

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

February 2022

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

February is a cold month. I know that seems really obvious to you as you read those words, but it's true! It's cold, and what's more, it's snowy. Again, that seems obvious, right? It would make sense, but it's not snowy everywhere. In fact, it was a huge deal when the South received a blanket of snow last month. I had friends posting on Facebook the pictures of their families getting out and making snowmen, going sledding, having snowball fights—events that are very rare where I grew up. Snow happens maybe once every four or five years.

A lot of our life experiences are like the snow we experience every winter. What we grow up around shapes our idea of what “normal” is. When something happens that isn't “normal,” we have a peculiar way of reacting to it. We assume the new thing is the issue, the interloper, the disruptor—rather than looking at our own limited experience of things outside of our “normal.” That makes it a real challenge when our “normal” starts to become less, well, “normal.”

These past two years have exposed a lot about how we do church together and what needs to change. We've had the signs for a couple decades now, but the pandemic really put the focus on the things we have needed to change. How do we help people connect their own daily lives to the experience of Jesus and his grace? How do we form young people to value that life-giving relationship with God? How do we make worship a central feature of our life together in a way that honors each person's gifts and passions? How do we balance reaching out in new and challenging ways with maintaining the bonds of love we have for one another?

So much of what was “normal” for the church has been slipping away, and that feels scary and intimidating and anxiety-producing. But maybe we should think of it like snow. There are whole groups of people for whom snow in winter is not “normal,” but special and unique. They're used to winters without snowplows and shovels. They don't have to put on everything they own before going out the door into the dreadful blast of February. And yet they seem to do fine the way they are.

What other “normals” are out there that we haven't experienced yet, that could make the church better at sharing the love of Jesus? How could we look outside our own experience as a faith community to learn from others, so that we can be better at sharing the gospel in a new world with new patterns? Perhaps this pandemic, by accelerating our need to pay attention to the “normal” that has been slipping away for decades, was just the push we needed to learn a new normal, so that a new generation could come to know and love Jesus like we did.

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.

**February 27, April 16 (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

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2022

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

Attending: Sharon Seibel, Debbi Pittman, Randy Winger, Jill Rosenberry, Mary Straub, Pastor Lucas, Bob Winger, Lanette Place, Gabe Feuerhelm, Patricia Peterson, Dan Place

Absent: Ann Young

Opening Devotions: Lanette Isaiah 43:16-19 What new things does God want us to do?

New Business:

1. **January Money counters:** Randy & Lanette

2. **February Devotions:** Jill

3. **Finalize Budget for 2022**

Property insurance went up for next year.

Discussion on raises for the pastor and youth director. Pastor is currently in Year 7. Currently his salary is equal to year 3.

Lanette made a motion to raise the Pastor and Youth Director's salaries each by 3% starting in January. We will revisit this June 1st for a possible Pastoral salary increase on July 1st.

The 2022 budget is set at \$179,021.55 Dan 2nd. MC

Lutefisk Supper and Fairstand Disbursements

We have \$21,678.51 total from the Lutefisk Supper (\$5,378.51) and Fairstand (\$16,300).

Pastor made a motion to accept the disbursements decided upon by the council. Bob 2nd. MC

Sign in sheet for Worship

We will discontinue, since contact tracing is not happening as much.

Technology sign up

Confirmation students will sign up for Worship tech jobs at confirmation class.

Church Closet Swap

The Alter Guild will switch their materials into another closet that has been a catch-all.

Old Business:

Worship Service Content and Tech Upgrade

We will begin adding more parts of the Worship that was taken out during COVID. The Kyrie and the Hymn of Praise will happen. Possibly communion up front by Easter, if things are better.

Funeral Expense Assistance Fund

A family would like to give assistance to families that need help. This would not be to pay for a funeral, but to upgrade, if needed. For example, if a family would like to upgrade their coffin choice.

There will be an explanation put into the newsletter. The donating family will talk to some of the local funeral homes.

Disposal of 2 balcony pews

We will accept bids during a one-month period from members to bid on the pews. The highest offer will be able to purchase the pews. Information will be put in the February newsletter.

