

# *Our Savior's Lutheran Church*

## *Newsletter*

July 2020

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[www.oursaviorschurch.info](http://www.oursaviorschurch.info)

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

This summer we have been taking a closer look at some of the Old Testament readings from Genesis. It's good that we do that from time to time, because we are rooted in God's story as told through God's people. We hear in Genesis about the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, Leah, and Rachel. We read these stories to get a picture of what kind of people God picks to share the good news of salvation with the world.

If you haven't read through Genesis before, this summer may be a good time to do it. It's a lot, I know, but if you take it little bit by little bit, it's a fascinatingly honest book. See, Genesis is the story that tells the origins of the Jewish people. And normally, these kinds of origin stories would be filled with exemplars of ancestry, people who cast a shining light that makes up for all the mistakes of later generations. In other histories, the further back you go the more perfect the ancestors get. Genesis is not that.

Genesis tells us of a family filled with dysfunction. It tells us how Abraham, the first person to follow God and forsake all other gods, was an old man with foibles, with shortcomings, with doubts, with straight-up bad behavior. It tells of Sarah's bitterness poisoning the safety of Hagar and Ishmael. It tells us of Isaac and Rebekah who show naked favoritism to one or the other of their twin boys, basically sealing the fate for their children to come into conflict. It tells of Jacob utterly neglecting one of his two wives, meanwhile showing intense favoritism to Joseph and pulling the other brothers' ire toward the boy.

But it also tells about amazing acts of faith. Abraham left his home and everything he knew because he trusted God. It shows the joy and hope Sarah has in seeing God's faithfulness through Isaac. Eliezer leaned on God to find Isaac a wife, and found God to be faithful in it. Jacob struck a deal with God at Bethel, and asked God to protect him in his travels. Joseph believed God would take care of him even though disaster after disaster struck him.

The story we'll be hearing this summer is from Genesis, and the people in Genesis—our forebears in the faith—remind us that the people of faith are not perfect, and in fact we are simultaneously saints and sinners! It reminds us that God uses imperfect people who will make mistakes, but who try to do the right thing and follow where God leads. In short, God calls real people, not one-dimensional ideals. What a blessing that scripture gives us the example of real people!

So while we try to do the right thing, let's not get caught up in where we fall short too often. Let's acknowledge the ways that we haven't lived up to God's call, and do our best to make it right. But all along, we are called to trust that God will still work in and through us to make the kingdom show up in our midst! And we can trust that because it's what God did through Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, Leah, Rachel, and Joseph.

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.

**July 12, August 16, September 13, October 18, November 15, December 20.**

Call the Office if any of these dates would work for your family. 715-273-4570

## *Gathering for Drive-In Worship*

Dear siblings in Christ,

We have weathered quite a storm as we sheltered in place to keep one another safe! It has been hard, I know, to keep our distance for the sake of each other's health. We have missed one another, feeling the distance that used to be so short between us, and many of us are hoping for some small respite from this distancing we've been practicing. In conversation with the council, we have made the decision to offer drive-in worship. We have the space to gather in our cars for worship, and we have faithfully discerned that we can gather in this way safely.

The practices and protocols we have put into place as we prepare for this happy reunion are based on the recommendations of the Pierce County Health Department, guidelines from the ELCA on how to safely resume worship, the recommendations of health experts who have shared their wisdom at several synodical Zoom workshops, and the good sense that God gave us all to approach this time with wisdom and love.

Beginning June 21, we will begin holding worship in the church parking lot at 9:00 am on Sundays. To make sure that our actions align with Jesus' commandment to "love one another," we will need to do the following:

This is drive-in worship, so we will be worshipping in our cars together!

Follow the directions from the ushers on where to park so that we can keep a safe distance from each other during worship. Tune in to worship on the radio station 90.5 FM! Studies suggest the virus travels by particles in our breath, and singing has been found to exponentially increase the number of particles and also increase the risk to our neighbor. To keep the risks down, keep windows next to a person singing up so that there is one inch or less of an opening. If no one is sitting next to a window (such as the back seat) then those windows can be fully open while singing.

