

**DATES****TO REMEMBER****November 1**

Quarterly Voters'
Meeting - 11:30 AM

November 15

Saints Triumphant
Sunday

The Lutheran Ceili
Orchestra @ 8:00 &
10:30 AM Services

Fish Fry Fellowship
Following 10:30 AM
Service

November 22

Christ the King Sunday

November 25

Thanksgiving Worship
3:30 PM - Wonewoc
7:00 PM – Hillsboro

November 26-27

No School
Thanksgiving Break

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From the Pastor**LO, HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING**

Look, he is coming with clouds, and every eye will see him, including those who pierced him.

And all the nations of the earth will mourn because of him.

Yes. Amen (Revelation 1:7).

In August of 1992, in West Texas, I saw an incredible sight. It was obvious that I was driving into a storm. The sky was yellow/orange, and spread out in front of me was a wall of clouds—I believe meteorologists would call it a shelf cloud—that looked to be at least 30 stories high. The cloud/s portended a mighty storm and, sure enough, it wasn't long before the rain was coming down so hard that I could not see 5 feet in front of me. I was reminded that it doesn't take long for children to figure out that white clouds mean nice weather, gray clouds hold the possibility of rain, and dark clouds mean certain storms.

I don't know what kind of clouds Jesus will be coming on when he returns. The phrase from our verse could simply mean that we'll see him in the sky when he comes. I tend to think, though—without any Scripture to back it up—that he will come with the most beautiful and amazing clouds ever, like none that have ever been seen before. What matters more, however, is what his coming means. Jesus is coming in judgment.

When Jesus comes, as John the apostle tells us in this verse, no one will miss it. Every other claim about Jesus having come—and there have been plenty, especially in recent history—is clearly false because of this fact. “Every eye will see him, including those who pierced him.” Not that we're too concerned about the timeline, but with these words it sounds like Jesus' return will be followed immediately by the resurrection of all the dead, even to the point of being simultaneous. Truly every eye will see him!

Then will come the mourning. Oh, the weeping and wailing that will be heard from every corner of the earth! Millions upon millions will know exactly what it coming. They will know that their rejection of Jesus in this life, their rejection of his free gifts of forgiveness and eternal life, means an eternity completely separated from the presence of God. The absence of God means the absence of all of his providence and care, things that even the unbelievers enjoy in this life. We can only imagine what that would be like.

Thankfully, for those who are in Christ at his return or who fell asleep in him before his return, the closest we'll get to such dread separation is our imaginations. Once we are in heaven, we won't even try to imagine such misery.

There are three things that this verse and this truth should drive us to do.

(Continued on next page)

(From the Pastor continued from cover page)

- 1) Rejoice! We have every reason to rejoice, no matter what ugly things we may be facing or enduring in this life. Jesus is coming! We will be home in heaven before too long!
- 2) Keep watch and be ready! Yes, we are secure in the blood of Christ and the promises connected to him, but we know that Satan will use this time to try to lead us away from our Savior. We will be ready by continuing to be fed by God's Word.
- 3) Let others know! We all know that it's not a popular thing to talk about your faith with others. They may tell you that you're arrogant and hateful because you think that people who don't agree with you are going to hell, but their view and misunderstanding doesn't change the truth. A person may hate their doctor for telling them that they have cancer. They may not believe him. It doesn't change the truth. All we can do is tell people plainly, "It's not about whether you agree or disagree with me. It's about whether or not you believe God."

We look forward with eager joy to Christ's return. Let's stay ready. Let's spread the word. To help us, we close with the words of hymn 29 in Christian Worship, which are based on Revelation 1:7 and express well the truth and the joy of the coming Day of the Lord:

***Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
Once for ev'ry sinner slain.
Thousand, thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ reveals his endless reign.
Ev'ry eye shall now behold him
Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who ridiculed and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.
Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshipers.
With what wonder, With what wonder,
Gaze we on those glorious scars.
Yea, Amen, let all adore you
High on your eternal throne.
Ev'ry knee shall bow before you;
Come and take your people home!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
You shall reign and you alone!***

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88



Church News

MORE THAN JUST SURVIVING

It's no surprise that as we struggle individually with all that COVID has wrought, particularly the social distancing which has caused many people to stay home surprisingly, we are also struggling as a congregation. Yes, offerings are down, but the bigger issue is that with fewer people in church each week, it's harder to truly exist as a family of believers. Face to face contact is very important. We know that God made us to live in fellowship with each other, to have personal contact with each other so that we can grow together as his people and be a blessing to each other. While we will never make anyone feel guilty about staying home to protect their health, we encourage those who are in good health, without any conditions that could make COVID more difficult to bear, especially younger people, to pray about making a return to church. We will also be sharing some things in the near future that we pray will make it easier for all of us to participate in the life of the church in ways that fit our schedule, skills, and our passions. Be on the lookout for it!



