

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

December 2016

www.oursaviorschurch.info

HEAR IT, FEEL IT, LIVE IT, SHARE IT – GOD'S LOVE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In our time of preparation for Christmas, we do a lot of things. Many of us even make a checklist to make sure we have everything ready for the big day. Do we have the decorations up? Have we sent cards? Does everyone have a gift? Do we have enough wrapping paper? What day are we going caroling? What order will we visit relatives on Christmas? And so on. It's a wonderful holiday to prepare for and often brings out the best in all of us.

But perhaps we should wonder as we go about our preparations, are we preparing for Christ while we prepare for Christmas?

Advent is usually cast as the season of waiting for Christmas. In popular culture, Advent calendars have become a regular feature, usually cast as a series of min-gifts building up to the big gift-giving day of Christmas itself. But the Church doesn't treat Advent as a time of just waiting for Christmas Day. Yes, in our worship we do prepare ourselves for the little baby born in Bethlehem, but the season is about the coming of Christ. The Incarnation. The en-fleshment of God.

And it's not just a season of getting ready for Christ arriving in the manger. It's also about his return with the clouds. In Advent, we are not just looking back to when he came, but also looking forward to when he will return. How, then, do we prepare for Christ in that way? What should we be doing if we know that he could return at any moment? What wondrous, hopeful things would we want to do in his name, be caught doing when he returns?

This Advent season, let's not just get ready for Christmas. Let's get ready for Christ. Let's be ready for his return, loving our neighbors and caring for the least of these. Let's live into the reality that the Kingdom of God broke into creation at his birth on that first Christmas, and continues to break into the world today. Because that is what Christmas is about.

In Christ,

Pastor Lucas

God calls us to the waters of baptism, and as we enter the months ahead, keep in mind the following dates that are open for baptisms. **December 18**
Call the Office if any of these dates would work out for your family. 715-273-4570

In Need of Prayer



Danika Newberry, LouAnn Davidson, Robert (Bobby) Nelson, Lori O'Keefe, Letty Larson, Colleen Johnson, Ken Arneson, Larry Hoyer, Chad J Peterson, Alexander Kempe, Gary Lundgaard, Ervin Golson, and Kristen Anderson.

If you know of anyone that should be on our prayer list please contact the office.

Council Meeting Minutes

Date 11/1/16 7 pm

Present were: Brenda, Jim, Carla, Brian, Tom, Pastor, Norris, Deb, Audrey, Ed, Kerry, Stacy.

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Holdorf. Pastor led us in devotions discussing the book Ask, Thank, Tell. Then he led us in prayer

Secretary's report: Motion to approve by Brian, Second by Norris. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: \$22,318.04 in the designated account. \$34.44 in the general account. Report approved by Ed, second by Jim.

Pastor's report: see attached Adult forums to start next month. Will plan the first, third, and when occurring fifth Sundays.

Youth report: see attached

Committee reports: Worship- Met. All Saints Sunday is coming up.
Stewardship committee has plans in place

Conflict Detection: elevator doors need to be marked so people know it is an automatic open and close door and how far back to stand so as to not get pushed by the door. Will have signs to go on the doors and tape on the floors.

Old Business: printer leases reviewed. Motion made to accept the Loeffler plan which will cost \$57.00 per month for 5 years with \$114 per quarter for toner, service, and parts. Motion made by Deb, second by Jim. Motion passed.
South Wall water on floor by the steps. Ground is saturated there.

New Business: Worship committee has recommended Christmas service times. Christmas Eve will be 4 pm and 9 pm. Christmas day will be 10 am. Motion made to accept these times by Brian, second by Kerry.

Lutefisk Supper committee has asked the council to recommend a dollar amount or a percent of proceeds to be held back for incidentals to start up next year. The council feels the committee knows the best amount they will need. Will ask them and table this decision until next month.

Motion to adjourn made by Ed, second by Stacy.

Adjourned at 8:35 pm

The next meeting will be December 6th at 7 pm

Respectfully submitted by Stacy Hansen

Special Men In Mission meeting Sunday, November 27, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Lemoine Baker.

