

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

December 2022

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

Every family has its own pace, but by now I expect most of us are fully into the season of Christmas, with lights and music and trees, preparing for the big day as we plan out when to bake and wrap presents and who will meet at what house when during the holiday season. I know there is a lot of controversy about the ever-encroaching beginning of this season (I heard Christmas music on the radio literally the day after Halloween), but there is one feature of this season that I think is worth celebrating in its entirety: generosity.

No season of the year is so marked by generosity in our culture as the Christmas season. Think of how much thought, purposefulness, and joy we put into selecting just the right gift for each person we know, wanting to make sure everyone has something to unwrap under the tree, sending cards to let ever-distant friends and family know how we have been in the past year. And even though the materialism of the season can feel worrisome at times, it keeps anchoring itself in that feeling of generosity—we don't get all this stuff for ourselves; we get it so we can give it away. It's truly amazing how the season brings out the sharing spirit in all of us!

And it's not just presents under the tree. Just at Our Savior's, we have three separate programs to share our abundance with those in need. We send boxes to Operation Christmas Child, ensuring needy children in faraway places know that they are not forgotten even by people who are far removed from their circumstances. We have the gift box program, where we make sure needy families in our area have presents to open, even when they can't afford them. And we have God's Good Gifts, where we donate to Lutheran World Relief to provide for needy families in this holiday season. Our generosity gets ramped up as we contemplate the ultimate gift we've been given in Jesus!

So I hope this season you will see the hustle and bustle of people getting gifts and delivering baked goods and arranging holiday parties, and see the way God's spirit of generosity is awakened in each of us. I hope you'll hear the Christmas carols and think about how God is calling you to be generous with your friends, your family, and strangers both near and far. I hope you'll see through the crass materiality that Christmas can sometimes become, and feel the spirit of generosity that inspires you to share your abundance with others in this season. And I hope you'll remember how the gift of Jesus is the start of it all.

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.

**December 11th, January 15th, February 19th, April 8th
(Easter Vigil), May 14th, June 18th,
July 16th, August 13th.**

Contact the Office if any of these dates would
work for your family.
admin.os@hbc.com, 715-273-4570



Christmas Worship Services

Christmas Eve

Saturday December 24th 4pm

Christmas Day

Sunday December 25th 10am

“From Worry to Wonder”

A Christmas Message from

Bishop Laurie



On June 19, 2020 our granddaughter was born. She was born three months into the pandemic. Her parents were worried. Her grandparents were worried. It is challenging enough to be pregnant and give birth in the best of times but to give birth in the middle of a worldwide pandemic is an even greater worry. We worried about the unknown dangers this virus might present to the mother, the unborn baby, and the new born baby. Our worries kept us up at night. Our worries were relieved when she was finally born, perfect in every way. Our worry gave way to wonder-filled joy. Worry transformed to wonder as we looked back to see how God was holding and carrying them through the unavoidable worry. Our worry transformed to gratitude and wonder watching for what God would be up to next in her tiny life.

It's December 2022. We prepare to celebrate the birth our Lord Jesus. This Advent we come with our fears and worries too. We are living in the midst of challenging times in our country. The very foundation of our nation seems less stable. We each come with our own personal set of worries and fears about our families, health, finances, work, safety, the future... What is it that keeps you up at night? What are you worried about today? Folks across our church are experiencing doubts and uneasiness about the future of their church. Does it keep you up at night? What are the threats to your church's future? How can the conversation move from fear and worry to wonder? As the miracle of Christ's birth is celebrated this season, we can move from worry to wonder. We wonder what God is up to now in this day and age. Together we wonder what God's will is for the future of our church. Together we wonder; how can we use the abundance and blessings, (what we do have and opportunities in front of us), to make a difference in Jesus' name.

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. Luke 2:8-10a

Shepherds living in the fields watched over their sheep to keep them safe. There were dangers that kept the shepherds up at night and plenty of things for the shepherd's to worry about in the cold night like wild animals, predators, thieves, & bad weather. There was so much to worry about, but one night an angel of the Lord, all shiny and bright appeared and transformed their fears and worldly worry to divine wonder.

To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” Luke 2:11-14

Friends, you are precious, beloved, baptized children of God. We know that the antidote to worry is to trust in God.

During this Advent, Christmas and Epiphany season I pray that your worries will be transformed to wonder at what God **is** doing and promises **to** do in your lives and in our churches. May the miracle of Christ's birth transform your worries to wonder! I am grateful for your partnership in ministry.

