



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

February 2024

Volume 24

Issue 2

office@oslccf.net 715-723-6048



Education Hours for February

February 4 Solar Power. John Skurg from Peace Lutheran Church in Pigeon Falls will be the speaker. John is a member of the church council and the Lead of the Care of Creation team. He will talk about their journey to lower heating bills and less power usage, and answer questions during the hour.

February 11 Super Bowl Sub Sunday. Order your subs and be ready for the Super Bowl game. Also the proceeds will go for the youth traveling to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering. Forms are available from Rich Boardman, the office, the Narthex, or in this newsletter.

February 18 The Boy Scouts will once again serving pancakes for breakfast with all the fixings at Our Saviour's. Serving will begin at 8:30am and continue through 11:30am. There will be a Free Will Offering.

February 25 Carla Berschiet from the Department of Aging in Chippewa County will do a presentation on Dementia 101. It will be a casual conversation about the signs and symptoms of dementia. Carla will answer questions during the hour.



The Church Council meets once a month and beginning in February the Council Meetings will take place on the third Thursday of the month at 5pm.

Members of the Council are:

Donna Meade— President

Stacy Olson- Trustees

Heidi Mercer— Past President

Morrie Elkin— Building and Grounds

Curt Rohland— President Elect

Mary Blake— Deacons

Pastor Karen

ALL ARE WELCOME!

I have observed that many of us take delight in declaring these words of welcome in worship. These simple words offer the important reminder that the Lord's table is just that - the **Lord's** table. Jesus is the host, which means that Jesus is the one who extends the invitation, and Jesus reaches out to welcome all.

"A Place for You" will be the theme for this year's Midweek Lenten worship, as we dive deeper into appreciating God's gift of Holy Communion. Within our congregation, some youth have recently begun receiving (and even serving) communion while other students are in the midst of preparing to receive their first communion. What a wonderful time, then, to engage all of us in reflection upon the depths of God's love made known to us through Holy Communion.

Holy Communion gathers us together in the unity of God's love, and Holy Communion commissions us to go forth to serve in Jesus' name. As we receive the gifts, each one of us hears words spoken to us personally - the body of Christ given **for you** and the blood of Christ shed **for you**. And from this meal, we are sent out into a world that so very much needs more love, mercy, and compassion. And for that to happen, God needs us to embody God's expansive and inclusive love.

We receive God's love. We share God's love. It is our mission - Living God's Love.

Blessings,

Pastor Karen

Healing Service

Worship on Sunday, Feb. 4 will include the opportunity to receive individual prayer for healing with the laying on of hands and anointing of oil. This will happen within the 9:30 a.m. service and will be available immediately following the 8 a.m. service.

OSLC Trustees Report for December 2023

The Board of Trustees would like to report the following results for December 2023:

Revenues: \$56,140.69

Expenses: \$25,744.71

Net Gain/Loss: \$30,395.98

Benevolence Given to ELCA, Luther Park and LSS : \$1,682.97

Year to date results (Jan-Dec) were as follows:

Revenues: \$349,477.21

Expenses: \$351,807.48

Net Loss: \$ (2,330.27)

Benevolence to ELCA, Luther Park and LSS: \$13,284.83

Our Income was significantly over budget for December. Our expenses were slightly under budget. The current balance in our Unrestricted Operating Funds is \$38,491.92. If you would like to see more detailed financials, please contact a member of the Board of Trustees.

We would like to sincerely thank the members of OSLC for your generous contributions.

Submitted by the Board of Trustees:

Paul Froelich, Fred Kruger and Stacy Olson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8 am Service 9:30 Service 10:30am –11:30am Annual Meeting/ Pot Luck	29 Monday Email 6:30pm Boy Scouts	30 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	31 Midweek Program Dinner-Hot Dogs 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	1 8:00am Men's Breakfast	2	3 Luther Park Annual Meeting
4 8 am Service 9:30 Service Ed Hour Solar Power Healing Service Both Services	5 Monday Email 6:30pm Boy Scouts	6 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	7 Midweek Program Sub Sandwiches 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	8 8:00am Men's Breakfast	9	10
11 8 am Service 9:30 Service Ed Hour Super Bowl Subs	12 Monday Email 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Deacons	13 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	14 Ash Wednesday Service Noon and 6:15pm Midweek Program Pancakes 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	15 8:00am Men's Breakfast	16	17
18 8 am Service 9:30 Service Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast Newsletter Articles Due	19 Monday Email 6:30pm Boy Scouts	20 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	21 Lenten Worship Noon and 6:15 Midweek Program Meatballs 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	22 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Chair Yoga 10:00am Joy Yoga 5:00pm Church Council	23	24
25 8 am Service 9:30 Service Ed Hour Dementia 101	26 Monday Email 6:30pm Boy Scouts	27 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	28 Lenten Worship Noon and 6:15 Midweek Program Pasta 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	29 Leap Day!! 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Chair Yoga 10:00am Joy Yoga	1	2



Book buddies will be meeting on Sunday Feb 18th at 6:30pm on Zoom. We will be discussing the book: The First Ladies by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray.

