

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

April 2022

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

One of the joys I have every Spring is when we get to walk through our neighborhood and there are tulips blooming. They're beautiful flowers, and their arrival means that Spring is really here! But tulips don't start off that way. They start as those really homely little onion-like bulbs that are buried in the ground way back in Fall, before the frost sets in. And if they're not buried in Fall, they don't become tulips in Spring. They need that time to be "dead in the earth" before they can become the beautiful thing they're meant to be.

That's the case with so many plants, right? A seed looks nothing like a flower, but it's only by burying the seed that the flower can come to be. And a corn kernel looks nothing like the stalk, but without burying it the corn remains just a kernel. What is buried becomes something entirely new! And when we talk about resurrection, we're talking about what was being buried and becoming something entirely new.

The new life that we hope for in Christ is resurrected life, and when we talk about resurrected life we mean a life that looks completely different from the life we have before Jesus. Like seeds, we don't look anything like what we will be. When Paul wrote about it he couldn't even describe what the resurrected life except to say "we will be changed." It's a life that's fulfilled and whole and beautiful, beneficial to everyone and pleasing to God. Our resurrected lives will look as radically different from our lives now as a tulip bulb looks radically different from a tulip flower.

What we will be is in us, though. In baptism, the transformation to the resurrected life is already begun! We are already starting to be changed into the resurrected people that God will make us into. We are already blessed with gifts that will make the kingdom whole. And if we've already got the beginnings of this resurrected life in us, shouldn't we start practicing for what we will become? Shouldn't we start training ourselves, because this is who we will become for the blessedness of eternal life!

If God has made you a tulip, what if you started practicing sharing the beauty you will one day share with God every day? And if God has made you a maple tree, what if you start sharing your shade? If God has blessed you to be grass for the kingdom, what if you practice being that place of comfort and relaxation for others, a blanket of green that completes every picturesque landscape? Or if God has put in you the gifts to become a tomato, how could you start brightening the flavor of each day now?

The resurrected life will look so completely different from the one we have now. But that doesn't mean we don't get to start experiencing it now. As the season changes and you start seeing tulips (or green grass, or tomato plants, or leaves on the trees), remember that you are already the possessor of the gifts God will bless you with for eternity. You are already called to become what God will make you into. Start enjoying the resurrection life that God is preparing for you, because as we'll say in not too many days, the tomb is empty and he is risen!

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 16 (Easter Vigil), May 15, June 19, July 17, August 14

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

Easter Message from Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson

April 2022

2 Corinthians 5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Dear Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! This is the good news of Easter. By God's power death is reversed and Christ is raised from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything! Everything is made new.

Change is good news after two years of a pandemic, right? We are ready for a change. But are we really? Do we want everything to become new like we read in 2 Corinthians 5 or do we want the change to be a return to the old and familiar?



If Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything, then what has changed in your life? What difference does Jesus make in your life? What has Jesus made new?

- What difference does Jesus make to my 35 year old nephew whose brain tumor came back, faces radiation treatments and is struggling with his ex for visitation of their three year old son?
- What difference does Jesus mean to our siblings in Malawi who are often threatened by drought, flood and famine or to Ukrainians whose homes were destroyed by a Russian bomb?
- What difference does Jesus make to a stable congregation deciding what their next most faithful step might be or to a declining congregation wondering if their next most faithful step is to close?

As Lutherans we believe that we are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we go under the water as a sinner and we are resurrected with Christ, lifted out of the water, a saint. We are changed for sure and we are reborn children of God! Theologically that's beautiful, but in real life, what difference does Jesus make in your life?

As human beings, Christ's resurrection from the dead challenges us to live into that change. As broken sinful humans, whose lives are "messed or mangled" we live into Easter reality that Christ is present and daily working in our lives. Jesus challenges and changes us. Those of us who doubt our faith and question its relevance are challenged by Easter's promise to see and know God in the transformed lives around us.

Friends we know that Jesus changes our weeping into laughing, our mourning into dancing, our despair into hope, our winter into spring and our death into life. Jesus changes things and makes all things new. We are challenged to see the transformations around us and in us. We are challenged to be the change, evidence of the transformation, for the world to see and know God through us.

