

## November 2020 Newsletter

# Our Savior Lutheran Church

223 Silver Lake Road, Eagle River WI 715-479-6226 (office) 715-479-7890 (fax)  
Website: [www.oursavioreagleriver.org](http://www.oursavioreagleriver.org) + Email: [oursavioreagleriver@gmail.com](mailto:oursavioreagleriver@gmail.com)

### Our Mission...

...is to equip and encourage followers of Christ to share the love of Jesus with people in our community and in the world so that all may have eternal life.

Oh give thanks  
to the LORD,  
**for he is good**  
for his steadfast  
love endures  
forever!

—Psalm 107:1

### November Memory Verse

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His steadfast love endures forever.

*Psalm 107:1*

### Church Staff:

Peter Kufahl, Pastor  
715-479-6226 (Church Office)  
507-822-3606 (Cell)

Marlene Rieck, Director of Music &  
Children's Ministry  
715-479-7466 (Office)  
715-891-0991 (Home)

Jean Walker, Office Administrator  
715-479-6226 (Church Office)

Vicki Holewinski, JuBELLation Director

Gary Fawcett, Congregational President  
715-479-6226 (Church Office)

Mandy Kersten – Nursery Director

### Upcoming Events:

Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 9-11 a.m.  
Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Veterans Honored

Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>  
Operation Christmas Child Box Blessing

Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm  
Thanksgiving Eve Worship with Communion

Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> ~ First Sunday of Advent



## From the Pastor's Desk

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This weekend, I learned that a friend that I had worked with years ago had tested positive for COVID. He was doing well in his home quarantine as his wife and family were taking good care of him. His days were fairly normal as all he felt was a little tired with a fever here and there. The weirdest thing for him was having to let the folks and places he had been in contact with, know he tested positive for COVID and that they need to be cautious. Although he was feeling okay... soon many of the people he was in contact with also began to test positive. This was the beginning of a wave of guilt that was setting in. He was the reason others contracted the COVID virus. Then, those folks began to have more serious symptoms than he was having. Some went to the ER. One was hospitalized. And the guilt kept growing.

How would you feel if you were in my friend's shoes? So many of us have said, "If I get it, I'll deal with it." but what if someone you know contracts COVID from you? What if they need to be hospitalized or worse, die from the complications COVID brings? The guilt of knowing these infections stemmed from you can be overpowering. How would you deal with it?

It can be easy for us to boldly declare we can handle anything that comes our way and be just fine. Yet when something we have done impacts and hurts another person, what are we to do? Brush it off? Apologize? Cover their medical expenses? Will that make everything better?

One of the hardest things for us to come to terms with is that we are not perfect. When we unintentionally fail, others will get hurt in one way or another. When we intentionally fail, others will get hurt. But worst of all, in any of our failings, we could cause others to sin. How serious is this? In Mark chapter 9, Jesus declares that, "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea." (9:42). Jesus then continues with a reminder that if a part of your body causes you to sin, cut it off (9:43, 45, 47).

According to Jesus, our lake and river bottoms around here should be filled with bodies of sinners, and anyone left would be immensely crippled. Does this mean that Jesus was not serious, and that we were not taking Him at His Word? No. Jesus knew that the true root of the problem lies deep within each one of our hearts. When our eyes are opened to what it is we have done against one another and against God Himself, the guilt is more than enough to pull us down to the depths of the sea. Utterly helpless, the guilt will drown us.

Jesus closes off chapter 9 with a seemingly out of place statement that, "Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another." (9:50). Just as you can not make salt salty again, we cannot make ourselves sinless. We need something amazing to create within us clean hearts and lives to save us (and keep others from sinning).

We recall Peter denied Jesus three times the night Jesus was arrested. People missed out on a opportunity to hear about Jesus that night because of Peter's sinful denial. Jesus knew Peter would betray Him earlier that night. Jesus knew that betrayal would come the night Peter asked to walk out to Jesus on the water. When Peter's eyes were off of Jesus, he began to sink, crying out, "Lord, save me!" (Matthew 14:30). Jesus could have thrown a millstone around Peter's neck and let him drown right then and there. But He did not. Instead, Jesus reached out to Peter and brought him to safety in the boat.

When we are drowning in guilt, Jesus is there with His nail-pierced hand, extended to you and me, with the promise that He has us. In our sins we lose Him and His holiness in our lives. But He comes to you, always there with His loving hand extended, declaring "I have you. You are Mine." It is a promise that we can depend upon for it is sealed by His blood. His forgiveness is real and it is freeing. The sting of guilt may remain, yet by the forgiveness He has won for us on the cross, we can acknowledge where we have erred, and strive towards the goal of walking in the light of Christ each day as we forgive as we have been forgiven.

