

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

June 2020

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

One of the very hard things that we have had to deal with in this time has been uncertainty. Uncertainty about how long this pandemic is going to last; uncertainty about what kind of planning we can do for the future; uncertainty about what is the best way to protect our neighbors; even uncertainty about what will come next. It's like the world has gone off-kilter and we're never sure what our next step is going to be. There aren't a lot of certain things we can hold onto for some semblance of hope.

It's why I find myself going to the Bible, and finding time in prayer, and focusing on small moments of understanding and hope, with a lot more urgency lately. Because so much of the experience of the faithful over history has been naming God's absolutely certain presence in times of upheaval, chaos, and uncertainty. It's a good reminder that we're not alone, not just in this time but across history, looking to God for a rock to cling to.

Did you know that almost every book of the Old Testament was written with a single, traumatic, destabilizing event in mind? At the end of the Kingdom of Judah, the population of Jerusalem was carted off to Babylon, the Temple burned to the ground, and all the certainties the Israelites had about who God was and how God worked suddenly thrown into doubt. This event, called the Exile, is what was in the front of the minds of most of the authors in the Old Testament. And in a way, I think knowing that an experience of being suddenly forced to change their whole way of living, trying to figure out how God is at work in the midst of it, is helpful to us when we ask what God is up to in this pandemic.

Because even though everything else is changing and the world is uncertain, we hold this in common with those old prophets and writers of the Old Testament: God is certain. God is always present and at work in whatever happens. And if we know only one thing about God, we know that God cares about us. Everything else we could ever say about God comes out of that one certain thing. I think that's a good starting place if there ever was one.

So in these uncertain times, when you're not sure what's going to happen next, or what to believe, or how to care for others, or even how to take care of yourself, remember that the scriptures were written with just that worry in mind. The living faith we carry, since the days of Abraham, has always been looking into an uncertain and chaotic world where we might not know the way, but knowing that God is holding our hand and won't let us go, no matter how unclear the world may be. Let's hold onto that as we step into the future where God is leading us.

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.

July 12, August 16, September 13, October 18, November 15, December 20.
Call the Office if any of these dates would work for your family. 715-273-4570

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 21, 2020

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

Attending: Randy Winger, Debbi Pittman, Bob Winger, Jim Chisholm, Dan Place, Lanette Place, Sharon Seibel, Norris Berg, Ann Young, Pastor Lucas, Mary Straub, Jill Rosenberry

Opening Devotions: Pastor Lucas asked us to each say what was good and what was bad about the virus.

New Business: Well and septic systems – The well is in! We will talk about the septic system next fall. Hot water heater, toilets, and faucets need to be replaced. Chisholms have given their custodian wages back to the church to be used towards the cost of these things.

In-person worship schedule start up – Pierce Cty is against churches starting up. There should be no singing in churches. We discussed having outdoor services at the ballfield. Norris B. has a PA system that could be used. Also, research will be done to see if an AM radio system could be used. Dan P. made a motion to have services at the ballpark. Jim C. seconded. Ballpark – After a discussion it was decided that it was too much of a liability to hold ball games. Jim C. made a motion to not hold ball games. Norris B. seconded.

Fair stand – Jim C. expressed his concerns about having the fair stand as far as people being in close quarters, wearing masks in heat, and the lack of volunteers to work the stand. Only 45 members said that they would volunteer.

Old Business: Child Protection Policy – tabled until next meeting

Computer & Internet Policy – HBC is installed and working well. OS has received a Technology grant from the synod. We asked for \$1,400 and received \$1,000. There was a discussion on how to use the grant. Virtual viewing of Sunday services – 60 to 100 views by the end of the week.

Lanette P. made a motion: I am making a motion to authorize that we transfer our internet service from St. Croix Electric to Hiawatha Broadband Comm. as soon as possible.

Motion passed by an email vote by OS Council members.

Reports: Secretary's Report – Jim C. made the motion to accept. Norris B. 2nded.

Treasurer's Report – Discussed – OS received \$17,300 from the Paycheck Protection Plan to be used towards salaries and expenses for two months. Thanks to Debbie P. for doing the leg work to get this. Debbie P. reported that thanks to the generosity of some of members we are able to pay the church's bills. Jim C. motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Lynette 2nded.