Peace be with you,

Rev. Laurie M. Olson

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2022

Call Meeting to Order: President Randy Winger at 7:00 PM

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

Absent: Gabe Feuerhelm, Sharon Seibel, Dan Place

Opening Devotions: Pastor Lucas lead a book study on a section of *Waking Up White*, by Debby Irving. We will discuss the next section at the December council meeting.

New Business:

November Money counters & Tech assistants: Dan and whoever can help.

December money counters & Tech assistants: Randy and John

Upcoming Events: New Member Sunday (11/13), Gift Box Program, Operation Christmas Child (11/13)-At least two new members will join, maybe two more.

Old Business:

Lutefisk Supper Updates-

Very successful. 400 dine-in guests served with many more turned away. 35 take-out orders, and 84 workers dined. The reservation system was time consuming. We will have a volunteer help next year in making reservations. We could add another half hour at the beginning and end, so that we serve 500 guests.

Fiber Optic in final stages

Two concerns: Swift Current only allows electronic payment. Patricia is trying to pay for the fee to run the fiber optics to the church and the other fees. Instead of paying the commercial rate, we should get a discount for being a church. The electronic payment discount option isn't there. She will contact Swift Current to find out how to proceed. Right now the internet is hard wired. Swift Current says the router will be at the opposite end of the church office. We will need to have the connection hard wired so that we can do live streaming. Patricia will call Swift Current/Pierce Pepin to have them bring the wiring into a location that will work for us.

Licenses for music and livestream

In order to Live Stream and to print all of our worship music and materials in the bulletin and screens, we need to have four licenses.

Donna made a motion, seconded by John, to approve continuing the four licenses in the amount of \$200 for One License, \$458 for CCLI, and \$300-500 for Sundays and Seasons, in order to continue Live Streaming and printing the bulletins. M/C

Secretary's Report-

Lanette made a motion, seconded by Patricia, to approve the October 4, 2022 council meeting minutes as presented by Jill. M/C

Continued on next page.....

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report-

Designated Account \$70,054.62

General Account \$-216.82

Money Market \$232,742.23

Total: \$302,580.03

Progress on loan from Designated Fund: Around \$4,400 has been paid back so far.

We are continuing to work on finding the best CD to invest our estate fund into.

Payout of 2022 Fair stand Disbursements- All disbursement has been paid out. We have received many Thank you cards.

Lanette made a motion, seconded by Patricia, to accept the Treasurer's report as written. M/C

Pastor's report- Pastor Lucas highlighted that we had one baptism in October, Bibles were handed out to 4yk and 2nd and 6th graders, and the Confirmation class has finished studying The Apostles Creed. He has asked the Council to name three goals using an Inward goal to strengthen our congregation's sense of community, an Outward goal to carry our mission to the community, and an Upward goal of how we can connect ourselves and our community to God. Complete report on file. Bob made a motion, seconded by Donna to accept the Pastor's report as written. M/C

Youth Report-

Patricia highlighted a few events from her printed report. There are 2023 Scripture Calendars and Christmas Cards available for purchase on the Youth Table in the dining room. Silent Auction fundraiser will be

November 20-December 11. The next Mission Trip will be July 9-15, 2023, to Mission, South Dakota.

The Youth Report is on file. John made a motion, seconded by Pastor, to accept the report as written. M/C

Committee Reports-

Property Committee: Phase one of painting the outside trouble areas of the church is completed. Phase two will begin next year.

Endowment Committee: Will meet soon to discuss Scholarships.

Stewardship Committee: Included a giving page in the newsletter.

Worship Committee: Christmas Worship Services: Since Christmas Eve is on Saturday, December 24, discussion was had about service times. Pastor Lucas made a motion, seconded by Bob, that Christmas Eve Service be at 4:00pm, and Christmas Day Service be at 10am. M/C **We will have one Christmas Eve service this year at 4:00pm. Christmas Day Service will be 10:00am.**

Conflict Detection- Discussion about some members are concerned about the message of how much money is brought in from the fair, but we need to ask for donations for our fuel bills.

Action: We need to communicate better that our administration costs are covered with our fair stand fundraising. It is advertised that all fair stand profits go to our outreach missions. A message from the council will be included in the December newsletter.

