



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

NOVEMBER 2021

ISSUE

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Time Change

The date to set
your clocks
back is
November 7

My Daily Walk With God

Nov.	1	Ezekiel 23:11 - 25
	2	Ezekiel 26 - 28
	3	Ezekiel 29 - 32:16
	4	Ezekiel 32:17 - 34
	5	Ezekiel 35 - 37
	6	Psalms 37; Ezekiel 38 - 39
	7	Psalms 24; Ezekiel 40 - 41
	8	Ezekiel 42 - 45:8
	9	Ezekiel 45:9 - 48
	10	Esther 1 - 5
	11	Esther 6 - 10; Ps. 83
	12	Psalms 42, 126, 129, 137 Malachi
	13	Psalms 89; Mark 1:1 - 31
	14	Psalms 146; Mark 1:32 - 3
	15	Psalms 107; Mark 4
	16	Psalms 142; Mark 5 - 6:29
	17	Mark 6:30 - 8:26
	18	Mark 8:27 - 10:31
	19	Mark 10:32 - 12:37
	20	Mark 12:38 - 14:31
	21	Mark 14:32 - 15
	22	Psalms 16, 21, 22, 67 Mark 16
	23	Psalms 48; Ephesians 1 - 3
	24	Ephesians 4 - 6
	25	Song of Solomon
	26	Romans 1 - 2
	27	Romans 3 - 5
	28	Romans 6 - 8
	29	Romans 9 - 11
	30	Romans 12 - 15:29

NOVEMBER

Pastor's Article

"We Can Be Certain Jesus Is Our Savior"

Is there circumstantial evidence which proves Jesus' rose from the dead?

There are many people who do not believe Jesus is really God and the Savior of all people. Some believe he is a made-up character in a book. Some believe he was a real person who taught how people can live a more blessed earthly life. Some believe he was a real prophet of God, like Moses and Elijah. However, if Jesus actually rose from the dead—on Easter as the Bible claims he did, that would mean he is more than a real person or a made-up character in a book. He would really be our God and Savior. But did Jesus really rise from the dead?

In this monthly article entitled, "Questions About Christianity", we answer questions people have about Christianity. Our current topic is, "We Can Be Certain Jesus Is Our Savior." Over the last several months we have learned about various concrete facts which prove Jesus really did rise from the dead. Today, we will learn more facts which prove this by answering this question, "Is there circumstantial evidence which proves Jesus' rose from the dead?"

When discussing circumstantial evidence, we are referring to facts which allow someone to infer what the conclusion is. For example, if a man is on trial for murder and no one saw him do it, he could still be convicted if the circumstantial evidence proved he bought the gun that shot the victim, and his fingerprints were on it. When it comes to Jesus' resurrection, the facts prove Jesus rose from the dead, even though people did not witness it happen. The first fact is Jesus' disciples followed him because they believed he was the promised Savior/Messiah. After Jesus died on the cross, they lost all hope of this because he was dead. But a short time later, these same disciples abandoned their jobs and dedicated their lives to travelling the known world to tell others Jesus was the Savior who died on a cross and rose to life to save all people from their sins. They even endured persecution and 11 of 12 of them were martyred because they saw Jesus alive.

The second fact is the Bible reports Jesus' brother, James, and the Apostle Paul were hardened skeptics who refused to believe Jesus was the promised Savior. Paul even persecuted Christians for their faith in Jesus. But after Jesus' ascension into heaven, James became a leader in the Christian church in Jerusalem, and Paul became the world's greatest Christian missionary because they both saw Jesus alive and believed he was the promised Savior.

The third fact is for over 1,500 years the ancient Jews strictly followed the Mosaic Law by offering sacrifices at the temple, celebrating annual festivals, resting on Saturday, and so on. They did this because it gave them a sense of identity as a people and the hope of salvation. But during the first century, 10,000 Jews or more turned their backs on the Mosaic Law because they had either seen Jesus' alive or talked to people who did and believed he was the promised Savior. The fourth fact is the Christian religion was all but dead from Good Friday to early Easter morning because Jesus' disciples believed the promised Savior was dead. But the Christian religion quickly grew and expanded throughout the Mediterranean world so by the 3rd century A.D. it was one of the most popular religions in the Roman Empire. After the Roman Empire collapsed, the Christian religion continued to expand to the point it became the most popular religion in the world as millions of people believed Jesus is their Savior who rose from the dead.

