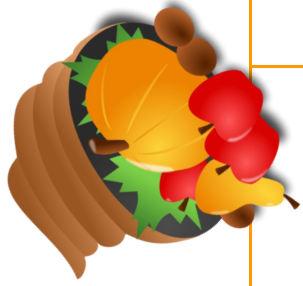


November


2023

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 277 • 305 Sixth Street
Cleveland, Minnesota 56017-027



November 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 10:30 am Bible Study 6 pm God Squad Group 2 (3rd-4th and 7th-8th)	2	3	4
5 All Saints Sunday 9 am worship with Holy Communion Daylight Saving Time Ends	6	7 Election Day	8 10:30 am Bible Study 6 pm God Squad Group 1 (Pre-K-2nd, 5th-6th)	9	10	11 Lefse Making 9am-noon Veteran's Day
12 25th Sunday After Pentecost 9 am worship Miller Baptism 10am Council	13	14	15 10:30 am Bible Study 6 pm God Squad Group 2 (3rd-4th and 7th-8th)	16	17	18
19 9 am Thanksgiving Worship with Holy Communion Potluck	20	21	22 No Bible Study No God Squad	23 	24	25
26 1st Sunday of Advent 9am Worship	27	28	29 10:30 am Bible Study 6 pm God Squad Group 1 6:30 pm Advent Service 7 pm Choir Practice	30		

Grapes from the Vine

November 2023



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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507/931-1564

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[Give Online](#)

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From the Pastor

Have you seen the video clip/meme that shows someone at 12:00am on Halloween all decked out in their costume and then the clock switches to 12:01am and they show up in a Santa suit? Except the winter holidays seem to creep up earlier and earlier in the year. At least they do at Target and on the Hallmark Channel.

With our recent October snow days and colder temps, I find myself longing for the quiet and peace of Advent. There is something serene and beautiful about gathering for worship in the evening on cold, dark, winter nights. We light the candles of the Advent Wreath, pray and sing the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy, and share our hopeful anticipation for the coming of Christ.

This year, our mid-week worship will be focused on the theme of **“LESS IS MORE.”** Christmas has become the biggest holiday in North America, and arguably the biggest in the world - and in many ways, it's become a holiday of “more”: more presents, more stuff, more events, more expectations, more stress. But as it turns out, if we dial back the more, we get closer to the heart of Advent and Christmas.

I hope you'll join me for this treasured tradition and practice being cozy together as we prepare the way of the lord. **Midweek Advent worship is on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm starting November 29th.**

Peace be yours,
Pr. Liz

Find Us Online



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Council Minutes

October 8, 2023

Members present: Pastor Liz, Deb Gehrke, Tom Christensen, Terri Himerman, Julie Rogers, Jim Grabow, Ginny Grabow. Ginny provided the meditation/prayer for the meeting.

The financial report for September was presented by Brian Block:

The general fund received gifts of \$8,592.51 versus last year of \$7,335.39, giving us a difference of \$1,254.12. Year to date the general fund received gifts of \$86,804.97 versus last year's \$80,759.85, a difference of \$6,045.12. The checkbook balance was \$12,964.09, less payback to the memorial fund of \$10,699.49, leaving a balance of \$2,264.60. Terri moved to accept the report, with a second by Tom. Motion approved.

Heating/AC Unit:

The HVAC rooftop unit on the south side of the church, near the bell tower, has failed and is beyond repair. Since this unit cools and heats, the council needs to act to replace it soon. The sanctuary is only being heated by the unit on the north side, which is stressing that unit. Tom has estimates from two HVAC businesses:

Kelly Plumbing and Heating--\$10,710 for a Carrier unit without an economizer, which is not needed for our application.

Always There from LeCenter--\$12,743, also without an economizer.

A congregational meeting will be required since these estimates exceed the amount dictated by our constitution, Pastor Liz will send out an email today announcing a congregational meeting following worship on October 22. Council voted to accept the Kelly Plumbing & Heating bid since it was lower and that firm has worked with our system in the past.

Old Business:

Newly employed office assistant, Jan Rustman, is learning the job well and will be an asset to the office, Pastor, and our congregation.

Pr. Liz explained the workings of the Mutual Ministry Committee (duties & expectations). Their function will be goal oriented, not task oriented—to enhance our ministry together here.

Deb and Ginny are nearly finished with the inventory of church property.

The clothesline in the parsonage backyard and the stumps of old shrubs were removed by Jim Struck. New shrubs have been planted on the west side of the church. Some areas of the parsonage backyard will require attention when the fall yard work is done.

Jim is getting estimates for a backyard fire pit at the parsonage.

Gift cards are planned for our two 2023 high school graduates.

Looking ahead—the terms of Tom Christensen and Terri Himerman end in January.

New Business:

Our events calendar was reviewed

Fall yard work is tentatively planned for October 28th.

There will be a stewardship emphasis later in October. Hunger boxes (in the form of little pigs) will be returned to church in November.

A progressive dinner or adult dinner out was discussed.

Lefse making event will be on November 11, 9:00 am till noon in the church kitchen area.

The Giving Tree will be announced in the November newsletter. We will sponsor 8 children, which means 24 gifts. Tags with items needed will be out 11/27, with items to be returned to church within two weeks. Items should not be wrapped, but put into bags for pick-up.

We will need to engage a plow service to plow our parking lots this winter. Anyone who is able to make a suggestion as to who might be available locally should contact Tom Christensen.

Next council meeting will be held after worship on November 12, Deb will provide the meditation.

Meeting adjourned with the praying of The Lord's Prayer.

