



Gerald Mansholt
Interim Pastor
985-727-9200

interimpastor@hosannalutheran.com

Pastors Article

Written by Pastor Jerry Mansholt

And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. 13And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. (I Thessalonians 3:12-13)

In the world around us the seasons are changing. Every year I am amazed at how quickly time moves from Halloween to Thanksgiving to the Christmas holidays.

The seasons are changing in our worship life as well. The Church Year calendar begins anew as we enter into the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle. Lutherans historically are a church with roots deep in the liturgy and an appreciation for the seasons that focus on the life of Christ.

Advent is about living in expectation of the coming of Christ. The early Christians lived with the expectation of Christ's final return within their own lifetimes. When Paul encouraged those believers in Thessalonica to abound in love and be ready for Christ's coming, he expected Christ's return before they died.

Christians in every generation have tried to predict the day and time. And they have all been wrong! We should simply believe Jesus' words that no person knows the day or hour (Matthew 24:36).

I love the Advent prayers for each Sunday. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. We believe and confess that God's Messiah came long ago in a baby born to Mary. We also believe the Risen Christ comes to us today, in the present moment. Whenever we gather to encourage one another in love and try to figure out where God is calling us today, we are assured of Christ's presence. And we believe and confess that Christ will come again, by which we mean, God will come eventually and be all-in-all. God's rule of mercy will finally and fully rid the world of sin, death and the power of evil. So Advent helps us to pray the mystery of the faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With Advent expectation and hope preparing us, we celebrate Christmas, God's coming in the flesh. God is born a Child. The hymn from Cameroon in Evangelical Lutheran Worship says it well: he came down that we may have love...he came down that we may have light...he came down that we may have peace...he came down that we may have joy...hallelujah forevermore! We Christians celebrate Love eternal in human form, Light, Joy and Peace that transforms our lives. While the secular world is throwing their trees onto the trash heap, we Christians celebrate the Twelve Days of Christ.

The Christmas carol asks, "What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's is sleeping?" That's the question the season of Epiphany seeks to answer. Wise Men come from the East bearing gifts and bow down before him. The child grows and is baptized in the Jordan River. This adult Jesus begins preaching, performing miracles and calling people to follow as disciples. Epiphany season ends with a climax as Jesus is transfigured on the mountain, with all the glory and light of God manifest within him.

What does all this have to do with Hosanna? Well, everything! The life of the congregation is centered in Christ. As the congregation lives through days of transition, not knowing how the coming months will unfold or how the congregation will be shaped, we live with expectation and hope. As we seek to discern how Hosanna's life is wrapped up in God's future, we are assured by the presence of the Risen Christ among us now. We encourage one another to look for signs of God's presence among, in song and prayer, in Word and sacrament, in the neighbor in need.

God's love is incarnate in the ministry we do. Hosanna Hot Meals is love extended in tangible ways to neighbors in need. Children alive with joy and excitement receive the hands-on-ministry of the preschool. Quilters crafting scarves and blankets bring warmth and comfort to others. All this is God's love incarnate among us.

With so much anger, distress and bad behavior in the world around us, we get to Love Like Jesus. We get to encourage one another in love and embody that very love in our life together. We don't know what the future will hold or where God will lead or how God will shape Hosanna. But we are assured the love of God is wrapped around us in the life of Christ and the power of Christ's Spirit.

A blessed Advent-Christmas-Epiphany to all of you.



Hosanna Lutheran Church
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office@hosannalutheran.com
GET CONNECTED: CLICK ANY LINK
hosannalutheran.com

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Notes & News

Join the Hosanna Family
at 9:30AM

Or watch on Facebook
www.facebook.com/hlcpage

- Masks are now OPTIONAL indoors.
- Offering plates will be kept at the back of the Sanctuary rather than passed down each row.
- COMMUNION: we now have regular communion.
- Coffee hour will take place after the service.

REDEVELOPMENT INFORMATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 10:45 A.M.

