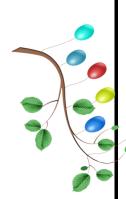




Our Savior's Lutheran Church Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

P.O. Box 277 • 305 Sixth Street Cleveland, Minnesota 56017-027



March 2024

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A SERVICE		
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Grapes from the Vine

March 2024



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From the Pastor

Psalm 98: "Sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy."

At the end of March, we will observe some of the holiest festivals of the Christian faith – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. In a way this is what we celebrate every Sunday, remembering Jesus' last supper in our communion and his journey from the crucifixion and death into resurrection and new life for us all. After the season of Lent and the long, cold, and dark Minnesota winter we all yearn for the light, hope, and new life that Easter reminds us of.

The week leading up to Easter is one of my favorite times in the church year and I always liked helping my dad get ready for those services when I was little. Now that I'm older and a pastor myself, I've had time to reflect on why that was, and still is, true for me. Part of it is because we are connected to believers for thousands of years all over the world and part of it is the deeper connection to our Savior. It is easier to sense the depth of his love for us as we recount the meal he shared with the disciples, his human suffering and death, and the glorious mystery of the resurrection. The centuries slip away and we can feel Jesus right there, present with us even as we hunger and thirst for the time yet to come when he will be with us once again.

Peace be yours, Pr. Liz









Our Savior's Lutheran Church--Council Minutes February 11, 2024

Council members present: Pr. Liz, Tom Christensen, Terri Heimerman, Julie Rogers, Jim Grabow, Ginny Grabow.

Tom Christensen opened the meeting with prayer. He also led the meeting due to President Deb Gehrke's absence.

Financials for January were emailed to members since Brian was not able to attend the meeting:

The general fund received gifts of \$8,986.00 versus last year of \$10,550.54, giving a difference of (1,564.54). The checkbook balance at the end of January was \$11,400.82. The financials were approved on a motion by Terri and a second by Jim.

Regarding the change in Internet Providers: Scott Lassiter talked to a representative of Metro Net, who said it is possible that we could be connected via fiber optics which are already in place in Cleveland. All that remains is for individual residences and other interested parties to have cable buried from the source to the user. They indicated that could happen between May & June. The monthly cost would be approximately \$109.90/month, compared to about \$280 (price increase with Mediacom), representing a major cost savings.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved via email.

The Annual Meeting was discussed briefly.

Snow removal is in place, but not much snow so far. Tom will have a contract in place for next year.

Woodpecker damage to the stucco continues on the NE side of the church. The thought is that they are searching for insects, This will be dealt with along with spring clean-up.

New Business

Results of Election of officers: Tom Christensen, President; Jim Grabow, Vice President; Ginny Grabow, secretary, and Brian Block, Treasurer. A unanimous ballot was cast on a motion by Julie and a second by Terri.

We will continue an emphasis on supplies for the local Food Shelf through February.

Ash Wednesday service with Communion and imposition of ashes on February 14, 6:30. Soup and Sandwiches before service (5:45-6:15) beginning on February 21.

First Communion for those ready to receive will be March 28 & Pastor Liz will have an instructional meeting at a date and time to be announced.

We hope to have more fellowship activities for our junior and senior high students in the future.

A game event is being planned for all, possibly including a bake sale with proceeds to go for Bible Camp scholarships.

The project list and events calendar were reviewed.

A contract has been signed and submitted for the installation for two new speakers to be installed in April at the back of the sanctuary at a cost of about \$2,000.

Ginger McCabe is our contact person for Green Lake Bible Camp. Contact Ginger or the church office with any questions.

A fire pit will be installed in the parsonage backyard during spring clean-up. Tom will donate the material to build it.

Next council meeting March 10, 2024 after worship. Motion to adjourn by Jim, seconded by Pastor Liz. 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.

SPRING AHEAD!!!!!!!

On Saturday evening March 9th make sure to set your clocks ahead one hour, as daylight savings time starts. You will be late for church if you forget!

Easter Sunday Choir Rehearsals

Choir rehearsals for the Easter Sunday service will be held Wednesday nights after Lenten Worship. Come to Lenten Worship at 6:30 p.m. and stay and join us for choir. We would love to see returning and new choir members. Come join the fun! Next rehearsal will be Wed. March 8th at 7 pm.

Next rehearsal times will be: March 6, 13, 20 @ 7pm.

