

Hosanna Highlights



Gerald Mansholt
Interim Pastor

(985) 727-9200

May 2021

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing (John 15:5).

I've been hearing good feedback about the Congregation History Event held on Sunday, April 25. The thirty-seven or so people who participated seemed to be a good sampling of older and newer members of the congregation, some with family roots going back to the congregation's formation. While memories occasionally got a little fuzzy when it came to the exact year or date of some events, major milestones were noted. We made a point of lifting up the Celebrations, Losses, Major Events, Major Stressors, and Changes in the history of the congregation.

Overall there was much to celebrate in the life and ministry of Hosanna, good ministry done, faith formed in the lives of people, times of joy and thanksgiving. But there was also honesty about the more difficult times in the life of the congregation, periods of conflict, losses of membership, times when transparency about issues was lacking.

Martin Luther gave the Church the theological description of saint/sinner. People are at the same time, saints, redeemed by the love of God in Jesus Christ, and sinners, people turned inward and looking out for themselves. Congregations can be described in much the same way, a very human institution yet called into being and made holy by Spirit of Risen Christ. When we are at our best, the Church shines with the love and mercy of God. When we are at our worst, the Church can look very bad. Thankfully, the final Word belongs to God whose steadfast love and mercy is abounding. We are not captive our past but always drawn into the future with God's mercy and grace.

Hosanna has gone through some rough times in recent years, even while doing some terrific ministry. I ended the History Event by talking about:

Centered Flexibility, a concept I learned from a colleague in ministry in this synod, Pastor Beth Marie Halvorsen. Centered Flexibility is having the mind of Christ among us, as Paul encourages in the second chapter of Philippians. Pastor Halvorsen names 4 characteristics congregations need to constructively respond to major changes and disruptions in their history: Humility, Boldness, Surrender and Tenacity.

Humility. We are called to walk together, accompany one another in this journey as a congregation. It's never about me but always about US. We are called to have a spirit of humility. I think of Luke 24 where Jesus comes alongside the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Jesus engages them in conversation, walks with them, and inquires of them. Or I think of Jesus who is described in Matthew's gospel as having compassion upon the crowd for they were like sheep without a shepherd. Mark speaks of Jesus who came not to be served but to serve. Humility going forward is vitally important for the congregation.

Boldness. While humility is necessary, boldness is also needed. Jesus asserted his strength when he overturned the tables and cleansed the temple, as well as when he spoke those strong "woe" words in Luke 6 challenging the rich, the proud and haughty. Boldness comes in trusting that God has called the congregation into being and will see it into the future.

Surrender. There are some things one cannot change and a new reality must be accepted. In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus prayed "not my will, but thine be done." On the cross Jesus breathed his last and commended his life to his Father in heaven. There are times when a congregation needs to surrender, accept a new reality and move into the future.

Tenacity. While there are some new realities that must be accepted, there are other realities that must be willed into being. We are called to commit ourselves to demanding and working for a new and better future. After the glow and glory of the Transfiguration, Jesus came down the mountain and set his face toward Jerusalem. There was ministry to do and a future and destiny to be embraced. Paul encouraged believers to fight the good fight (1 Timothy 6) and run the race that is set before us. This attribute speaks to a congregation having resolve and follow through, maintaining good boundaries and doing what it needs to do as a healthy congregation.

A blend of these virtues are needed as Hosanna congregation embraces its future. As we keep our lives centered in Jesus the vine we produce good fruit. The vinedresser may do some pruning along the way as bad habits and unhealthy destructive behaviors are killed off. Abide in me, Jesus says, and I'll help you grow the good fruit.

I hope the Congregation History Event serves as a springboard to a better future. Abide in me, Jesus says, and I in you, and you will bear much, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Pastor Jerry Mansholt

Hosanna Highlights

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 (985) 727-9200 FAX (985) 727-9275
 office@hosannalutheran.com

GET CONNECTED: CLICK ANY LINK
hosannalutheran.com

 [FACEBOOK.COM/HLCPAGE](https://facebook.com/hlcpage)

 [@HLCMANDEVILLE](https://twitter.com/HLCMANDEVILLE)

Notes and News:

Join the Hosanna Family
 in person at 9am & 10:30am
 Or watch on Facebook
www.facebook.com/hlcpage

- 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.
- 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.



