



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

JULY 2021

ISSUE

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My Daily Walk With God

July

1	Nehemiah 11:10-13
2	Zechariah 1-6
3	Zechariah 7-11
4	Zechariah 12-14; Luke 1:1-38
5	Luke 1:39-2
6	Luke 3, 4
7	Luke 5, 6
8	Luke 7-8:39
9	Luke 8:40-10:16
10	Luke 10:17-11
11	Luke 12, 13
12	Luke 14-16:18
13	Luke 16:19-18:34
14	Luke 18:35-20:26
15	Luke 20:27-22:23
16	Luke 22:24-23:31
17	Luke 23:32-24
18	Acts 1, 2
19	Acts 3-5:16
20	Acts 5:17-7
21	Acts 8, 9
22	Acts 10, 11
23	Acts 12-14:17
24	Acts 14:18-16:15
25	Acts 16:16-18
26	Acts 19, 20
27	Acts 21-23:11
28	Acts 23:12-25
29	Acts 26-28:15
30	Acts 28:16-31; Psalm 74, Titus
31	1 Thessalonians



"We Can Be Certain Jesus Is Our Savior" Is Jesus the Messiah Jewish people are waiting for?



Shortly after Adam and Eve sinned against God by eating the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden, God promised to send a Messiah or Savior into this world who would save all people from their sins. Over the course of the next several thousands of years, God told many more people about this promised Messiah. He also gave more details about who the Messiah would be and what he would do. God told Abraham, who is the father of the Jewish people, the Messiah would be his descendant. God used Moses to tell the Israelites, which is what Jewish people used to be called, the Messiah would be a prophet greater than himself. God used a man named Nathan to tell King David the Messiah would be his descendant who would rule as a king over God's kingdom forever. God used the prophet Isaiah to tell the Jewish people the Messiah would be born of a virgin. He would be called Immanuel because he would be a human being and also God. He would also suffer and die. God used the prophet Micah to tell the Jewish people the Messiah would be born in the town of Bethlehem in the land of Israel.

As Christians, we believe Jesus is the promised Messiah who fulfilled all these prophecies. However, most Jewish people who lived since Jesus' time reject him as the Messiah. Why is this? This is where this monthly article entitled, "Questions About Christianity" comes in. In this article, 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 answer this question, "Is Jesus the Messiah Jewish people are waiting for?"

The simple answer to this question is "Jesus definitely is!" We can be certain Jesus is the Messiah the Jewish people are waiting for because God made over 400 prophecies about the Messiah that are recorded in the Old Testament part of the Bible. Many of these prophecies are found in the Torah (Genesis-Deuteronomy). Many are found in the historical books (Joshua-Esther). Many are found in the poetical books (Job-Song of Songs), and many more are found in the books of the prophets (Isaiah-Malachi). There are prophecies about the Messiah in every major section of the Old Testament Jewish people follow, and Jesus fulfilled every single one. Jesus himself states this in Luke 24:44, "Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." What makes this fact so compelling is it is virtually impossible for a normal human being to fulfill all these prophecies. The chances of one person fulfilling 8 prophecies are 1 in 10¹⁷. However, Jesus fulfilled over 400 of them because he is both a human being and God. Jesus needed to fulfill all the prophecies about the Messiah to save all people from their sins so everyone who believes in him as the Messiah will go to heaven.

Even though evidence proves Jesus is the Messiah God promised he would send, most Jewish people who lived since Jesus' time reject him as the Messiah. A major reason why is their belief in the Messiah dramatically changed after the Jews returned from their Babylonian captivity. By the time Jesus was born, most Jews, including Jesus' own disciples, believed the Messiah would be a descendant of King David who would be born in Bethlehem, who would be anointed as a king, who would defeat the Jewish people's physical enemies, and who would bring peace and prosperity to the Jewish people for centuries to come. Since Jesus was not the Messiah the Jewish people were waiting for, many Jewish people of his time rejected him as the Messiah and the Jewish leaders had him put to death on the cross for claiming to be the Messiah. However, after Jesus' resurrection, his disciples and many other Jewish people over the years believed in him as the Messiah who would save all people from their sins.

Today, most Jewish people still do not believe Jesus is the promised Messiah. Some do not believe in a Messiah at all. Some believe God sent various Messiahs already into the world who saved them from different tragedies. More orthodox Jews tend to believe God will still send the Messiah who will be a descendant of King David, who would be born in Bethlehem, who would be anointed as a King, who would defeat the Jewish people's physical enemies, and who would bring peace and prosperity to the Jewish people for centuries to come. Regardless of what Jewish people believe, we Christians are certain Jesus is the Messiah or Savior who saved all people from their sins and everyone who believes in him as the Messiah will go to heaven.

NEW Social Distancing Changes

At their June meeting, the Church Council decided there is no longer a limit on how many people can attend Sunday or Monday worship services. People can sit wherever they feel comfortable and they are no longer required to wear masks. However, people are encouraged to socially distance in a safe manner, since there may still be some who feel uncomfortable with these changes. Tentatively, the plan is to return to all pre-pandemic activities by September 2021.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be held on August 9 - 13 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. The closing Vacation Bible School worship service will be held on August 13 at 7:00 p.m. The theme for Vacation Bible School is "Rainforest Explorers".



You can register your children online at www.portagelutheranchurch.org or by phone at 608-742-5609.

The next planning meeting will be held on July 12 at 6:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School decorating will be held on July 17 and July 31 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering to provide or serve food, to help with registration, crafts, or music, please speak with Joshua Veglahn.

