

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

January 2021

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

We have finally made it out of 2020 and are into a new year! With the turning of the year, we take the time to both look back at where we've come from and look forward to where we're heading. It's quite a year to reflect on, but I hope it's also a great year to look forward to.

Just think, last year we managed to do some amazing things with God. In the face of the worst pandemic in a century, the congregation pulled itself together to worship in new and different ways. We went online and got sermons in the mail. We started up a summer Sunday school program getting lessons and activities to our families to do at home together. We adapted God's Work Our Hands Sunday, brought our pies to the Farmer's Market, and even went with a takeout menu for our beloved Lutefisk Supper. We learned how to do radio parking lot worship services and we wore masks while quilting to protect each other. We did so much good in a year that could have been so bad—God must be in it!

But New Year's celebrations aren't just for looking back. They're also the hopeful craning forward, setting goals for where we want to be, and imagining where God is going to take us in the coming year. We had a tradition in our family that I'm sure many of y'all have too, where you stay up until midnight and watch Dick Clark ring in the New Year. Then we would pop a bottle of sparkling cider and all name our resolutions for the coming year. And our resolutions could be big things or small things, but they were always things we were hoping to accomplish.

It got me thinking—I'd like us to do something like that as a church. We have just come through a hard year, but also a year where we learned a lot together. We got to experience change that needs unique solutions. We got to see how the church can experience a really hard time, and, through our love for God and one another, we can get through it. We can even thrive! So this is what I would like you all to do for me—and I don't ask this rhetorically, I mean it.

I want you to get out a sheet of paper and a pen, or pencil, or crayon—whatever you'd rather write with. Do you have your paper? Do you have your writing utensil? Good.

Write "Last year, I was glad when our church..." and I want you to finish that sentence. What did our church do together last year that made you glad? Was it how you could be in your pajamas when worship started? Was it when you got an unexpected gift from another congregation member on your doorstep? Was it the way you called others more or got more phone calls from others? What did the congregation do that made you glad last year?

Then I want you to write "This year, I want our church to..." and I want you to finish that sentence. What is your hope for how our church will show others God's love in the coming year? It can be something really big that'll take months to accomplish, or it can be something little that one person can do in an hour. Whatever it is, I want you to imagine what God could do with us this year, and write it down.

Done writing? Great! Now I want you to take that paper, and somehow get those words to me. You can mail it to the church or bring it by one day; you can drop it off in the offering plate; you can email it to me or Patricia; you can call the office and read your sheet of paper to me and I'll write it down; you can write it in a post on our Facebook page. But whatever you do, I want to know what you wrote! And then I want us to celebrate together what God's done through us last year, and look forward to what God might do through us this coming year!

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.

January 17, February 14, April 3, May 9, June 20, July 18 August 15

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

SUPPORT OUR MISSION WITH eGIVING

Consider making your contribution through our eGiving tools!
You can make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations.

Giving Made Easy

Make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts through our website's donations page.

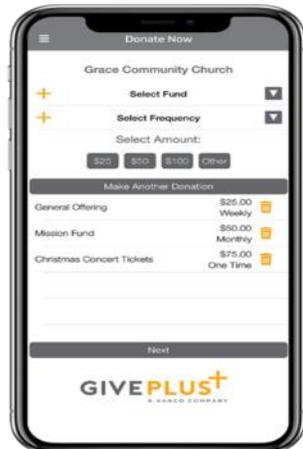
Our Savior's Lutheran Church offers giving from our Website, through the GivePlus mobile app, and by text.

Make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts through our website's donations page.

1. Visit Our Savior's Lutheran Church Website. www.oursaviorschurch.info
2. Locate the give tab.
3. Donate!

**It only takes a minute to set up an account or give as a guest.
We appreciate your generosity!**

**Give Anytime,
Anywhere
with Our
GivePlus
Mobile App**



Use Our GivePlus Mobile App

1. Download the free GivePlus App from the App Store or Google Play
2. Find our church by zip code **54003**, or by searching our church name.
3. Donate!

Giving through our mobile app is easy and convenient.

It only takes a minute to set up an account or give as a guest.

