

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

January 2018

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

We finished the end of last year with the holy day of Christmas, celebrating the gift of the Savior by exchanging gifts with each other. The whole world makes a big deal out of it, with the beginning of Christmas music and decorations being pushed back further and further every year. But the world also tends to finish its Christmas celebrations—and all the traditions of gift-giving and well-wishing with them—the day after Christmas. But as the song suggests, there are twelve days of Christmas!

For nearly two weeks after the holiday, we can continue to celebrate the ways God has blessed us with the gift of the Savior. We can continue to contemplate the wonder of his birth, the impact of his life, and the hope of his coming and becoming one of us. And on the twelfth day after Christmas, we celebrate the holiday of Epiphany, the remembrance day of when the magi visited Christ, led by the star.

We don't tend to celebrate Epiphany as a day because, like Christmas, it's a fixed day (January 6). When it doesn't fall on Sunday, most of the time we don't get a chance to remember it. But on this holiday, we remember the revelation of God in Christ—"epiphany" means "appearing of God." The magi didn't visit just any baby, but the Christ who is fully human and fully God. And one of the names of the season following Epiphany is the "season of lights," to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World.

That light grows stronger with the year, just as the Light of God grows stronger now that Christ has come to dwell among us. So even as the days may still be dark this January, and the snow may be on the ground, and the air may still be cold, we can remember that the light is growing. In the same way, even as the world may seem scarier and more unstable, and the wicked continue to seem to have the upper hand, God's Light is growing in the world. The hope of the Christ child, and the victory of the empty tomb, can't be undone. God's hope is growing, and the redemption of the world will keep happening.

So in this season of lights, when you realize the sun came up a little earlier, or went down a little later; or on those days when the clear, crisp air is filled with brilliant light in a clear blue sky, remember the growing kingdom of God, the growing Light of the world. God calls us to share the good news by showing the world how it has changed us. As we experience the hope of Christ, let's take this year to share that hope with others in our words and actions, giving hope in brokenness and light in darkness, so that everyone can see the appearing of God!

In Christ,
Pastor Lucas

In Need of Prayer



Darlene Ostendorf, Dave Edin, Laurine Baker, Sam Kittleson, Kenny Hansen, Alice (Christenson) Butler, Bobbi Nelson, Bill Hines, Scott Bjork, Judie Goodwin, Wayne Peterson, Haley Steffen, Mary Jo Bjork, Andy Foley, Letty Larson, Colleen Johnson, Ken Arneson, Alexander Kempe, and Kristen Anderson.

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

Council Meeting Minutes

Date 12/5/17 7 pm

Present were: Tom, Brian, Bruce, Pastor Lucas, Ed, Mike, Stacy, Deb, Audrey, and Dawn.
The meeting was called to order by President Tom Holdorf. Pastor led us in prayer.

Secretary's Report: Addendum to last month's report; the lights for the cross on the west side of the building are not fixed. Motion made by Mike, second by Ed.

Treasurer's Report: \$24,581.23 in the designated account. \$-10.55 in the general account. We had to borrow another \$750 from designated account to cover bills. Pastor's insurance and pension were paid after the first of the month. We currently owe \$13,311.97 to the designated account. We do pull out \$400 per month to cover housing allowance. The interest in the money market account is less than 1%. Money Market account has \$68,779.95 presently. Tom and Audrey to investigate alternative investment options to optimize our gain. Council also discussed ways to capture offering. Report approved by Ed, second by Mike.

Pastor's Report: see attached. We will have one Christmas Eve service at 4 pm. This is due to the am service will be the last advent service.

Youth Report: see attached

Committee Reports: LBPC Thanks OSLC for our strong presence and generous giving. We will need to let them know what we are budgeting for 2018 to them.

Conflict Detection: none

Old Business: Patricia's computer needs updating. Council has already approved her to purchase another one to meet her needs.

South side TV screen is out, Ed will look into fixing

Stacy has contacted the Ellsworth EMS again about setting up AED education.

New Business: Christmas decoration placement is decided upon by the Alter Guild. If there are items which need to be hung or the trees need to be set up, the property management committee should be involved with helping to set up and hang items.

Budget for 2018 was set. Bruce suggested each budget line item should be reviewed by a couple of people to see if there are any cost saving measures available.

Motion to adjourn made by Ed, second by Brian.

Adjourned at 815 pm

The next meeting will be Jan 2, 2018

Respectfully submitted by Stacy Hansen

Men IN Mission Meeting - December 16, 2017

After breakfast served by Brian Johnson and Clair Severson, Pastor Lucas led us in a Bible study from I Thessalonians, Chapter 4.

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

The secretary's report was read and approved. An item from last month's meeting was clarified. The fee charged for using the ball park for family reunions etc. by nonmembers will be raised from \$50 to \$150 for next year. There will be no charge for church members or 4H clubs. It is expected that the users will clean up afterwards. The church council property committee will set the fee for fair stand usage.