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Christ has risen and forever lives,
to challenge and to change.
All whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present,
making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

Challenge: In 24 words or less, answer this question, "What difference does Jesus make in your life?"

Inspired by the Hymn, *Christ has Risen While Earth Slumbers*, vs 4.
All Creation Sings #938, ELW Supplement, Augsburg Fortress, 2020.

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2022

Call Meeting to Order: President Randy Winger at 7:05 PM

Attending: Sharon Seibel, Debbi Pittman, Randy Winger, Jill Rosenberry, Bob Winger, Lanette Place, Ann Young, Patricia Peterson, Dan Place, Donna Constant, John Traun

Absent: Gabe Feuerhelm, Pastor Lucas

Opening Devotions: Lanette Romans 8:3-13, Hymn 676 as a prayer

New Business:

March Money counters: Dan & Bob; A 2022 schedule for money counters was passed to sign up.

April Devotions: Dan P.

Welcome New members: John Traun & Donna Constant-given job descriptions of council members and committee positions and duties.

Audit Repot- Becky Johnson attended.

She and Audrey S looked at three main accounts.

Findings: The Synod recommends 1) there be a formal policy in place for records;

2) all bank accounts have two signers that are up to date.

Considerations: The Synod recommends there be in writing, that if the current Treasurer discontinues the position, the computer purchased and donated by Debbi for the use of the Treasurer position, be returned to the church immediately.

Lanette made a motion to accept the audit report. Bob 2nd. MC

Committee Liaisons for 2022:

Education Committee: Lanette Place

Endowment Committee: Ann Young

Evangelism Committee: Bob Winger

Fairstand Committee: Donna Constant

Luther Point Bible Camp: Jill Rosenberry

Nominating Committee: Donna Constant

Property and Management Committee: Dan Place

Stewardship Committee: TBD

Worship Committee: Sharon Seibel

Youth Committee: Patricia Peterson

COVID Related Worship Service Considerations

Dan made a motion to have communion up front, as well as passing the offering plate, beginning Palm Sunday (April10). Bob 2nd. MC

Sharon will contact the Alter Guild, Worship Committee, and Pastor, to work out the details.

Offer of Generosity-Matching Funds to Food Shelf

A church member has graciously offered to donate \$5 to the Food Shelf for every bag of groceries bought for someone in need. A receipt would be turned into Patricia in the church office to know how many \$5 donations to be given.

Donna made a motion to pursue more details, and that we accept this generous offer. John 2nd. MC

Patricia will put the offer in the bulletin, as soon as we have more details.

Continued on next page....

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

Old Business:

Annual Meeting Recap

The cemetery funding was discussed.

The contribution from Algot's estate was well received.

Ball park Upgrades & Congregational Approval

The ballpark bathrooms would be done in two phases. First need to purchase the septic, well, and holding tank.

The price of the holding tank will go up in April.

So far about \$21,000 has been raised. Needed is about \$30,000.

John made a motion to purchase a 2,000 gallon holding tank for the ballfield, with a written agreement that if the congregation does not approve ballpark bathroom plans, we can return the tank with full refund. Bob 2nd.

MC. 1 member abstained from voting.

Secretary's Report- Lanette made a motion to accept as written. Sharon 2nd. MC

Treasurer's Report-

Designated Account \$38,620.96

General Account \$1,432.55

Money Market \$74,020.33

Total: \$114,073.84

The property insurance for this quarter is \$2,986. It has increased due to the full replacement value. The church was re-measured to make sure we had enough insurance.

Lanette made a motion to revise the money counter recording sheet so the money counters will record all offering on the money sheet versus writing on the envelopes. Dan 2nd. MC

Dan made a motion to accept the report as written. Patricia 2nd. MC

Pastor's report- none

Youth Report- Events

9th grade Confirmation students are asked to attend and participate in all Lent Worship Services.

SOS Kids Crew- March 12

Family Pool Party Event- Sunday, March 27, from 11am-1pm.