It is a novel about the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune— an unlikely friendship that changed the world.

Please join us even if you have not read the book. Contact the church office or Marilyn Murphy at

mimurphy1970@yahoo.com for the zoom link or questions or if you would like to be included in future emails.

Here is Basic information for Rental PDF of entire contract is available upon request or for pick up in the office!!

Pavilion Rental Contract

Renter's Name (Please Print): _____

Read Below and Initial each section:

___ Pavilion Reservation Information: Pavilion reservations are available seven days a week, except Sunday mornings. Reservations can be made by calling the office at 715.723.6048 or emailing the church office at office@oslccf.net

___ Rental Fees:

\$300.00 per day for non-members of the church (plus deposit)

\$100.00 per day for church members (plus deposit)

\$50.00 for rental of tables and chairs

\$50.00 will be required to hold the date at the time of initial reservation, this will be applied toward the deposit at the signing of the contract

A permit will be required from the city if a band will be playing at the venue

___ Deposit: An additional \$100.00 deposit is required upon signing the contract which will be refunded when the terms of this contract are fulfilled. The deposit will be forfeited in part or in total for any property damage or failure to comply with the cleanup terms of this contract.

___ Included in the Contract: Electricity, parking, the use of the playground and the fire pit.

___ Cancellations: All of the deposit will be forfeited for the cancellation less than two (2) weeks of rental date.

___ Renter Responsibilities & Requirements:

Contact church office to gain access to church for tables and chairs. Tables and chairs must be returned to the church after the event.

Set up tables and chairs.

Bring your own garbage bags, brooms, dustpan, and cleaning supplies.

February Outreach

The Open Door Clinic



The Open Door Clinic, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides basic health care services and a connection to community resources to Chippewa County residents who are without a health care alternative. Nationally, it is estimated that eight to ten percent of the American population has no health insurance. In Chippewa County, that equates to 5,600 neighbors without health insurance.

Hours: Tuesdays 5:00pm-7:30pm (NO Appointments)

Location: First Presbyterian Church, 130 W. Central, Chippewa Falls

Noisy Offering

Here are some examples of how monetary donations are spent:

- A flu shot-\$9
- 3 months of a cholesterol-lowering medicine-\$5.93
- Treating a strep throat-\$6.82
- 100 days of thyroid medicine-\$12.61
- An asthma inhaler-\$41.37
- Emergency kit for bee stings-\$231.18

Donations can be mailed to:
The Open Door Clinic, Inc.
P.O. Box 271
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729



Volunteer Opportunities



Some of the needed volunteer positions include: greeting patients, registrations, screening, taking vital signs, cleaning rooms, providing meals, helping with tech, transcribing provider notes, filing support and more! See full list at <https://www.chippewaopendoor.org/>
Contact coordinator@chippewaopendoor.org with any questions.

Scripture Meditation

Matthew 11: 28-29 Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.



Youth Fundraising

We are excited to be sending 4 youth to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer: Toumani Diallo, Mickey Goss, Taylor Lind, and Landon Plante. This will be an amazing experience, as they gather with tens of thousands of youth for worship, service, learning, and fun. Pastor Karen Behling and Ron Buckles will be the adults traveling with these students. The sobering truth is that total expenses for this experience will come to over \$13,000. Thankfully, we were able to use some youth funds in designated savings, but there remains a sizable goal to be raised. Look for the youth thermometer to appear soon in the Narthex and consider your level of support.

Opportunities to support our youth now include:

- Purchase one or more shares of stock, starting at \$20. Each Stockholder will receive a postcard from New Orleans, first viewing of photos shared via text by Pastor Karen, and an invitation to the Stockholder Event in early August, featuring Build-Your-Own Ice Cream Sundaes and a presentation by the OSLC youth who attended the Gathering.
- Super Bowl Subs will be made and ready for pick-up on Sunday, Feb. 11. Order in advance using the form in the bright orange folder in the Narthex.

