

# Our Savior's Lutheran Church

## Newsletter

March 2017

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

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

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The first sermon I ever preached was on the first Sunday in Lent, 2010, and the most profoundly sticky part of the sermon was about an arctic seabird called a puffin. The medieval church in Europe had a law that no one could eat meat during Lent, except for fish on Fridays (the origin of fish fries, it seems). The issue was, in northern Europe, there was this quirky little bird called a puffin that spent a lot of its life in the water. It was somehow reasoned that, because of this, the puffin was not a bird, but a fish—and people could eat it on Fridays. We look for loopholes in commitments we're not really committed to, it seems.

A lot of us choose to take on a Lenten discipline, usually in the form of giving something up. I know a lot of us will give up chocolate or swearing for forty days. But a friend of mine once asked me why it should be limited to Lent, and I have to say, she had a point. What we do in Lent when we take on disciplines of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving (the traditional triplets of Lent) isn't intended to be something we only hold onto during these forty days. The disciplines are meant to shape us into habits that we carry on in our Christian lives.

So when we start praying regularly during this season, forty days is expected to be sufficient to start make it into a good new habit. And when we start intentionally having a few dollars in our pocket for the purpose of helping those in need, forty days is meant to build it into a new habit. And when we give up judging others, we expect that forty days will be enough to start making that a habit.

Definitely choose what disciplines you feel will bring you closer to God and shape you more into who God wants you to be during Lent. But don't find puffins among your fish—your disciplines are meant to build into holy habits in your life, not obligatory things you take on for forty begrudging days until Easter. Take the opportunity this Lenten season to discern how God is calling you to deeper relationship and love with your Savior and with your neighbor.

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. **April 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Call the Office if any of these dates would work out for your family. 715-273-4570



#### In Need of Prayer

Andy Foley, Judy Helmer, Danika Newberry, 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.

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council Meeting**  
**February 7, 2017 7 pm**

Present: Tom Holdorf, Ed Rohl, Debbi Pittman, Norris Berg, Audrey Severson, Brenda Winger, Jim Chisholm, Pastor Lucas

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Holdorf at 7 pm

Pastor Lucas led discussion on the last two chapters of our stewardship book Ask, Thank, Tell. He will use the book with the Stewardship committee in the coming months to develop a program for our church.

January Minutes: Motion to approve by Norris, s/m by Deb.

**Treasurer's report:** General account has \$ -195.57 and the designated accounts \$32,879.26. A loan from designated of \$3,290 to pay for bills remains from 2016. Ed m/m to approve, Brenda s/m.

**Pastor's Report:** There will be a round robin pulpit exchange for Wednesday evening Lenten services. We will begin a Prayer Project during Lent with each volunteer having two names of our high school/college age youth to pray for their growth and safety.

**Youth Report:** Reviewed

**Committee Reports:** None

**Conflict Detection:** Sanctuary walls have dents and scraps that may need paint. Referred to the Property Committee. Monitor on TVs cannot be read easily at all places in church. We will experiment with changing the font or color.

Candlelight Xmas Eve service could be a real fire hazard as well as wax gets on the carpet. Jim will look into battery operated candles.

**Old Business:** Annual meeting on Feb 12 agenda sent out. Pastor will ask the synod for possible missionary support names. We watched a video from the ELCA about where our money goes which we will show at the annual meeting.

Installation of newly elected council and committee members will be held Feb 19.

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**2017 Atrium Post Acute Care & Preferred Living  
combined Schedule for Our Savior's**

<b>March</b> 3/8 Atrium Post Acute Care 2:30pm	<b>June</b> 6/21 Atrium Post Acute Care 2:30pm	<b>September</b> <b>None</b>
<b>April</b> <b>None</b>	<b>July</b> <b>None</b>	<b>October</b> 10/18 Atrium Post Acute Care 2:30pm
<b>May</b> 5/3 Preferred Living 1:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care 2:30pm	<b>August</b> 8/23 Atrium Post Acute Care 2:30pm	<b>November</b> <b>None</b>
		<b>December</b> 12/6 Preferred Living 1:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care 2:30pm

## Men In Mission Meeting - Feb. 18, 2017

After breakfast served by Bruce Place, the meeting was called to order by President Lemoine Baker.

The secretary's report was read and approved.

Treasurer Chuck Christopherson reported that we have made \$490.00 from the oyster stew/soup dinner. There is \$4,243.00 in the Luther Point Bible Camp fund, \$2,658.00 in the general fund, and \$2,929.00 in the fair stand fund. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Old Business:** Donna Constant reported that the concession stand improvements are completed. Jim Foley has done some remarkable remodeling. Thank you Jim!

Several members adjourned to the ball park after the meeting to cut down three large pines behind the outfield fences. It was the consensus that we need to bury the remaining electric line between the two light poles in center and right field. This is the overhead line that was damaged by a storm last summer. We are still looking into bids with the lowest so far being about \$1600.

