



Where You Meet Your Savior and Find a Friend

NEWS & NOTES

Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m.
Monday Worship - 7:00 p.m.

www.portagelutheranchurch.org
crossofchristportage@hotmail.com



Church: (608) 742-5609
Pastor Scott Schultz: (608) 617-8409

APRIL 2021

ISSUE

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My Daily Walk With God

April	1	Numbers 25, 26
	2	Numbers 27 - 29:31
	3	Numbers 29:32 - 31
	4	Numbers 32 - 33:49
	5	Numbers 33:50 - 36
	6	Deuteronomy 1, 2
	7	Deuteronomy 3, 4
	8	Deuteronomy 5 - 7
	9	Deuteronomy 8 - 11:12; Psalm 128
	10	Deuteronomy 11:13 - 14:21
	11	Deuteronomy 14:22 - 17; Psalm 112
	12	Deuteronomy 18 - 21
	13	Deuteronomy 22 - 25:16
	14	Deuteronomy 25:17 - 28:14; Psalm 135
	15	Deuteronomy 28:15 - 29
	16	Deuteronomy 30 - 32:44
	17	Deuteronomy 32:45 - 34; Psalm 90, 91
	18	Psalm 14, 50, 136; Jude
	19	Joshua 1 - 4
	20	Joshua 5 - 8:23
	21	Joshua 8:24 - 10; Psalm 28
	22	Joshua 11 - 13:23; Psalm 9
	23	Joshua 13:24 - 15; Psalm 133
	24	Joshua 16 - 18:10; Psalm 65, 113, 114, 115
	25	Joshua 18:11 - 20; Psalm 46
	26	Joshua 21, 22; Psalm 125
	27	Joshua 23, 24; Psalm 116 - 118
	28	Judges 1 - 3
	29	Judges 4, 5; Psalm 44
	30	Judges 6 - 8:28





"We Can Be Certain Jesus Is Our Savior"

How Can We Be Certain Jesus Was Not A Master Hypnotist?

If you ever attended a magic show, you probably were in awe at how the magician performed his magic tricks. Even though you knew he didn't actually perform magic, you still were amazed at his magic tricks because you couldn't figure out how he performed them. In a similar way, many people claim Jesus was like a magician. They believe the miracles the Bible says he performed were actually tricks which amazed people. For this reason, he isn't God or the Savior he claimed he was. However, this is not true.

In this monthly article entitled, "Questions About Christianity", we answer questions people have about Christianity. Our current topic is entitled, "We Can Be Certain Jesus Is Our Savior." In this month's article, we will learn why we can be certain Jesus wasn't a phony by answering this question, "How can we be certain Jesus was not a master hypnotist?"

British author, Ian Wilson, is one person who believed Jesus was a master hypnotist. In his book, "Jesus: The Evidence", Wilson speculates the reason Jesus was able to heal some people of their illnesses and perform exorcisms was through hypnosis. He also speculated, Jesus hypnotized people into believing he changed water into wine, he was transfixed, he rose from the dead, and into believing other miracles he performed.

However, there are many holes in Wilson's theory. First, not everybody is equally susceptible to hypnotism. When Jesus fed over 5,000 people with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish, he could not have possibly hypnotized them all. Second, hypnosis does not usually work on people who are skeptics or doubters. For this reason, he could not have hypnotized his brother James, Saul/Paul, Thomas, and others into believing he had risen from the dead. Third, Jesus never addressed the master of the banquet or the wedding guests when he turned the water into wine. He simply told the servants to take some water and give it to the master of the banquet. When the master of the banquet tasted the water, it had turned into wine. Finally, hypnosis cannot explain Jesus' empty tomb on Easter. Even if Jesus' hypnotized his disciples into believing he was alive, he certainly could not have hypnotized the Jewish or Roman leaders into believing he was alive because they were his biggest skeptics. They would have gladly produced Jesus' dead body, if they could have, to prove Jesus' disciples were wrong.

