

# Our Savior's Lutheran Church

## Newsletter

November 2025

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www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

One of those ongoing, anxious things we talk about in the church is how attendance has been going down over the years. I can't tell you the number of workshops and assemblies and forums I've attended where that has been, if not the main focus, then at least a major topic of conversation. We're worried because churches aren't full like we remember from the days of our youth. But lack of attendance, surprisingly, isn't a new thing. It's just a recent, visible trend.

According to a Gallup poll from 2024, 44% of self-identifying Protestants attended church either every week, or most every week. That's a decline of 4% over the course of twenty years. And that's nothing to sniff at, for sure! For those of y'all who are old enough, numbers would be well into the eighties and nineties during the heyday of church attendance in the 80s! But you know that term "C and E Christians?" The Christians who only attend on Christmas and Easter? Well, turns out, that's not a new phenomenon either.

I remember a coffee table book we had growing up, a collection of *Saturday Evening Post* covers by Norman Rockwell. And even in his idyllic, 1950s New England representation of Americana, there was this one painting I remember that stuck out. There was a mother and her three kids dressed in their Sunday best—obvious where they were headed—and in the foreground, the father was hiding in his chair, slumped behind a newspaper and wearing his bathrobe! There were complaints from pastors and parishioners alike back in the 20s about the young people abandoning church. Civic leaders bemoaned the "godless" people who didn't attend church back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Even Martin Luther noted that two days of the church year saw all the tepid churchgoers show up—Easter and All Saint's Day (but not Christmas!).

But the thing is, in those days if you didn't go to church, that was it. You missed it. You were disconnected from the congregation. And attending church—bodily being with other Christians and physically joining in worship—is still the best way we can worship together. But these days it's not the only way. These days, we can attend multiple worship services from our living rooms. We can catch the sermon and the hymns and the prayers on a Tuesday because we couldn't make it on Sunday. We can worship virtually when we're on vacation, or wintering in Arizona, or sick and can't get out of the house.

The truth is, church attendance varies, but it varies in really big trends that are generationally long. So it seems like people are abandoning the church now because we remember the full churches of our youth. But just because people don't come to the church doesn't mean they're not looking for the connection and the wonderings and the answers that are found here. It just means we who do attend regularly need to find creative ways to help them realize *where* they can find what they're looking for. Even if that means they'll find it in their bathrobe watching in their living room.

And maybe, if they attend on Christmas or Easter, they'll feel something they don't get from virtual worship. And if that happens, we'll be ready with welcoming smiles and generous hearts.

In Christ,

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.

**November 16, December 14**

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

## Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

October 07, 2025

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

**Attending:** Pastor Lucas, Donna Constant, Ron Halverson, Mike Rehbein, Tim Wiff, Julie Winger, Mark Jensen, Steve Straub, Debbi Pittman

**Absent:** Patricia Peterson, Sue Palmquist

**Opening Devotions:** Pastor Lucas

### **New Business:**

Methods discussed to rotate out oldest photos from Photo Deck in a way these older photos are easily available for viewing. To save not having to purchase expensive additional supplies for the photo deck.

#### **Money Counter/Tech:**

Sign-up sheet passed around to fill out openings as available.

#### **Council Meeting Time:**

Discussion to change the current council meeting time to 6 PM instead of 7 PM.

Motion to change council meeting time to 6 pm by Julie, seconded by Pastor, M/C.

#### **Communion Center Kneeling Bench:**

Discussion regarding using center bench during Communion.

Minor modifications to the center bench can be made to address the difficulty moving the center bench into place for Communion.

**Light up the Fair dates are November 28, 29, and December 5, 6.**

### **Old Business:**

#### **Elevator Emergency Phone:**

Wiring, mounting, configuration of cellular gateway completed.

Phone replaced, programmed and tested calling 911, plays recorded message and 911 dispatchers can talk with passengers in elevator and maintain the call duration as needed. Inspection fee paid. Permit to Operate is posted in elevator.