REV. CHRIS MARKERT, BISHOP'S ASSOCIATE FOR MISSION,
WILL BE WITH THE CONGREGATION THAT DAY TO TALK
ABOUT THE REDEVELOPMENT PROCESS AND HOW IT
WORKS.

Special Congregational Meeting

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SUNDAY WORSHIP
ON DECEMBER 12.

PURPOSE: TO MAKE A DETERMINATION ON A
REDEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR HOSANNA.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE PRESENT
BOTH SUNDAYS.

december 2021

Church Calendar

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

November 27	Decorate church for Christmas 9am-1pm
November 28	9:30am Service Finish decorating church for Christmas
November 29	Hosanna Hot Meals Hosanna FAITH
December 1	JOY at 10am in the kitchen
December 4	Jingle and Mingle!!! 7-9pm
December 5	9:30am Service Redevelopment Info Meeting 10:45am
December 6	Hosanna Hot Meals Hosanna FAITH
December 11	Senior Christmas Tea 11am
December 12	9:30am Service Congregational Meeting- Redevelopment
December 13	Hosanna Hot Meals Hosanna FAITH Executive Committee Meeting
December 19	9:30am Service
December 20	Hosanna Hot Meals Hosanna FAITH Council Meeting
December 21	Blue Christmas Service 7pm
December 24	Family Christmas Service 6pm Christmas Service 7:30pm
December 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS Christmas Day Service 9:30am
December 26	9:30am Service

Hosanna Highlights

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Blue Christmas

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December 21 is the Longest Night of the Year in the northern hemisphere and it comes a few days before Christmas. Some people suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder, the lack of sunlight impacting their mental health. We know depression drags more people down this time of year. Christmas stirs up all kinds of emotions from the joy of being with family to sorrow and grief because some family members are no longer living. In other cases families are unable to be together.

Christmas is about God being born in the middle of such realities. The Light shines in the darkness. You are invited to a Blue Christmas service on Tuesday, December 21, 7:00 p.m. at Hosanna. This will be a service of Night Prayer, with readings, candles, quiet song, contemplative prayer and the naming of some of the losses, burdens and sorrows we carry. Comfort, contemplation and encouragement are all part of the Blue Christmas service centered in the Good News of Christ.

Tickets on sale at the Welcome Booth.

JINGLE & MINGLE

Jingle all the way to Hosanna for our annual holiday party!

December 4th from 7-9pm!
ADULTS ONLY
Hors d'oeuvres & Dessert
Tickets for purchase: \$10 each

Attend a training from Peggy Hahn and learn to "Listen Like Jesus"



Hosanna Hot Meals Thanksgiving Meal

Thank you to everyone who helped us serve 168 Thanksgiving meals to people in need in our community.



Meals are every Monday! Volunteer opportunities available!



Hosanna Hot Meals is looking for desserts! If you can make or buy dessert for this ministry sign up with [THIS LINK!](#)



Contact the office if you're interested in helping.



Hosanna Highlights

Grace Schneider
Office Manager



Nicole Gunn
Bookkeeper/Assistant



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!!
Support your church by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

This is a super easy way to send a few extra dollars to Hosanna this holiday season! And at no cost to you!!!

This holiday season you can support us when you shop!

Shop for everyone on your list at smile.amazon.com. You shop. Amazon donates.

amazonsmile



[CLICK HERE](#) to start supporting Hosanna through AmazonSmile

Online Resources

[ONLINE COMMUNITY](#)

[Online Church Calendar](#)

[Find a Group List](#)

[Online Directory\(Log in required\)](#)

[Online Giving](#)

[Register for Events or Classes](#)

CALL COMMITTEE 1-MINUTE UPDATE

Who We Are:

Chair: George Michell
Secretary: Brian Nichols
Member: Dana Reed
Member: Jillian Garretti
Member: Louann Stone
Member: Erica Spindler

What we are doing now:

The call committee held its sixth meeting last Wednesday. We consolidated our leadership needs including mutual expectations. We will be working ahead on our Vision for Mission through the holidays and we continue to prepare the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). Keep us in your prayers as we continue our self-study.