**New Business:** Pete Falde will call Brad Ristow from Pierce-Pepin to set up a pole inspection since it has been ten years for some of the poles.

**The anneal pancake breakfast this year will be Sunday, April 23rd**, immediately following church. Proceeds will go to pay half of the registration fees of campers at Luther Point this coming summer. Clair will apply for a Thrivent Action Team (TAT) event to get \$250.00 from Thrivent for expenses.

Donna reported that there are ten teams signed up for softball this coming summer along with two more tentative teams. We will either play Sunday evening through Thursday evening (double headers), or play two games each evening with four different teams playing. We need more volunteers to man the concession stand this year. One possibility could be more involvement from high school students to fill their community service requirements at the high school. Possible parking problems were discussed and will be addressed further at the next meeting.

Donna reported that the Pierce County Health Department has inspected the concession stand along with our menu and food preparation and found everything to be acceptable. We hope to have a popcorn machine up and running. Also, we now have gravity-feed running water.

MIM will host the coffee hour on Sunday, March 26th.

Next MIM meeting will be Saturday, April 22nd, the day before the pancake breakfast. Clair and Lemoine will serve.

The meeting was adjourned. Ten members present.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary, Clair Severson

## **Project Prayer**

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we approach the season of Lent, it is good to consider how God is calling us to the spiritual practices of reflection, prayer, and action. Often it is the case in our busy lives that we neglect to pray regularly, or to grow in our prayer life. In working to strengthen our faith lives, it is equally important for us to pray for others—particularly our young people—and the Lenten season gives us a focused opportunity to do so by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The influences and challenges of young people’s lives have changed over the past few decades. In the 1960s, the strongest influence was from family and school; now it is media and their peers. They face the traditional difficulties of bullying, hormones, and peer pressure, but are now faced with drugs, pornography, trafficking, and violence. It is right and good that we should pray for our young people to give them spiritual armor against the brokenness of the world.

There are programs that the ELCA, The Synod, and WELCA have partnered with which stress intercessory prayer on behalf of youth and children such as Cherish our Children and Adults Saving Kids. We call on the saints of Our Savior’s to commit to praying for two young people each day during Lent as a spiritual discipline. You will be given the names of two young people as well as a packet with weekly Bible verses and a daily prayer to which you can add your own words.

Because we aim to provide two adults praying for each young person, we will need at least forty volunteers to begin this ministry. If we have more volunteers, we will expand those we pray for to adults in the congregation as well. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office. The names of the young people you will be asked to pray for will be provided on Ash Wednesday, March 1st.

Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Lucas and Audrey Severson

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### **PROJECT PRAYER**

**I will pray for two people during the Lenten season.**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

# Walking Together: GETTING THE WORD OUT

The purpose of Walking Together is to equip God's people to do ministry and build up the churches in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin.

Walking Together is like the sports equipment room at the high school gym. There you can find the balls, nets, bats, pads, uniforms, skis, poles, and anything else you might need for a sports team or gym class.

At Walking Together you will be EQUIPED with new ideas, inspiration, resources, and materials you can actually take home and use in your congregation. This is a very practical event taught by experts and practitioners who are excited to share what works in their congregation.

Join others from throughout Northwestern Wisconsin for a day of learning, sharing, renewing and connecting at UW-Fau Claire, Davies Center

**Saturday, March 18.**

**9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**Registration: \$20 per person**

Here's a list of just a few of the over 40 workshops that are being offered this year!

**Worship and Music**

Tangled Blue

Lectionary? Common? Narrative? Revised?

**Faith Formation**

For Shy Lutherans: A "how to" guide in getting acquainted with your neighbors

Feeling Called? The Way to Rostered Ministry

Our Synod Lay School of Ministry-It's for You

PR For the Reformation 500--Pictures and Resources

**Youth and Family**

Youth Gathering Information

Where are the Youth

Generations in Generosity

**Global Mission -Service -Justice**

Mission Tellers

Your Voice Matters

How and Why to have Helpful Conversations about Race

What's the latest on the Israel/Palestine scene?

Starving for World Hunger PR Ideas?

# Walking Together

Sponsored by the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin + March 18, 2017

UW-Fau Claire Davies Center

**Registration Form**

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fees:**

Individuals: \$20

Presenters: 1 presenter free, all others \$20

Youth/Young Adults (Age 25 and younger):

Free

Send this form with your check to:

NW Synod of WI

944 24 1/2 Street, Suite 2

Chetek, WI 54728

Individual's Name

Email

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Presenter's Name

Email

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Youth/Young Adult's Name

Email

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE

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### BACKPACKS FOR THE WEEKEND:

 Please help us fill our grocery cart with Mac & Cheese, or boxed potatoes for the month of March. We appreciate your monthly donations to this program which is administered through the Ellsworth Food Shelf.

