



The Crossroads

To Gather | To Send | To Serve

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Sun Prairie WI

Greetings family of Our Savior's!

In this email you'll find the latest edition of 'The Crossroads' newsletter. The links below will bring you to some highlights of things happening in the upcoming month at Our Savior's.

January 2016 Newsletter Highlights

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[January Calendar](#)

Events & Happenings at OSLC



[January Servant Schedule](#)

Greeters, Lectors, Ushers, etc

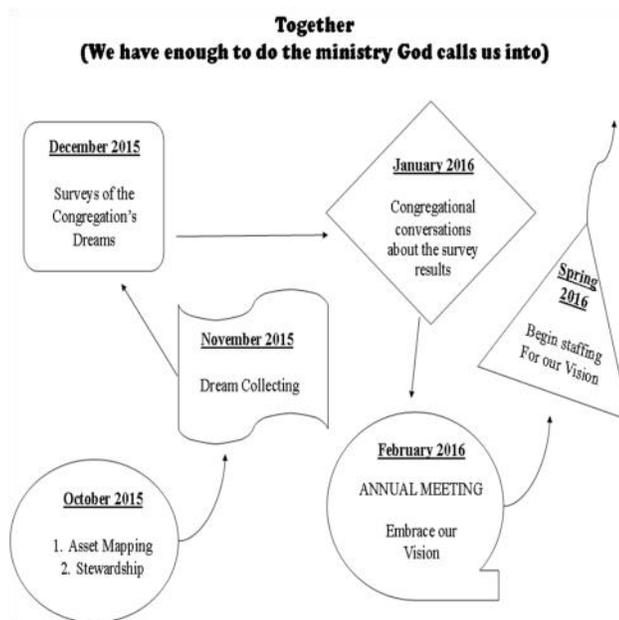
Worship Times

5:30pm - Saturdays

8:00am & 10:30am - Sundays

The Surveys are Out!

The surveys of our hopes and dreams for our future ministry together have been sent out and you now have an opportunity to vote on the things that you are passionate about. If you do not get email and would like a hard copy of the survey to fill out, contact the church office and pick one up. Our hope is to have them returned as soon as possible in order to collate the results and then have some conversation together about our vision. We are on track for adopting our vision at the Annual Meeting on February 14th. Your participation will make a difference as we consider our direction, and then our staffing.



Congregational Annual Meeting February 14th 2016 at 10:30 am

On Sunday February 14th there will be one service at 9:30 am followed by our Annual Meeting and then a meal in Fellowship Hall. In addition to annual elections and voting on the budget, we will be presenting the results of the Visioning process and voting to adopt our Congregational Vision.

To help facilitate moving thru the agenda in a timely manner at the Annual Meeting, the Finance Board will host an informational meeting on the budget between services on Sunday February 7th in the Chapel.

Baptisms:

Madelyn Grace Deno

November 29, 2015

Parents: Joshua and Nicole Deno

Sponsors: Jeremy Deno, Holly Montes Tamayo, David Peterson and Lindy Peterson

Kinley Rose Goldner

December 20, 2015

Parents: Josh and Meghan Goldner

Sponsors: Jessica Nelson, Lukas Christenson and Brianna Goldner

Brayden David Yeutter

December 20, 2015

Parents: Michael and Catherine Yeutter

Sponsors: Matthew Jones and Amber Lampsa

Hayley Joy Pinnow

December 27, 2015

Parents: Jonathon and Stephanie Pinnow

Sponsors: Steven and Cassandra Torres

Financial Progress Report for the Month of Nov. 2015

For the month of November, 2015

1) General Fund

Giving: \$53,026.00

Expenses: \$28,906.02

Net Cash Flow: \$24,119.98

YTD Cash flow: \$17,859.76

2) Building fund

Giving: \$29,242.00

Expenses: \$34,294.00

YTD Cash Flow: <\$15,027.31>

From Pastor Hansen

New for a Purpose

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Yes, it is January and the call for resolution making has been loud and clear. Every year people vow to change for the coming year. We make plans to lose weight, eat healthier, live more for others, spend less time at work and more time with the family, worry less, be less anxious, and so on and so on... And yet, every year we hang in there for a few weeks, maybe a month if we are lucky until we succumb to our habits of turning inward to our wants and needs. When this happens, then we feel guilt and sadness and anxiety about our inability to live up to the resolutions we made for ourselves at the beginning of the year. Many times they were too high, but many times they were too low. Our anxiety grows. Maybe it is a bit healthier to look at the focus of our resolutions. Are they focused upon us? What is the purpose for the resolution? What is the point?

