

Ivyland New Church Newsletter

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Message from our Pastor

Welcome 2019! Often times when the new year rolls around we reflect on our lives and think about the things we would like to accomplish. What resolutions will we make? What do we want to do differently than last year? What will be new?

The Lord spoke of making all things new in *Revelation 21*. Look at *Doctrine of the Lord 65* and you'll see a good explanation of what those words in *Revelation* mean. The Lord was talking about a new doctrine, or in other words a doctrine that no one in the Church had seen before. The reason why no one had seen it before was because if they had they would have rejected it, and it's always worse to see something good and reject it than to just not see it at all.

The thing about this "new" doctrine is that it's buried deep within the stories and teachings of the Old Testament. So the doctrine has been around since the beginning of time but people weren't in the proper frame of mind to see it. But today it is possible for us to see it.

When we see the doctrine today, the crystal clear teachings from the Word, it sometimes feels like we are seeing it for the first time. Along with that, the doctrine helps us come to some meaningful realizations about our lives, heaven, and the Lord's active presence among all things. Each realization is something new. This is why the Lord speaks of a new doctrine, making all things new, and thus establishing a New Church. It's all *new* to us.

So as you set out to a new year with new opportunities, keep seeking the Lord in the Word, and discover just how many "new" things He will reveal to you. With the right patience and trust, this could be a great 2019.

Pastor Ryan Sandstrom

Upcoming Events

Come and Gather:

We have just celebrated Christmas, a time to acknowledge the Lord's Advent into our own individual lives. Now that we are into the new year we can look forward to approaching the Lord and internalizing the Lord's Advent even more in the Holy Supper.

At the end of January (the 27th) we will have a holy supper offered during the adult talk portion of the service.



Since this is considered a most holy act of worship it is worth taking the time to prepare. We all do this on a personal basis, so that part is completely up to you. At church, however, there are things you can learn that can be useful and instrumental in your own personal preparation.

For the next few Sundays leading up to the 27th we will focus on specific aspects of the holy supper. This way, by the time we get to the 27th, we can be good and ready to partake.

Revelation Study:

Every year around June for New Church Day we often hear many stories from *Revelation*: about John on Patmos, the Four Beasts, the woman clothed with the sun, not mention many other well-known details. One well-known detail is John's vision of the Holy City New Jerusalem descending out of heaven as a bride.



We have a basic understanding of what that particular image represents regarding the church and our lives, but what do all the fine details represent? What about the measurements, and the gates, and the materials used to make the city?

Remember each word and phrase is packed with meaning, which can help you realize that your life also is packed with meaning.

Join us on Wednesday, January 23rd at 7:30pm as we begin Chapter 21 of *Revelation* along its in depth treatment in *Apocalypse Revealed*.

Our study will continue into February with classes on the 13th and 27th.

All are welcome!

Scout Sunday:

In the beginning of February we get the honor of welcoming many special guests for a very unique service. **On Sunday, February 10th** we will have our annual Scout Sunday service.

This year for this service we will focus on the theme of **Creation**: How the things of science and nature *prove* that God is the Creator, of everything.



Scouts of all kinds are especially invited to this service, including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and men and women who have served or still serve. And please do attend in your full scout uniforms. We look forward to having you with us!

Community News

Game Night:

Get ready for a night of games, friendship and fun at Ivyland!

You can expect there to be a wide variety of board games and perhaps a video game!



Admission is \$10 per person plus a bottle of alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverage. These bottles will be given away as raffle prizes, which means make sure

you purchase raffle tickets while you're there! Raffle tickets for a 50/50 will also be sold during this event.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Game night will take place on Saturday, February 2nd, at Ivyland from 7:30-10:30pm.

From the bottom of our hearts:

Daniela and I feel honored and privileged to be serving the Ivyland congregation for 7 years now. Each year at Christmas time we become very grateful for your generous gift donations. We appreciate this kind of support as it does help us out in many ways. Thank you all very much!

Our Church:

Looking to the Lord and being part of His church on earth is a very internal type of work. Internal and spiritual aspects are most important since they are eternal. But this doesn't mean we should do away with external things. They are important because they help contain and complete internal things.



With that said, we are still in the process of making repairs to our church building since the accident took place back in October. Much of the repairs to the property have been completed. This includes the pavement and bollards, the hydrant by the doors, and the adjacent garden bed.

Contractors are now making repairs to the building itself, which includes the porch beams, ceiling, siding by the doors and windows, and eventually we will have the chapel window and the entrance doors replaced. The inside wall of the chapel by the corner window will also be repaired, which means the entire chapel will get a paint job. There's no way the original paint will be matched once the wall is repaired so the whole room will get repainted.

Although the majority of the work is being handled by contractors there are always little things on the side that could use some attention. If you are interested in offering any kind of assistance please let us know.