Adjourn- Bob made a motion, seconded by John, to adjourn at 8:50 pm. M/C

Closing Prayer-The Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting: December 6, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Rosenberry

Men In Mission meeting
November 12, 2022

After breakfast served by Ron Halverson and Tim Wiff, devotions were led by pastor Lucas.

The business meeting was called to order by president Lemoine Baker.
The secretary's report was read and approved.

Reporting for Treasurer Tom Holdorf, Clair said we have \$3,977 in the Luther Point Bible Camp Fund, \$21,653 in the fair stand fund, and \$3,840 in the general fund. The fair bills have all been paid. We will receive \$35 from Coca Cola for a stop-payment on the first check, payment for pop, that they lost. Then the final fair fund total will be \$21,688. The treasurer's report was approved.

Clair reported that if we hold back our usual \$3000 for next year's fair start-up and \$1500 for maintenance upgrades, we would be giving the church \$17,100 for outreach ministries. The motion was made by Clair/Bruce that we do that. Motion approved.

Old Business:

Donna reported that we received \$1200 from members of "The Power Of Women" group for the ballpark improvement. We are looking to have the Hoyer Bros. drill the well at the ballpark yet this fall. And a possibility of pouring concrete this fall. Donna has currently raised \$52,000 for the project. We still have the silent auction and the candy walk coming up for fund raisers.

Donna reported that our softball tournament umpires were very happy to receive \$100 each for their services.

New Business:

Coffee will be served on November 13th
Cheese, crackers, salami, muffins, bars etc.

Motion made by Donna/Clair that we give Paul Frandsen (and Gabe) \$500 for the ball park mowing this last summer. Although they volunteer to do this at no charge, it is the least we can do to show our appreciation.

Donna reported that the Candy Walk will be December 10th. A fun, fun taffy pull will take place on December 7th at 2:00pm.

Motion made by Donna/Ron that we serve coffee on December 11th with cookies purchased from the UCC cookie sale, which is also on December 10th.

The Oyster Stew is scheduled for January 22, 2023. We will have our traditional meal; oyster stew, chicken wild rice soup, vegetable beef soup, and chili. Bruce Place will apply for a Thrivent Action Team credit card.

There is no Sunday School that Sunday and church will be one hour later.

Our next Men In Mission meeting will be January 21, 2023 with Donna/Bruce serving.

Motion made by Brian/Bruce to adjourn the meeting.

12 members present.

Minutes respectfully submitted by secretary, Clair Severson

What does your giving look like?

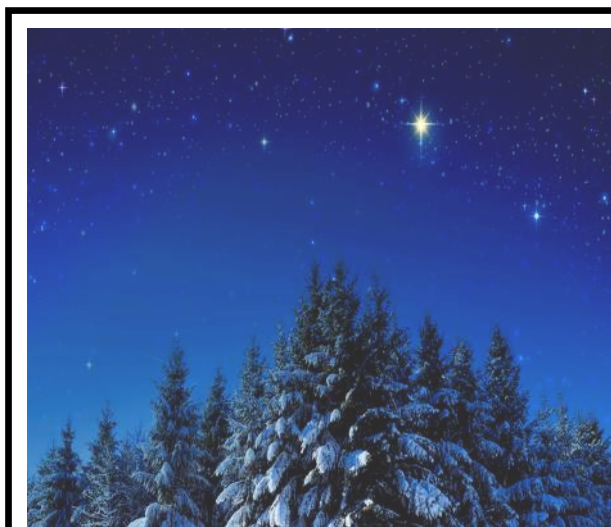
If your household income is...	Then your weekly tithe could	But if you're not there, each week you could give:								
		1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%
\$15,080	\$29.00	\$2.90	\$5.80	\$8.70	\$11.60	\$14.50	\$17.40	\$20.30	\$23.20	\$26.10
\$20,000	\$38.46	\$3.85	\$7.69	\$11.54	\$15.38	\$19.23	\$23.08	\$26.92	\$30.77	\$34.62
\$30,000	\$57.69	\$5.77	\$11.54	\$17.31	\$23.08	\$28.85	\$34.62	\$40.38	\$46.15	\$51.92
\$40,000	\$76.92	\$7.69	\$15.38	\$23.08	\$30.77	\$38.46	\$46.15	\$53.85	\$61.54	\$69.23
\$50,000	\$96.15	\$9.62	\$19.23	\$28.85	\$38.46	\$48.08	\$57.69	\$67.31	\$76.92	\$86.54
\$60,000	\$115.38	\$11.54	\$23.08	\$34.62	\$46.15	\$57.69	\$69.23	\$80.77	\$92.31	\$103.85
\$70,000	\$134.62	\$13.46	\$26.92	\$40.38	\$53.85	\$67.31	\$80.77	\$94.23	\$107.69	\$121.15
\$80,000	\$153.85	\$15.38	\$30.77	\$46.15	\$61.54	\$76.92	\$92.31	\$107.69	\$123.08	\$138.46
\$90,000	\$173.08	\$17.31	\$34.62	\$51.92	\$69.23	\$86.54	\$103.85	\$121.15	\$138.46	\$155.77
\$100,000	\$192.31	\$19.23	\$38.46	\$57.69	\$76.92	\$96.15	\$115.38	\$134.62	\$153.85	\$173.08
\$110,000	\$211.54	\$21.15	\$42.31	\$63.46	\$84.62	\$105.77	\$126.92	\$148.08	\$169.23	\$190.38
\$120,000	\$230.77	\$23.08	\$46.15	\$69.23	\$92.31	\$115.38	\$138.46	\$161.54	\$184.62	\$207.69
\$130,000	\$250.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$150.00	\$175.00	\$200.00	\$225.00
\$140,000	\$269.23	\$26.92	\$53.85	\$80.77	\$107.69	\$134.62	\$161.54	\$188.46	\$215.38	\$242.31
\$150,000	\$288.46	\$28.85	\$57.69	\$86.54	\$115.38	\$144.23	\$173.08	\$201.92	\$230.77	\$259.62