The Apostle Paul writes in the book of Romans, "since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God:" (Rom 3:23) This is a verse that has been used many times as a justification for giving up on our resolutions. It is a way of saying, "Well, I am not perfect. I am a sinner, so therefore..." If this is what happens to us all too often, maybe it is worth changing the focus of the resolution. What would happen if we began to talk about a resolution that worked at putting Christ at the center of our hearts more often? What would happen if we worried less about our wants and needs and thought about caring for others, for the ones who try to survive on the fringes of our society? What would happen if we cared less about ourselves, and what we looked like to the world for a change? If we looked further on in this passage from 2 Corinthians we could see more of what Paul was getting at: *"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. 20 So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."* (2 Corinthians 5:18-21)

We are being made new, each day! This is not a one-time shot. This is about an active and living God who continues to work on us for the purpose of being made new each day, in order that we can be ambassadors for Christ and living out our lives as a reconciling people. If we can live in this light, imagine the power that that may have on our relationships and the lives within our sphere of influence. God is always here and present working on you to make you new. Maybe our New Year's resolution ought to be: **Open your eyes!**

May you be open to this God at work and discover his peace!

Pastor Tim



What's Happening

Sign up to volunteer at worship

The schedule for February 2016 until May is now available in Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP). The schedule includes weekend worships and Lent services. Please log in to choose the dates you are able to assist. MSP volunteer opportunities include: communion assistant, ushering, coffee hour, nursery, lector, acolyte, sound technician and greeters. The program will fill in the schedule after January 11 so please sign in and choose your dates before then. If you have any questions please contact Brandy at 608-837-3111 or brandy@oslc-elca.org.

Food Pantry Christmas Concert at Our Savior's

Question: What takes not only over 200 musicians but 72 to 90 dozen cookies plus people to arrange them for serving, people to move chairs and set up risers, people to reset and clean up, and people to manage lights and sound? Answer: The annual Food Pantry Christmas Concert at Our Savior's, held on December 4th. A huge thank you to all who baked, who sang, who served, who set up, who reset and cleaned up, who took care of lights and sound, who printed the programs, and many more. Thank you to all who helped in any way. You are a blessing to our community!

The concert raised over \$5,600 and we collected a lot of food. Many who are food deprived in our community will greatly appreciate the benefits derived from this fund raiser.

Merry Christmas!



Giving Tree Thank You

Thank you for your generosity and kindness! The Spirit of Giving was able to sponsor gifts for over 1,100 Sun Prairie children as well as food boxes for their families. So much work goes into this wonderful community program, it could not survive without your big hearts. Thank you and Merry Christmas.



Altar Flowers

The altar flower sign up board for 2016 is available in the narthex. Choose a special day to honor your



loved ones birthday, anniversary or in memory of a loved one who has passed away. Please fill out the order form and attach payment to the order. Your date gets reserved when all necessary components have been turned in. The cost is \$20/vase and there are two spots per weekend.

The First Christmas 2015



Worship & Music

Thank you!

We would like to say "THANK YOU" to the anonymous donor who honored us with a very generous gift in early December. It was an unexpected and wonderfully pleasant surprise and we so appreciate the donation. We have a wish list of items we need to keep our choir at the top of our game and it will be put to good use!

With gratitude,
The Chancel Ringers

A Resolution for the New Year That Will Bring Joy

Need a resolution for 2016 that will bring joy and enrichment, not require pain and deprivation, and serve our congregation at the same time? Here are some ideas: Join a choir, join the new contemporary worship group, volunteer to share any musical gifts you may have. If you are interested in joining an adult choir, contact Mark Lehnowsky, For youth choirs, contact Judy Saganski. For the cherub choir, contact Kim Olander, For handbells, contact Angie Schmidt. For any solos or small groups, contact John Krueger. For contemporary worship, contact Pastor Tim. You won't be sorry.

Lent Worship Times in 2016

Upcoming Lent schedule will be:

- Ash Wednesday February 10 at 12pm and 6:30pm with soup supper at 5pm.
- Lent worship will be Wednesdays February 17- March 16 at 12pm and 6:30pm with soup suppers at 5pm.
- Maundy Thursday will be at 12pm and 6:30pm
- Good Friday will be at 12pm and 6:30pm.

More information on Lent will be available in the February newsletter.

Calling Contemporary Musicians

As we prepare to begin using a contemporary worship format at our 10:30 worship service we are interested in inviting those who would like to participate to a rehearsal on Saturday January 9th at 9 am. We will be practicing Jonathan Rundman's "Heartland Liturgy." We'd love to see you!

