

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](http://www.portagelutheranchurch.org)  
[crossofchristportage@hotmail.com](mailto:crossofchristportage@hotmail.com)



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

# OCTOBER 2021

## ISSUE

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### My Daily Walk With God

Oct.	1	Psalm 118, Isaiah 46 - 48
	2	Isaiah 49 - 53
	3	Psalm 145; Isaiah 54 - 57
	4	Isaiah 58 - 62
	5	Isaiah 63 - 66
	6	Jonah; Nahum
	7	Obadiah; Zephaniah
	8	Jeremiah 1 - 4:4
	9	Jeremiah 4:5 - 6
	10	Jeremiah 7 - 9
	11	Jeremiah 10 - 13
	12	Jeremiah 14 - 17
	13	Jeremiah 18 - 24
	14	Jeremiah 25 - 27
	15	Jeremiah 28 - 31:20
	16	Jeremiah 31:21 - 33
	17	Jeremiah 34 - 36
	18	Jeremiah 37 - 41:3
	19	Jeremiah 41:4 - 45
	20	Jeremiah 46 - 48
	21	Jeremiah 49 - 50
	22	Jeremiah 51 - 52
	23	Lamentation 1 - 3:39
	24	Psalm 79, Lamentation 3:40 - 5
	25	Psalm 25, Ezekiel 1 - 3
	26	Psalm 88, Ezekiel 4 - 7
	27	Ezekiel 8 - 11
	28	Ezekiel 12 - 15
	29	Ezekiel 16 - 17
	30	Ezekiel 18 - 20:44
	31	Ezekiel 20:45 - 23:10



## Pastor's Article

### **“We Can Be Certain Jesus Is Our Savior” Were there any eyewitnesses of Jesus' resurrection?**

An eyewitness' testimony goes a long way in deciding whether or not a person on trial for committing a crime is guilty or not. The reason is the eyewitness saw whether the person on trial actually committed the crime or not. Sometimes the eyewitness' testimony is enough to convict the person on trial. Sometimes it is enough to set the person free.

These days there are many people who refuse to believe in Jesus as their Savior. One reason some give is there were no eyewitnesses to prove Jesus rose from the dead. But is that really true? 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.” In this article, we will answer this question, “Were there any eyewitnesses of Jesus' resurrection?”

Over the last several months, we concluded in this article Jesus actually died on the cross on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter was not a story his followers made up. However, when we look at what the Bible, other ancient texts, archeology, and other things say about Jesus' resurrection, we must admit there were no eyewitnesses who saw Jesus' dead body come to life and walk out of the tomb on Easter morning. Even though there were no eyewitnesses who saw this take place, the Bible lists many eyewitnesses who saw Jesus alive after he rose from the dead over a 40-day period. The Bible says several women personally saw Jesus' alive on Easter hours after they did not find his body in his tomb. Around sunset on Easter, two men talked with Jesus as they walked to the town of Emmaus. Later on Easter evening, Jesus appeared to ten of his disciples and others in a room in Jerusalem. A week later, Jesus appeared to all eleven of his disciples in that same room. Sometime later, Jesus appeared to seven of his disciples by the Sea of Galilee. On another occasion, Jesus appeared to his eleven disciples on a mountain in Galilee. In 1 Corinthians, Paul mentions that Jesus also appeared to Peter, Jesus' brother James, and over 500 people at one time. Jesus also appeared to his disciples and others outside of Jerusalem as they saw him ascend into heaven. Years later, Jesus also appeared to Saul or Paul as he was traveling to Damascus.

The Bible mentions well over 500 people who personally saw Jesus alive with their very own eyes after he had risen from the dead. Jesus appeared to all these people, so they knew for a fact he had risen from the dead and believed he was the promised Savior whom God sent to save the world from sin, death, and the devil. Since they were eyewitnesses of Jesus' resurrection, Jesus sent them into the world to tell people to believe in him as the promised Savior. That is exactly what these early Christians did. Beginning on Pentecost, Jesus' disciples and many others boldly told people Jesus was the Savior because they saw him alive after he had died on the cross.