God loves a cheerful giver (1 Corinthians 9:7), so your offering should bring you JOY!

Whether you have met your tithe and give even more, or if with other obligations you still manage to regularly give 1%, what matters is that you answer God's call to generosity, and you do so regularly and purposefully. If you're not a regular giver, take time with God to find out how you could be, and how much you want to give.

What discipline of generosity fits your life best? Could your offering be in an envelope on Sunday, a direct online withdrawal, or a check in the mail? You could even try out different ones and figure out which one works to best express your thankfulness!

Let's all celebrate what you can give, imagine what level you want your giving to be, and take steps to make it happen.



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!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: The Pierce County Food Pantry continues to need certain items. For the month of **December** we will be collecting boxed stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned corn, ramen noodles, birthday bag items like cake mix & frosting. Please put the items in the grocery cart in the back of the church.

Thank you for showing your concern.

Money donations accepted as well. Did you know that every dollar donated can purchase \$7 worth of food? Online donations @hungerpreventioncouncil.net, call 715-273-2070 or to arrange a food drive sponsored by your family or organization. Lets help end hunger in Pierce County.



REGISTER TO

RING™

Register to Ring this holiday season! We are so grateful for your past support and NEED your help again this year. Our Red Kettle Campaign helps us provide emergency financial assistance for rent, utility, food, motel stays, and transportation costs to residents in your county.

This is a great time to sign up and get your favorite location, date and time! Bell ringing can be a fun family event, work or

school/group volunteer day, and a way for any individual to help their community.

Sign up at [Register to Ring](https://www.registertoring.com/) TODAY! <https://www.registertoring.com/>

Have questions or want more information on ringing or sponsoring a red kettle for a day? Call or email me with any questions you have! Molly Larson, The Salvation Army, Media and Graphic Production, Barron, Burnett, Polk & St. Croix Counties 715-912-2834



Sunday the 4th is the day for all the gifts to be back to church. We will be wrapping the gifts on Wed the 7th. (If you have recycled Christmas gift bags that we can use for wrapping, please have them to church by Wednesday the 7th.) Then we will be sorting and organizing gifts for each family for delivery on December 12th.

If you have a problem with getting your gifts delivered on time, please call Sharon Peterson. 715 821 8676. We would like to thank Thrivent Financial Action

Team program for our startup money of \$250 and EVERYONE here at Our Savior's for their support and generosity in this huge project. The families so appreciate all that you give at this time of year.

1st Peter 4:10

God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings. Joy to the World!