**Summary of the Estimate vs Our Costs** regarding equipment and recurring fees: Estimate from Arrow Lift

**Note:** I felt the estimate regarding annual VoIP fee to be incorrect. Called twice to question the fee and each time Tiffany stated the estimate to be correct after checking with a supervisor.

#### Equipment

\$735.12 Replace and program Rath 2100-956SS ADA SMARTPHONE (elevator phone)

\$512.25 Cellular Modem (VoIP), to use our Wi-Fi and Internet services per the quote

#### Services

\$330.00 annual VoIP Services

\$300.00 annual monitoring of elevator phone

Not included in the estimate.

\$75? Wi-Fi access point needed near to the elevator

\$208.90 2 Battery Back Ups, 1 for cellular modem and 1 for a Wi-Fi access point.

\$25/month (approximately) line charge for Swift Current phone number/line

### **Our actual costs**

Equipment: \$534.94 Replace and program Rath 2100-956SS ADA SMARTPHONE (elevator phone)

\$689.00 8100-V4G Cellular Voice Gateway for Verizon from Rath

\$104.45 Battery Backup for Cellular Voice Gateway

**Services:** \$38.60 Monthly line charge, including taxes, fees, surcharges of \$8.60

**Equipment:** \$202.88 saved over the estimate

**Services:** \$463.20 will be saved annually

Writing a set of documents such that Kieth, Bruce or I can test, program the system as needed.

Continued on next page...

# Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

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## Insurance

Insurance went up \$1,100 a year.

Tim will check on the deductible and check on if the coverage on fair stand roof is affected.

## Secretary's Report:

Correction, change Julie and Donna to absent.

Motion to approve Secretary's Report as presented by Debbi, seconded by Ron, M/C.

## Treasurer's Report:

Designated Account	\$33,960.45
General Account	-\$1,009.47
CCF Money Market	\$36,122.97
Total	\$69,073.95

The Edward Jones CD account \$169,648.04

The CCF CD account \$50,332.18

Insurance payment due. This will require borrowing \$2,700 from the designated account.

To keep the congregation members informed when there is a shortfall in funds, the amount borrowed from designated account will be included in the bulletin.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Donna, seconded by Julie, M/C.

## Pastor's report:

Led two Coffee & Conversation sessions.

Communicated with sunshine crew.

Met with community initiative at UCC.

Attended St. Croix Conference meeting.

Visited and provided communion to shut-ins and members at the care centers.

Attended the Ice Cream Social.

Helped with SOS.

Taught two sessions of confirmation.

Confirmation: Classes have started again, and although the group is smaller this year, we are learning important stuff! This month we covered the Ten Commandments, teaching the kids how they show us how to live lives the way that God knows is best for us.

God's Work Our Hands: I am always amazed and overjoyed by how much enthusiasm there is for this service Sunday tradition! We had high participation and all kinds of projects, allowing everyone to participate in whatever way they knew they could.

Lutefisk Supper: So much energy goes into the successful planning and carrying out of our annual supper. I am very happy that Gina Place has stepped up to be the chair for the supper, and for all the other members who gladly volunteer their time, their cooking skills, their expertise, their wisdom, and good humor to pulling off this amazing supper every single year!

Motion to approve Pastor's Report as presented by Julie, seconded by Steve, M/C.

Continued on next page....

# Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

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## Youth Report:

### Youth Fundraisers:

Pie and Ice Cream Social: We had 36 guests and 14 youth and their parents.

Free-will donations added up to be \$692.00.

Thank you all for your support for the youth here at Our Savior's.

### Upcoming Youth Events:

Lutefisk Supper Youth Sign-up: there is a confirmation youth sign-up in the Narthex on the Youth bulletin board.

All confirmation youth are asked to help with the supper either on Wednesday or Thursday.

