



# Good News

*A Joint Newsletter for Christ and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches*

Christ Lutheran  
Our Savior's Lutheran  
1860 Wisconsin St  
Oshkosh, 54901

OFFICE HOURS  
Monday-Friday  
9:00 am-1:00 pm

SUNDAYS  
9:00 am Worship  
In-Person Service  
On-Line: FB & YouTube

CONTACT  
INFORMATION:

CHURCH OFFICES

Our Savior's:  
Megan Hafenbreadl  
920.235.4850

secretary.coslc@gmail.com

Christ Lutheran  
Barb Schneider  
920.231.6570  
clcoshkosh@gmail.com

PASTOR

Rev. Connie Weiss  
920.904.5919  
pastor.cweiss@gmail.com

PRESIDENTS

Our Saviors:  
To be Determined

Currently for Christ Lutheran:  
Kevin Harvot  
920.379.0829



"I was a stranger and  
you welcomed me."

Matthew 25:35b



Dear Friends,

I don't know where to start! While we still may be experiencing the effects of a pandemic that has held on way too long, we are beginning to see and experience new life that has come out of so much change. If I were to sum up in one word how I see 2022 materializing in the church, it would be Mission. And isn't that what we, as Christians, are called to be about?

As we work through the process of Consolidating our two congregations, I am already witnessing how energized we've become at the prospect of living out God's mission of making Christ known throughout our community. Together, we are a living witness of what God's church should look like.

Prior to the 25th chapter in Matthew, Jesus has been teaching in the Temple and debating with the Pharisees, Sadducees and others. Jesus and his disciples leave the Temple to have a private discussion at the Mount of Olives where they can take a break from the world and get some good perspective. Here, with the temple seen off in the distance, the disciples inquire about the end of the age. Jesus tells them a parable about "the sheep and the goats." I can imagine that after experiencing the effects that world has on the church, Jesus wants to remind his followers not only of his mission - but that it needs to be theirs. And, he makes it personal by putting his face on all in this world who are in need. The Good Shepherd explains to all who truly follow him that when "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

When I look around at the activities taking place in our church body, I see that you are truly serving Jesus! We are feeding the hungry with our ever-busy Birdie's Box. We now have a committed Good Neighbor Team ready to welcome an incoming refugee family. We provide quilts to give comfort for those who have little and a listening ear as our Stephen Ministers tend to those needing a warm and friendly presence. We help refresh a community thirsting for God's Word by broadcasting weekly worship services in our city. And, I could go on and on!

As this year unfolds, I encourage you to take a good look around. There is so much more to do! If you are looking for new ways to live out your discipleship, please reach out. We can share the many ways that you can get involved by joining us as we carry out God's mission here and now together!

In Christ's Love,

*Pastor Connie*

## COSLC Good Neighbor Team prepares to welcome Afghan refugees

Introducing Christ & Our Savior's Lutheran Good Neighbor Team (GNT): Paul Edison-Swift, Shari Englund, Rev. Barb Girod, Sussette Hall, Eileen Kuehl, Ron Kuehl, Barry Rusch, Bethany Rusch, Susie Smith, Linda Tedlie We are grateful for the team members' willingness to serve and lead as COSLC accompanies Afghan refugees leaving Fort McCoy and arriving in Oshkosh sometime in February.

Team members commit to be in relationship with a refugee family for six months. During that time, one GNT member will have contact with the family at least once a week. This may mean providing transportation, making connections, or having a conversation. "Team members are asked to "do with" more than "do for," said Ron Kuehl "We're the link, the personal connection between the family and World Relief Fox Valley staff. We'll also be the link between the family and COSLC members."

While only team members have direct contact with the family, there will be many important ways for COSLC members to participate. One of the first tasks, in cooperation with World Relief Fox Valley, is for our congregation to gather a specific list of furnishings and household items. Stayed tuned. Please pray for Afghan refugees leaving Fort McCoy in February, especially the those COSLC will be chosen to accompany. You can learn more at [ecsw.org/refugee](http://ecsw.org/refugee).