Book Club Reads *The Chosen*

February's book will be *The Chosen* by Chaim Potek. There will be no meeting in January. For meeting location and information contact Jan Gaddis @ 834-3231 Please see the Welcome Center for information on the upcoming books.

Creative Connections Craft Night

Come enjoy an evening of fellowship and crafts Friday, January 29 6-9 pm. We'll meet in the chapel and you are welcome to bring your own projects to work on. And bring your friends. All are welcome! February 26 is the next gathering, mark your calendars.

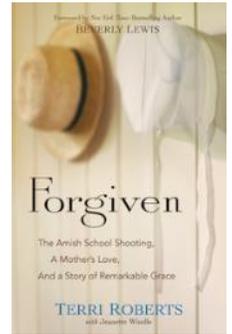
Fellowship

The Spirited Book Club

Forgiven: The Amish School Shooting, A Mother's Love, And a Story of Remarkable Grace by Terri Roberts

In October 2006, her 32 year old son, Charlie, walked into an Amish school in Lancaster, PA and shot ten young girls, killing five of them before killing himself. The Amish came to her the night of the shooting to offer forgiveness and say they wanted her to stay. "For the mother and father who had lost two daughters at the hand of our son, to come up and be the first ones to greet us - wow. Is there anything in this life that we should not be forgiven?"

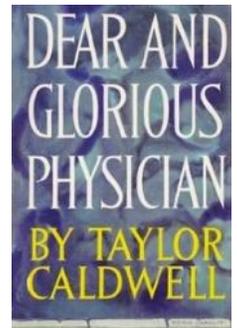
We will meet for conversation about this story on Thursday, January 7, 6:30pm. Email Joy Kroeger at kroegerjoy@gmail.com for our gathering location.



Dear and Glorious Physician by Taylor Caldwell

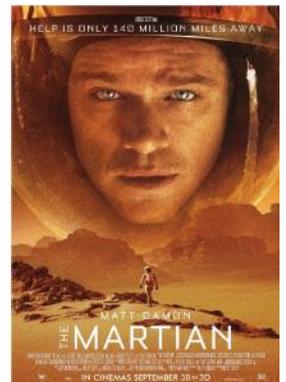
This is a novel about the triumphant story of St. Luke, man of science and gospel writer. Taylor Caldwell's travel through the Holy Land and years of research give this book a fully developed portrait of a complex and brilliant man, St. Luke. Here is a story to warm, inspire, and call forth renewal of faith lying deep within each reader's heart.

We will gather to share our thoughts about this story on Thursday, Feb. 4 at 6:30pm. Email Joy Kroeger at kroegerjoy@gmail.com for our gathering location.



Dinner and A Movie features *The Martian*

During a manned mission to Mars, Astronaut Mark Watney (Matt Damon) is presumed dead after a fierce storm and left behind by his crew. But Watney has survived and finds himself stranded and alone on the hostile planet. With only meager supplies, he must draw upon his ingenuity, wit and spirit to subsist and find a way to signal to Earth that he is alive. Millions of miles away, NASA and a team of international scientists work tirelessly to bring "the Martian" home, while his crewmates concurrently plot a daring, if not impossible rescue mission. As these stories of incredible bravery unfold, the world comes together to root for Watney's safe return. So bring some food to share. Invite a friend. Sign up at the Welcome Center or email your RSVP to amystueck@gmail.com. See you at the movies on Thursday, January 14 at 6:30pm.





Christian Education

First Communion Recognition Milestone to be Celebrated on January 31

Parents and children have the opportunity to attend one of two opportunities where they will learn about God's gift of love in the Holy Communion. We ask that you come to one session:

Saturday, January 16, at 10am

Wednesday, January 20, at 4pm

All second graders, their parents, and those older than second grade who have not attended a communion enrichment class are encouraged to attend. Sign up at the welcome center to let us know you will be there.

The communion milestone date has been set for Sunday, January 31, at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the learning our young members have received in the communion enrichment class. Contact Pastor Tim, at tim@oslc-elca.org, if you have any questions.

Visit Your OSLC Library From Anywhere

Our Savior's library is accessible from your home computer, Smartphone or tablet.

All you need to do is type:

<http://www.librarysoft.com/HOSTED/SAVIORSEARCH/SAVIORSEARCH.html> and hit Enter and Bookmark the site.

Then you will have access to over 2,360 books, DVDs and CDs in our church's collection. Explore by title, author, subject, or series. Find the call number to locate the item(s) on the shelves at Our Savior's and on your next trip to church, check out the item(s) at the kiosk.

New to the library collection are seven CD's featuring Pastor Tim Hansen. All the songs are written by Tim. Check them out!

