



Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

If you are worshipping inside, please choose chairs that work for the number of people in your family.

If you are worshipping outside, you're welcome to sit wherever you are comfortable inside or outside of your car. Tune your vehicle radio to 96.5 FM to hear the service.

October 31, 2021

Reformation Day

As We Gather

Today in worship we celebrate the Protestant Reformation, and the call of Martin Luther for the church to return to the central truths of its faith. This call began with the nailing of the 95 Theses to the door of the church in Wittenberg. However, the Reformation is intended to continue even today. One of the mottos of the Reformation -ecclesia semper reformanda est (the church is always reforming)-reminds us of our understanding that God's grace alone, making us righteous through faith alone, with the church's teachings shaped by the witness of Holy Scripture alone, are at the heart of the church's life. We celebrate that God makes us righteous through Christ alone, and it is Christ who serves us today.

Welcome

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 657

- 1 **A mighty fortress is our God,
 A sword and shield victorious;
 He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
 And wins salvation glorious.
 The old satanic foe
 Has sworn to work us woe.
 With craft and dreadful might
 He arms himself to fight.
 On earth he has no equal.**

- 2 **No strength of ours can match his might.
 We would be lost, rejected.
 But now a champion comes to fight,
 Whom God himself elected.
 You ask who this may be?
 The Lord of hosts is he,
 Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,**

**God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

3 **Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**

4 **God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!**

Stand

Invocation

P Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have gathered together to affirm the truths confessed during the Reformation. We praise God for his grace in creating us, his mercy in saving us through Jesus, and the Spirit's gift of life-giving faith. We begin in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution

P Our God was once known through the covenant he made with his people at Sinai. In this covenant he promised to be faithful to them as they were faithful to him. When God spoke through Jeremiah, he accused his people regarding this covenant, saying:

C **"They broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, declares the LORD."**

P In these last days, God has spoken to us by his Son, communicating to a sinful and unclean people that they know the father through Jesus' self-sacrificial love:

C “They will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, for I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

P St. Paul tells us that God wills all people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. He accomplishes this in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Trusting in him we can name our sin and brokenness in the confidence that he makes all things new.

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

P In the blood of the new covenant in Christ, God has made you a promise: God is your God, and you are his people. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Jesus has brought the grace and truth of God into your life through his death and resurrection, and you now know the God who has reconciled himself to humanity once and for all.

C Amen! Thanks be to God!

Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ “The days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“when I will make a new covenant
with the people of Israel
and with the people of Judah.

³² It will not be like the covenant

I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they broke my covenant,
though I was a husband to them,”
declares the LORD.

³³“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel
after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

³⁴No longer will they teach their neighbor,
or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’
because they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest,”
declares the LORD.

“For I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

Psalm 46, antiphon: v.7

I Men **II** Women

P The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

I God is our refuge and strength,

II a very present help in trouble.

I Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

II though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

I though its waters roar and foam,

II though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

C The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

I There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

II the holy habitation of the Most High.

I God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

II God will help her when morning dawns.

I The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

II he utters his voice, the earth melts.

C The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

I Come, behold the works of the Lord,

II how he has brought desolations on the earth.

I he makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

II he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;

he burns the chariots with fire.

I "Be still, and know that I am God.

II I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!"

C The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

Epistle Reading

Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

³³ They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

³⁴ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

By Grace I'm Saved

LSB 566

- 1 (All) By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise?
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
No! Then this word must true remain:
By grace you too will life obtain.
- 2 (Women) By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
Our works and conduct have no worth.
God in His love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.
- 3 (Men) By grace God's Son, our only Savior,
Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit
That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone,
That brought him from his heav'nly throne.
- 4 (Women) By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
As long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration,
What in his Word our God commands,
Our faith in what our God has done
Depends on grace—grace through his Son.
- 5 (Men) By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?
- 6 (All) By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Homily

Apostles' Creed

- P** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. What does this mean?
- C** **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that he has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this he does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.**
- P** And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. What does this mean?
- C** **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death, that I may be his own and live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**
- P** I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. What does this mean?
- C** **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church he daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

Prayers of the Church

- P** Justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Silence for reflection.

