



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

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Christ Lutheran
Barb Schneider
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clcoshkosh@gmail.com

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

PRESIDENTS

Toby Kamark
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Kevin Harvot
920.379.0829

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the
wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 43:18-19



Dear Friends,

The prophet speaks to a people in exile. They have been displaced far from their home. They long to return to the what they once knew and the lives they had built for themselves. People who struggle in present pain often long for a time when life was comfortable and safe. And who can blame them? For the captive Israelites, they remember their God who saved their ancestors from slavery, who turned the sea into dry land to help them escape . For these Israelites in captivity, the past gave them comfort in a time of great uncertainty.

How many of us have found ourselves longing for the past—much like those exiled Israelites? And, how long has our yearning lasted... two years, or maybe even longer? During our time of social distancing, isolation, conflict and change, do we find ourselves longing for the days when there was no pandemic, less division in our country, and more opportunities? And how about church? Do we look to the past and long for a time when things seemed more prosperous and predictable?

The prophet brings word to the exiled that something is about to break and warns them not to dwell so much on what was. Instead, he calls for them to shift their focus and pay attention to God's activity in the present. Isaiah challenges them to look for signs of God's rescue in new ways. For these Israelites, rescue will come by way of a Syrian takeover. There's a new and different way that God will free them - a liberation that will change their desert-like existence into a life that will quench what they really thirst for. So once again, rescue comes through God's creative activity.

There's a lesson in there for us, my friends. We, too, are being reminded that change has come. Our two congregations are working towards consolidation. We gather in smaller numbers while more and more find worship and community online. And instead of being fearful, we are encouraged to look for the ways that God has heard our own cries for rescue and has presented us with new opportunities. Isaiah reminds us also that there is no need to limit God to these past mercies. Remember that God is an ever-present help. So, look for the ways God is doing a new thing not only in your life, but in the life of our church. Can you see the streams of life being poured into you and in to this place? If not, you may want to take a closer look. For, I see it! And from where I stand, it looks amazing!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Connie

Good Neighbor Teams are Forming in the Fox Valley Now - Can you Help?

In Luke's telling of the Christmas story, we recall how there was no place for Joseph and Mary in the inn. In Matthew's telling of the gospel, not only is there no place in the inn - there's no safety in Bethlehem. Warned in a dream, Joseph gets up and takes Mary and the Christ child by night and flees with them to Egypt to protect his family and the promise of God's unfolding plan for the salvation of all creation. Christ Jesus, our Lord, was a refugee.

The Fox Valley is receiving refugee families in need of our friendship and support. 18 families are expected to arrive from Fort McCoy before February through World Relief. Good neighbor teams are forming.

Through World Relief, Good Neighbor Teams are forming in the Fox Valley right now. A Good Neighbor Team is a small group of 6-8 people from a local church that partners with World Relief to welcome and walk alongside a newly arrived refugee family. The goal is for each refugee who arrives in the U.S. to feel the warm welcome of their local community.

Good Neighbor Teams are invited to attend an orientation being offered in January 2022.

January 24, 2022

Christ/Our Savior's Lutheran Church

5:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

DISASTER RESPONSE NEEDED



On December 10th and 11th, 30 tornadoes swept through six states taking lives, homes and businesses.

Lutheran Disaster Response is collaborating with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod and other partners to assess the damage and develop immediate and long-term response plans.

Your gifts will support tornado survivors. Gifts to "U.S. Tornadoes" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by these tornadoes. Congregations may give benevolence through the ECSW by indicating Lutheran Disaster Response - Tornadoes on their remittance form.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER VIDEO



The recording for "A People of Hope: Until All Are Fed," the Oct. 14 benefit for ELCA World Hunger with Rick Steves, is now available to view at ELCA.org/EndHunger. This World Food Day celebration offers compelling interviews, stories from those who do the dynamic work of fighting hunger, and musical contributions from some of our favorite artists. Be sure to check out the video if you missed this great event or want to watch it again.

CONSOLIDATION TEAM



We are so blessed that the following people have stepped up to serve as our Consolidation Task Force. They have much to do and will be reaching out to other members for some help this year.

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Kevin Harvot | Mark Arend |
| Toby Kamark | Dorene Myers |
| Barb Schneider | Mark Backus |
| Linda Tedlie | Shari Englund |
| Judy Abraham | Pastor Connie |



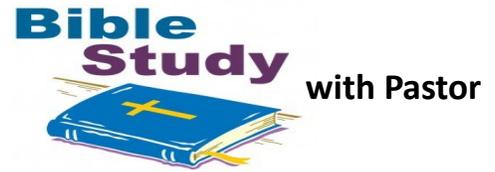
JOIN OUR WORSHIP & MUSIC TEAM!

