

March 2024



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - WHITEHALL, WI

The Messenger



MARCH

Greetings to you all,

As I sit here writing to you, it is 58 degrees with a predicted high of 23 degrees for tomorrow. Having grown up in Rhinelander, usually this time of the year we had feet of snow and had just finished several weeks of below zero temperatures. Lake George, the lake our family home was on, would be frozen until end of April. One year we had six inches of snow on opening day of fishing season, May 5th.

Life is uncertain. We make plans and often need to change the plan right before or as our planned event is happening. I once heard it said, "Write your plans in pencil because God has the eraser"! There is an event in history that had a plan and it happened just as it was meant to be. We are going to re-live that event at the end of March. God planned Easter.

God sent Jesus to earth to be fully God and fully human to teach us and show us how we are to live so that God is the focal point of our lives. God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit know us more fully than we know ourselves. God knows we are far from perfect, that we will make mistakes, that we will sin, and somehow, God will continue to LOVE us unconditionally.

I have a book, God is in The Small Stuff and it all matters. I have been using it to close out each worship service at Fagernes and we all find good and positive advice in the chapters. It helps us to look at our lives a little differently so that the "small stuff" begins to make sense in our everyday lives. There are numerous self-help books, psychology books, podcasts, Ted Talks, all designed to help us to be a better more well-rounded person. Our society is different than when Jesus came to teach us, however, the Bible is the ultimate authority on how we should live our lives. No other book comes close to sales worldwide to the Bible. No other book can be found in every Hotel/Motel room in our country, not sure about around the world.

Jesus came to earth with the purpose of being the "ultimate sacrifice" for all of our sins! That was God's PLAN and the plan was carried out without fail. Only one small waiver in the Garden of Gethsemane when Jesus prayed to his Father. Mark 14:36, CEB Student Bible; Jesus said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible. Take this cup of suffering away from me. However-not what I want but what you want." The human part of Jesus had second thoughts. That is what we humans are known for, often questioning what is placed before us. Jesus had his "human moment" but overcame it quickly and committed his life and death to God.

Lent is bringing us closer to the Cross. Jesus is teaching us how to be the best Christians we can be in his Gospel messages these next few weeks. We will gather together at Grace Lutheran Church in Pleasantville, Maundy Thursday at 7:00 pm, Good Friday at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Whitehall at 5:45 pm. All are welcome at both services. Easter Sunday morning the same schedule as every Sunday. Hope to see you all there.

Have a wonderful March everyone and if I do not see you, Happy and Blessed Easter.

God Bless you all.

Scott W. Brown, SAM



Our Saviour's Members in Nursing Homes



Pigeon Falls Nursing Care Center-P.O. Box 310-Pigeon Falls, WI 54760
Deloris Coburn, Jeanette Gilbertson, Marian Miller & Arline Stuve
Richard Eide and Ann Toraason

Assisted Living- Pigeon Falls - P.O. Box 310-Pigeon Falls, WI 54760

Sunrise Manor - 36024 Park Street - Whitehall - 54773
Clinton Larson

Trempealeau County Health Care Center-W20410 WI-#121Whitehall- 54773
James Windjue

Grandview Nursing Home - 620 Grandview Avenue - Blair - 54616
Marilyn Speerstra, Mavis Mitskogen, Donna Oates,
Olin and Jan Feimreit, Donald Dinsmore,

Meadowbrook Care Center-1311 Tyler Street-Black River Falls - 54615
Fern Moe

Dove Healthcare-51019 Ridge View Road-Osseo-54758
Ralph and Janice Johnson, MaryJane Hernes

Oak Gardens Place-342 Twin Oak Dr-Altoona-54720
Clarice Henrickson



March Birthdays



- 1 - Alyssa Glanzman, Gary Semb
- 2 - Ralph Johnson, Michael Mathson
- 3 - Timothy Lyga, Dawn Mathson, Mitchell Peters
- 4 - Amanda Berg, Jada Moats, Jordyn Moats, Daniel Oates,
- 5 - Maggie Lindberg
- 8 - Amy Klomsten
- 9 - Valerie Pronschinske
- 10 - Megan Kjos
- 11 - Steve Lamberson, Robert Nelson, Kinzleigh Sylla
- 12 - Tess Johnson, Trajan Schaub
- 13 - Aaron Berg, Carl Peterson
- 14 - Vernon Vold
- 16 - Diane Waldera
- 17 - Shiela Feltes
- 18 - Jaclyn Hauser, Mavis Mitskogen
- 21 - Brianna Harvie
- 22 - Sandra Everson, Gordon Fimreite, Dale Herbenson
- 23 - Georgia Hughes
- 25 - John Mathson
- 26 - Kennedy Harms, Charles Herman, Abigail Staff
- 27 - Melissa Frank, Ardell Jacobson, Caitlin Thomson
- 30 - James Larson
- 31 - Braydon Fonstad