Ginny Grabow, Secretary

News and Updates

We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit
so all may know God's love.

You have heard it said...

Do these phrases sound familiar? "God helps those who help themselves." "Those who are faithful with what they've been given will be given more." "Financial success is a sign of God's love." On October 29th we'll begin a series to help us unpack some of what we've heard about money (and generosity), reflect on how God might be calling us to use all of our money (not just the portion they give away), and discern how people of all ages might participate in God's mission in our congregation through financial generosity.

Adult Bible Fellowship

Our adult Bible Study and Fellowship meets at 10:30 am on Wednesdays. Join Pr. Liz for a time of casual discussion about the readings for the following Sunday and time of intercessory prayer.

God Squad

Registration forms are available at church or on our [website](#). We need your help to teach, assist, and find fun and meaningful ways to share faith with our youngest members. A sign-up sheet is available on the welcome table or on [Sign-up Genius](#). Contact Jordan Elias (jordanelias42@gmail.com) or Pr. Liz with questions.

November 1: Group 2 (3rd-4th, 7th-8th)
November 8: Group 1 Pre K-2nd, 5th-6th
November 15: Group 2 (3rd-4th, 7th-8th)
November 22: NO God Squad - Thanksgiving Break
November 29: Group 1 Pre K-2nd, 5th-6th

Trunk-or-Treat Thank You!

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and donors for making our 5th annual Trunk-or-Treat a success! With your help, OSLC was able to share God's love in a fun and festive way for the Cleveland area. Many parents thanked us for providing a safe and fun space to celebrate Halloween with their families.



The Johnson Family

Lefse, Lefse - Ya sure you betcha!

We will be making lefse on Saturday, November 11, 9:00am-Noon. This is a fun multi-generational activity for all ages. If you own a lefse griddle, sticks, rolling pins and pads, please, bring it and one recipe of prepared dough. A recipe is available. If you do not have a griddle, just come and help with rolling and baking. Please, sign up at the welcome table so we know how

much to make. If you have a favorite recipe you would prefer, feel free to use it. Packets of four lefse will be available for a donation of \$5.00 on November 12. All proceeds will go to the youth fund. If you have questions, call Ginny at 507-304-0667.



Julie Rogers giving
Bray Lassiter some tips in '22.

Thanksgiving Worship and Pie Social

This year we will celebrate Thanksgiving with our church family on Sunday, November 19 during our regular Sunday morning worship service. Then we'll gather in the fellowship hall for a pie social. Sign-up to bring your favorite.

Make a Joyful Noise

Do you fantasize about being a famous singer? Come join us for choir. We will sing at Christmas Eve services. Join us for choir practice on Wednesday nights at 7pm on November 29, December 6, 13, and 20. Come for Advent services and stay for choir practice. We are looking for new members, come join the fun. We cannot guarantee you will be famous, but you will be loved and appreciated.

Snow Removal

Are you or someone you know interested in the snow plowing contract for OSLC for the upcoming winter season? Contact Pr. Liz or Tom Christensen for more information.

Supporting Our Values

At Our Savior's Lutheran Church, our mission is that "We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love." We value time spent together in worship and praise, sharing faith with the next generation, and gathering in fellowship.

Support our mission and ministry together in a variety of ways such as volunteering to assist in Sunday morning worship, helping with youth Faith Formation in God Squad and Vacation Bible School, or signing up to provide treats at Coffee Hour. Your financial contributions can be made by giving on Sunday mornings, or with Simply Giving (automatic withdrawals) by requesting a form from the church office. Give online with Vanco. A link can be found on the church website under the ["Donate"](#) tab or scanning the QR code with your smartphone.



Find more pictures of events on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

Birthdays



3rd Levi Wargelin, Lyla Wargelin
10th Sylvia Perron
18th Emily Baker
22nd Mike Miller, Kevin Mueller, Knox Seely
23rd Deb Gehrke
24th John Hultgren
25th Nathan Bateman, Wayne Quiram
29th Jan Rustman

Anniversaries

3rd Brandon & Jan Rustman
8th Jason & Mandy Stocker
28th Doug & Lael Starkweather

Happy Anniversary!



Thank You, LORD!

Do you have a
birthday or
anniversary to
add to our list?
Contact the church office



Preparing for Worship

11/5 - All Saints Sunday - 1 John 3:1-3; Psalm 43;
Matthew 6:19-24

11/12 - 25th Sunday after Pentecost - 1 Thess. 4:13-18;
Psalm 70; Matthew 25:31-46

11/19 - Thanksgiving Sunday - Deut. 8:7-18;
Psalm 65:1-12;
Matthew 25:14-30

11/26 - 1st Sunday of Advent - Isaiah 64:1-9;
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Mark 13:24-37

Prayer Concerns

Members: Myron Wolf, Mark Consoer, *Charlotte Jacoby+*, *George Bauer+*, *Dan McCabe+*, *Kevin Mueller+*, *Karen Johnson+*, *Bradley Riba+*, *Michaela Biehn+*

Non-Members: Roger Miller+, Cindy Wieland+, Holly Kallestad+, Mary Heckman+, Teresa Griep+

Those in the military service:

Active Military: Brendon Brown, Alex Garrison, Chris Glassel, Jim Grandaw, Tyler Seitz and Tyler Piotter.

Veterans: We also pray for all veterans who have served in our nation's Armed Forces.

Send your prayer concerns to oursaviorslutheran1@gmail.com or call the church office. We will keep these loved ones in prayer for three weeks. If the concern continues, please let us know to extend your petition.