



PASTOR ARTICLE

Written by Pastor Candy O'Meara

"What does the synod do?"

I was recently asked this I wasn't prepared to answer that question, and that led me to some guilt(?) because I couldn't answer with a "3-minute elevator speech". I should know the answer to that right off the top of my head. But I didn't.

This has prompted me to reflect. Not because the synod fails to offer value, but perhaps because I have underestimated the contributions of the synod as an extension of the church. As a rostered leader in the ELCA and the TX/LA Gulf Coast Synod, if I am unable to clearly communicate the role and importance of the synod, it is unreasonable to expect congregational members to understand their functions and impact.

So, I wanted to take a moment this month to share my recollection. It was a good exercise for me. I hope it will be informative, and maybe even helpful, for you. First, a little context:

The TX/LA Gulf Coast Synod includes 106 congregations from Peace Lutheran in Slidell, LA to St Paul Lutheran in La Grange, TX, divided into seven conferences. Hosanna is part of the Bayou Conference, ranging from Peace in Slidell to St Paul in Lake Charles. As the Dean of the Bayou Conference, I act as the Bishop's representative for pastoral installations and local ecumenical partnerships.

The Bishop is responsible for providing leadership and support to the congregations. That takes many forms (not an all-inclusive list):

- developing and recruiting ministry leaders (Deacons, Pastors, and Lay Leaders),
- developing new ministries and redevelopment of congregations as necessary,
- ecumenical partnerships,
- disaster preparation and response,
- engaging with other service organizations to provide resources for congregations (e.g. LEAD).
- Campus Ministries, Camping Ministries

There was a follow up observation which I also appreciated: "Well, it feels like the "synod" is very Texas-centric." The truth is, there is some truth to that, primarily because that's where the synod office is located. My experience is that this is more about geography than about care. Because of our location vis-à-vis the Synod Office, we in the Bayou Conference have become adept at handling our own needs. (i.e. we've become more independent). That is both good and bad.

There's lots more to say about this, but as I said, I wanted to keep this to a 3-minute (ish) elevator speech!

Continue to ask questions and challenge. That's how we grow!

PC

Hosanna Lutheran Church

Physical Address: 222 South Jefferson Avenue, Covington LA 70433

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Phone Number: (985) 727-9200

Email: office@hosannalutheran.com

GET CONNECTED:

hosannalutheran.com

 facebook.com/hlcpage



Candy O'Meara

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NOTES & NEWS

Join the Hosanna Family
at 9:00AM

Or watch on Facebook
[Www.facebook.com/hlcpage](https://www.facebook.com/hlcpage)

More events may be added throughout the month. Check Hosanna Happenings emails, Sunday slides or Facebook for an updated list of events.



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

Online Resources

[ONLINE COMMUNITY](#)
[Online Church Calendar](#)
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Important Meeting Changes

- What was Implementation Committee is now Exalt Team Meeting which meets after worship on 1st and 3rd Sunday.
- Coordinating Council on 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 pm.
- HLC Executive Meeting on 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm.
- HLC now meets in Fellowship Hall for worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

June 2025 CHURCH CALENDAR

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

May 31	8am Property Brothers
June 1	9am Breakfast Church in the Fellowship Hall Exalt Team Meeting after the service
June 2	Hosanna Hot Meals
June 4	JOY @10am at Windsor Senior Living
June 5	Quilters @8:30am in the Fellowship Hall NO Executive Meeting this month
June 7	8am Property Brothers
June 8	9am Sunday Service Bible Study after the service
June 9	Hosanna Hot Meals
June 10	Coordinating Council @6:30pm
June 12	Quilters @8:30am in the Fellowship Hall
June 14	8am Property Brothers
June 15	9am Breakfast Church in the Fellowship Hall Exalt Team Meeting after the service
June 16	Hosanna Hot Meals
June 18	JOY @10am at Windsor Senior Living
June 19	Quilters @8:30am in the Fellowship Hall JUNETEENTH
June 21	8am Property Brothers
June 22	9am Sunday Service Bible Study after the service
June 23	Hosanna Hot Meals
June 26	Quilters @8:30am in the Fellowship Hall
June 28	8am Property Brothers Pride Parade
June 29	9am Sunday Service Bible Study after the service

