

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

March 2023

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

Even before I went to seminary, I was taught something really important and, in some ways, really obvious about the four gospels. Three of the gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—have a lot in common. They follow more or less the same order of events. They talk about a lot of the same miracles and teachings and other events in Jesus's life. We structure our church years around them (Ever notice we have the same readings every three years? Each year follows one of these three gospels.) Whole books have been written on those similarities, but in short, these three gospel accounts are written from a very similar perspective. We give them this fancy church term "synoptic" meaning "seen together."

And then there's John.

I've talked about John before as the gospel that presents Jesus in a way that is either so completely relatable and three-dimensional that you can almost step into the pages to see the Savior's actions—or is so arcane and mystical in describing the cosmic Christ that you're not really certain what's going on half the time. John is really, really different from the other three gospels. It was written with a totally different focus than the rest of them. And it's a beautiful part of our Bible, because it gives us some of our most beloved imagery and stories of Jesus: the wedding at Cana, Jesus calling himself the bread of life, the resuscitation of Lazarus, the healing of the blind man, and the woman at the well, among others.

This Lent, we will be looking at these stories with an eye to the theme "Water and Word," how they speak to our baptisms and God's baptismal promises. Each week we'll dive into a different story from this unique gospel, connecting the dots and seeing how John's unique approach to describing Jesus's ministry can help us better understand our own ministries as baptized children of God. And what's more, you'll be hearing from different pastors from around our area who will share their own unique take on these stories from John, illuminating Jesus's life for us to see in new and interesting ways.

And perhaps, as part of your Lenten discipline of prayer, take the time to read those stories in John for yourselves during the week. Consider what each pastor says about them, and pray about them with your friends and family. If you hear something interesting or new, tell it to others! By water and the Word you were made children of God, and the gospel of John has a lot to say about that to each of us, and through each of 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.

**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

JOURNEY HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Journey House Mission: Responding to Jesus' call, Journey House supports students with words and actions of affirmation, inclusivity, equality, and mutual respect. We offer friendship and support to all of God's children. All are welcome here.

SPRING SEMESTER UPDATES

Good Food/Good Conversation @ Journey House - Are you able and willing to prepare a meal for ~10-15 people? Journey House is inviting students to come on Monday nights to sit down to a good meal and engage in conversation about a variety of topics. The meal would need to be ready by 4:30 p.m., with cleanup beginning at 6 p.m. The hope is to use a meal to help students build relationships with each other and with whomever joins them from the community. We need help with a meal especially on the following Mondays in March: March 6, 20, and 27. If you are able and willing to help out or need more information, please contact Deacon David at 715.642.0109 or email him at journeyhousecampusministry@gmail.com.

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Worship - For Lent this year, Journey House is partnering with Ezekiel Lutheran Church to offer Holden Prayer evening worship services each Wednesday. We will be focusing on some familiar stories and exploring ways that encourage worshippers to interact with the readings, not just sit and listen.

Immersion Trip to Pine Ridge - During Spring Break 2023, March 12-18, students from UWRF and other young adults from River Falls and New York City will be at the Reconciliation Center at Pine Ridge, South Dakota. During that week, we ask for your prayers as they listen to the stories and learn more about the Lakota people and reservation life.

UWRF Sustainability Cinema Series - As part of the Sustainability Community on campus, Journey House participates in this annual film series that focuses on different aspects of sustainability. They are two more films coming up this spring, and they available online during the dates listed below. All are welcome and you can watch the films with this link and password:

https://streaming.bullfrogcommunities.com/uwrf_sustainability_film_cinema_series

Password: UWR1V3RF5.

Once Was Water [accessible virtually February 28-March 2, 2023] The film focuses on Las Vegas and how it provides an example to the world of how any city can and must create its own sustainable water solutions. Film Screening & Discussion at 6 pm on March 2nd in 222 North Hall

Baked Alaska [accessible virtually April 4-6, 2023] This film looks at the battle over the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in the context of Alaska's accelerated warming. Film Screening & Discussion at 6 pm on April 6th in 222 North Hall.

ONGOING NEEDS

Food Insecurity on Campus - The on campus food pantry at UWRF, called [Freddy's Pantry](#), can use donations of perishable and non-perishable food items. The program focuses on ongoing food insecurity among students and maintains an easy access food shelf with non-perishable items in the basement of the Ag Building and a larger space on the Second Floor of Rodli with coolers and a larger selection of groceries. If you would like to help with donations, contact Deacon David at journeyhousecampusministry@gmail.com or Dr. Kathleen Hunzer at kathleen.hunzer@uwrf.edu.