We are blessed to be able to resume Holy Communion during this time! When you enter the parking lot, someone will be manning a table to hand out communion kits. The kits will have been assembled under sanitary conditions and the person handing them out will have gloves and a mask to minimize contact. Please let them know how many are in your car (cover your mouth to protect them, whether with a mask, cloth, or your hand), and hold onto the elements until communion, when you will receive instructions on how we will receive together.

An offering basket will be in place when you enter the parking lot, so let the person handing out communion know if you would like to drop yours off. To minimize contact, drop your offering into the basket rather than handing it to them.

We will have bulletins available at the same table as the communion elements. The whole service will be printed in the bulletin, so no need to worry about getting a hymnal. Please note that we plan on giving one bulletin for each vehicle. The bulletin will also be available on the website for you to either download onto a device, or print at home and bring to church.

As tempting as it may be to get out and catch up with others, please stay in your car. There is still so much unknown about this virus, but it is known that you can be infectious without having any symptoms. Because of this, we won't have any social gatherings such as coffee hour for the time being. We keep apart to keep each other safe. If we have inclement weather, please still come! Just keep your windows up to stay dry!

We look forward to getting to see you soon!

In Christ,

Our Savior's Church Council

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



**BACKPACKS FOR THE WEEK:** Please drop off donations at Nilssen's Grocery store in Ellsworth. There is a large tub in the entryway marked Backpack Program. Once we get back to church we will collect your donations there again as in the past. Thank you for continuing to support this program.

### These are the items that are most needed:

*LARGE (double size) cans of Tuna or Chicken -we need lots!*

*Bear Creek Soups (Chicken based if possible) but whatever works! (lighter than cans in the bags, and more servings from the packages ;)*

*Packages/Boxes of Instant Rice (like medium sz boxes)*

*Packages of Instant Mashed Potatoes (no flavors if possible, just basic mashed potatoes)*

*CREAMY Peanut Butter (18 oz)*

*Raisins (1 pound boxes)*

*Boxes of COLD Cereal (NON-sugary) Corn Flakes, Rice Krispies, Cheerios)*

*Cans Brown Beans*

*Boxes Mac N Cheese*



Hopefully we will be able to do the collection for this program in the fall before they distribute the clothing in October. Remember everything will have to be in good condition, clean, with all zippers in working order. kids winter gear: coats, snow pants, boots, hats, mittens/gloves, scarves. These donated items will be given to needy families right here in Pierce County



The Evangelism Committee is looking ahead for the next GWOH day on August 2nd. A list of projects will be available soon.

***Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)***

Evangelism Committee - Heather Johnson, Pauline Laughnan, and Sharon Peterson

### **Lutherans and Netflix:**

The ELCA has found itself in the Netflix spotlight recently. The Netflix series [Sweet Magnolias](#), written by ELCA member Sheryl Anderson, began streaming May 19 and features a fictional ELCA congregation. The main characters turn to their church for the community, grace and support that Lutherans can count on. Meanwhile, the Rev. Noah Hepler of Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement appeared on season 5 of [Queer Eye](#), with his congregation and his mindset getting a makeover from the Fab Five. Give these great Lutheran-featuring shows a watch!

## THANK YOU

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Evangelism Committee, Thank you so much for the soup and treats, for Wayne and myself. So thoughtful and delicious. You are truly a dedicated group. God Bless and Keep You in His Care.

Bev & Wayne Kiefer.

Dear Our Savior's, What a surprise! Rick & Rhoda Foley stopped by to drop off 2 lunches to say thank you to Farmers. Thank you for thinking of us during the busy planting season. It brought me to tears to be acknowledged & loved during these uncertain times. Thank you for showing God's Love to your Neighbors.

Lord's Blessing Margaret & Mike Raleigh.

Thank you for the bag lunch delivered to us during the planting season. The lunch reminds us how fortunate we are to live in a community that understands and appreciates farmers. Thanks for making our day a little easier!

Carol, Bob & Rob Fenske

# SUPPORT OUR MISSION WITH eGIVING

Consider making your contribution through our eGiving tools!  
You can make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations.

## Giving Made Easy

Make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts through our website's donations page.

