

Lebanon Lutheran Church August Newsletter 2020

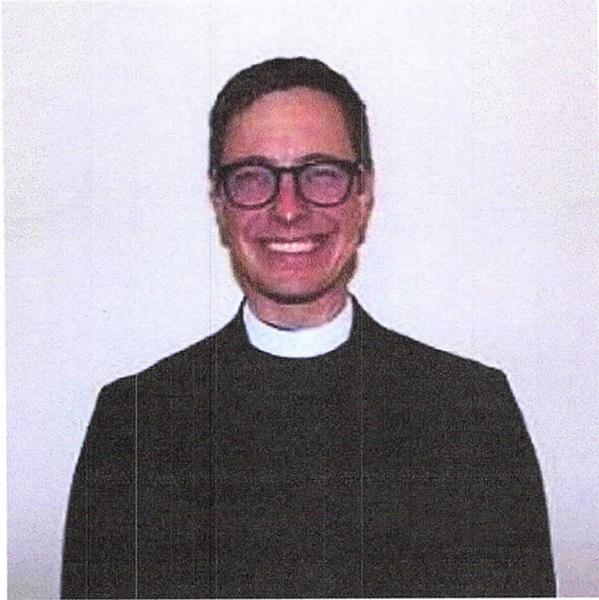
*Sunday School 9:30am.
Worship Service 11:00am.
Phone (540) 465-5456*

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Lebanon Church Va. 22641
Email: pastor.lebanon@gmail.com*



NALC

North American Lutheran Church



Pastor Christopher Porter

A Message From The Desk Of The Pastor

Revelation 7:9–12 (ESV): After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

What is the book of Revelation to you? For many it remains a cryptic menagerie of strange signs and symbols awaiting the intrepid decoding efforts of evangelists and other self-qualified hawkers of religion. For some, it is a terrible and vindictive book about Jesus beating up those who rejected Him in life. For others, it is simply a closed book, better to never directly encounter – as it may lead to greater and greater perplexity. And perhaps for most, it is a book that is not really known at all, but which is often invoked and from which curious ideas like “rapture”, “tribulation”, “millennium” emanate. [In reality, the term “rapture” does not appear in the work at all.]

I don’t really think any of these are terribly accurate when one considers the writing itself, its overall message, and its continuing relevance for Christians. If I were to give it a go, I’d say something like “the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John is a form of apocalyptic prophecy, in letter form, meant to sustain, comfort, and challenge various churches in their continuing adherence to the Person of Jesus Christ.”

That's a mouthful, and I plan to unpack it in a ZOOM class that will begin on August 10th at 7pm. We will use Michael J. Gorman's *Reading Revelation Responsibly: Uncivil Worship and Witness: Following the Lamb into the New Creation* and Beale's *Shorter Commentary on Revelation*.

For any who are interested, I highly recommend getting a copy of Gorman's book and reading ahead. It's engaging, with brief chapters that end with reflection questions. I will use the Kindle version in the class, as well as my own materials and some other forms of media (I have a few helpful YouTube resources).

I am convinced that Revelation is a wonderful witness to Jesus Christ and to the cosmic implications of His Life and present reign. It can be responsibly brought to bear on our lives – it can be a means of the Spirit's power. It can speak to our deepest concerns, fears, and contemporary conundrums, and when we neglect it or allow others to foist alien ideas upon it, we lose something valuable.

In the meantime, consider these little nuggets:

- The title of the "book" in question is Gk., *Apokalupsis Joannon*, "a revelation to John". This is what is known as a "superscription" (meaning "written above") and may have been added by a later scribe or editor. It is *singular*. There are many visions and other transports in the work, but it is all together one Revelation – one revealing of the Person Jesus Christ, as the first verse makes clear.
- Many texts from Revelation have found their way into the Church's regular worship... the Sanctus (in a particular form), the newer Lutheran addition that we call "This is the Feast" – technically called *Worthy is Christ*. The WOV canticle *Salvation Belongs to Our God* is also a near direct appropriation of texts from Revelation.
- It was "spoken against" (*antilegomenon*) by many in the early church and did not appear in some listings of the books of the New Testament. Luther also spoke against the writing, sometimes harshly.
- It is thoroughly saturated in references and allusions to the Old Testament, more than any other New Testament writing.

