

From the Pastor

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year! Yes, you read that right. And, no I'm not off my rocker. I'm just a worship nerd. Did you know that this month we will celebrate a new Church Year? Not all cultures celebrate the new calendar year in January, and neither does the Christian Church. The Christian Church Year always begins on the Sunday that falls four Sundays before Christmas. This year, that date is November 28th.

You might ask, why have a Church Year? Really, it is for the same reason we keep track of calendar years. It gives order and structure to our lives. Just like the different months and seasons give order and structure to our every-day life, the Church Year gives order and structure to our worship life. Instead of basing that structure on months like October and November, the Church Year is structured around seasons like Advent, Christmas, or Easter. Let's take a closer look at the Church Year:

Advent | The Church Year starts with the four-week season of "Advent." "Advent" is a Latin word that means, "Coming." During this time of the Church Year, we focus on the fact that God's people wait for Jesus to come. Old Testament people were waiting for the Messiah to be born. New Testament people like us are waiting for Christ to return a second time.

Christmas | After four weeks of watching and waiting for the coming Christ, the church celebrates his birth. In the Church Year, Christmas is not just a one-day event! The season of Christmas lasts for twelve days until we get to the third season.

Epiphany | The word "Epiphany" is a Greek word that means, "appearance." This season begins on January 6th every year and we remember the Wise Men who came to Jerusalem because a star had "appeared" in the sky. These men knew that with the appearing of the star, a great king had appeared.

Lent | During the season of Lent, the Church follows Jesus on his walk to the cross. The word "Lent" comes from the old English word, "Lengthen" and refers to the time of the year when days begin to lengthen. Lent is a time of somber reflection on our savior's suffering and death. Lent is a 40-day journey where the Christian walks with Jesus to the cross.

Easter | After 40 days of somber reflection, the church breaks forth in jubilant celebration at the Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord. On this day, the Church exclaims, "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!" This festival is the highlight of the Christian Church Year.

Season after Pentecost | Advent through Easter comprise the festival half of the Church Year and the Season after Pentecost comprises the non-festival half. During these six months the Church focuses on a strengthening and growth of faith by focusing on different teachings of Jesus.

There are other major and minor festivals that are celebrated throughout the church year. The Transfiguration of our Lord, the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, All Saints Day, the Feast of the Holy Innocents are a few of them. This year, we will celebrate Christ the King on the last Sunday of the Church Year (November 21st). On that Sunday, we will celebrate the end of the Church Year in a unique way to see how the seasons and major and minor festivals all work together to show us that Christ is the king of the Church Year. I hope to see you there!

Happy New Year!
Pastor Spaude

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Jerusalem Lutheran and St. Matthew's Lutheran

Jerusalem Lutheran and St. Matthew's Lutheran are two sister churches serving the Morton Grove and Niles communities. Regardless of which location, you will sing the same songs and hear the same readings and message. For your convenience, three service times are offered on Sunday morning at the times and locations below.

8:00am – Jerusalem Campus
9:30am – St. Matthew's Campus
11:00am – Jerusalem Campus

We continue to livestream the 8:00 am service at Jerusalem:

Here is the link to our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWzPzwN7HAE3BLM4ZpybHkQ>

Here is the link to our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/JerusalemMortonGrove/>

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our next congregational meeting will be Sunday, October 31st after the 11:00 am service. Reports about the ministry of our church and school will be presented. Contact the church office if you would like an electronic copy of the reports.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Our Thanksgiving worship service will be here at Jerusalem on Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00 pm. All are invited to a special pie fellowship hour immediately following Wednesday's service. Donations of pies to share would be appreciated.

The same service (songs, readings and message) will be held at St. Matthew's, Niles, on Thursday, November 25th at 10:00 am.



PASTOR ERNEST'S INSTALLATION AT JERUSALEM

Pastor Ernest's installation will be on Sunday, December 5th at 4:00 p.m. with a potluck supper to follow. Pastor Frank Italiano from Crete will be the guest preacher.

Save the Date: Advent Prayer Breakfast Saturday, December 4 at 9:00 am

All ladies are invited to join in a morning filled with the Word and song along with fellowship and food as we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior's birth. Look for more information coming out soon.



GREETINGS FROM PASTOR ERNEST

Hello Members of Jerusalem Lutheran Church and School!

Thank you to all of you who reached out to me and have been in communication with me as my family and I transition to Morton Grove! If you didn't have the opportunity previously, I can't wait to get to visit with you after my arrival. Details in that regard are still being worked out.

