



# HORIZON OF HOPE

## WORSHIP TIMES

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service  
9:30 A.M. Fellowship & Refreshments  
10:00 A.M. Contemporary Service  
And Kid's Church

### **Announcements from the Hosanna Office!!**

*We have begun worshiping together.*

*We have seating for 14 family units while maintaining 6ft separation. So far we have averaged 5 family units per service each week. We ask that you wear a mask as you enter and exit to better ensure safety. We remove masks once we are all settled in. I will continue to send out my mini sermon each week. Blessings to all.*

*We are still collecting food at the church for the Under His Wings Food Pantry!*

There is a green bin with a lid in front of the church doors, and we are checking it regularly.

#### Some suggestions:

Peanut butter

Jelly

Tuna

Tuna Helper

Crackers (all types, but especially plain, as people can put peanut butter on them when there is no bread.)

Spaghetti Sauce

Pasta

Soup

Cereal

Email [hosannalutheran@windstream.net](mailto:hosannalutheran@windstream.net)

[Website: HosannaPlattsmouth.com](http://Website:HosannaPlattsmouth.com)

Message us at Facebook: Hosanna Lutheran Church ELCA

**Thanks you to all who have continued to  
mail checks to the church office!**  
**We are grateful †**

Be joyful always,  
 Pray continually,  
 Give thanks in all  
 circumstances for  
 this is God's will for  
 you in Christ Jesus.  
*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

**How will you get connected??**

These small groups meet monthly and/or weekly for devotions, fellowship and service projects. We hope you'll find one or two to get involved with.

**Bible Study with Pastor Jim**

Monday at 6:30 PM. Postponed until further notice

Come and dig deeper into the Bible.  
 Everyone is welcome!

**PRAYER TIME FOR EVERYONE:**

**Every Tuesday from 10:00-10:30 a.m.**  
 Please join the church staff in the office as we pray for the Church, its ministries, and those who have asked us to include them in our prayers. Plan to join us! "Never doubt what one prayer can do."

**WOMEN'S GROUP-TBD**

**WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING OUT TO EAT**  
**TBD**

**COUNCIL NOTES**

**HOSANNA COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Phone numbers are listed here for your convenience

|                                     |                  |          |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------|
| President                           | Bob Wills        | 298-7442 |
| Vice President/<br>Worship Ministry | Linda Mason      | 319-8012 |
| Secretary/<br>Witness Ministry      | Melinda Zimmerer | 880-4992 |
| Welcome Ministry                    | Claudia Wylie    | 802-7115 |
| Welcome Ministry                    | Heidi Walz       | 740-0146 |
| Worship Ministry                    | Riley Weber      | 209-7395 |
| Witness Ministry                    | Vicki Weber      | 209-5237 |
| Treasurer                           | Dave Steinkruger | 250-7737 |
| Financial Secretary                 | Jenni Dasovic    | 297-1670 |
| Property Maintenance                | Bill Wylie       | 203-2949 |

*We welcome all people to worship God  
 by offering our lives in daily witness  
 to the love of Jesus Christ.*

**Welcome Ministry**                      **Worship Ministry**  
 Claudia and Heidi    Riley

**Witness Ministry**  
 Vicki and Melinda

YOU are always welcome to attend the meeting of our Council. Council meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM.

|             | June 7  | June 14 | June 21 | June 28 |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| General     | 3705.00 | 2365.00 | 1360.00 | n/a     |
| Benevolence | 20      | 0       | 0       | 0       |

**\$8344.00 needed per month to make  
 2020 Budget**

**Your Financial Gifts...**

A special thank you to all who continue to send offering during this time where we are not meeting in person!

Please consider mailing your commitment to the church at  
 P.O. Box 301,  
 Plattsmouth, NE 68048. Thank You!

Our Church continues to be grateful for all who faithfully support the ongoing life and ministry operating costs of Hosanna.  
 You make a difference!

## “Holy Spirit and Fire”

**Good news** - We continue the season of Pentecost – Holy Spirit and Fire!!

This Sunday (28th) we will still sit 6ft apart in worship services at 8:30 and 10am. We are still asking that people to come and go wearing masks – that is the tricky part, getting in and out maintaining the 6 ft distance. I hope we can think of this as not about us but about those around us and their possible connection with those at high risk. If you are sick we ask that you please, please, stay home. We will continue with this letter weekly. Please leave a message at church (402-296-2662) if you have any questions.