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

Treasurer's Report-

Designated Account \$33,354.53

General Account \$79.80

Money Market \$74,008.36

Total: \$107,442.69

We are up to date on all of our payments.

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

Continued on next page.....

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

Pastor's report- On file.

Pastor Lucas would like us to reflect on these questions:

What is Our Savior's known for in the community? Does what you hear from others match who we believe God is calling us to be for the community? (**Lutefisk, Ballpark, Fairstand, Choir, Youth involvement, Helpful involved congregation**)

What gifts and talents has God given us to serve others? How are we uniquely called to serve others as a congregation? (**Come together/participation for a common mission such as GWOH, FIN, ballpark, Lutefisk supper, Fairstand**)

What is one thing you want to see our congregation focus on as our mission in Christ in this coming year? (**Continue to engage youth and teach them about God's Word, Include the elderly and those at home to continue to be a part of the congregation**)

Youth Report- Events

- **9th grade Confirmation students will begin Confirmation Journey Journal books and prepare to write Faith Statements.**
- **SOS Kids Crew- January 19, 2022**
- **Country Fit Nutrition Fundraiser- January 30, 2022**

Committee Reports-

The Property Committee painted and installed the Records Room door.

The Property Committee had a painter look at the siding. They are not interested in the job as it would be very expensive. The committee is looking into spot painting and replacing some siding themselves.

Conflict Detection-

Pastor's Paternity Leave will begin January 30th. For the first four weeks of Pastor's paternity leave, we will need to have Worship at 9:30 am, in order to Livestream part of the Hope Lutheran Worship Service.

Adjourn- Motion made to adjourn by Bob, Dan 2nd. MC

Closing Prayer

Next Council Meeting February 8, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Rosenberry

Men In Mission
Meeting Minutes
1/15/22

After breakfast prepared by Bruce, Brian, and Tim Wiff, devotions were led by Pastor Lucas.

The business meeting was called to order by Pres. Lemoine Baker.

The secretary's report was read and approved.

The treasurer's report from October was amended. We adjusted the money amounts in the three sub-accounts. After a recent deposit of \$200 in the L. P. Bible camp fund, we have \$4047.64 in that fund, \$20,315.18 in the fair stand fund, and \$2855.15 in the general fund. We have received \$1600 from the softball league for last summer.

A motion was made by Brian, seconded by Donna that we forward \$16,300 to the church from the fair stand fund for outreach ministries. This leaves us \$3000 for next year's start up expenses and \$1000 for maintenance issues at the stand. The treasurer's report was approved.

Old Business:

Discussion on the fair stand grill. We have decided that we can continue to use the grill that is there. One of the burners has been welded, but the other three are functioning well.

Discussion on the Oyster Stew/ Soup dinner scheduled for tomorrow. Motion made by Clair and seconded by Bill B. that the profits go into the Luther Point Bible camp fund. We will have oyster stew, chili, vegetable beef soup and chicken/wild rice soup. Containers will be available for those who would rather take-out rather than eat-in.

New Business:

Ball field.

Donna reported that 6 teams are committed to play next summer. We are waiting on a response from 2 more teams. About \$18,000 has been raised for the well/ bathroom at the ball field. The estimated cost is somewhere around \$30,000. \$700 was raised from the candy walk in December. We will need to set up a workday this spring at the ball field.

The next MIM meeting will be Saturday, March 19th at 8:00 a.m. Bill and Donna will serve breakfast.

Motion made by donna, seconded by Bill to adjourn.

8 members present.

Minutes respectfully submitted by secretary, Clair Severson

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



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!



FAIR TRADE COFFEE:

We have just received a new shipment of Equal Exchange Fair Trade coffee in regular grind and whole bean. Also we are trying their new products of organic semi-sweet chocolate chips for your holiday baking and herbal tea of ginger and turmeric. These items will be in the basement for sale.



Pews For Sale: Our Savior's has 2 pews for sale. One is 10ft 5in long, the other is 11ft 9in long. These pews were removed from the balcony. They will be sold to the highest offer. The deadline to make an offer is March 1st, 2022. Call the Office to get your bid number. Pews are located in the fellowship hall. Look for the bidding progress on the website (<https://www.oursaviorschurch.info/>) or contact the church office (715-273-4570). Pew A has a bid of \$100.00.