Church News



FINANCIAL REPORT

DISBURSEMENT & GIVING RECEIPTS Feb 1-Feb 29				
Disbursements:				
Administration	\$570.93			
Physical Plant	\$4,986.09			
Salaries & Benefits	\$3,987.75			
Benevolence	\$0.00			
Parish Expense	\$0.00			
Dues and Fees	\$0.00			
Holiday Raffle Exp.	\$0.00			
Total Disbursements =				\$9,544.77
Giving Receipts				
Simply Giving Total =	\$2855.00		General Fund Total =	\$8,421.80
On-Going Total =	\$467.89		Improvement Fund - Total =	\$240.00
January 2024 Giving Grand Total =			\$11,984.69	

Members in Service:



MARCH



Altar Guild - Barb Johnson & Karen Witte

Altar Flowers—No Flowers

Ushers - Tom Richter

Power Point—

Acolyte Schedule:





More Church News



Please keep the following in your prayers:

*Mary Harnisch Johnson

*Arline Stuve

*Mavis Olson

*Dawn Coburn

*Lisa James

*Mavis Mitskogen

*Mary Lou Beck

*Norman Nordby

*Family and friends of Jean Briggs, Ardell Torud and Martha Ellen Felt.

The Noisy Offering for March will go towards--Water is Life-Malawi Well Project.

Our Northwest Synod of Wisconsin has been a companion synod with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi (ELCM) since 1999. In light of the effects of climate change on weather, health, and agriculture there, we are invited to be a partner with the ELCM in building 2 new solar-powered, deep drilled borehole wells in Malawi. The goal is to raise \$40,000 by June 2024. During this season of Lent, our special offering can directly impact the Bishop's Initiative: Well Project. Our generosity to this project will help improve the lives of many in this African country.

The Noisy Offering in February was designated to Our Saviour's Improvement Fund. \$367.89 was collected. Thank you for your generous giving.

NOISY OFFERING



**SPRING
FORWARD**

Set your clocks ahead one hour
Sunday
March 10, 2024

More Church News



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Council Minutes

February 6, 2024

Board Members Present: Dave Anderson, Scott Brown, Marnie Anderson, Ellen Hauser, Kris Dubiel, Kay Nelson, Barb Mathson, and Lori Paulson.

Dave Anderson, council president, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Preparation:

1. **Opening Devotions:** Meeting opened with devotions by Scott Brown
2. **Prayer Requests/Homebound:** Linda Schaefer, families of Jean Briggs and Ardell Torud, victims of California rains
3. **Communication from Congregation:** None

Communication/Action:

1. **Secretary's Report:** Kay Nelson made a motion to approve minutes of January 2, 2024, with a second by Kris Dubiel. Motion carried.

2. **Treasurer's Report:** Barb Mathson presented the following fund balances per January 2024 financial reports: General Fund: \$83,970.39; On Going: \$11,458.81; Improvement: \$36,254.15. Barb Mathson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report with a second by Marnie Anderson. Motion carried.

3. **Ministry Teams Updates:**

a) Life & Growth:

Council approved Monday, February 12 th to set up for the quilting retreat.

b) Music & Worship:

1. January Noisy Offering of \$279.17 will go to Middle East Crisis.
2. Over \$4000 was collected for Noisy Offering in 2023.
3. Deb Dahl will be the accompanist for Lenten services.

c) WELCA:

1. The website vendor is not responding to messages left to contact Kay Nelson regarding fees charged to the WELCA credit card. Kay Nelson has contacted the credit card company but hasn't heard back. Suggestions were made to call the Better Business Bureau and/or USDA Trade and Consumer Protection.
2. A WELCA meeting is scheduled for March 7 th at Grace Lutheran.
3. Coffee and treats will be served at Wednesday Lenten services with the exception of Ash Wednesday.
4. Immanuel Lutheran in Strum has sent an invitation to a prayer breakfast on March 13 th . RSVP by March 6 th .

d) Finance & Property:

1. Audits are done.
2. Christy Moats would like to eventually step down from doing the financials for the church.
3. Need to think of members that may serve on Finance & Property committee for discussion at March meeting.

