

# Our Savior's Lutheran Church

## Newsletter

November 2018

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

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

I saw a bumper sticker recently that said “What we keep trying to put in the microwave, God keeps moving to the crockpot.”

So much of how we run things in the world ignores the crucial element of time. If something is going to be successful, it needs to be successful *right away*. The only way to address any issue is to do it *immediately*. We tend to operate on a time scale that doesn't want to give any time to anything. Even a web page taking more than two seconds to load can send a lot of us into a whirl of frustration!

But what we keep trying to put in the microwave, God keeps moving to the crockpot.

Things that really matter take a long time, and the results are so much better than if we try to rush it. No one microwaves chili and expects it to be good, after all. In the same way, God calls on us to be patient, diligent, and dedicated to the kind of change God is bringing into the world through the kingdom. It's that slow, patient, long-term investment of time that makes our spiritual lives grow and mature into something flavorful and complex and good.

Especially I think of the brokenness of the world. We all want it better; we all want to see the world fixed, sin put to flight, hatred dissolved, dividing lines erased—but we want it *now*. And that's just not the way God works. To confront the brokenness of systemic racism, we need lots of time to stew, to break down the toughness of our hearts that resist confession and repentance. The same goes for antisemitism, and our deep political divide, and broken friendships, and ongoing arguments within the family. It takes sitting in the crockpot of God's grace for a long time, letting it work slowly in us to make something beautiful and wonderful as a result.

So in the midst of it all, we continue to pray. We continue to pay attention to how God is at work in us, waiting on that grace to take hold and cook away the raw sin that binds us. We continue to come to worship, being reminded of who and whose we are and how we are called to be that motley collection of saints and sinners who are being made into a new creation, slowly but surely. And we continue to listen as God works in and through us, not like a microwave where all will be ready in sixty seconds, but like a crockpot that takes all day.

May God give us all patience as we become who God created us to be.

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.

**November 18, December 16**

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

## ON STEWARDSHIP

*Over the next several months, we will hear from various members of the congregation and how they grew in their stewardship. We hope you will see something of yourself in these articles, and recognize that wherever you are in your stewardship discipline, God calls you to grow in your understanding that you are called to use what you have been given for the good of the kingdom of God, and you can always grow more.*

I was never very good at being consistent at giving growing up. My parents set a good example of taking some regular amount from their income to give weekly to the church, and it was always ideal that I wanted to live up to—but I never seemed to get the hang of it. On occasion I would happen to have some cash in my pocket left over from some other thing I had used it for, and that would end up in the offering plate. As a teenager and then in college, I basically never had cash on hand and the bank was never on the way to church, so that made giving regularly difficult.

It really wasn't until I got married that I started giving regularly. Before we were married we discussed how it would be important to make giving at least something regularly needed to be a priority. What really helped make that a reality was Simply Giving, because then we could go through the hectic routine of getting ready for Sunday morning (and all that entails as pastors) without worrying we'd forget the checkbook or forget to drop by the bank for some cash. It's built into our budget, and we can maintain that discipline without having to worry about overlooking it.

What we continue to grow in is the amount. Sometimes, I think we assume we either have to tithe (give 10%) or we need to feel horrible about ourselves. But that's just not true. God calls us to grow in giving, and Annie and I do what we can. Carrying the weight of student loan debt does take a lot away from what we can give with joy (as Paul said to the Corinthians), but we have discussed how we can increase our giving from its current much-less-than-a-tithe. We continue to trust that God calls us to a growing discipline more than God calls us to a certain number!

In Christ,  
Pastor Lucas

## THANK YOU

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**Youth Donation & Memorial;** Thank you for your generous donation to our youth here at Our Savior's. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**A Special Thank You:** to everyone that donated the crafts and baked goods for the youth craft room. This event wouldn't be possible without you. Your dedication to our Youth is greatly appreciated!

**Our 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutefisk Supper** is another history in the books. This year we served a grand total of 756 meals with 633 tickets sold and 123 workers. With great appreciation we want to Thank each and every one of you for



### In Need of Prayer

John Shefveland, Ron Mireau, Barry Place, Don Christopherson, Judy Rue, Zachery Caterer, Stu Vandenberg, Roger Billeter, Percy Gunderson, Bev Radkey, 652nd Engineers Unit, Colleen Johnson, Trudy Owen, Laurine Baker, and Kristen Anderson.  
If you know of anyone that should be on our prayer list please contact the office.