### Here is our PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all, you opened your gates wide to receive all your children into the heavenly kingdom. Help us to be vehicles of promise and proclamation for all who will listen, so that every soul might live in your grace. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## Sermon: Walk by Faith not Sight

Last week we were reminded that we have a ‘ministry’ – to be Christ to the world = transformed into the image of Christ + always being given over to death so that His life may also be revealed in our mortal bodies (not an easy journey i.e. hard pressed but not crushed, (vs 8) so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. (vs15). As always there is more going on then we can see or understand so Paul pauses and explains this again using the theme – we Live by Faith and not by sight. Faith hmmm... in Hebrews 11:1, faith is defined by ‘confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see’. I love those words, confidence and assurance – bold words. Let’s see what Paul has to say. And once again he begins with therefore.....

### **2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10 (NIV)**

*<sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart.* We heard that last week – important – said twice, RIGHT!!!

Don’t lose heart – what can make us lose heart? Hmmm... Often we "lose heart" because we lack confidence in ourselves, our abilities, our worth. We feel so small and insignificant compared to the global problems, the worldwide crises that are going on all around us. So this explanation begins with don’t give up, there is more going on then you realize.

*Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.* Wow, this can be taken in so many ways – to match the many reasons to lose heart. It might not seem that things are going well but God with us through the Holy Spirit is renewing us day by day – Christ at the center. WOW!! We are not on our own – that’s why Paul said before “that we have this treasure (all that God has given us) in jars of clay to show that this all surpassing power is from God and not from us.” We are not alone in this journey – not only do we have the Holy Spirit and fire but we have our brother and sisters in Christ (the body of Christ) with us on this journey. So we can begin to think differently – let’s see what Paul tells us next.....

*<sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. Wait a minute – light and momentary troubles – what??? It hurts, its bad, I can't take any more, you can't mean that can you??? Remember this is Paul who has been flogged 5 times and received 39 lashes from people who hated him; 3 times beaten with rods and once stoned almost to death; been shipwrecked 3 times; kicked out of many towns; starved and thirsty many times. He is the one saying this. Hmmmmm... hmmmmm some more. Why would he say that – of course, he knows there is more going on than what we are experiencing. Did you hear – achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs the troubles! The best is yet to come!!!! He knew that nothing external could harm his 'inner nature' because the inner nature is Christ himself. In Chapter 5 he explains it in more detail.*

*<sup>5</sup> For we know that if the earthly tent (body) we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. Paul uses the picture of a tent – a temporary dwelling now for our bodies but God will build something more permanent for us. <sup>2</sup> Meanwhile we groan, (even in chapter 1 he mentioned that they despaired for life itself vs 8) *longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup> because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.* With Christ, in death there is always a resurrection – living by the Spirit brings life, even though it might not seem that way (remember, outwardly wasting away but inwardly being renewed day by day). That is why God put his Spirit in us – to guarantee!!! Therefore..... confident!!!!*

*<sup>6</sup> Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we live by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. For we conduct our lives on the basis of faith and not on the appearance of things for there is more going on that what we can see!! Paul could not lose heart because at the center of his being, there was Christ. <sup>9</sup> So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. So we continue to be Christ in the world no matter what we see happening or going on in our lives.*

**This is why the world needs us** – we can change the stories of unbelievers who are perishing because of God working through us even when we can't see it. We know -God with us!

I'll say it again, Paul could not lose heart because at the center of his being, there was Christ. No matter what kind of fears assaulted or doubts assailed him in the outer world, the Christ within was "renewed day by day" and grew ever stronger. In a sense, Paul considered the nature of the outside world "temporary" -- the "momentary afflictions" building him up in preparation for the "eternal weight of glory beyond all measure." We know God is with us -- Christ at the center. So.....

Do all of your long-range plans seem to be turning into short- range disaster?

Take heart: For "it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry." --2 Corinthians 4:1

Do things around you seem to be going from bad to worse?

Take heart: For "our inner nature is being renewed day by day." --2 Corinthians 4:16

When we believe we are being renewed every day, instead of feeling exhaustion and isolation, we can begin to experience inspiration, community and unity. So let's allow the Spirit to work in our lives and we will find ourselves closer to God, closer to Jesus, closer to each other and better able to serve the common good. Holy Spirit and Fire!!!

