

# Voters' Meeting Sunday, January 22 11:45am in the Sanctuary

We will discuss the Call Committee, hear from the treasurer and the boards, including an update from the Trustees on the roofing project. Please come to hear about and lend your voice to the business of the church. All Confirmed members, age 18 and older, are invited to attend.

Bring your taste buds to the annual

# Chili Cook-off

Following the voter's meeting on January 22, you can sip soups and cast your vote for the best in Traditional and Non-traditional categories. To enter a pot, bring it to the kitchen before or after the 10:30am service. Grilled Cheese and ice cream are provided to cool your pallet. You can even stick around to enjoy some Bible Trivia.

#### **Contact Info:**

Church Office: Phone: 507-385-2180

Fax: 507-345-5113

contact@oslcmankato.org www.oslcmankato.org

www.facebook.com/oslcmankato

Pastor Office phone: 507-385-2183 Rev. Adam Matheny: matheny@oslcmankato.org

Emergency number: 812-449-6866

Deaconess Office phone: 507-385-2185

Lisa Brand: <u>lisa@oslcmankato.org</u>

Secretary Office phone: 507-385-2180

Sue Hendrickson: sue@oslcmankato.org

Custodian Office phone: 507-385-2180 Zac Painter: Cell phone: 507-381-4699

zac@oslcmankato.org

Music Coordinator Home phone: 507-341-4173

Suzie Gangi <u>suzie@oslcmankato.org</u>

Office hours are Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 8:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Unless there is an activity or event taking place, please use the Broad Street entrance by the mailbox.

In case of emergency or urgent need, our pastor is available at all hours and all days by calling his cell phone. Please use the office phone for other business. Please also remember that Sunday morning and other worship times are not for bringing church business to other members or staff but for focusing upon the Word and gifts of God. "The seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work." - Exodus 20:10

#### **From Pastor Matheny**

The fear of the LORD prolongs life, but the years of the wicked will be short.

-Proverbs 10:27

It seems to me that a new year always brings with it a particular kind of excitement. Having just experienced the joys of Christmas celebrations and spent time with family often reflecting on times gone by we turn our attention to the year ahead. New years often turn our minds to new things, to the prospect of fruitful change, innovation, and possibility. Often because of overindulgence during Christmas celebrations people turn their attention toward health and fitness. That is, generally speaking, a good thing and you may be sure that I will be doing some of that myself!

But while we focus on our health the scriptures stand firm to remind us what our true source of life is. It is God that gives the gift of life. It is God that sustains life. It is God that protects life. We really only live because we are rooted in Him who is the Bread of Life. We only really value life as a gift because we are following in the way of our God.

Having the Life that comes from Him means that our life is eternal: it has no end. It is easy to look at the state of the world, the state of my body, the state of my life and focus on the areas that are the result of sin and wickedness and think that they are going to be with me forever. But Proverbs makes clear to us that life with God is long (eternal!) but that the years of wickedness will be short. Pain and suffering will pass away and at the return of the Lord life will be whole, complete, and beautiful. As you begin this new year think about the positive changes that you can make to make your life better. But before and above all that remember that God is your source of life and that the days of wickedness will pass away.

# Planning Council Minutes of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Mankato December 13, 2022

**Members Present:** Matt Brand, Dan Gahler, Mel Hendrickson, Valerie Elliott, Doug Haeder, Missy Schultz, Rob Hobbs, Judd Schultz, Thomas Williams, Denise Painter Pastor Adam Matheny. **Members Absent:** Nancy Benson, Judy Hendley, Christine Billiar, Bev Clark.

- 1. President Matt Brand called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.
- 2. Opening Prayer was led by Pastor Adam Matheny.
- 3. There was no Public/congregational Presentation.
- 4. Built on The Rock Chapter 13, We started off with a discussion on what we have learned so far to get everyone up to speed, Chapter 13 covers Improving Biblical Literacy, Discussion followed on how we are doing and possible ways to improve and grow Our congregational knowledge of the Bible. During the January 10, 2023 meeting we will review Chapter 14 (Caring for the Body of Christ).
- Additions/Approval of the Agenda under 10g. add Greeters.
   Motion made and seconded to approve the amended Agenda,
   Motion Carried.
- 6. Motion Made and Seconded to approve the November 8, 2022, Planning Council minutes, Motion Carried.
- Pastor Adam Matheny reported that Advent Worship and planning is on track, The next 3 weeks Sunday services will be one service at 9 A.M. The Service on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> will be followed by a reception.
- 8. Treasurer's Report Doug Haeder stated that the process of transferring the money from Wells Fargo is complete and that everything is now at Pioneer Bank. Motion Made and seconded to approve the report as presented, Motion Carried.
- 9. Unfinished Business:
  - a. Review of Special Voters Meeting: The paperwork is in process, a Call Committee will be formed in January 2023, we will be able to interview up to 5 Graduates, Discussion followed on the next steps we need to take.
- 10. New Business:

- Motion made and seconded to appoint Jeff Elliot to the Board of Education with a term expiring 12/31/2024.
   Motion Carried.
- Motion made and seconded to appoint Mike Anderson to the Board of Elders, with a term expiring 12/31/2024.
   Motion carried.
- c. 2023 Housing Allowance: Resolved, that Our Savior Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota authorizes and establishes individual housing allowance for the calendar year 2023 as follows: Rev. Adam Matheny amount of \$19,500.00 and Deaconess Lisa Brand amount of \$16,800.00. The Housing Allowance shall be effective for the period from January 1,2023 through December 31,2023 Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022. Signed Matt Brand President, and Mel Hendrickson Secretary. Motion Carried.
- d. January Voter's Meeting Date and Draft Agenda: set the date for January 22 2023 after second service, topics to be discussed Call Committee, Roofing Project update from the Trustees, All Board reports.
- e. Annual Board Reports: they are due in the office by 5 January 2023 so they can be printed and assembled into the packet.
- f. Installation of Officers is set for both services on Sunday January 8,2023 this includes all officers not just newly elected ones.
- g. Greeters: The Deacons are looking to revive the program, will be working on it. Will seek input.
- 11. Board Sharing: Elders has 5 new members ready to move forward, working on Chapter 13 in Built on the Rock. Deacons: Will be looking into the greeter program, please sign up for Wednesday night meals and Sunday morning Donuts, We will undecorate the church January 8<sup>th</sup> Chili Contest and trivia on January 22<sup>nd</sup> after the Voters Meeting. Education: No update given. Trustees: Work on the Electrical panels upstairs in January 2023, Recommending the roof project to be worked on in May or June 2023 Endowment: Next meeting is January 30, 2023, Information about the

- Board has been placed in two weekly bulletins and will be in the Voice, The Seminary Student we sponsor is expecting their first child.
- 12. We closed with President Matt Brand praying for all the volunteers of the congregation, the upcoming Call Process, the Incoming and outgoing officers and Board Members, and all Staff both Called and Lay, we then joined in Praying The Lord's Prayer.
- 13. Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 P.M.
- 14. Next Meeting is January 10, 2023, at 6:30 P.M.
- 15. Next Voters Meeting is Sunday January 22, 2023, at approximately 11:45 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted Mel Hendrickson. Secretary OSLC Planning Council



#### **Paisley May Treanor**

Born: November 29, 2022 Baptized: December 18, 2022 Parents: Jordan & Erica Treanor



#### Michael John Melvin

March 3, 1960 ~ December 16, 2022

# Treasurer's Report Commentary Period Ending November 30, 2022

**Income and Expense Summary** 

	<b>Current Month</b>	Y-T-D
Income	\$68,856.31	\$497,485.39
Operating Expenses	-\$43,254.41	-\$483,939.54
LCEF Mortgage Principal Payment	-\$1,132.00	-\$11,914.60
Net for Period <sup>†</sup>	\$24,469.90	\$1,631.25

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>Positive net value indicates we received more than our expenses, a negative number indicates that we have spent more than we have received for that period (deficit).

**Cash Summary** 

	Amount	Notes
Checking Account	\$0.00	Daily checking account-Wells Fargo
Joyful Response	\$107,805.39	Joyful Response deposits and loan
Joylal Response	\$107,805.55	payments
Library Fund	\$20,107.12	Certificate of Deposit
Pioneer Business	\$78,751.63	Chacking Assount Dianogr Bank
Checking	\$76,751.05	Checking Account Pioneer Bank
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	
<b>Total Cash Assets</b>	\$206,664.14	
Dedicated Accounts	-\$117,875.01	Amount of our cash balance
Dedicated Accounts	-\$117,875.01	designated for specific activities
Other Liabilities	-\$2,444.07	Accruals for HSA pmts, mission pmt
Available Cash Balance	\$86,345.06	\$61,975.16 last month