### Did you know

- Oshkosh has a mosque and a Mediterranean food market.
- Afghanistan, an Asian country, borders on six countries: Iran, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and China
- People from Afghanistan are called Afghans.
- Islam is the official religion of Afghanistan; most of the population is Muslim.
- It is a sign of respect to remove your shoes upon entering an Afghan home.



### ELCA Ministry Growth Fund



The ELCA Foundation is proud to announce the relaunch of its Endowment Fund Pooled Trust — also known as Fund A — under a new name, the Ministry Growth Fund, that better represents the Foundation's goals for the future. "This renaming of the fund is an exciting step in engaging even more members and supporters of the ELCA in the life — and future — of the church and its partner organizations," said Kathy Freeman Summers, president and CEO of the ELCA Foundation.

"We hope that, through this change, we will more effectively communicate the purpose of the fund: to support and grow the ELCA's ministries for generations to come."

Learn more at [ELCA.org/foundation](http://ELCA.org/foundation).

### Lutheran Campus Ministry



Check out the latest news from the Gathering Place. The fall newsletter includes important updates and ways to support campus ministry in 2022. And, save the date for the annual meeting!

The annual meeting for Lutheran Campus Ministry - Oshkosh is scheduled for Sunday, March at First English Lutheran, Oshkosh, at 1:00 pm. Save the date!

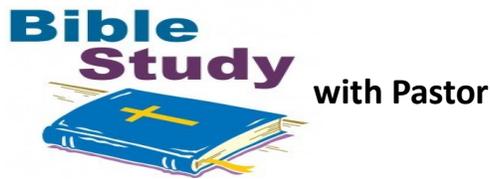
If you are interested in representing our congregation as a delegate, let the office or Pastor Connie know at or before the annual meeting.

### Now is the Time



The ELCA introduces "Now Is the Time: A Study Guide for ELCA Declaration to People of African Descent" to help congregations wrestle with the meaning of the declaration, adopted at the 2019 Churchwide Assembly, and its accompanying explanation. In the declaration, the ELCA "apologizes to people of African descent for its historical complicity in slavery and its enduring legacy of racism in the United States and globally.

We lament the white church's failure to work for the abolition of slavery and the perpetuation of racism in this church."



**Every Monday at 1pm**

Join us in-person or online!

Join us every Mondays at 1 pm either in-person or on Zoom. We will be meeting at 1 pm every week in the Fellowship Hall or Grace Place. We will look at the upcoming text for each Sunday. We hope you can join us whether it is online or in-person!



**Join the Worship & Music Team!**

If you would like to serve the church in a new way, consider joining the Worship and Music team. They meet once a month and go over the upcoming Sundays worship and music material and help with new ideas. If you want to serve on the team, please contact Barb Schneider or Pastor Connie for more information.



Saturday, March 5, 2022  
9a – 12n

All Saints Lutheran Church  
1072 Honey Creek Road  
Oshkosh, WI

\*\*Covid protocol requires masks over your nose in the building

**Update**

4 Ways to Join!

- 1

**In Person Worship**

9 am Sundays  
Church Sanctuary
- 2

**Facebook Live**

9 am on both FB Pages
- 3

**SPECTRUM CH. 2**

Sundays - 10 am  
Tuesdays - 2:30 pm  
Wednesdays - 9 pm  
Thursdays - 10 am
- 4

**YOUTUBE**

Christ Lutheran's Channel  
Our Savior's Channel

The joint women's group met on Sunday, January 9, following worship. We reviewed the financial reports from both groups. Each group has more funds at the end of the year than usual. Members were asked to come up with ideas for use of these funds, so each group could vote on how they would like to expend them. Suggestions made included: help support a Rise

Against Hunger service project, a gift to the national women's Thank Offering, and a gift to Katie's Fund at the national Women of the ELCA. We also discussed past and upcoming projects. The December meal at Day By Day Warming Shelter went well. We are scheduled to do another meal on March 18th . We are thinking of doing a chili dump for that meal. That way, each person can contribute some chili, and we can feed the whole group of guests and staff at the shelter. Ideas and suggestions for future projects and activities can be brought to the February 13th meeting of the joint women's group.