Who are we? Journey House is located at 143 E. Cascade Ave in River Falls, right across the street from where the new SciTech building will be constructed starting next spring. We are one of Hope for Creation's on campus partners. Our email is journeyhousecampusministry@gmail.com and our phone number is 715.425.2391. The next Board meeting is on Monday, February 27, at Spirit of Grace, starting at 6:30 p.m. Deacon David Behling serves as the Campus Ministry Director and Sam Lenz and Emma Esanbok are the Peer Leaders this program year.

Immersion Trip

Live long and prosper, David Rask Behling, qo'mey poSmoH Hol - Language opens worlds

I work, learn, and live on the ancestral land of the Ojibwe and Dakota people.

Our Savior's Annual Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2023

Call Meeting to Order: President Randy Winger at 10:05am
Attending: Approximately 47. Meeting happened in the OSLC basement.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Ladnier

Minutes of 2022 Annual Meeting:

Rhoda F made a motion, seconded by Roger L, to accept the 2022 Annual meeting minutes. MC

Report from Pastor Lucas: Pastor Lucas highlighted that we had a year of revitalization and that we have come together. We will focus on three main goals this year: inward with small projects doing God's work, outward by connecting with our neighboring congregations, and upward by sharing God sightings. Pastor's report is on file.

Report from Treasurer:

Beginning Balance as of January 1, 2022

General Account: \$79.81
Designated Acc: \$33,354.53
Money Market: \$74,008.36

Ending Balance as of December 31, 2022

General Account: \$217.60
Designated Acc: \$74,149.16
Money Market: \$232,895.29

2022 Offerings: \$163,289.37

2022 Expenses: \$164,381.19

Notes: The church does not owe any debt. Thanks to everyone's generosity.

Lanette P made a motion, seconded by John T to accept the Treasurer's report. MC

Report from the Audit Committee:

Audrey S and Rhoda F found everything in order.

WELCA is also in order. They will audit the Endowment Fund when the rest of the statements come in.

Gina P made the motion, seconded by Mary H, to accept the Audit report. MC

Proposed Budget for 2023

The proposed budget for 2023 is \$181,587.03. We will need at least \$3,468.78 in weekly offerings to meet the expenses.

This includes a 5% pay increase for all employees. It is asked that Sunday School offerings go to the Treasurer and then will be disbursed to the chosen charities. Sunday School will then give a report at the end of the year.

Under Missions on the report, the total is \$2,600.

A motion to accept the proposed budget was made by Bruce P, seconded by Rhoda F. MC

Endowment Committee Report & Dispersal of Funds:

The Endowment Fund had an income of \$1,821.71.

The account balance as of 1/1/2023 was \$136,496.01.

\$75,000 has been put into three different CDs (\$25,000 each). They will be come due in different years.

Proposed disbursements for 2023 is \$1,800.

A motion was made by Debbi P, seconded by Bob W, to accept the report. MC

Continued on next page...

Our Savior's Annual Meeting Minutes

Dispersal of Fairstand and Lutefisk Supper Funds:

The amount of disbursements is \$27,339.32.

A question was asked about Cru. It is a Campus Ministry at UW-River Falls.

Mike A made a motion, seconded by John T, to accept the Lutefisk Disbursements. MC

Nominating Committee:

Thank you to all those who have served and are serving on a committee. We appreciate your time and talents.

Thank you also to Donna for helping out with the committee.

Election of Officers and Committee Members:

All vacancies were filled and no new nominations were made. See attachment, "Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council Members 2023," for election results.

John T made a motion, seconded by Donna C, to accept the Nomination Committee report. Debbi 2nd. MC

Old Business:

Sewer-no need right now to replace it. It will be looked at periodically.

New Business:

Peter F talked about looking into new energy options. He asked us to consider having a review board to look at our energy efficiency. It was noted that the water heater was replaced with an on demand water heater. When replacing lights, the building committee has been cognizant of using energy efficient supplies. Ann Y spoke that from a Pierce/Pepin perspective, the building/grounds committee could have Pierce/Pepin come look at our energy efficiency, as well as the solar panels.

Audrey S asked about the Algot Anderson funds. Right now they are in the money market account at CCF Bank. We are looking at possibly moving them into laddered CDs at BMO bank as they pay a higher rate of interest. The earned interest could then be used for repairs, maintenance, or reinvested.

Adjourn: Motion made by Rhoda F, seconded by Mike A, to adjourn at 10:50 am. MC

Cemetery Association Meeting happened immediately following the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Rosenberry

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

February 7th, 2023

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

Attending: Debbi Pittman, Sharon Seibel, Randy Winger, Jill Rosenberry, Pastor Lucas, Ann Young, Lanette Place, Donna Constant, Patricia Peterson, Mark Jensen, Ron Halverson, Mike Rehbein, Tim Wiff

Absent: Gabe Feuerhelm, John Traun, Dan Place, Bob Winger,

Opening Devotions: Pastor Lucas lead a discussion from Acts 16:6-15.