Wednesday October 22nd: Potato Peeling and Table-Set-up or decorating. I will ask them to come between 5:30pm – 7:00pm and plan to stay at least an hour.

Thursday October 23rd: (waiting tables - busing tables) 4pm & 6pm

\* Early Shift youth can ride bus route #16 to church, please notify the bus garage if riding.

### Youth Events:

S.O.S Kids Crew: Wednesday September 17<sup>th</sup>, 7 Youth joined Pastor and I learning the first 4 books of the New Testament, along with a fall picture craft.

Thank you to Katie Feuerhelm for preparing, serving and cleaning up after the meal.

Next S.O.S. Kids Crew will be on Wednesday October 15th.

Family Meal: Thank you in advance to Kristen Kolodzienski for preparing, serving and cleaning up after the meal.

Youth & Family Night: Wednesday October 8th from 7-8:30pm. I have reserved 30 spots for Confirmation youth and Our Savior's members to join us in going to Feed My Starving Children. We will meet at church at 5:30pm to ride the bus to and from the event.

2026 Youth Mission Trip: LINCOLN, ILLINOIS, Sunday June 21st–June 27th, 2026

Participants; Kaia Christopherson, Nora Christopherson, Maddie Constant, Hadley Coulson, Wyatt Goodier, Brody Flynn, Ben Johnson, Lane Kolodzienski, Luke Lundstrom, Megan Peterson, Brady Peterson, Eli Stockwell, Weston Raleigh. Chaperones: Patricia Peterson, Danielle Goodier, Lindsay Christopherson, Mark Raleigh.

• Youth from Eidsvold Lutheran Church could possibly be interested in joining are group on the Mission Trip in 2026. I reached out to Pastor Al and I'm waiting to hear back.

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

## Committee Reports:

**Property:** Bruce, Brian and Tim put in a lot of time raising and setting 24 stones at the old cemetery.

Front of the church, a lot of work, the area is progressing. Later adding plants, rock for landscaping.

### Conflict Detection:

The topic regarding the distribution of funds raised from the fair stand and Lutefisk Supper will be discussed at the next annual meeting with the members of the congregation. The question has been brought up if a portion should be allocated to the designated account to offset budget shortfalls. Or continue to distribute all funds raised to Outreach Ministries.

All funds raised this year will continue to be distributed to Outreach Ministries.

## Adjourn:

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

Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting: 6 PM, November 4th, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Rehbein



## In Need of Prayer!

Steve DuMond, Lisa Parker, Herman Olson, Sandy Place,  
Evan Mercer, Max Beck, Melba Smith, Matt Feuerhelm,  
Doris Coulson, Sue Palmquist, John Paape,  
and Kristen Anderson.

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

## Men In Mission Meeting Minutes September 20, 2025

After breakfast served by Mike R. and Brian J., Pastor Lucas led us in devotions.

The business meeting was called to order by Mike Rehbein.

The Secretary's report was read and approved by Dave Jordahl/Pastor Lucas.

The treasurer's report was discussed. Clair reported that, as of the end of August, we have general account: \$2661.54, Luther Point: \$4158.14, Fair: \$25,340.14 Ball Park: \$6392.51. Many bills from the fair have not yet cleared the bank.  
Treasurer's report approved by Brian J./Dave J.

### Old Business:

Clair discussed the fair results. Why did we make about \$3000 less than last year? We had about 90 pounds of hamburger left over. Selling hamburger at the fair, this would have made 360 hamburgers at close to \$2000. Hamburger cost over \$600 more this year. The hamburger fund was down about \$700. And we had a rain-out Saturday until about 2:00 pm. That pretty much covers our decrease this year.

Clair mentioned the cooler will be used by Rush River Church 9/23 thru 9/29 . Thanks to Bruce for transporting it. It will also be used by Darrin Christopherson in October. It appears to be operating fine.

Donna inquired about placing plastic over some of the serving windows on the fair stand for "Light Up The Fair" Mike will work with Patricia and her on the project.

