

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Newsletter

September 2021

www.oursaviorschurch.info

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

Dear siblings in Christ,

In the last days of the Kingdom of Judah, before it was destroyed by Babylon, God called the prophet Jeremiah. If you've ever read Jeremiah, you may recognize it as the one filled with portents of doom and pessimism, punctuated here and there with comforts like "I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord," and "plant crops and pray for the prosperity of the city." Jeremiah prophesied about the need for Judah to surrender to Babylon (controversial doesn't begin to describe that opinion), to humble itself, and escape being completely destroyed. But the thing that draws me to Jeremiah is the way that he **had** to speak—he described it as a fire shut up in his bones—and the words he said made lots of people very upset, people that he knew and loved. But he knew he had to say them.

Eighteen months in, we are still grappling with this pandemic. It looked like we were in the clear earlier in the summer, and then the Delta variant began rolling across the nation, overwhelming ICUs and reminding us that we can't pretend it's over. Colleagues of mine who work in healthcare down south have shared terrible portents of surges overtopping even January's worst numbers. The overwhelming majority of those who don't leave the hospital are unvaccinated. And if last winter is any indication, that wave will make its way north.

As your pastor, I have been trying to look for the positives, celebrating as we overcame milestones of vaccination rates and watched case counts fall. I was overjoyed that we could start singing again, that we could take off our masks and see each other's faces, that we could have coffee hour and I could do what I love doing as a pastor: hearing your stories, sharing your lives, and being present with you. But as I watch these events unfold, I fear the voice of Jeremiah needs to be raised.

The truth is, God guided and is guiding the hands of scientists to give us a life-saving vaccine. God blessed and is blessing the minds of healthcare workers and public health officials who tell us to wash our hands and put masks on. God endowed and is endowing the minds of public leaders who have to change their advice to keep us safe as they learn more. And God called and is calling on us to make sacrifices—wearing masks, limiting gatherings, getting a vaccine—in order to keep our neighbor safe.

So when you hear me urge you, every Sunday morning, to wear a mask when the public health officials say it's what we need to do to keep each other safe, know I am saying it because I love you and I care for you. And when I urge you to get a vaccine if you are medically able to, know that I am saying it because I love you and I care for you. I don't say it to shame you, or to condemn you, or to put pride in your heart. If you have questions about why we ought to do these things or you need to talk through it all, please come to me about it. Trust that I am your pastor, my call is to care for you, and I love you.

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.

September 12, October 17, November 14, December 19

Call the Office if any of these dates would work for your family. 715-273-4570

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

August 3rd, 2021

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

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

Absent: Lanette Place, Gabe Feuerhelm, Patricia Peterson, Norris Berg

Opening Devotions: Mary, Mark 4:35-41

New Business:

August Money counters: Jill and those who can help.

September Devotions: Jill

Visitor: David Behling from Journey House

Journey House is a campus ministry for UW-River Falls and CVTC. It is supported by ELCA, Methodist, and Presbyterian Churches.

They need to rebuild after the pandemic. They are asking for one or more of our council members to be part of the Journey House board. They want to provide meals, Bible studies, and meetings with students.

lumin.org is a website that helps students learn about and be contacted by campus ministry.

Pastor's Parental Leave

Pastor proposes to be gone 1-2 weeks at his child's birth and then another 10-11 weeks after Pastor Annie's maternity leave.

Pastor proposes we partner with Hope Lutheran to have parts of services streamed when we do not have a supply pastor.

Bob made a motion to continue discussion for the next meeting. Dan 2nd. MC

Pierce County Fair-will be held as usual. Try to work as many shifts as you can.

Lutefisk Supper

Chairperson would like us to form a committee to advise how supper could be held.

Take-out or Dine-in options possible. May depend on COVID.

Fundraising Opportunities Brainstorming

Hines auction- people donate items, proceeds go to general budget

Garage sale with donated items

Silent auction- bid on services by congregation members.

Old Business:

Committee Duties and Responsibilities-tabled until September

Striping the parking lot.

Will be done in 2022, due to overbooking. Cracks will be cleaned out and tar patched. Dan made a motion to have work completed. Bob 2nd. MC. Bruce will do lines this year.

Update on Sound System Upgrade

Brickhouse gave us two options. We will go with lower one. (around \$1500-1600) We will most likely use Capital Funds to pay for it. Pastor will call Brickhouse to ask how far out it will take to order and install the equipment.

We will vote by email when all information is known.

Continued on next page.....

