

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

January 2023

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

With the busyness of the Christmas season over, all the families visited, all the feasts had, all the gifts unwrapped and all the songs sung, much of the country will already have taken down their trees, put away the lights, and swept the house bare of all remnants of the holiday season as we settle into the new year. It's a time that always left me deflated growing up—there was something deeply disappointing about how so much buildup to Christmas had all the air let out as soon as the day was done. Surely there was more to this than the one day?

In the Christian Tradition, Christmas lasts twelve days, starting with December 25th. We get twelve days to ponder the wonder of the Christ child, to bask in the awe of God-with-us, and to look forward to all that this baby will do to transform the world. We finish this Christmas season on January 6th with the day of Epiphany, celebrating the coming of the magi, the wise men, bearing gifts for the savior of the world.

But it doesn't stop there! Christmastide may be over with Epiphany, but in the days after Epiphany we celebrate the Season of Lights, where we are called as Christians to notice the ways that God's glory, justice, and love grows like the lengthening days around us. We're called to be part of that growing light that the darkness cannot overcome. Even if we've put away the decorations, the spirit of hope and anticipation and wonder can continue long after the bows are put away and the lights are taken down from the eaves.

Where do you see the growing hope of God in the world this season? Where do you see the darkness being overcome by the light of God today? Where do you see God revealed (which is what "Epiphany" means) in the kindness of strangers, in your own generosity, in the spirit of hope that flows out from the birth of the Christ child?

I see it in the ongoing work of the Food Shelf to feed hungry people even in the midst of the winter. I see it in the prayers this congregation so faithfully takes on by bringing *Portals of Prayer* books home. I see it in your generosity that happens both inside and outside the Christmas season. I see it in the ways this congregation seeks new and more engaging ways to pass the faith on to the next generation. I see it in the ongoing march for justice from the marginalized and the poor. I see it in the hope we all feel at the birth of a child in the midst of the darkness of winter.

Christmas Day isn't the end of the Christmas season, and it's certainly not the end of watching for the hope we have in Christ. In January we're called to notice the Light of the world, and the growing hope that the savior brings to us and to all of humanity. May we all keep in mind that hope, that growing light, that stubborn march of justice that Christ has ushered into the world through his birth, and may we know that the joy of Christmas doesn't need to end when the decorations come down, because the light continues.

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 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

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2022

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

Attending: Debbi Pittman, Randy Winger, Jill Rosenberry, Bob Winger, Pastor Lucas, Ann Young, Lanette Place, Donna Constant, Sharon Seibel, Dan Place

Absent: Gabe Feuerhelm, John Traun, Patricia Peterson

Opening Devotions: Pastor Lucas lead a book study on a section of *Waking Up White*, by Debby Irving.

New Business:

December Money counters & Tech assistants: Randy and John

January money counters & Tech assistants: Lanette and Donna

2023 Budget Prep: The Council went through line items for our Proposed Budget 2023. We will finalize it in January.

Light Up the Fair: December 9, 10, 16, 17. Thank you to Kwik Trip for the donation of cups and Happy Earth Orchard for the apple cider. Thank you to all those that donated lights and decorated the Fairstand for this event!

Outreach: The Sunshine Committee will deliver cookies and candy to homebound members. They are also putting together Christmas meals to the backpack families. Thank you for all you do! Donna reported that new members to MIM liked all the outreach we participate in.

Old Business:

Internet Progress Update: The Swift Current internet has not been installed yet, and most likely will not be until next spring when they can dig again.

Council members as Technology Assistants: Feedback was positive.

Secretary's Report-

Dan made a motion, seconded by Donna, to approve the November 8, 2022 council meeting minutes as presented by Jill. M/C

Treasurer's Report-

Designated Account \$67,222.00

General Account \$3,381.32

Money Market \$232,818.75

Total: \$303,422.07

Progress on loan from Designated Fund: Approximately \$7,400 is left to pay.

We are continuing to work on finding the best CD to invest our estate fund into. CCF only offered low business rates. Dan made a motion, seconded by Bob, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented by Debbi. M/C

Pastor's report- Pastor Lucas highlighted that there is an ongoing conversation, led by confirmation parents, exploring a new way of doing confirmation. Devotions for the next two council meetings will entail discussing 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 presented by Pastor Lucas. M/C

Youth Report-

Patricia provided a printed report highlighting upcoming events. The Youth Report is on file. Donna made a motion, seconded by Lanette, to accept the report as written. M/C

Continue on next page...

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

Committee Reports-

Property Committee: Matt's Electric will replace the fixture and install a new LED light above the alter.

Endowment Committee: If a good avenue is found for the Estate Fund, the Endowment Fund will most likely follow suit in order to get a better interest rate as well.

Education Committee: The Sunday School Program is December 11 at 10:30 am, with Santa visiting afterward.

Worship Committee: Monthly Volunteer vs. VolunTOLD. Discussion was had over how to proceed with participation at weekly services. Some would like to sign up for dates to usher/greet, etc. Others would like to have the Worship Committee fill in a chart each month, or even yearly. The Worship Committee will take opinions into consideration when they meet.

Conflict Detection- None

Thank you to Leah Frandsen and any others who beautifully decorated our sanctuary!

Adjourn- Donna made a motion, seconded by Lanette, to adjourn at 8:55 pm. M/C

Closing Prayer-The Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting: January 3, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Rosenberry

What does your giving look like?

If your household income is...	Then your weekly tithe could be...	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 **January** we will be collecting Birthday bag items;

Napkins, frosting, balloons, ketchup, etc...

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.



