



LIVING HOPE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Living Hope Presbyterian Church seeks to inspire and empower through the Gospel.

From the Pastor...

November/December 2020 Newsletter

We've just made it through Halloween and already the stores have some of their Christmas items on display and, at my house, we're getting the Christmas catalogs. It's time to get ready for the holidays all these signs are telling us. But this year things are going to be very different. Traci and I already know that our typical Christmas day dinner with friends who are like family is out the window. Thanksgiving is definitely going to be different. Christmas Eve, with the service being broadcast, will feel different since the candle lighting will not be possible with the lighting requirements. All the typical celebration of the holidays seems to be slipping away.

So how do we approach the coming holiday season? With disappointment and sadness about what is lost. Sure. If you need to do that, then do that. It's okay, even appropriate, to mourn what we will miss out on this year, because it is a loss. And we can also take this year to look at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's as something different. Instead of expecting the parties, the get-togethers, the exuberant joy, maybe we look at these holy days as just that, days dedicated to God, dedicated to listening for that still, small voice, that is God's Spirit at work within us. For Thanksgiving, marvel at all of the things that there are to be thankful for, even in a pandemic where so much has been turned upside down. For Christmas, consider the still small life that was born in a humble, out of the way place and how that one life changed the world. For New Year's, take some time to look ahead, not think about the typical resolutions to lose weight, but what would God be pleased to see you do over the coming year and make a couple of concrete plans for how you would do this.

This time of COVID is pushing us all to be more internal. So, why not, for just this year, embrace it. Take the holiday internal too, using it for contemplation and nurturing the spirit within. This suggestion is definitely more difficult for some of us than others. Introverts may actually be celebrating this time while extroverts feel like they might fall to pieces. Even so, this internal focus is one of the traditions of Christianity with the major holy days of the church having aspects of both external celebration and internal contemplation. Maybe this year we need to focus on the one we don't spend as much time with and find new dimensions of the holidays.

In Christ,

Official Notice

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 6

On Zoom following Worship



Zoom Class

Sunday School students and teachers have been meeting before worship via Zoom for the last two months. We have been discussing the power of prayer and the Protestant Reformation. Ongoing topic discussions will include increasing our understanding of the Christian

Church year and living our Christian faith in these trying times. We will begin an Advent Bible study entitled "Prepare Ye" during our next meeting on November 22. Sunday,

Sunday, November 22 Begin "Prepare Ye" Bible Study

Sunday, December 6 Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mission Project

We have been very mindful of the many needs of our neighbors locally, nationally & internationally. The students have committed to again assisting our Christmas Clearing Council family from last year. They also would like to be able to contribute to additional causes they have discussed and feel are important. Traditionally, this would be the time of year the students would hold a "Cents-a-bility" Sunday fundraising event. In its place, Session has approved a fundraiser to help make their mission projects and interests become a reality.



The Sunday School Mission Projects fundraiser will begin on **Sunday, November 15** and run through **Sunday, December 6**. If you would like to make a contribution, please **make a check out to LHPC and write "SS fundraiser" in the memo portion**. The students are hoping to collect enough to help our family with their many needs and contribute to one or two more projects of interest through Presbyterian Mission.

If you have any questions, please contact Marcia at 262-827-9273.

Thank you in advance for your support!!!

If you are interested in knowing what is happening with the students, feel free to "Zoom In" using the worship link at 9:00. on November 22, December 6 and December 20. We would love to have you join us!!

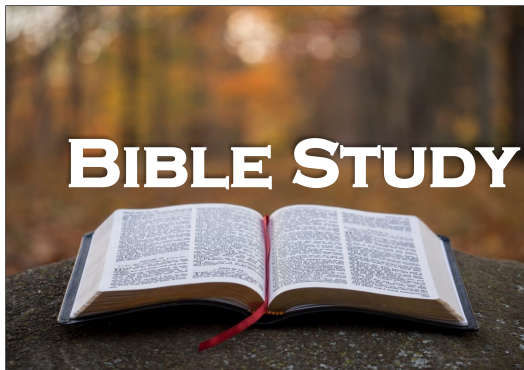
Marcia Sinner, Chair, Christian Education Committee



Donations for Poinsettias/ Sunday School Mission Project

As we continue to worship remotely for the health and well being of all, the Worship Committee would like to enhance the worship space with a few large poinsettias.

