

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

May 2020

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

About a year ago, we joined with about a half dozen other churches in our synod for the Faithful Innovators Network, where we got a team together and started learning some new techniques for being church together in a time of change. We really didn't know it at the time just how much change we were going to need to prepare for! But as it turns out, it was lucky that we got a head start on it, because some of the techniques and questions the FIN process had us asking have been particularly helpful to how we look at ministry in this time of COVID-19.

Take, for example, online worship. We already had the practice in place of putting our worship online. We were starting to get comfortable with the idea of doing ministry in this new and different way. And the FIN team was already talking about how we could improve that part of our ministry together. It made this transition less of a sudden course change and more of a continuation of what we were already doing!

Another big question the FIN process raised was how we take our faith home, rather than just practicing it in and through the church building. In a way, the last several weeks have really pushed us to pay attention to that question! How have you and your family been engaging your faith at home? There are so many ways that we can do that beyond the Sunday worship service.

At our house, we've been watching a daily devotional called "Morning Watch" put on by Pastor Jesse and Pastor Matt down in North Carolina, and Hazel has been starting each morning with fun camp songs and a lesson from Nathan (a red sock puppet and friend of Pastor Jesse and Pastor Matt). If you have kids, and have been looking for a faithful morning routine, "Morning Watch: Kids" is easy to find on YouTube!

This time can also invite us to new ways of practicing the hospitality of our faith. With most of us generally stuck in the house, it can get lonely not getting to see friends and family. How, then, is God calling us to connect with each other if we can't meet in person? One great way to do it is by picking up the phone and calling someone you know who might not have anyone to spend this stay-at-home time with. You could also write a letter, encouraging a neighbor with hopeful words. Or, if you have a decent internet connection, video call someone using Facebook, Zoom, Google, or other numerous programs we are so blessed to have. Just because we can't meet doesn't mean we can't support each other.

We're living in a difficult time, that's for sure. But how is God inviting us to something new and exciting in the midst of it? What new ways can we be church together that COVID-19 is pushing us to do? How can we still share the love of God with our neighbors while we shelter at home? I trust that God is at work in this, and that we will be changed on the other side of it to be a new and revitalized body of Christ, ready to serve our neighbor and share the good news in ways that we would never have imagined even three months ago! May we all keep that in mind as we navigate this pandemic together.

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.

June 21 (Father's Day), 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

Council Meeting Minutes

(Special Meeting Regarding C-19)
March 19, 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

By Phone: Norris Berg, Ann Young, Pastor Lucas

Discussion Items:

1. 60 Day Financial Plan
 - a. Well Drilling – Hoyer Well Drilling will begin next week. Septic system will be postponed for now.
 - b. Garbage Service – Jim C. to call P.I.G. to see if we could be on a month to month basis.
 - c. Borrowing money from Money Market and Designated Funds – It won't take long to deplete these funds.
 - d. Salaries and Wages – Chisholms will wave their fee for cleaning the church for the month of April. Patricia – we will keep the administrative wages but Randy will talk to her about paying her an hourly wage for the youth director responsibilities for the mission trip but there would not be any duties for the other youth activities as there are not any activities because of the virus situation.
 - e. Giving by mail and online – Simply Giving and Vanco. We will ask Nadalie Place if she could put a flier together to explain the Vanco program that we could use to send to members by several methods.
2. Cancel in-church worship services – the council determined that services will be cancelled until Palm Sunday – April 5th. The council will evaluate the situation before that time. Virtual worship will be done through YouTube, Facebook, church website, and print copy.
3. Postpone ministry planning event – March 26th – It is postponed.
4. Other events in the near future – All planned church events until April 5th.
5. Live streaming services and mailing of the services – Pastor Lucas will divide the membership directory between the council members and himself to call to ask if they need help and what the church is doing during this time.
6. Volunteers to talk with the most vulnerable age group to keep some social interaction.
7. Temporary funeral and wedding policies – we will look at by a case by case basis. The next wedding is in October.
8. Confirmation – the council decided to postpone confirmation and graduation to next fall.
9. Parking lot being used temporarily for the Ellsworth school lunch program – a red van from the school will only be using our parking lot to hand out lunches from 11:00 to 1:00. They will not be going in our building.

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: April 7, 2020 – 7:00 pm

Respectively submitted by Sharon Seibel

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



BACKPACKS FOR THE WEEK: With school being closed, BACKPACKS ARE BEING HANDED OUT FOR THE WEEK RATHER THAN THE WEEKEND. You may drop off your 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

During the month of May, if we are back to attending church, we will once again be collecting 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.

