

From The Pastor's Desk: On the New Year

Happy New Year everybody! 2021 is over, and 2022 is set to begin. As many do around this time of year, we think about everything that has happened over the past year and all that is to come in the upcoming year.

So as you reflect over the past year, how do you feel? Did you accomplish all that you hoped you would in 2021? How well did you stick to those New Year's Resolutions that you made a year ago? Keep thinking. How have you changed, how have you stayed the same? Is there something that you would like to do differently in 2022?

No matter how you answer those questions, hear this word from John the Baptist, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand (Matt. 3:2)." Repent is a fantastic word to use as we start the new year. However, I challenge you not to hear it as a command given to you by John the Baptist, your preacher, or even Christ himself. Hear this word "repent" as it is written in the original language of Greek: μετανοέω (metanoeó for those of you who don't read ancient Greek), to be changed. Repent, be changed, for Christ has been given for you! Repent, be changed, because Christ has taken all your sins, yes, all of them, taken them to the grave, and buried them while He defeated death itself. Repent,

be changed, because you have been marked with the cross of Christ, sealed with the Holy Spirit, and claimed by the Father as His own!

There is much to be said about 2021, good and bad. But know this: As Christ is in you and you are in Christ, everything is done and made according to God's will. Each year, each month, and yes, every day that you wake up saying, "today is going to be a new day" will in fact be a new day! The Apostle Paul writes, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come (2 Cor. 5:17)."

What glorious news that is as we look toward the new year! In Christ's name, we are continuously made new. Christ was, is, and forever will be here for you. May you know that each and every day. May you hear and feel God's love with you wherever 2022 may take you. Let His grace fill you with peace far greater than we can comprehend.

This is most certainly true.

In Christ, Pastor Max



Church Scrapbook Update

Tammy Sorensen would like to remind everyone that we do have a Church Scrapbook that she updates. She is looking for any old memories, pictures, obituaries, etc of church memories/members. You can also submit pictures to her for anything that happens at the church. Thank you! Tammy's email is tsorens@iw.net.

January 2022 Newsletter

Coming Up In January



Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on January 16th after church. Please have annual reports to Scott Larsen by January 9th. Scott's email is slarsen72@hotmail.com.

We will be having a potluck also to welcome our new members, so please bring something to share with everyone.

SVLC Announcements

REMINDER: January through May Worship Service will now be at 10:30AM with Sunday School at 9:15AM

TIME SWITCH!! January 23rd Worship will be at 9:00AM and Sunday School at 10:15AM to accommodate OSLC's annual meeting.

Jan 5, 2022 Confirmation & VCIS resumes regular scheduling

Recurring Calendar

Sundays

Sunday School 9:15AM Worship Service 10:30AM

Wednesdays

Bible Study 7:30AM at Parson Insurance Wednesdays with God (starting 1/12) 3:45PM grades 1 - 6 Confirmation Meal (5:30PM) & Group (6:00PM) VCIS at 7:00PM PM (7 – 12 Grades)

First Sunday of the Month

Council Meeting

Communion Services

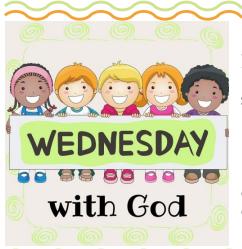
1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

Traditional Non-Communion Service

2nd Sunday

Contemporary Service

4th Sunday



NEW ACTIVITY!! Wednesdays with God (JR. VCIS)

Starting January 12 3:45PM - 4:45PM, 1st-6th Grade Wednesday With God (title pending). We are rolling out Wednesday activities for our elementary age kids! We will spend time together learning more about the Bible, singing songs, playing games, and eating snacks too!

Children from both congregations are encouraged to come! We will meet at OSLC .

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Helpers Schedule

Worship Service Helpers

Jan2

Reader: Karen LarsenAcolytes: No acolytes

· Live Stream:

· Music: Annet Kropuenske

· Communion Helper: Ryder Christensen

Jan 9

· Reader: Janet Munkvold

· Acolytes: Reagan & Nora Rudd

· Live Stream:

· Organist/Pianist: Annet Kropuenske

Jan 16

· Reader: Faydra Christensen

· Acolytes: Carston & Lincoln Mellem

· Live Stream:

· Organist/Pianist: Annet Kropuenske

· Communion Helper: Riley Gall

Jan 23

· Reader: Charlene Overgard

· Acolytes: Brooklyn & Emily Ludens

· Live Stream:

· Music: Praise Band

Jan 30

· Reader: Faydra Christensen

· Acolytes: Reagan & Nora Rudd

· Live Stream:

· Organist/Pianist: Annet Kropuenske

· Communion Helper: Parker Christensen

January Church Cleaners

Jan 2

Pam, Ludens, Sarah Ludens, Lynne Elcock, Tammy Sorensen, and Kari Novak

Jan 9

Annet Kropuenske, Karen Larsen, Beth Mellem, Melissa Johnson

Jan 16

Annet Kropuenske, Karen Larsen, Beth Mellem, Melissa Johnson

Jan 23

Sandra Swensen, Gail Anderson, Dawn Kludt, Audrey Kost

Jan 30

Sandra Swensen, Gail Anderson, Dawn Kludt, Audrey Kost

January Ushers

- Kenny Jensen and Gail Jensen
- · Robert Jensen
- · Kevin and Kaye Lee
- · Elaine Lee and Brenda Lee

VCIS December Recap



The Youth Group of Our Saviors and Spring Valley have been busy in the month of December. They held a Christmas Carnival night where they invited parents to drop off their children, and the youth members would rovide a night of fun for the kids while the parents had a night to accomplish

anything they needed. The Youth Group had movies, crafts, food, games, gingerbread houses, etc. to keep the kids occupied. Parents then gave a free will donation. Thank you to all who brought their children and donated money.

The Youth Group also held a Lock In for members. The kids had a great time having a lot of fun. Thank you Pastor Max and other who helped chaperone. Thank you also to all of you who donated food to keep them all feed. They are a hungry bunch!



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