We would like to take this time to welcome our new members! They were officially welcomed into our church on Sunday, January 17th, 2022 during worship. We are so excited to have you all be apart of our church family! We can't wait to see and watch you all do amazing things in our church community!



Barry, Ava, Bethany and Miles Rusch



Gloria Gross



Doreen and Mike Fineran



Debbie Gall



Hayden Christensen



The website is always being updated. The most important thing to remember now, is that Sundays Material won't be on the weekly email, but you can access it on the website.

### A PRAYER FOR A NEW SEASON



Loving God: Send your Holy Spirit to guide us as we move forward in faith. We place ourselves in your hands. May we be of one mind and one spirit. Prepare our hearts to live out your new vision for us as one body in Christ. Strengthen and inspire us for the journey ahead. Amen.



Have you suggestions for content for newsletter? Let us know:

Mark Arend: [mwarend@gmail.com](mailto:mwarend@gmail.com)  
Maryla Karl: [mjkdirk124@gmail.com](mailto:mjkdirk124@gmail.com)



## MILESTONES

### Norman Diel

Born: 12/2/1926-Risen to new life: 1/7/2022

### Susan Andre

Born: 8/1/1955 - Risen to new life: 1/13/2022

### Tina M. Bays

Born: 10/16/57 - Risen to new life: 01/14/22

### New Members Welcomed on January 17th:

Bethany, Barry, Ava and Miles Rusch, Gloria Gross, Michael and Doreen Fineran, Debbie Gall and Hayden Christensen

## A NEWSLETTER ARTICLE REQUEST

When submitting articles, please try to keep them brief when you can. We are receiving many articles and want to make sure everything makes it into our monthly newsletter.

**March articles due by:**

**February 21st**



COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR  
or HOME VISIT

In an effort to seek better sabbath time, I would love to get together with individuals or families so we can get to know each other more deeply. I hope to be reaching out when I can.

If you would like a visit in the near future, please give me a call. I would love to spend some time with you!

- Pastor Connie

## Building & Grounds Update



The Building and grounds crew would like to let everyone know and remind everyone to please be careful when walking in the building after we get snow. People are tracking in a lot of salt and when it dries, it is really hard to get out of our carpets. Please shake off your shoes/boots when entering the building. Building and Grounds would like to thank everyone that has helped them in the past year get things done and the congregation for being fluid with them during their projects.



DAY BY DAY  
warming shelter

Our day to serve a meal is coming on March 18th. This meal will be a chili dump. We are going to need 6 people who are willing to serve the meal and join the visitors to the shelter in this meal. We are also going to need others to help provide the food for this meal. We will feed approximately 35 people. There is a sign up list on the credenza at the church for what we will need. Since chili is the main focus, please consider saving a quart or more of a batch you may be making and freezing for this event. There is space in the churches kitchen freezer. Thank you for your help on this.



## Seeking Members for Education & Youth Team

With the new year, comes new plans! We are trying to get together an education team so we can better help our Youth. This is a fun and exciting way to help our ministry grow! We have lots of new ideas and would love some of your help.

If you would like to help with the education in our church or be on the education team, contact Pastor Connie or the parish office for more information.

STEPHEN MINISTRY is a *special* part of our congregation.

We all go through challenging times and could use someone to listen and care.

Stephen Ministry is a confidential one-to-one lay caring ministry.

- ▶ Meeting times are determined by you and your Stephen Minister.
- ▶ Your Stephen Minister will provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to meet your needs.
- ▶ Pastor or Linda will meet with you to understand your needs and help determine the most appropriate Stephen Minister for you.



Stephen Ministers help...

- After the phone call you hoped you'd never get
- After the funeral when everyone has left
- After the relationship falls apart
- After the doctor says "I'm sorry"
- After the nursing home director says "welcome to your new home"
- After the last child waves and drives away
- After the gavel comes down and handcuffs go on
- After the baby arrives demanding more than possible
- After you find the pink slip in your final paycheck
- After your family and friends have heard your story too many times



**BIRDIE'S BOX DONATIONS NEEDED**

Many of you know food donations from the Oshkosh Food Pantry have stopped, due to management and policy changes. The committee for feeding hungry kids are working on finding out what criteria is required for us to continue to get those donations.

