

**CHRIST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
SAMUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

500 Village Drive
Marshall, MN 56258

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Rev. Johann Caauwe, Vacancy Pastor (507) 828-5136
Mr. Ryan Obry, Principal (402) 992-4419

From the **PASTOR**—

Every year, the church observes and recalls the whole life of Christ through the liturgical church year. We celebrate Christ's birth at Christmas. And we celebrate his death and resurrection at Good Friday and Easter. In the weeks that come in-between, we hear about Jesus' early life, ministry, miracles, teaching, and so on. But all of that—which spanned about 33 years—is compressed into just a couple months! We remember the whole life of Jesus every year, but always in fast-forward!

Until now. Until Palm Sunday. Every year, beginning on Palm Sunday, we slow down the church year until we are following the days of the life of Christ in real time. The day our Lord entered Jerusalem on a donkey was a Sunday. And the night on which Jesus celebrated with his disciples was a Thursday. He died on a Friday.

We even observe the very hours, when we know them. The hours on which our Lord hung on the cross are the hours from about noon to three in the afternoon. That's why a Good Friday service is traditionally held on Good Friday afternoon.

And early in the morning on the first day of the week, women went to the tomb to finish anointing his body. But he was no longer there. He had risen!

After Easter, we continue this real-time celebration. The Gospel on the Sunday after Easter took place on the Sunday after Easter. We celebrate Jesus' ascension into heaven forty days after Easter, on the Thursday which falls forty days after Easter. And Pentecost (which means fifty), takes place exactly fifty days after Easter.

The reason we do this is in part to remind ourselves that the events of these days actually happened, in real time. These are not myths and legends. Just as Jesus was born when Quirinius

was governor of Syria, Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension took place during real days with real time in real history.

But for us to repeat these days every year is not merely a remembrance. We are not play-acting and reenacting these events. Because we have been baptized into Christ, we have been baptized into his death and resurrection (Ro. 6). That means that by virtue of our baptism, his death and resurrection are ours. What we are repeating is what has happened to us! The death, burial, resurrection, and ascension that we are really observing are our own!

It is no wonder, then, that Christians have not been satisfied to repeat this only once a year. But every Lord's Day, every Sunday is also a repetition of this greatest event in our lives. Every Sunday is a little Easter, and so we too get up early in the morning on the first day of the week. We go to find—not the body of a dead Jesus—but to find that the grave is empty. And that grave is ours.

COUNCIL CORNER

Another winter has come and gone. It's time to spruce up our church on the inside and outside. We didn't get the opportunity to do this last year so we will have our spring cleanup day on April 26th at 5:00 p.m.

We have a list compiled of items we can take care of, some raking, dusting, cleaning windows and just some general cleaning.

We hope you can come and help us out.

See you on April 26th at 5:00

Thank You, Wes Hoflock - Maintenance Committee



PIONEERS

The Pioneers met at the end of January at the Red Baron Arena for some ice skating! It was great to get together again and we had a really good turnout! Because we met so late in January, we did not meet in February, but in March we got together at Samuel in the gym so we could social distance. The theme for the March gathering was New Testament Minute-to-Win-It. We had several verses we read from the New Testament and then each verse had a game that was associated with it. We had 7 kids participate so they broke into 2 teams – of course, girls vs boys! While everyone was a winner, the girls earned more points!



HOLY WEEK
SERVICES

Maundy Thursday

We hope and pray that you will spend Holy week worshipping your merciful Savior starting with Maundy Thursday on April 1. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated at this service which begins at 7:00 PM. The word MAUNDY comes from the Latin word Mandate which means command. The command was not to receive the Lord's Supper, as some think, since Jesus instituted it on this day. No, the command he gave was that we love one another. Jesus, of course, showed us the full extent of his love for us by going to the cross. At this service we also remember the blessed meal which he gave us whereby we receive his body and blood - in, with and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.

