

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

May 2025

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

In Peter Wohlleben's *The Hidden Life of Trees*, he talks about the fascinating connection that trees in a forest have with one another. Above ground, it can be easy to assume that all the trees compete with each other for light—this is what we've been taught since grade school about "survival of the fittest," right? And the way that trees seem to race each other to the sky would suggest that's true. But what's fascinating, and what I learned from this book, is what's going on that we can't see.

One of those things is chemical "scent" that trees use to communicate to each other. When one tree is being attacked by insects, it will release a chemical cloud to its neighbors, warning them to get their defenses up. Or, whole forests will coordinate with each other as to when they should produce a huge crop of nuts—chestnuts, pecans, walnuts, or beech nuts—so that browsers who eat the nuts will be so overwhelmed by the numbers that at least some of the seeds will survive. Or, and this part was really fascinating to me, how trees will share through their roots. Healthy trees will give resources to sick trees; parent trees will feed their shaded children; wounded trees will warn others of danger, and receive help.

I find it fascinating that God's desire to create community in creation extends even to the trees, which to so many of us are nothing more than background features. And the community built by trees reminds us of what makes a healthy community for us humans, too. We do our best, we are our best, when we keep each other safe. When we share. When we coordinate to make the best outcome happen. When we heal each other, and care for each other, and feed each other.

The church could stand to look to the trees for how God calls us to live together. We do our best when we do the things that support everyone. We are the church most when we show our love for others in selfless giving and in loving community. We shape the world to look the way God intends when we hear God's call to be a more harmonious community, to live with one another, to share each other's burdens and feed each other's souls. When we work together, rather than competing as if creation is a zero-sum scenario, we embody more of what God calls us to do in the world.

Another thing that I learned from *The Hidden Life of Trees* is about isolated trees. Out on their own, they have full access to all the resources and sunlight they could ever want. So they tend to grow very fast—nothing is slowing them down. But fast-growing trees apparently are not healthy trees. Their wood is extra vulnerable to fungal infection. When boring insects arrive, they don't have anyone to warn them. When a great windstorm breaks down their branches, they have no neighbors to feed them as they heal. Isolated trees live shorter lives.

When God created the first human, God said "it is not good for the human to be alone." God doesn't want us to be alone. God doesn't want us to be isolated from community. So let's take a lesson from the trees. We are stronger together. We are healthier together. God calls us together, so that we can be a support to one another, and show the world what community looks like.

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.

May 18th, June 15th, July 13, August 17th,

Contact the Office if any of these dates would work for your family.
office.osbeldenville@gmail.com, 715-273-4570

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

April 01, 2025

Call Meeting to Order: President Tim Wiff at 7:00 PM.

Attending: Debbi Pittman, Pastor Lucas, Donna Constant, Ron Halverson, Mike Rehbein, Tim Wiff, Julie Winger, Patricia Peterson, Mark Jensen

Absent: Sue Palmquist, Audrey Severson, John Traun, Steve Straub

Opening Devotions: Pastor Lucas

New Business:

Community Summit, an annual event. All the non-profits were there, sharing what they do for the community and make connections with each other. Pastor has ideas on what we can do to connect to others. Donna shared events by the churches such as UCC Random Acts of Kindness events.

Fair Stand:

Council approved use of the fair stand on May 17th for the Jame Huppert Benefit to raise money for his cancer journey.

Motion to use the fair stand for benefit on May 17th made by Pastor, seconded by Patricia, M/C.

Church Committee Liaison's:

Julie volunteered to be the Endowment Committee Liaison.

Confirmation:

Confirmation Banquet is April 30th to Honor the 2025 Confirmands.

The five Confirmands are Martha Allyn, Nora Christopherson, Maddi Constant, Dusty Raleigh, Chase Unser. Confirmation is May 4th.

Motion to approve the five confirmands by Paster, seconded by Julie, M/C.

Old Business:

Elevator Phone:

Mike presented the estimated pricing that should be less than \$1,500. An account needs to be established with Rath, the elevator phone company, to move forward. If the cost comes out to higher than \$1,500 this will be brought back to council for further discussion.

Motion to approve elevator phone cost up to \$1,500 and to pay the monthly fee for the phone by Julie, seconded by Debbi, M/C.

Discussion regarding checking on services to possibly replace Orkin for Bug/Mouse extermination services.

Continued on next page...

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

Secretary's Report:

Council requests the CD at CCF be added to the secretary's report. add to treasurer's report. Correction of wording "stalled" changed to "installed" regarding the fire extinguishers.