Online Resources

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

MAY 2021

Church Calendar

Click [HERE](#) for the online church calendar

- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 29 | Quilters |
| May 2 | 9am Service
10:30am Service
Chemo Care Bag Items Due |
| May 3 | Hosanna Hot Meals
Exclamation |
| May 9 | 9am Service
10:30am Service
Treats for Troops Items Due
MOTHER'S DAY! |
| May 10 | Hosanna Hot Meals
Exclamation
Executive Council Meeting |
| May 16 | 9am Service
10:30am Service |
| May 17 | Hosanna Hot Meals
Exclamation
Full Council Meeting |
| May 21 | NPAS Concert |
| May 23 | 9am Service
10:30am Service
NPAS Concert |
| May 24 | Hosanna Hot Meals
Exclamation |
| May 30 | 9am Service
10:30am Service |
| May 31 | OFFICE CLOSED
Hosanna Hot Meals |



Nicole Gunn!! Our new Office Assistant and Bookkeeper

Nicole met her husband Larry at Washington State University, they have been married for over 26 years. She is a mom of three to Nathan (20), Lena (17), and Jonathan (14). Nicole and her family moved to Louisiana in 2013 and became members of Hosanna in 2015. She has lived in six states Washington, California, Illinois, Georgia, Tennessee, and Louisiana. Her favorite things about Louisiana are Mardi Gras, chargrilled oysters, crawfish, and the friendly folks. She was born and raised in the Seattle area, where her parents still live today. Nicole enjoys volunteering for the Mandeville Band Boosters, Operation We Care, and You Night. Her passion lies in helping Hosanna Hot Meals very Monday.

Come say hello to her in the office!!



Purchase tickets [HERE!](#)



NPAS
Northwest Performing Arts Society

How Can We Keep From Singing?

Friday, May 21 at 7:30PM
Sunday, May 23 at 3:00PM

Hosanna Lutheran Church

Tickets: \$15 ages 10 and up

Ticketing: www.NPAssingers.org

Although the Governor announced a mask lift the last week of April, we will continue to be masked and refrain from singing on Sundays, for the time being.



**GRAB-N-GEAUX...
PICK UP DINNER
EVERY MONDAY: 4:30-6:00PM**

Drivers Needed- Mondays

2480 Highway 190, Mandeville LA 70448

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

Treats for Troops

Help Lena earn her Gold Award by donating items for **Operation We Care**. These items will be sent to Military Serving Overseas!

Find a list of items in the Welcome Area!
Items due back May 9th




girl scouts

HELP LENA WITH HER GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

HOSANNA WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

May Book:
Pastrix
the cranky, beautiful faith of a sinner & saint
By Nadia Bolz Weber



We will be having in person and online discussion
May 12 at 6:00 PM
Be sure to join us!

Contact Erica Hoffman for instructions and more information: (985) 789-1137

HOSANNA WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB MEETS MONTHLY ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY

HOSANNA'S FAITH GARDEN IS UNDERWAY!
DO YOU ENJOY GARDENING? WE NEED VOLUNTEERS THAT WOULD LIKE TO HELP TEND THE GARDENS!



Hosanna F.A.I.T.H.
food always in the home

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE TO VOLUNTEER!



3 Ways to Give



ONLINE
www.hosannalutheran.com
Click 'Give' on right side



MAIL
2480 Highway 190
Mandeville, LA 70448



SMART GIVING
Text 'hosannalutheran'
to 77977

Online giving through  Pushpay

To give now, click here: www.hosannalutheran.com



Hosanna Highlights

Office Manager
Grace Schneider



Office Assistant/Bookkeeper
Nicole Gunn



Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
8:30am-1:30pm

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.



