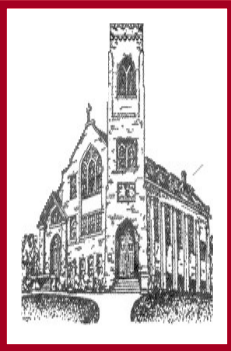


February 2025



## Sam's Report



Hello siblings in Christ,

February 2nd is the anniversary of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple by Joseph and Mary. Luke 2:22-24 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

At this visit they met Simeon, a very righteous and devout Jewish man who was told by the Holy Spirit that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. When Jesus was placed into his arms in the Temple, he praised God, saying, (Luke 2:29-32) 29 "master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace according to your word; 30 for my eyes have seen your salvation, 31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." The Prophet, Anna was also present that day as she lived in the Temple and "worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day." She began to "praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem"

Some in the Jewish community began to believe that Jesus was the Messiah, however, his neighbors in Nazareth could not believe that the son of Joseph, a carpenter, could possibly be the Messiah and nearly pushed him off of a cliff for even saying he was.

Jesus leaves his home and travels to the area called Capernaum and continues his ministry, healing the sick, casting out demons, cleansing lepers, and calling his disciples. We will learn a lot from Luke the entire month of February leading up to the Transfiguration of Our Lord March 2 and then we will begin Lent with Ash Wednesday on March 5.

I hope to be involved with the Round Robin ministry during Lent again this year. The Pastors and SAMs who participate in this each year find it very rewarding. We are all able to travel to many of our neighbor churches in the Dairyland Conference and meet many wonderful Christians along the way. Pastors and SAMs have reported that they have enjoyed meeting you as well. The theme has not yet been chosen. I will let you all know what it is next month.

We have another annual fundraiser coming up in February. Each year the 8th graders go on the Washington DC trip and Our Saviour's has a breakfast that raises money for the students. Hadley Kulig and Hartlin Klidzejs will be going on the trip and would appreciate any financial help we can give. February 16th has been chosen from 9:30-noon. If you cannot attend, an investment of the amount you may have given as a Free Will gift for the breakfast would be welcome. Menu will be Pancakes, sausage, fruit, and beverages.

Please keep praying for all of our neighbors around our country and world who are or have been in harms way. War, fire, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, famine, and deportation are all real and very devastating. If you are financially able to help, Lutheran World Relief through our ELCA can help with directing your funds.

God Bless you all.  
Scott W. Brown, SAM



# Our Saviour's Members in Nursing Homes



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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, Shirley Wozney

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.

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

Dove Healthcare-51019 Ridge View Road-Osseo-54758

Ralph Johnson, MaryJane Hernes

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

Clarice Henrickson

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**Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:**

Arline Stuve, Mavis Olson, Dawn Coburn, Mary Lou Beck, Lisa James, Mavis Mitskogen, Norman Nordby, Jane Holen, Paula Hentges, Stella Michels, Dennis Dubiel, Francis & Faye Hilgart, Eric Jordahl, and Curt Beck.



If you would like **special prayers** said for yourself or loved one, please contact the church office at [osluthwh@gmail.com](mailto:osluthwh@gmail.com)

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# Church News

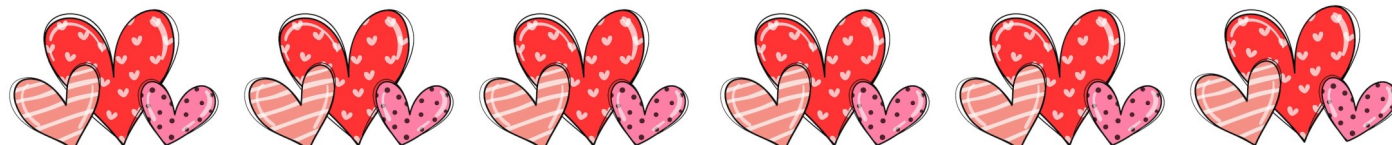
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## February Birthdays