Donna reported that the Vintage Softball Event was a huge success. Jackson Hager donated the pumping of the holding tank before and portapotties for the event. Mike will educate some people on how to winterize the concession stand.

Donna reported that the concession stand has been cleaned out with left overs donated to charities. The freezer will be shut down for the winter.

Coffee Hour tomorrow with apple crisp and ice cream.  
Coffee hour on November 16th.  
Next MIM meeting is November 15th with Dave and Clair serving.

Motion to adjourn by Brian/Dave.

Five members present.

Minutes submitted by secretary Clair Severson



**Support Our Mission with  
eGiving**

This Fall, consider making your seasonal gift amount, by using our eGiving tools.  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church offers online:  
[www.oursaviorschurch.info](http://www.oursaviorschurch.info) "give" tab,  
Text-to-Give: 833-506-0632.



## OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



We will be participating in the Ellsworth School Foundation Gift Box Program again this year.

We will be sponsoring 4 to 5 families who are financially unable to buy Christmas gifts.

The Evangelism committee will host coffee hour on November 9th, with proceeds going toward the gifts. The Christmas tree with the gift ornaments on it will be up and ready on November 16th. Watch the weekly bulletin for more information.

Thanks in advance for all your help with this BIG project. Many hands make light work.

Your Evangelism committee, Kathy Young, Darlene Halverson, and Lori Coulson.



**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:** The Pierce County Food Pantry continues to need certain items. For the month of **NOVEMBER** we will be collecting;

**Vegetable oil, Cranberry sauce, Stuffing mix, Paper towels, Oatmeal, Dry soup mix, Hamburger Helper.**

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.



**Operation Christmas Child Collection Sunday will be November 16th.** But you can get them to me earlier if you want. There will be a collection box in the back of the church for items if you want to help but don't want to do a whole shoebox. Monetary gifts are also

welcomed. You can hand them to me or mail them to: Peggy Hoyer W6352 610th Ave. Ellsworth, WI 54011.

**Items that CAN'T be sent:** SOAP, candy, toothpaste, gum, used or damaged items, scary or war related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds, fruit rolls or fruit snacks, drink mixes, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers, and aerosol cans.

**SUGGESTIONS to pack:** personal items, school supplies, games and activities, toys, clothing and accessories like: flip-flops, shoes, sunglasses, hat, wristwatch, costume jewelry, hair accessories, clothing and undergarments, winter caps, scarfs, mittens, also think of some **WOW items:** small backpack or purse, doll, truck, car, stuffed animal, soccer ball and pump (deflate ball so it fits in shoebox) and hobby kits.

Just remember whatever you pack fits in your shoebox. Any questions feel free to call me at 715-273-4398 if I don't answer leave a message and I'll get back to you.

Or you can email me at [ljhoyer@hotmail.com](mailto:ljhoyer@hotmail.com).

Thank-you for your support. Peggy Hoyer

*Our Savior's Candy Walk*

**FUNDRAISER**

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE COLLEGE KITS AND OUTREACH MINISTRY.

**Saturday December 13th  
8AM - 12PM**

LET US HELP YOU WITH YOUR HOLIDAY TREATS/GIFTS.

Homemade Candy will be sold at \$15 per pound  
(less than 1/2 the price of candy stores!)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
N6450 530th Street  
Beldenville, WI 54003  
1 mile east of Hwy 63 on Cty Rd N  
Pierce County, WI



*Sweet memories*

**2025**

**Preferred Senior Living  
&  
Ellsworth Health Services**

**Worship Schedule for Our Savior's**

**Wednesday December 10th,  
1:30pm Preferred Senior Living,  
2:30pm Ellsworth Health Services**



**Cemetery Committee:** Thank you to these individuals who worked at the north cemetery to straighten and reset 26 headstones. Brian Johnson, Scott Kiefer, Bruce Place and Tim Wiff. A special thanks to Tim for the gravel and the use of his Skidsteer & Mini-Excavator.