Cinnamon Roll Sunday- April 3, Lily Young & Pearl Shelley

Easter Egg Hunt- Saturday, April 9, starting at 11am.

Palm Sunday Brunch- Sunday, April 10.

After the cancellation of the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, we are excited to announce a Tri-Synod Youth Gathering at UWRF. It will be held July 25-July 27th. This is for current 8th-12th graders.

Lanette made a motion to accept the Youth report. Ann 2nd. MC

Committee Reports- none

Conflict Detection- none

Adjourn- John made a motion to adjourn. Jill 2nd. MC. Adjournment at 8:55pm.

Closing Prayer-The Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting April 5, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Rosenberry

Men In Mission Meeting
March 19, 2022

After breakfast served by Bill Bowen and Donna Constant, the meeting was called to order by acting president Tim Wiff.

The secretary's report was read and approved.

The treasurer's report submitted by Tom Holdorf showed that we have \$5090 in the Luther Point Bible Camp fund, \$20,315 in the fair stand fund, and \$2866 in the general fund. A \$100 check was submitted to the church for a cooler rental last summer. Motion by Donna/Bruce Place to accept the treasurer's report.

Old business:

Clair reported that the cooler has been repaired. Many thanks to David Kiefer, Curtis Kees, and Chuck Frier for their help. Any question regarding cooler use will be addressed to the council at their next meeting.

Donna reported that we will definitely have 8 teams playing in this summer's softball season.

A committee has been formed to address the bathroom/storm shelter project for the ball field.

Members are Pete Falde, Bill Bowen, Corey Kiefer, Darrin Christopherson, Clair Severson, and Donna Constant. They will meet again on March 31st. Then a detailed proposal should be in place to come before the church council at their April meeting. Shortly following should be a congregational vote to accept the proposal. \$23,000 has been raised so far, all through donations, most from non-church members.

Donna said we need to plan a work day this spring at the ball park.

New Business:

Clair reported that Linda Donnelly had approached him for FFA approval to use our fair stand for their tractor pull on June 11th. Motion made by Clair/Brian Johnson to permit them to do so.

Also Linda has offered to donate money to the church and/or the ball field in exchange for workers to help at the event.

Clair reported that he has contacted Luther Point as to payment for camper registrations this coming summer. The process will be the same. CAMPERS REGISTER ON-LINE. PAY ONLY THE DOWN PAYMENT. THE MIM WILL PAY HALF OF THE REGISTRATION FEE. WHEN CAMPERS ARRIVE AT L.P., THEY WILL BE CHARGED ONLY THE AMOUNT LEFT AFTER ANY DISCOUNTS.

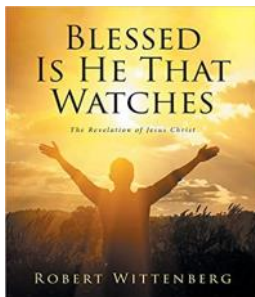
Motion made by Bruce/Clair for the MIM to have a pancake breakfast on April 24th. Serving to start immediately after church and to continue until all are fed. Pancakes, real maple syrup, ham and eggs, milk/juice/coffee. Clair will apply for a Thrivent Action Team donation. The money raised will go to the Pierce County Food shelf.

Next MIM meeting will be May 21st at 8:00 a.m. Clair and Bruce are serving

Meeting adjourned. 6 members present.

Minutes respectfully submitted by secretary Clair Severson

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



**Blessed Is He That Watches:
The Revelation Of Jesus
By: Robert Wittenberg**

This book has been donated to the Our Saviors Library.

Give Groceries and a Donation will be given:



Buy a bag of groceries for someone in the community that is in need. After you deliver the bag of groceries to the community member, bring your receipt to the Church office and a church member will donate \$5.00 for each receipt collected to the church. Our Savior's will then donate the full dollar amount to the Pierce

Country Food Shelf.

The deadline for this community outreach is May 1st.



Silent Messengers

Celebrating A Savior, April 10th, 2022

Doors Open at 5pm for Soup Supper.