## Circuit News and Happenings

Pastor Jonathan Cluppert from Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Arbor Vitae has accepted a call to be the pastor at First Lutheran Church in Rice Lake, WI. As the movement of pastors within the church may affect one or two congregations at a time, some calls can leave a bigger impact. Since Pastor Cluppert also served as our circuit visitor/counselor, he will be stepping away from a role that assisted other congregations in our area with various needs. Our district president, Rev. Dwayne Lueck has reached out to me requesting that I would fill in Pastor Cluppert's vacancy as the circuit visitor. After discussions with President Lueck, Pastor Cluppert, and Amy, and with prayerful consideration, I have accepted this position.

So, what does this mean? Besides Prince of Peace, Rock of Ages Lutheran Church in Minocqua is also in the call process. Therefore, a part of my new duties will be to assist these congregations in calling a new pastor. There will be a few additional meetings for me to attend here and there, but my duties and call remain here at Our Savior.

Thank you for your understanding and prayers in these days as we are reminded that the church goes beyond our doors yesterday, today, and tomorrow until the day our Savior returns.

- Pastor Kufahl



# Operation Christmas Child

**Pack a shoe box with gifts and share God's love with a child!**

**Filled boxes are due Sunday,  
November 15<sup>th</sup>**



**Pray:** Please pray for the children that receive our boxes that they may come to know Jesus as their Savior.

**Give items to pack:** Bring school supplies, non-liquid hygiene items, and new toys for our packing party! Our party will take place on **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 9-11 a.m.** Please sign up for a 30 minute time slot. Come for a great time as we pack shoe boxes with all our gathered gifts! Snacks will be provided.

**Give monetary offerings:** \$9 will cover the cost of shipping one box.

**Pack a box at home and bring it to church:** Pick up directions on how to pack a shoe box and shop & pack on your own or with your family. You can use your own shoe box or pick up a box at our display table at church. Please return your box to church before Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your gifts of love!

## Thanksgiving Worship:

**Wednesday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.**

*"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*



## **Board of Christian Education Meeting**

**Thursday 10/01/20 – 7:00 pm @ OSLC**

**In Attendance: Rick Behrens, Sue Kurth, Lynn Parker, Pastor Kufahl,**

### **MEETING AGENDA**

1. Opening: Prayer/ Devotional (Pastor Led)
2. Review minutes from September 2020 Meeting (Emailed to all)(Minutes accepted. Motioned by Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sue)
3. Financial Report- Rick (Rick presented, And the minutes were accepted. Motion by Rick, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lynn)
4. Children's Report- Marlene (Rick presented Marlene's report from October children's ministry from Marlene's email.)
5. Youth Updates- Youth Leader or Representative (Pastor talked with Mike Rieck about possibly helping with the youth. Confirmation is going well, as well as WOW. )
6. Old business Items:
7. New Business: BUDGET FOR 2021
8. Next meeting: November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @7pm Church
9. Close in Prayer

**BOARD OF EVANGELISM**  
**OCTOBER 5, 2020**

Members present: Pastor Kupfahl, Marlene Rieck, Teri Kressin, Gary Fawcett, Ron Ritzer, Pat and Jan Grosse, Jim and Gloria Harper, Holly Nier

Teri called the meeting to order with Prayer by Pastor Kupfahl.

Pastor:

Trunk or Treat – the following is recommended and agreed by Board

-not to offer any drinks to anyone due to the Covid 19 situation. We will offer bags of popcorn.

-signage and tapes directing people as to where they can enter and exit

-one entrance and one exit

-2 parking spaces between cars serving candy

-gloves to be worn by those working and serving candy from their cars

-Teri will request fliers and have them in our Board mail slot, members can pick them up for distribution around town by mid-October

Jim confirmed we can use the popcorn machine from the Fire Station, he will order 15 bags of popcorn/oil. He will pick up the machine and Gary handle making the popcorn. Teri will make sure we have enough bags. We will meet at church at 10AM to set up the parking lot and get everything ready. Trunk or Treat is from 3-5 on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>.

Jim:

Honoring Veterans – Jim has compiled a list of Veterans in our congregation whom will be honored the Sunday before Veterans Day. A “thank you” envelope will be given to each Veteran.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2 at 5PM.

A closing prayer was offered by Pastor and Teri adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by  
Holly Nier

## Part of God's Plan

*"In those days . . ."* So begins a well-known passage of Scripture. Do you know what comes next? *"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree . . ."* (Luke 2:1). Some of us can quote the whole story by heart. Even though we've heard it year after year, some of us for many years, the story is still precious to hear, still warms our souls, still excites our minds, still calms our fears.