The world is full of skeptics who try to prove Jesus really is not God and the Savior of all people. Some people even go to great lengths to prove he never existed, he was an ordinary human being who was a raving mad lunatic or a master hypnotist. The reason they do this is because they do not want to believe in Jesus as their God and Savior. It should come as no surprise that when we examine the facts about Jesus, we find these people's theories have all kinds of holes in them. The reason is the Bible is God's holy and inspired Word. Everything it says is true. Therefore, we must believe in Jesus as our God and Savior. When we put our faith in Jesus, we can be certain we are forgiven of our sins and we will live with him forever in heaven.

Holy Week Worship Services.

On Thursday, April 1, we will have a Maundy Thursday worship service with Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m. On Friday, April 2, we will have a Good Friday worship service at 3:00 p.m. and a Good Friday Tenebrae worship service at 7:00 p.m. On Sunday, April 4, we will have an Easter Sunrise worship service with Holy Communion at 6:00 a.m. and an Easter worship service with Holy Communion at 9:00 a.m. To help maintain social distancing practices, everyone is encouraged to only attend one of the two Good Friday and Easter services and to sign-up online to attend them. Thank you!

Easter Sunday Activities.

The Easter breakfast has been cancelled this year. However, there will be an Easter egg hunt around the outside of the church building after the Easter worship service at 9:00 a.m. for all Sunday School age children to enjoy.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting.

The Quarterly Voters' Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 25 at 10:15 a.m. Please plan to attend!

58th Annual LWMS Convention Sharonville Ohio

After hours of prayer, discussion, and research, the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) board members made the difficult decision to hold a small virtual convention this year instead of the in-person convention in Ohio that was originally planned.

The LWMS thanks the Heartland and Ohio Circuits, for all the planning and work they did. Despite some disappointment, it is still exciting, with the blessing of technology, the LWMS can still share some amazing news about their work and mission updates.

Watch for President Cynthia Natsis's Facebook Live announcement on Sunday, March 7 at 4 p.m. ET (3 p.m. CT). She will share details about the plans for this summer's virtual convention. The LWMS thanks everyone for their patience and prayers and acknowledges God is always working for the good of his people. good.



April Mission

Jesus Cares Ministry

Jesus Cares Ministries (JCM) assists congregations in reaching out to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and communities. Nationwide, JCM programs encourage Bible studies, worship, and fellowship opportunities.

In 1985, the Special Education Services Committee of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), saw a need to find a way to better share the Gospel with people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. As a result, they developed the Jesus Cares Bible class program, starting in southeastern Wisconsin. By 1993, the program had a full-time administrator and was incorporated into Jesus Cares Ministries (JCM).

In 1998, JCM became part of The Lutheran Home Association's ministry in order to expand the program to a national level. The JCM team members assist volunteers to help them reach out to their communities with the Gospel. The Lord has blessed this ministry, and programs exist across the country. Today they are also working in Malawi. For more information, please check out their website at <http://www.tlha.org/jesus-cares-ministries>.

Thank You

Audrey Zunker thanked the Sunday School children for the Valentine card.

WELS Church Extension Fund thanked us for our donation to the fund.

Stay Connected

Finally, as we continue to live in these trying times, the Cross of Christ Church Council will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic to see when things can get back to normal at church or if any further changes are needed. For this reason, stay connected to Cross of Christ on the church website, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to get important updates about worship services and other news and events. Regardless when things get back to normal, find comfort in your risen and ascended Savior Jesus who has forgiven your sins and who uses his almighty power to rule all things for the good of his people so we can one day join him in heaven. There we will all gather together and worship him in his presence safe and healthy forever.

