



October  
2020

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### *Thoughts from Pastor Stites*

#### **Old Norm vs. New Norm vs. NEW-NEW Norm**

At the beginning of this historic pandemic and lockdown, we were presented with opportunity and catastrophe. It was an opportunity for us to figure out what is REALLY important, and gave us the chance to do more than we did before. While it was also catastrophic for so many activities that we used to love, and now are left wondering if we will ever do them again.

Habits are those activities that are regular practices or tendencies. Common belief is that it can take as few as 5 days to start a new habit and 30+ days to stop a habit. Time aside, because of this lockdown, we have set aside many habits we used to have, and we have had plenty of time to pick up new ones.

As a Pastor, I look at habits within the Church. At the beginning of this lockdown, people looked forward to viewing and participating in many worship services and Bible Studies that they now had easy access to. But now months later, viewership is down, and not just because things have opened back up. And while it is easier to simply stay home than actually come to Church, numbers would say that some are not even doing the easy option.

As Pastor, I have to ask, what GOOD habits have we lost? What BAD habits have we picked up? And as things continue to open up, or things continue to drag out (depending on how you look at it), do we continue with the new norm, with all its good and bad habits? Or do we ask the question of ourselves, do I need to repent? Have I picked up bad habits? Do I need to pick up some good habits?

Paul said, **"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—PRACTICE THESE THINGS, and the God of peace will be with you."** (Phil. 4:8–9)

I am not asking you to go against your conscience or put your life in danger. But I am asking that you take some time and look at your life. Have you picked up some bad habits this past year? Have you simply accepted a new norm without asking if it is all good? And particularly, have you allowed yourself to practice bad habits, instead of striving to grow in faith, wisdom and understanding?

Repent, and strive for a NEW-NEW norm. Practice good and righteous activities, and have good habits going forward.

*Dear heavenly Father, have mercy upon us. Forgive us where we have strayed and fallen into sinful habits. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit to guide us and lead us in the sanctified life, and to be Your Word daily, to grow in faith and wisdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.*

*Pastor Jonathan Stites*

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**\*Phone numbers and addresses will no longer be published. Please use the church directory or call the church office @ 928-345-9694, if you need someone's number or address for an event\***



To maintain social distancing, when we reach 50 people in attendance, we will go to 2 services the following week. The service times will be as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Service w/ Communion @ 8:00am

Bible Study @ 9:30am

2<sup>nd</sup> Service w/ Communion @ 10:30am

**(We will send an email out, announcing the time change.)**



### Online Services & Bible Studies

We will continue uploading Sunday's Services and Bible Studies to our YouTube Channel, for anyone who doesn't feel comfortable attending at this time. You may click on the following link:

[Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page](#)

or search "Shepherd of the Hills Yuma" in YouTube.



Every Sunday morning @ 8:15am (9:30am when we go to 2 services)

Every Wednesday @ 9:30am, in the Fellowship Hall.

Online Bible Study will continue to be uploaded to YouTube every Wednesday. See above for link.



For the time being, the Women's Bible Study will be held at SOTH.

Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall.



### Sunday, October 25, 2020

10:45am - if we are still at 1 service

9:15am - if we go to 2 services (between services)



I hope everyone is getting through this year of turmoil. With God's help we can get through anything. LWML had its first meeting on September 9<sup>TH</sup>. We discussed the calendar of events for 2020-2021. Many events are still to be determined depending on the lessening of restrictions.



With the Covid epidemic and being quarantined, I hope you have spent that time with creative projects that can be donated for the Craft Fair. Not sure what changes we will need to make for set-up and procedures to adhere to the restrictions. A committee has been formed to hopefully find a workable solution for social distancing etc. We will unfortunately not be having a Bake Sale this year, but if you can help in other ways please let me know. Any and all crafts are needed: sewing, quilting, jewelry, ornaments, knitting, crocheting, and any other medium of art.



The Wednesday Bible Studies are being held on the first and third Wednesdays at 7:30 AM. For the time being we are meeting in the fellowship hall instead of homes. You are welcome to bring your own breakfast and beverage.

At this time the Fall Celebration has not been scheduled. LWML Sunday will be October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Blessings to everyone. *Sharie Jasper*



### Choir

No date to begin has been set at this time. Please pray that we will be able to join together in song in the near future.