Two seemingly inconsequential people of little means obeyed that decree and traveled to the town of Bethlehem to register for the census. The woman, Mary, was about to have a child. She knew that her child was the Son of God, a child to be named Jesus. Joseph, her husband, knew he was not the father of the child, although that was how the world saw him. These were two of God's faithful. They knew the prophecies regarding the Messiah. They had been visited by the angel and learned that they were to be part of the fulfillment of those prophecies. They didn't know how things would turn out. They didn't know all that God had in store for them. They just *"obey[ed their] rulers and submitted to their authority"* (Hebrews 13:17) as they trusted God to guide and protect them and His Son each step they took on His path.

Of course, God did just that. He provided a place for the Child to be born (Luke 2:7). He sent angels to announce the birth of the King and moved the shepherds to respond to the joyful news and go to worship the new Baby (Luke 2:8-20). He sent *"Magi from the East"* who brought *"gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh"* and then believed the warning God gave them in a dream and avoided the evil King Herod on their return trip (Matthew 2:1-12).

How many of these people involved in this most wondrous story realized the important and memorable parts they played? We cannot say for sure but surmise none could really comprehend the eternal significance of the events as they unfolded.

We, too, are involved in God's plans. Certainly none can equal in importance the birth of Christ, but nothing God does is without purpose. Are we listening for the voice of the Spirit as He speaks to us through God's Word? Are we, as we go about our daily routines, obeying our rulers, cognizant of being God's feet and hands and voice to carry out His plan? Do we bring our gifts, aware that God may use them according to a purpose we can't even imagine? How exciting it is to think and know that we are God's instruments! What a loss of blessing to us if we refuse to let God use us and another gets the opportunity instead (Esther 4:14)!

As we live out our daily lives as stewards, *"let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith . . . so that we will not grow weary and lose heart"* (Hebrews 12:2-3), but instead look forward with eagerness and anticipation toward the unfolding of God's plan in our lives.

# *Martha Society News*

## MARTHA SOCIETY NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

**Our meeting is scheduled for November 11, 2020. The board meeting will start at 10:30 followed by a luncheon at 11:30 and general membership meeting at 12 noon.**

**Hostesses for the meeting are Dawn Shantz and Carol Smith. Marlene Rieck will give the Christian life.**

**We had over 84 quilts that were distributed to needy areas. The mites that were collected on LWML Sunday and the money made from sale of the turkey fixin's go to LWML to support the missions listed on the board in the fellowship hallway. At every Martha meeting, we collect future mites. Those, also, go to support the missions listed. One of the missions listed is right here in our neighborhood. It was going to provide furniture, fixtures, and equipment for generations at Cam Luther. \$20,000 was designated and it has already been paid in full. How truly God blesses us.**

**At this meeting we will be nominating and electing the office of President and Treasurer. We will also be discussing our Missions for this year and what we can afford to give to each one. We are always looking for new members. Please come to a meeting to find out what we're all about.**

**Teri Kressin**

**President**





## **November Birthdays**

|    |                    |    |                      |
|----|--------------------|----|----------------------|
| 1  | Daryl George       | 19 | Cody Lorenz          |
| 3  | EJ Apfel           |    | Elizabeth Oslakovich |
|    | Nathan Wiedenbauer |    | Georgia Kolowith     |
| 5  | Ellie Wilson       | 20 | Karen Behrens        |
|    | Matthew Klein      | 21 | Dennis Gauger        |
| 6  | Dian Kuntz         |    | Sawyer Lorenz        |
| 7  | Ron Patterson      | 23 | George Brunette      |
| 9  | Dan Marien         | 24 | Kayla Chaplin        |
| 11 | Aiden Lifschutz    | 25 | Jacqueline Jansen    |
|    | Gloria Lyon        |    | Jean Walker          |
|    | Rylie Skarbek      |    | John Priefer         |
| 12 | Walter Helein      |    | Scott Messner        |
| 14 | Christopher Heck   | 26 | Joan Holdmann        |
|    | Shane Levan        | 27 | Ken Kuntz            |
| 15 | Mary Portlance     |    | Timothy Kadlec       |
| 16 | Zachary Otto       | 28 | Janette Wise         |
| 17 | Patrick Crum       | 29 | Jodi Popp            |
| 18 | Judd Klotz         |    |                      |

## **November Anniversaries**

|    |                          |    |                         |
|----|--------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 4  | Dean & Miriam Gillman    | 15 | Wesley & Tammy Levan    |
| 9  | Glenn & Penny Finger     | 25 | James & Gloria Harper   |
| 11 | Timothy & Katrina Kadlec |    | John & Bonnie Jozwowski |
| 12 | Steve & Janet Meyer      |    |                         |