Baptism Enrichment Class

Those who are planning a baptism in the near future should attend the Baptism Enrichment class planned for Saturday, January 9 at 11:00am. In this 60 minute class, we will discuss the meaning of Baptism and how parents and sponsors can nurture their children in faith. Participants can sign up at the welcome center or call the office. Childcare is available.



Rotation Sunday School

On January 10th, our Rotation Sunday School children will start exploring the story of David. David doesn't act alone in this story. He doesn't win because he is stronger, faster, or bigger. David wins because he trusts the one, true God. In Creation Station they will learn about "keeping it positive" by learning about positive and negative space and how they can choose how to look at a situation. In Rainbow Treehouse they will go on a scavenger hunt to find props from the story and then work in teams to create a script using those props. Sound like fun? It is! Any children in K-5th grade are invited to join us on Sundays at 9:15. Adults that would like to get into the fun...we are always looking for more volunteers to lead a session for 4-6 Sundays. Please contact Brenda Wilcox at 608-345-7301 or brenda@wilcoxes.net for more information.

Youth & Family Ministry



The College-Age Team News

The College Age Ministry team along with the help and talent from the OSLC card ministry, gathered in November and December to send out Thanksgiving care packages (filled with home baked goodies, popcorn, gum, hot drink packages, apples) and Christmas card greetings to 20 students attending colleges throughout the state. The team will continue their mission sending reminders of God's love to each student in the coming months. Youth can always be added to this ministry, please contact Brandy in the office by email brandy@oslc-elca.org, phone 608-837-3111 or leave a note on her desk to get connected to the CAT ministry.

Family Movie Night-Pixels

Story is an adaptation of Patrick Jean's short film, which depicted popular '80s videogame characters attacking New York City. The movie follows a group of videogame experts who are recruited by the government to help deal with the threat. The feature will be shown on Friday, January 8 at 6pm in Mission Matinee. This event is open to all ages. Check out the Youth and Family bulletin board by the library to sign up for this fun fellowship event with your church family. For questions please see Tamara Martin or email her at tam2007email@gmail.com.



Laser Tag Youth Groups Outing

We are planning a combined outing for CHAOS and RIOT youth groups to UltraZone Laser Tag on Jan 31. We will be meeting at Our Savior's at 12:30 and carpooling to UltraZone for 2 games of Laser Tag. All participants are welcome to invite friends along. Since it will be a new year, all kids will need new permission slips on file. Permission slips and a sign up sheet will be in the narthex. Parent volunteers to drive are also needed. Any volunteer drivers will get to play Laser Tag for free. Anticipated cost for youth is \$14 per person. Additional details to follow. Please contact Jim or Sharee Sensenbrenner with additional questions: jsensenbrenner@yahoo.com, shareelins@gmail.com, or 834-8497.



Our Savior's is a member of the American Red Cross **One-A-Week Blood Donor Club** with an annual goal of giving a minimum of 52 blood donations a year.

Remember to sign the One-A-Week binder for our club # 80 after you donate. Year to date total is: 139

Visit redcrossblood.org/make-donation for more info on donating or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

On behalf of Our Savior's—thank you for your donations. Call to schedule your appointment today! Our contributors for November include: William Brown, Daniel Williamson, Fritz Schunke x2, James Alt, Brian Loney, June Egstad, Breta Saganski, William Egstad, Tracy Buie, Lisa Hansen, Warren Wilson, Hal Sommer, Michael Zimmerman, Bill Nawrot

Outreach

Wanted Winter Weather Wear

Winter has arrived tingling toes and freezing fingers. Help protect children from chilling by bringing clothes for bundling. Waterproof mittens and gloves, winter boots, snow pants, and socks are most needed now. Any children's clothing item sized 3T to 14 is always appreciated. Please drop off donations in the narthex basket, so neighborhood kids can keep warm. Thanks from Clothesline Ministry! Call Sharee Sensenbrenner with questions and suggestions at 834-8497.

Food Pantry Donations

We are collecting donations of food to support the Food Pantry. There is a collection box in the Narthex where you may place your non perishable food items. Thank you for your support of our local food pantry. The Sun Prairie Emergency Food Pantry is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

Home Bound Visits

Do you know of a congregation member who would appreciate a home visit. If so, contact Brandy at the church office (837-3111) or Brandy@oslc-elca.org with the name and number of the member to include on our home visits lists.

Would you like to join the Prayer Chain?

Many of you are praying for Our Savior's, its ministries and members, as well as concerns of the world. Are you willing to add the prayer needs of Our Savior's members or friends? We have an electronic prayer chain that your name could easily be added to.