School Calendars

St. John's Lutheran School

505 E. LaFollette St. (608) 429-3636
 Pardeeville WI 53954
www.stjohnspardeeville.org



APRIL EVENTS	
April 5	NO School-Easter Monday
April 7-8	Parent/Teacher Conferences
April 9	St. John's Music Recital
April 26-30	Spring MAP Testing
April 28	Lakeside Math Meet



231 Woodland Beach Rd.
 Lake Mills WI
 (920) 648-2321 www.llhs.org

APRIL EVENTS	
April 2-5`	No School
April 20	Interim Reports
April 28	ACT Aspire Test - Freshman/Sophomore
April 30	No School

Tuition Assistance Fund

In order to assist parents in sending their child(ren) to one of these schools or another WELS school, Cross of Christ has established a Tuition Assistance Fund. The goal of this fund is to give \$125.00 per child a month for 10 months each school year to the school their (child)ren are attending for their tuition. If you would like to receive assistance from this fund, talk to the Education Chairman. If you would like to contribute to this fund at any time, please mark on the front of your weekly offering envelope how much you want designated to go to this fund.



In God's Orchard Cultivating the Fruit of a Spirit-Filled Life



Created by six thoughtful Christian women, Amber Swenson, Dr. Rhoda Wolle, Mollie Schairer, Ann Ponath, Naomi Schmidt, and Katie Martin, *In God's Orchard: Cultivating the Fruit of a Spirit-Filled Life* offers an in-depth women's Bible study on the fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22,23. This book shows how God nurtures these fruits, how the sinful nature impacts them, how Jesus demonstrated them perfectly, and how the gospel helps them blossom and flourish. Each of the nine Bible lessons features application and discussion questions with room to write down thoughts. Work through love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control privately or in a small or large women's Bible study group. The authors for each topic are as follows:

Love: Amber Swenson

Joy: Dr. Rhoda Wolle

Peace: Amber Swenson

Patience: Mollie Schairer

Gentleness: Katie Martin

Kindness: Mollie Schairer

Self-Control: Naomi Schmidt

Faithfulness: Naomi Schmidt

Goodness: Ann Ponath and
Amber Swenson

OL-2201198

\$14.99

You can place your order by visiting www.nph.net or call Northwestern Publishing House at 1-800-662-6022.

WELS Websites

www.wels.net

The website for the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

www.nph.net

Northwestern Publishing House's website that sells religious materials.

Forwardinchrist.net

The website for the WELS magazine Forward In Christ.

www.whataboutjesus.com

Learn more about Jesus, the Bible, how to deal with social concerns, etc.

www.christianliferesources.com

Stay up-to-date with important life issues and get answers to difficult ethical questions.

www.lwms.org

The website for the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society.

www.goodsearch.com

A search engine (comparable to Google or Yahoo) that donates money to the Wisconsin Synod when it is used.

Church Council March Meeting Recap

At their March meeting, the Church Council decided not to have Easter breakfast this year. They did decide to sing all the hymn verses on Easter. They also decided to offer normal church activities by September with limited social distancing practices, as long as the COVID-19 situation continues to improve.

Evangelism Committee March Meeting Recap

Current Members: Chairman Joshua Veglahn, Don Graham, Sarah Hochmuth, Dave Kreklow

At their March Meeting, the Evangelism Committee discussed updates to the new church website, promoting the church's Easter services, and assigning jobs to its committee members.

Fellowship Committee March Meeting Recap

Current Members: Chairman Joshua Veglahn, Sandy Beimborn, Vi Burmeister, Joan Klappstein, Judy Trebatoski, Johanna Veglahn.

- Fellowship Groups will possibly be serving meals again in September depending on the COVID-19 situation.
- There will be no Sunday fellowship snacks until September.
- The Fish Fry will be held later.
- Easter Breakfast has been cancelled.
- Flowers will be purchased for Mother's Day.
- Father's Day will be remembered.
- Church picnic is tentatively scheduled for June 13.
- The next meeting will be on May 16 following the Bible Study.
- Anyone interested in serving on the Fellowship committee should speak to Joshua Veglahn.
- Anyone interested in being on one of four Fellowship Groups for serving meals should speak to Sandra Beimborn.

Stewardship Committee March Meeting Recap

Current Members: Chairman Scott Crosby, William Beimborn, Bonnie Dorniak, Dan Heckmann

Scrip orders are due April 11.