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



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CHEMO CARE BAG PROJECT

During April, we will be collecting items for the Chemo Care Bags to be donated in early May to the patients at Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center in Covington. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry. In February, 25 bags were donated. We are again inviting the congregation to assist with this project by donating items to go in the bags (see list below) and/or funds to offset their cost. It is estimated that it will **cost \$20 to fill each bag**. Items can be dropped off in the box provided in the Welcome area/Narthex anytime between now and Sunday, May 2nd. We hope you will be able to help us and support this project that will be a blessing to others.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Busfield (985 7897965).

ITEMS FOR CHEMO CARE BAGS

- Journals
- Fleece Blankets
- Crossword/Puzzle/Sudoku Books
- Unscented Lotions
- Warm, Cozy Socks for Women or Thermal, heavy for Men
- Unscented Lip Balm/Chapsticks
- Small Bags of hard Lemon or Mint candies
- Decorative Scarves, Bandanas, or Knitted Caps

Hosanna Quilters

Hosanna Quilters meet every Thursday.

For more information contact:

Debbie Coleman
(504) 905-6162



HAVE A
Prayer
Request

To submit prayer requests Click [here](#):



Director:
Marilyn Boudreaux
(985) 624-5525



Hosannalutheran.com/preschool

facebook.com/hosannachristianpreschool

Registration is open for the
2021-2022 school year!

2021 Summer Camp 

REG: \$30 Per Child, per Month

Weekly: \$125

Monthly: \$400



Step Up Program: May 19th
(last day of school)



Mother's Day Brunch:
May 6 & 7



Make it a Pizza night!
Every third Wednesday of the month, Hosanna Preschool will receive 20% of the proceeds for each pizza ordered through Dominos Pizza



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 funds for supplies for Hosanna Christian Preschool.



Easter Bunny Visits and Easter Eggs Hunts!



Church Council

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



2021-2022 Council Members:

Rob Rhea– President
Marc Reed– Vice President
Doug Burbank– Treasurer
Rachael Moore– Secretary
George Michell
Steve Beene
Charles Stone
Amanda Watson

Update on our financial situation.

As we are roughly 1/3 of the way through the year 2021, I want to update the congregation on several items related to our finances. First, we saw the departure of Janice, our bookkeeper. (Thank you Janice for several years of faithful service.) We subsequently hired a new bookkeeper, church member Nicole Gunn. Nicole brings experience from both the field of accounting and human relations. She has been a regular volunteer with Hosanna Hot Meals as well as with the Mandeville High School Marching Band Boosters and other community organizations. Please join me in welcoming Nicole to her new work with Hosanna congregation. Second, Hosanna Lutheran Church has applied for a second Payroll Protection Plan loan from the government (administered through the Small Business Administration). If approved, HLC would receive \$66,800 from this program. Gulf Coast Bank, who is shepherding us through the process, did not have an estimate as to when we would be reviewed and/or when those funds would be made available.

Note: Due to the transition period between bookkeepers, the following are estimates based on our checking account and are not “official” balance sheet numbers. The numbers also exclude the Hosanna Christian Preschool (HCP) salaries and subsequent reimbursements back to the church to cover these salaries.

Related to cash flow, through April 27th, we brought in a total of \$85,000 and incurred expenses of \$136,000 resulting in a weekly deficit of about \$3,000 per week. The income includes member giving of \$82,000 and misc. income of \$3,000. The expenses include \$66,000 in salaries and benefits and \$69,000 for all other expenses. As of April 27, 2021 the church has cash assets totaling \$241,000, excluding the HCP checking balance.

Doug Burbank– Council Treasurer



Katie Sepcich
Youth Director
youthdirector@hosannalutheran.com

As I announced earlier this semester, I will be ending my term as Youth Director at the end of this school year. Therefore, this will be my last newsletter article. This past weekend I sat in on our Congregational History Event and listened to Hosanna's extensive history as recounted by so many of you. Something I noticed is that in people's recollection of the last ten years, there wasn't much mentioning of the Youth Program. As my tenure as Youth Director ends, I'd like to leave you with a story and some hopes.