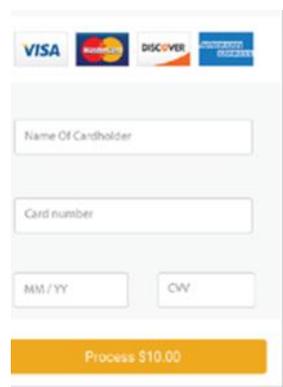
Text Your Donation

Giving by text is easy. Simply text your donation amount to **833-506-0632** and follow the instructions on your phone to complete your gift.

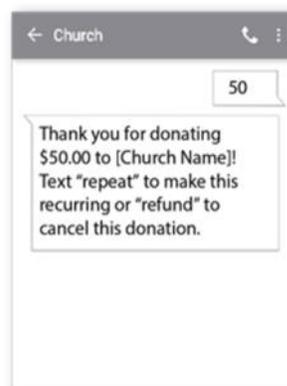
1. Get Started



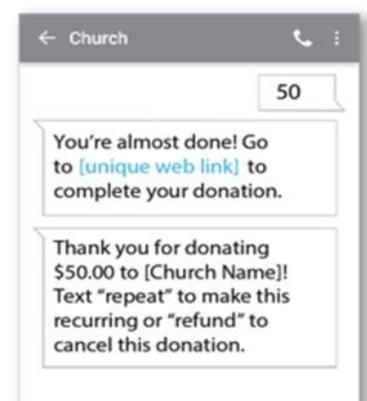
2. Register



3. Give



4. Repeat



Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

12/02/2020 – The council voted through emails to approve the purchase of around \$100 for a Presonus Audiobox USB96 as an improvement to the sound board.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Seibel

December 8th, 2020

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

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

Absent: Norris Berg and Ann Young

Opening Devotions: Pastor Lucas – from 2nd Peter Ch. 3, verses 8 – 15a

New Business

Confirmation Class Structure – Pastor Lucas reported that classes are going well.

Candy Walk – December 12th

COVID – 19 Response Committee – After much discussion, a motion was made by Pastor to forward onto the COVID-19 team to start in-person services on Dec. 20. Dan seconded the motion. Pastor will draft a letter explaining the services and the safety procedures for holding services.

2021 Budget – After explanation and discussion of the budget, Debbi made a motion and Bob seconded to table the budget until January.

Pastor's contact with shut-ins and older members -Communion offered – How many? 20 to 24. Communion has been offered but no one has set up a time to receive communion and a visit.

WELCA – Christmas cookie delivery to members. Lanette reported that WELCA will be buying cookies from the cookie walk and taking them to some of our older members with possibly some hotdish.

Old Business

Weekday Prayer Service Attendance – there has been no attendance at these services and Pastor will continue to offer services.

Applications – Church Custodian – Interviews will be in the next few weeks.

Secretary's Report – Motion to accept – Debbi, Lanette 2nd

Treasurer's Report – Motion to accept – Mary, 2nd Pastor Lucas, Designated Account - \$36,043.06, Loan to General - \$339.10 left, General account - \$293.44

Pastor's Report – Lexie Shelley, who was unable to attend Confirmation Day due to being quarantined will be confirmed in January. We were unable to get a Progressive Christmas Parade with other churches setup. We will have Christmas Eve services here at the church. Contacts with older members by phone and mail have been good.

Youth Report – S.O.S. Kids Crew will be caroling on Wednesday, December 16 and the congregation is invited to join in with the kids. Six College Kits have been sent out.

Committee Reports – None

Conflict Detection - None

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn. Debbi – 1st, Pastor Lucas – 2nd

Closing Prayer

Next meeting – January 5, 2021 – 7:00 PM

Respectively submitted by Sharon Seibel

Church Council Notices:

1. The proposed budget for 2021 will be finalized at the January Council meeting. Budget will then be presented to congregation for approval at the February Annual Meeting. Listed below are the proposed 2021 annual budget figures for each of our committees. If your committee feels this amount should be adjusted, please notify Randy Winger or Lanette Place before January 5, 2021.