Treasurer Chuck Christopherson reported that we have \$1025 in the general fund and \$2935 in the fair stand fund. After a \$300 donation from the endowment committee, we have \$4747 in the Luther Point Bible Camp Fund. The treasurer's report was approved.

Old Business:

Peter Falde has drained the water at the fair stand.

Brian Johnson received the unanimous approval of the members of the MIM to secure and complete all mandatory paperwork needed by all local, county and state committees regarding the upgrade of the driveway at the ball park. After successful completion of the paperwork, he will meet with Chad Johnson and Brad Taplin to gain their approval of the future project. As he embarks on this tedious task, we all wish him godspeed.

Oyster Stew/chili/soup dinner is scheduled for December 31st immediately following the 10:00 church service. Best deal on oysters this year is \$120 a gallon at Nilssen's. We will purchase two gallons. Thrivent is giving us \$250 towards our expenses. The MIM will supply cookies and bars for dessert. Profits from the dinner will go towards the new septic system.

New Business:

Peter Falde was given permission to trim some trees at the ball park.

We will serve coffee on January 21st.

Next meeting is Saturday, February 17th at 8:00 a.m. with Lemoine and Bruce serving.

The meeting was adjourned. Nine members present.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



BACKPACKS FOR THE WEEKEND: During the month of January we will be collecting Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, and tuna for the Weekend Backpack Program. Please pick up a package or two for our grocery cart when you are at the store. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CARD RECYCLE

The Evangelism Committee is collecting used Christmas cards for the 2018 Gift Box Program.

If you have any greeting cards you are looking to recycle, you may bring them to church, placing them in the grocery cart.

Again thank you to everyone who supported this program. Whether you donated, wrapped, shopped, organized, or prayed for these families, your actions are most appreciated.

God bless you.



Upcoming Events

Luther Point Bible Camp's Winter Retreats "rooted"

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." — Colossians 2:6-7

Come experience Luther Point in the winter for our programmed retreats. Sign up with your church group and be ready for a weekend filled with fun, faith and awesome times as we explore what it means to be "Rooted in Christ." Space is limited so sign up quickly, registration opens November 1! Cost is \$60 per person and includes lodging, 4 meals and the program. **Jan 12 – 14: Confirmation/Jr. High ~ Feb 9 – 11: High School ~ March 3 – 4: Family Camp Weekend. Registration Opens November 1! www.LutherPoint.org**

Mark on your Calendar's: Our Saviors' Annual Meeting will be Sunday February 11th, 2018. Immediately following worship service.

2018 Atrium Post Acute Care & Preferred Living combined Schedule for Our Savior's

May 23rd 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care

June 6th 1:30pm Preferred Living, 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care

July 18th 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care

August 22nd 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care

October 3rd 1:30pm Preferred Living, 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care

December 12th 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guild Lanette Place Pauline Laughnan	Money Counters Mike Allyn Jim Chisholm					
	1	2 7pm Council Meeting	3 6pm Choir Practice No Confirmation/ Aftershock	4	5	6
7 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:15am SS Hour 10:30 Adult Forum	8 5pm Women's Bible Study	9	10 6pm Choir Practice 6-7pm Youth Event Bingo at Atrium Post Acute Care Center	11	12	13
14 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:15 SS Hour 10:30 Assisting Minister information Meeting	15	16	17 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Confirmation & Aftershock	18	19 Girl Night Out @ Church 6-10pm	20
21 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:15 SS Hour 10:30 Adult Forum 2-4pm Youth Bowling	22	23	24 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Confirmation & Aftershock	25	26	27
28 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:15am SS Hour	29	30	31 8:30am Quilting 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Confirmation & Aftershock			February Money Counters Dawn Madsen

January 2018

	Greeters	Ushers	Acolyte	Reader	Bell Ringer	Communion Server
Jan. 7 9:00 am	Kay/Lemoine Baker	Debbi/Ed Pittman Sheryl/Bob Mercord	Dakota Pittman Devin Denzer	Clair Severson	Nadia Thurmes	Tom Holdorf
Jan. 14 9:00 am	Kay/Norris Berg	Megan/Guy Stockwell Peggy Hoyer/Linda Steele	Rhett Rasmussen Raelynn Rasmussen	Kay Berg	Charley Gilby	Ann Young Sue Peterson
Jan. 21 9:00 am	Anita Johnson Family	Stacy/Kerry Hansen Sharon/Joe Seibel	Meredith Hansen Megan Hansen	Lanette Place	Shane Johnson	Stacy Hansen Rhoda Foley
Jan. 28 9:00 am	Amy/Shawn Parmeter	Mary Halls/Rhoda Foley Audrey/Clair Severson	Leo Parmeter Tyler Schroeder	Mary Halls	McKenna Girdeen	Steve Straub Belinda Foley

Assisting Minister Schedule: Jan. 7 - Tom / Jan. 14 - Ann / Jan. 21 - Rhoda / Jan. 28 - Belinda

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 ministry positions are posted in the narthex. If you have any questions, please call Rhoda Foley at 273-4865 or Pastor at 273-4570.