I wanted to introduce myself and my family to you in a brief way before we arrive. Here are a few things to know about us:



- Jerusalem will be my fourth Call and fifth congregation in the ministry. I previously served at St. Paul's in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin; Glory to God in Tinley Park and Our Redeemer in Grant Park, Illinois; and King of Kings in Garden Grove, California (right next to Disneyland in Orange County).
- I've been serving as a Pastor since my graduation from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 2003. My wife, Lori, graduated from Martin Luther College and began serving as a teacher in 1998 (St. Paul's in Cudahy, Wisconsin). I graduate from Martin Luther College in 1999 and we were married that summer.
- We have four children that were born throughout our places of ministry in four different states. Our oldest, Ethan, was born when I was a Vicar in Litchfield, Minnesota. He is now a Sophomore at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota studying mechanical engineering. Owen was born right before my graduation from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He is a Freshman at University of Wisconsin – Whitewater and is studying Occupational Safety (and he will be quick to point out that in pictures of our family, he is the tallest – the rest are self-explanatory). Kessiah was born a year before we left California. She is eager to complete 8th grade year and attend Luther Prep for high school. Austin, a 6th grader, was born a year after we arrived in Tinley Park.
- I grew up in Michigan and have also lived near Atlanta, in Mississippi, in Ohio and in Pennsylvania. My grandparents (and now my parents) live just to the southeast of Detroit. Lori's parents live in Lake Mills, Wisconsin (just to the northwest of Fort Atkinson). So I've covered most of the major cities in the U.S. That has placed me in 8 of the 12 districts of the WELS.
- Sports of all kinds and levels of participation has been a component of our family. I have been a soccer referee at club level and high school level for over 5 years. I am a Chicago Bears fan, but my house is divided with Lori and Ethan (and usually Austin) rooting for the Packers. Fortunately, my daughter roots for my team. Owen is a Vikings fan. As for the rest of the sports, I root for Michigan teams, Lori roots for the Cubs, and the kids are somewhere in between.
- I love woodworking and photography when I have the time. Lori loves crafting of all sorts (especially sewing). We enjoy getting out in nature as a family. We have 2 cats and a saltwater fish tank. Kessiah has a hedgehog as well.

I realize that is a lot of information, but I love to talk so this will save you hours of me talking when we meet. I would love to talk about any of it whenever you like, but I'll be eager to hear about your stories and experiences. I'm looking forward to the discussions and opportunities we will have for ministry and where we can grow as a congregation. We are excited for our first service and introduction to all of you when we arrive. Just bear with me a bit as I have a real challenge in remembering everything (names in particular), especially when things are new.

That's it for now. God's Blessings
Pastor David Ernest and family

WELSSA BIBLE STUDY (WELS School Accreditation)

Sunday, November 14th 9:45 a.m. (In place of our usual Sunday Bible Study)

Our Christian School is one of the largest outreach arms of our congregation. Through God's blessings and the congregation's faithfulness, our school has grown to house more than 100 students daily. We would like to move forward and preach the Gospel to more students and families. To do so, school improvement is vital. WELSSA is intended to provide a path for schools for growth.

On November 14th, we will host a group of WELS Commission on Lutheran School members for a presentation on the importance of school improvement and WELSSA accreditation to our members and school families. The presentation will focus on the WELSSA accreditation process and what our school needs to accomplish to be re-accredited by WELSSA. We hope to see you there!

We welcome new member Andrew Messer to the Jerusalem family.

Daylight Saving Time Ends at 2:00 am Sunday, November 7th

Set your clocks back an hour Saturday night!

BLOCKTOBERFEST (September 26, 2020)

Thanks to Blocktoberfest organizers and volunteers! It was a beautiful day, and church and school families enjoyed fellowship, delicious food, and awesome games.





School News

Congratulations Cross Country Runners!

Jerusalem runners competed against area Lutheran school students in Bolingbrook at our first ever Cross Country meet. Everyone finished well, and some even won medals. Great work, everyone!



Eagles of the week

Students are selected by faculty members to be recognized as Eagles of the week. Students in preschool through 8th grade are chosen based on their Christ-like attitude and academic effort.

Congratulations to our Eagles of the week for October:

Lincoln Rathunde
Giovanni Ceisel
Audrey Mandell
Matthew Chalabi
Lani Naka
Jesse Ceriale
Christian Marbo
Maya Mehra
Charlotte Yoo
Emma Miron
Kai Naka
Benjamin Waterloo
Luke Lazarvitch
EunAe Ra
Josiah Viruet

Students in Preschool and Kindergarten participated in a four session Fire Safety and Prevention Program presented by the Morton Grove Fire Department.

Firefighter Rick Dobrowski shows the Fire Safety house to preschoolers



Open House

Precious Child Early Learning Center and Jerusalem School Kindergarten will be holding two Open House events for prospective families to visit and learn about our programs. Enrollment applications will be available. The first Open House will be Tuesday, December 7th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. The second will be Saturday, February 5th from 9:00 to 11:00 am. **Applications will be accepted beginning December 7th at the Open House.**

Invite your friends and neighbors with small children to visit PreK-K classrooms and meet our staff.

Jerusalem Evangelical

Lutheran Church

6218 Capulina Ave
Morton Grove, IL 60053

Vacancy Pastor: Paul Spaude
Phone: 847-965-7340
Email: pastor@jerusalemlutheran.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday 8:00 and 11:00 am
Online Worship on Facebook and YouTube

*“Our purpose is to serve all people
with the gospel of Jesus Christ on
the basis of Holy Scripture”*

Thanksgiving Worship

Jerusalem

Wednesday, November 24th

7:00 pm



St. Matthew's

Thursday, November 25th

10:00 am