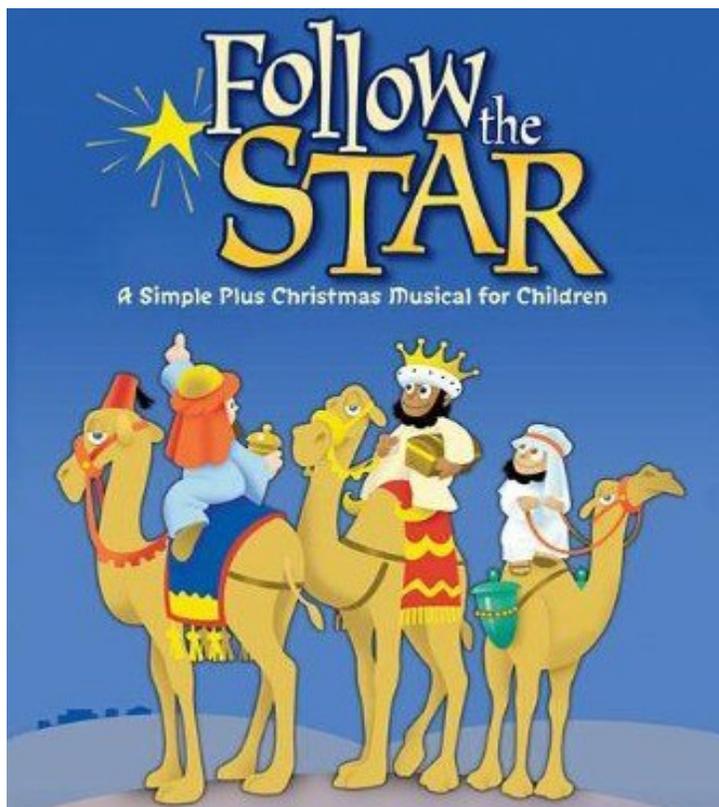
After discussion, a motion was made by Clair and seconded by Brian J. to remove the serving window from the west side of the ball park concession stand and place it on the north side facing the covered picnic area. Also placing a slide window in the west side for viewing the ball games.

A motion was made by Peter F. and seconded by Bruce P. to bury the electrical line between the two outfield light poles on the north side of the field. Donna will contact Matt's Electric as to a bid.

A motion was made by Don R. and seconded by Clair to remove the diseased trees on the north edge of the ball park along with the tree on the SW corner. We will go as a group over to the ball park to agree on which trees to removal immediately following our next scheduled meeting on December 17th, Saturday morning at 8:00.

A motion was made by Donna and seconded by Bruce P. to have an ongoing tree management policy to replace trees as we remove them. We will discuss what kind of trees to use as replacements at our next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned. 10 members present.



**Come Join us for
Our Annual Sunday School
Christmas Program
on
Sunday December 11th at 10:30am.**

Save the date! Annual Men In Mission Oyster Stew and Soup Dinner. Wednesday, December 28th, serving starting at 6:00. Once again this is a Thrivent Action Team event with the proceeds going to repair storm damage at the ball park this last summer. Thrivent gives us \$250 for our expenses so all donations can go directly for this cause. Last year, some people seemed distressed with the lack of oysters in their stew although there was no cut back from previous years. One suggestion was that we double the oysters by cutting them in two. However, we have decided to increase the amount of oysters even though the cost has risen sharply. We are informing you so that, hopefully, your generous donations will offset the additional cost. Once again, Tom Holdorf will supply chili and Clair an additional soup. We hope to see a good turnout!

WELCA holds their **Triennial Convention** in 2017 in Minneapolis on July 13-16 at the Convention Center. It will include Bible studies, exhibits, speakers, documentary films on trafficking, choir concert, and tours. Cost is \$310 until January 6 early discount or \$175/day. See welcatg.org for more information. A bus will be available from our synod for the first day and a return bus on Sunday.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE

New Acolyte Robes: The Altar Guild is looking into buying new acolyte robes. A memorial fund has been started for this purpose. If you would like to contribute memorial moneys or make a contribution to this purchase, place it in the offering plates in an envelope marked acolyte robes or mail it to the church. The color will be about the same but it will be a zipper front with hood. Cost will be about \$70 each and we need 4-5 of different sizes in length.

College Kits Crew is having a **CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE** and coffee hour December 11th 2016. Treats will be available for purchase after church and after the Sunday School Program. We will be preparing homemade goodies and have asked the College student's parents for their support/donations as well. We hope to have a wide variety of treats for you to choose from. As always, we appreciate your support to help us keep this ministry going.

The College Kits Crew: Crystal Raleigh, Megan Stockwell, Bridget Peterson, Erin Kirchner, Alison Laughnan and Heather Johnson

Scripture Calendars are available to purchase on the youth table downstairs for \$7.00. Thank you for supporting our 2017 Youth Mission Trip!