Worship and music is looking for new faces to join their ministry. If you would like to get involved in a new way, please email Barb at clcoshkosh@gmail.com or Pastor Connie at pastor.cweiss@gmail.com.



THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

It was such a joy to be able to worship in person this Christmas Eve! We held a 3 and 5 pm service which began with the sanctuary in darkness and then ended with bright lights and rejoicing. For us, it was a reminder that God's light overcomes any darkness. Thank you to all who helped prepare and serve during these two special services!



Beginning January 3rd!

Mondays at 1 pm

In the Fellowship Hall

Pastor will be starting up her weekly Bible Study again on Mondays at 1 pm. We will be meeting at 1 pm every week in the Fellowship Hall as we look at the upcoming text for each Sunday. We hope you can join us!



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

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.

2022 Delegates Needed for Following ANNUAL MEETINGS

It's that time of year again where we not only focus on our own annual meetings but on those that we are asked to participate in. Every year these 5 ministry organizations ask our churches to supply 2 delegates to attend these meetings. Unfortunately, we do not have dates for most of these meetings. When we get all the information needed, we will be posting this information on our website and in the narthex. Please consider serving as a delegate to one of these meetings. If you have an interest, we will be sure to update you on the information you will need.

Miravida Living

TBA

Lutheran Campus Ministry-Oshkosh

TBA

Crossways Camping Ministries

TBA

Oshkosh Conference of Churches

TBA

East Central Synod of Wisconsin Assembly

Friday, May 13-14th

8 am Friday - 1 pm on Saturday (including meals)
Oshkosh Convention Center



BUILDING & GROUNDS UPDATE

The Building and Grounds crew would like to remind everyone that if you need a building request from Hayden or need him to do a project for you, please call him and give him some time to do so. You can reach him at 920-251-4052.

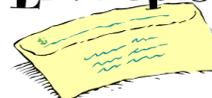
Building and grounds is anticipating lots of snow this winter. They would like to let everyone know that you may have to shovel the walkway or salt the walkway if it is slippery and no one is here. These will be provided at all the entrances. Please let Hayden know if the salt is empty.



The annual meeting is coming up very quickly. We would like to remind everyone that they can attend the annual meetings and are highly encouraged to do so. Christ Lutheran's will be held January 23rd and Our Savior's will be on the 30th. Please plan ahead.

Barb and Megan will need all the committee reports by January 4th. Please make sure they are on time. This is very important because they need to get information out before the info meeting. If you have any questions, please call the office.

Offering Envelopes



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! The first envelope starts on January 2nd. If you need any more information on the offering envelopes or what your envelope number is, please call the parish office. We would love to help you!



WEBSITE UPDATE!

The website has some new content is updated at least weekly. You can find Sunday Material on there as well as a gallery of pictures on things that are going on at the church. If you ever need any information, you can usually find it on the website!

For suggestions please email or call the office!



MILESTONES

DOLORES REETZ

Born 6/23/1930- Risen to new life- 11/24/2021

JUNE BACKUS

Born 8/15/1922– Risen to new life-12/14/2021

STEVEN BOYLAN

Born 5/12/1966– Risen to new life-12/16/2021



WELCOME LILA ELLYN !
Born to Kayla & Jeff Wilson
December 22nd



Oshkosh Public Library is a host site for Memory Cafes. If you are not familiar with memory cafes, here's some more information. We meet the 2nd Wed of the month in the same room as the grand piano. They would

love someone to volunteer who can play the piano at one or two of their clinics in 2022. If you would be interested in helping email Sandy Toland at toland@oshkoshpubliclibrary.org.

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. But 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



WAYS YOU CAN SERVE THE CHURCH

Here are some ways you can serve your church in different ways other than with your pocket or check-book:

- Serve on Parish Council
- Serve on the Education team
- Be a delegate for the annual meeting
- Help with the courtyard project
- Serve on the worship and music team
- Help with the newsletter assembly process
- Volunteer to help with consolidation process
- Donate to Birdies Box
- Be a counter on Sundays and count the weekly offerings after church
- Volunteer to help with stocking Birdies Box
- Serve on the Stephen Ministry team
- Help on Sunday's with readings/recordings



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 January 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.