Immaculate Conception Church in New Richmond WI

5pm Supper and 6pm Show, Free Will Offering for Dinner and Show

RSVP's appreciated but not required Call 715-497-4438.

(Proceeds will go to Grace Place)

The Evangelism Committee will be collecting new and used winter coats, hats, snow pants, etc. for the Basics for Local Kids during the month of March and April. We have a box in the narthex at church for items or there is a collection box by the BLK building on Chestnut Street, south of main street in Ellsworth. All items must be clean, have working zippers, no rips or tears. As this winter season comes to a close, watch for new items on sale in the stores, as they are getting ready for spring and summer. Any questions ask Sharon Peterson, Pauline Laughnan, or Heather Johnson.



St. Francis School invites you to join us on April 23, 2022 to celebrate and financially support our school at our 16th annual gala, "Ein Prosit" Oktoberfest! Gather up your lederhosen and dirndls, the St. Francis das Bierzelt will open at 4 pm in our parking lot for live German music, a biergarten, and a pretzel bar featuring Brueske's pretzels. Try your luck at raffles, partake in a game of hammer-shlagen, and place your bids on the silent auction, class projects, fund-a-need and premier auction. A German buffet catered by River Valley Catering will be available from 6-8 pm. At 8:30 pm, we will present our event program and pledge drive. Tickets are available online at stfrancisellsworth.org/gala and in the St. Francis School Office. Can't make the event? You can still participate in the auctions on our website beginning on April 19 and watch the event program live on the school's Facebook page @stfrancisellsworth. Danke for your support!

MEN IN MISSION PANCAKE BREAKFAST: The MIM will be hosting a pancake breakfast Sunday April 24th immediately following church until all are fed.

Menu includes; pancakes with real maple syrup, ham and eggs, fruit, coffee, juice and milk. Thanks to Thrivent Financial; this is a Thrivent Action Team event with Thrivent contributing \$250 to our expenses.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS... BRING YOUR FRIENDS...

All proceeds will go to THE PIERCE COUNTY FOOD PANTRY.



Lenten Supper and Worship: Wednesday April 6th. Supper will be at 5:30pm and Worship at 6:30pm.

Easter Week Worship Schedule



April 14th -Maundy Thursday
6pm In-Person & Livestream Worship Service

April 15th - Good Friday
6:30pm Hope Lutheran in River Falls

April 16th - Easter Vigil
7pm In-Person & Livestream Worship Service
followed with Fireworks.

April 17th - Easter Sunday
10am In-Person & Livestream Worship Service

2022 Ellsworth Health & Preferred Living combined Schedule for Our Savior's

Wednesday April 27th
1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services

Wednesday May 18th
1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services

Wednesday August 10th
1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services

Wednesday October 26th
1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services

Wednesday December 28th
1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services



Register on line (www.lutherpoint.org) before May 1st to receive the Early Bird Discount. Make only the down payment on line. The Men In Mission will pay half of the registration fee (whatever registration tier you choose) for all campers, family campers, grandparent-grandchild campers and their friends. When you arrive at Luther Point, they will deduct all applicable discounts and your down payment from your half of the registration fee and you pay only what's left (which may not be very much!)

NOTE: If you have a non-member friend going to camp with you, when they register, they should list "Friend of Our Savior's" in the member church box and Beldenville, WI in the city box. If you have questions you can call Luther Point at 715-689-2347, or talk to Clair Severson

THANK YOU

Our Saviors Church Family, There are not enough words to express how thankful we are for your kindness, support and comforting words in our time of sorrow and heartache. We gratefully appreciate the cards, memorials and kind expressions of sympathy during the loss of baby Samantha Mary Halls. We know she is safe in the arms of Jesus until we see her again.

Blessings, Jake, Amanda & Rachel Halls & Jerry & Mary Halls

Dear Our Savior's Lutheran Church, On behalf of all the people we serve, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service would like to Thank You for your generosity throughout the year of 2021. In God's Peace, Andrew Steele, V.P. for Development and Outreach.

