

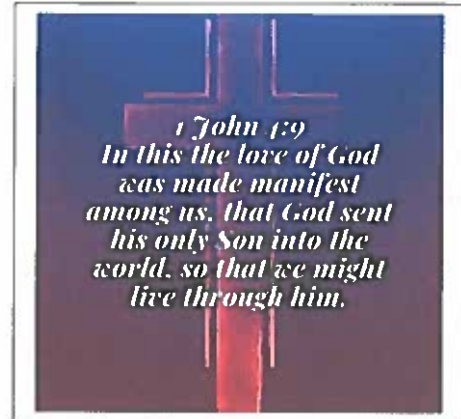
December 2021 Newsletter

Our Savior Lutheran Church

223 Silver Lake Road, Eagle River WI 715-479-6226 (office) 715-479-7890 (fax)
Website: www.oursavioreagleriver.org + Email: 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.



December Memory Verse

God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him.

1 John 4:9

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)

Jackie Pearce, Choir Director

Vicki Holewinski, JuBELLation Director

Tim Kadlec, Congregational President
715-479-6226 (Church Office)

Andrew Kaufmann, DCE Intern
715-479-6226 (Church Office)

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, December 1st, 8th & 15th ~ 6:30 pm
Advent Service

Saturday, December 11th ~ 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 12th ~ 10:00 am
Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 12th ~ 7:30 am
Traditional Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 19th ~ 10:00 am
Children's Christmas Worship

Friday, December 24th ~ 3:00 pm & 5:00 pm
Candlelight Service

Saturday, December 25th ~ 10:00 am
Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 26th ~ 10:00 am
Worship with Holy Communion (No 7:30 service)



From the Pastor's Desk

December 21 Newsletter

What did you want to be when you grew up? It is a question that is often asked of children as they dream of what they want to do when they get older and some adults are still dreaming of what they want to be when they "grow up." From day to day those dreams can change, while for some children that dream never waivers. You might say that such a child is lucky, because when they really know what they want to do for a living, they know what they need to do to prepare for such a life. They know the classes they need to take in school. Depending on that dream, their choices of where they need to study following high school graduation is paired down. Their path is set!

I guess we could ask a similar question at any given time as well; "Where do you want to spend eternity?" Just like a career path, this is no light question. We know that people can come up with a lot of different answers for this one, but really only two options exist: heaven or hell. In my time, I can count on one hand the number of people who actually wanted to go to hell when they die. From their perspective they believed going to heaven was too much work... or that they did not deserve to go. But for those who want to get to heaven, there is at least some common understanding that how one lives their life here, should dictate where you end up. It is like preparing for that dream career; to get to the destination of your choosing, you had better do the work that will bring you there.

So what does one have to do to get to heaven? Do more good things than bad? Spend every free moment helping those less fortunate than you? Contribute large amounts of money to those in need? Be more nice than nasty?

Well, I pray that you know the answer to that question (If you struggle with it, please come and see me as soon as possible!). We do know that it is through Christ alone that we gain access to an eternity in heaven. Yet it is here in this life, that the Lord God is preparing us for our life that is to come... and it is nothing new.

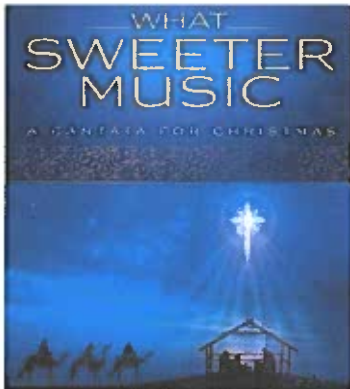
The Lord God has been preparing us for this life for some time. For all time actually. From the very beginning and throughout the Old Testament, the Scriptures have been pointing to the One who makes this eternity possible for us. Through Moses and the prophets, God has given signs to prepare His people for their Savior.

This Advent season, we will be taking a look at three of these Old Testament Symbols of Salvation. We have daily devotions available for you to pick up at church and we will be having our midweek Advent services at 6:30 on Wednesday evenings to assist and aid you in your studies for your life that is to come in Christ Jesus.