In November of 2019, we held two youth led services for Christ the King Sunday. Many families were out of town, but we still had students preach; read; minister the eucharist; serve as greeters ushers, and service assistants. That same semester, we added our Instagram account, rebranded our program, and the Teens creatively announced to the entire congregation their ideas for a pilgrimage and mission trip the next Summer (not knowing what 2020 would bring). It was an exciting time to see so many kids seeking to know God in different ways, and that Christ the King Sunday was such a special display of the burning fire growing inside so many of our students. However, at the end of the service, rather than praising the students for their leadership and service, a member of the congregation came up to me and expressed their extreme disappointment with the Youth Program. Not because the services that Sunday were bad, but because the "program doesn't look like it used to."

I hear so much about the losses our Youth Program has suffered over the last couple of years. In fact, I heard it on my first day as Youth Director. I understand, it looks very different than it once was. I share this story not to shame anyone or invalidate anyone's feelings, but to challenge this congregation to not be distracted by what once was. One of the craziest things I've done during my time at Hosanna is serve as the Pastor during this past Christmas Eve service. In that sermon, I talked about how I used to lead worship, but had no idea what I was singing about. I was more concerned with my breath, the way my voice sounded, and a million other things that I forgot what the point was. The point was Jesus.

I hope you don't miss the point like I did. That when you recount the history of the Youth Program, you will take a step back and look to see how Jesus was working. That even in the losses, we had celebrations - the Rally Nights; the VBS's; the Trunk or Treats; the Youth Led Services; the Trips and Retreats; the Confirmations; the many nights of discipleship and fellowship. I hope you'd remember that even if you can't see it or even if it looks different, Jesus is the same in all seasons and has been working this entire time. Hebrews 13: 6-8, says,

"So we say with confidence,

'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?'

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

I pray for Hosanna's next leaders – that God would use them and their faith to boldly lead this Church. I pray that as you rebuild and start new, you are reminded of God's faithfulness and that He is the same in each season – no matter what it looks like. As I begin to lead through worship and sing again, it only seems right to leave you with a song. *The Blessing* by Kari Jobe and Cody Carnes sings this prayer – "The Lord bless you and keep you. Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace. May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations and your family and your children." This is my same prayer for all of you! Hosanna Teens is God's Program, and I am excited to see what He does with it! Thank you for allowing me to be a part of it for the last three years.

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



We say goodbye to Katie at the end of May! We would like to thank her for all the hard work she put into ministering the Teens of Hosanna! Her heart has always been for the teens and this shows throughout the Teen Ministry. Katie is off to bigger adventures and we pray for her as she starts this new endeavor!! We love you Katie!!!



Goodbye Katie




May Birthdays!



May 3	Jessica Gray	May 13	Karlyn Ball
May 3	Larry Gunn	May 15	Scott Dauterive
May 3	Parker Hannan	May 17	Eally Smith
May 3	Nicholas Hannan	May 17	Wayne Wells
May 4	Tara Bremond	May 19	Kayla Bennett
May 4	Melanie Wetekamm	May 22	Julie Dautat
May 4	Jackson Nieto	May 22	Stephanie Decker-Picou
May 4	Lisa Murphy	May 23	Deborah Bettencourtt
May 5	Dave Brown	May 24	Debbie Coleman
May 11	Valarie Cole	May 24	Tammy Meyer
May 12	Desiree Bild	May 24	Kale Wetekamm
May 13	Phyllis Giffin	May 27	Dar Barke
May 13	Phyllis Melkild	May 28	Laurie Wetekamm
		May 30	Kimberly Michell

May Anniversaries



May 3	Mike & Lisa Murphy	May 26	Allen & Sandy Sanders
May 17	Gary & D'Wanna Hanes	May 28	Josh & Katy Soong
May 17	Kyle & Rachel Entzel	May 30	Ryan & Anna Dwyer
May 21	Ron & Janet Clark		
May 22	Gary & Christine Moskau		

Hosanna Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2021
Amended April 19, 2021

Call to Order: Rob Rhea at 6:35 PM

Members Present: Pastor Mansholt, Robert Rhea, Amanda Watson, Rachael Moore, Marc Reed, Doug Burbank, George Michell, Charles Stone, Steve Beene

Absent: Sarah Kezar

Devotion: Pastor Jerry began the meeting with a devotion based on John 12: 1-11.