Our Savior's Council Meeting Minutes

Secretary's Report- Sharon made a motion to accept as written. Ann 2nd. MC

Treasurer's Report-

Full report will be emailed out later.

Dan made a motion we pre-buy \$4500 of LP from Chippewa Valley. Bob 2nd. MC

Pastor's report- Summer attendance is close to normal for summer. Fall youth programming will run as usual. We will follow COVID guidelines used by the school district. Dan made a motion to accept report. Ann 2nd.

Youth Report-

August 25-Confirmation Banquet, 6pm

August 29-Confirmation/Affirmation of Baptism

September 15-Ice Cream Social from 4-7 pm at church.

Motion to accept report by Ann. Pastor Lucas 2nd. MC

Committee Reports-

Property Committee-Dan will order the fire door for the records room.

Conflict Detection-

Ballpark potluck- We need to decide who is hosting, so be ready for next year.

Concerns about many pastors in the community leaving for other callings, etc.

Adjourn- Motion made to adjourn by Debbi, 2nd by Pastor. MC

Closing Prayer

Next Council Meeting September 7, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Rosenberry

THANK YOU



The 2021 Pierce County Fair is over, and what a Fair it was. Perfect weather all four days and great help from all of you, you made it a big success. As I write this on 8/18/21 we have taken in \$25,604. Of course, no bills have been paid yet. Great help from the Chisholm's made the start-up each morning a piece of cake. All the hamburger patties had the Chisholm press! Thanks to my co-chair, Brian Johnson, and my scheduling coordinator, Megan Stockwell for their help. All the early-bird pie-makers headed by Rhoda Foley and Sharon Peterson - thank you! Thanks to the soup-makers who put out 41 gallons of our Fair soup. Thanks to the shift-chairs, handymen, and grill cleaner for their help in organizing and reaching out to their shift workers. Thanks to Audrey who put up with me throughout! **THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO PITCHED IN WITH YOUR TIME AND DONATIONS.**

Our hamburger meat was donated by Larry Peterson and Ed Rohl. Thanks to all of you who together raised \$1000 to help cut their costs.

Thank you to everyone that donated their time and talents to help make the Softball Season a huge success, our score keepers, help at concessions, grill masters for the tournament; without your help - we could not make this happen every year. We had an awesome season with some very knuckle biting games. Our Savior's did take the League Championship as we were undefeated and also won the championship.

A very special thanks to Clair and Audrey for all of their time - and talent . Thanks, Donna

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT & SERVE



Gods Works Our Hands will be September 12.

We are still in the planning stages and looking for more projects and leaders. It is Grandparents Day that day if that could be worked into your project somehow.

The projects we have now are;

Cemetery Work: leader Roger Laughnan from the Cemetery Committee.

Quick Lunches: leader Kathy Young and the Endowment Committee.

Pillowcase Dresses Haiti: leader Sharon Peterson from the Evangelism Committee.

Writing Cards and signing form letters for legislators: leader Peggy Hoyer and Pastor Lucas.

Quilting: leaders Rhoda Foley and Audrey Kiefer.

Projects not confirmed yet:

Lanette Place is looking for some helpers and ideas for the Random Acts of Kindness. If interested contact her at 715-273-0288.

Heather Johnson would do piano playing and singing at the nursing homes with some helpers.

Sharon Peterson has a contact in Haiti if anyone would like to head up a collection for the earthquake/hurricane stricken area.

We are looking into helping a family or families in the Ellsworth School District with school supplies, clothes, or lunch money.

Brian Johnson is looking for family needing help with fall yard work.

Audrey Severson is contacting Luther Point to see about fall clean up at Luther Point.

There is still time for new projects, just let us know. The day of the event is September 12th. We will have worship service first, coffee on the go, projects, and then fellowship and pot luck lunch at church.

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
HELPERS NEEDED!**



Looking for Sunday School teachers and helpers for the upcoming S.S. year. We want to make this a great year for our kiddos and appreciate your support. High Schoolers: If you are looking for those Service Hours....this is a great way to earn some hours while having fun with a great group of kids. Please contact Connie Girdeen (715-792-2799) or the Church office if you have any questions or are interested in teaching or helping us out this year.

Thanks for your prayerful consideration! The Education Committee :)

UPCOMING EVENTS



Join us for Rally Day! All Families of Sunday School aged kids are invited to join us on Sunday September 19th from 10-11am. Come and participate in some fun activities and some delicious treats.



Mark your Calendars! **Our Savior's Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social** will be Wednesday September 15th from 4-7pm. Our Savior's confirmation youth will be hosting this event with the proceeds benefiting are Youth Programs.