TLCO HERE NOVEMBER 15

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 15. **The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra** will be here to lead us in worship. **TLCO** is a group of Christian musicians that specialize in a Celtic perspective on Christian worship. They were here last year in September and we are thrilled to have them returning.

FISH FRY - NOVEMBER 15

Along with the special worship service with The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra, a fish dinner following the 10:30 service will be offered. An order link is posted on our website, or you can call the church/school office at 464-3212 and place your order.



Baptized in Christ

Silas Roland Westedt
November 1, 2020

Raelynn Monica Weiland
November 1, 2020



Called Home

LeRoy Alfred Martin
October 12, 2020

Cletus Plantenberg
October 17, 2020



In Memory

We gratefully acknowledge memorials and gifts to our ministry in memory/honor of the following members and friends:

Elmer & Mikel Wells
Mary Alice Robison



New Members

Be sure and give a friendly "Hi" to some friends and new church family members:

Brian and Jaqueline Miller, Grant & Preston
Kelly Weiland, Jayden, Kaydence, & Raelynn

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Thanksgiving worship will take on Wednesday, November 25 at both St. Paul's, Wonewoc and St. Paul's, Hillsboro. Wonewoc will hold a 3:30 PM service and Hillsboro will have a 7:00 PM service. There will be **no** Thursday evening service at Wonewoc on November 26. (Thanksgiving Day).

Other Notes

PERSONAL HELP WITH MANAGING MONEY

We are contemplating for the congregation a subscription to Ramsey+, a ministry which offers money management help to individuals, couples, and families. We know that many, many people in our nation struggle with debt. Others struggle just to keep their heads above water financially. The service we're considering is headed by Dave Ramsey, who has a popular syndicated money management radio program. The purpose is to help God's people handle the blessing of money—something that is addressed often in the Bible. It's for anyone and everyone. Please don't think of it as a negative thing. We understand that some might be sheepish about participating, thinking that doing so would be an admission of poor money management. This isn't the case and won't be viewed as such by anyone. No one but you will know your financial situation. This class simply offers helpful encouragement to those who want to be faithful with what God has given us. Since all God's people do want to be faithful, it's for everyone. It could also be a bridge to introduce someone to our fellowship who doesn't belong to a church. If you would have an interest in such a program, it would help our decision if we knew. Please let pastor or an elder or trustee know if you would be interested.

NEWS FROM ST. PAUL'S, HILLSBORO – ZION, ELROY

Pastor Limpert and Pastor Snyder have begun taken turns preaching at Elroy and Hillsboro, each doing so once a month. They are doing this as a way to begin working together as congregations. When the spring comes, we'll talk in earnest about whether and how we will join together as united congregations. There is a possibility that Zion will work with St. Paul's in Mauston rather than with us, something that we are encouraging.

Pastor Prell will be retiring in September of 2021—only 10 months away. We pray that our work together will grow and will result in great blessing for God's kingdom in this area.

SERVICES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

If you've thought about Christmas at all, you've probably come to realize that we won't be able to have our Christmas Eve services in the way that we normally have.

We've made a difficult decision that we think is in the best interest of everyone. Rather than having to turn people away at the door for the Christmas Eve children's service and for the sake of our children and all families, we are planning to have one children's service that will only be available to the public online. Because of spacing and available seating, only the parents and siblings of our school children will be allowed at the service that we will record. We know that it's not ideal, not to mention disappointing, but we hope that everyone will understand.

We will have a Christmas Eve service open to the public. It won't be the traditional candlelight service that we've also had for many years, but it will be a candlelight service, there will be songs by soloists, duos, and trios, but there will be no full choir. Right now, we are planning on having one service at 7pm. However, if we get feedback that indicates that we would have a large turnout, we will consider having two services, likely at 6pm and 8pm.