**Luther Point summer Camping!** Get your summer camp registrations in by April 1st and save \$15 (the early bird discount). Register on-line at [lutherpoint.org](http://lutherpoint.org). Make only the down payment. After the Men In Mission is billed for half of your registration cost, Luther Point will contact you for the remainder of the cost.

Note: Friends of Our Savior's campers must indicate in the comments section at the bottom of the registration form that they are going to camp with a member from Our Savior's, Beldenville. Only then will Luther Point know to bill the Our Savior's Men In Mission for half of their registration cost.

If you have questions, please contact Clair Severson

**The Anneal pancake breakfast this year will be Sunday, April 23rd**, immediately following church. Proceeds will go to pay half of the registration fees of campers at Luther Point this coming summer.

**Ervin Golson** will be 90 on the 12th of March - we would like to invite everyone to help us celebrate his birthday. Cake and Coffee from 1 to 3 pm on March 12th. Ervin is at the Havenwood Facility in Glenwood City and the address is 614 E Oak Street, Glenwood, WI 54013. I am sure he would be so excited to see everyone so please try and join us to celebrate with him. Thanks, Donna

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Celebrating A Savior:** Join us for this presentation of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. March 19, 2017. Doors Open at 5pm for Soup Supper At Faith Community Church in New Richmond **5:00 pm Supper and 6:00 pm Show** FREE WILL OFFERING FOR DINNER & SHOW. **RSVP's Appreciated But Not Required.** RSVP by calling 715-497-4438 or by logging onto: [www.saserenityhome.org](http://www.saserenityhome.org) or [www.sagraceplace.org](http://www.sagraceplace.org) (Proceeds will go to Grace Place and Serenity Home Shelters)

**Exciting News!** Our Savior's Church was chose to receive a grant, to offer a free yoga class at church. We are thinking about offering the 6 week 1 day a week session in May. The fist 12 that commit to the class will get a free yoga mat, and a water bottle. More details to come.

**Bowls for Hope Fundraiser:** The UW-River Falls each year holds a Bowls for Hope fundraiser for nonprofit organizations. This year the Hunger Prevention Council/Ellsworth Food Pantry is the selected nonprofit to benefit this year. Soups will be provided by area restaurants for tasting and potters will provide hand-made bowls which you select and can take home. Tickets are \$25/adults and \$5/child 12 and under. The date is Tuesday, March 7 from 5-7 pm at the University Center Riverview Ballroom on campus. Tickets must be purchased ahead. See Audrey Severson for tickets or stop at the Ellsworth Food Pantry on Main Street to buy your tickets.

**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 \$310.00 until January 6 early discount or \$175/day. See [welcatg.org](http://welcatg.org) for more information. A bus will be available from our synod for the first day and a return bus on Sunday.

**Hello friends of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin!** Details are finalized and we are making preparations for our synod trips to Malawi, Africa this summer. We are planning to take two trips during the month of July: the first trip will be for adults and take place July 1-16th. The second trip will be for high school youth and college students and take place from July 16-August 1st.

# March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guild Audrey Severson Bev Radkey	Money Counters Norris Berg					
			1 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Choir practice following Worship	2	3	4
5 9am Worship 10am Fellowship No SS Hour Adult forum	6	7 7pm Council Meeting	8 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care Service 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Choir practice following Worship	9	10	11
12 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:15 SS Hour	13 5pm Women's Bible Study	14	15 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Choir practice following Worship	16	17	18 Walking Together
19 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:15 SS Hour Adult Forum	20	21	22 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Choir practice following Worship	23	24	25
26 9am Worship (Choir Sing) 10am Fellowship 10:15 SS Hour	27	28	29 8:30am Quilting 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Choir practice following Worship	30	31	April Money Counters Norris Berg Debbi Pittman

## March 2017

						Communion
	Greeters	Ushers	Acolyte	Reader	Bell Ringer	Server
March 5 9:00 am	Patricia/Casey Peterson Family	Stacy/Kerry Hansen Kay/Norris Berg	Megan Hansen Desirae Peterson	Jim Chisholm	Warren Schade	Audrey Severson
March 12 9:00 am	Christi/David Edin Family	Dawn/Brian Madsen Jenny J./Belinda Foley	Anthony Madsen Ian Peterson	Mary Halls	Brooke Minder	JoAnn Place Sue Peterson
March 19 9:00 am	Amy/Ken Matzek Family	Jill/Don Rosenberry Mel/Chuck Freier	Ryan Matzek Rhett Rasmussen	Lanette Place	Alex Matzek	Dan Olson Sheryl Mercord
March 26 9:00 am	Rhoda/Rick Foley	Lori/Don Schroeder Leah/Paul Frandsen	Shane Johnson Tyler Schroeder	Steve Straub	Shalea Frandsen	Leah Frandsen Kay Berg

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.