As Christians living in the 21st century, we have not seen Jesus alive with our own eyes. However, we have the New Testament books of the Bible which Jesus' eyewitnesses wrote. These books are these early Christians' eyewitness accounts of the things they had heard and seen Jesus' do. They wrote them so people would know for a fact and believe Jesus really is their Savior from sin, death, and the devil and one day he will return to earth again to raise all the dead to life and take all who believe in him to heaven.

## Pre-Pandemic Activities

At their August meeting, the Church Council decided Cross of Christ would return to most of its pre-pandemic activities by September 1. People can sit wherever they feel comfortable and they are no longer required to wear masks. There will be fellowship activities, including meals on the second Sunday of the month. Greeters will hand out bulletins and the Common Cup will be offered during Holy Communion. At this time, the offering plates will remain in the back of church and be brought up to the altar during the service. We will continue the Holy Communion practice of “continuous communion”. However, families are invited to come up together. Everyone is still encouraged to socially distance in a safe manner, since there may still be some people who feel uncomfortable with these changes.

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## 364 Days Of Thanksgiving

Our next sermon series is entitled, “364 Days of Thanksgiving”. In this sermon series we will learn why we are to give thanks to God 364 days a year in addition to Thanksgiving Day and how God wants us to do it. The following are the themes for each week:



October 10 & 11:

Uncommon Mercy Leads to Uncommon Gratitude

October 17 & 18:

Overwhelming Gratitude Leads to Overwhelming Generosity

October 24 & 25:

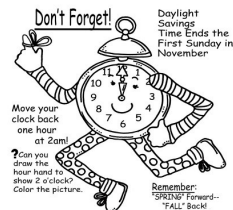
Overwhelming Generosity and Faithfulness

As part of this sermon series, we will give thanks to everyone who volunteered at Cross of Christ. We will also hand out Time and Talent surveys to members who did not fill one out, and planned giving envelopes to help us understand how we show God our thanks with our talents and our offerings.

## Time Change

The date to set  
your clocks  
back is

**November 7**



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## Worship Volunteer Training Meeting

On Sunday, October 17 at 10:30 a.m., there will be a volunteer training meeting for everyone who ushers, greets, runs the Sunday power point or Monday's hymnsoft, who sets up for Holy Communion, and for anyone else who is interested in doing these things. At the meeting we will learn why we serve in the church. We will review each person's responsibilities and learn what things have changed. We will also receive updated lists of when everyone serves. If you are planning on serving in any of these ways, please make every effort to attend this meeting!

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## Reformation

Cross of Christ will celebrate the Lutheran Reformation with a special worship service on Sunday, October 31 at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend!



## Wisconsin Lutheran Institutional Ministries

Wisconsin Lutheran Institutional Ministries is a nonprofit organization established in 1901 that ministers to people throughout the upper Midwest, who are living in correctional facilities, drug & alcohol treatment centers, hospitals, mental health centers, and extended care facilities. It also offers post institutional support.



Their Mission: To share God's law and the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with all individuals who are or have been institutionalized, and their families.



**School Calendars**

**St. John's Lutheran School**

505 E. LaFollette St. (608) 429-3636  
 Pardeeville WI 53954  
[www.stjohnspardeeville.org](http://www.stjohnspardeeville.org)



OCTOBER EVENTS	
15	St. John's Forensics Night
16, 23, 30, Nov. 6	LLHS Beginner & Cadet Band
22	Regional Forensics Meet



231 Woodland Beach Rd.  
 Lake Mills WI  
 (920) 648-2321 [www.llhs.org](http://www.llhs.org)

OCTOBER EVENTS	
8	Homecoming
17	New Friends
20	Grandparents Day
26	8th Grade Open House
31	Area Reformation Service

**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.



## As Luther Taught The Word Of Truth Devotions on the Small Catechism



Many people who studied Martin Luther's Small Catechism in grade school haven't opened it up since. It might be on a bookshelf somewhere in the house but hasn't seen any use for many years. Although as a teen you studied the Catechism to better understand God's Word, its concepts and instruction are just as valuable to adults.