New Year's Eve services will remain as they have for the last several years, with a 3:30am service in Wonewoc and a 7pm service in Hillsboro.

Thank you for your understanding. While things aren't normal, let's be thankful that we can still worship our Lord, even if it's a little different from what we are used to, and let's remember that he is still in control.

CLEANERS NEEDED

We are in need of church cleaners from now until the end of the year. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the back entry. Please consider whether you might be able to help in this service. Thank you.



School Scoop

Celebrating 140 Years of
Christian Education

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

I think we all can agree that we are looking forward to the day we don't have to worry about masks and protocols regarding the novel coronavirus and COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus. Everyone has their own views on this, and we as faculty and staff try to be understanding of everyone's views while following the health department protocols as well as we can. We pray that it won't be long before things can return to some kind of normalcy. Until then, we will do our best to work together to faithfully teach our children their subjects, especially the Word of God. One good thing that may come of this is that our kids may be more mindful of good hygiene habits, like washing your hands regularly and thoroughly.

The most important thing we can remember is that God is in control in good times and in bad. He won't leave us and he will bless us with what we need. Sometimes that blessing is better received and appreciated in bad times.

One of the difficult things facing us with this pandemic is the Christmas Eve service. While I expect that we would have fewer people in church this year than we normally do, we are not going to risk anyone's health over this. Rather than just do what we normally do and hope and pray that we can spread out enough and no one gets sick, or adding service or adding closed-circuit TV in parts of the school in order to accommodate as many people as we can, we have decided the best and most fair thing to do is to have the children's service closed to the public. Only parents and siblings of the students will be allowed to come. Not even grandparents should come, unless grandparents are primary caregivers. If we are able to stream the children's service live—something we are working on—then we will do so, likely at the normal 4pm time. If we don't think we'll have that capability by December 24th, then we will record the children earlier that week and release the video on YouTube at 4pm on Christmas Eve. Either way, DVD's will be available. Because there may be a higher demand for DVD's, we may ask for a small donation to offset the cost. Any and all profit would go to buying more DVD's for our worship service recordings.

We will also have a Christmas Eve service that will be open to the public. It will be a candlelight service, although it won't be our traditional cantata. Instead, it will be a service of readings and songs, several of them sung by soloists, duos, or trios. We plan to have other instruments involved as well for a quiet and joyful celebration, concluding with the singing of "Silent Night," accompanied by guitar, as it was when it was first sung 202 years ago. Then, on Christmas morning, we will have our traditional Christmas Day worship.

We are working with parents to keep everyone's spirits up and find ways to substitute for some of the things that we are lacking this year, like interscholastic sports and field trips. We are proud of our students for their good behavior, hard work, and good nature in handling this strange year. We know that it is due first and foremost to our dear Lord and the faith he has given to our students, as well as the parents who are instilling in them godly character and encouraging them and making things as normal as possible for them. To our students, parents, faculty, and staff, I say, "Thank you!"

Highlights - Quarterly Voters' Meeting November 1, 2020

Meeting was called to order by Vice-President Sam Mobley and Pastor Snyder opened with a devotion.

Minutes for the August 30, 2020 Annual Voters' Meeting were presented in print and accepted as presented.

Pastor's Report presented by Pastor Limpert.

1. 2 Baptisms, 3 Adult Confirmations, 4 Marriages and 4 Funerals in the third quarter of the year.

Board of Elders'/Stewardship Report presented by Sam Mobley.

1. Membership Changes:
 - a. New members by adult confirmation - Brian and Jaqueline Miller (and children), and Kelly Weiland (and children)
New members by transfer - Pastor Jacob and Jessica Limpert (Christ Our Rock, Rochester and Beautiful Savior, Green Bay)

Board of Education Report presented by Troy Gander.

1. There will be some changes who is teaching which grade levels next year. Plans are still to be finalized.
2. The Board of Education has placed a call to Corey Pieper for a 3,4,5 grades teacher.

Principal's Report presented by Troy Gander.

1. School was shut down for 6 days due to Covid-19.
2. There will be only one Children's Christmas Eve Service this year. Only parents and siblings will be allowed to attend.