December Worship Opportunities

WEDNESDAY ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES

As you prepare for Christmas, take time out of your busy schedule to prepare your heart with these midweek worship opportunities at **6:30 p.m.** Our theme is "Symbols of Salvation".
Dec. 1 - "Old Testament Christmas" Exodus 3:1-14 Dec. 8 –
"The Lord Set Up His Tent Among Us" Exodus 40:17-21; 34-38
Dec. 15 – "You Shall Defeat Them as One Man" Judges 6:11-24



"WHAT SWEETER MUSIC" A CHRISTMAS CANTATA SATURDAY, DEC. 11th 7 p.m. & SUNDAY, DEC. 12th 10:00 a.m.

Our Savior's Adult Choir, JuBELLation Choir, and instrumentalists from Our Savior & the Woodland Strings will be presenting our 2021 Christmas Cantata. These services are a great opportunity to invite a friend to worship and share the Gospel! A traditional worship service with Holy Communion is offered at 7:30 a.m. on December 12th.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE SUNDAY, DEC. 19th, 10 a.m.

Join the Our Savior Sunday School children for a special Christmas celebration, "Symbols of Salvation". How does the Christmas tree point to Jesus? Find out as we behold the Christ child through songs and readings. Share Christmas joy with our children & praise our Savior! A traditional worship service with Holy Communion is offered at 7:30 a.m.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 3 p.m. & 5 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP (with Holy Communion) SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25TH, 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26TH, 10 a.m.
(No 7:30 a.m. service)

Elders Meeting – November 10, 2021

Agenda:

1. Opening devotion
2. Advent/Christmas services discussion
3. Voter's meeting Elder candidate slate – new and renew discussion
4. November 21st service coverage
5. Christmas decoration assistance request
6. Children's message discussion
7. Sanctuary noise discussion
8. Shut-in visits
9. Closing

Notes:

- A. Meeting opened with prayer.
- B. Advent service in person on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM. Three services total. Talk with Jean to order new candles for Christmas Eve.
- C. Elders list of candidates for new term of 2022-2023; Pat Crum, Brad Anderson, Tim Forss.
- D. Nov. 21st elders service planned for both services. Pastor will be out of town for that weekend.
- E. November 29th, assistance needed for decorating the church for Advent/Christmas.
- F. Pastor has been approached by a few members to become involved in the Sunday morning children's messages. Elders considered this option/proposal and are not supportive of this.
- G. Pre-service noise discussed again. Needs more discussion at a later time.
- H. Shut in visits are continually occurring. Elders are encouraged to accompany Pastor when possible.
- I. Closed with the Lords Prayer.

Our Savior Lutheran

Evangelism Committee

8 Nov. 2021

5:00 pm

ATTENDEES

- Jim and Gloria Harper, Marlene Rieck, Pat & Jan Grosse, Gary Fawcett, Andrew Kaufmann, Pastor Kufahl.

• AGENDA

- budget
- Veterans Recognition

Old Business

Harvest Table

The Fall Harvest table will be set-up again during the month of November. There will be a collection of non-perishable food items and a container for monetary donation for those wishing to donate money.

Veterans recognition will take place on Sunday, November 14th. Also, gift certificates were mailed out to the veterans from our congregation, 25 in total, for those that submitted their names.

New Business

Budget was discussed and agreed upon to request \$38,000 for the upcoming year.

Sunday, December 5, 2021, is the Congregational Voters meeting, after the second service.

FORK Tree construction is scheduled for November 29th, 2021. Help is needed and requested.

Northwoods Share Dinner at The Rock is scheduled for February 15, 2022. Help is needed and requested.

Several members of the Evangelism Board have retired. Replacements will be needed for the upcoming year.

- *Next meeting of the Evangelism Board is January 3rd, 2022.*

Overjoyed by the Star

In Matthew 2, we read about the Visit of the Magi. Following the star, inquiring at the king's palace, informed by the priests where to find the Child, they trudged with determination to Bethlehem, bringing with them the gifts they planned to present as they worshiped Him. *"When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh"* (Matthew 2:10-11).