\*LWML Calendar of Events for 2020-2021 is on the following page.\*

**LWML**  
**Calendar of events: 2020-2021**

September 9 -First LWML meeting 11 AM Fellowship Hall

October 14- LWML meeting 11 AM with brown bag lunch

October 18 - LWML Sunday

November 7- LWML Craft Sale

November 11- LWML meeting 11 AM with brown bag lunch

November 26- Thanksgiving

December – LWML Christmas luncheon - TBD

December 9- LWML meeting time TBD with brown bag lunch

January 13, 2020- LWML meeting 11 AM with brown bag lunch

January 15-16 -Yard Sale 7-12

February 10-LWML meeting 11 AM with brown bag lunch

February TBD -Sweethearts and Singles Dinner

March 10- LWML meeting time TBD with brown bag lunch

March -Spring Tea 1:30 PM - TBD

April 4- Easter

April 14- LWML meeting 11 AM with brown bag lunch

April –Spring Celebration??? TBD

May 2- End of season Potluck

Women's Bible study- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 7:30 AM

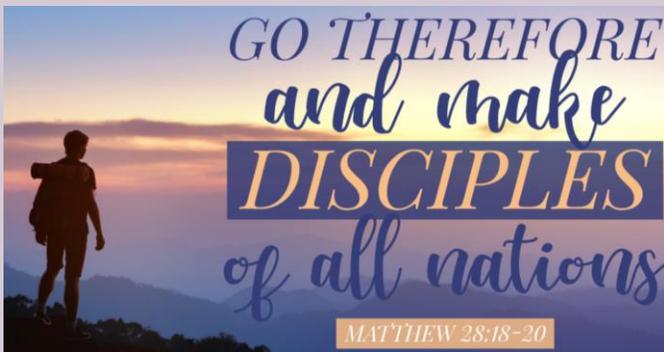
Thursday 9:30 AM TBD

Quilting for charities Tuesday mornings at 9 AM beginning 10/20/20



## SOTH Evangelism News

**Evangelism is a very important part of a healthy congregation.**



Every one of the body of Christ is committed to participate for the body to remain functional. We are asked to do what scripture tells us in Matthew 28:19: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...". We are to boldly approach the people outside the Church to come hear and see what the Savior offers. God's blessing as we reach out to friends, neighbors, and strangers to share the good news of Christ's love and forgiveness. This is our mission.

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**Want an easy way to increase your donation at no cost to you?**



**Fry's Community Rewards®** makes helping Yuma Community Food Bank Easy...all you have to do is shop at Fry's Food Stores and swipe your V.I.P. Card!

Designate Yuma Community Food Bank through the Fry's Community Rewards:

- Visit [www.frysfood.com/topic/new-community-rewards-program](http://www.frysfood.com/topic/new-community-rewards-program)
- Enroll Now/Create an Account
- In the Find Your Organization search box enter Yuma Community Food Bank and Click **Enroll**. By doing so Fry's will make a donation based on the amount spent using your V.I.P. Card!

**SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
August 19, 2020**

The August 19, 2020 Council Meeting was cancelled due to too many Council Members not being able to attend.

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**SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
September 6, 2020**

Attendees: Sharie Jasper, Rob and Sue Cairns by email, Dick Koppe, Winnie and Bob Engelhardt, Jon Weeks, Kelly Hinrichs, Esther Foster, Brad Erickson by phone and Beverly Ferguson.

President Jon Weeks called the meeting to order at 10:45am.

Pastor Stites opened with prayer. He informed us that Freedom Baptist church would like to rent our fellowship hall for classes. Discussion followed. A vote was called and passed not to rent the hall as we are beginning our meetings again and also an insurance problem. Pastor Stites and the Elders want to know if we should continue with the health regulations. Beverly Ferguson moved to continue wearing masks. Dick Koppe seconded. Motion carried.

President Jon Weeks adjourned the meeting at 11:05 am.

Pastor Stites led us in the Lord's Prayer.

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**To be reviewed and approved at the Council Meeting in October.**

**SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
September 23, 2020**

Attendees: Jon Weeks, Beverly Ferguson, Pastor Stites, Sharie Jasper, Kelly Hinrichs, Dick Koppe, Bob Engelhardt and Esther Foster.

President Jon Weeks called the meeting to order at 11 am.

Pastor Stites opened with prayer.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the July 15th meeting were distributed. Sharie Jasper moved to accept minutes. Dick Koppe seconded. Motion carried. August 19th meeting was cancelled. September 6th special council meeting minutes were distributed. Esther Foster moved to accept minutes. Dick Koppe seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Copies of the July Income & Expense Report and Balance Sheet were distributed for review. Dick Koppe moved to accept the treasurer's report. Bob Engelhardt seconded. Motion carried. August Income and Expense Report and Balance Sheet were distributed. Dick Koppe moved to accept the treasurer's report. Beverly Ferguson seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: He reported that we are going week to week concerning the services. We are slowly introducing bible studies and using the hymnals and service folders. When we reach 50 members attending church, we will go to two services 8:00am and 10:30am with 9:30am Sunday School. Fellowship hall is now being used for LWML and Wednesday Bible Study and the ladies 7:30am bible study. He will encourage the members to get the virus vaccine when available.

President's Report: No Report

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Vice President's Report: No Report

Elder's Report: Dick Koppe reported that they made 109 calls over the last two months. He has called the other elders and their churches are not open. Men's bible study and readers for the services will begin in October.

Trustee's Report: Bob Engelhardt reported that he sent a letter to Mr. Mendoza, (gentleman who did the painting and was to do the tile work) asking why he has not finished the work and there has not been any response. He will follow up on Mr. Mendoza. Cal Richardson has offered to help with repairs at the church.