Motion to approve Secretary's Report with additions and corrections by Ron, seconded by Julie, M/C.

Treasurer's Report:

Designated Account \$51,998.51

General Account \$512.21

Money Market \$35,897.41

Total \$88,398.13

The Edward Jones CDs account: \$165,679.12

The CCF 9-month CD \$51,006.85

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented by Patricia, seconded by Donna, M/C.

Pastor's report:

Lenten midweek services, working through our senses.

Walked through our senses to find how we can perceive God and God's work with and among us. Positive feedback received regarding these experiences.

We had our first new style of worship this month, incorporating some different music and more up-to-date language. I received positive feedback from so many people in the congregation!

Maundy Thursday Dinner Church (potluck) is 6:00 PM, communion will be incorporated, all are welcome.

Participated in the Moses Project weekly projects.

Motion to approve Pastor's Report by Donna, seconded by Ron, M/C.

Youth Report:

Youth fund raiser, Cinnamon Roll Sunday, April 6th, last one until Fall.

S.O.S. Kids Crew was Wednesday March 26th. Rescheduled due to School virtual day. Joined by 6 youth, learned 5 more (Poetry) books of the Bible. Played hopscotch game, helps with memorizing the books of the Bible. The last S.O.S. Kids Crew for 2024-25 School Year is April 16th with Easter Jeopardy and celebrate fun time together.

April 12th, all elementary age youth, Easter story, egg hunt, arm painting and shaped balloons!

April 9th grade Confirmation Events:

Wednesday, April 6th 2:30pm Escape Room Outing.

Wednesday, April 23rd 6pm Ice Cream Outing.

Wednesday April 30th 6pm Confirmation Banquet.

Sunday May 4th Affirmation of Baptism. The 2025 Confirmands will be; Martha Allyn, Nora Christopherson, Madalynn Constant, Dustyn Raleigh, and Chase Unser.

2025 Mission Trip Fundraiser is Palm Sunday Brunch: Sunday April 13th during coffee hour.

Motion to approve Youth Report by Debbi, seconded by Julie, M/C.

Committee Reports:

Property Committee

The organ was cleaned, inspected, minor repairs. Looking into something to present to the technician, Tom, who would not bill for the service call and all his work he accomplished.

Conflict Detection: none

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn by Donna, seconded by Pastor, M/C.

Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting: May 06, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Rehbein

Be Our Guest

Mahn Family
Funeral and Cremation Services

Ellsworth Chapel
587 W Lucas Ln | Ellsworth, WI 54011
715.941.5021 | www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com

Wednesday
May 14, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Our Savior's
Lutheran Church
N6450 530th St
Beldenville, WI 54003

Please call the funeral home
at 715.941.5021 or text
651.301.5199 so that we
may reserve your place.



We're hosting a program for adults of all ages, and we'd like you to join us. Relax with your neighbors, enjoy a light breakfast, and learn about the many spiritual, emotional, and financial benefits of making important decisions in advance. Find out what you can do to assist your parents or how you can make things easier for your children or other family members by planning ahead. Everyone who attends will receive a Funeral & Cremation Planning Folder, planning assistance, and a light breakfast.

Featuring Local Experts



FAITH & FUNERALS

Pastor Lucas Ladnier will discuss the scriptural basis for funeral services and share some Biblical insights regarding life's final passage.



GRIEF, GIFTING, & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Joel Rinstad, Laker Planning Service, will discuss Medical Assistance and the 5-year "look-back" period, which makes it even harder to protect your assets from nursing home costs. He will also touch on two other topics: 1) how you can help others through a time of grief and 2) the value of gifting to the church.



ADVANCE FUNERAL PLANNING

Jeri Petree, Preplanning Specialist, will explore the question of how advance funeral planning can help protect your loved ones. Learn how you can give them peace of mind on one of the hardest days of their lives.



FUNERAL & CREMATION OPTIONS

Joe Mahn and David Mahn, Funeral Directors and Owners, will explore options for funeral and cremation planning. They will also provide information and options regarding local cemeteries.



The seminar date is quickly approaching, so make your reservation TODAY! If you cannot attend the seminar but would like to receive the information, call the funeral home at the number listed above.

If this mailing has reached you during a time of bereavement or serious illness, we apologize. Should you respond to this mailing, an insurance-licensed funeral director or prearrangement specialist may contact you with information regarding an insurance policy or annuity underwritten and administered by Funeral Directors Life Insurance Company, Alliance, Texas.