HAPPY
Father's
DAY



Hosanna Highlights

Hosanna Lutheran Church

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GET CONNECTED: CLICK ANY LINK



[hosannalutheran.com](https://www.hosannalutheran.com)

facebook.com/hlcpage

Hosanna Hot Meals

Serving those with food insecurities in St. Tammany Parish. Pick up and delivery available every Monday. We couldn't do this ministry without our partners: Covington Presbyterian Church and Just Love Your Neighbor!

Wish to help?

We are Looking for volunteers of all types: food prep, food packaging, drivers, cleaners. please contact the office if you would like to help!

222 South Jefferson Avenue, Covington, LA 70433

HOSANNA QUILTERS:

Quilters meet every Thursday

8:30 am-12pm

in the Fellowship Hall

@ 222 S. Jefferson Avenue.

**If you have any questions,
please contact**

Debbie Coleman or the office

JOY (JUST OLDER YOUTH)

WILL MEET JUNE 4th and 18th @ WINDSOR SENIOR LIVING CENTER

1770 N. Causeway Blvd., Mandeville

2nd Floor Conference Room (elevator available)

For questions, please contact Rachael Moore

at (504) 432-8541.

We hope to see you there!



THE FAITH GARDEN IS G R O W I N G!!!!

THE FAITH GARDEN TEAM MEETS **MONDAYS AT 4:30PM.**

WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU AS PART OF OUR TEAM!!!



CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE TO VOLUNTEER OR STOP ON BY MONDAY EVENINGS!

3 Ways to Give



ONLINE

www.hosannalutheran.com

[hosannalutheran.com](https://www.hosannalutheran.com)



MAIL

PO Box 1018
Covington, LA 70434



SMART GIVING

Text 'hosannalutheran'
to 77977

Online giving through Pushpay



PROPERTY BROTHERS

MEETS SATURDAY MORNINGS AT 8 AM AND NEEDS OUR HELP



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT MARK ALEXANDER AT (985) 705-5230



WE NEED A VOLUNTEER (OR 2) TO PICK UP CRUMBL COOKIES AT THE STORE ON MONDAY AFTERNOON OR TUESDAY MORNINGS DURING THE MONTHS OF APRIL THROUGH JULY. PLEASE CALL LINDA BUSFIELD AT (985) 789-7965.

HELP
NEEDED



Hosanna Highlights



Text "HOSANNALC" to 49775 to get RightNow Media set up on your phone.
It is completely free to you with thousands of studies and videos for your whole family!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

George & Janet Michell	Jun 12	60 years
Jack & Nancy Anderson	Jun 16	46 years
Douglas & Ashley Burbank	Jun 27	33 years

EXALT TEAM:

Formerly Redevelopment Team. Meets in the church office on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month after the service.
Attendance is open to all!

CPC Happenings

CPC is having VBS June 16-20 and Hosanna is invited.

CPC's Annual Kirkin' O' The Tartan service will be held on Pentecost Sunday, June 8, 2025 at 11AM. Please wear your Clan's Tartan pattern or red on this day please. We will worship pointing to our Scottish roots and heritage. You don't want to miss it! We will also have a Pot-luck immediately following our worship service in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to attend. Bring a main dish and a side dish to feed yourself and four others. CPC will provide drinks and desserts.

Have a small group, planning a church event?
If you would like anything published in the Hosanna newsletter, please contact the office or Grace Schneider.



Mona Sparacello	June 1
C.J. Mehle	June 11
Perry Cole	June 21
Brad Growden	June 22
Trudy Miller	June 25
Grace Schneider	June 25
Marlene Mehle	June 27