What did the Wise Men from the East know about this Baby or His family? Not much. Yet they came in faith, bringing gifts with them to honor Him. How far did they travel? How long was their trip? We can surmise, but what's important to know is that, for them, the trip with all its drudgery was worth it. "They were overjoyed."

How long a trip are we prepared to make this Christmas to worship the Christ Child? Are we willing to put up with inconvenience and sacrifice in order that we might come before Him with our gifts, offering them in faith, as the Wise Men did?

What causes our joy this Christmas season? Is it seeing the eyes of little children light up when they open their presents? That's good. Is it finding exactly the right gift for someone special? That's good, too. But are we "overjoyed" when we see the star? Contrary to the messages we hear in the commercials and even the seasonal songs, the only thing Christmas is about is the birth of Jesus, the Savior of the world.

Along with doing all the wonderful things that are good to do at this time of the year, including the visiting of sick and the shut-in, the baking of goodies for food banks, the sharing of financial resources with those in need, and all the shopping and caroling and everything else, let's find our joy in seeing the star. That star points us to Jesus and leads us to the Cross. Let us "open our treasures" and worship Him with our best and most precious gifts as the Wise Men did.

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.

Our Savior Lutheran Endowment

Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Becky Pokrandt. All members were in attendance: Pastor Kufahl, Al Barden, Rick Steinke, Barb Patterson, and Pat Grosse.

Rick Steinke led the group with an opening prayer. A review of the treasurer's report thru Lutheran Legacy was discussed and accepted.

Under old business, discussion was had regarding the designated grant money from the Memorial Wall project. A motion was made by Al Barden and seconded by Barb Patterson to roll the non-used funds of \$2100.00 into the upcoming 2022 grant budget. This motion passed.

Under new business, each committee member received the updated paperwork for the 2022 grant application process. There was discussion and review of the forms, and any necessary changes were made. Discussion was had regarding the means and ways of informing all congregational members of the upcoming grant application window. An all-congregational email, monthly newsletters, weekly bulletins, and the church website will be the tools used. All information will be forthcoming after the 1st of January.

It was also discussed as to ways in which endowment donors can be recognized. Al Barden made a motion and seconded by Pat Grosse to provide a bulletin thank you monthly. Motion passed.

The committee will reconvene in the spring for further business.

Motion to adjourn was made by Al Barden and seconded by Rick Steinke. With the motion carried, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Pastor Kufahl closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Pokrandt - Chairperson

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Martha Society News

MARTHA SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2021

There will not be a meeting in December but will reconvene in January of 2022. Birthdays for the month of December are Linda Cook, Sally Gibbs, and Connie Plisch. Anniversaries are Bev Ginnow and Angie Koritz.

At our November meeting we held nominations for the offices of Vice-President and Secretary. We also held elections for these two offices. Sue Kurth will serve as Vice-President and Diana Sell as secretary for another two years. Congratulations Sue and Diana.

Our last fundraiser of the year will be the cookie walk held on December 19 after the Children's Christmas Program. This will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Prices are still \$7/pound. We're asking for a donation of two dozen cookies from all those congregation members willing to do so. Cookie may be dropped off on Saturday during the program final practice.

Thank you to everyone who helped with our fundraisers this year, either by donating or attending. We're not able to donate to the missions without your help. Please remember the reason for the season is the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