**Property Committee:** A big thank you to the following individuals involved in the placement of the large limestone boulders and river rock on the west side of the church. Dave and Jill Jordahl for donating the limestone boulders. Ed Rohl for delivery of the river rock on a moment's notice. Tim Wiff for providing his time and equipment to haul the boulders from Jordahl's to church, place them into position at the church and spread the river rock. Bruce Place for assisting Tim.



**Lutefisk Supper Thank You:** Our 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutefisk Supper is another history in the books. This year we served around 460 tickets, 20 take-out meals and 78 workers. With great appreciation we want to thank each and every one of you for your part in carrying on this wonderful tradition. Gina Place & Patricia Peterson.

**WELCA says Thank You!** To everyone who donated items to our bake sale table at the Lutefisk Supper: cookies, lefse, grot, honey bee products. Our guests are always so excited to stop by our table to purchase those Scandinavian treats! We sold out! If you made a donation, THANK YOU. If you made a purchase, THANK YOU. We appreciate you.



THANK YOU From the Sunshine Crew:

To the farmers & others for helping to feed the world.

To the people who packed and delivered 100 lunches last week.

To Thrivent for providing funding for the lunches.

To the other donors: apples from Clair Severson and candy, water & chips from Men in Mission and the Eau Galle Rush River Sportsman's Club.

Dear Members of Our Savior's, On behalf of Turningpoint, I am writing to express our deepest gratitude for your recent donation in the amount of \$100.00. Your contribution helps us toward Turningpoints mission. Sincerely, Amy Berg, Resource Development Director

Dear Our Savior's Endowment Fund, We would like to Thank You for the recent gift of \$200.00 to our organization. We appreciated your continued support. Sincerely, Hedi Albarado, Pierce County Food Pantry

We wanted to say Thank-you to the members of the church for the lunches. It was a nice surprise. Matt and Jenny Holcomb farm



**All are welcome!**  
Please join us at Church  
on Monday's  
**November 3rd & 17th**  
**at 10:00am.**  
We hope to see you  
there!

## ♥ HEARTfelt Celebration of Generosity! ♥

 **Stewardship Sunday + First Sunday in Advent**

 **Fifth Sunday Contemporary Worship**


Come ready to celebrate God's goodness with a **HEART full of gratitude and joy!**  
It's a Sunday you won't want to miss — filled with **music, stories, laughter, and love.**


 **Special Music** to inspire and uplift

 **Shared Stories** of generosity and faith

 **Fabulous Fellowship Feast** following the service

Let's kick off Advent together in a **HEARTfelt celebration** of community, generosity,  
and grace!

 **Sunday, November 30th**

 **9:00am**

 **Our Savior's Lutheran**

"All things come from You, O Lord, and of Your own have we given You."

— 1 Chronicles 29:14



The next meeting is **Saturday**  
**November 8th** at 9:30am at  
Molly's on Main in Plum City WI.

## Gobbler's Gallop!

100% of the proceeds benefit  
The Pierce County Food Pantry

### A 5K FAMILY FUN RUN/WALK

Brought to you by  
your friends at St. Paul's UCC Random Acts of Kindness.

\$20 per person entry fee includes a t-shirt/  
\$50 family max includes two shirts.

Additional shirts are available for \$15 each.

Register by Tuesday, November 18th to guarantee your t-shirt.

### 8 am Thanksgiving Morning, November 27

Waltz Ace Hardware Parking Lot

Visit [spuccellsworth.org](http://spuccellsworth.org)  
for more information



## OUR SAVIOR'S SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

This is an educational scholarship for the 2026-2027 school term from Our Savior's Lutheran Church via the Endowment Committee. This scholarship application must be received by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 for the 2026-27 school year. Students enrolled in a four-year program are eligible for a \$400 scholarship award. Students enrolled in a two-year or less post high school program are eligible for a \$200 award. The exact number of awards to be given will be determined later. The student must maintain at least a half-time enrollment status. The check will be issued in October 2026.