Cemetery Board Report presented by Steve Mitchell.

1. Papers have been signed at bank by current members for signatures.

Steering Committee Report presented by Steve Mitchell.

1. The committee is exploring ways to expand outreach through promotional events and media.
2. Steering committee is also looking for new members.

Anniversary Committee Report presented by Chris Frick.

1. Plans are underway for special events celebrating our 150 church anniversary in January, July and October.

Treasurer/Financial Management Report presented by Dale Wells/Bruce Schroeder.

1. General Fund Debt is \$45,350.04 as of 9-30-20. \$6,000 was borrowed for expenses for the end of the quarter.
2. We are proceeding with submitting the Forgiveness Application for the Payment Protection Program.
3. Karen Wafle has now taken on the volunteer treasurer's reporting. Joretta Weber continues her volunteer role as the financial secretary and the day to day general ledger administration.

Unfinished Business.

1. We are awaiting quotes for access control and a replacement back door to the church.
2. We are continuing to look into options for our ECM (Early Childhood Ministry).
3. Trustees are working on proposed wording for Emergency Voters Meeting when we cannot meet.

New Business

1. Troy Gander, Mike Larson, and Steve Mitchell were elected as Trustees. We would like to thank those going off the Board for their dedication and participation as Trustees.
2. Elections for Cemetery Board were postponed until the February Quarterly meeting. We would like to thank Roger Stanek and Richard Voigt for their service on the Cemetery Board.

Next Quarterly Meeting will be held on February 7, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Reformation Sunday 8:00 AM Worship with Communion 9:15 AM Fellowship & Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship with Communion 11:30 AM Voters Meeting	2	3	4 1:30 PM Ladies Aid	5 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Worship	6 8:05 AM Chapel	7
8 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Fellowship & Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Altar Guild	9	10 6:30 PM Panther Parents 7:00 PM Board of Education	11 9:00 AM Shut-In Visits	12 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Worship with Communion	13 8:05 AM Chapel	14 8:00 AM Elders
15 TLCO 8:00 AM Worship with Communion 9:15 AM Fellowship & Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship with Communion 11:30 AM Fish Dinner – Dine-In/Carry Out	16	17 1:30 PM Care Ministry 6:30 PM Trustees	18 9:00 AM Shut-In Visits 6	19 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Worship	20 8:05 AM Chapel	21
22 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship	23 Newsletter Article and Calendar Deadline	24	25 8:05 AM Chapel 3:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ Wonewoc 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ Hillsboro	26 Happy Thanksgiving 	27	28
No School – Thanksgiving Break						
29 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship	30 9:00 AM Mailing Committee					



November Birthdays

- 1 Ward Fry, Pastor Snyder
- 2 Theo Behn, Paul Danklefsen, Betsy Schultz
- 3 Hunter Bolton, Wade Gehri, Alisa Perry, Olivia Pharo, Kwinn Solchenberger
- 4 Kory Helm, Tate Larson
- 5 Julie Bolton, Shannon Hug, Roselle Ruetten
- 6 Dusty Ott
- 7 Mark Hagemann
- 8 Owen Behn, Graysen Nachreiner, Alexis Peesel, Allan Treibs
- 9 Mikaela Kennedy, Debbie Lange
- 10 Abigail Voigt
- 11 Bradley Ott
- 12 Maeve Preuss, Katie Roloff
- 13 Josh Preuss, Jordan Solchenberger, Karen Thorell, Bev Ward
- 15 Josh Hamburg, Alice Mitchell, Sabrina Wells
- 16 Lee Hamburg
- 17 Dylan Degner, John Roloff Jr.
- 18 Aiden Frick, Leland Hagemann, Dawn Leatherberry
- 20 Eric Degner, Matt Degner, Olivia Olson, Kevin Weber
- 21 Collin Hug
- 22 Julie Erickson, Kelly Weiland
- 23 Gordon Stittleburg
- 24 Brac Bradley, Amanda Schmidt
- 25 Jade Hamburg, Dianne Pacl
- 28 Bryon Degner, Dawn Feldman, Colleen Lehman
- 30 Susan Kennedy, Sharon Laubscher, Andrew Rick, Palmer Schroeder, Collinn Thompson

If we missed your birthday, we're sorry.
Please let us know and we will make the correction.



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