# Council Meeting Minutes

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October 2nd at 7pm

**Present were:** Pastor, Deb, Bruce, Stacy, Randy, Tom, and Dawn. The meeting was called to order by President Tom. Pastor led us in prayer.

**Secretary's report:** reviewed. Motion made by Bruce to accept as written, second by Deb.

**Treasurer's report:** \$6,750.36 in the designated account. \$43.85 in the general account. All bills are paid. To date our loan from general is \$23,015.47 (this includes carry over from last year). Motion made to accept report made by Randy, second by Dawn

**Pastor's report:** see attached.

**Youth report:** see attached

Committee reports: none

**Guest member:** Audrey came to address the council on Lutefisk Supper 2019 and our missionary support.

We committed 2 years for mission support for Young Adults in Mission. The Synod has provided our congregation with 4 candidates. Council feels this is an Evangelism item. Will ask the Evangelism committee to review candidates and bring their recommendation to the council for approval next month. In 2019 the Lutefisk supper, which has been the LAST Thursday of October, will fall on Halloween. We run into this every 4 years or so. To be proactive Audrey asked the council to change the Lutefisk (and Meatball) Supper to the fourth Thursday of October. Deb made motion, Randy second. Motion approved. Also feel with the declining numbers, and lack of people interested in Lutefisk, we give our meatballs some focus. \$500 of proceeds from the Lutefisk supper is paid directly to the church for paper products and utilities.

**Conflict Detection:** none

**Old Business:** Randy evaluated tax laws for giving. Given the standard deduction is high, many do not itemize. It is possible to provide a large enough amount to get the deduction, something to consider when doing taxes.

    Paternity leave is 2 weeks. Pastor can take as separate days.

    The current 8<sup>th</sup> grade class will run into a conflict with confirmation requirements. An addendum will be made for the confirmands of this class. Moving forward, kids will need to plan accordingly for the class trip and confirmation requirements. We will also have to investigate mission trips which include younger children.

    Phone Apps for giving were discussed. Deb to review bank options for this as well. More to come.

**New Business:** Patricia's schedule. Moving forward, Patricia will have Thursday's off instead of Wednesday. AED training was completed by council members present. Stacy to hold sessions after church on 2 Sundays, to be announced before service and placed on screen announcements.

Motion to adjourn made by Deb, second by Randy.

Adjourned at 8:30 pm

The next meeting will be November 6, 2018

Respectfully submitted by Stacy Hansen

## Men In Mission meeting - October 20, 2018

After a Bible study led by Pastor Lucas, the business meeting was called to order by President Lemoine Baker.

The secretary's report was read and approved. Clair read a Thank You note received from George Rohl.

Treasurer Chuck Christopherson reported that, after receiving \$2,400 from the softball league and paying the summer bills for electricity and the porta-potty, we have \$2,623 in the general fund. We have \$4,281 in the Luther Point Bible Camp fund and \$2,758 in the fair stand fund, not including the results from this year's fair. After the profits from the fair have been determined and before handing over the proceeds to the church, a motion was made by Donna and seconded by Brian J. that we hold back \$3,000 for start up fees for next years fair. Motion carried. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Old Business:** Donna has received a certified land map from the county and after the property lines have been established, we will start clearing out some trees on the east and north sides. We have decided to replace them with maples and hardwood trees. We will do this as two separate projects; the north and east sides first, followed by considerations for the west and south.

First, Donna will talk with Bruce P. and Ed R. to see if they can help us with the measuring. We will need a workday to cut trees and timing will be determined by the weather.

Donna reported that the culverts and extensions for the driveway are in and black dirt is being spread. A pump has been installed so the water is no longer gravity-feed and a hot water heater will be installed.

Rainbow King Kong playground equipment has been purchased second-hand to replace our deteriorating equipment and the softball teams will help with the moving.

Brian J. reported that the five-fourths inch rough cut boards from the pine logs cut down last year are done. He is looking for someone to come up with a project for their use.