MIM OYSTER STEW/SOUP DINNER: Will be January 22nd. Church will be 1 hour later, starting at 10:00am. The oyster stew/soup dinner will immediately follow church and continue until all are served. Oyster stew, hearty vegetable beef soup, chilli, and chicken wild rice soup. Thanks to Thrivent for the Thrivent action team donation of \$250. It almost paid for the price of the oysters! Spread the word, see you there!

Your generous donations will go to the MIM's Luther Point Bible Camp Fund. The MIM pays one half of the registration cost of all youth attending Luther Point Bible camp. Thank you!

2023 Preferred Living & Ellsworth Health Services combined Schedule for Our Savior's

Wednesday March 8th

1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services

Wednesday May 17th

1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services

Wednesday August 23rd

1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services

Wednesday November 15th

1:30pm Preferred Senior Living
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services



2022 News from the Sunshine Crew

We are a blessed bunch having had many occasions these past several months to connect with friends in the community. Here is a little recap of what the Our Savior's Sunshine Crew has been up to:

Christmas Meals Packed & Delivered	10
Visits While Delivering Christmas Cookies	14
Other Personal Visits	17
Phone Visits	6
Greeting Cards Sent/Delivered	90+
Bouquets Delivered	36+
Food/Meals Delivered	10

To God be the glory for all these amazing opportunities. Spreading the cheer brings many smiles, words of gratitude, long overdue chats, countless blessings. Please notify the church office if you know of folks who might enjoy a little ray of Sunshine.

THANK YOU



Thank You! to everyone that contributed to the 2022 Candy Walk. We had the best year ever! Your support in our fundraising is so important in keeping these projects going and we appreciate it.

Special thanks to Clair and Audrey for their help and Carolyn for all the hours at my house making candy.

Thanks again, Donna & Patricia

Special thanks to Santa for making his appearance after the Sunday School Christmas Program. The children were so excited!

You made the day very special. Thanks again.

Thank You!

Feed My Starving Children: I wanted to thank you for your recent donation to FMSC. In the 14 years you have been donations, you have fed 165 kids for a year. How amazing is that! God has been working in a powerful way all around the world. We look forward to our continued partnership.

Until all are fed, Laura Ducommun

Pierce County Hunger Prevention Council: we would like to thank you for the recent gift of \$40 to our organization. We appreciate your continued support for our mission as we support Pierce County Residents' quality of life by providing equitable access to food and resources.

Sincerely, Heidi Albarado



Whew! A sleigh's worth of gifts has been delivered to the Pierce County Gift Box Program, to brighten the Christmas of families in our area.

YOU DID THAT!

Your generosity will give these brothers and sisters a wonderful feeling of being cared for by their community. Thanks and praise to God for giving us this opportunity to spread His love!

Special thanks to [ThriventActionTeam](#) and [basiesforlocalkids](#) for sponsoring our efforts so that we can give even more, to Our Savior's Youth for wrapping presents, and to those who gave gifts, gift cards, money, or prayers... we are ever grateful. We could not do this without you. THANK YOU. Your Evangelism Committee: Pauline, Heather, & Sharon

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:11

In Need of Prayer!

John Paape,
Wayne Peterson,
Joe Minder,
Ann Leonard,
Elise Foley,
Ian Peterson,
Eldon Schellfeffer,
Mary Jo Bjork,
Kristen Anderson.



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

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guilds: Lanette Place Pauline Laughnan Money Counters/ Tech Assistants: Bob Winger Donna Constant						
1 Happy New Year! 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour No Sunday School Hour	2	3 7pm Council Meeting	4 7pm Confirmation	5	6	7
8 Cinnamon Roll Sunday 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour No Sunday School Hour	9	10	11 7pm Confirmation	12	13	14
15 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour 10am Sunday School Hour	16	17	18 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew 5:30-6:30pm Youth Family Meal 7pm Confirmation	19	20	21 8am MIM Meeting
22 10am Worship/Livestream 11am Fellowship Hour Oyster stew & Soup by Men in Mission No Sunday School Hour	23	24	25 8:30am Quilting 6-7pm Youth Night/BINGO at Ellsworth Health Services	26	27	28
29 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour 10am Sunday School Hour	30	31				

	Greeter's/Ushers	Tech Assistant	Acolyte	Reader	Bell Ringer	Communion Server	Assisting Minister
Jan. 1st 9:00AM	Clair & Audrey Severson Randy W, Brian J	Donna Constant	Alex & Jake Knight	Audrey Severson	Roger Laughnan	Roger Laughnan	Rhoda Foley
Jan. 8th 9:00AM	Keith & Julie Lundstrom Family	Karli Foley-Nelson Bob Winger	Matt & Luke Lundstrom	Amy Parmeter	Roger Laughnan	Belinda Foley	Ann Young
Jan. 15th 9:00AM	Mark & Crystal Raleigh Larry & Sharon Peterson	Omar Coulson Donna Constant	Dustyn Raleigh Eli Stockwell	Crystal Raleigh	Roger Laughnan	Sheryl Mercord	Tom Holdorf
Jan. 22nd 10am	Todd & Connie Girdeen Family	Maddie Constant Bob Winger	Carly Girdeen Pearl Shelley	Steve Straub	Roger Laughnan	Mary Halls	Lanette Place
Jan. 29th 9:00AM	Lori Coulson, Mary Halls Tim & Jodi Wiff	Ada Erlandson Donna Constant	Chase Unser Grayson Jensen	Brett Unser	Roger Laughnan	Michael Chisholm	Donald Rosenberry III

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.

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