Long Term Debt (LCEF Mortgage)

_	,
Current Balance	\$235,224.40
Monthly Payment	\$1,845.99
Interest Rate (Variable Annually)	3.625%
Pay-off Date	5/2036

#### **Additional Comments:**

Respectfully submitted, Doug Haeder, Treasurer

## **Voters' Meeting**

Our Savior Lutheran Church of Mankato November 20, 2022 Attendance: 57

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 1:03 PM by President Matt Brand.
- 2. Opening Prayer was led by Pastor Adam Matheny.
- Motion made and seconded to approve the printed agenda. Motion Carried.
- 4. Motion made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the May 22, 2022, Voters Meeting. Motion carried.
- Unfinished Business:
  - a. Planning update, on page 5 of the packet is the list of the 6 Congregational Goals. The goal of reaching out to elderly/shut in members can always use additional volunteers.

#### New Business:

- a. 2022 Annual Budget, in the packet pages 6-10 is where you will find it. Thanks to all the boards for all your work on putting this together, we are looking at an overall increase of 4.68% in the budget. Motion made and seconded to approve the proposed budget. Motion Carried.
- b. Officer and Board Elections: After announcing additional names to be placed on the ballot a motion was made and seconded to approve the ballot. Motion carried. Motion made and seconded to vote a unanimous Ballot. Motion made and seconded to approve. Motion carried. Result of the election Follow: all two-year terms, Congregational Secretary, Valerie Elliott. Treasurer, Doug Haeder. Financial Secretary, Bev Clark. Council at Large, Missy Schultz. Board of Elders. Lon Whitehead, Randy Burmeister, Tom Benson, Mike Blomquist. Board of Education, Samantha Tess, Rhonda Prince. Board of Trustees, Bob Baker. Board of Endowment, Mel Hendrickson. Board of Deacons, some two year and one year to be determined at their first meeting, Denise

- Painter, Lindsey Marso, Kathy Taylor, Vicky Senne, Jean Anderson.
- c. Roof Replacement Discussion: Three bids were available for review, one for repairs of the existing seams etc., and two for replacement plus upgrades, Discussion followed Motion made and seconded to return to the Trustees to discuss at their December meeting to make a recommendation and bring it to the January Voters Meeting. Motion Carried. After more discussion a Motion was made and seconded to approve starting a Fund Drive to replenish our capital improvement Budget line and be prepared to move forward on the roofing issues. Motion Carried.
- d. Electrical Work/ Insurance Concerns. President Matt Brand informed the voters of a recommendation from our Insurance Company about Electrical panels located in the building that are not UL approved, this was discussed at the November Planning Council meeting and decided we would undertake the repairs so that we would remain covered by insurance.
- e. Calling Process Procedures: The Board of Elders are recommending Calling a Graduate Student and Chairman Judd Schultz explained the process and stated a letter would be mailed out to the Congregation explaining the rational and procedures a Special voter's meeting most likely will occur in December to jump start this process.
- 7. We closed with the voters all reading aloud Psalms 46, followed with the Lord's Prayer.
- President Matt Brand closed the meeting by asking that the outgoing and incoming Officers and Board members attend the December meetings to coordinate the process. Meeting adjourned at 2:03 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Mel Hendrickson
Secretary, OSLC Planning Council

#### **Voters Meeting**

#### Our Savior Lutheran Church of Mankato December 11, 2022 Attendance: 80

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 11:48 AM by President Matt Brand.
- 2. Following a reading from Psalm 46 Pastor Adam Matheny led us with an opening prayer.
- 3. New Business:
  - a. Discussion regarding calling a second Pastor. Board Chair Judd Schultz gave an introduction from the Board of Elders based on research by Nancy Benson which was one of the Goals on the need for additional Staffing. After discussion with the Board of Elders they believe the best course is to call a second Pastor. They have been in contact with the District President concerning a Graduate Student from the Seminary and he is in favor of our calling one for our congregation. Some discussion on the letter that was mailed to the congregation last month. We have a large mission field right in our own back yard. Questions and discussion followed on the pros and cons of calling a graduate student. A motion was Made and seconded to approve the calling of a Student Graduate as a second pastor. The call was made for a paper ballot. After voting and counting the vote was 74 Yes and 6 no. President Matt Brand then called for a motion on a unanimous Ballot. A motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion carried on a voice vote.
- 4. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.
- 5. The meeting Adjourned at 12:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted Mel Hendrickson Secretary OSLC Planning Council