Concert At The Portage

The Fellowship Committee invites everyone to attend as a group from Cross of Christ two events at the VFW Concert series, which is located behind Walgreens. The first concert is on July 7 featuring John Conner and the Island Jack Band (Country and Rock music). The second concert is on August 4 featuring Universal Sound (Rock, Country, Beatles, Elvis, Frank Sinatra, and other types of music). The concerts go from 6:30 -8:30 p.m. Bring your own seating. Food is available to purchase. Hope to see you there!

Columbia County Fair Booth

The Evangelism Committee will be having a booth at the Columbia County Fair from July 21 - July 25. Please consider volunteering to help out at the booth. More information will be provided in upcoming weeks.

Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors (OWLS)

On Tuesday, June 8 over 50 people from area WELS churches met for a potluck lunch and fellowship at Friedens Lutheran Church in Randolph. All seniors 55 and older are invited to attend the next get together on Tuesday, July 13 at 12:00 p.m. at St. Stephens Lutheran Church in Beaver Dam. They will meet in the fellowship hall in the basement, which is handicapped accessible, for a potluck lunch, a devotion, and a presentation by Albert and Phyllis Frankenstein who will talk about their trip to New Zealand. Everyone is invited to come to eat, to enjoy the presentation, to meet other WELS Christians, and encouraged to bring a friend.



Taste of Missions

Join your brothers and sisters in Christ from around the world for Taste of Missions, an online missions experience, from July 11-17, 2021. Get to know our home and world missionaries like you never have before, and experience mission work firsthand through short video updates, live Q&A sessions, activities and recipes for the entire family, and daily devotions. The website is www.tasteofmissions.com.



Worship - On Saturday, July 17 at 6:00 p.m. there will be an inspirational worship service where five new home and world missionaries will be commissioned into their fields of service and where people will celebrate the many blessings God has given to WELS Home, World, and Joint Missions. Immediately following the worship service at 7:00 p.m., stay online for a Q&A panel with these brand new missionaries.

World Missions Q&A - Ask questions during a live Q&A panel with a select group of world missionaries who live and work in a variety of cultural and religious settings. Hear how each missionary works with our mission partners to boldly share the gospel in their corner of the world.

Home Missions Q&A - Have you ever wondered how our synod plants churches right here in North America? Learn how it works and ask your questions during this live Q&A session with a select group of home missionaries from across our 14 mission districts and 123 home mission congregations.

School Calendars

St. John's Lutheran School

505 E. LaFollette St. (608) 429-3636

Pardeeville WI 53954

www.stjohnspardeeville.org

ST. JOHN'S JAGUARS



PARDEEVILLE

JULY EVENTS	
July 3	Pardeeville Parade - 11:00 am
July 26 - 30	Vacation Bible School - 9:00 - 11:30 am



231 Woodland Beach Rd.

Lake Mills WI

(920) 648-2321 www.llhs.org

JULY EVENTS	
July 1-4	Band Trip to St. Louis
July 1-11	School Office Closed
July 12-29	School Office Open 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
July 28	Registration 5:00 - 8:00 pm

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.



Your Life Has Meaning Discovering Your Role In An Epic Story



Money. Possessions. School. Work. Life. The things of this world. At times it can all feel empty and meaningless.

In *Your Life Has Meaning*, Luke George Thompson focuses on themes and Bible verses primarily from the book of Ecclesiastes and the life of Solomon to offer you a practical guide to finding meaning in life.

Thompson walks you through ideas from thought leaders of the past—Nietzsche, Kierkegaard, Camus, Sartre, and others—and the voices from the present found in self-help books, fantasy novels, and entertainment to show how they themselves poke holes in the false sources of meaning that so many chase after.

As a teacher of apologetics and a pastor who works regularly with college students, Thompson invites you to view the world from God's side of it instead of focusing on life "under the sun." And that's where the true treasure of this book is, as it reminds you that your purpose in life, no matter what your job, is to help others recognize God's love, for this is your "role in an epic story."

1500829 \$17.99

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 June Meeting Recap

At their June meeting, the Church Council decided to change the social distancing guidelines. They also reviewed part of the Cross of Christ Revitalization program.

Evangelism Committee June Meeting Recap

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

The Evangelism/ Outreach committee met June 14th. They discussed recent prospect visits and the need to visit people who recently visited our church. They discussed the recent Evangelism Sunday and Friendship Sunday worship services, and the church picnic that was held June 13th. They discussed the Cross of Christ Revitalization program for the Evangelism Committee. There was also discussion about staffing a booth at the Columbia County fair and promoting Vacation Bible School.

Fellowship Committee June Meeting Recap

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

- There will be no fellowship meals served until September.
- There may be snacks served after the Sunday worship services before September.
- Flowers were purchased by the Cross of Christ Ladies' and distributed to the ladies present in church for Mother's Day.
- Key chains were purchased and distributed to men in church for Father's Day.
- The Church picnic was held on June 13 at Saddle Ridge following the 9:00 a.m. worship service. The Fellowship Committee provided brats, hotdogs, buns, condiments, coffee, silverware, plates, napkins and cups. Those attending brought their own beverages and a dish to share.
- 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

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

Scrip orders are due on July 11.

Cross of Christ Ladies' May Gathering Recap

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

At the May gathering, Dan Hendershot and Don and A.J. Graham talked about serving in the military, their deployments, and the effect serving in the military has on their families. Following the presentation the Cross of Christ Ladies' had a brief business meeting to vote on officers for the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) Beaver Dam Circuit and for LWMS International.

There was no meeting held in June.

A painting party is under consideration for sometime during the summer.

Missions

Listed below are Cross of Christ's Home and World Mission Befriend A Mission assignments. Please keep these missionaries and their families in your thoughts and prayers and feel free to send them cards and letters.

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

Information for the World Missionary 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 and prayers.

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. 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 **July 15, 2021**.



If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please email 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
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