Pastor's New Schedule

The Our Saviour's Mission Plan for 2024 includes reducing Pastor Karen's hours to 3/4 time. Starting this month, her typical work week will be from Sunday through Wednesday, with the flexibility for some work hours on Thursdays.

Education Hour

Might Our Saviour's want to pursue solar panels and take advantage of grant monies that are available? Come to Education Hour on Sunday, Feb. 4 to hear from folks at Peace Lutheran in Pigeon Falls about their process of funding, installing and benefiting from solar panels.

Little Pantry

Thank you for the regular donations that keep appearing to stock the Little Pantry at the Mansfield entrance. The most popular items continue to be granola or breakfast bars, easy-to-microwave meals, nuts, fruit snacks, cans of soup with a pull-top, meat sticks, etc. Hand warmers also seem popular on extra chilly days.

To support this effort, you may place your donations directly in the Little Pantry, or leave them with Pastor Karen who has a designated corner of her office for such items, or order on-line and have your donation shipped to the church address: 1300 Mansfield St.

Lenten Worship

Ash Wednesday worship will be offered on Feb. 14 at both noon and 6:15 p.m. Each service will include the imposition of ashes as well as holy communion.

Starting Wednesday, Feb. 21 and continuing for five weeks, this year's midweek lenten series "A Place for You" will be offered at both noon and 6:15 p.m. Worship will include the beloved Holden Evening Prayer, and the evening service will involve children of all ages in the procession of light.

Holy Week will bring opportunities for ecumenical worship with our Presbyterian, Methodist and Episcopalian siblings. Our Saviour's will be hosting the Good Friday service at 5 p.m. This service will also include an ecumenical choir. The Maundy Thursday service will be at 5 p.m. at First Presbyterian, and there will also be a noon Good Friday service at Zion Methodist.



Easter Flower Time!! DEADLINE is February 26th !!!

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Mum Price \$25.00 How Many? _____

Tulips Price \$20.00 How Many? _____

Daffodills Price \$20.00 How Many? _____

In Honor of /or in Memory of _____

You may call or email the office with your order or mail or bring the order form to the office.

office@oslccf.net or 715-723-6048

There will also be forms in the office and in the Narthex

New Bishop

This year's Synod Assembly in June will include the election of a new bishop. Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson has chosen not to pursue a second 6-year term as Bishop of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin - ELCA.

In preparation for this election, a process for nominations will be held on Thursday, Feb. 8 via Zoom. Our Saviour's may send two voting members to engage in this nomination process. Others are welcome to attend as observers.

Walking Together

Saturday, Feb. 17

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bethany Lutheran in Rice Lake

Cost is \$25 and includes lunch

This annual synod event is all about equipping congregational leaders, with many options for workshops throughout the day.



Help for the Homeless

HYGIENE DRIVE™

**Feb. 11 -
Mar. 3**

Help ease financial strain on local homeless and crisis programs and those they serve!

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Bathroom Tissue
Cleaning Supplies
Dental Care
Deodorant

Diapers/Baby Care
Face/Bath Soap
Feminine Care
Hair Care

Laundry Detergent
Paper Towels
Razors
Trash Bags

Donations remain in the community where collected!



Learn more



Beginning February 1st I am reducing my hours and will be leaving at noon on Thursdays.

I am doing this for two reasons. I feel the need to help the congregation that has been so welcoming and kind to me. It is a pleasure to come to work every day!! I work with best staff anywhere! We have fun and get lots of work done at the same time. The members of this congregation are wonderful, the most welcoming and giving people I have ever met! Reducing my hours puts money back in the budget for other things.

Second, I am doing this for tax purposes. Cutting my hours will save me money in the long run.

Reduced hours here in the office means less time to get things done of course. So, I ask of you that the deadline for the newsletter has to be a **firm 18th of the month**. If you need anything printed or added to Staying in Touch it will have to be here on Thursdays by 11:30am. I schedule the Staying in Touch before I leave on Thursdays.

Also picking up or returning keys or the Credit Card will also need to be done by Thursday Morning.

Beginning in February the Church Council will be meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 5pm. I will adjust my hours that day, coming in at noon.

Thanks for understanding, lots of changes!!

Lisa



You Are Invited To Join For: THE CHOSEN SERIES Season 4 of the CHOSEN SERIES is being released in the theaters (Micon) beginning February 1st, 2024. Consider joining us for attending the series in the theaters (the entire season) in a unique offering to include viewing the episodes followed by gathering at a local establishment for discussion, refreshments and/or a meal. We would announce the viewing plan as soon as the details can be made available. Look for a handout to be made available at church with dates and times for attending. Hope we have some interest.

Lucianne and Rich Boardman

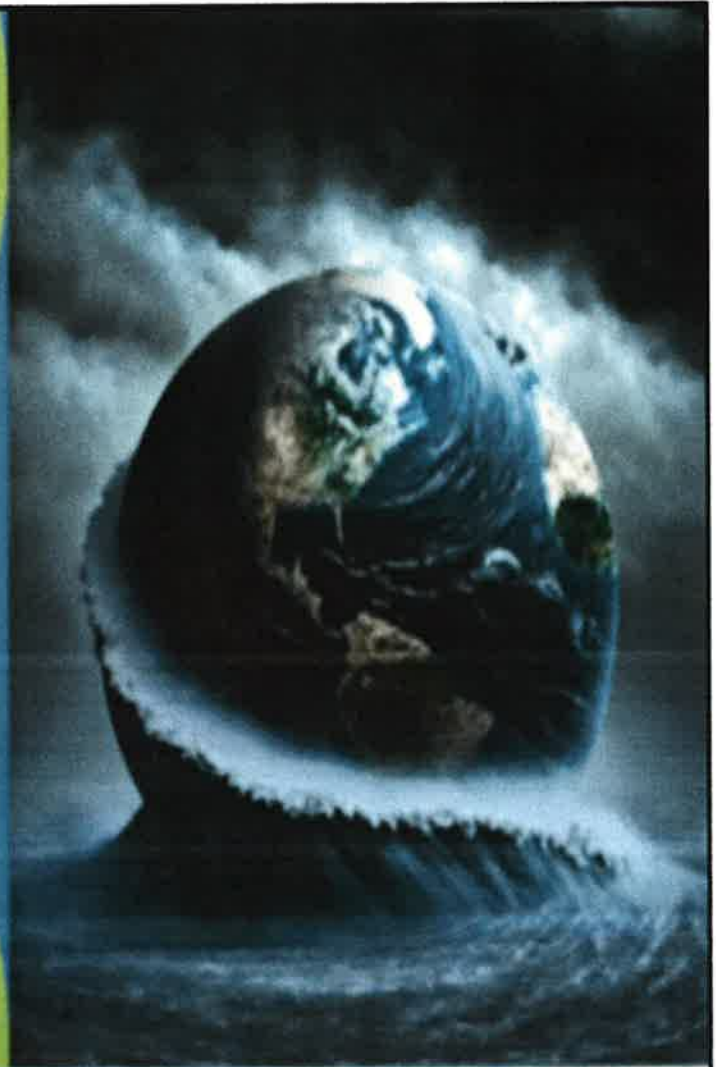
8TH ANNUAL
ECOFAITH SUMMIT
2024

APRIL 6TH
9AM - 4PM

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
DULUTH, MN

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
LARRY RASMUSSEN

CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICIST
AWARD WINNING AUTHOR OF *THE PLANET YOU INHERIT*



CROSS+CURRENTS IN THE FLOOD
BUILDING ARCS TOGETHER
FOR A LIVABLE PLANET

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024
9AM - 4 PM

REGISTRATION OPENS
FEBRUARY 1ST

Special Congregational Meeting Summary

A congregational meeting was held on January 14th, 2024, after Sunday service. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss proposed staffing changes as recommended by the OSLC Congregational Council. There were several reasons behind these proposed changes.

At the beginning of 2023 our congregation voted to bring in Kari Allen as a Rostered Deacon. The council and staff feel strongly that we would like to continue to have Kari in this role and to honor our plan to increase her position from 15 hours to 20 hours a week. Pastor Karen had stated last year that if necessary she would accept moving to a part time position in order to stay within budgeted expenses while maintaining Deacon Kari and the benefits of having two rostered leaders. At the same time our Administrative Assistant, Lisa Carter, offered to have her position decreased by 4 hours per week, for both personal and church budget reasons.

Through the past few years our church has done a great job of staying within budget as far as expenses are concerned, however we have not been able to maintain income as projected. Most of the budgeted income goes to paying our staff salaries. The Council proposed that we adjust Pastor Karen's position from full time to 75%, increase Deacon Kari from 15-20 hours per week and decrease Lisa's hours to 28 per week. The congregation voted to approve these changes.

The changes will take place on February 1, 2024. Pastor Karen, Deacon Kari and Lisa are working together to adjust responsibilities to continue to provide excellent service for OSLC now and into the future. There will be more information coming as these decisions are made.

Heidi Mercer

Congregation President

Noisy Offering Totals 2024

January Ukraine	July
February Open Door Clinic	August
March	September
April	October
May	November
June	December

Total to Date:



Quilters

The quilters are requesting help again. We can use flat sheets that are in good condition; double, queen, & king size. We also will take donations of material that we can use for quilts, so if you are cleaning out your closets, we will take what you haven't used. If you have any sheets or material, please leave it on the pew in the lounge that we use for our quilting room. We always can use help cutting and sewing quilt pieces for tops and we can also use help tying quilts on Tuesday mornings. Thanks for helping us out.



Knot Just Knitters' January Meeting

To accommodate the "snowbirds", Knot Just Knitters will meet via Zoom on February 1st at 1:00. It's a great time to work on a project and chat with others in the group. If you would like the Zoom link, please contact Marilyn Murphy at mjmurphy1970@yahoo.com.

RECYCLING:

CONSIDER THESE NUMBERS



1

number of trees you can save by recycling a three-foot stack of newspaper.

3

hours you can power a TV with the electricity saved by recycling a single aluminum can.

4

hours you can power a lightbulb with the energy saved by recycling one glass bottle.

30

cubic yards of landfill space saved by recycling one ton of plastic.

46

gallons of oil saved by recycling one ton of cardboard.

1,000

years it takes for plastic to decompose in a landfill.

25,000

number of aluminum cans the average person in the United States goes through in a lifetime.

1,000,000

years needed for glass to degrade in a landfill.

28,000,000,000

bottles and jars that end up in trash cans every year in the United States.



Dementia 101

Join us as we discuss

- Aging vs. not normal aging
- What to do if you notice changes
- How many people in Wisconsin have it
- how to communicate effectively with a person with brain changes
- how to decrease stigma around dementia
- local support for caregivers
- What the Chippewa Valley Dementia Coalition is

February 25 @ 9:30 am

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

1300 Mansfield Street, Chippewa Falls



Super Bowl Sub Order form.....Turn in by Sunday February 11th
(Earlier if possible)

Sandwiches: 8 inches (Cost: \$8.00 a sub) *Add \$1.00 for a double (double meat) CHECK THE DESIRED "FIXINS"	TURKEY	HAM	CHEESE	LETTUCE	SPINACH	TOMATO	PEPPERS	JALAPENO	PICKLES	ONIONS	RANCH	OIL	MAYO	SALT & PEPPER	HOW MANY?	UNIT COST
Turkey (\$8.00) "The Mardi Gras"	x															
Turkey-double (\$9.00) "Double Mardi Gras"	xx															
Ham (\$8.00) "The Carnival"		x														
Ham-double (\$9.00) "Double Carnival"		xx														
(Ham & Turkey) (\$9.00) "The Big Easy"	x	x														
Double H & T (\$10.00) "Double Big Easy"	xx	xx														

(Write in any other sub combinations...we want you satisfied)

Total cost:

Please check the time for pick up: 8:00 am _____ After 9:00 _____
After the second service before noon. _____ **(We would take last minute orders)**

Name of person/family placing order: _____ Phone # _____

- Pay with order or at pickup

Thank you so much for your order. Enjoy! The Youth

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH
1300 MANSFIELD STREET
CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI 54729



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 269
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729



Important Dates:

Sun 2/4 Healing Service

Wed 2/14 Ash Wednesday,

Wed 2/14 Valentines Day

Mon 2/19 President's Day

Mon 2/19 Newsletter Articles due!!

Deacon

Ron Buckles 715-579-0879

Kristi Lund 715-590-2723

Deb Olson 715-577-4745

Sheryl and Dale Shipman

Dale's Phone 715-557-6544

Sheryl's Phone 715-577-3356

Mary Blake 715-723-5743

Bonnie Buckles 715-579-3933

Toni Eckardt 715-829-9555

Dawn Pearson 715-226-5627

Jill Hietpas 715-214-8656

Last Name

A-Blo

Boa-Cut

Dob-Good

Gos-Ive

Jac-Lie

Lin-Mus

Naz-Pla

Por-Sta

Ste-Zwi

Noisy Offering

Open Door Clinic

Chippewa Falls



Our Saviour's Staff

Pastor Karen Behling pastorkaren@oslccf.net 715.723.6048

Kari Allen deaconkari@oslccf.net 715.723.6048

Toni Eckardt-Volunteer Coordinator tonieckardt@gmail.com 715.723.6048

Jared Johnson-Worship, Music and Technology jared@oslccf.net 715.723.6048

Ron Buckles-Choir Director ron_bon23@hotmail.com 715.579.0879

Lisa Carter-Office Manager office@oslccf.net 715.723.6048

QR CODE FOR GIVING



SCAN ME