ELCA World Hunger: All proceeds from the Coffee Hour on December 18th will benefit this. There will also be a tree with ornaments of giving. It will be in the back of the church. ELCA World Hunger responds to the root causes of hunger with work in 60 countries around the world, including the United States. Cornerstones of this work include hunger education, advocacy and projects focused on agriculture, livestock, water, health care and job training to help people lift themselves out of hunger and poverty for the long-term.

Learn more about [ELCA World Hunger](http://www.elca.org). (www.elca.org)

BACKPACKS FOR THE WEEKEND:



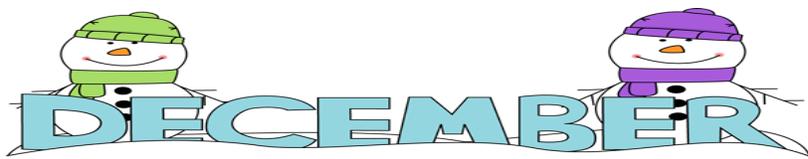
During December we will be collecting Soup and Crackers. Let's help these kiddos feel warm this winter. Thanks for your donation.

Thank You! Larry and Peggy Hoyer would like to thank all the members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church for making it possible for us to deliver 116 shoe-boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Also we would like to thank all who helped when we served coffee hour and helped carry the shoe-boxes out to the truck after Church service on the 13th of November It was really appreciated. We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year! Last but not least Thank-you for all your prayers, cards and well wishes for Larry during this time.

\Thank-you and God Bless you all! Peggy and Larry Hoyer



Thank you for directing Thrivent Choice Dollars: Thanks to all eligible Thrivent Financial members who directed Choice dollars to Our Savior's. The grant funding we receive from Thrivent goes into the general fund and helps to cover our monthly expenses. Thanks to Thrivent and its members for helping us strengthen communities and change lives.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guild Carron Parmeter Kathy Young	Money Counters Tom Holdorf Norris Berg					
				1	2	3
4 9am Worship 10am Fellowship (Silent Auction Ends) 10:15 SS Hour	5	6 7pm Council Meeting	7 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care Service 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Confirmation & Aftershock (Pizza Party)	8	9	10
11 9am Worship 10am Fellowship (Bake Sale) 10:30 SS Christmas Program	12 5pm Women's Bible Study	13	14 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew Christmas Caroling 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Confirmation & Aftershock	15	16	17 8am MIM Meeting
18 9am Worship Baptism Sunday 10am Fellowship (World Hunger) 10:15 SS Hour	19	20	21 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Confirmation & Aftershock	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Services 4pm & 9pm
25 Merry Christmas! 10am Worship 10am Fellowship No SS Hour	26	27	28 6pm Oyster Stew/Soup No Choir Practice No Confirmation & Aftershock	29	30	31 January Money Counters Tom Holdorf Brenda Winger

December 2016

	Greeters	Ushers	Acolyte	Reader	Bell Ringer	Communion Server
Dec. 4 9:00 am	Jackie/John Schroeder	Jeanette/Warren Schade Sharon/Joe Seibel	Tyler Schroder Rhett Rassmussen	Tricia Gilby	Nadia Thurmes	Kathy Young
Dec. 11 9:00 am	Patricia/Casey Peterson Family	Stacy/Kerry Hansen Sonia Yunker, Linda Steele	Desirae Peterson Megan Hansen	Larry Peterson	Meredith Hansen	Fred Parmeter Carron Parmeter
Dec. 18 9:00 am	Katie/Mike Allyn Family	Jill/Don Rosenberry Donald & Gabe Rosenberry	Colton Halverson Sam Allyn	Belinda Foley	Gunnar Allyn	Steve Straub Roger Laughnan
Dec. 24 4:00 pm	Kay/Norris Berg	Carron/Fred Parmeter Kelly/Eric Parmeter	Halle Langer Haedyn Langer	Lemoine Baker	Madisyn Rouleau	Norris Berg Pauline Laughnan
Dec. 24 9:00 pm	Carla/Bob Radkey-Earney	Lori/Don Schroeder & Family	Ian Peterson Autumn Radkey/Earney	JoAnn Place	Brady Schroeder	Becky Olson Dan Olson
Dec. 25 10:00 am	Kathy/Larry Young	Rhoda/Rick Foley Lanette/Bruce Place	Anthony Madsen Dakota Pittman	Bob Mercord Rhoda Foley Tom Holdorf	Bruce Place	Clair Severson

Thank you for your participation in our worship service. Each ministry participant is greatly appreciated. If you cannot serve on the date assigned, please trade with someone. Instructions for each ministry position are posted in the narthex. If you have any questions, please call Rhoda Foley at 273-4865. MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY 2017!