In the meantime, there is a place in Neenah called Jakes Network of Hope. We are able to purchase items at a reasonably reduced cost. Therefore, donated money makes your contribution go further. Gift cards are also very much appreciated, as well as the items that are dropped off for our shelves for immediate distribution in Birdies Box.

We have a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers taking turns stocking Birdies Box each day on their schedule. It is no cost to you, just your time (about 15 minutes or less).

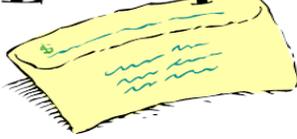
If you are interested in getting in the rotation or have questions, please call me 920-495-0595. I would be happy to show you what it involves. Thanks to everyone for making a difference!

Peace be with you all. Debbie Kamark

**NO GLASS ITEMS PLEASE!**

- MONEY DONATIONS
- Canned meat (ham, tuna, chicken, SPAM, etc.)
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Canned Pasta with Meat (like ravioli)
- Beef Stew
- Canned Chili
- Boxes of Macaroni and Cheese
- Spaghetti sauce
- Spaghetti noodles
- Cereal
- Oatmeal Packs
- Canned Fruits
- Canned Vegetables
- Baked Beans
- Potatoes (in Fall)
- Instant Potatoes
- Instant Pancake Mix
- Rice
- Juice
- Can Openers
- Toilet Paper
- Deodorant
- Tooth Brushes
- Tooth Paste
- Mittens/Hats/Scarves (in Winter)

## Offering Envelopes



### Helping Our Ministry Financially

The Offering envelopes we have ordered are now in. You can pick them up during office hours or on Sunday's during worship. They are located outside the parish office. Some boxes are already labeled so please check if we have made you a box already. If not, we have plenty extra! Just a reminder that we designed the envelopes to be sent in the mail if you want to give to our ministry that way. They are not just for giving in-person. If you would like a box, we can get one to you. Just call the office and we can arrange that Thank you for supporting our ministry financially!



Vanco Mobile Replaces GivePlus Mobile on January 31. And that means good news for you as members: Vanco Mobile will replace GivePlus Mobile. If you give online and want quick access to giving, download the new app. Instruction are on the Vanco website if you need help.

## THE NEW VANCO MOBILE APP

Our new giving app makes giving simple and easy for your members – and it's easy to set up!

We will say good bye to the GivePlus Mobile app on January 31, 2022. And we are encouraging churches to transition as soon as possible to the new Vanco Mobile app.



The Prayer Chain is an on-line ministry. A wonderful, loving, caring, tenacious group of "Prayer Warriors" who take time each day to pray for the needs of others.

If you are interested in participating in this email ministry, please contact Eileen Kuehl at 235-6393 or eileenkuehl4@gmail.com or 920-573-7205. Or you may contact: Diane Schmude at 920-235-4689 or diane4689@att.net.

These are also the people to contact if you wish to ask for a specific prayer that needs to be addressed.



### A COLORFUL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY!

Consider signing up to sponsor the flowers for a Sunday. The sign up sheet is located in the narthex. See Christine Esselman about the flowers. The cost is \$20.00. Christine will take care of the rest. If you are interested in a special flower, just let Christine know and she will do her best to accommodate. Flowers come from Festival Foods.



### QUILTING UPDATE:

The Quilters are back to work again every Thursday starting at 8:30 am in the quilting room. They are back to sewing and making quilts to share with everyone even our furry little friends! If you have questions about quilting, email or call the church office.



Our Church family has been part of a partnership between Winnebago County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and The Valley VNA. Together we will be

resuming the Memory Care Respite program for the Oshkosh area starting in February 2022. This program provides free respite care for caregivers to people experiencing memory loss, Alzheimer's or dementia. We will be starting with 1 day a month, the 4th Tuesday of the month from 1:30-3:30. We provide the handicap accessible location in Grace Place and several volunteers for each session. Our volunteers provide companionship, we get to visit, do activities, play games, and basically just have fun. If you want more information or want to sign up to be a volunteer for the end of February, please contact Diane Schmude. You can reach Diane at 920-235-4689, or [diane4689@att.net](mailto:diane4689@att.net).