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guilds: Mary Halls Peggy Hoyer Money Counters: Bob Winger Sharon Seibel					1	2
3 Cinnamon Rolls 9am In-person Worship 9am Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour 9:45am SS Hour	4	5 7pm Council Meeting	6 5:30pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Worship Service	7	8	9 10am Easter Egg Hunt
10 Palm Sunday Brunch 9am In-person Worship 9am Livestream 10am Brunch (Youth Fundraiser) No SS Hour	11	12	13	14 Maundy Thursday 6pm	15 Good Friday 6:30pm Hope Lutheran in River Falls	16 7pm Easter Vigil Fireworks to follow
17 Happy Easter 10am In-person Worship 10am Livestream No Fellowship Hour No SS Hour	18	19	20 6pm Ice Cream Outing (9th Grade Confirmation only)	21	22	23
24 Pancake Breakfast 9am In-person Worship 9am Livestream 10am Pancake Breakfast (MIM) 9:45am SS hour	25	26	27 8:30am Quilting 1:30pm Preferred Living 2:30pm Ellsworth Health 6pm Confirmation Banquet	28	29	30 Synod Assembly Jill & Donald Rosenberry

eGiving Options



We offer convenient eGiving options that help you make donations on a one-time or recurring basis, including texting your donation to 833-506-0632 then following the instructions on your phone, or online at oursaviorschurch.info under the “give” tab. We highly recommend this method of giving for anyone who wishes to support the church. We also welcome mailing or bringing your donation to the church. Thank you for your generosity from all of us at Our Savior’s!

In Need of Prayer!



Jay Handsaker, Ryan Wearda, Kimber Hause, Don & Delores Stellrecht, Ray Carlson, Ian Peterson, Sharon Dingrando, Peggy Roach, Carol Lewis, Ashley Hinrichs, Eldon Schellfeffer, Mary Jo Bjork, Calvin Boe, Shirley Nickel, Della Larson, Mark Kiefer, Tom Dachel, Anna Walentowski, and Kristen Anderson.

If you know of anyone that should be on our prayer list please contact the office. The names will be on the prayer list for two weeks unless specified.

Our Savior's Youth News ~ April 2022

Palm Sunday Brunch



Sunday April 10th
Youth Gathering Fundraiser
Menu: Egg bake, Fruit and Muffins
Coffee, Milk, Juice, Water

Our Savior's Annual EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday April 9th at 10am



Plan to spend the morning at this Fun Family Event!

Our Savior's Youth News ~ April 2022

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Youth Group



Join me for S.O.S. Kids Crew!

Wednesday, April 20th

4:00 – 5:30 pm

I would like to invite all youth in 1st through 5th grade, along with their friends, to join me for S.O.S. Kids Crew.

Wear your SOS t-shirt!

All kids are able to ride bus route #16.

Please remember to send a note to school saying that your child will be riding bus route #16 to Church.

If you prefer to drive your child, have them to church by 4pm.

Youth April Schedule

Sunday April 3rd Cinnamon Roll Sunday (Lily Young & Pearl Shelley)

Wednesday April 6th 5:30pm Supper, 6:30pm Lent Worship Service

Saturday April 9th 10am Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday April 10th Palm Sunday Brunch (Youth Gathering Fundraiser)

Wednesday April 20th 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew, 6pm Ice Cream Outing (9th Graders only)

Wednesday April 27th 6pm Confirmation Banquet

Sunday May 1st 9am Confirmation Sunday

Join us for

REBOUND

Tri-Synod High School Youth Gathering

Dates: Monday July 25-27, 2022

Location: UW River Falls

Cost: \$275* Per Participant

8th Graders are Welcome to Join!

We will encounter God together in new ways through creative ministry, challenging conversation, inspiring guest speakers, service learning projects in the twin cities, and uplifting worship.

More detailed information is on the table in the Narthex.

Youth participating: Derek Johnson, Delaney Johnson, Lily Young, Nora Feuerhelm, Andi Peterson, Pearl Shelley and George Rohl. **Chaperones:** Patricia and Cory Johnson.



2022
Pool
Party



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Pastor Lucas Ladnier
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