**Note:** Students not selected may reapply the following year. Recipients are not eligible to apply again. If a scholarship recipient decides not to go on for further schooling, that student would forfeit their current scholarship. Your college may provide matching funds for church sponsored scholarships.

Requirements to apply: Member of Our Savior's congregation  
Attending a college or vocational school  
Maintain at least half-time enrollment status

**Deadline for application: December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

Send application to: Endowment Committee  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
N6450 530<sup>th</sup> St  
Beldenville WI 54003

or

Endowment Committee mail slot (*in closet next to the church office*)

STUDENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT YEAR IN SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PROGRAM (circle one)      Graduate      4-year      2-year

WHAT ARE YOUR CAREER PLANS? \_\_\_\_\_

HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP PREVIOUSLY AND NOT RECEIVED IT?

YES    NO    WHEN \_\_\_\_\_

# NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Altar Guilds:</b> Kathy Young & Jodi Wiff <b>Money Counters/</b> <b>Tech Assistants</b> Tim Wiff Ron Halverson						1
<b>2 Cinnamon Roll Sunday</b> 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour	3  10am Coffee & Conversation	4  6pm Council Meeting	5  7pm Youth Night	6	7	8  Next Chapter 9:30am at Molly's on Main
9 9am Worship/Livestream SS Hour 10am Fellowship Hour	10	11	12  7pm Confirmation	13	14	15  8am Men In Mission Meeting
<b>16 Hunter Blessing</b> 9am Worship/Livestream 10am Fellowship Hour	17  10am Coffee & Conversation	18	19 4-5:30pm S.O.S. Kids Crew 5:30pm Family Meal 7pm Confirmation	20	21	22
23 9am Worship/Livestream SS Hour 10am Fellowship Hour	24	25	26 No Quilting No Confirmation	27  Happy Thanksgiving	28	29
<b>30 Contemporary</b> 9am Worship/Livestream SS Hour 10am Fellowship Hour						

Greeter's/Ushers

Tech Assistant

Acolyte

Reader

Bell Ringer

Assisting  
Minister

<b>November 2nd</b> 9:00AM	Brian Johnson Gina Place	Lane Kolodzieski Patricia Peterson	Ryland Jensen Hallee Place	Steve Straub	Roger Laughnan	Ann Young
<b>November 9th</b> 9:00AM	Raleigh Family	Wes Raleigh Tim Wiff	Isaac Yunker Wyatt Goodier	Crystal Raleigh	Roger Laughnan	Rhoda Foley
<b>November 16th</b> 9:00AM	Roger & Pauline Laughnan	Brady Peterson Tim Wiff	Megan Peterson Hadley Coulson	Kay Berg	Roger Laughnan	Tom Holdorf
<b>November 23rd</b> 9:00AM	Tim & Jodi Wiff	Kaia Christopherson Council Member	Luke Lundstrom Jake Knight	Sue Palmquist	Roger Laughnan	Lanette Place
<b>November 30th</b> 9:00AM	Lori Coulson Mary Halls	Wyatt Kirchner Tim Wiff	Eli Stockwell Ben Johnson	Mary Halls	Roger Laughnan	Sue Palmquist

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
N6450 530<sup>th</sup> Street  
Beldenville WI 54003  
Phone: (715) 273-4570  
Pastor Lucas Ladnier  
Email: [pastor.osbeldenville@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.osbeldenville@gmail.com)  
[Office.osbeldenville@gmail.com](mailto:Office.osbeldenville@gmail.com)  
[www.oursaviorschurch.info](http://www.oursaviorschurch.info)

## November Newsletter

THERE IS  
*Always*  
SOMETHING TO BE  
*Thankful*  
FOR