I hope you will join me in what I am sure will be a fascinating and edifying study of God's Word!

Prayerfully,

Pastor Porter

Coming Events at Lebanon

Sunday School Class led by Pastor J.D. is meeting at 9:30 on Sunday mornings at church. If you are unable to join us at church it is also available via Zoom.

*Please see Pastor J.D. for Zoom access info.

There will be an Outreach Meeting on Thursday, August 13th @ 6:00 at Church. Everyone is invited to attend.

August Birthday's
6th Libby Smoot

August Anniversaries

11th Robbie & Lisa Parks
21st Densil & Ruth Rickard

We are searching for a pianist for the church. If you know of someone, please see Pastor Chris or a member of Council.

The Study of St. John's Apocalypse Class will begin on August 10th Class will be on Monday's @ 7 pm Via Zoom Led by Pastor Chris All are invited to attend.

*See Pastor Chris for Zoom access info.

There will be a Church Work Day in August. Council will discuss date and time at their monthly meeting and the date and time will be announced after church service during weekly announcements.

For any comments or suggestions on the newsletter please contact Jeff Hamman
Cell: (540) 220-7346

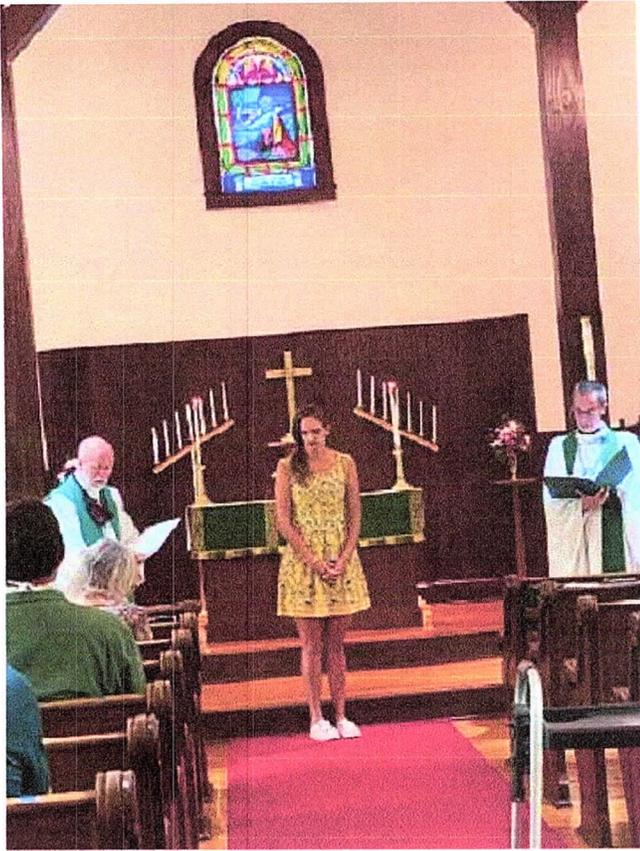
Email:
jhamman@shentel.net

Do you or someone you know need a ride to Church?

Please contact:

Ann Deming
@ (540)869-5795

And leave a message.