Holy Week and Easter

Join us for worship!
6:30 pm Maundy Thursday
with Holy Communion
6:30 pm Good Friday
9:00 am Easter Sunday
with Holy Communion



Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt

Begin your Easter Celebrations with the most important meal of the day! Sign-up to brink something on the welcome table at church - juice, milk, fruit, pastries, hardboiled eggs. Yum!

Children ages 0-5th grade are invited to join in an Easter Egg Hunt at 8:30 am before worship. Bring a basket and hop to it!

Easter Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for our Easter Services, there is a sign up sheet

located on the table in the narthex or you may contact the church office. If the plant is given in memory of a loved one, please indicate when you sign up. The deadline for signing up is March 9th. The cost is \$10 each. You can put your payment in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office.

Please write flowers on your payment. Thank you!

God Squad

3/6 - Group 2 - 3rd-4th and 7th-8th 3/13 - Group 1 - PreK-2nd and 5th-6th 3/20 - Group 2 - 3rd-4th and 7th-8th 3/27 - No God Squad - Holy Week

First Communion Workshop

Do you have a child who is ready to taking Holy Communion? Would you like a refresher on the meaning and practices around the Eucharist? (Fancy word for communion). There will be a workshop for those interested on Palm Sunday, March 24th after worship from 10:00 am - noon. Those taking their first communion will do so on Maundy Thursday, March 28th. Traditionally at OSLC, first communion has been celebrated once a child reaches 5th grade. We are opening up the experience to all ages depending on whether the family/child feels ready to participate. It is the Lord's table and all are welcome.

Make and Pray

Did you know that Pr. Liz once worked in a "Craft Cave"? That's what Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center, calls the three rooms of work space and materials for creative pursuits including drawing, painting, calligraphy, knitting, crocheting, sewing, weaving, ceramics, pottery, and much more.

Join Pr. Liz on Monday nights April 8 - 29 from 6-8pm for devotions, and hands on activities. Bring a friend and let's "Make and Pray"!



Church Council Update

The Council of OLSC met on February 11th following worship. Officers for the coming year were elected. Tom Christensen - President Jim Grabow - Vice President Ginny Grabow - Secretary Treasurer - Brian Block

Spring Cleaning

We need your help! We will be having a Spring Clean-up day at the parsonage sometime soon. We will be cleaning the gutters, clearing leaves and branches, etc. Pr. Liz will bring coffee and treats! If you are interested in helping, contact Tom Christensen at 507-340-9404 for more information and to sign up.

Birthdays

1st	Tim Koppelma	an
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2nd	Alexia	Hollerich,	Scott	Seely
∠nu	Alexia	Honerch,	Scon	Secry

3rd Dave Wendelschafer

6th Noah McCabe

9th Tim Schafer

10th Patrick Johnson

11th Virginia Grabow, Casey McCabe

13th Jerry Rausch, Scott Zuhlsdorf

14th Ryan Nelson

16th Kayla Guerrero

17th Tinsley Bluhm, Adam Eppmeyer

18th Kevin Wagner

20th Charlie Voit

21st Janelle Bauer, Rhea Block

22nd Lacey Weber

23rd Randilee Dauk

24th Brady Hahn, Nickolas Johnstone

26th Dan McCabe, Cole Stocker

28th Peter McCabe, Michelle Sexe,

29th George Bauer, Brandon Busse,

Andrew Eppmeyer, Reece Nelson

30th Sonja Koppelman

31st Gunner Nelson, Alan Zimmerman



Preparing for Worship

3/3/24 Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-7, Psalm 19, John 2:13-22

3/10/24 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

John 3:14-21

3/17/24 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-12, John 12:20-33

3/24 Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9, Psalm 31:9-16, Mark 11:1-11

3/31/24 Easter Sunday

Isaiah 25:6-9, Psalm 118:1-2,14-24, Mark 16:1-8,

John 20:1-18

Prayer Concerns

Members: Wayne Quiram+, Dave Wendelschafer +, Terry Bateman +, Myron Wolf+, Charlotte Jacoby+, George Bauer+, Dan McCabe+, Kevin Mueller+, Karen Johnson+, Bradley Riba+, Michaela Biehn+

Non-Members: Cindy Wieland+, Holly Kallestad+, Mary Heckman+

Those in the military service:

Active Military: Brendon Brown, Alex Garrison, Chris Glassel, 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 <u>oursaviorslutheranl@gmail.com</u> 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.