Our Process: <https://gulfcoastsynod.org/leadership/call-process/>

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

Hosanna Quilters:

Hosanna Quilters meet every Thursday.

For more information contact:
Debbie Coleman
Or the church office



To submit prayer requests [CLICK HERE](#):

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





Director:
Marilyn Boudreaux
(985) 624-5525

hosannalutheran.com/preschool

facebook.com/hosannachristianpreschool



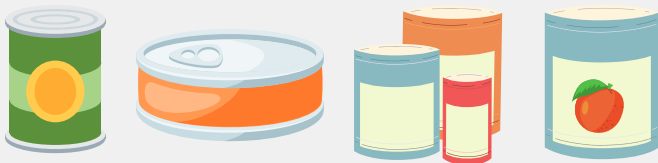
Registration is still on going for the
2021-2022 School Year!

Call the Preschool office for further details♥



Hosanna Christian Preschool's Annual Food Drive

Thank you so much for the food drive
donations to the Samaritan Center!! We
collected an entire truck bed of food!!!!



We collected \$211.59 for Change for
Cancer to donate to the Chemo
Care Bag Ministry. Thank you to
everyone who participated.



Hosanna Christian Preschool's
Christmas Program Wednesday, December 15th

Christmas Break is from December 16- January 2
School will resume on Monday, January 3rd

Merry Christmas!

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.

Hosanna Christian Preschool

Director:
Marilyn Boudreaux
(985) 624-5525

hosannalutheran.com/preschool

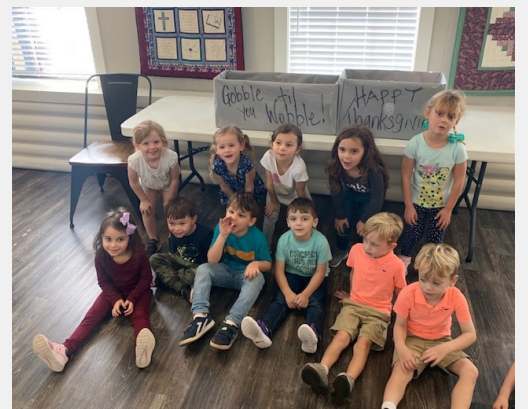
facebook.com/hosannachristianpreschool



Thanksgiving excitement!



Our Food Drive HAUL!





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Church Council

Council Meeting Minutes below.



2021-2022 Council Members:

Rob Rhea- President
Marc Reed- Vice President
Doug Burbank- Treasurer
Rachael Moore- Secretary
George Michell- Worship
Steve Beene- Ministry
Charles Stone- Fellowship
Vacancy- Evangelism
Nathan Hoffman- Discipleship

HOSANNA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 18, 2021

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order using Zoom at 6:33 pm by Marc Reed.

Members Present: Charles Stone, Marc Reed, George Michell, Doug Burbank, Nathan Hoffman, Rachael Moore, Pastor Jerry Mansholt

Members Absent: Steve Beene, Rob Rhea

Guest: Brother Chris Markert

Devotion: A devotion was led by Pastor Jerry who noted it was Luke the Evangelist Day. The scripture reading was from Luke, Chapter 24, the Easter story.

Brother Chris is on the district bishop's staff. He gave the council information about the synod re-development/revitalization program that is offered to churches who are struggling to survive for a variety of reasons. He notes that Hosanna would qualify since it has lost a substantial number of active members in the past year. Chris offered to come to Hosanna to speak to the congregation about the program.

Council members were polled after the presentation about their views regarding entering such a program. Majority were in favor.

Sale of Property: Marc noted there are currently 3 offers for the church property:

1. \$2.025 million from a developer.
2. \$2 million from Field Church. They are currently revising their offer.
3. \$2 million from a local theatre group.

There was discussion about each party giving their final best by Friday. There was also discussion about what contents should be retained by Hosanna, i.e., Stained glass, Piano, access to the FAITH garden until the end of the summer. It was noted that a visit to the Field Church might be needed if we want to look at taking their lease.