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- 2 - Julie Johnson
- 3 - Christopher Demulling, Easton Moats, Jane Olson,  
Scotrene Ryan, Joseph Sygulla
- 4 - Darcy Goplin, Emerson Pronschinske
- 7 - Tracy Solberg
- 9 - Donna Lindberg, Adam Stendahl
- 10 - Nicole Carlson, Madison Wells
- 12 - Jamie Goplin
- 13 - Huxley Matchey, Halaynna Macharia,  
Seth Olson
- 16 - Jill Knudtson
- 17 - David Anderson, Daytona Hensley,  
Tiffany Hensley
- 18 - Darlene Baken, Wayne Harms, Abigail Olson,  
Scott Schmitt
- 19 - Olivia Schaefer, Richard Waldera
- 21 - Max Pientok
- 22 - Delores Coburn
- 25 - Shad Goplin, Cailyn Kniefl
- 26 - Paul Beck, Adam Kohnert
- 28 - Brennon Metzler, Jason Standish



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# More Church News

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## Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Council Minutes January 7, 2024

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

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

### **Preparation:**

1. **Opening Devotions:** Devotions by Scott Brown
2. **Prayer Requests/Homebound:** Stella Michels & family, Francis & Faye Hilgart, Pastor Greg Ofsdahl's sister
3. **Communication from Congregation:** none

### **Communication/Action:**

1. **Secretary's Report:** Barb Mathson made a motion to approve minutes of December 3, 2024, with a second by Marnie Anderson. Motion carried.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** The following fund balances were presented per December 2024 financial reports: General Fund: \$99,328.67; On Going: \$12,001.41; Improvement Fund: \$40,870.81. Marnie Anderson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report with a second by Kay Nelson. Motion carried.

### **3. Ministry Teams Updates:**

#### a) Music & Worship:

1. Noisy Offering of \$851.41 for December went to Improvement Fund; January will go to Whitehall Food Pantry.
2. Christmas Service was beautiful.

#### b) WELCA:

1. There are no meetings scheduled for January or February. The next meeting will be in March at Our Saviour's.
2. Kris Dubiel has agreed to take over as treasurer for WELCA.

#### c) Lutheran Brotherhood: No report.

#### d) Life & Growth: Finishing up with the Good Gifts donations.

#### e) Finance & Property:

1. Suspended ceiling in kitchen fell and light broke. John Powell put the ceiling back in place. Paul Jacobson will be replacing the broken light with an LED light.
2. Barb Mathson's term on Finance & Property ends as of the annual meeting. She has offered to take over the financials from Christy Moats.
3. Still need members to serve on Finance & Property.

### **Sharing from Scott Brown (SAM):**

1. Visits to homebound/nursing home members discussed.
2. Scott attended a recent Synod meeting at which they discussed support for neighbors who may be affected by mass deportation of illegal immigrants.

### **Celebration/Affirmation:**

1. The next council meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

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# More Church News

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## Business Items:

### 1. New Items:

- a) A motion was made by Barb Mathson and seconded by Kay Nelson to approve the 2025 proposed budget for presentation at the annual meeting. Discussion held. Motion carried.
- b) Scott and Dave met with Pastor Paul Sannerud and Jill Anderson of Blair Lutheran. Pastor Sannerud had approached Scott with interest in the United in Faith Parish (Our Saviour's and Grace Lutheran). This was a "fact finding" meeting only for the purpose of gathering information.
- c) Our Saviour's will accept a donation of a piano from Kay Nelson.
- d) Kris Dubiel suggested that the communion message in the bulletin be changed to read that all are welcome to partake in communion, grape juice is served in the center of the tray and gluten free wafers are available. The council agrees to this change.
- e) Dave Anderson has three individuals willing to serve on the audit committee.

## Adjournment and Lord's Prayer:

Barb Mathson made a motion to adjourn with a second by Ellen Hauser. Motion carried.

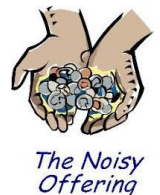
The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Paulson, Council Secretary

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**Our Noisy Offering for January** was designated for Whitehall Food Pantry. A total of \$340.66 was collected. Thank you for your generous giving.

**Our Noisy Offering for February** will be going to help with the devastation caused by the wildfires in the Los Angeles area. Tens of thousands of people have been under evacuation orders, homes and businesses have been destroyed, and there have been traumatic injuries and loss of life. Our donation will be funneled through Lutheran Disaster Response. This organization is committed to assist with immediate needs and recovery amid the widespread destruction. Your donation will help many in need.