Hope you are all safe and healthy and that we will soon be back to our church family at Our Savior's.

Keep praying and washing your hands.

Evangelism Committee: Heather Johnson, Sharon Peterson, Pauline Laughnan

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)

Well Update: The new well (210' with 180' of casing) is complete with the water line run into the well room. Hoyer's will be pulled and capped the old well Friday May 1st. 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!



Luther Point Summer Camps Update: All Camps plan to start July 5th. To learn more about the breakdown of the 3 tier plan follow this website www.lutherpoint.org/covid19. Luther Point is still encouraging everyone to register for summer camp. No Deposit Required! Register on-line at www.lutherpoint.org The Men in Mission will pay half of the registration cost for all campers and their friends. **Note:** Friends of Our Savior's campers must indicate in the comments section at the bottom of the registration form that they are going to camp with a member from Our Savior's, Beldenville. Only then will Luther Point know to bill the Our Savior's Men In Mission for half of their registration cost.



**Please Join us during our online Worship Service
in honor of our
2020 High School Graduates on Sunday, May 17th.**

Gunnar Allyn, McKenna Girdeen, Halle Langer,
Brooke Minder & Madisyn Rouleau

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

The St. Francis School Gala "Glory Days: St. Francis Through the Decades" has been rescheduled to a virtual event that will take place on our website at www.stfrancisellsworth.org/gala and the "St. Francis School – Ellsworth, WI" Facebook page from May 12 through May 16, 2020. Because the school depends on this fundraiser to fund vital programs, we are determined to keep this year's event alive! Please join us in supporting this critical fundraiser in any way possible, whether through financial contributions or by helping spread the word to others. All are invited to join us in celebrating St. Francis School and lifting spirits in a time when we all need it. Thank you very much for your support!

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.

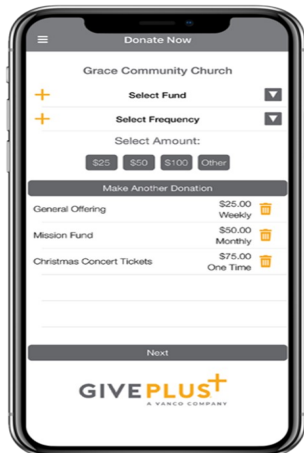
Our Savior's Lutheran Church offers giving from our Website, through the GivePlus mobile app, and by text.

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.

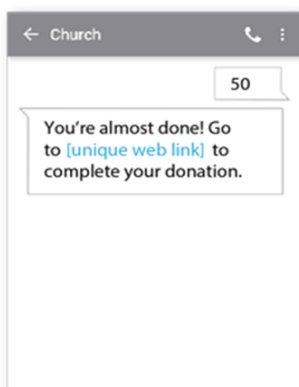
Giving through our mobile app is easy and convenient.

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.

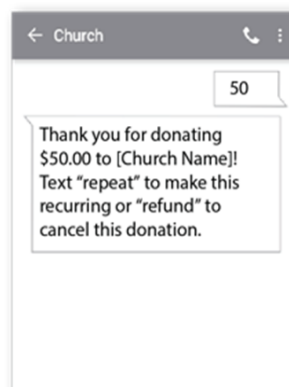
1. Get Started



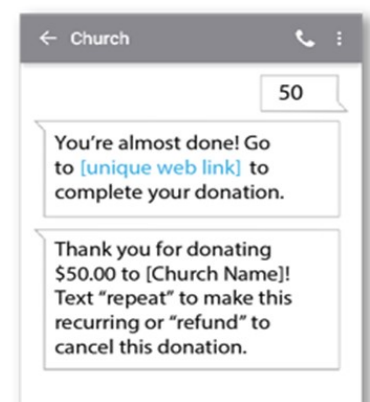
2. Register

A registration form for card payment. It shows logos for VISA, Mastercard, DISCOVER, and American Express. Fields include 'Name Of Cardholder', 'Card number', 'MM/YY', and 'CV'. A yellow button at the bottom says 'Process \$10.00'.

3. Give



4. Repeat



May

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

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.



In Need of Prayer!

Betty Winger, Lilli Graf, Brian Hoitomt, Tom Springette, Julie Mazac,
Ann Siebenaler, Gary Johnson, Gerald Place, Laura Kemmerer, Anna Walentowski,
Michele Klennert, 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