**Let us Pray:** Lord God – gracious Father – thank you for the gift of your Son and the Holy Spirit to teach and to guide. As Paul said, you did not give us a Spirit of timidity but one of Power and Love and Self Control – thank you – that changes everything for us. What a difference it can make in people's lives, knowing that God is at work and that we are being renewed – new possibilities exist because God is with us. Now as we focus on your Spirit at work in our lives, help us to have ears to hear and a heart willing to follow your will in our lives. Help us be the children you want us to be. Help us to love you and love others. We lift up the healthcare workers – keep them safe. We lift those who have the virus – heal them. We lift up the researchers – may you give them wisdom to find a cure and vaccine quickly. We lift up our leaders – grant them wisdom to deal with this for the good of all they serve. Help us be conscious of care for ourselves so that we can care safely for others around us. Help those who are at a higher risk to be safe but to reach out to our larger family so that we can serve them. We thank you Lord for all that you have done and are doing. Praise and blessing to you – in Jesus name we pray and all God's children said.... Amen.

**BLESSING: Sending message from St. Teresa of Avila**

**"Christ has no body now, but ours. No hands, no feet on earth, but ours. Ours are the eyes through which Christ looks compassion into the world. Ours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good. Ours are the hands with which Christ blesses the world."**

† AMEN.

**Verse for the month of June**

**<sup>18</sup> And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.**

**2 Corinthians 3:18 (NRSV)**

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**PRACTICING MEDITATION by Valerie Robert**

I have always had intentions of starting the practice of meditation . . . some day. I guess I am grateful that dealing with Covid-19 has forced me into seriously practicing the discipline. There are many reasons why one should meditate on a regular basis, but these three are most important: relaxation, improving and maintaining health, and staying connected to our creator.

We all deal with stress, whether its job stress, a move, a divorce or a major illness, none of us escapes the effects of stress. Since stress is ever present in our lives, we need to find healthy ways of coping with it. There are lots of unhealthy ways of dealing with stress—smoking, drinking excessively, overeating, and the list goes on. The practice of meditation provides a healthy way of dealing with the everyday stresses of life. The good news is it's not difficult, it doesn't cost anything and it doesn't require much of our time, but it DOES take practice, and discipline. Setting aside as little as five to ten minutes each day can make a big difference in stress levels.

When I first experimented with mediation years ago, I tried doing it on my own and I didn't stick with it. Doing guided mediations has been more helpful for me. There are lots of applications out there, and many are even free. There are no special tools required and no 'right' way to mediate. Meditations can be done sitting or lying down, or even while walking. Some use visualizations, some use mantras and others focus on relaxing various parts of the body. I find that by engaging in the practice of meditation on a regular basis not only keeps me calmer, it makes me less irritable, and consequently more pleasant to be around!

According to the American Medical Association many stress-related illnesses can be lessened through the practice of meditation, such as high blood pressure, gastrointestinal issues like acid reflux disease or irritable bowel syndrome, and asthma and migraines to name just a few. Meditation can even boost the immune system, causing overall improvement in health, and can even help the body deal with life-threatening conditions such as cancer. It is particularly helpful in dealing with the side effects of cancer treatments.

Mental health conditions such as anxiety disorders and depression can also be helped by meditation, as well as with the treatment of addictions. Some studies even show that those with a family history of Alzheimer's disease can help decrease their risk of getting the disease through strengthening cognitive processes and helping to prevent atrophy of brain tissues, since the areas in the brain affected by Alzheimer's are also the identical areas targeted by meditation.

People with insomnia may be helped by the relaxing effects brought about by meditation, as well as those dealing with chronic pain, by changing the way their bodies respond to pain. While it can be used to work in conjunction with pain medications, it is especially helpful in training the body to learn to live with pain that cannot be alleviated by medication or other medical means.

Meditation as a religious practice began in India about 5,000 years ago with the Hindu religion. It later spread to China where it was practiced by both Hindus and Buddhists. Later the practice spread to Korea and Japan in the form of 'Zen' Buddhism. Mention of the word 'meditation' is present in early Judaism in the Torah, in Islam, and in The Bible. However, the practice of meditation is more closely defined as prayer in the Book of Genesis in the King James' Bible. In the Byzantine period, meditation involved repeating a prayer while in a specific position. Monks in the 12<sup>th</sup> century focused on the practice of 'lectio, meditatio, oratio, and contemplatio,' roughly translated as 'reading scripture, pondering, praying and contemplating. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Ignatius of Loyola and Teresa of Avila were considered 'pioneers' of early Christian meditation practices.