Good Friday

We will offer two different services on Good Friday, April 2. The first service will start at 1:00 PM. The second service will be held at 7:00 PM. This will be a Tenebrae service of darkness which will stand as a moving reminder of the darkness of our sins and what they caused. The Lord's Supper will be offered at the 1:00 PM service.

Easter Sunday Celebration

Please make plans to attend the highest festival in the church year - Easter on April 4. Two services will be offered at 8:00 and 10:00 AM. These services WILL BE the same.

Registration: Since we are still limited in the number who can attend services, please register on our website if you plan to attend. Click on the Holy Week Registration picture.

EASTER VIGIL AT WOOD LAKE

St. John's Lutheran of Wood Lake invites you to an Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 3 at 8:00pm.

A vigil is "a period of keeping awake during the time usually spent asleep, especially to keep watch or pray." The climax of the Triduum comes in the form of the oldest candlelight service of the church: The Great Vigil of Easter, a service of watching and waiting—using prayer, Scripture, and hymns—for the resurrection of Christ. The Vigil of Easter is composed of four parts: (I) Service of Light, with its focus on the paschal candle, the representation of the unconquered life of Christ; (II) Service of Lessons, with its use of Old Testament texts that

foreshadowed our deliverance and rescue by Jesus; (III) Service of Holy Baptism, with its emphasis on our baptismal connection to Christ; and (IV) Service of the Holy Sacrament, with its proclamation of the risen Savior and our blessed reconciliation to God.

The Vigil of Easter begins in darkness, continuing the manner in which the Good Friday Tenebrae service ended. Worshipers gather outside the church around a lit fire. A rite is performed to dedicate and light the paschal candle. Following the rite, worshipers and pastor follow the Paschal Candle in procession into a dark church. Light grows progressively through the service until the church is fully illuminated at the joyous shout of "Christ is risen!" The Service of the Holy Sacrament is celebrated at the altar, which is now fully vested and decorated for Easter, bringing to a close the Triduum's cycle of services.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Members of Christ Church -

It is hard to believe we are a quarter the way through 2021. It seems like yesterday that we were wrapping up 2020. Nonetheless, here we are! As you know, we are actively pursuing our new Pastor as well as our new pre-k teacher. We have had 3 calls extended at the time I am writing this, and regardless of the outcome of the current calls, we know that the Lord has a plan and that it is good! As COVID vaccination rates are rapidly accelerating, it stands to reason that we are slowly seeing guidelines being loosened. You have no doubt already seen the first steps your church council has taken in response, all in an effort toward getting all of our members the opportunity to worship in person at Christ church. While many have not been able to attend in person these past 12+ months or so, we have been truly blessed with the ability to hear God's Word through our radio broadcast as well as our YouTube streaming service. That said, I think it is safe to say that these circumstances have fostered the temptation for many to put off or even skip a service or two, and therefore not regularly hearing the Word and/or receiving the body and blood of our Lord and Savior. Therefore it has become increasingly important over the last several months that we do everything we can to safely return to church as soon as practical. Continue to look for announcements in the weekly bulletins for related changes in our protocol, and do not hesitate to contact myself or any member of the council with any questions, suggestions or concerns you may have. God's Blessings to everyone, Craig Heil

SLS NEWS AND NOTES

It has been a year since the Coronavirus has been designated as a pandemic and has thrown a monkey wrench into the way we've run school. While we have been blessed to have had in-person learning this year with only one positive case in our school that kept a classroom in quarantine, we have had a much different school year than any previous year. I would like to take time to say thank you to everyone (parents, students, teachers, staff, volunteers, and anyone else) that have worked hard to keep our school running in-person and to be able to keep many of the normal school year items going. While we have not had many of the normal school functions, we are thankful that we can continue to share the message of God's undeserving love for us to the children each day and throughout this school year. With that said, we have one quarter left in this school year and many discussions have already been happening and will continue to happen at faculty meetings and board of education meetings to discuss how we can have some of our different end of year events. Updates will come in Cougar Chronicles, emails, bulletins, and future newsletters about the decisions that are to come. Please continue to keep Samuel in your prayers as we keep preaching God's Word to the students and families entrusted to our care and as we come upon the end of another school year.