Treasurer's Update: The insurance damage check from Guide One for approximately \$69,000 has been made out to Hosanna and Thrivent. The check will have to go to Thrivent to be endorsed before it can be deposited. See attached graphic of funds available provided by Doug.

1st PPP check resolved: went to both the church and some to the school.

2nd PPP check still needs final resolution of fund disbursement.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

Purpose Area Updates:

Fellowship: See attached.

Mask mandate in effect until 10/27, discussed Pastor administering communion in the regular fashion starting October 31st. Holiday decorating scheduled for November 27th and 28th. Christmas Social planning for December 4th. Charles requested people email him about ideas for Christmas social.

James Samaritan Center has requested to use Hosanna space for the purpose of parents meeting with children in a play type setting with games and books, possibly a lending closet (10X10 foot space that only James Samaritan would have access to), space for the training of staff and volunteers, possible use of shower facilities. The council gave Charles direction to continue to work with them to provide some space.

Discipleship: Nathan is continuing to work with the insurance company to get additional claims made for interruption of service, tree loss, loss of contents in the pre-school. He is working on a P&L to give the insurance company.

Ministry: See attached reports.

Pastor's Update: Discussed whether we want to move forward with the proposal that Peggy Hahn submitted. After tonight's discussion with Brother Chris, council does not want Peggy's work to overlap/conflict with re-development if the congregation decided to go forth with that. Motion by Nathan to accept Phase I of Peggy's LEAD Program/Consultation after she clarifies the cost (math error in the proposal) with the first payment being made now. Charles seconded. Discussion ensues about clarification of the cost and overlap with re-development. Motion tabled until Pastor Jerry has a chance to get clarification from Peggy.

New Business: Council wants to give a big thank you to Bob Busfield for helping with the portable building pre-school bathroom.

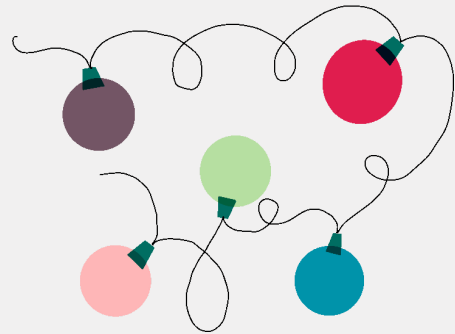
Bob also helped Pastor Unger with the service on October 17th. Rachael will write a thank you note from the council.

Trunk or Treat was a big success again. Steve reported that he sold \$145.00 in concession items and there were a crowd of kids who came out.

Adjournment: With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachael Moore

Merry
Christmas



Check out page 2 &3 for all our holiday activities this month! We will also have a few important Congregational meetings and events coming up.

December Birthdays

Dec 2	Alan LeVasseur	Dec 16	Katy Soong
Dec 3	Jay Bearden	Dec 16	Chris Bild
Dec 4	Stephen Wetekamm	Dec 17	Maxine Eiserloh
Dec 6	Steven Michell	Dec 18	Karen Wohlers
Dec 7	Stacy Hurley	Dec 18	Carol Torrey
Dec 9	Janet Michell	Dec 21	Joe Brocklesby
Dec 10	Janis Mayfield	Dec 21	Scott Watson
Dec 10	Charles Colbert	Dec 24	Glenn Giffin
Dec 10	George Michell	Dec 29	David Schaeffer
Dec 10	Charles Stone	Dec 31	Loanne Ibele
Dec 12	Bill Wallace		
Dec 15	George Francke		

December Anniversaries

Dec 14	Michael & Shelley Batte	30 years
Dec 26	Michael & Sandy Nieto	44 years
Dec 27	Bob & Linda Busfield	52 years
Dec 27	Ginny & Martin Sirera	35 years
Dec 27	Yuki & Cynthia Naka	35 years
Dec 29	Greg & Sharon Bennett	20 years
Dec 29	David & Mable Rees	8 years