The Elders will start the process of the paperwork on Monday and will form a call Committee in January 2023

#### **Accessions & Losses**

#### **Accessions:**

Ted Mueller, Zion Lutheran Church, Brainerd, MN; LCMS; November 25, 2022

#### Losses:

Anthony & Tami Bergemann; Released by request;
December 5, 2022
Brandon Bergemann; Released by request; December 5, 2022

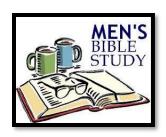


Articles for the February 2023 VOICE are due by Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. You may drop-off submissions in the office,

or e-mail to: <a href="mailto:contact@oslcmankato.org">contact@oslcmankato.org</a>.

# The Joy Switch

This practical book gives you tools to adjust your own approach in communicating as well as help others who maybe having a difficult day. Join us for discussion in the library beginning Wednesday, January 11 at 5:15pm.



ATTENTION MEN! The men of Our Savior gather in the fireplace room on the second Thursday from 7:30-8:30 of each month for study together. We will continue to study the Smalcald Articles at our January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are interested in this please speak with Pastor Matheny.

Church
Office
Closed

The church office is closed Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> in observance of the New Year's Holiday.



## Christmas Un-decorating

The Christmas decorations will be taken down on Sunday, January  $8^{th}$ , right after the 10:30 service ends. Please help put the decorations away for another year. When the work is done, lunch will be served. All help is greatly appreciated!



Do you like bread? How about the Bread of Life? At our potluck Bible study you can have both! Join us from 5:30-7:30 in the Fireplace room on January 26<sup>th</sup> for food, fellowship, and time in God's Word. We'll share a potluck meal from 5:30-6:30 and then from 6:30-7:30 we'll study the Scriptures together. This month we will learn a bit about what Lutherans believe about the relationship between Church and State. Ask Pastor Matheny if you have any questions. See you there!



# **Book Club**



The Our Savior's book club meets from 4:30-6 in the fireplace room on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. We read good books and then discuss them together from our shared Christian perspective.

In January we will be reading a series of short stories by Flannery O'Connor. Flannery O'Connor is widely regarded as one of the best American authors of the last 100 years. She is perhaps best known for her short stories which won the prestigious National Book Award for Fiction in 1972 as a collection. Then in 2009, was named the best book ever to have won the National Book Awards. Keep your eye on the bulletin for more details about which stories to read for our meetings. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Matheny.



On January 4<sup>th</sup>, we resume our regular schedule. Meal beginning at 6pm, Devotion at 6:45pm. Everyone is welcome! Come enjoy a good meal and good fellowship.

If you would like to help with the meals, sign up on the table in the Fireplace room. Help needed to plan/cook, serve, and clean-up.



Come to the Youth Room, upstairs, for Quilting on Mondays, January  $9^{th}$  and  $23^{rd}$  at 9am.

Join us for fellowship and working together, sewing tops, middles, and backs together and tie them. No experience necessary.

# Bible Reading Plan - January

Jesus calls us friends. This is not to put it as a casual or light relationship, but one of closeness. A friendship where people know one another. We can rely on Him to support and care for us. We can share our most personal concerns, and He is always available. We'll look at some of those called friend of God and what a friend may do.

□ Ex 25:17-22	☐ Ps 55:12-22	☐ Lk 14:7-11	☐ Jn 15:13-15
□ Ex 33:9-17	☐ Prov 17:17	□ Lk 14:12-14	☐ Jam 2:21-23
☐ 1 Sam 18:1-	☐ Prov 22:10-	☐ Lk 15:1-7	☐ Jam 4:1-4
4, 20:41-42 ☐ 2 Sam 15:32-37	☐ Prov 27:6-10	□ Lk 21:10-19	□ Eph 3:17-19
□ 2 Chr 20:5-9	☐ Song 5:10-16	☐ Mt 26:45-56	☐ Jn 17:20-26
□ Job 2	☐ Is 41:8-13	☐ Jn 3:25-30	☐ Jn 21:15-19
□ Ps 41	□ Lk 7:33-35	□ John 11	☐ 1 Cor 13:1- 13

#### Taxi Service

Free cab rides to services are made possible for our members through Our Savior's Taxi Fund. To procure a ride, call WS Transportation at 420-4503 or 388-0708. Please call a half hour before you would like to leave.

To call for a return ride, you may use the phone in the office or kitchen. Please dial 9 before you enter the number. Let WS Transportation know where you will be waiting—the front door on Broad Street or the back parking lot door. Thank you.

