am excited to see what He will do next! Let's finish this school year strong!

Much love, Katie Sepcich Jr. & Sr. High Youth Director



## 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
- Online Directory (Log in required)
- New Online Giving
- Register for Events or Classes

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 <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a>.



You shop. Amazon gives.



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.

### **Baptism Milestone**

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

Contact the office.

**Milestone Ministry Website** 

## **Milestone Ministry**





# March Birthdays!

Mar 4	Christine Moskau	Mar 12	Kathy Colbert	Mar 22	Shannon Bearden
Mar 4	Eric Nungesser	Mar 13	Robert Huet	Mar 22	Jennifer Thompson
Mar 7	Ginny Sirera	Mar 13	Barbara Hood	Mar 22	Jason Greenleaf
Mar 7	Dylan Nichols	Mar 14	Shelley Pettus	Mar 25	Gayle Francke
Mar 9	Jamie Mayo	Mar 14	Richie Helmlinger	Mar 26	Bryan Walters
Mar 9	Nana Me <mark>jia</mark>	Mar 14	Brian Johnson-Osborn	Mar 27	Valerie Griffitt
Mar 9	Adam Moore	Mar 15	Gina Weber	Mar 31	Katie Sepcich
Mar 9 Mar 9	Adam Moore Steve Picou		Gina Weber  Jordan Lacoste	Mar 31	Katie Sepcich
	Steve Picou	Mar 15	-	Mar 31	Katie Sepcich
Mar 9	Steve Picou	Mar 15 Mar 16	Jordan Lacoste	Mar 31	Katie Sepcich
Mar 9 Mar 10	Steve Picou  Corbin Dwyer  Linnea Savoie	Mar 15 Mar 16 Mar 20	Jordan Lacoste  Greg Bennett	Mar 31	Katie Sepcich

# March Anniversaries

Mar 6	Kennie & Karen Schindler	Mar 19	Chris & Desiree Bild	Mar 29	Bryce & Alecia Peck
Mar 9	Fred & Laurie Wetekamm	Mar 19	CJ & Tara Boynes	Mar 30	David & Donna Lacoste
Mar 12	C.J. & Marlene Mehle	Mar 28	Derron & Stephanie Decker	Mar 30	Alan & Linnea Savoie
Mar 13	Carl & Sharon Hilt	Mar 29	Steve & Debbie Picou	Mar 30	Tara & Jacques Bremond
Mar 15	Glenn & Phyllis Giffin	Mar 29	Julie & Burk Berzas		The Park
Mar 16	Lee & Kristina Pearson	Mar 29	Lance & Casie Lalanne		- AC

## Hosanna Lutheran Church Council Meeting

## HOSANNA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL JANUARY 25, 2021

**Meeting called to order:** at 7 pm by Teresa Abram.

#### **Ouorum** established.

**Members present:** Teresa Abram, Sandy Nieto, Kim Dauzat-Thompson, George Michell, Rob Rhea, Doug Burbank, Ashley Burbank and Pastor Jerry

#### Pastor opened with scripture and prayer

Guest Lena Gunn: She proposes a project at Hosanna to help her earn the Gold Award in Girl Scouts. Ashley Burbank will help coordinate with the church. Her goal is to get younger generation involved in supporting our active military. She plans to hold an educational workshop to explain what is needed in care packages, ways to support military, and the needs of the military. The workshop will be directed towards youth group, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. A supply drive to collect items to fill care boxes will run 3-4 weeks. She is currently awaiting final approval of her project from the Girl Scout Council in March or April. Rob motioned we approve and support Lena's project and Kim seconded. All were in favor.

#### **President's Report:**

- Our monthly "Benevolence" contribution to our Synod has not been paid since August. We pledged 9% of all giving income for this. Will discuss further after Treasurer's Report.
- PPP grant: We now have access to portal. Nothing needs to be done at this time.
- Quotes for septic system repair or replacement are pending via Grace
- Grace's return to work from maternity leave: What will this look like? She already has been working from home and the office. Permission is given for her to bring baby Karl with her to office as needed and to work primarily from home. Rob and Pastor Jerry will talk with Grace to find out what hours she wants to work, etc.
- Pam with God's unchanging Hands feeding ministry was asked by HHM to move a lot of food items she was storing in kitchen/prayer room area because of problem with roaches there. Teresa will get Grace to call Authentic Exterminating to come back and treat area until bug problem is resolved.
- The Ella West Grant application to pay for new kitchen appliances did not make it to the final round. Charles Stone is working on others to help with HHM and kitchen project.
- Interested in getting state requirements for preschool to become certified. We need to know what it would take to qualify and will ask Marilyn for help getting this info.

**Vice President's Report:** Sarah is home recovering from shoulder surgery . Teresa will ask her to add to the VP job description for the next VP to oversee communications

#### **Secretary Report**:

- George motioned to approve last month's minutes; Ashley seconded. All were in favor.
- Nominating Committee news: Nominated for Council: Charles Stone, Madeleine Tedesco, Katy LaVasseur, Vicki Entzel or Ron Entzel, Amanda Watson, Jay Bearden, Marc Reed, Jillian Garreti.
- Nominated for Nominating Council: Vivian Moore, Linda Busfield, Glen Giffin, Ron or Vicki Entzel.

#### Pastor's Report:

- It is important to identify who we are as a church, and what God is calling us to be and do.
- How can God use the history of Hosanna to shape the congregation going forward?
- Recommends a transition team with a timeline to help with the above.

#### **Purpose Areas:**

#### Worship (George):

Much thanks to Janice and Grace for getting pastors and volunteers to cover all the services George will send email to all his volunteers to see who is still participating and what role each would like.

### Discipleship (Ashley):

- 3 homes of recipients of Hosanna Hot Meals were identified as needing repairs. Bob Busfield and Pastor Jarret Banks assessed the repairs needed. 2 of the projects can be done by H.I.S. The other will require more specialized help.
- Considering having some type of graduation event for Katie

**Fellowship (Kim):** Large fellowship events are on hold due to COVID-19.

### Evangelism (Rob):

- Rob will serve as liaison with Boy Scout group that wants to meet at Hosanna again.
- F.A.I.T.H. garden producing vegetables and will be distributed to families in need.

#### **Treasurer's Report**:

- \$250,000 is supposed to be for designated projects but were not in separate accounts from the general checking account
- Current checking account balance is \$56,000
- Wells-Fargo account has \$15,000
- Brokerage Accounts at Gulf Coast Bank actually have \$125,000 although report Janice had showed only \$53,000. Doug will figure out why our internal report is showing this lower figure.
- ELCA Youth Fund has \$25,000.
- Total of all accounts is \$300,000.
- Giving is down, only half what is usually is. Giving income for 2020 is approximately \$250,000.
- Expenses for 2020 is approximately \$500,000.
- We need to either cut expenses a lot or increase giving.
- Should we continue to pay Synod the 9% of giving "Benevolence" or should we lower it? Rob motioned for the executive team to decide what to pay Synod for 2020 and do so before January 31, 2021. Ashley seconded motion. All were in favor, motion passed.
- Recommends a committee be formed to help with some financial decisions such as managing investments. It could consist of 3 members.

Rob motioned to adjourn meeting and George seconded. All were in favor.

Pastor Jerry closed with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Sandy Nieto