
CONNECTION

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Mesquite, TX

May 2020

SO YOU STILL DON'T ACKNOWLEDGE EVOLUTION?

We are watching evolution in reverse before our very eyes. It's happening! Soon we'll be back in the 60s. After another month without haircuts, hippies will be everywhere again! Before we know it, cavemen (and women?) will stay sequestered in caves, only to wander out for food. Still don't believe in reverse evolution? Here's the proof:



Neanderthal



Cro-Magon



Homo Sapien



60's Hippie



Coronavirus Caveman

THE EVOLUTIONARY PROGRESS OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ON THE HUMAN RACE

Okay, I was only being sarcastic. Don't start ordering caveman clubs from Amazon. But the Church denied evolution for centuries. Some churches still do. Others refute climate change. Many "Christian" leaders have problems with scientific facts. Pat Robertson blamed Hurricane Katrina and the Las Vegas shooting on those cities' sins, and now blames the Coronavirus on same sex marriage. Copernicus and Galileo were all but crucified by the Church. Only in the past century have most church leaders repudiated false claims about a flat earth, earth-centric universe, and a 6 day creation, while others have built multi-million dollar museums to claim a world that is only 6,000 years old.

The Church's problem with science is real, but now the battle with science has shifted. Science's biggest naysayer is no longer the Church, but political leaders. Those with political power want to open all businesses. Science says wait. Political leaders want to pretend climate change is a hoax. Science shows us the facts. Yet, paradoxically, while denying science on most fronts, these same politicians are desperately counting on science to find a vaccine ... all the while hyping sunlight, disinfectants, and malaria drugs. At the precise moment we need science to bail us out of this pandemic, we trash clear scientific fact by lifting emission regulations on autos and factories.

And we individuals are not immune from this insanity. We trust a forwarded email or tweet over scientific fact. We value a facebook post over plain common sense. How many Russian bots do we have to get pulled in by ... hook, line, and sinker ... before we realize Facebook is not divinely inspired? How many conspiracy theorists, snake oil salesmen, and televangelists do we have to see exposed before we finally tune them out? Can 'enlightened America' finally concede that the earth is not flat, the moon landing wasn't faked, you can't inject bleach or Jim Bakker's \$89.99 silver elixir to cure coronavirus, Obama wasn't born in Nigeria, Kennedy is not still alive, and the moon is not made of cheese. (Even though some desperately want to believe that Elvis is still swiveling his hips on some remote Pacific Island!)

We undermine the integrity of the Church and the message of the Gospel when we deny science ... and depend on science ... in the same breath.

Evolutionary theories are not a threat to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. But we are a threat to our planet when we deny the science of climate change. People of faith and people of science can work together to get us through this pandemic and to respect the knowledge that both science and faith bring to make this world a better place—God's place of truth and love. Faith is surely God's greatest gift ... but might we see science as God's gift too?

Now, if you'll excuse me, I'd like to enjoy another plate of nachos with lunar cheese.

Send Us Your Hippie Pictures

If you lived during the age of long-haired hippies and let your own “freak flag fly”, send us your most outrageous long-haired picture my mail or email. We will display them by some method. Pastor Schelter’s pictures on the front page aren’t his best but he’s still looking. If you lived during that era, we’d love to see pictures of both men and women. Who knows? By the time the hair salon ban is lifted, we may put the 60’s to shame! We will judge all submissions in a type of photo contest. The person who looks most like Jesus will win the first prize.





Bring Long Hair Back Into Fashion... Along With Bell Bottoms, Psychedelic Script and Paisley Ties

Choose from the following options.

I pledge to not cut my hair until:

- A. The vaccine for the coronavirus is discovered
- B. The Rangers win the world series
- C. Ruth Bader Ginsburg celebrates her 120th birthday

Inquiring minds want to know ...

When Will We Return to In-Person Worship?

That’s the question for the folks of Our Savior after six weeks of on-line efforts and Governor Abbot’s lifting of the sheltering in place order. The answer is not simple.

We will honor the advice of the CDC, our Bishop, our elected officials, and our Church Council—probably in that order!

We will be guided, above all, by what is the most caring and loving thing to do for our congregation and our community to protect the most vulnerable and to witness that love in the fullest way at this time. We must always ask who we might be putting at risk by beginning public worship too soon or in the wrong way.