# November 2020

| Sunday   | Monday                                   | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday                     | Saturday  |
|--|--|--|---|--|----------------------------|-----------|
| <b>1</b><br>7:30am Early Service/Comm<br>8:45am Education Hour for all ages<br>10am Late Service       | <b>2</b>                                 | <b>3</b><br>9am Bible Study<br>9:30am Quilters<br>6pm JuBELLation  | <b>4</b><br>9am Aging with Grace<br>5:30pm Confirmation Class   | <b>5</b><br>9:30am Quilters                      | <b>6</b><br>Office Closed  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br>7:30am Early Service<br>8:45am Education Hour for all ages<br>10am Late Service/Comm       | <b>9</b>                                 | <b>10</b><br>9am Bible Study<br>9:30am Quilters<br>6pm JuBELLation | <b>11</b><br>9am Aging with Grace<br>10:30am Martha Board<br>11:30am Martha Meeting<br>4pm WOW<br>5:30pm Confirmation Class<br>6pm Budget Committee | <b>12</b><br>9:30am Quilters                     | <b>13</b><br>Office Closed | <b>14</b> |
| <b>15</b><br>7:30am Early Service/Comm<br>8:45am Education Hour for all ages<br>10am Late Service      | <b>16</b><br>9am Newsletter Articles Due | <b>17</b><br>9am Bible Study<br>9:30am Quilters<br>6pm JuBELLation | <b>18</b><br>9am Aging with Grace<br>5:30pm Confirmation Class<br>7pm Council Meeting   | <b>19</b><br>9:30am Quilters                     | <b>20</b><br>Office Closed | <b>21</b> |
| <b>22</b><br>7:30am Early Service<br>8:45am Education Hour for all ages<br>10am Late Service/Comm      | <b>23</b><br>6pm HCPA Meeting            | <b>24</b><br>9am Bible Study<br>9:30am Quilters<br>6pm JuBELLation | <b>25</b><br>9am Aging with Grace<br>7pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship   | <b>26</b><br>9:30am Quilters<br>Thanksgiving Day | <b>27</b><br>Office Closed | <b>28</b> |
| <b>29</b><br>7:30am Early Service/Comm<br>8:45am Education Hour for all ages<br>10am Late Service/Comm | <b>30</b>                                | <b>1</b><br>9am Bible Study<br>9:30am Quilters<br>6pm JuBELLation  | <b>2</b><br>9am Aging with Grace<br>4pm WOW<br>5:30pm Confirmation Class  | <b>3</b><br>9:30am Quilters                      | <b>4</b><br>Office Closed  | <b>5</b>  |

| <u>Date/Service</u>               | <u>Elders</u>                 | <u>Ushers</u>                                       | <u>Greeters</u> | <u>Readers</u>        | <u>Media Operators</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| November 1 7:30 AM<br>Communion   | Dick Cherney<br>Jim Bonson    | Dick Cherney<br>Debbie Holewinski                   |                 | Debbie Holewinski     | Jackie Pearce          |
| November 1 10:00 AM               | Tim Kadlec                    | Dave Parker<br>Lynn Parker                          |                 | Cindy Gauger          |                        |
| November 8 7:30 AM                | Pat Crum                      | Jim Walker<br>Jean Walker                           |                 | Bonnie Jozowski       | Vicki Holewinski       |
| November 8 10:00 AM<br>Communion  | Gary Fawcett<br>Keith Kentala | Pat Grosse<br>Jan Grosse<br>Tim Forss               |                 | Marianne Braun        |                        |
| November 15 7:30 AM<br>Communion  | Pat Crum<br>Dick Cherney      | Marv Jarvis<br>Sue Frank<br>Bob Meiz                |                 | Sue Frank             | Jackie Pearce          |
| November 15 10:00 AM              | Tim Kadlec                    | Andy Ellenberger<br>Gerhard Becker<br>Gerald Yetter |                 | Priscilla Ellenberger |                        |
| November 22 7:30 AM               | Jim Bonson                    | Del Keup<br>Jim Bonson                              |                 | Mary Malinsky         |                        |
| November 22 10:00 AM<br>Communion | Keith Kentala<br>Jacob Husing | Grant Meyer<br>Jerry Gifford<br>Glenn Finger        |                 | Sue Kurth             |                        |

**IF YOU CANNOT BE THERE WHEN SCHEDULED, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO GET A REPLACEMENT!!**

|                               |                            |  |                  |  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| <b>November 25 7:00 PM</b>    | Gary Fawcett<br>Tim Kadlec | Jim Bonson<br>Marv Jarvis<br>Sue Frank                       |                  |  |
| Thanksgiving Eve<br>Communion |                            |  |                  |  |
| <b>November 29 7:30 AM</b>    | Jim Bonson<br>Tim Kadlec   | Marv Jarvis<br>Jim Harper                                    | Vicki Holewinski |  |
| Communion                     |                            |  |                  |  |
| <b>November 29 10:00 AM</b>   | Jacob Husing<br>Tim Kadlec | Rick Behrens<br>Karen Behrens<br>RJ Behrens<br>Denise Riemer | Rick Behrens     |  |
| Communion                     |                            |  |                  |  |