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

Wednesday March 16th

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

THANK YOU



The MIM would like to thank all who partook of the oyster stew/soup dinner last Sunday. Your generous donations raised \$804 for the Luther Point Bible Camp fund.

Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 to ELCA World Hunger. Through your gifts, you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed. In Christ, Rev. Robin Brown

Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response. Your spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and across the globe. In Christ, Rev. Robin Brown

On behalf of Turningpoint, thank you very much for your recent donation in the amount of \$100.00. Turningpoint’s vision is to eliminate domestic and sexual violence in Pierce and St. Croix Counties. Sincerely, Amy Berg.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Valentine Fundraiser

This will help Our Savior's raise money to improve the ballfield.

1 dozen Chocolate Covered Strawberries
1 dozen mixed box of Chocolate Covered Cherries and truffles



Truffles – Caramel Apple, Raspberry,
French Kiss and Chocolate Caramel

Please order by February 5th and can be picked up on February 12th or 13th

Treat your someone special and help us improve our Ballpark.
Call or text 715-307-0451 or email constant.donna@yahoo.com

Order Form

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Box of 1 dz. Chocolate Covered Strawberries _____

Box of 1 dz. Mixed Cherries & Truffles _____

\$30.00 a box

Thanks for Supporting Our Ballfield!



Donna Constant has 150 frozen 10in. Lattice Cherry pies for sale, ready to bake.
Cost \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00.

Please pre-ordered. The pies are in cold storage. Money is being raised for the ballpark.
You can email the Church Office or contact Donna at 715-307-0451.



SPUCC DRIVE THROUGH STEAK DINNER

February 12, 2022 - 4:00 - 7:00 pm

Tickets \$15.00 each

Meal includes: grilled steak, baked potato, special green beans, salad,
homemade buns, and dessert

Tickets are available at spuccellsworth.org
or by contacting Linette: 651-233-3326 (legreske@gmail.com)
or Amy: 612-839-2866 (akathryn7@gmail.com) for tickets.

Proceeds spread kindness through outreach ministry



February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guilds: Sharon Peterson Mary Straub Money Counters: Ann Young Patricia Peterson		1	2 7-8pm Confirmation	3	4	5
6 Cinnamon Rolls 9:30am In-person/Hope Lutheran's Live Stream 10:30am Fellowship Hour 10:15am SS Hour	7	8 7pm Council Meeting	9 7-8pm Confirmation	10	11	12
13 9:30am In-person/Hope Lutheran's Live Stream 10:30am Fellowship Hour No SS Hour	14	15	16 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew 7-8pm Confirmation	17	18	19
20 Annual Meeting 9:30am In-person/Hope Lutheran's Live Stream 10:30am Annual Meeting 10:15am SS Hour (Blue room)	21	22	23 8:30am Quilting 7-8pm Confirmation	24	25	26
27 9am In-person 9am Live Stream 10am Fellowship Hour No SS hour	28					

February Assist. Minister: Feb. 6th - Rhoda, Feb. 13th - Donald, Feb. 20th- Ann, Feb. 27th - Tom,

Reminders:

Our Savior's will be live streaming Hope Lutheran's, 9:30am Worship Service during Pastor Lucas's parental leave. This started Sunday January 30th and will run through February 20th. Hope Lutheran's Worship Service link will be posted on our website during these dates. There will be no live stream from Our Savior's. ***Worship at Our Savior's will start at 9:30am on these dates.**

In Need of Prayer!



Ariah Jones, John Steele, Kimber Hause, Darlene Ostendorf, Don & Delores Stellrecht, Ray Carlson, Ian Peterson, Sharon Dingrando, Peggy Roach, Elee, Carol Lewis, Ashley Hinrichs, Dylan, Larry Young, Eldon Schellfeffer, Mary Jo Bjork, Jim Hauschildt, 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.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
N6450 530th Street
Beldenville WI 54003
Phone: (715) 273-4570
Pastor Lucas Ladnier
Email: pastor.os@hbcj.com
admin.os@hbcj.com
www.oursaviorschurch.info

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And now these three remain:
faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