The NW Synod of WI Racial Justice team invites you to join them for an

INDIGENOUS SACRED SITES TOUR

LEARN FROM AND WITH OUR INDIGENOUS NEIGHBORS IN MN

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Learn about Minnesota history from a Native perspective through story-telling and experiencing the sites in silence / meditation / reflection.

We visit sites located around confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers, what the Dakota refer to as Bdote, or "meeting place of rivers," including:

- Fort Snelling State Park
- Dakota Internment Camp following the Dakota-U.S. War
- Pilot Knob Hill, a traditional burial ground

Your \$75 registration includes the cost of the tour, transportation (coach bus), bus snacks and post-tour meal from Shobi's Table in St. Paul. You may also purchase snacks at a rest stop. 50 person maximum. Pick up locations on registration form.

Questions: 715.859.6810
racialjustice.nwswi@gmail.com



Register at
nwswi.org/home/calendar



River Falls, WI
Rotary

Crutches4Africa

Millions of people in Africa desperately need mobility devices, but they cannot afford them.

What We Accept

- Crutches
- Walkers, Canes
- Walking Boots, Prosthetic Legs
- Wheelchairs, Knee Scooters
- Leg/Knee Braces, Arm Slings
- Baby joggers (not strollers)
- Bicycle trailers



We Need Your Help!

People in our community are storing these medical devices or throwing them away. Rotary is collecting these devices to fill a shipping container to send to people in need in Africa.



River Falls Mobility Device Collection:

- Saturday, May 17th from 10AM-Noon at M Health Fairview Clinic
319 S Main St, River Falls, WI 54022
- Saturday, May 24th from 10AM-Noon at Ptacek's Family Market
1121 S Main St, River Falls, WI 54022

We will also pick up devices if you'd prefer us to come to you.
Email riverfallsrotary@gmail.com or call 715-441-2663

2025

Preferred Senior Living
&

Ellsworth Health Services

Worship Schedule for Our Savior's

Wednesday May 14th

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

July 23rd, October 15th,
December 10th, November 13th

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: The Pierce County Food Pantry continues to need certain items. For the month of **MAY** we will be collecting; **Sugar, Flour, Dry soup mix, Baked Beans and Ramen noodles.**

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.

Let's help end hunger in Pierce County.

Support Our Mission with eGiving

This year, consider making your seasonal gift amount,
by using our eGiving tools.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church offers online:

www.oursaviorschurch.info "give" tab,

Text-to-Give: 833-506-0632.



In Need of Prayer!

Ethel Glampe, Mabel & Mackenze Rohl, Chris Nelson, Sue Palmquist, Tony Murphy, Carol (Raehsler) Gregg, Alan Winberg, Bob Dahm, Terryl Florcek, Dean Mewes, John Paape, and Kristen Anderson. The men and women that are deployed; Iain Gilby, Brady Sharon, Mathew Normand, Reuben Huppert, Kohl Flock, Wyatt Roed, Ryan Orpen, Ella Wynveen.

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

The names will be on the prayer list for two weeks unless specified.



The Evangelism Committee: Thank you for all the donations for Basics for Local Kids. We received 4-snow pants, 16-coats, 10-pairs of boots, and lots and lots of mitten's, scarves, and etc. Thank you, Kathy Young, Darlene Halverson, and Lori Coulson.



O'Connell's Funeral Home: will be hosting a seminar on the advantages of pre-planning and funding? The seminars will be held at our Ellsworth chapel on Thursday, May 1st, at 10:00AM and 2:00PM. Those interested can call O'Connell's to sign up.

WHAT DO THE ELCA INITIALS STAND FOR AND HOW IS IT ORGANIZED?

ELCA letters stand for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Since our beginning in 1988, the ELCA has been one church body organized in three expressions; congregations, synods and the churchwide (CW) organization. Each expression has its particular functions but all three together share a common mission of doing God's work in the world and proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. Together, they ensure a solid foundation of leadership, active involvement in communities, opportunities for dialogue, diverse perspectives, partnerships, and support for ministries of the ELCA.

The churchwide organization is based out of the Lutheran Center in Chicago and functions with the ELCA's 65 synods and nearly 10,000 congregations across the 50 states, Caribbean and U.S. Virgin Islands. The churchwide organization's work and functions are guided by the Churchwide Assembly, the Church Council and four elected officers. Its staff and elected officers work at the Lutheran Center and in other locations around the world serving as administrators, advisors, and partners for the ELCA and its ministries.