Approval of Minutes: Marc motioned that the minutes of the March 15, 2021 meeting be approved as submitted. George seconded and motion carried.

Discussion of Purpose Areas: Pastor encouraged the council to look at who Hosanna is and what Hosanna is about, noting that the danger is to focus only on the “purpose” areas and failing to think creatively about the direction the church should be heading. It was noted that there are some articles of reference in the back of the Council Manuel that are worth reading for leadership instruction and ideas.

Following some discussion, Steve Beene will remain Ministry Chairperson, George Michell will remain a Worship Chair, Amanda Watson has volunteered to take Evangelism. Discipleship and Fellowship remain open. Charles Stone will take one of those areas and Sarah, or her replacement when she relocates, will take the other.

Pastor’s Report: See attached. It was noted that childcare would be helpful for the Congregational History Event.

Amanda moved that the council support the Stewardship for All Seasons campaign, George seconded, and motion carried. The Growden’s, Watson’s and Charles Stone will work on the upcoming Stewardship campaign.

Pastor passed out the book Field Guide for Missional Congregation and asked the council to read chapters 1 and 2 before the next meeting.

Pastor reminded council that he would be traveling to Wisconsin after Easter and expects to be back in Mandeville by the evening of April 13th. Pastor Thomas Rhoades will lead worship April 11th.

Pastor will interview for the Secretary/Bookkeeping position when he returns from his trip. It was discussed that since the pre school is five days a week, perhaps we might be able to have secretarial coverage in the office 5 days a week. **We also discussed having a member of Staff available before/after each service on Sundays.** The position is being advertised.

Three representatives are needed for the Synod Assembly in May.

Worship: See Attached. George noted that more volunteers are needed for worship especially now that we have started 2 services every Sunday. He is recruiting. AV Team has had recent technical issues and has been unable to post the last 2 Sunday worship services. They think they have figured out the problem and will continue to work toward weekly postings. George will continue to have ushers act as greeters for services.

Ministry: Steve reported that we are distributing 310-340 meals every Monday Evening. His team prepares 150 sack lunches on Monday night for distribution to Samaritan Center and other local ministries. On the 3rd Monday of April, the Monday night meal will be a chicken salad from produce grown in the garden. He is also working on putting lettuce cups in the lunch sacks. He plans to put money saved on groceries for Hot Meals back into the FAITH Garden for seeds and supplies. Scott Watson will do a Temple Talk about the garden on April 25th. Pam is still using our kitchen. But she is looking for a more permanent home since space is still limited for her here at Hosanna. Jared Banks continues to work with Pam and the Northshore Food Bank and making food/meal deliveries.

Treasurer Report: We have had decreasing funds in the checking account over the past 2.25 years. Current checking balance is approximately \$6,600.00. Doug reports approximately \$175,000 in other various accounts. He will be checking with the bank about stimulus fund #2 payment to the church.

New Business: A Crawfish Boil for May or June was discussed to be held outside.

Recognition and thank you will be held for Katie our Youth Minister since she has resigned. This will be done on a Sunday late in May. This leaves a position open for Youth and Family Ministry, **volunteer position due to budget restraints.** Sara Kezar will be relocating, and a new council person will have to be voted in.

Adjourn: With no further business, George motioned the meeting be adjourned, Steve seconded. The meeting was adjourned after a closing prayer by pastor at 7:56 PM. The next meeting will be held April 19th at 6:30 PM.