New Business:

- **Welcome & Introduce new council members**
- **Job Committee Descriptions:** Lanette handed out job descriptions of committee. Council members will choose to be a liaison for a committee.
- **Schedule Installation Date-Council & Committee:** February 19, 2023. New and existing council and committee members are invited to come forward to be installed.
- **February Money counters & Tech assistants:** Patricia and Lanette
- **Money counters & Tech assistants:** A sign up was sent around to fill positions for 2023. Debbi asks that we please put first and last names of donors on the money counting sheet.

Ellsworth Chamber of Commerce: Thank you Donna for working to join the Chamber. The Annual Awards Dinner for the Chamber will be February 20, at Kilkarney Hills Golf Course. Donna will look into getting a quilt and a gift certificate for ballpark concessions, to enter in the silent auction.

With being a member of the Chamber, we will be able to be part of the Ellsworth Cheese Curd Festival (June 23-25). The church will earn \$10 an hour for each worker, and 30% of our profits.

Donna has also registered the church to work at the Tractor Pull on June 10th. We will need 10 people to work 3 hour shifts. The church will earn \$1000.

Donna pointed out that the auction items for the ballpark brought in \$3,747. More will be added with the ball player worker auction and the candy sales.

Old Business:

Recap Annual Meeting: All felt it went well. The Property committee can discuss solar panels and/or other ways to be more energy efficient during their meetings.

Endowment Investment: They have purchased laddered CDs. Ann mentioned looking into the ELCA Endowment Fund for future investments.

Ministry Planning Event: Pastor Lucas would like the whole council and committee members to meet and work together to address the three goals for this year which were highlighted at the annual meeting. Pastor Lucas will put together a poll to send out in order to find the best date to meet in the near future.

Secretary's Report-

Donna made a motion, seconded by Patricia, to approve the January 3, 2023 council meeting minutes as presented by Jill. M/C

Treasurer's Report-

Designated Account \$91,994.16

General Account \$1,493.55

Money Market \$232,976.96

Total: \$326,464.67

Invest excess Money Market Fund: Council discussed investing \$200,000 of the funds in the Money Market account. Donna made a motion, seconded by Pastor, to purchase 2-\$50,000 laddered CDs at either BMO Harris or Edward Jones, based on the best interest rates. M/C

Tim will check on the rates at Edward Jones. We will then decide next month how to invest the other \$100,000.

Patricia will get banking signature cards for the new President and Vice President of the council. Debbi received a dividend check from Pierce Pepin for \$551.69. she put it in the Loan to General fund to be used for fuel in the future. Ron made a motion, seconded by Mark, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented by Debbi. M/C

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Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

Pastor's report- Pastor Lucas thanked President Randy Winger and Vice President Lanette Place for their leadership the last three years on Council. Complete report on file. Tim made a motion, seconded by Ann, to accept the Pastor's report as presented by Pastor Lucas. M/C

Youth Report-

Patricia provided a printed report highlighting upcoming events. The next SOS Kids Crew will be on Ash Wednesday, February 22. The youth will be ushers, greeters, and bell ringers for the service. The full Youth Report is on file. Ann made a motion, seconded by Donna, to accept the report as presented by Patricia. M/C

Committee Reports-

Nominating Committee: We will need one more council member, as a newly elected member has chosen not to accept the position.

Conflict Detection- none

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

Closing Prayer-The Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting: March 7, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Rosenberry



In Need of Prayer!

Wendy Lamphere
Darlene Ostendorf
Rick Foley
Elise Foley

John Paape,
Wayne Peterson,
Joe Minder,
Ann Leonard,
Ian Peterson,
Eldon Schellfeffer,
Mary Jo Bjork,



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!



Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars[®] by March 31: Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars[®] have until March 31, 2023, to direct them. Don’t miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to Our Savior’s Lutheran Church. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt, or press 6. If you have questions or need help, you may contact Lanette Place.

Lent Supper Sign-up Dates:

*Sign up sheet is located at church in the kitchen.

Wednesday March 1st
Stewardship & Property Committee

Wednesday March 8th
Operation Christmas Child

Wednesday March 15th
WELCA

Wednesday March 22nd
Evangelism Committee

Wednesday March 29th ?

Thank You!