Confirmation Class Committee March Meeting Recap

Current Members: Matt Buchholz, Todd Miller, Jodie Askey, Anna Maas

At their March meeting, the Confirmation Class Committee began exploring ways in which pastor and Confirmation parents can work together more to teach Confirmation class to the students.

Cross of Christ Ladies March Gathering Recap

Officers: Joan Klappstein, Sandra Beimborn, Jill Schultz, Judy Trebatoski, LWMS Reporter: Sandra Beimborn

At the March meeting, Easter Egg cutouts were decorated for shutins, missionaries, friends and family. The offering will be sent to the treasurer of the Beaver Dam Circuit for missions.

Missions

We have received our new Home and World Mission Befriend A Mission assignments.

Our first Home Mission is really a close neighbor of ours:

Good News Ev. Lutheran Church

Mt. Horeb, WI.

Rev. Jonathan Bauer

Our second Home Mission is not too far away either.

Mount Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church

Milwaukee, WI

Rev., Nathanael Bourman

Our World Mission is a repeat one for our congregation.

Information is available at church.

New Members

There are no new members this month, but continue to pray for the Lord's Work that is being done through the members we currently have at Cross of Christ!

Shut-Ins

Elmer Glaeske	Lois Plath
Marian Kreitzman	Norman Stump
Margery McCluskey	Lisa Vahradian
Julie Moran	Audrey Zunker

Even though these members are unable to come to regular worship services, please continue to keep them in your thoughts

Cross of Christ Church Council Members

Dan Heckmann	President & Financial Secretary	(920) 992-5692
Matthew Buchholz	Secretary/ Education Comm. Chairman	(608) 354 - 8708
William Eckert	Treasurer	(608)742-2547
Chase Spillner	Elders' & Worship Comm. Chairman	(608) 408 - 7105
Joshua Veglahn	Evangelism / Outreach & Fellowship Comm. Chairman	(608) 697 - 6526
Tim Scharenbroch	Property Comm. Chairman	(608) 742 - 2421
Scott Crosby	Stewardship Chairman	(414) 791 - 2567

Questions or Concerns?

If anyone has questions, concerns, or comments about our church, please feel free to talk to someone on the Church Council because God has provided these men to assist you.

Thankful Giving Opportunities

In 1 Corinthians 16:2 God encourages believers to give their first fruits as offerings in church in proportion to their income. Believers do this to thank God for what he did for them and to support the gospel ministry.

Cross of Christ encourages all of its members to give their offerings for these reasons. It also offers other programs for its members to give to the church above and beyond their offerings, which do not support our church's budget.

SCRIP: We offer a SCRIP program where members can buy gift cards for many different stores. A percentage of the money our members pay is given to the church. SCRIP deadline is always the second Sunday of the month. Order forms are available at church in the mailbox labeled SCRIP. If you need help, talk to Jeannine Heckmann.

NPH Extra Rewards Program: One of the ways Northwestern Publishing House (NPH) can support the ministry of Cross of Christ is through the EXTRA Rewards Program. EXTRA allows NPH customers to contribute a portion of their purchases to a church or school of their choice. If you have not already, we encourage you to sign up for EXTRA. This program is **free!** For more information visit www.nph.net or call Northwestern Publishing House at [1-800-662-6022](tel:1-800-662-6022). Then, when ordering online, your EXTRA Rewards card number will be applied automatically. When purchasing by phone, simply give your customer service representative your EXTRA Rewards card number.

Newsletter

Cross of Christ's News & Notes monthly newsletter will be mailed by the Sunday before the first of the month. If you have an article, meeting recap, note, or flier for publication, please either email your newsletter item to crossofchristportage@hotmail.com or place it in Sandra Beimborn's mailbox by **April 15, 2021**.



If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please e-mail Cross of Christ at crossofchristportage@hotmail.com or call the church office at (608)742-5609 and leave a message. Thank you!

**Cross of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
585 E. Slifer Street
Portage, WI 53901**