Amendment: Email from OS Church Council President Randy Winger: We have been approved for the loan that will be forgiven from the federal government for payroll. The amount of funds will be \$17,800.00. in order for all of it to be forgiven we need to have payroll back to 100% of the amount we had in February. Debbie has a motion to get Patricia back to her full amount of pay. I also need a motion to pay the Chisholm's for the month of April.

Lanette will second the motions to pay Patricia 100% and also pay Chisholms for the month of April. Motion passed by email vote.

Pastor's Report – 1st and 2nded to accept.

Youth Report – 1st and 2nded to accept.

Discussions: Should we call members again? It was decided that we will call members again.

Pastor Lucas will add a coffee hour by Zoom after the online Sunday service.

There was a discussion on whether to have an information packet for the children of the congregation. Pastor will talk with the Education Committee about this.

Debbie P. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim C. seconded.

Treasurer Report:

Randy had Debbie prepare a quick summary of our monthly expenses. Simply giving brings in about \$5,000 a month. Our monthly bills come to about \$18,000.

Closing: The Lord's Prayer

Meeting Adjournment: 7:55 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday June 23rd, 2020 – 7:00 pm

Respectively submitted by Sharon Seibel

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



BACKPACKS FOR THE WEEK: Please drop off donations at Nilssen's Grocery store in Ellsworth.

There is a large tub in the entryway marked Backpack Program. Once we get back to church we will collect your donations there again as in the past. Thank you for continuing to support this program.

These are the items that are most needed:

LARGE (double size) cans of Tuna or Chicken -we need lots!

Bear Creek Soups (Chicken based if possible) but whatever works! (lighter than cans in the bags, and more servings from the packages ;)

Packages/Boxes of Instant Rice (like medium sz boxes)

Packages of Instant Mashed Potatoes (no flavors if possible, just basic mashed potatoes)

CREAMY Peanut Butter (18 oz)

Raisins (1 pound boxes)

Boxes of COLD Cereal (NON-sugary) Corn Flakes, Rice Krispies, Cheerios)

Cans Brown Beans

Boxes Mac N Cheese



Hopefully we will be able to do the collection for this program in the fall before they distribute the clothing in October. Remember everything will have to be in good condition, clean, with all zippers in working order. kids winter gear: coats, snow pants, boots, hats, mittens/gloves, scarves. If you are stuck at home cleaning out closets, and finding winter wear that you no longer use and is in good condition, or if

you have the opportunity to purchase new winter wear on clearance, that would be greatly appreciated. In hopes that we will be able to worship at Our Savior's in May, we will have a collection box located in the narthex throughout the month. Articles must be clean, no rips or tears, with working zippers. These donated items will be stored until fall when they will be given to needy families right here in Pierce County.



The Evangelism Committee is looking ahead for the next GWOH day in September. We may be having a brainstorming meeting in July. Please be thinking of outreach ministries where we can be doing God's work with our hands and consider being one of the project leaders. It would be nice if each of our committees could lead a project that day. Never stop thinking of ways to do God's work with your hands, there are so many opportunities.

Luther Point is looking for groups to come and do projects there, maybe that could be worked into our day somehow?

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)

Evangelism Committee - Heather Johnson, Pauline Laughnan, and Sharon Peterson

Notice from the Cemetery Association: A motion has been made and seconded to increase the fees for both the cost of the cemetery plots and the marking fees. It is undetermined at this time what the increases will be, but they will be published once the cemetery trustees have made that decision.

Well Update: The new well (210' with 180' of casing) is complete. The other good news is that the water test came back showing that our nitrates went from 11.1 mg/L to a .02 mg/L. YOOHOO!

HBC Internet installed their service by putting an antenna on the south side of the church. This allows us to draw the signal from the broadcasting antenna on John Huber's silo which is only a couple miles away and in a clear path to the church. From there, they hard wired into Patricia's office and also hard wired an extender box (additional \$4 per month) in the sanctuary which allows us to have a much stronger signal there. So far, from what Patricia has experienced in using her computer the response time is much quicker.

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.

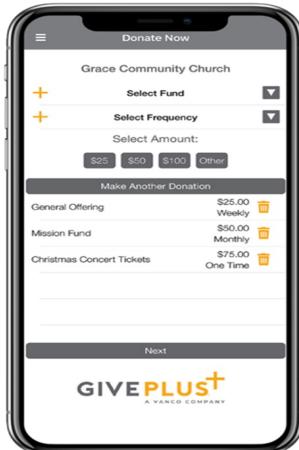
Our Savior's Lutheran Church offers giving from our Website, through the GivePlus mobile app, and by text.