- P** For the Church throughout the world: where it is weak or corrupt, reform it; where it is strong and right, strengthen it. Embolden the church to witness to every nation, tribe, language, and people. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** For all those whose lives are affected by war--- military personnel and their families, civilians, and enemy combatants: that the peace of God which surpasses understanding may overcome all hatred, heartache, violence, and despair. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** For all who are stricken with illness, especially [names]: that they may be restored to health and wholeness. For the chronically or terminally ill: that they find comfort and hope in the promise of our eternal inheritance in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** For all who travel: that they may arrive safely at their destinations. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** For parents: that they raise their children to love and fear God. For children: that by the riches of God's grace, they grow in wisdom and stature and favor with God and man. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** For those who are estranged from life in the Church: that by the work of the Holy Spirit they may return and enjoy with us the joy and freedom of sins forgiven. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** In thanksgiving for those who have died in Christ: that we may follow their example of living by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** For this congregation: that we use our reformation heritage not as a cause of undo pride, but humbly as an opportunity for baptismal living---daily dying to sin and being raised to live anew in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** All of our prayers, spoken and unspoken, we entrust to you, O Lord. Hear them for the sake of him who by his death and resurrection set us free from captivity to sin, death, and the devil, and who calls us to live in communion with you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Presentation of Offering

Stand

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
- C** **to God my exceeding joy.**
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**

I Men **II** Women

P Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us his body to eat and His blood to drink.

II **Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do,**

I **for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.**

II **But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves.**

P Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that he might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you."

I **It is as if he said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you my body to eat."**

P In the same way also he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

II **Again, it is as if he said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into myself all your iniquities.**

I **I give myself into death, shedding my blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation.**

II **As a pledge of this, I give you my blood to drink."**

P Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

II **We should also do this in remembrance of him, showing his death—that he was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification.**

I **Giving him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow him and, according to his commandment, love one another as he has loved us.**

P For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this

one bread and drink from the one cup.

- II **For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ.**
- I **Because of him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.**
- P **May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by his Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.**
- C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.

If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit. If you do not confess the understanding of the Christian Faith as expressed by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, you may still come to the altar to receive a blessing. Please fold your hands to indicate that you will not be receiving the sacrament.

Brass Quintet

Stand

Dismissal

Benediction

- P **The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give ✠ you peace.**
- C **Amen.**

O Jesus Blessed Lord to Thee

LSB 632

- 1 **O Jesus, blessed Lord, to thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me thy body and thy blood.**
- 2 **Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!**

**My Savior dwells within my heart:
How blessed am I! How good thou art!**

**△ 3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

Announcements

Sending

- P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God!

Serving in Worship This Morning

October 31, 2021

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Jeff Williams

Reader:

Phil Marquardt

Musicians:

Brass Quintet

Loren Endorf- Trumpet

St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra/Eau Clair Orchestra

Blake Peterson- Trumpet

Director of Bands, Andover High School

Emily Borra- French Horn

Editor MIS U of M/ St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra

Patrick Nelson- Euphonium

Verb 50 recording studio/freelance bass/drums/tuba

Chris Caine- Trombone

MN Symphony Orchestra/Eau Claire Orchestra

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays this week: Simon Young 10/31

Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays this week: Justin Zimmerman 11/1

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Listening Space
	7:00 p.m.	Sunday School Teacher's Meeting Board of Education
Wednesday	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Prayer
	6:30 p.m.	Pre-Confirmation
	7:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:15 p.m.	Middle School Youth
Thursday	3:00 p.m.	Grief Share
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Friday	6:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	<u>Mere Christianity</u> Study

Notes of Information.

All Saints' Day is November 7- During worship on All Saints' Day there will be a special time of remembrance for Saints of God who passed into eternity in the past calendar year, as well as a time of general remembrance. If you would like to have the name of a friend or loved one who died between November 2020 and October 2021 added to the bulletin, please email secretary@soclc.org or call the church office.

Poinsettia and Wreath Orders- If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary with Poinsettia Plants or if you would like to order your Christmas Decorations, please see the order forms located in the Narthex and return to Laura by November 6th. Checks can be made payable to SoC Youth.

Women's Bible Study- Join the women of SoC for bible study the first Monday of each month at 7 pm. The next Women's Bible Study will be November 1st, 2021, at 7pm in the fellowship hall. This week's study will be led by Peggy Peterson!