A bit about how the prayer chain works. A request is received by the office and the email prayer is sent. The email includes the person to be prayed for, a short reason for prayer being needed and their relationship to Our Savior's.

If you are interested in joining the Our Savior's Lutheran Church prayer chain please contact Brandy to be added to the list brandy@oslc-elca.org or 608-837-3111.

If you ever have a prayer request that you would like shared with the prayer chain email brandy@oslc-elca.org or communications@oslc-elca.org and we will happily pass the request along.

Play Group Tuesday Mornings at OSLC

Every Tuesday morning from 9:30am-11am a Play Group takes place at OSLC in the nursery. This is a come & go atmosphere for ages birth to 4yr. One adult needs to be present with the child or children for time spent here. Daycare kids, non-members, anyone is welcome. Come and enjoy fellowship with other parents or grandparents while the children have fun.

Prayer Requests & Hospital Notification

Do you have a prayer request or hospital notification you would like to pass along? You can share your requests with the Communications Secretary at communications@oslc-elca.org, or Pastor Tim at tim@oslc-elca.org or call the church office. When you submit prayer requests, they are sent to the Our Savior's prayer chain via email and are added to the prayers during weekend worship.

If you would like your request to remain confidential to a pastor, or would not like it shared with the prayer chain or included in worship prayers, please note your wishes in your request.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Savior's is blessed to have an active Prayer Shawl Ministry. Several women make shawls to be given to others. As they knit or crochet, they pray for the person who will receive the shawl, even though they do not know who will receive it. Before a shawl is given away, the prayer group (Gather in Prayer) prays specifically for the person who is to receive the shawl. Those who have received a shawl have been moved by this caring and thoughtful gesture and have expressed gratitude for prayers on their behalf. Anyone can be a recipient of a prayer shawl, especially if he/she is going through a difficult time in their life. The shawl is a physical reminder of God's presence and that His loving arms are wrapped around a person. It gives comfort and peace.



We are grateful for those who knit or crochet the shawls and for those who have given money to purchase yarn. Thank you for your gifts of time and money.

Please contact the church office at 608-837-3111 if you would like to be a part of this ministry, either by making a shawl, donating money for yarn, or becoming a part of the Gather in Prayer group, or if you know of someone who would appreciate a shawl.

Staff at Our Savior's

Senior Pastor

Rev. Tim Hansen
Home: (608) 838-7929
tim@oslc-elca.org

Administrative Secretary

Brandy Foulkes
Brandy@oslc-elca.org

Communications Secretary

Peggy Bjugstad
communications@oslc-elca.org

Finance Secretary

Bonnie Shema
Bonnie@oslc-elca.org

Director of Music, Organist

John Krueger
Cell: (608) 249-0679

Director of Adult Choirs

Mark Lehnowsky

Director of Chancel Ringers

Angie Schmidt

Director of Youth & Alleluia Choirs

Judy and Breta Saganski

Director of Cherub Choir

Kim Olander

Nursery Coordinator

Lisa Lee
lisalee0706@gmail.com

Wedding Coordinators

Patricia McFadden, Brandy Foulkes

Accompanists

Alex Bandli, Diane Padrutt

Custodian

Chris Bruns

Church Office Phone

(608)837-3111

www.oslc-elca.org

Congregational Council

President: Steve Olson

Vice President: Kela Feldman

Secretary: Dean Sommer

Treasurer: Barb Polishinski

Church in Society: Dawn Bradley

Education: Rosalynn Rudd

Evangelism: Vicki Hanrahan

Fellowship: Gretchann Dalgaard

Finance: Linda Frautschy

Lay Ministry: Peggy Schaub

Property: Wayne Engelbrecht

Public Relations: Peggy Bjugstad

Stewardship: Paul Thurston

Youth & Family: Garth Jorgensen

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Return Service Requested

The Crossroads is the official monthly publication of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, January 2016 edition, Volume 11, Issue 1 Membership is voluntary; we are located at 550 Lincoln Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590-1300, (608)837-3111

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



God's work. Our hands.



Visit www.oslc-elca.org or scan this code with your smartphone for instructions to give your offering online!

OSLC Offerings Online

Worship
 5:30pm Saturday
 8:00am & 10:30am Sunday

Office Hours
 Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 4:30pm

Sunday School
 9:15am Sunday

550 Lincoln Drive, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590-1399
 Phone (608)837-3111 Fax (608)837-9378 Web www.oslc-elca.org

www.Facebook.com/OurSaviors



Our Savior's Lutheran Church Sun Prairie WI

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 January 2016 Newsletter

