

Pastor Update

November 20th, 2020



The Shot Heard Round The World

Ken Wells continues to stay sharp, even though he is restricted to a chair for most of the day. He and Elisabeth read the Bible every day, as well as their meditations. In addition, Ken enjoys

reading secular books, and is an avid watcher of world news. He would love to come to church, but his legs just won't carry him for long distances. As you can see by the picture above, Ken, a military man, shoots his laser pistol at a target in the living room. He hasn't lost his marksman abilities. Both Ken and Elisabeth are thankful that Open Bible live streams its weekly service and has also a pre-recorded message. I visited with Ken and Elisabeth this week, had a devotion with them and gave them communion. I am trying to visit 10 of our shut-ins each month. Randy Cochran has been assisting in making a couple of visits each month as well.



Mission Board Looking at New Mission?

Pastor Ben Zahn, who oversees our South Atlantic District Mission Board, called me Monday and told me that our Synod is doing initial research about the possibilities of starting an exploratory mission down near the new southern Villages. A recommendation would need to be made to the Synod. Pastor Zahn will be speaking with Pastor Rosenau in Leesburg to see if St. Mark's has a core group of people who may be interested in starting a mission. I'll keep everyone posted as more information becomes available.

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Sunday, Nov. 29th at 9:30am
Outdoor Service

OPEN BIBLE Lutheran Church

Please Join Us!

*We have socially distanced seating
& uplifting messages and music!*

Masks are encouraged

Message by the Everglades Evangelist:

***"Stop Worrying
And Start Living!"***

Enjoy singing favorite hymns like "Jesus Loves Me",
"Precious Lord Take My Hand", "It is Well with
My Soul", "Shine Jesus Shine" and more!

FREE FOOD TO FOLLOW in our
Socially Distanced Fellowship Hall

Home of the Everglades Evangelist -
Pastor Mark Schulz
Minister of Music & Education -
Randy Cochran

Listen to our
Radio Broadcast
on 720 AM or
103.5 FM
Sundays from
11:05-11:30am



*Golf Cart access from
Woodridge Drive*

WELS

352-753-9038

4671 Bellwether Lane, Oxford, FL
www.openbiblelutheranchurch.com



Faith Over Fear

A week ago, I spoke with a winter member of Open Bible who

came to worship a few weeks back, and then disappeared. I thought maybe they were visiting relatives in Tampa, so I called to double check if everything was alright. The winter member said, "Pastor, my wife and I are watching the services on line. She just felt uncomfortable with the crowd of people in the sanctuary."

That comment told me that even though we are separated from each other by one seat, people still have concerns. That led me to the thought that we need to have multiple services. Today the Council approved the plan.

If you are fearful of coming to church on Sunday, you can worship in November and December on Wednesdays at 5:30 P.M. There will probably be between 20-50 people worshipping on those days. You will be at least 15 ft. away from anyone.

November 25th: *Thanksgiving Eve*
Worship at 5:30 P.M.

December 2nd: *Advent Service 1*
Worship at 5:30 P.M.

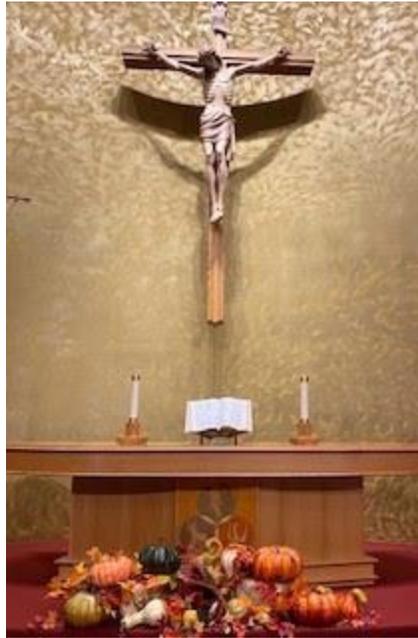
December 9th: *Advent Service 2*
Worship at 5:30 P.M.

December 16th: *Advent Service 3*
Worship at 5:30 P.M.

Saturday Services

STARTING in January, 2021, We will be having weekly services at 4:00 P.M. It will be the same service as on Sundays. Usually only 20-30 people come to that service, so plenty of room to social distance! NO reason to be fearful.

Come back and worship with us.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship on November 25th at 5:30 P.M.

Bring along some food pantry items that you can place below the communion rail, before the service begins.

Those food items will be taken to the Wildwood Food pantry. Pictures of what we are thankful for will be shown on the screen that night.

CHRISTMAS
for kids

Saturday, Dec. 12th, 10am-1pm

3 Hours of Christmas FUN for children ages three through 6th grade, giving parents time to run Christmas errands.

Activities: Singing, Movies, Devotional, Bible story, snacks, crafts, outdoor play & lunch

Please call Open Bible Lutheran at 352-753-9038 or email randy.cochran78@gmail.com to register

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WE HAVE 16 MEMBERS WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO HELP WITH CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS. Amazing! Go Staff Minister Randy Cochran!

Open Bible to Welcome 11 New Members on December 6th!

Covid may have slowed down personal and church evangelism calls, and stopped people from worshipping on-site, but Open Bible is still reaching souls through the Gospel. Usually we welcome our new members with a cake and other goodies in the fellowship hall after our worship service. Unfortunately, we are unable to do that with Covid. However, we will still have a special day for the 11 new members during our

worship service on December 6th. During the service we will welcome Jim and Carol Bohlmann, Randy and Kim Cochran, Pat and George Frazier, Bill and Mary Kemman, Joann O'keeffe, Joann Snyder, and Judy Segner.

This message was sent by openbiblethevillages@openbiblelutheranchurch.com

4671 Bellwether Lane Oxford, Florida 34484, Oxford, Florida, 34484