So what part does our church provide? 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, please contact Diane Schmude. You can reach me at 920-235-4689, or diane4689@att.net.



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

If you would like a Stephen Minister or would like to become a Stephen Minister

Contact Pastor Connie or Linda Tedlie 920-410-0745 / tedliel@gmail.com



BIRDIE'S BOX DONATIONS NEEDED

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)



PRAYER CHAIN

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 di-ane4689@att.net.

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



SO THANKFUL FOR OUR STAFF!

Recently, I sat down with our ministry staff for a nice lunch and to celebrate the season but also each other. It has been a busy year and productive and we could not accomplished all the things we do without them. If you see one of these beautiful souls, take a moment to tell them how much they are appreciated!

- Pastor Connie



STUDENTS RING BELLS FOR A CAUSE

We are so thankful for our confirmation students who came out to the Pick n' Save by church to ring bells for the Salvation Army. A big thank you to Barb Schneider who hung out with our ringers. Their presence helped to bring in much-needed funds for those in need the Christmas!



VIDEO/AUDIO UPGRADE UPDATE

A team of people have been meeting to discuss where our needs lie concerning our audio and video capabilities. It was determined that our first priority should be upgrading the equipment necessary to increase the quality of our worship broadcasts. Currently, we have met with two vendors for bids on this. We are so blessed to have already raised over \$9,000 in making this upgrade possible. We'll continue to update you on our progress!



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 IS STARTING UP AGAIN!

JANUARY 6TH



The Quilters will start meeting again on Thursday, January 6th at 8:30 am . They all can't wait to get back to quilting again! We can't wait to see a lot of you again at church. See you soon!

THANK YOU!

Thank you Judy!

The church staff and parish council would like to thank Judy Abraham for the time she has taken to count the offerings and put them in our system throughout the year! Judy is stepping away from the job and we just want to thank her for the time she has taken to get the job done. Thank you Judy for your countless hours!



Thank you John and Diane!

Thank you John and Diane Koerner for donating the beautiful Christmas tree in the Sanctuary. We also want to thank all those who have helped decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. We are so appreciative for people like you who make the Christmas season beautiful.

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.

February articles due by:

January 21st



We had a very successful bake sale on Sunday, December 5th. Thank you to all those who attended and especially to all those who baked cookies or used their talents to make beautiful items.

The funds earned (\$516) from this bake sale will be split between the two women's group so they can help the community in whatever way they feel necessary. Thank you to all who attended, helped, or volunteered their talents.



Thank you Scott Dorman!

The church staff would like to thank Scott Dorman for helping us get Power Church installed and backed up in the office and to the finance staff. We are so thankful for your help and time!

We will now be able to update membership and keep our records more current!



Council notes: Megan now has access to Power Church and hopes to be updating it periodically. We can now keep records more current. If you want to see the Council minutes, please see them on our website or in the Narthex.

Have you suggestions for content for our newsletter?

Let us know:

Mark Arend: mwarend@gmail.com

Maryla Karl: mjkdirk124@gmail.com

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

November 2021

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Total Income | \$ 9,746.87 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 16,713.77 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) | (\$ 6,966.90) |

Year-to-Date

| | Year-to-Date | Annual Budget |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total Income | \$ 48,780.37 | \$ 59,500.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 27,098.31 | \$ 6,320.00 |
| Expenses | \$ 110,178.81 | \$134,460.60 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) | (\$ 34,300.13) | (\$ 68,640.60) |



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 contact Pastor Connie or Barb Schneider.

Christ Lutheran Church

November 2021

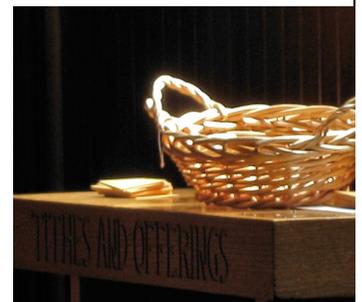
| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Offerings | \$ 5,138.00 |
| Other Income | \$ 6,989.13 |
| Expenses | \$ 14,855.35 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) | (\$ 2,728.22) |

Year-to-Date

| | Year-to-Date | Annual Budget |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Offerings | \$ 48,780.37 | \$ 59,500.00 |
| Other Income | \$ 27,098.31 | \$ 6,320.00 |
| Expenses | \$ 110,178.81 | \$134,460.60 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) | (\$ 34,300.13) | (\$ 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

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