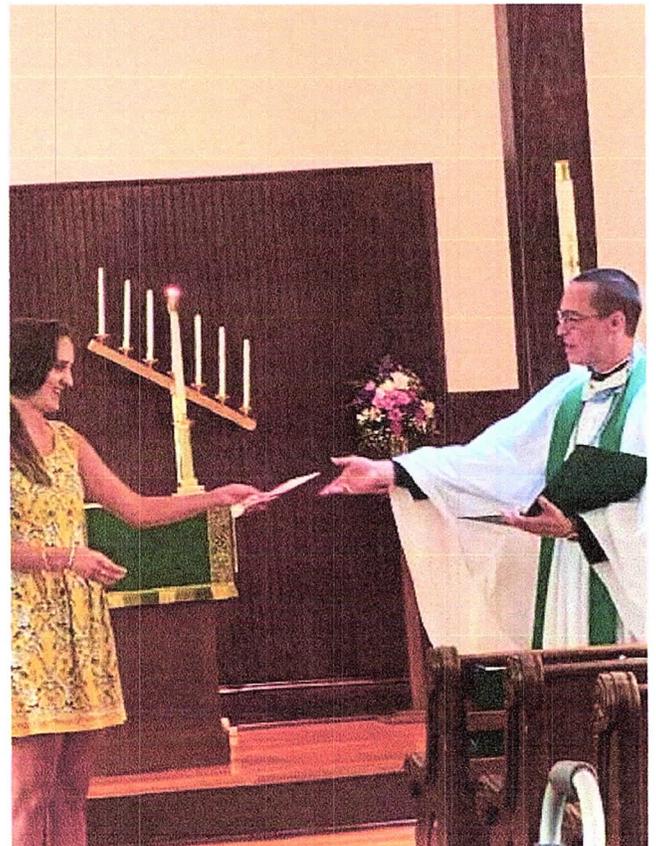
On Sunday, July 26th we honored Helen Bricker as she has been our pianist for more than five years. Helen is getting married on August 8th and is moving to Maryland.

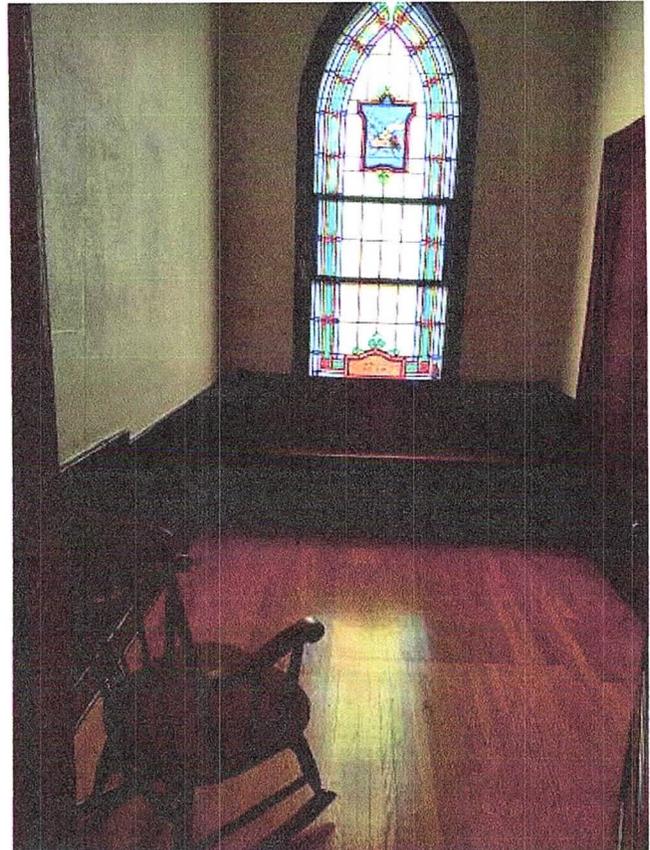
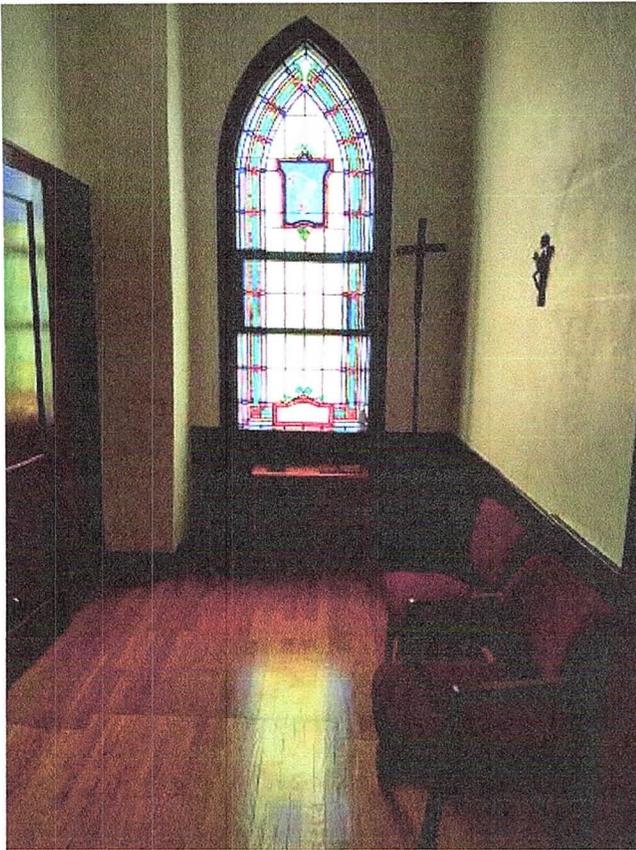
Left: Pastor Chris and Pastor JD reading some fitting words of scripture and thanking Helen for her service to the church.