*As Luther Taught the Word of Truth* is a book containing 58 devotions that will deepen your understanding of the Bible. Each devotion dives into concepts and phrases found in five of the six chief parts of Martin Luther's Small Catechism: the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. Each message is summarized in a way that is applicable to our own lives. Author Richard Lauersdorf also uses personal stories that connect with events we all experience. At the heart of each devotion in *As Luther Taught the Word of Truth* is the comforting message of the gospel, which is just as Luther intended.

060722 \$16.99

You can place your order by visiting [www.nph.net](http://www.nph.net) or call Northwestern Publishing House at 1-800-662-6022.

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### WELS Websites

[www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

*The website for the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

[www.nph.net](http://www.nph.net)

*Northwestern Publishing House's website that sells religious materials.*

[Forwardinchrist.net](http://Forwardinchrist.net)

*The website for the WELS magazine Forward In Christ.*

[www.whataboutjesus.com](http://www.whataboutjesus.com)

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

[www.christianliferesources.com](http://www.christianliferesources.com)

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

[www.lwms.org](http://www.lwms.org)

*The website for the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society.*

[www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)

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

## **Church Council September Meeting Recap**

At their September meeting, the Church Council was informed that after Pastor Schultz talks to someone from CGI Communications about the church video we should receive it. Church Council also decided on a date for the next Building Committee meeting, and they discussed a new outdoor sign for church.

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## **Evangelism Committee September Meeting Recap**

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

At their September meeting, the Evangelism Committee discussed the church website, opening up church for Portage's homecoming parade, and the Kids Day at the Cross event.

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## **Fellowship Committee September Meeting Recap**

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

- A Fellowship meal was served on September 12 for Welcome Home Sunday.
  - Group 3 will serve a Fellowship meal on October 10.
  - Groups were called to provide food and serve at the funeral for Kathy Miller.
  - Snacks are being provided between the church service and Bible study / Sunday School.
  - We have 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 Card Party has been cancelled.
  - Bowling will be held on Sunday, October 10 following Bible Study.
  - The Fish Fry has been rescheduled for 5:30 p.m. at Dinos on November 12. A sign-up sheet will be posted.
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## **Stewardship Committee September Recap**

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

At their September meeting, the Stewardship Committee finished reviewing their part in the Cross of Christ Revitalization Program and the discussed the October stewardship program.



## **Cross of Christ Ladies' September Gathering Recap**

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

The following women were elected as the Cross of Christ Ladies' officers for 2022: President: Joan Klappstein, Vice President: Judy Trebatoski, Secretary: Sandy Beimborn, Treasurer: Jill Schultz. At their gathering on October 21, the Cross of Christ Ladies' will plan their activities for 2022 as they tacos. All confirmed ladies are invited to attend this gathering.

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## **LWMS Beaver Dam Circuit Fall Rally**

Saturday, October 16 at St. John's, Princeton  
226 South Clinton Street, Princeton, WI 54968  
Phone (920)-295-4400

Registration is at 9:30 a.m.

**Speakers:** Tom and Janie Niedfeldt

**Topic:** Proclaim Your Mighty Acts

They will speak about the mission work of distributing the proclaimers. Proclaimers are solar-powered audio Bibles that help our 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.

**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. They can use: Children and adult puzzles, towels, comforters, and men's jeans. They can also use in the thrift store: white and neon colored regular size paper, toilet paper, paper towels, Ziplock bags of all sizes, sticky notes, clear liquid soap, Bar Keeper's Friend Cleanser (Powder or Liquid).

**SOS (Send One Sister):** If you have never attended an LWMS Convention and are interested, please submit an application.

## **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)

Deadline for count of attendees and mission funds is October 1.

## 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!

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## Shut-Ins

Elmer Glaeske	Lois Plath
Marian 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.

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## 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

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## 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](http://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.

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## 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](mailto:crossofchristportage@hotmail.com) or place it in Sandra Beimborn's mailbox by **October 15, 2021**.



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

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