The ELCA also nurtures important connections with Lutheran, ecumenical and interfaith partners, and related organizations. We work alongside 27 colleges and universities related to the ELCA, 7 seminaries, more than 2,000 schools and early childhood education centers, campus ministries, outdoor ministries, social service agencies, and other agencies and institutions across the country and throughout the world. The work God calls us to do in the world is never done alone or in isolation, and the churchwide organization plays a key role in developing and supporting a culture of interdependence, diversity and common mission across all expressions of the ELCA and its partners.



Coffee Hour Host Needed: Would your family or committee like to host coffee hour on Sunday May 25th after Worship. Please contact the church office if this date would work for you.



Thanks to Bruce Place for his labor skills and Sue Palmquist for her decorating skills, both upstairs restrooms have recently undergone a makeover. Although functional, these rooms were both looking tired and dingy, but now they are freshened up, clean, and beautiful. If you haven't had a chance to see the transformation you should "go" and take a peek. Proceeds from the May 11th coffee hour will be put towards the cost for these upgrades. Your donations are much appreciated.

Thank you.

2025 CHURCH SOFTBALL SCHEDULE					
Games start at 4 pm and 7 pm on Sunday, 7 pm on Mon/Tues					
Please notify Donna or Clair if you cannot make a game Donna Constant 715-307-0451, Clair Severson 715-821-3710					Concession sign up
Sunday 5/18/25	4pm	Our Savior's	VS	English Lutheran	
Sunday 5/18/25	7pm	Bethel	VS	C3A	
Monday 5/19/25	7pm	Zion	VS	St Mary	
Tuesday 5/20/25	7pm	C3B	VS	St Francis	
Sunday 6/1/25	4pm	C3B	VS	St Mary's	
Sunday 6/1/25	7pm	Zion	VS	St Francis	
Monday 6/2/25	7pm	Bethel	VS	English Lutheran	
Tuesday 6/3/25	7pm	Our Saviors	VS	C3A	
Sunday 6/8/25	4pm	Zion	VS	English Lutheran	
Sunday 6/8/25	7pm	C3B	VS	C3A	
Monday 6/9/25	7pm	Our Savior's	VS	St Mary's	
Tuesday 6/10/25	7pm	Bethel	VS	St Francis	
Sunday 6/15/25	4pm	Our Savior's	VS	St Francis	
Sunday 6/15/25	7pm	C3B	VS	English Lutheran	
Monday 6/16/25	7pm	Bethel	VS	St Mary's	
Tuesday 6/17/25	7pm	Zion	VS	C3A	
Sunday 6/22/25	4pm	Zion	VS	Bethel	
Sunday 6/22/25	7pm	Our Savior's	VS	C3B	
Monday 6/23/25	7pm	St Mary's	VS	St Francis	
Tuesday 6/24/25	7pm	English Lutheran	VS	C3A	
Sunday 6/29/25	4pm	St Francis	VS	C3A	
Sunday 6/29/25	7pm	Zion	VS	Our Savior's	
Monday 6/30/25	7pm	Bethel	VS	C3B	
Tuesday 7/1/25	7pm	English Lutheran	VS	St Mary's	
Sunday 7/13/25	4pm	St Mary's	VS	C3A	
Sunday 7/13/25	7pm	St Francis	VS	English Lutheran	
Monday 7/14/25	7pm	Bethel	VS	Our Savior's	
Tuesday 7/14/25	7pm	Zion	VS	C3B	
Make Up Game			VS		
Tournaments Saturday July 26th					

“Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.” – James 1:17

Staying Put Featured Events: May/June



Staying Put, Inc.
Caring - Connecting - Celebrating

10th Anniversary **BLOCK PARTY**

**2:00pm-6:00pm
June 28th**

**S 3rd Street,
Spring Valley**
Next to Comm. Center

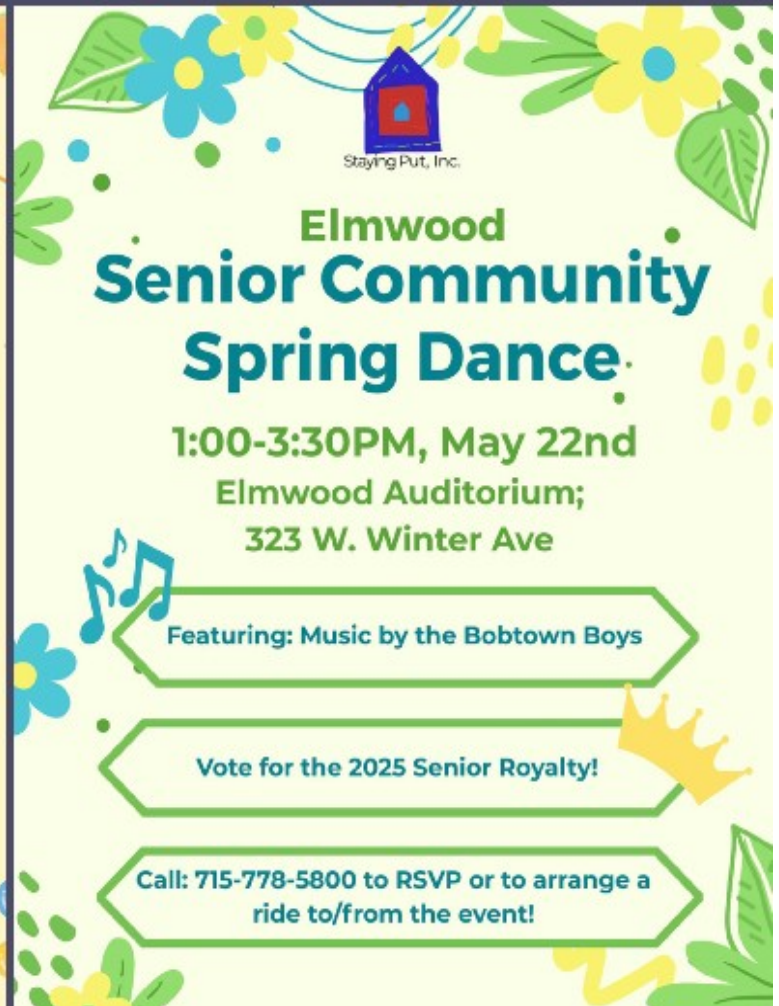
Music, games and dancing for all ages!

Burgers by SV Lion's Club, drinks by Half Fast Brewing Company.

Stop by the SV Community Center to check out interviews from our "Staying Put in Retrospective" project.

50/50 raffle drawing, ticket sales support Staying Put!

Need a ride? Call 715-778-5800 to schedule a ride to/from the event



Staying Put, Inc.

Elmwood Senior Community Spring Dance

1:00-3:30PM, May 22nd
Elmwood Auditorium;
323 W. Winter Ave

Featuring: Music by the Bobtown Boys

Vote for the 2025 Senior Royalty!

Call: 715-778-5800 to RSVP or to arrange a ride to/from the event!

The LORD bless you and protect you. The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD lift up his face to you and grant you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guilds: Rhoda Foley Belinda Foley Money Counters: Donna Constant Patricia Peterson				1	2	3
4 Affirmation of Baptism 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour	5	6 7pm Council Meeting	7	8	9	10 10am Knot Alone at El Paso Bar and Grill
11 Happy Mother's Day 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour	12 10am Coffee and Conversation	13	14 10am Funeral Planning Seminar 1:30pm Preferred Senior Living Service 2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services Service 6pm Baccalaureate Service High School Auditorium	15	16	17 8am Men in Mission Meeting
18 Honoring Graduates 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour 4pm OS vs English Lutheran 7pm C3 (team A) vs Bethel	19 7pm Zion vs St Mary's	20 7pm C3 (team B) vs St Francis	21	22	23	24
25 Memorial Day Service 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour	26 Office Closed	27	28 8:30am Quilting	29	30	31

	Greeter's/Ushers	Tech Assistant	Acolyte	Reader	Bell Ringer	Assisting Minister
May 4th 9:00AM	Casey & Patricia Peterson	Luke Lundstrom Donna Constant	Megan Peterson Brady Peterson	Belinda Foley	Roger Laughnan	Rhoda Foley
May 11th 9:00AM	Rhoda Foley	Wyatt Kirchner Patricia Peterson	Brody Flynn Wyatt Goodier	Rhoda Foley	Roger Laughnan	Lanette Place
May 18th 9:00AM	Mike Rehbein Ushers: Mary & Lori	Patricia Peterson Donna Constant	Hallee Place Hadley Coulson	Steve Straub	Roger Laughnan	Ann Young
May 25th 9:00AM	Pauline & Roger Laughnan	Jake Knight Donna Constant	Lane Kolodzienski Kaia Christopherson	Peggy Hoyer	Roger Laughnan	Tom Holdorf

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
N6450 530th Street
Beldenville WI 54003
Phone: (715) 273-4570
Pastor Lucas Ladnier
Email: pastor.osbeldenville@gmail.com
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May 2025 Newsletter


MAY YOU
OVERFLOW WITH
HOPE BY THE
 POWER OF 
THE HOLY SPIRIT
 ROMANS 15:13