OSLC held its annual meeting on January 30th, 2022 via Zoom. We will be reporting more on this in next months newsletter for both congregations. If you would like the meeting minutes for OSLC, check the website or email Megan at:

[secretary.coslc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.coslc@gmail.com)

CLC tried holding an online Zoom Annual meeting for Christ Lutheran and did not have a quorum. So we are rescheduling and will be offering the meeting BOTH in-person after worship and on Zoom. The zoom link and information will be sent in the weekly email prior to the meeting. Please let us know if you can join us on the February 6th. You can either contact Kevin Harvot, CLC's Council President, Pastor Connie or email the office to let us know if you can join us on February 6th, 2022.



## Synod Assembly Service Project

This year's Synod Assembly service project will be partnering with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a non-profit committed making sure no child has to sleep on the floor by building twin-sized bunk beds. East-Central Synod of Wisconsin will be partnering with SHP in hosting a build day for twenty beds (or more) to be given to local children in need of a proper place to sleep. Each bed costs approximately \$250 to build, including building materials, tools, storage and delivery, and training volunteers. These are solidly built bunk beds meant to last for years.

Stay tuned for more specific information in coming communications. Any additional questions? Please contact Rev. Paul Johnson at (715) 201-9090 or [PaulAndrewJohnson101@gmail.com](mailto:PaulAndrewJohnson101@gmail.com) for more info or to volunteer for the synod assembly service project committee!

### How can the congregations in our synod help out?

We need help in three different ways:

- Donations to fund a build day. We need \$5,000 (or more) to host a build day for this great cause. ( $\$250/\text{bed} \times 20 = \$5,000$ ) Your conference and/or congregation could designate funds for this project (perhaps during lent) in the upcoming months.
- We also need volunteers! It would be great to have volunteers from all over the synod gather for the actual build day (to be scheduled) ahead of this year's Assembly.
- We're also hoping at least one person from each conference can join our service project planning committee to share information and build excitement in your area. Finally, we're in need of a location to host the build! So if a congregation in Oshkosh has a suitable gymnasium, parking lot, or warehouse for the build, please let us know!



**We now need counters** for the weekly offerings. We would like to have them done every week on Sundays after church. These people would be responsible

for counting the weekly offerings given at church on Sunday's and the offerings given through mail and online. If you would be interested, please sign up in the Narthex or email Barb Schneider.

**Council Notes:** Council has been busy at work and is glad that the annual meetings went well. They are excited to see the church grow and function together in the new year.

### Our Savior's Lutheran Church

#### December 2021

Total Income	\$18,755.90
Total Expenses	\$13,712.36
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$5,063..54

#### Year-to-Date

	Year-to-Date	Annual Budget
Total Income	\$152,033.22	\$ 59,500.00
Total Expenses	\$13,712.36	\$141,276.07
Expenses	\$150,077.25	\$134,460.60
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$1,255.25	(\$ 68,640.60)

### Christ Lutheran Church

#### December 2021

Offerings	\$ 7,343.40
Other Income	\$ 2,614.93
Expenses	\$8,982.74
Net Profit/(Loss)	(\$475.59)

#### Year-to-Date

	Year-to-Date	Annual Budget
Offerings	\$56,153.25	\$58,000.00
Other Income	\$ 24,729.69	\$75,394.14
Expenses	\$ 80,882.94	\$134,460.60
Net Profit/(Loss)	(\$33,824.54)	(68,640.60)

#### 3 WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY

- Mail in a Check
- Mobile Give+ App (also on website)
- AHC Bank Payment



You can give online! Check out this easy way to send your offering to the church through our website at

[www.christsaviorsoshkosh.com](http://www.christsaviorsoshkosh.com)

"A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great." Proverbs 18:16"



**Online giving** is secure, easy to set up and allows you to schedule recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have internet access. We use an online giving system called Vanco. You can visit our website for the link to online giving. Click the "Vanco/Giving" tab and it will direct you to the right place.