The circumstantial evidence proves Jesus did rise from the dead. This is important because Jesus' resurrection holds the Christian faith together like a keystone in a stone arch. It proves Jesus really is the promised Savior who is true God and true man, who suffered and died on a cross to forgive all people of their sins, who has always and will always keep his promises, and who will return one day to take all who believe in him to heaven. The circumstantial evidence of Jesus' resurrection is yet another reason we can be certain Jesus really is our Savior.

Thank You To Volunteers!

Cross of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church wishes to thank everyone who supported the church this past year through their time, talents, and treasures. Your support and services are greatly appreciated!

There are many volunteer opportunities available at Cross of Christ which need to be filled so we can continue our church's mission of spreading the gospel to others. The Stewardship Committee asks that all confirmed members fill out a Time and Talent sheet indicating where they would be willing to volunteer in church and place it in Bonnie Dorniak's mailbox at your earliest convenience. Sheets have been placed in the mailboxes of members who have not recently filled one out. Thank you again to all the church's volunteers and your service to Christ and his church!

Thanksgiving Worship Service

On Wednesday, November 24 at we will have our Thanksgiving worship service at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and give thanks to God for all the blessings he gives us day after day.

Children's Christmas Eve Service Practices

The Sunday School children will rehearse for the Children's Christmas Eve service in November and December. They are encouraged to know all of their lines before the first practice. Their rehearsals will be on:

Saturday, November 27	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Saturday, December 4	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Saturday, December 11	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Saturday, December 18	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Kids' Day At The Cross

On Saturday, November 27, Cross of Christ will host Kids' Day At The Cross. All parents are invited to drop off their children, ages 3 years old and up, at church on the lower level anytime between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. At Kids' Day At The Cross, children will learn a Bible lesson, make crafts, sing songs, play games, and eat lunch. Parents can use this time to go Christmas shopping, run errands, do chores, or just enjoy some personal time. If you would like your child(ren) to attend Kids' Day At the Cross or if you have any questions, call or text Don at 608-354-1206.

Shut-in Gift Bags

The Cross of Christ Ladies' are preparing Christmas gift bags for Cross of Christ's shut-in members and the residents of Hamilton Park Place. They ask the members of Cross of Christ to please donate hand sanitizer, lotions, hard candies, tissues, money to purchase more items, and cookies. You can place your donated items in the box under the table in the back of church. You can put your money in your offering envelope and mark it "Cross of Christ Ladies' Gift Bags". You can bring your cookies to church either on December 12 or 13. All ladies are invited to help assemble the gift bags at the Cross of Christ Ladies' gathering on Thursday, December 16.

OWLS Meeting

Area WELS Seniors are invited to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church on 300 West St. in Beaver Dam on Tuesday, November 9th for an OWLS meeting. The meeting will begin at 12:00 p.m. with a potluck in the church basement. After the dinner and a devotion, Dodge County Sheriff Dale Schmidt will speak about "Senior Scams." Come and learn about how to be more careful with your finances - and enjoy the fellowship! This will be the final gathering for the year. Bring a friend!

WELS Mission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The WELS Mission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing seeks to help congregations share the gospel of Jesus Christ with WELS members and others who are deaf or hard of hearing.

It is estimated that loss of hearing affects more than 500 million people worldwide. One in three people over 65 years of age and one in two over the age of 80 have a hearing loss. Ninety percent of hearing losses can be helped with hearing instruments, and 10 percent can be treated medically and/or surgically. Yet fewer than 5 percent of those who could benefit actually use a hearing instrument. The Mission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing offers resources to aid ministry to people who are deaf or have any degree of hearing loss. Churches that desire to help people with hearing loss participate in worship services and other church activities can obtain information on assistive listening devices (hearing loop, FM system) or sign language interpreters and VRI (Video Remote Interpreting). See our access directory below for a full listing of WELS churches with hearing loops, signed services and captioned sermons.

School Calendars

St. John's Lutheran School

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



NOVEMBER EVENTS	
November 5	First Quarter Ends
November 16-18	Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 24-26	No School - Thanksgiving Break



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

NOVEMBER EVENTS	
November 4 - 1:05 pm	Early release
November 4 - 2:00 pm	Parent-Teacher Consults 2-4 & 5-8
November 16	Interim Reports
November 17 - 10:00 am	2 hour delay
November 25-26	No School - Thanksgiving

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.