Pierce County Hunger Prevention Council: we would like to thank you for the recent gift of \$100.00 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. Your generous gift will help us to purchase much needed nutritional and personal care items as well as equipment to protect the safety of our volunteers and clients. Sincerely, Heidi Albarado

Feed My Starving Children: Thank you for supporting Feed My Starving children with your charitable contributions in 2022. You funded MannaPack meals to feed children, feed spirits and empower communities across the globe. Lives have been changed because of you. Thank you so much for providing food and hope in 2022. Until all are feed, Mark Crea

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: The Pierce County Food Pantry continues to need certain items.

For the month of **March** we will be collecting Birthday bag items;

Napkins, Frosting, Balloons, etc. and personal care items; Shampoo, Soap, Lotion, Dish Soap, Laundry Soap, and Toothpaste.

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

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



National Quilt Day: March 18 is National Quilt Day celebrating the many uses of quilts sent all over the world through LWR (Lutheran World Relief). WELCA will hold a special quilting day that Saturday March 18 at our church from 9-12 am. If you would like to see how a quilt is put together, come and join us for that Saturday. The quilts we make for LWR are taken to the St Paul warehouse where they were packed in 2022 for Haiti, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Peru, and African nations. The other warehouse of LWR in Maryland shipped quilts to Poland and Ukraine. LWR is supporting emergency housing for more than 15,000 people in six different centers in Ukraine, supplying much needed quilts and bedding.

You can join us the last Wednesday of each month from 8:30am to 12pm to tie quilts together with their batting and bottoms. If you would sew at home, we can cut blocks for you to sew. If you have extra fabric of cotton or flannel ONLY please, these can be donated to our stash. We also make diapers out of any color XL adult T-shirts for Baby Care Kits which also need used sleeping gowns, undershirts, sleepers preferably footless so they can be used for a longer time, baby sweaters or hooded jackets. Donations of money are needed to buy rolls of batting



Our Savior's Women of the ELCA will again be taking orders for Easter Lilies to be put around the altar on Saturday through Easter Sunday. You can indicate if the order is in memory or in honor of a loved one, friend or relative. You can take them home after Easter services. Order forms will be in the Narthex and in the basement to fill out and include payment to WELCA. Cost is \$15 each plant ordered.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner – March 19th:




Sacred Heart of Spring Valley will host its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner on

Sunday, March 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Brother Michael Center.

Please come and join us for a good meal of bone in Ham, real mashed potatoes with Ham gravy, homemade bake beans, sweet corn and PIE. Spread the word! We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends. Dine in, Takeout and Delivery all available. Call 715-778-5832 for your reservations today! Free will offering!



MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guilds: Audrey Severson Ann Young Money Counters/ Tech Assistants: Patricia Peterson Tim Wiff			1 8:30am Quilting 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Service	2	3	4
5 Cinnamon Roll Sunday 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Annual Meeting No Sunday School Hour	6	7 7pm Council Meeting	8 1:30pm Preferred Senior Living Worship Service 2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services Worship Service 5:30pm Lent Supper (Fundraiser for Operation Christmas Child) 6:30pm Lent Worship Service	9	10	11
12 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour 10am Sunday School Hour	13	14	15 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Service	16	17 	18 8am Men in Mission Meeting 9-12pm Quilting Day
19 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour No Sunday School Hour	20	21	22 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Service	23	24	25
26 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour 10am Sunday School Hour 11:30am—1:30pm Pool Party	27	28	29 8:30am Quilting 5:30pm Lent Supper 6:30pm Lent Worship Service	30	31	

	Greeter's/Ushers	Tech Assistant	Acolyte	Reader	Bell Ringer	Communion Server	Assisting Minister
March 5th 9:00AM	Don & Jill Rosenberry	Aubrey Minder Patricia Peterson	Brody Flynn Breken Young	Mary Halls	Roger Laughnan	Audrey Severson	Donald Rosenberry III
March 12th 9:00AM	Gina Place Nadalie Place	Omar Coulson Tim Wiff	Alex Knight Jake Knight	Steve Straub	Roger Laughnan	Becky Johnson	Tom Holdorf
March 19th 9:00AM	Larry & Sharon Peterson Mark & Crystal Raleigh	Chase Unser Patricia Peterson	Dustyn Raleigh Eli Stockwell	Brett Unser	Roger Laughnan	Bruce Place	Lanette Place
March 26th 9:00am	Bruce & Lanette Place	Lucy Feuerhelm Patricia Peterson	Nora Feuerhelm Wyatt Kirchner	Katie Feuerhelm	Roger Laughnan	Sue Peterson	Ann Young

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.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
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Pastor Lucas Ladnier
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www.oursaviorschurch.info

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PROVERBS 3:5-6 NIV

Trust in the Lord with
all your heart
and lean not
on your own understanding;
in all your ways
acknowledge him,
and he will make
your paths straight.

march

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					