Bottom Left: Pastor JD, who has known Helen the longest, tells of when she came to Lebanon to be the pianist.

Bottom Right: Pastor Chris giving a gift on behalf of the church to Helen.

We wish Helen and John all the happiness and joy in their new life together.

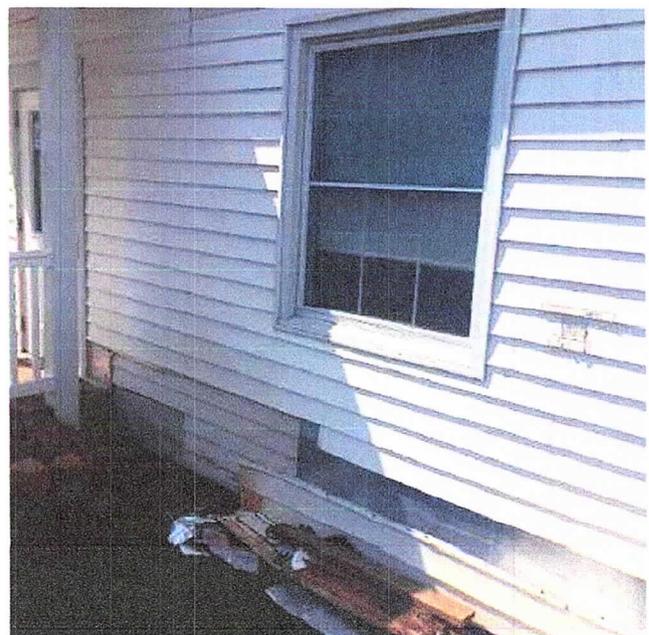




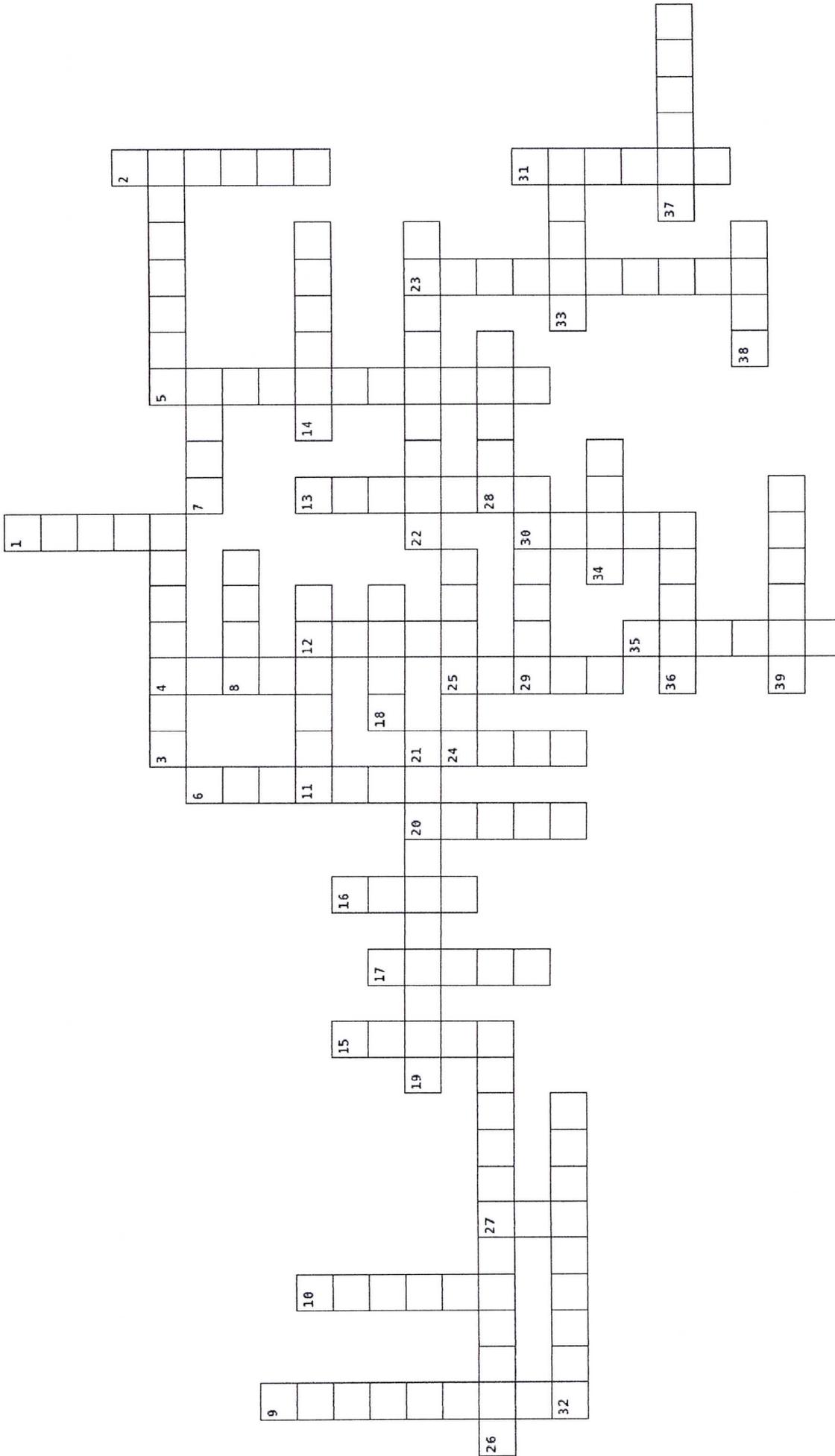
Above Left: Looking to the rear of the church from the altar. This room has been designated as a prayer/confessional room.

Above Right: To the rear of the church from the altar. This room has been designated as a quiet room for children during church, so as a parent you can still be worshipping with all and not really leave the sanctuary.

Below: Work to replace the rotted boards has begun and work on replacing the siding should start by the end of August.



2nd Samuel



Across

3. You save a humble people but your eyes are on the _____ to _____

Down

1. The number of years David's reign over Israel was? (5)

- bring them down. (22)
5. David's sons were _____.(8)
 7. Rizpah is the daughter of which concubine of Saul? (21)
 8. He brought David donkeys, bread, fruit and wine.(16)
 11. He was sent back to Jerusalem so whatever was heard in the kings house could be sent back to David.(15)
 14. Rechab and Baanah are sons of whom? (4)
 18. David was sitting in the _____ when all the people came before the king. (19)
 19. David gives over seven sons of Saul to this people to be hanged. (21)
 22. He provided David with food while he stayed at Mahanaim. (19)
 24. Absalom stole this from the men of Israel. (15)
 26. He ate at David's table like one of the kings sons. (9)
 28. He made Ish-bosheth king over Israel. (2)
 29. He was the son of Hanun. (10)
 32. The young boy that killed Saul was a _____.(1)
 33. Absalom hides in Geshur how many years? (13)
 34. He was the son of Zeruiah. (8)
 36. The Lord said he shall be prince over Israel. (5)
 37. In this town David was anointed king of Judah.(2)
 38. Jonathan and Ahimaz hid out in this? (17)
 39. This was growing in Joab's field that Absalom's servants set on fire. (14)