Property Committee: Church repairs and/or supplies	\$ 2,500
Evangelism Committee:	\$ 250
Parish Nurse Program:	\$ 250
Stewardship:	\$ 250
Worship & Music:	\$ 2,050
Education: Sunday School, Youth, and Adult	\$ 450

2. We are happy to announce that Claralynn Pittman has accepted our offer to take on the custodial duties here at Our Savior's beginning January 1, 2021. Claralynn, who manages the BP Store in Hammond, Wisconsin, lives in El Paso with her husband and 4 children. Please join us in welcoming Claralynn to our staff.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE

Virtual Learning Internet Option: With distance learning happening in many of our School Districts. We want to let you all know that the Church has space for 6 families to come and utilize the church's internet. All you would have to do is call or email the church office and let Patricia know what day you would need to come (715-273-4570).
The school District has Our Savior's as a lunch pick-up location, so no need to worry about lunch. The Education Committee has volunteers who would come and keep an eye on the kids.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Men In Mission soup and chili sale; Sunday, January 17th

The MIM will be raising money for the Luther Point Bible Camp Fund on Jan. 17th. Our youth are planning on returning to Luther Point for their mission trip this summer and the MIM need to help support them. Hearty vegetable soup (as before), chicken rice soup, and chili will be available in quart containers. The cost is \$5 a quart but extra donations would be great. If you can't make it on the 17th, left-over quarts will be frozen for you to pick up at a later time. Note: Any frozen left-overs going to shut-ins are free.

Men In Mission January Meeting

The MIM will meet on January 16th before the soup making at 11 o'clock. Coffee only. Wear your masks and we will provide ample spacing.

THANK YOU

Thank you to WELA Committee:

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. From Norris Berg.

I'm sending a thank you to WELCA, the kind bearer of a most welcome, festive meal!

God bless the hands that prepared this gift and for braving the cold to deliver.

Thank you and have a blessed Christmas!! Janet

Thank You! To the members of WELCA for the gift of food and a special Thank You to Bruce and Lanette Place for delivery the delicious food items. Gene & Darlene Ostendorf.

Thank you to Our Savior's WELCA for the lovely treat bag. It was a nice surprise.

I appreciate being remembered. From Barbara Bauer (Kittleson)

Thank you to the Kids for the caroling and treats. Also Thank You to WELCA for the goodies.

It was appreciated very much. Sandy Ruikka

Thank you WELCA for the gift bag of good food that was delivered to our home.

It was much appreciated!! Lemoine and Kay Baker

Thank You! To the members of WELCA for the gift of food and a special Thank You to Bruce and Lanette Place for delivery the delicious food items. Gene & Darlene Ostendorf.

Thank You, Great Ladies of WELCA, for remembering me this Christmas. God Bless Algot!

Thanks to the generosity of Thrivent for funding the cost of these meals. WELCA typically delivers Christmas cookies to our shut-ins, but this pandemic year we reached out to more of our isolated community members and included a simple meal.

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9am Live Stream Worship 9am Limited In-person 9am Drive-In Worship No Sunday School	4	5 7pm Council Meeting	6 7-8pm Confirmation (9th Grade & Group A)	7	8	9
10 Cinnamon Rolls 9am Live Stream Worship 9am Limited In-person 9am Drive-In Worship No Sunday School	11	12	13 7-8pm Confirmation (9th Grade & Group B)	14	15	16 11am MIM Meeting
17 9am Live Stream Worship 9am Limited In-person 9am Drive-In Worship No Sunday School	18	19	20 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew 7-8pm Confirmation (9th Grade & Group A)	21	22	23
24 9am Live Stream Worship 9am Limited In-person 9am Drive-In Worship No Sunday School	25	26	27 7-8pm Confirmation (9th Grade & Group B)	28	29	30
31 9am Live Stream Worship 9am Limited In-person 9am Drive-In Worship No Sunday School						

Church Emails:

pastor.os@hbc.com

admin.os@hbc.com

treasurer.os@hbc.com

youthdirector.os@hbc.com

In Need of Prayer!

Calvin Boe, Ron Mireau, Bobby Nelson, Shirley Nickel, Lu Johnson, Nancy Hove, Della Larson, Judie Goodwin, Mark Kiefer, Norris Berg, Tom Dachel, Tom Springette, Gary Johnson, Anna Walentowski, Alan Nelson, Zachery Caterer, and Kristen Anderson.

If you know of anyone that should be on our prayer list please contact the office.



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Pastor Lucas Ladnier
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HAPPY
New Year