**New Business:** Clair made a motion, seconded by Chuck, that we drop the ceiling for our Luther Point Bible Camp Fund from \$7,000 to \$5,000. The rationale being that for years \$5,000 has been enough to cover our costs of helping with camp registration fees. Seems there are less children in church and less children going to Luther Point. Also, with the church council's decision to not require confirmands to attend both Luther Point and also go on a mission trip, Luther Point attendance has declined due to the popularity of mission trips. The motion was carried.

The Men In Mission will serve coffee on November 18th.

Next MIM meeting is scheduled for Saturday, December 15th. Chuck C., Brian J. and Gene O. will serve.

The meeting was adjourned. Eight members present.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Clair Severson=

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE

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 **BACKPACKS FOR THE WEEKEND:** During November we will be collecting **beef stew**, and **hot chocolate** packets as well. Once again, we thank you for your generous support of this very important community program.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Operation Christmas Child:** Collection Sunday November 11th, 2018.

Any questions call Peggy Hoyer (715) 273-4398, or email [ljhoyer@hotmail.com](mailto:ljhoyer@hotmail.com).

Remember: \$9.00 to send a box. No candy, No toothpaste, No chocolate, No food, No liquid or lotions, No breakables like snow globes or glass containers, No aerosol cans, No war-related items, No seeds.

**Community Thanksgiving Service:** Will be held on Wednesday November 21st at 4pm at the English Lutheran Church in Ellsworth.

### **Luther Point Bible Camp's Winter Retreats "Strengthen"**

"The Lord is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." - Exodus 15:2

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 "Strengthen".

Space is limited so sign up quickly, registration opens November 1! Cost is \$65 per person and includes lodging, meals and the program. **Jan 11 – 13: Jr. & Sr. High ~ March 2—3: Family Camp Weekend.**

**Registration Opens November 1! [www.LutherPoint.org](http://www.LutherPoint.org)**

**Printer/Copier for Sale:** The copier that was in the office is for sale. It works great. We were offered a better rate going with a different company. Contact Tom is interested.

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

**December 12th 2:30pm Atrium Post Acute Care**

# November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guild Carron Parmeter Kathy Young	Money Counters Debbi Pittman Norris Berg					
				1	2	3
4 9am Worship Distribution of Bibles 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am SS Hour 10:30am AED Training 10:30am Adult Forum	5	6 7pm Council Meeting	7 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Confirmation 7-8pm Aftershock	8	9	10
11 9am Worship 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am SS Hour 10:15am First Communion Class	12 4pm Women's Bible Study	13	14 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Confirmation 7-8pm Aftershock	15	16	17
18 9am Worship (Baptism) Thankoffering Service 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am SS Hour 10:30am Adult Forum Youth Fundraiser: Silent Auction Starts	19	20	21 No Choir practice No Confirmation/Aftershock 4pm Community Thanksgiving Service @English Lutheran 7pm Service at Our Savior's	22 Happy Thanksgiving!	23	24
25 9am Worship 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am SS Hour Silent Auction continues	26	27	28 No Quilting 6pm Choir Practice 7-8pm Youth Group Speaker: Tasha Schuh	29	30	December Money Counters Mike Allyn

## November 2018

	Greeters	Ushers	Acolyte	Reader	Bell Ringer	Communion Server
Nov. 4 9:00 am	CJ/Chad Young Family	Randy & Nate Winger Ann/Terry Young	Julianna Winger Lily Young	Crystal Raleigh	Shelby Lawler	Rhoda Foley
Nov. 11 9:00 am	Holly/Dan Johnson Family	Megan/Guy Stockwell Lanette/Bruce Place	Raelyn Rasmussen Delaney Johnson	Belinda Foley	Rhett Rasmussen	Tom Holdorf Clair Severson
Nov. 18 9:00 am	Jackie Johnson Sandy Ruikka	Sonia Yunker, Sandy O., Donna C., Kathy Young	McKenna Minder Andi Peterson	Peggy Hoyer	Bridget Peterson	Ann Young Debbi Pittman
Nov. 25 9:00 am	Kolodzienski Family	Lori/Don Schroeder Jackie/John Schroeder	Ava & Morgan Kolodzienski	Jim Chisholm	Shane Johnson	Mary Straub Rhoda Foley

**Assisting Minister: Nov. 4 - Rhoda, Nov. 11 - Tom, Nov. 18 - Ann, Nov. 25 - Rhoda**

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.