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## **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

The Whitehall Food Pantry is seeing a rise in families in need and is short on the following food items:

- \* Macaroni
- \* Bar Soap

Donations can be left in the narthex of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church or dropped off at the church office Tuesday mornings or Wednesday afternoon. Any and all donations are very appreciated by all those in need in our community. Thank you for your generosity and God Bless!



## DISBURSEMENT & GIVING RECEIPTS Jan 1-Jan 31

Disbursements:			
Administration	\$493.27		
Physical Plant	\$4,023.75		
Salaries & Benefits	\$4,072.01		
Benevolence	\$0.00		
Parish Expense	\$0.00		
Dues and Fees	\$0.00		
Holiday Raffle Exp.	\$0.00		
<b>Total Disbursements =</b>		<b>\$8589.03</b>	
Giving Receipts			
<b>Simply Giving Total =</b>	<b>\$2,711.00</b>	<b>General Fund Total =</b>	<b>\$3,844.20</b>
<b>On-Going Total =</b>	<b>\$890.66</b>	<b>Improvement Fund - Total =</b>	<b>\$1,046.41</b>
<b>January 2025 Giving Grand Total =</b>		<b>\$8,492.05</b>	

# More Church News



**A huge thank you** to all who helped take down the Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 12th after the church service. Many hands certainly made short work!

**Special shout out to Kris Dubiel** for taking the orders, purchasing the poinsettias and the beautiful arrangement of flowers and lights in our church this Christmas Season. Thank you! Your creative efforts are very appreciated!





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# WELCA NEWS

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## WELCA Meeting

W-ELCA will NOT meet in January & February. We will begin our monthly meetings & Bible Study for 2025 on **THURSDAY, March 6 at Our Saviour's**. We will host Grace W-ELCA at 1:30 pm in our fellowship hall. There is always Interesting conversations & inspiring Bible study. Please join us.

## QUILTING RETREAT

We are having a Quilting Retreat **February 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>**, 8am to 5-6pm each day at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church basement Whitehall, Wisconsin.

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## YOU'RE INVITED TO IMMANUAL LUTHERAN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Where: Strum

Date: March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)

Time: 9:30am

Guest Speaker: Tine & Lena

Topic: The T & L Cleaners

RSVP by March 5<sup>th</sup>

Church 715-695-3511

Karen Franson 715-695-3553 or email [fransonkaren17@gmail.com](mailto:fransonkaren17@gmail.com)

Join Tina (Diane Anderson) and Lena (Karen Foust) for an unforgettable moment in time as they share their time and talent with us this year. Diane and Karen are sisters-in-law from Black River Falls, WI. Their great-grandparents came from Norway, and their families grew up with many Norwegian customs. After retiring they accidentally started doing Tina & Lena skits after seeing a Looney Lutherans/Church Basement Ladies performance. They write their own skits adlibbing along the way, they perform for church groups, birthday parties and friends. Diane and Karen enjoy hearing the laughter as they perform.

# February 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<u>1</u>
<u>2</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Annual Meeting- 10:30 am	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u> Quilters-setting up Office Hours: 8am- 12pm Council—6:30 pm	<u>5</u> Bible Study 9:30am Office Hours: 1-5pm Confirmation Class - 3:30pm Quilting Retreat- 8:00am to 5/6 pm	<u>6</u> Quilting Retreat- 8:00am to 5/6 pm	<u>7</u> Quilting Retreat- 8:00am to 5/6 pm	<u>8</u>
<u>9</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Sunday School participates at Service Sunday School 10:30am	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u> Office Hours: 8am- 12pm	<u>12</u> Bible Study 9:30am Office Hours: 1-5pm Confirmation Class - 3:30pm	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>16</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u> Office Hours: 8am- 12pm Quilters-8:30 to Noon	<u>19</u> Bible Study 9:30am Office Hours: 1-5pm Confirmation Class - 3:30pm	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>23</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> Office Hours: 8am- 12pm	<u>26</u> Bible Study 9:30am Office Hours: 1-5pm No Confirmation Class	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	



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Sharing God's Love  
With All"

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  
36197 Main Street  
P.O. Box 455  
Whitehall, WI 54773

**SAM:** Scott Brown  
**Cell Phone:** 715-538-3048  
**Email:** [pastoroslc@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:osluthwh@gmail.com)  
**Church Website:** [oslwhitehall.org](http://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](#).