#### Widowed to Widowed

"The Right Time" Bible Study is available for you. Call Trudy for a personal copy (507-327-7082). You may also enjoy, "Seasons of Life".

Hymn to read or sing: LSB 348, LW 26 "The King Shall Come"

- The King shall come when morning dawns
   And Light triumphant breaks,
   When Beauty gilds the eastern hills
   And life to joy awakes.
- Not as of old a little child,
   To bear and fight and die,
   But crowned with glory like the sun
   That lights the morning sky.
- Oh, brighter than the rising morn
  When Christ, victorious, rose
  And left the lonesome place of death
  Despite the rage of foes.
- Oh, brighter than that glorious morn Shall dawn upon our race The day when Christ in Splendor comes And we shall see His face.
- The King shall come when morning dawns And light and beauty brings.
   Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: Come quickly, King of kings!
   Text: Public domain

To the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever.

Amen.

Jude 25



#### "It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High" Psalm 92:1

#### **Wednesday Night Rehearsal Schedule**

Intro Choir 5:15-5:45

Brass (Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday) 5:45-6

Intro Bells 5:50-6:20

Choir 7-7:30 in the Sanctuary by the Grand Piano

Handbells 7:30-8:00

**Special Music** is needed for January! Contact Suzie Gangi if interested.

Our groups could use a few more singers and ringers. Please consider being in one or more of our groups!

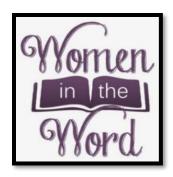
Into Bells Have you ever wanted to give handbells a try? Anyone third grade and up-including adults are welcome to join the group. We'll teach you what you need to know to play the handbells. Childcare can be provided if needed.

**Intro Choir**: A mixed-aged choir for anyone 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to adults, families are welcome! You will learn the basics of music and singing in parts.

**Vocal Choir:** Is geared for those who are comfortable singing in a group and in parts. This year the group will meet in the sanctuary by the grand piano.

**Handbells**: Is geared for those who are comfortable reading music and have some experience ringing.

Blessings, Suzie Gangi suzie@oslcmankato.org 507-341-4173



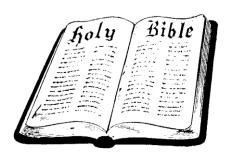
## **Bible Study Circles**

- Welcoming You -

Time is Now to seek Time with Jesus. All welcomed. Just come, as at Christmas experience the "Joy of Jesus" with your sisters in Christ. (Your *Quarterly* and *WOM* are in the Narthex).

**Ruth/Lydia Bible Study Circle** is Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> in the Fireplace room. Meet at 9:30am for fellowship and refreshments, Bible Study begins at 9:45am. The study is from the Winter *Quarterly* "Dilemmas and Decisions" on page 15. Looking forward to meeting more who are seeking time in studying Jesus in me, my strength, my Timeless Lord. Psalm 20:4-7.

Mary Circle Bible Study meets Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the Fireplace room. Our study is from the Winter *Quarterly*, "Dilemmas and Decisions" on page 15. Hostess: Theresa McLaughlin, phone 507-388-7647. Guests and visitors welcome!



## Young at Heart / Lutheran Hour Ministries

Young at Heart is Our Savior older adult ministry and Saints Alive Growing Ever Serving

(S.A.G.E.S. is the District older adult ministry)

"They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green." Psalm 92:14

Asking you to be a District S.A.G.E.S. Board Representative from our area. Call President Vehling, 651-785-3519.

"Gathering" May 1 and 2. Save the Dates!

Lutheran Layman news. Loaded with Christian Education and Lutheran Hour Ministry projects. Read it, you will like it! www.lhm.org. The www.gospeladventures.org begins in January. Celebrate India. Register for teacher guides, posters, etc.

Sagacity News, www.mnsdistrict.org.

Voices of Public Policy: For information go to: www.mnsdistrict.org/public-policv.

The MN South District insert in the Lutheran Witness.



"A New Day with Jesus" dawns on the LHM 2023 Rose Parade Float on January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am Central

time on many channels. Go to: www.petalpushers.org, for more information. The mission is to provide a Gospel message to viewers everywhere. This is the 72<sup>nd</sup> year of participation, and the only Christian float in the parade.

Our Savior LLL/Young at Heart has not met. We do want to know about sending a donation to Lutheran Hour Ministries. Please comment on the clip board in the Narthex. Thanks.