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d) Lutheran Brotherhood:

1. The “No Pancake Breakfast” fundraiser is coming up.
2. Membership dues are coming up.

4. **Sharing from SAM:** Scott Brown provided a report of his services for visits, gatherings, worship & significant events from January 3rd through February 6th .

Celebration/Affirmation:

1. The next council meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Business Items:

1. Dave Anderson will take TCC phone system proposal to Steve Lamberson for review.
2. Council approved Relay for Life to use church basement. They will need to fill out appropriate form.
3. Scott Brown will check with Synod to see if they know of anyone who may be interested in purchasing the church organ. Barb Mathson will check on the insurance for the organ.
4. It is up to the family members of those in nursing homes, etc. to request names be placed in the messenger.

Adjournment and Lord’s Prayer:

Kay Nelson made a motion to adjourn with a second by Marnie Anderson. Motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Paulson, Council Secretary

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5:45 pm at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church

7:00 pm at Grace Lutheran Church

March 6, 2024 Pastor David Christianson: **Home Churches:** King’s Valley/South Beef River/Upper Pigeon Creek: **Sermon Topic:** Publican and Pharisee; Humility and Mercy. **Reading;** Luke 18:9-14

March 13, 2024 Pastor Paul Tobiason: **Home Churches:** Immanuel Lutheran Church Strum/Elk Creek Lutheran Church: **Sermon Topic:** The Prodigal Son; Love and Grace. **Reading;** Luke 15:11-32

March 20, 2024 Pastor Terry Lorenz: **Home Church:** Osseo Evangelical Lutheran: **Sermon Topic:** The Rich Man and Lazarus; Listening; Rich, Poor, Life and Afterlife. **Reading;** Luke 16:19-31

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, March 28 at 7pm at Grace Lutheran Church.

Good Friday, March 29th at 5:45pm at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church

Easter, March 31 at 9:30am at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church.



The Easter season coincides with the beginning of spring, a time of renewal and rebirth. Spring-blooming flowers sing of hope and carry special religious meaning as we celebrate rebirth through Christ's resurrection.

Flowers for the church at Easter

Members of Our Saviour's may purchase and bring spring plants to the basement prior to the Easter morning services with a tag stating who donated the plant and for whom the plant is in honor or memory of. Easter plants can also be ordered for \$10.00.

Orders should be placed by **March 24th** for delivery. Orders can be taken to the church office or collected in the Narthex.

Easter Flower Order Form

From: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

_____ I am bringing in a plant, please include the dedication.

_____ I am placing an order

Easter Lily, tulip, other _____

Will you be taking your plant home? ____yes ____no

Order Total: _____

March 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div></div>					<u>1.</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>3.</u> Sunday Worship- 9:30 am Sunday School- 10:30 am	<u>4.</u>	<u>5.</u> Quilters—8:30 to Noon OSL Council at 6:30 pm	<u>6</u> Bible Study-9:30 am Lenten Services- OSL-at 5:45 pm Coffee and treat to follow Grace at 7:00 pm	<u>7.</u> WELCA Meeting at Grace 1:30pm. Meet in parking lot at 1pm to carpool	<u>8.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>10.</u> Sunday Worship- 9:30 am Sunday School- 10:30 am 	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u> Bible Study-9:30 am Lenten Services- OSL-at 5:45 pm Coffee and treat to follow Grace at 7:00 pm	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u> Sunday Worship- 9:30 am Sunday School- 10:30 am 	<u>18</u>	<u>19.</u> 	<u>20.</u> Bible Study-9:30 am Lenten Services- OSL-at 5:45 pm Coffee and treat to follow Grace at 7:00 pm	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u> Sunday Worship- 9:30 am  Sunday School- 10:30 am	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27.</u> Bible Study at 9:30 Food Pantry 11am-1pm	<u>28</u> 7pm Grace Lutheran 	<u>29</u> 5:45pm OSL 	<u>30</u>
<u>31</u> Sunday Worship- 9:30 am 	<div><div>May your troubles be less and your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door. <i>Irish Proverb</i></div></div>					

***"Sharing God's Love With
All"***

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
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Whitehall, WI 54773

SAM: Scott Brown
Cell Phone: 715-538-3048
Email: pastoroslc@gmail.com

Office Hours:
Tuesday 8am-12pm
Wednesday 1-5pm

Church Secretary: Cheryl Daffinson
Church Office: 715-538-4334
Church E-mail: osluthwh@gmail.com
Church Website: oslwhitehall.org

Check us out on Facebook at: [Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Whitehall, WI](#) and
[United in Faith Parish](#) and [OS Sunday-School](#) and [OSLC Youth](#).