The Rational Faith: A Review of the Evidence for Christianity Truth loses nothing by being closely examined.



In this thought-provoking apologetic, international lawyer Jason Crook reviews the evidence for Christianity from a variety of scientific, historical, and logical perspectives—making the case that it is not only rational, but true. Written for both skeptics and Christians who want a deeper understanding of—and confidence in—their faith, it examines in detail key questions like:

- ▶ Is there a God? ▶ Is the Bible credible?
- ▶ Can we establish that what Christianity teaches is true?

Beginning with an overview of how the West rejected Christianity and why a book of this kind is necessary, its arguments build upon one another to support the conclusion that Christianity is the one true religion. It examines key scientific and logical grounds for the existence of God before testing other major religions to show why they cannot also be true. With Judaism and Christianity the sole survivors of these tests, it then focuses on the Bible to distinguish between them. Using a variety of evidentiary approaches, it examines how the Bible was created, how has it been transmitted over the ages, and how we can know it to be accurate. It then explores what the Bible teaches about man's fall into sin and need of a redeemer—examining in detail the prophecies about this redeemer and how Jesus is the sole individual to fulfill them. Drawing upon over five years of research and more than 1,200 source citations, *The Rational Faith* should not be ignored by any tough-minded inquirer.

1504798 \$12.99

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.

Church Council October Meeting Recap

At their October meeting, the Church Council discussed the new church video, the Revitalization Program, the Building Committee, and the October Voters' meeting agenda.

Evangelism Committee October Meeting Recap

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

At their October meeting, the Evangelism Committee discussed what final changes needed to be made to the new church website, and made preparations for Kids' Day At The Cross.

Fellowship Committee October Meeting Recap

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

- A Fellowship meal was served by Group 3 on October 10. A cake was provided by the Stewardship Committee to thank all church volunteers.
- Group 4 will serve a Fellowship meal on November 14.
- Snacks are being provided between the church service and Bible study / Sunday School.
- Bowling was held on Sunday, October 10 following.
- Vi Burmeister resigned from the Fellowship Committee due to health reasons. There is now a vacancy on the Fellowship Committee. Anyone interested in serving should speak to Joshua Veglahn.
- Anyone interested in being on one of the four Fellowship Groups for serving meals should speak to Sandra Beimborn.
- The Fish Fry has been rescheduled for 5:30 p.m. at Dinos on November 12. A signup sheet will be posted.

Stewardship Committee October Recap

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

Scrip orders will be due on November 14.

Cross of Christ Ladies' October Gathering Recap

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

The Cross of Christ Ladies' met on October 21 for their annual planning meeting. Many ideas were presented. A taco bar was enjoyed by everyone. There will be a Bible Study at the November meeting.

Please sign the cards for our three missionaries, located on the table in back of church.

LWMS Beaver Dam Circuit Fall Rally

Three ladies attended the rally on Saturday, October 16 at St. John's, Princeton.

Speakers: Tom and Janie Niedfeldt

Topic: Proclaim Your Mighty Acts

They spoke about the mission work of distributing the proclaimers. Proclaimers are solar-powered audio Bibles that help world mission fields reach more people with the saving gospel message. Some pastors use this tool to play selections of the Bible before worship. It is also a way to reach out to our visually impaired brothers and sisters. Multi Language Publications supports the purchase and distribution of Proclaimers throughout our WELS world mission fields. Over \$1,400.00 was collected with the money going to Christian Aid and Relief.

Service Project: *Second Impressions* is a thrift store in Fond du Lac, WI that supports Winnebago Lutheran Academy as well as other charitable organizations throughout Central Wisconsin. Over \$900.00 was collected in addition to many requested items.

Current Mission Projects - Beaver Dam Circuit

Home Mission Project #HM-2020-08: Family Ministry Outreach
World Mission Project: Project #WM-2020-09: Central Africa
Medical Mission (CAMM)

New Members

Bev Carney by transfer from Grace Lutheran Church in Casa Grande, AZ

Charles Bradney by adult confirmation.

Please introduce yourselves to the new members and make them feel a part of the Cross of Christ family!

Shut-Ins

Elmer Glaeske

Lois Plath

Marion Kreitzman

Norman Stump

Margery McCluskey

Lisa Vahradian

Julie Moran

Audrey Zunker

Vi Burmeister

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 **November 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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