2. Joab murders Abner because he had put his brother to death in the battle at Gibeon. (3)
4. He was struck down by the Lord, for he had touched the Ark of God. (6)
5. David with the Lord defeated these people from Geba to Gezar. (5)
6. The _____ told David of Absalom's death.(18)
9. Solomon's Mother. (12)
10. He cursed David and threw stones at him and his servants. (16)
12. David builds this on the threshing floor of Araunah. (24)
13. He struck down a lion in a pit. (23)
15. The husband of Bathsheba. (11)
16. Who kissed Absalom? (14)
17. David's house was built of this. (7)
20. Amnon hated her more than he once loved her. (13)
21. He was beheaded and his head was thrown over the wall. (20)
23. The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of whom? (17)
25. David's first born son. (3)
27. This tree Absalom got caught in. (18)
30. Nathan tells David this will never depart from his house. (12)
31. David sent this to Joab. (11)
35. He was a prophet that spoke to king David of his house. (7)

1 Samuel

Across

2. The Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul and caused them to do this. (19)

Down

1. Two of these pulled the cart with the ark of the Lord on it back to Israel. (6)

4. The guilt offering of the Philistines were five golden tumors and five golden _____. (6)
8. He escaped the sword of Doeg and fled to David. (22)
9. The ark of God of Israel was brought to Gath and caused a great _____ among the people. (5)
11. David lives with this king of Gath. (27)
13. The iniquity of Eli's sons were doing this against God. (3)
17. Samuel said to the Lord "Speak for your _____ hears."(3)
20. The people of Israel wanted a _____ to judge Israel. (8)
23. His height was six cubits and a span. (17)
24. A name for foreign gods? (7)
25. Saul throws this at Jonathan. (20)
28. Saul fell upon this and killed himself. (31)
29. The number of sons that passed before Samuel that were not chosen by God to be king. (16)
31. As Saul and his army slept, David takes Saul's spear and a jar of what? (26)
32. Elis two sons are Hophni and _____. (2)
37. He is Saul's son. (13)
39. David takes Ahinoam and who as wives? (25)
41. Samuel took a flask of this and poured it on Saul's head to anoint him. (10)
3. They defeated Israel in battle and captured the Ark of God. (4)
5. Samuel ministered to the Lord in the presence of this priest. (2)
6. Before the Lord in Gilgal Samuel hacked to pieces this king.(15)
7. Samuel judged the people of Israel at _____. (7)
10. Samuels home was there. (7)
12. Saul was seeking David in this wilderness. (23)
14. Saul gave this daughter in marriage to David. (18)
15. Saul was made king before the Lord at this place. (11)
16. He was the first king of Israel. (9)
18. Samuel was clothed with a linen _____.(2)
19. David cuts the corner off of this of Saul's. (24)
21. David changes his behavior to pretend to be this, in front of Achish. (21)
22. This god of the Philistines fell face down before the Ark of the Lord. (5)
26. All Israel knew from Dan to Beersheba that Samuel was established as this. (3)
27. Elkanah had two wives Hannah and _____. (1)
30. He was the son of Hannah. (1)
33. When Jonathan ate this his eyes became bright. (14)
34. What is the woman Saul inquires of? (28)
35. Achish tells David he is as blameless in his eyes as an _____ of God. (29)
36. Four hundred young Amalekite men escaped David by this animal. (30)
38. Eli broke this when he fell over backwards and died. (4)
40. First born son of Samuel. (8)



Lebanon Lutheran Church



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August 2020							Sep 2020 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
2 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service		4	5	6	7	8	
9 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	10 7:00 Study of St. John's Apocalypse (Zoom)	11	12	13 6:00 Outreach Meeting 7:00 Council Meeting	14	15	
16 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	17 7:00 Study of St John's Apocalypse (Zoom)	18	19	20	21	22	
23 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	24 7:00 Study of St. John's Apocalypse (Zoom)		26	27	28	29	
30 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	31 7:00 Study of St. John's Apocalypse (Zoom)	*Note: August Church Work Day to be announced after Council Meeting on 13th.					