In Christ, Mr. Ryan Oby

CHURCH COUNCIL

Submitted by Ryan Palmer—February 8, 2021

Members Present: Pastor Caauwe, Craig Heil, Kevin Lee, Dave Biastock, Brian Onken, Geoff Stelter, James Hartke, Wes Hoflock, Doug Goodrich, Ryan Oby, Mark Patzer, Lennis Kennedy, Ryan Palmer **Guest: Tom Werner**

Minutes from the January board meeting were read modified and accepted.

Board of Elders: Motion by Board to release Abigail George and Vivian Mix. Second by Brian Onken, passed. Motion to transfer Jacob and Meagan Hoflock (Ryker) to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wilmar MN. Second by Mark Patzer, passed.

Financial Secretary: Reviewed report from January

Treasurer: Reviewed financials

Discussion held on the PPP funds that we have received.

Stewardship/Endowment: More discussion around the Economic Relief Program. Decision made to review the second PPP loan paperwork and requirements.

Evangelism: CELC took second place for tree decoration in Light Up the Night contest.

Education: Discussion held on renovation project for the school bathrooms by the gym. Board of Ed. will get a quote. Janitors at the school will be done at the end of the school year. Will be looking into replacements.

Maintenance: Misc. repairs have been done at the school.

Worship: Discussion held on how services have been attended and room available for more worshippers to attend. Motion by Mark Patzer to increase sign up attendance to 85 per service by adding the balcony capacity. Second by Doug Goodrich and accepted.

OLD BUSINESS: Councilman on Duty for March: Wes Hoflock

NEW BUSINESS: Holy Week Schedule discussion: Pastor Caauwe will put a call out for a guest Pastor for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday evening, and Easter Sunday. Delegate Conference will be hosted at CELC on June 1st. Discussion held on Pastor Schreiner returning for a wedding in August. Council made decision to leave the decision up to the residing Pastor. The meeting concluded with prayer by Pastor Caauwe

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Submitted by Charles Hoflock—February 2, 2021

Attendees: Charlie Hoflock, Darik Lyons, Ryan Oby, Lennis Kennedy, and Adam Baumann. Opened with devotion and prayer
Preschool Report:

- Carpet for downstairs to be replaced in the summer. Ask maintenance to come up with a price.
- Preschool rug for the other Pre-K room.
 - o Price range is \$300.00 to \$500.00
- Going forward with the billboard
 - o Putting signs up by Caribou, Colemans, or Hoffman and Brobst
- March 15th - Round up days, something in person
 - o Also on Facebook, posters, signs, and flyers

Old Business:

- Staff are on schedule for Covid shots
- Bathroom update/locker room- Darik will get complete cost list
- Volleyball will have practice, but will not have games unless the restrictions are uplifted. Monday and Friday practice
- Cheerleading is starting on Wednesday, March 3rd
- CNC Cleaning gave her notice, and will be done at the end of the school year. Darik will be looking for a replacement, and get the cost.

Closing- Ryan closed with prayer.

Next Meeting- Tuesday, March 2nd , 7:00pm.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Corner of Third and Marshall Streets
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E-Mail: christluth@christlutheran-marshallmn.org
Website: www.christlutheran-marshallmn.org
Pastor Johann Caauwe (507) 828-5136

Worship Services

Sundays: 8:00 AM
Holy Communion: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

Service Broadcast times

KMHL Radio Station at 8:00 AM on Sundays
Livestreamed on our YouTube Channel at 8:00 AM
VAST cable channel 17 and Charter cable channel 180
at 11:30 AM Thursday and 8:30 PM Friday

Samuel Lutheran School

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Principal: Mr. Ryan Obry
Teachers: Mrs. Amy MacArthur Mrs. Renee Manian
Ms. Tabitha Mays Ms. Chloe Doble