We encourage you to make a donation to the Sunday School Mission Project in lieu of the annual poinsettia purchase – you can donate in honor or in memory of someone – and we will list your remembrances as usual in our Christmas Worship Bulletin.



Monday Bible Study

Mondays at 9:40 AM

Join us for a discussion in Fellowship Hall or watch on Channel 966 about the coming Sunday's lectionary readings.

(If we cannot meet in person, the Bible Study will become a Zoom Meeting.)

Lesson Date and Passages:

For Sunday:

11/9	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30	11/15
11/16	Ephesians 4:1-16; Matthew 25: 31-46	11/22
11/23	Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-37 (Advent 1)	11/29
11/30	Isaiah 40:1-11; Mark 1:1-8 (Advent 2)	12/6
12/7	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Luke 1:46-55 (Advent 3)	12/13
12/14	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:26-45 (Advent 4)	12/20

Bible Study will be off Dec 21 and 28. We will resume January 4, 2021

Friday Church History Study

Fridays at 10:00 AM

Join us for a discussion in Fellowship Hall or watch on Channel 966.(If we cannot meet in person, the Church History Study will become a Zoom Meeting.)

Date	Chapters	Page Numbers	
		1984 ed	2010 ed
November 6	The Early Church Review		
November 13	Constantine through The Monastic Reaction	112-150	129-172
November 20	The Schismatic Reaction: Donatism through The Great Cappadocians	151-188	173-218
Thanksgiving Break			
December 4	Ambrose of Milan through The End of an Era	189-221	219-262
December 11	The Imperial Church Review		
Christmas Break			
January 8, 2021	The New Order through Eastern Christianity	222-265	263-314

**The Care and Concern
of the Congregation is with:**



**Every Friday
at 9:30 AM**

We are "off" on Thanksgiving weekend, Christmas and New Year's Day.

1) ZOOM Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2338090285?pwd=b0kxODhIOU9HVEFOZmI2SEd6eEQ3QT09>

2) Call in on any of these numbers with your phone:

+1 (312) 626-6799 (Chicago #).

+1 (346) 248-7799 US (Houston, TX)

Meeting ID # - 233 809 0285 Password: 1234



Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? Please let the office know so we can update our files.

November , December , and Epiphany

Sun, Nov 15 – Thank Offering
Session

Start Sunday School collection

Sun, Nov 22 – 9:00 am Sunday School
Pledge Dedication Sunday
Thanksgiving

Sun, Nov 29 – 1st Sunday in Advent

Look for a navy blue envelope in the mail
around Thanksgiving – enclosed are the
Advent Devotional for 2020 and poems from
A Sanctified Art.

Sun, Dec 6 – 9:00 am Sunday School
(End SS collection)
2nd Sunday in Advent
Worship with Communion
Congregational Meeting

Sun, Dec 13 – 3rd Sunday in Advent
Session

Sun, Dec 20 – 9:00 am Sunday School
4th Sunday in Advent

Th, Dec 24 – 6:30 pm Christmas Eve
Worship

Sun, Dec 27 – Worship

Sun, Jan 3, 2021 – Worship with
Communion –

Deacons will be delivering juice
and bread as we did for World
Communion Sunday in October.



LIVING HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Office hours: remote – as needed

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Session Members

Dorothy Dieter, Barb Foy, Joe Fresch, Curtis MacDonald, Bruce Parker, Marcia Sinner

Deacon Members (designated last names)

(A-B) - Tom Tennyson

(G-K) - Diane DeBoer - moderator

(P-R) LaVonne Gardner

(C-F) - Karen Stephan

(L-O) - Ann Tennyson

(S-Z) - Ken DeBoer