Evangelism Report: Winnie Moir resigned from the evangelism committee. Esther Foster is planning to keep doing the food drive for the military.

Stewardship Report: No Report

Education: No report

Administrative: Kelly Hinrichs reported that she had called the pest control to spray. They noted that we need to seal the bottom of the doors. She contacted Verizon as they were not paying \$659 a month as was contracted. They will send June-September payments. She has applied for forgiveness for the Pay Check Protection Program Loan and is waiting to hear back from the Small Business Administration. Her husband Paul will be having knee surgery in the near future, so she may have to take a few days off.

Old Business: By-Laws were discussed and changes were suggested. We will finish with the changes the next meeting.

New Business: Sharie Jasper said that we need to have a proper nominating committee which includes the vice-president, one council member and one member of the congregation. Dick Koppe moved to make Esther Foster chairwoman for the evangelism committee for the rest of the term. Sharie Jasper seconded. Motion carried.

Sharie Jasper moved to adjourn. Dick Koppe seconded. Motion passed.

President Jon Weeks adjourned the meeting at 12:30 pm.

Pastor Stites led us with the Lord's Prayer.

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### Elder's Corner



If you can wear your mask to the store  
to feed your body,

then,

you can wear your mask to church to  
feed your soul!



**I wear a mask to protect you, you wear a mask to protect others.**



### October Birthdays

NICHOLS, Marcia	10/02	KAISER, Gary	10/18
STEWART, Pat	10/03	ABEL, Lu	10/23
STITES, Pastor Jonathan	10/06	BELAU, Roger	10/24
KAISER, Linda	10/15	CAIRNS, Rob	10/24
OHLAND, Sharon	10/16	SCHOTT, Sandy	10/25
HINDMAN, Irene	10/18		



### October Anniversaries

HUNT, Larry & Lana (15)	10/21
JUNKER, Gene & Cyndy (54)	10/29



### FOOD BANK

August  
\$304

SEASON TOTAL  
January - December  
\$2691

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you.

**Deuteronomy 16:17**

### Stewardship Corner

As we express our Christian faith through our giving and serving, God is pleased. God notices every act of compassion and kindness that we express. Even the simple gesture of giving a cup of cold water to a thirsty person is an act God blesses. Through our faith, we are empowered to do acts of service. When we act in response to the Lord and not for recognition, God blesses us. Having already been assured of salvation by God's grace through faith, blessings such as peace, contentment, patience, and hope are added rewards. May God bless us as we give food to the hungry and water to the thirsty.

**Did you know we have a Website? Go to [www.sothyuma.org](http://www.sothyuma.org)**



You can view our monthly newsletter by going to the Connect tab and click on Newsletter. You can also listen to previous sermons (uploaded weekly when available) by going to the Sermon tab and clicking on the date you would like to hear.

# October 2020 at SOTH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>*Please note that, due to Covid 19, when we reach 50 people in attendance, we will be going to 2 services the following week.*</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1 Service – 9:30am w/ Bible Study @ 8:15am</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2 Services - 1<sup>st</sup> Service @ 8:00am Bible Study @ 9:30am 2<sup>nd</sup> Service @ 10:30am</p> <p><b>**Voter's Meeting: If we remain at 1 Service the Voters' Meeting, on October 25<sup>th</sup>, will be @ 10:45am If we go to 2 services, the Voter's Meeting, on October 25<sup>th</sup>, will be held @ 9:15am.</b></p>				1	2	3
<p>4</p> <p>8:15am Adult Bible Study 9:30am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>Online Service available after 1:00pm - click on following link: <a href="#">Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page</a></p>	5	<p>6</p> <p>9:00am Elder's Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Online Bible Study - click on following link: <a href="#">Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page</a></p>	8	9	10
<p>11</p> <p><b>*See note above for service times</b></p> <p>Online Service available after 1:00pm - click on following link: <a href="#">Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page</a></p>	 <p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am Pastor Circuit Meeting @ Calvary</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30am Adult Bible Study 11:00am LWML Monthly Meeting w/brown bag lunch</p> <p>Online Bible Study - click on following link: <a href="#">Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page</a></p>	15	16	17
<p>18</p> <p>LWML Sunday <b>*See note above for service times</b></p> <p>Online Service available after 1:00pm - click on following link: <a href="#">Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page</a></p>	19	<p>20</p> <p>9:00am LWML Quilting for Charities</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Adult Bible Study 11:00am Council Meeting</p> <p>Online Bible Study - click on following link: <a href="#">Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page</a></p>	22	23	24
<p>25</p> <p>Reformation Sunday <b>*See note above for service times</b></p> <p>Voters' Meeting - <b>**see note at top of page**</b></p> <p>Online Service available after 1:00pm - click on following link: <a href="#">Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mite Box Collection</p>	26	<p>27</p> <p>9:00am LWML Quilting for Charities</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:30am Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Online Bible Study - click on following link: <a href="#">Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page</a></p>	29	30	 <p>31</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reformation Day</p>