God Bless,

Teri Kressin

President

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1 3:50pm Children's Christmas Rehearsal 5:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Advent Worship	2 9:30am Quilters 7pm Cantata Rehearsal	3 Office Closed	4 7am Men's Bible Study
5 7:30am Early Service/Comm 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service 11:15am Voters Meeting	6 7pm Cantata Instrumental Rehearsal	7 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6pm JuBELLation 7:15pm Cantata Choir Rehearsal	8 4pm W.O.W. 5:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Advent Worship 7:15pm Elders Meeting	9 9:30am Quilters 7pm Cantata Rehearsal	10 Office Closed	11 7am Men's Bible Study 9am Cantata Rehearsal 7pm Christmas Cantata
12 7:30am Early Service/Comm 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Christmas Cantata	13	14 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6pm JuBELLation 7:15pm Choir	15 4pm W.O.W. 5:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Advent Worship	16 9:30am Quilters	17 Office Closed	18 7am Men's Bible Study 9am Children's Christmas Rehearsal
19 7:30am Early Service/Comm 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Children's Christmas Service	20 9am Newsletter Articles Due	21 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6pm JuBELLation 7:15pm Choir	22	23 9:30am Quilters	24 Office Closed 3pm Candlelight Service 5pm Candlelight Service	25 7am Men's Bible Study 10am Worship/Communion
26 10am Worship/Communion	27	28 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilters	29	30 9:30am Quilters	31 Office Closed	1



December Birthdays

2	Kayden Halsey	20	Dana Lind
3	Arthur Granat	21	Mark Rehorst
	Sherri Congleton	22	Denise Riemer
4	William Lucas		Jay Numrich
5	Gerald Yetter	23	Justin Scafaro
	Willie Lorenz		Logan Lorenz
7	Audrey Husing	24	Chris Wise
8	Denise Voss	27	Beth Wernhart
10	Jennifer Messner		Gabriel Welch
11	Ashley Mai	28	Anna Westfall
	Bryson Kube	29	Carrie Holewinski
	Sally Gibbs		Tina Warfel
12	Connie Plisch	30	Brian Voss
13	Jacqueline Pearce		Chris Matthis
15	Elaine Peters		Lily Campbell
16	Carla Klein	31	Joseph Steinhage
	Eliyanah Welch		Karla Healy
17	Holly Nier		Shawn Uttech
	Raymond Hutts		Stewart Jackson

December Anniversaries

27	Robert & Beverly Ginnow
28	Scott & Angie Koritz
29	William & Barbara Hummel

<u>Date/Service</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Media Operators</u>
December 1 6:30 PM Advent	Gary Fawcett	Pat Grosse Jan Grosse			
December 5 7:30 AM Communion	Dick Cherney	Bob Merz Marv Jarvis		Mary Malinsky	Camera:
Acolyte: Matthew Klein					
December 5 10:00 AM	Pat Grosse	Dave Parker Lynn Parker	Lynn Parker	Jan Toivonen	Jackie Pearce
Acolyte: Naomi Kadlec					Camera:
December 8 6:30 PM Advent	Pat Grosse	Pat Grosse Jan Grosse			
December 11 7:00 pm Christmas Cantata	Gary Fawcett	Dave Parker Lynn Parker			
December 12 7:30 AM Communion	Jim Bonson	Bob Merz Jim Harper		Pat Crum	Camera:
Acolyte: Emily Sauer					
December 12 10:00 AM Christmas Cantata	Ron Hagen	Pat Grosse Jan Grosse Tim Forss	Holly Nier		Camera:
Acolyte: Samantha Ashenbrenner					
December 15 6:30 PM Advent	Ron Hagen	Pat Grosse Jan Grosse			
December 19 7:30 AM Communion	Pat Crum	Marv Jarvis Sue Frank		Sue Frank	Camera:
Acolyte: Cole Crum					
December 19 10:00 AM	Jacob Husing	Andy Ellenberger	Dawn Shantz	Sue Kurth	Camera:
Acolyte: Ashton Boehm					

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

December 24 3:00 PM	Keith Kentala	Marv Jarvis Sue Frank			
Candlelight Service					
Acolyte: Cole Crum					
December 24 5:00 PM	Tim Kadlec	Pat Grosse Jan Grosse			
Candlelight Service					Camera:
Acolyte: Naomi Kadlec					
December 25 10:00 AM	Pat Grosse	Jim Harper Jan Grosse			
Christmas Day					
Communion					
Acolyte: Matthew Klein					
December 26 10:00 AM	Keith Kentala	Grant Meyer Jerry Gifford Paul Kurth	Dawn Shantz	Marianne Braun	Jackie Pearce
Communion					
Acolyte: Christian Forss					Camera: