



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

March 2024

Volume 24

Issue 3

office@oslccf.net 715-723-6048



Education Hours for March

March 3 and 10 Grief Barry Boyer Join Barry for a two part series on Grief

Barry Boyer has been involved with grief groups meeting at the hospital for over twenty years. Personal losses, faith journey, healing and pastoral work continue to influence his life. He invites you to learn more about your grief. Let's face it - grief is for everyone!

March 17 Deacon Kari Allen Accessibility Please join Kari for a dedicated time to listen to concerns about accessibility with in the church. Bring your questions to the Education Hour.

March 24 Palm Sunday Brunch will be held after the 9:30 service on Palm Sunday. This will be a fund raiser for the Youth going to the National Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans. There will be a free will offering!!

March 31 Easter Sunday Easter Egg Hunt

Immediately following the 9:30 service , we will have our annual Easter fair. Children will hear the "eggcellent" Easter story by Mrs Toni and we will sing a few songs together. Then we will "hunt" for plastic eggs loaded with chocolate. Story and songs will be in the fellowship hall , the egg hunt will be outdoors (weather permitting) or in the church basement. Happy Easter! He is Risen!!



The Church Council meets once a month on the 3rd 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

Lent and Holy Week Worship

Midweek Lenten worship with Holden Evening Prayer continues through March 20 at 6:15 p.m. each Wednesday. This year's theme is "A Place for You", and thus far, we have looked at the Exodus and the Red Sea crossing that led to a place to be free as well as Zacchaeus who discovered that there was a place even for him, a despised and sinful tax collector.

This month, we will look at:

The feeding of the 5000 as a place of abundance

The early Corinthian church as a place beyond divisions

A vision in Revelation of a place of peace.

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.

Youth Fundraising for New Orleans

Thank you so much for supporting the Our Saviour's youth with your purchase of Super Bowl Subs as well as Shares of Stock. The Stockholder Build-Your-Own Ice Cream Sundae event is tentatively scheduled for the evening of Sunday, August 4th. If you have yet to purchase Stock for \$20 or more, you may do so in the church office. Stockholders will receive a postcard from New Orleans as well as first viewing of photos shared via text by Pastor Karen of our students at the ELCA Churchwide Youth Gathering in New Orleans July 16-20.

We are excited to report that we are nearly halfway to raising our goal. New Orleans is an exciting city to visit, and it is also an expensive city to visit. We appreciate your generous support in helping our group participate in this incredible, faith-forming experience.

The next fundraiser will be Palm Sunday breakfast on March 24 from 8:30-11 a.m. And stay tuned for a Tie Dye fundraiser later this spring.

Knot Just Knitters' March Meeting

To accommodate the "snowbirds", Knot Just Knitters will meet via Zoom on March 7 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.

Care and Concern

Please contact the church office if you know of someone who could use a little "sunshine". A card will be sent from the Our Saviour's church family. Also if someone is going through a serious illness or difficult time, a prayer shawl might bring them some comfort. Please let the church office know of anyone who needs to be wrapped in the warmth of a shawl and God's love.

OSLC Trustees Report for January 2024

The Board of Trustees would like to report the following results for January 2024:

Revenues: \$28,996.36

Expenses: \$29,660.27

Net Loss: \$ (663.91)

Our revenues were slightly above budget but our expenses were slightly over budget for the month as our new work schedules/wages were not implemented until after approval at our annual meeting in January, and a new computer was purchased. Our unrestricted funds balance at the end of January was \$37,736.62. 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, Bill Mercer and Stacy Olson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3 8 am Service 9:30 Service Ed Hour Barry Boyer Grief PT 1	4 Monday Email 6:30pm Boy Scouts	5 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	6 Lenten Worship Noon and 6:15 Midweek Program 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	7 8:00am Men's Breakfast 10:00am Joy Yoga 1:00pm Knitters Zoom Session	8	9
10 8 am Service 9:30 Service Ed Hour Barry Boyer Grief PT 2	11 Monday Email Spring Break Begins 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Deacons	12 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	13 Lenten Worship Noon and 6:15 NO MIDWEEK 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	14 8:00am Men's Breakfast 10:00am Joy Yoga	15	16
17 8 am Service 9:30 Service Ed Hour Kari Allen Accessibility 6:30pm Book Buddies Zoom	18 Monday Email Newsletter Articles Due 6:30pm Boy Scouts	19 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	20 Lenten Worship Noon and 6:15 Midweek Program 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	21 8:00am Men's Breakfast 10:00am Joy Yoga 5:00pm Church Council	22	23
24 8 am Service 9:30 Service Palm Sunday Palm Sunday Brunch	25 Monday Email 6:30pm Boy Scouts	26 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	27 NO MIDWEEK 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:15pm –8:15pm Choir	28 8:00am Men's Breakfast 10:00am Joy Yoga 5:00pm Maundy Thursday Service 1st Presbyterian	29 12:00pm Good Friday Service at Zion Methodist 5:00pm Good Friday Worship OSLC	30
31 8 am Service 9:30 Service Easter Service and Fair	1 Monday Email 6:30pm Boy Scouts	2 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Quilters	3 Midweek Program 6:00pm Hand Bells	4 8:00am Men's Breakfast 10:00am Joy Yoga	5	6

Stained Glass Windows in the Sanctuary

The past few months a small team has been meeting to discuss the potential of stained glass windows in our sanctuary. The intent of our discussion is to set some ideas and parameters of window design when (or if) members chose to gift a window for the sanctuary. While we are in the process of replacing our sanctuary windows with energy efficient glass, it's historically been the intent that the original windows be replaced with stained glass and thus one reason for pursuing ideas that can bring artistic expression into our faith community. Stories play a vital role in our faith-based learning and stained glass windows are one way that reinforce these teachings. As a team, we've chosen stories from the new and old testament that illustrate the diverseness of God's children and creation. The stories currently being considered include:

OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT
Creation - Genesis 1:11-13, 20-25	Nativity - Luke 2:8-20
Noah's Ark - Genesis 8:10-11 and 9:12-13	Jesus' Baptism - Mark 1:9-11
Joseph and his amazing coat - Genesis 37:3-4	Jesus gathered with children - Mark 10:13-16 or John 10:11
Parting waters of the Red Sea; Miriam Dancing on the far side- Exodus 15:20-21	Feeding the 5000 - John 6:5-13
Ruth gleaning wheat in the fields - Ruth 2:2-3	Holy Week
Prophets - scale of justice - Amos 5:21-24 and Micah 6:8 OR Psalm 150	Pentecost - Acts 2:1-4
	Lydia - Acts 16:14-15 and 40
	God's diverse people - Galatians 3:28-29
	Tree of Life; leaves healing of the nations - Revelation 22:1-2

A successful work of this committee will be designs that represent our church community. We will be having open conversation during the middle hour on May 5th to share what we have learned, ideas that we've considered, and to listen to your cares and concerns about this project as we move forward. This is not a church-funded or budgeted project, but an opportunity to share gifts in memory of, in honor of or anonymously and therefore will be a process over time. If you have any questions regarding this project, please reach out to one of the following committee members and join us on May 5th. If you've visited a church and have examples of meaningful ideas, please don't hesitate to share.

Heidi Mercer
 Karen Bejin
 Kristi Lund
 Bill Mehls
 Jill Hietpas
 Pastor Karen
 Jared
 Lisa

2024 Easter Joy Project

For the past few years, we have helped some local families by collecting clothing, toys, diapers, etc. We are planning to help *Foster Care Families* again this spring. If you would like to assist with this project, please find the colorful tags on one of the trees in the narthex. Choose a tag and buy the item. Please leave the clothing on a hanger, if possible. Return your donations to church by Easter Sunday, March 31st.



This year we are also extending our outreach to other areas of the world by collecting items needed to create "*Baby Care Kits*" for Lutheran World Relief. This is the same organization that sends abroad the mission quilts our quilters create.

For the Baby Care Kits, we need to collect these items: lightweight cotton T-shirts (no onesies), long or short sleeved gowns, sleepers or pajamas (without feet), swaddling blankets, jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts with a hood, pairs of socks, dark colored hand towels, and bath-size bars of gentle soap.

You will find different tags on the other tree in the narthex listing one or more of these items. Cash donations to purchase needed items for the kits are also appreciated. Take a tag, purchase the item, and then please return the items to church by March 31st. After Easter we will ask volunteers to help assemble complete kits with the items we've collected. We hope to provide these basic items to help families care for their new little ones.

Please consider helping families near and far by participating in our annual Easter Joy project!

Just Because Meals

Just Because Meals is a ministry of Our Saviour's . Do you need a meal for a few days or over a few weeks because of an illness, surgery, a new baby or a death in the family?

You can decide how often and food choices and what time of day.

We have a team of volunteers that sign up to deliver meals to you or arrange delivery of meals.

Are you interested in being one of the meal volunteers? We will add you to the team. You may let any staff member know or email Jared at jared@oslccf.net or the office at office@oslccf.net or call the office at 715-723-6048.



Lawn Space For Rent

Spring Graduation Party

Baby Shower

Small Wedding/Reception/Shower

Family Reunion or Picnic

Family time around the Fire Pit

Dates are available for Spring, Summer and Fall.

Share with friends and family

Contact the church office at office@oslccf.net or 715-723-6048



Deacon Officers 2024

Chairperson-Toni Eckardt

Secretary- Bonnie Buckles

Council Rep- Mary Blake

Deacon Coffee Breaks will start again in April! Watch Staying in Touch for more details!!!



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.



On March 31st , immediately following the 9:30 service , we will have our annual Easter fair. Children will hear the “eggscellent” Easter story by Mrs Toni and we will sing a few songs together. Then we will “hunt” for plastic eggs loaded with chocolate. Story and songs will be in the fellowship hall , the egg hunt will be outdoors (weather permitting) or in the church basement.

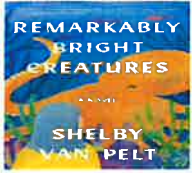
Happy Easter! He is Risen!!



Our Saviour's is scheduled to work at Agnes Table about every other month. March 7 is our next date . If you are available and interested, or just have questions , contact Toni. Toni's cell number is 715-829-9555. We especially need people who can cook and set up from 3 to 5 pm. Agnes Table is very rewarding - and a lot of fun.



Vacation Bible School will be held here at Our Saviour's from July 29th through August 2nd. Bible School will be held from 8:30 to 11:30am
Watch for more details!



Book buddies will be meeting on Sunday March 17th at 6:30pm on Zoom. We will be discussing the book:
Remarkably Bright Creatures

By Shelby Van Pelt

The novel tells the story of Cameron, a young man who is abandoned by his mother as a child and raised by his aunt.

One day, Cameron starts working at the local aquarium. He meets Tova, a janitor who is also a former marine biologist. Cameron also befriends Marcellus, an octopus who is being held at the aquarium. As Cameron gets to know Tova and Marcellus, he begins to heal from his past and to find a sense of belonging.

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

mjmurphy1970@yahoo.com for the zoom link or questions or if you would like to be included in future emails.



Would you like to be added to the Prayer Group??? The prayer list is sent out on Tuesday Mornings and updated as needed during the week. Would you like to pray for someone?? Please email or call the office and I will add you to the group.

Do you have a prayer need? Again, please contact the office, a member of staff or your Deacon and we will add you to the prayer list.

715-723-6048 or office@oslccf.net

Lisa

Thanks

Thank You Everyone!

The youth and I would like to thank the congregation for their support with the recent "Super Bowl Sub Sunday". Everyone was so generous and patient. We had over \$600 in sales and donations as part of the event. We had FUN, too!

I would like to Thank the youth and parents who helped in the preparation of the subs. The workers were enthused and very hard workers. They made the job easy for me...lots of fun and...the subs were delicious.

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

2024 Deacon Responsibility Listing

Ron Buckles ron_bon23@hotmail.com	715-579-0879	A-Blo (26)
Kristi Lund kasazama@gmail.com	715-590-2723	Boa-Cut (21)
Deb Olson olsondsj@gmail.com	715-577-4745	Dob-Good (24)
Sheryl & Dale Shipman shipman.dc@gmail.com sherylshipman1@gmail.com	715-726-1001(home) 715-577-6544 (Dale) 715-577-3356 (Sheryl)	Gos-Ive (20)
Mary Blake mab0@charter.net	715-579-1149 (cell) 715-723-5743 (home)	Jac-Lie (25)
Bonnie Buckles ron_bon23@hotmail.com	715-579-3933	Lin-Mus (22)
Toni Eckardt tonieckardt@gmail.com	715-829-9555 (cell) 715-726-2100 (home)	Naz-Pla (22)
Dawn Pearson ldpearson@charter.net	715-226-5627 (cell) 715-723-9597 (home)	Por-Sta (20)
Jill Hietpas hietpajs@gmail.com	715-214-8656	Ste-Zwi (23)

March Outreach



Mobile Meals Inc.

Mobile Meals is a nonprofit organization that began serving meals in November of 1971. Their goal is to allow residents to remain in their homes longer by providing a nutritious noon meal. As yet another organization affected by the recent hospital closings, they are now in search of a new provider for their meals.

Noisy Offering

Mobile Meals provides meals, as well as a daily safety check, to about 43 people in Chippewa Falls. Current meal cost is \$5, which covers just the cost of the meal, not the cost of the program. They are dependent on contributions, donations and participant fees.



Volunteer Opportunities



Drivers are needed to deliver meals within the city limits of Chippewa Falls. Any person with a valid driver's license and an hour of time each week is eligible! If you don't want to make a weekly commitment, substitute drivers are needed to relieve drivers in case of illness or vacation. Volunteers are needed to serve on the Board of Directors as well. Contact Sue Brick at 715-723-0486 for more information, or visit their website at: <https://cfmobilemeals.weebly.com/contact-us.html>

Scripture Meditation

Psalms 71:9 "Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone."



March 17 Education Hour: Accessibility Check-in

Is there any way Our Saviour's could be more accessible for you or a family member? Let us know! We recognize that many accommodations are not 'one size fits all', so how can our space at OSLC better serve you? Whether it's something like having access to a print bulletin to lessen anxiety, installing a sound system that connects to hearing aids, or adding a handrail somewhere, we want to make sure you feel comfortable and safe here. This education hour will be a dedicated time to listen and will not have a presentation.

Are you interested in volunteering with a refugee family?



World Relief is looking for teams of 6-10 people to partner with new refugee families for the first 6 months of their arrival. "A Good Neighbor Team (GNT) is a small group of people from a local church that partners with World Relief to welcome, walk alongside, and offer long-term reciprocal friendships with a newly arrived refugee family." Most families are expected to find housing within the city of Eau Claire due to the public transportation that is available there. At this time, refugees are most likely to be from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Myanmar/Burma and arrive sometime between now and September. Please let Deacon Kari know if you are interested, so we can determine if there is sufficient interest to form a team. Have further questions? Email Deacon Kari at deaconkari@oslccf.net

Forming a Long Range Planning Team



The purpose of long-range planning at OSLC is to establish goals and strategies that would guide our actions over an extended period, typically three to five years or even longer. It helps in setting a clear direction, allocating resources efficiently, anticipating challenges, and adapting to changes in the external environment. Additionally, long-range planning fosters organizational alignment and coherence, enabling effective decision-making and sustained growth.

Please consider joining this important effort! Contact Heidi Mercer at heidimercer@gmail.com for more information.

Noisy Offering Totals 2024

January Ukraine \$355.40

February Open Door Clinic

March Mobile Meals

April Agnes' Table

May Hope Village

June Neighbor to Neighbor

July Mentor Chippewa Falls

August Irvine Park

September

October

November

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.