# LWML Mites Mites for Missions

Mite Sunday is January 15<sup>th</sup>, third Sunday. Add your mites with the others in the Big Mite box in the Narthex.

The National focus grant for January is #17 – Spiritual and Physical Food for Children of Peru – La Mission Luterana del Peru - \$56,750. Castillo Fuerte Mercy House is the mercy arm of La Mission Luterana del Peru, the national Lutheran Mission of Peru. It provides a safe place for children to grow both physically and spiritually. They provide a balanced healthy lunch for children each weekday. The missionaries teach the children to pray, memorize Scripture, and share the love of Christ with them and their families. For more information, go to: <a href="https://www.lwml.org/2021-2023-mission-grant-17">www.lwml.org/2021-2023-mission-grant-17</a>.

The Minnesota South District focus grant is #6 – International Students, Concordia Seminary \$9,000 – Making Jesus Known throughout the world.

Thanks to each and everyone for every penny used to make Christ known throughout the world.

"give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38



## **Mission Service**

#### Volunteers welcome!

Mission Service will meet on Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. Supplies needed: Toothpaste, deodorant, combs, travel size shampoo, body wash, and lotion, gently used wash cloths. Please drop off any donations in the Mission Center. Thank you.

Read the Quarterly stories and also Women On a Mission (WOM) for "80" stories.

Prayers: For our Missionaries, for the organizations, for all people helping those in need, for the Missions, for Early Response Teams, for MOST Ministry teams, projects, and much more.

Coats in the Mission Center are for anyone needing a coat. Free to take:

- 1 small child jacket
- Scarves
- 2 men's XL/T Bomgaars coats
- 3 ladies coats, XL / 22-24 / S/P

Thanks for you time, talent, and treasure. God's richest blessings to you as you seek ways to make a differing in the lives of all people.



#### Our Savior's Lutheran Church Endowment Fund

Please consider making a contribution to our Endowment Fund. Your donation to this fund will provide resources to support the mission and ministry of Our Savior's Lutheran Church now and in the years to come.

What:

The Endowment Fund was established in 1995 to receive monetary gifts and bequests. These contributions are invested with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) Foundation for long term growth and income. Both the principal and income from these funds are used for projects, programs, scholarships and mission activities. Recent examples are \$50,000 toward the organ repair project, \$10,000 to upgrade our sound/video system, and scholarships to students attending Concordia Classical Academy in North Mankato. Endowment funds are not intended to be used for the congregation's operating budget.

Why:

Current and future contributions to the Endowment Fund will continue to grow and generate income. These funds will provide significant aid to the mission and ministry here at Our Savior's Lutheran Church and to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Who:

Any donor may contribute to the Endowment Fund in any amount.

When:

Contributions may be given to the Endowment Fund at any time during the year.

How:

Contributions to the Endowment Fund can be made by using the special "Endowment Fund" offering envelope, writing "Endowment Fund" on your weekly offering envelope, or by writing "Endowment Fund" on the memo line of your check. Contributions can be delivered to the church office in person or sent by mail. You may also name Our Savior's Lutheran Church Endowment Fund as a beneficiary in your will.

Contact:

More information about the Endowment Fund can be obtained by contacting a member of the Endowment Board, the Pastor, or the church office. A copy of the Bylaws of the Endowment Fund is available on our website.



TSNT meets Sunday, January  $8^{th}$  and  $22^{nd}$  from 6:30-8pm in the Fireplace Room. We will start with time in God's Word, and then play some games together. All youth in grades 7-12, please join us.

or it is by

grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

## Ladies of Our Savior January 2023

New Day – New Year Go Forward – Stand Up for Jesus

Keep working for the LORD. The pay isn't much but the retirement plan is out of this world!! Life is a journey, Jesus is our gulde and FAITH is our companion.

Oh! Ladies there is so much news about how we can journey with the Lord. The Winter Quarterly is all about faith: <u>That no one may boast</u>. There are Bible Studies, stories, praying the Psalms and all information on the Celebrate in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the 40<sup>th</sup> Bennial LWML Convention on June 22-25, 2023. (Important to register and reserve hotel now.) Early registration is January 9 – March 14. (Lowest registration cost.)

#### Are you interested:

- Wonderfully Made program at Waconia on January 21
- Set Apart to Serve
- Other

Blessings to You as You serve the Lord.