Our Savior's Youth News ~ September 2021

**Congratulations to the
2021 Confirmation Class!**



Front: Dayah Halverson, Taylor Peterson, Madison Peterson, Morgan Kolodzienski
Back: Brett Unser, Luke Knight, Leo Parmeter, Rylan Girdeen

OUR SAVIOR'S ANNUAL PIE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Wednesday, September 15th

4:00pm - 7:00pm



Our Savior's Confirmation students will be hosting this event with the proceeds benefiting our Youth Programs. Confirmation students are asked to work a shift and each family is being asked to donate a pie.

You can contact Patricia at 715-307-2739 or by email at youthdirector.os@hbc.com

Thank you in advance for supporting this youth fundraiser!

September Youth Events

Wednesday, September 15th

Pie and Ice Cream Social Fundraiser from 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Confirmation Meeting at 7:00pm

2022 ELCA Youth Gathering Meeting
(following Confirmation Meeting)

Wednesday, September 22nd

SOS Kids Crew 4:00pm – 5:30pm

Confirmation/Aftershock 7:00pm – 8:00pm (weekly)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Youth Group

S. O. S.
Servants of the Savior
"God's Work...Our Hands"

Join me for S.O.S. Kids Crew!

Wednesday, September 22nd

4:00 – 5:30 pm

We'd like to invite all of are 1st – 5th grade youth,
along with their friends,
to join me for S.O.S. Kids Crew.

**We will have a T-shirt exchange. Wear your SOS t-shirt if it fits,
or bring it with you, and we'll exchange it for one that does!**

All kids are to ride bus route #16. Please remember to send a note school saying that your child
will be riding bus route #16 to Church

Supper's will not be served. Please plan to pick-up your child at 5:30pm.



Join us for Rally Day!

We are having a Rally Day for Sunday School on

September 19th during the Sunday School hour (10-11am).

Please join us for activities and treats as we start a new Sunday School year.

Rally Day has been a tradition at Our Savior's that we would like to revive this year.

Webster's Dictionary defines "rally" as: 1) a verb "to draw or call together for a common purpose" 2) a noun meaning "a renewal of energy in joint action"

On this day, we will be "drawing together and renewing our energy for the common purpose." Our purpose is to learn and grow in Christ.

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Guilds: Audrey Severson Ann Young Money Counters: Mary Straub Ann Young			1 6pm last mid-week Worship	2	3	4
5 9am Live Stream Worship 9am In-person 10am Fellowship Hour	6 Labor Day	7 7pm Council Meeting	8	9	10	11
12 Gods Work Our Hands 9am Live Stream Worship 9am In-person 10am Fellowship Hour 10am SS Hour	13	14	15 4-7pm Ice Cream Social 7pm Confirmation Meeting 7:30pm Youth Gathering Meeting	16	17	18
19 9am Live Stream Worship 9am In-person 10am Fellowship Hour 10am Sunday School Rally Sunday	20	21	22 4-5:30pm SOS Kids Crew 7pm Confirmation	23	24	25
26 9am Live Stream Worship 9am In-person 10am Fellowship Hour No SS hour	27	28	29 8:30am Quilting 7pm Confirmation	30		

Assist. Minister: Sept. 5 - Rhoda, Sept. 12- Ann, Sept. 19 - Tom, Sept. 26 - Donald

Thank You To All Who SUPPORT OUR MISSION WITH eGIVING

If you don't currently consider making your contribution through our eGiving tools!
 You can make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church offers these eGiving tool:

- Visit Our Savior's Lutheran Church Website. www.oursaviorschurch.info, Locate the give tab, and Donate!
 - Simply text your donation amount to **833-506-0632** and follow the instructions.
 - Download the free GivePlus App on your phone. Find our church by zip code **54003**.



In Need of Prayer!

Michelle Bartkey, Eldon Schellfeffer, Norma Taplin, Priscilla Schoeneck, Norris Berg, Mary Jo Bjork, Herb Nelson, Scott Kiefer, Dave Radatz, Jim Hauschildt, Calvin Boe, Shirley Nickel, Lu Johnson, Della Larson, Mark Kiefer, Tom Dachel, Anna Walentowski, and Kristen Anderson.
 If you know of anyone that should be on our prayer list please contact the office.

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EZEKIEL 43:2

HIS VOICE WAS LIKE THE ROAR
OF RUSHING WATERS AND THE
LAND WAS RADIANT WITH HIS
GLORY.