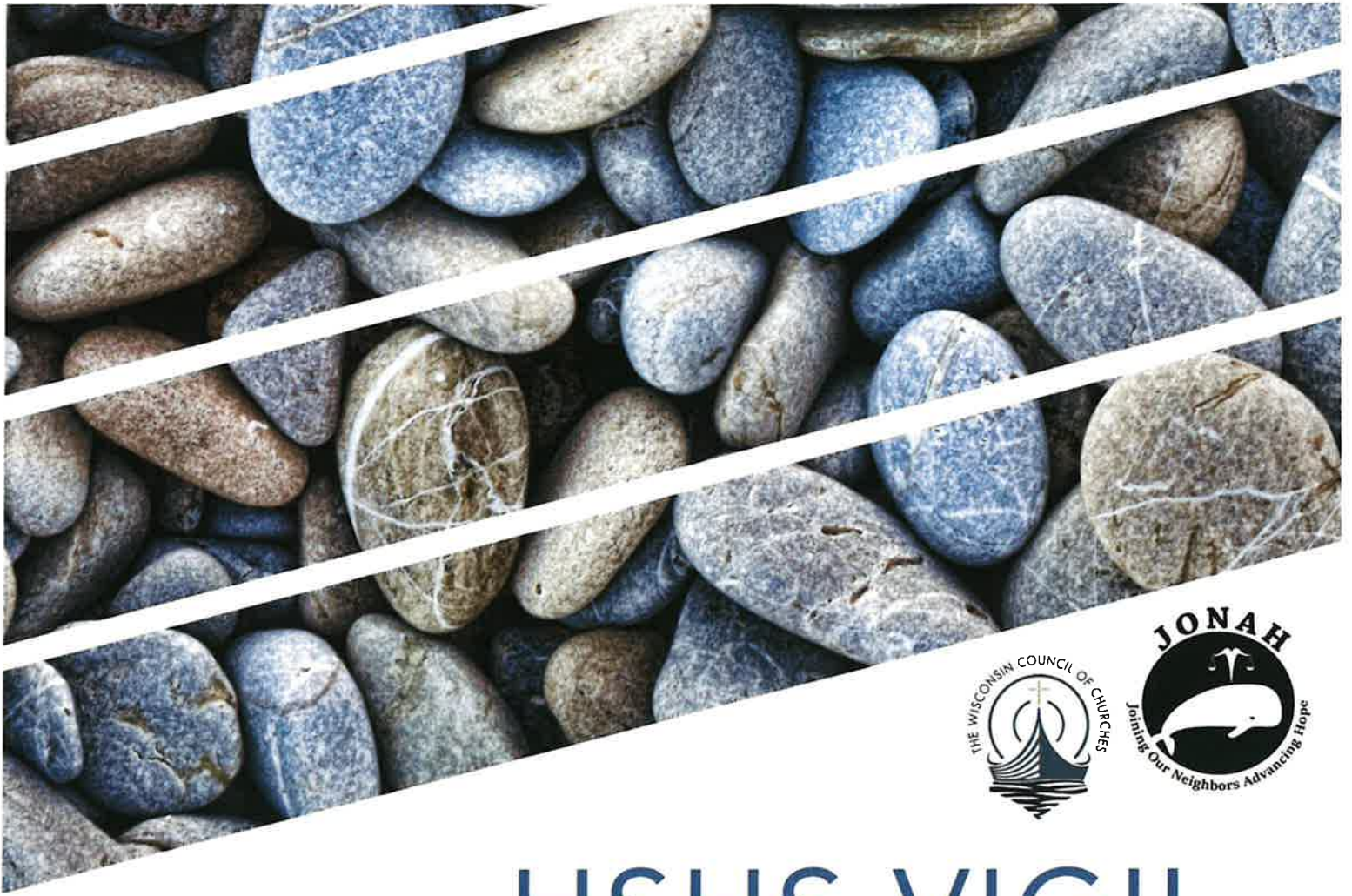
GOOD GRIEF - Education Hour on March 3 and 10

Since the death of your loved one:

- Have you felt that others are uncomfortable talking about your loss?
- Have you felt that your family and friends lives have returned to normal, but your life will never be the same?
- Have you felt concerned whether or not your thoughts and feelings of grief are "normal?"
- Have you felt pressured by others to "get over" your grief?

Barry Boyer has been involved with grief groups meeting at the hospital for over twenty years. Personal losses, faith journey, healing and pastoral work continue to influence his life. He invites you to learn more about your grief. Let's face it - grief is for everyone!

See you after worship on March 3rd and 10th.



HSHS VIGIL

The Spiritual Power of Humans Gathered Together

The JONAH Religious Leaders invite you to gather in a space of lament over the closing of local HSHS hospitals and the uncertainty surrounding the situation so that our grief may move towards hope.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 5 @ 6:00-7:00PM
L.E. PHILLIPS MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY
3RD FLOOR, RIVERVIEW ROOM**

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO GATHER IN INTERFAITH PRAYER AND AN OPEN SHARING SPACE WITH PEER LISTENING SUPPORT.
MUSIC BY THE THRESHOLD SINGERS.**

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:

3/5 HSHS Healing Service 6pm EC Library

3/10 Daylight Savings Time Returns

3/11 Deacons 6:30pm

3/13 NO MIDWEEK

3/17 St Patrick's Day

3/19 First Day of Spring

3/21 Council 5pm

3/24 Palm Sunday

3/27 NO MIDWEEK

3/28 Maundy Thursday

3/29 Good Friday

3/31 Easter Sunday



Noisy Offering

Mobile Meals



Delivering Independence

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