Prayer Shawl, simply put, is a soft warm shawl, knitted or crocheted, which is given to persons who are ill, have suffered a loss or are in the midst of a crisis. Shawls. . . made for centuries are universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God.

If you know of anyone who you would like to receive a prayer shawl, please contact Nancy Clausen at 507-420-8023.

#### Watch Our Savior's Sunday Worship

Our Savior's Sunday 8am and 10:30am worship is livestreamed. Go to: <a href="www.oslcmankato.org">www.oslcmankato.org</a> and click on the "Livestreaming & Videos" menu item. From there you can go directly to YouTube to watch the service, view the Order of Service, and keep up with church activities in the Bulletin Announcements.

Watch Tuesday at 7pm or Wednesday at 2pm on the Public Access Channel KTV (Consolidated Communications channel 7, Spectrum Cable channel 181).



# LCMS Stewardship Ministry: Your Past Does Not Define Your Future

New Year's is a celebration of the past and the future. We take stock of the past with thanksgiving and sometimes even relief (that it's over), and we look to the future in hope and anticipation, and perhaps with some worry, for what it holds.

The point is that New Year's celebrations remind us of who we are as opposed to who we would like to be, what we have done in comparison to what we want to do. It reminds us of our accomplishments, but mostly it reminds us of our failures. What we've lost. Who we've lost.

New Year's is our own version of Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*. And we all play Scrooge. We are visited by the ghosts of our pasts, presents and futures.

St. Paul writes: "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, 'He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Cor. 9:6–15).

St. Paul tells us that the Lord will both supply and increase what we need to give to the church for its work in the world. He tells us that this work God does in us will enrich and bless us in every way, and through this, will produce thanksgiving to God. With this in mind, here is some practical advice to help you take stock of your giving in years past and change what needs to be adjusted, improved, or done away with altogether.

First, attend the Divine Service to receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. If you've not been faithful in

attending worship to hear the preaching of God's Word, to receive forgiveness and feast on the rich food of our Lord's body and blood for the eternal benefit of your body and soul, then repent and come to receive the gifts God freely gives. God doesn't want your money. He wants you — all of you (Matt. 22:20–22).

Second, pray for the Lord's help. Your right as a Christian is to speak with your Father, the King of all creation, freely through His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Go to the throne of grace and ask for strength and wisdom to follow His bidding faithfully (John 15:1–16).

Third, consider what the church is and what the church does. The church is a place of mercy. It inhales the mercy of the Father by the death, resurrection and ascension of His Son through the preaching of the Gospel and the Sacraments. It exhales this mercy in love toward neighbors. You are a member of the church, of God's family. Thus, you are not only a recipient of God's mercy, but a bearer of that mercy for the life of the world. You spread that mercy through the generous giving of your income to support the work of the church in the world, as the Israelites did in the Old Testament (Lev. 27:1–34).

Fourth, take stock of your current giving in light of the New Testament's teaching on supporting the work of the church. Are you giving of your first fruits, taking it out of your paycheck first, or does God get what's left over? Are you giving voluntarily and cheerfully? Are you giving proportionally and generously? The Old Testament required a tithe, or ten percent. The New Testament gives freedom to be generous, to give more for the Church's work. Are you relying on God's promise to provide and increase what you need to do His work? If your answer is no to any of these, repent. If God gave you His only Son, will He not provide for you all things, even physical things? Trust Him, His Word, and heed it.

So, don't let your past define your future. Rather, commit for the year a generous proportion of your income, which is God's gift to you for this body and life.

- LCMS Stewardship Ministry: <a href="lcms.org/stewardship">lcms.org/stewardship</a>



Trinity Lutheran Church in Waconia will be hosting a Lutherans for Life / Lifelines event on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 10am.

The topic, presented by Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford, is "Wonderfully Made: The Devine Value of Being Human," and will include a biblical conversation about abortion and end of life issues. For more information, please contact Corinne Allen (Lutherans for Life) at <a href="mailto:narrfarm@aol.,com">narrfarm@aol.,com</a> or 612-599-0021.



Concordia University, St. Paul – April 1st

The Life of Moses Exodus 1-20 & 32-34 (ESV)

Students in grades 7 -12 who attend an LCMS church or school in MN

South or North Districts are invited to compete. Registration deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Team competition (3 – 4 players) is a verbal, fast-paced quiz format with double elimination. The Individual competition is a written 50 question, multiple-choice test.