So here are the CDC guidelines:

- 14-days of declining symptoms
- 14-days of declining cases
- Hospitals able to treat all patients without crisis care
- Robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including emerging antibody testing



Although I am not sure about the patient load on our hospitals, our region has not met these guidelines. In fact, the number of confirmed new cases increased the day after our governor’s announcement.

Our bishop is still not recommending in-person worship. Bishop Gronberg’s letter on April 29th says, “My council to congregations in Texas remains. Until such time as there are 14 days of declining cases in your area, no in-person worship should take place.”

County Judge Clay Jenkins has also recommended care and caution that we do not re-open until we can ensure the safety and well-being of all concerned.

I know that we are eager to be together again in worship—no one more than I—however, we will monitor this with the church council and our parish nurse, Nancy Wilson, as well as your own thoughts and opinions. We sincerely welcome your input.

When worship does resume, we will practice extreme hygiene and social distancing. Those details will be outlined as they were for our last in-person worship on March 15th. We do not want to be the cause that imperils anyone’s health. The loss of even one life is not worth it. When in-person worship does resume, it will be up to each individual to decide if the time is right for them to publicly attend. Until further notice, keep in touch. Stay safe. Stay home. And stay secure in God’s love.

Birthdays

Date	Name
1	Herb Salmons
5	Marshall Hocker Bobbye NoLan
6	Rhonda Owens
7	Ryan DeShazo Gregory Folkmann
9	Jordan Castilleja
11	Ashlyn Williams
12	Vanessa Wood
13	Shari Murphy
14	Clinton Murphree
16	Paul Cross
20	Gabriel Rice
21	Remona Kurt
22	Elena Bohling
23	Denise Bartosh
24	Brian Murphy
25	James Bartosh
26	Bobbie Jean McClatchey Nicholas Zaragoza
28	Karley Lewis
30	Helen Henson
31	Brynna Williams

May



Baptisms

Date	Name
1	Glenda Hardi
4	Rigo Chavez
8	Corbin Zimmermann
11	Tessie Murphy
14	Jessica Davis
16	Elena Conoly Lou Mazza Timothy Murphy Baerbel Williams
19	Ann Williams
23	Harrison Helm Kirk Helm Charles Skyles
25	Michael Anthony Christa Schelter
30	Clinton Murphree
31	Paige Furr



Wedding Anniversaries

Date		Years
15	Jerry & Kaethe Combs	58
26	Jon & Beth Cook	2
26	Ken & Paula Hester	48
27	Steven & Kelly Belz	25
27	George & Bobbie NoLan	53

History repeats itself. Came across this poem written in 1869, reprinted during 1919 Pandemic.

This is Timeless....

And people stayed at home
 And read books
 And listened
 And they rested
 And did exercises
 And made art and played
 And learned new ways of being
 And stopped and listened
 More deeply
 Someone meditated, someone prayed
 Someone met their shadow
 And people began to think differently
 And people healed.
 And in the absence of people who
 Lived in ignorant ways
 Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,
 The earth also began to heal
 And when the danger ended and
 People found themselves
 They grieved for the dead
 And made new choices
 And dreamed of new visions
 And created new ways of living
 And completely healed the earth
 Just as they were healed.



-Thanks to Baerbel Williams for this submission

CONNECTION

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship—8:30am, 11:00am & 5:30pm

Sunday School—9:45am

Pastor—John Schelter

Non-Profit Org

U.S. Postage Paid

Mesquite Texas

Permit #98

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Zoom In for Bible Study



We're planning on setting up Zoom soon for bible studies or even meetings. If you would like to participate in a weekday bible study on Zoom or if you have other ideas about how Zoom meetings might keep us better connected, give us a Tweet, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, or... Ok, just give us a call.

Sunday Facebook Live Worship Continues

Every Sunday at 11am we will continue streaming our service. Even if you are not on Facebook, you may go to oslmesquite.org and copy and paste the link into your web browser. If you have trouble, call us and we'll walk you



through it (972-226-0510). There have been some technical difficulties, primarily with sound. If watching the service live does not work, you may always watch the video at a later time. Many, many thanks to Eric Nivens and his co-director, Raymond Jackman. Our readers and soloist have been magnificent and not enough can be said about the simple beauty of Loretta Cannon's flute music.