Candy Walk Fundraiser: I am teaming up with Patricia again this year to raise money for the College kits and help with continued improvements at the ball field. We are going to have the Candy Walk on **Saturday Dec.10th from 8am to 12pm**. We are doing this in conjunction with St Paul's Church's annual cookie walk. We are asking for your help to make homemade Candy, and maybe some Norwegian treats. We would love to see up to 10 dozen of one item. Please have the treats to the Church before or on set-up day Friday December 9th. We are also asking for crafts - if you are crafty and not a baker that works too. The Silent Auction Youth Fundraiser will also be set up for all to bid on. The cost for the walk will be \$10.00 per pound and any specialty items will be priced individually. We will be set-up before church and after the Sunday School Christmas Program on December 11th.

Please help us with our fundraiser - we are excited and hope the community will be as well.

If you have any questions contact Donna Constant 715-307-0451



I would like to thank everyone for all the donations and support for Operation Christmas Child. I was able to take 124 shoeboxes in. Wishing you everyone a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year! Peggy Hoyer

Saturday, December 10th

8 AM to 12 PM



Our Savior's
Candy Walk!

Huge
assortments!

**LET US HELP YOU WITH YOUR
HOLIDAY TREATS/GIFTS.**

*Homemade Candy will be sold at
\$10 per pound (less than 1/2 the
price of candy stores!)*

*Silent Auction items hosted by the
Youth will be available for bidding .*

Join us!

Held in cooperation with
St. Paul's UCC's Cookie Walk

*Our Savior's Lutheran Church
N6450 530th Street
Beldenville, WI 54003
1 mile east of Hwy 63 on Cty Rd N
Pierce County, WI*

**Questions?
Contact Donna Constant
at 715-307-0451**

DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guilds: Rhoda Foley Belinda Foley Money Counters/ Tech Assistants: Randy Winger John Traun				1	2	3
4 Cinnamon Roll Sunday 9am In-person Worship 9am Livestream 10am Sunday School Hour	5	6 7pm Council Meeting	7 2pm Fun Taffy pull @ Church 7pm Youth Night/Gift Wrapping	8	9	10 8am- 12pm Candy Walk
11 9am In-person Worship 9am Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour 10:30am Sunday School Christmas Program Silent Auction Ends	12	13	14 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew Christmas Caroling 5:30-6:30pm Youth Family Meal 7pm Confirmation	15	16	17
18 9am In-person Worship 9am Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour No Sunday School Hour	19	20	21 No Confirmation	22	23	24 4pm Christmas Eve Worship
25 Merry Christmas 10am In-person Worship 10am Livestream No Fellowship Hour No Sunday School Hour	26	27	28 No Quilting 1:30pm Preferred Living 2:30pm Ellsworth Health No Confirmation	29	30	31

	Greeter's/Ushers	Tech Assistant	Acolyte	Reader	Bell Ringer	Communion Server	Assisting Minister
Dec. 4th	Kay Berg & Sandy Ruikka	Brody Flynn	Alex Knight	Rhoda	Roger	Pauline	Donald
9:00AM	Dan & Jill R, Gayle Knight	Randy Winger	Luke Knight	Foley	Laughnan	Laughnan	Rosenberry
Dec. 11th	Donna Constant	Eli Stockwell	Marti Allyn	Kay	Roger	Peggy	Ann
9:00AM	Carolyn Schellfeffer	John Traun	Maddie Constant	Berg	Laughnan	Hoyer	Young
Dec. 18th	Dan & Nadalie Place	Isaac Yunker	Matt Lundstrom	Tim	Roger	Sue	Lanette
9:00AM	Family	Randy Winger	Luke Lundstrom	Wiff	Laughnan	Peterson	Place
Dec. 24	Lori	George Rohl	Parker Peterson	Clair	Roger	Ed	Tom
4:00PM	Coulson	John Traun	Wyatt Kirchner	Severson	Laughnan	Rohl	Holdorf
Dec. 25th	Jerry & Mary Halls			Shane	Roger	Mary	Rhoda
10:00AM	Brian Johnson	Randy Winger		Johnson	Laughnan	Halls	Foley

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 or call Lori Coulson, Mary Halls, or Vicki Bowen if you have any questions. Lori: 715--821-3731 Mary: 715-307-0842, Vicki: 612-756-5067. Instructions for each ministry position are posted in the narthex.

In Need of Prayer!

Steve Johnson, Kathy Gutting, John Paape, Wayne Peterson, Joe Minder, Ann Leonard, Elise Foley, Ian Peterson, Eldon Schellfeffer, Mary Jo Bjork, and Kristen Anderson.
If you know of anyone that should be on our prayer list please contact the office.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
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Beldenville WI 54003
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Pastor Lucas Ladnier
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2022 December Newsletter