Registration is from 8:30 – 9:00 am. Team competition begins at 9am, individual competition takes place right before lunch, and the teams finish up in the afternoon.

For more information, go to: <a href="www.mnbiblebowl.org">www.mnbiblebowl.org</a>, or contact Rev. Rudy Maurer, St. John Lutheran Church, 507-278-3169, RudyMaurer@aol.com

The Voice Our Savior Lutheran Church 1103 N Broad Street Mankato, MN 56001

P A I D Mankato, MN Permit No. 216

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# THANK YOU ALL CONTRIBUTORS

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**Address Service Requested** 

January 2023

		JA	ANUARY 2023			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
New Year's Day 1 9:00 Worship 10:00 Bible Study	Office Closed  Office Closed  10:30 Fireplace Room		5:15 Grief Group 5:15 Introductory Choir 5:50 Introductory Bells 6:00 Meal 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir 7:30 Handbell Choir	9:00 Private Confession 9:45 Ruth/Lydia Circle Bible Study	6	7
8:00 Worship 9:00 Coffee Time 9:15 Bible Class 9:20 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Christmas Undecorating and Lunch 4:30 Book Club 6:30 TSNT	6:30 Early Bird Bible Study 9:00 Quilting	10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 Planning Council	1 1 5:15 The Joy Switch Class 5:15 Introductory Choir 5:45 Brass 5:50 Introductory Bells 6:00 Meal 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir 7:30 Handbell Choir	9:00 Private Confession 7:30 Men's Bible Study	13	14
Mite Sunday 15  8:00 Worship 9:00 Coffee Time 9:15 Bible Class 9:20 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	6:30 Early Bird Bible Study	17 10:00 Staff Meeting	4:00 Mission Service 5:15 The Joy Switch Class 5:15 Introductory Choir 5:50 Introductory Bells 6:00 Meal 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir 7:30 Handbell Choir	9:00 Private Confession 6:30 Daring To Hope Class	4:00 The Voice Deadline	21
8:00 Worship 9:00 Coffee Time 9:15 Bible Class 9:20 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Voters' Meeting 12:45 Chili Cook-off 4:30 Book Club 6:30 TSNT	6:30 Early Bird Bible Study 9:00 Quilting	10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study	25 5:15 The Joy Switch Class 5:15 Introductory Choir 5:45 Brass 5:50 Introductory Bells 6:00 Meal 6:45 Devotion 7:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Vocal Choir 7:30 Handbell Choir	9:00 Private Confession 5:30 Potluck Meal/Bible Study	1:30 Mary Circle Bible Study	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
8:00 Worship 9:00 Coffee Time 9:15 Bible Class 9:20 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	6:30 Early Bird Bible Study 1:30 Endowment Board	10:00 Staff Meeting	<u>-</u>	ip service is aired Tu	unday on KTOE 1420 esday at 7pm and We	

# **Staff, Officers, and Board Members**

#### Staff

Pastor	Deaconess	Music Coordinator	Secretary	Custodian
Rev. Adam M. Matheny	Lisa Brand	Suzie Gangi	Sue Hendrickson	Zac Painter
Office: 385-2183	Office: 385-2185	Home: 341-4173	Office: 385-2180	Office: 385-2180
Cell: 812-449-6866	Home: 389-9088		Home: 388-3557	Cell: 381-4699

#### **Congregational Officers and Elected Board Members**

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Matt Brand	Dan G	Gahler	Valerie Elliott		Doug Haeder	Bev Clark	
327-5059	995-	3634	785-202-0166 952-37		952-374-9667	387-5970	
Council Mem	bers at Large	Board of	Elders	Board of Trustees		Board of Education	
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Nancy Benson	345-1015	Dave Hendley - Secretary	612-735-2765	Caleb Mead	514-0592	Christine Billiar - Chair	351-8967
Missy Schultz	514-2553	Mike Holub	340-1222	Chuck Klossner	625-1292	Marie Griffin	625-7971
Vacant		Judd Schultz - Chair	317-9932	Bob Baker	388-5166	Samantha Tess	507-217-0354
Board of End	owment Fund	Mike Blomquist	351-5051	Vacant		Rhonda Prince 507-521-0690	
Gretchen Zellmer	387-6939	Lon Whitehead	388-4891	Vacant		Jeff Elliott	785-202-1170
Garvin Eichhorst - Treasurer	388-9227	Randy Burmeister	720-6985			Board of Deacons	
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		-		•		Jeanne Anderson	381-9538