Adopt-A-Student- Spirit of Christ will be helping support a first year Seminarian, through the Adopt-A-Student program, at the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. We have been assigned newlyweds Jonathan and Stephanie Chapa, who were both raised in central Minnesota. They are both recent graduates of Concordia University in Nebraska, with degrees in education. After a summer of Greek classes, Jonathan has started introductory fall classes, and is involved at his field work church, where Stephanie is working in their Early Childhood Center. Jonathan is also volunteering at Christian Friends of New Americans. Please pray for perseverance and determination for them, and that the Holy Spirit would move and work in the hearts of the adults and children they are serving.

Stewardship- is the expression of our desire as Christians to contribute to the mission and ministry of the church. Serving and giving are important parts of our Christian life. We are equipped to give of ourselves through gifts of time, talent, and treasure. St. Paul reminds us, "We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His appeal thru us." 2 Corinthians 5:20.

Grief Share: Grief Share is a grief recovery support group that has meetings across the country and worldwide. Spirit of Christ began its own Grief Hhare group that will meet Thursdays from 3-5pm, beginning October 21st. We are asking \$15 free will donation to cover the cost of the workbook. Please contact Pam Birkholz at 612-270-1623 with any questions or to reserve your spot.

Mere Christianity: Starting Oct. 3rd, join us on Sunday evenings for an exploration of C.S. Lewis classic Mere Christianity. Over six weeks, we will read and discuss the book and its explanation of core Christian doctrines and themes. You can pick up a book in the office for \$13. For week 5 read Book 3 chapter 12 through Book 4 part 5 (pages 144-186).

Library: The church library is not completely sorted, but it is open for browsing and borrowing. Any questions please reach out to Lois Spadgenske at 763-757-5377.

Listening Space: The Mercy Ministry Team invites you to 'The Listening Space', a safe, faith-based environment to share with one another life's challenges, our feelings, our pain, our grief, and our joys. We will meet in the library on September 21, October 5th, October 19th, and November 2nd from 6:30-8:30 pm. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Jason or Sue Hurst.

Book Club: The Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet on Monday, November 22 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The November book is *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande. All are invited to attend our book review. Call Joan Mager at 763-434-9652 if you have any questions.

NACE: Do you know someone in need of food? NACE is expanding their Home Delivery Program and would like to help those who may not be able to drive or find a ride to the food shelf. The Delivery Program brings a complete grocery order right to your door, including produce, bakery, meats, dairy, canned goods, and hygiene products. If you or someone you know could benefit from NACE Home Delivery please call Katie @763-434-7685 or e mail at kritchel@nacefoodshelf.org

The clothing closet is looking for clean fall clothing and back to school clothing. Always needed at the food shelf are the hygiene products and individual items for the weekend packs. Let me know if you have any questions. Joan Mager 763-434-9652.

Sermons and bulletins posted online: Audio recordings of worship sermons and digital bulletins are posted weekly at soclc.org. Check them out if you are not able to make it to drive in worship or would like to avoid a paper bulletin!

Main Street Living: Main Street Living is a Lutheran Television program that is endorsed by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The broadcast has two parts. Remastered episodes of the Emmy award-winning Lutheran Hour Ministries "This is the Life" program was originally aired from the 1950's to the 1980's. This program has been re-mastered to the modern format. The Worship Service is produced locally and features a different presenter each week selected from the Pastors in each broadcast area. 9+ Sunday Mornings at 9 am.

Offerings via Give+: Online giving is easy to do, one-time gifts and recurring donations are accepted. Visit the link at soclc.org to sign up or learn more.

'The Lutheran Hour' can be heard at 6:00 a.m. Sundays on WCCO radio

October 24, 2021	
Average Offering	\$5366
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	<i>\$5913</i>

Readings for next week:

Isaiah 25:6-9, Revelation 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44

Serving in Worship Next Week:

November 7, 2021

Elder:

Phil Marquardt

Readers:

Phil Marquardt



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd

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www.soclc.org

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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Ministers: All Members

Music Director John Peterson: carsinger@aol.com

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Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst): sd_hurst@yahoo.com