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**



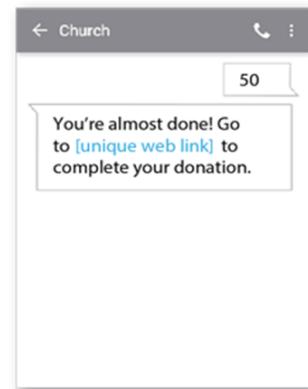
Use Our GivePlus Mobile App

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!
4. **Giving through our mobile app is easy and convenient.**
It only takes a minute to set up an account or give as a guest.

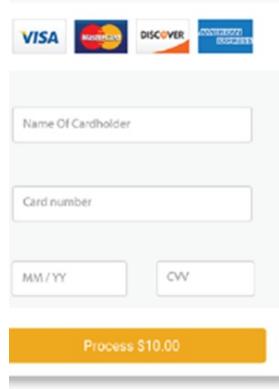
Text Your Donation

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.

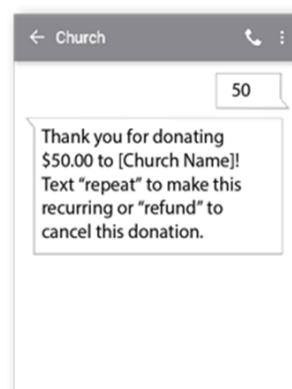
1. Get Started



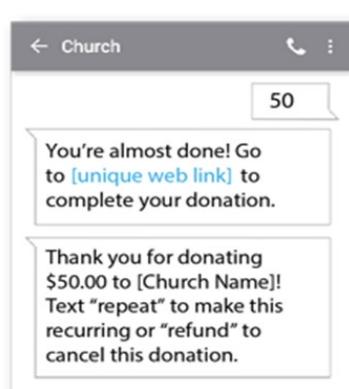
2. Register



3. Give



4. Repeat



Our Savior's Youth News ~ June 2020

Honoring of the High School Graduates ~ Sunday, May 17th
**(Gunnar Allyn, Devin Denzer, McKenna Girdeen, Halle Langer,
Brooke Minder, and Madisyn Rouleau**



Go forward into your future! Embrace all the challenges and opportunities with confidence, trusting in God's Word and in the presence of Jesus throughout your life.

The LORD your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.
(Zephaniah 3:17)



Summer 2020

Theme

Luther Point Bible Camp Update:

Over the past couple of months the Luther Point Bible Camp Board of Directors has been struggling with the question if we can hold summer camp safely this year due to COVID-19. After much discussion, prayer and a couple tears the decision was made to suspend all of our

onsite programming for summer 2020. During the discussion we kept coming back to the thought that "one is too many." One person contracting the virus at camp is too many. One person bringing the virus to camp is too many. We are committed to the health and safety of our campers, staff, community and world. We feel it is safest and most responsible to suspend our programming to give the world time to heal. We believe in a powerful God, one more powerful than the coronavirus. We also believe this God has given us the task to love and care for one another. We are living into that calling every day.

An email will be going out to all of our campers currently signed up with information about the cancellation. Please watch for that email and if you have any questions please contact the camp office.

Sincerely, Luther Point Bible Camp Staff and Board of Directors

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9am online Worship	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 9am Online Worship	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 9am online Worship	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9am online Worship	29	30	27	28	29	30

The Council voted last night to keep the online services going without in person worship until at least the 1st Sunday in July. I understand there will be a lot of questions after the Presidents news conference this about making all places of worship essential in the United States. We will monitor the situation and keep everyone informed to the best of our ability.

We will inform the Church Family and Friends when it is safe to schedule activities again.

In the meantime please follow the church Facebook page and website for Worship Service messages.

Thank You,

Our Savior's Council President

Randy Winger



In Need of Prayer!

Norris Berg, Mason Lee, Bob Furan, and Larry Shefveland, Tom Dachel, Betty Winger, Brian Hoitomt, Tom Springette, Julie Mazac, Gary Johnson, Gerald Place, Laura Kemmerer, Anna Walentowski, Betty Davidson, Alan Nelson, Zachery Caterer, and Kristen Anderson.

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

2020 Atrium Post Acute Care & Preferred Living combined Schedule for Our Savior's

Wednesday September 9th

1:30pm Preferred Living
2:30pm Atrium Senior Living

Wednesday December 9th

1:30pm Preferred Living
2:30pm Atrium Senior Living