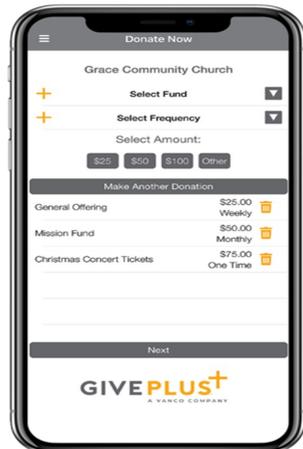
**Our Savior's Lutheran Church** offers giving from our Website, through the GivePlus mobile app, and by text.

**Make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts through our website's donations page.**

1. Visit Our Savior's Lutheran Church Website. [www.oursaviorschurch.info](http://www.oursaviorschurch.info)
2. Locate the give tab.
3. Donate!

**It only takes a minute to set up an account or give as a guest.  
We appreciate your generosity!**

**Give Anytime,  
Anywhere  
with Our  
GivePlus  
Mobile App**



## Use Our GivePlus Mobile App

1. Download the free GivePlus App from the App Store or Google Play
2. Find our church by zip code **54003**, or by searching our church name.
3. Donate!
- 4.

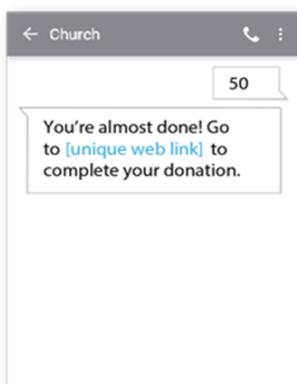
**Giving through our mobile app is easy and convenient.**

**It only takes a minute to set up an account or give as a guest.**

## Text Your Donation

Giving by text is easy. Simply text your donation amount to **833-506-0632** and follow the instructions on your phone to complete your gift.

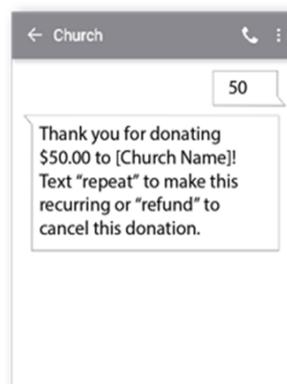
### 1. Get Started



### 2. Register

A registration form for card payment. It shows logos for VISA, Mastercard, DISCOVER, and American Express. Fields include 'Name Of Cardholder', 'Card number', 'MM/YY', and 'CV'. A yellow button at the bottom says 'Process \$10.00'.

### 3. Give



### 4. Repeat



# July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 9am online Worship 9am Drive-In Worship	6	7	8 Youth Book Club 6:30pm	9	10	11
12 9am Online Worship 9am Drive-In Worship Hoyer Baptism	12	14	15 Youth Book Club 6:30pm	16	17	18
19 9am online Worship 9am Drive-In Worship	20	21	22 Youth Book Club 6:30pm 7:30pm Mission Trip Meeting	23	24	25
Pastor Lucas will be on vacation from July 16th –26th						
26 9am online Worship 9am Drive-In Worship	27	28	29 Youth Book Club 6:30pm	30	31	

## **New Church Emails:**

[pastor.os@hbc.com](mailto:pastor.os@hbc.com)

[admin.os@hbc.com](mailto:admin.os@hbc.com)

[treasurer.os@hbc.com](mailto:treasurer.os@hbc.com)

## **Our Savior's Worship Options**

9am Drive-In Worship

9am Virtual Online Worship

## **In Need of Prayer!**



Judie Goodwin, Mary(Scott)Kiefer, Mark Kiefer, Marion Erlandson, Norris Berg, Mason Lee, Bob Furan, Larry Shefvland, Tom Dachel, Betty Winger, Tom Springette, Julie Mazac, Gary Johnson, Gerald Place, Laura Kemmerer, Anna Walentowski, Betty Davidson, Alan Nelson, Zachery Caterer, and Kristen Anderson.

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

## **2020 Atrium Post Acute Care & Preferred Living combined Schedule for Our Savior's**

### **Wednesday September 9th**

1:30pm Preferred Living

2:30pm Atrium Senior Living

### **Wednesday December 9th**

1:30pm Preferred Living

2:30pm Atrium Senior Living

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