By the 1890s, during a period of Hindu 'revivalism,' Gurus began opening Yoga schools, bringing the practice to western civilization to encourage its use by non-Hindus. In the 1960s Transcendental Meditation presented meditation in a secular manner to a whole generation of Americans and potential practitioners throughout the west.

While the practice of meditation has evolved from a religious practice to a secular one over the centuries, maybe the practice is in the process of coming full-circle. As Christians in today's world we are familiar with praying while we are with our church communities, but how many of us extend our prayers or 'contemplation practices' to our daily lives? We've always known prayer was good for our spiritual selves. Now science has verified that it is good for our physical and emotional selves as well! Never have we needed to have our mental, physical AND spiritual beings nurtured as much as we do now. Let's all do our part to stay healthy physically, mentally, and spiritually by starting to meditate today!

**Helping Our Community**

- ▶ **Under His Wings Baby Pantry:**  
 Located at Under His Wings  
 Always needs diapers, Size 3, 4, 5, & 6  
 Baby shampoo, lotion and wash.
- ▶ **Under His Wings Thrift Shop:**  
 511 Main St.  
 Hours: 10-5:00 pm Tues.-Fri  
 10-3:00 pm Sat

**Our buildings may have been shuttered to combat an invisible enemy, but we must live into the reality that the church is not closed.**

**Our church is not a building, an organization or a worship service. According to the New Testament Greek, the church is the ekklesia, the called-out people of God. We have been called by God for a special purpose: to love and serve the world.**

**The church is open—both when we gather and when we scatter. Even when scattered, we are still church, some of us sheltering in place and others working in essential roles. These are the vocations we have been training for throughout our years of gathering in person. ~Dwight DuBois**

**Read the rest of the article!**  
**~Living Lutheran 4-28-2020**

**Or click here**

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2020/04/my-take-the-church-is-not-closed/>

**Please pray for:**

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Caren Apprich       | Jason Knott      |
| Dori Brich          | Virginia Manning |
| Bertha Black        | Donna McClean    |
| O.C. Coleman        | Norman Rishel    |
| Jan Conley          | Sheila Sach      |
| Nancy Conley        | Russ Sederburg   |
| Glenn Crockett      | Kathy Todd       |
| Barb Culbertson     | Grace Zimmerer   |
| Mary & Ted Dalhberg | Alan             |
| Ebbin Gehrke        | Chris            |
| Bill Grunewald      | Mary C.          |
| Sandy Ham           | Carol            |
| Harley Hein         | Joan             |
|                     | Helen M.         |

**Please let the office (296-2662) know of changes to the prayer lists so that we can keep everything current. Thanks!**

**Prayer for those serving in the military and law enforcement:**

- Justin Bartlett, Marines
- Meshack Casey, Army
- Cory Clines, Air Force
- Alex Houchin, Navy
- Sean Gardner, Law Enforcement
- Kyle Hefner, Air Force
- Regan Hefner, Air Force
- Mason Jensen, Navy
- Calvin Johnson, Air Force
- Rachel Mildenhall, Marines
- Scott Nelson, Army
- Tyler Nielson, Navy
- Nick Richards, Law Enforcement
- Steven Richards, Army
- Travis Roeder, Air Force
- Brent Wiese, Army
- Craig Wylie, Law Enforcement
- Sandra Wylie, Law Enforcement
- Jennifer Zeitler and Marcus Hough, Air Force



|                   | June 7 | June 14 | June 21 | June 28 |
|-------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>Attendance</b> | 0      | 10      | 30      | n/a     |

Hosanna Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 301  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048  
(402) 296-2662

**Ministers:**

All Members

**Pastor:**

Jim Spanjers 616-7909  
E-mail: hl\_pastor@windstream.net

**Council President:** Bob Wills

**Director Of Care Ministry:**

Grace Weisz 297-0975

**Director of Under His Wings**

**Baby Pantry and Thrift Shop:**

Claudia Wylie 802-7115

**Church Office:**

Diana Lindensmith 296-2662

**E-Mail:**

hosannalutheran@windstream.net

Find us on Facebook!

Hosanna Lutheran Church Elca

On the Web:

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



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*July* ★★

*We welcome all people to worship God  
by offering our lives in daily witness  
to the love of Jesus Christ.*

