

December 2022 Newsletter

Our Savior Lutheran Church

223 Silver Lake Road, Eagle River WI 715-479-6226 (office) 715-479-7890 (fax)
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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

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

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

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, November 30th, December 7th & 14th at 7:00 pm
Advent Services

Saturday, December 10th at 7:00 pm
Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 11th at 10:00 am
Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 18th at 10:00 am
Children's Christmas Service

Saturday, December 24th at 3:00 pm & 5:00 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 25th at 10:00 am
Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion

Children's Ministry Report (Birth-Grade 6) November 2022

Sunday School

Please pray for our Sunday school teachers and Bible study teachers each week as we share God's Word. Teachers, thank you for your dedication and love!

Communication – I send out an email each Monday for families to receive ways to review the weekly lesson at home. It is also a good way to give reminders of upcoming events and opportunities.

Mission Project – Operation Christmas Child sends shoe box gifts to children in need around the world. Our packing party is coming up on Sunday, November 6th, during the Sunday school hour! Children will each pack one box, write a note to include in the box, and pray for the children who will receive our boxes. THANK YOU to everyone who has packed a box at home or given monetary offerings! Shipping costs are \$10 per box. The \$10 includes the cost of a Bible book that is given to each child that receives a box. Go to www.samaritanspurse.org for more information. Boxes will be blessed on Sunday, November 13th before starting on their journey.

Bible Buck Store – Our first Bible buck store will be open on November 6th. Thank you to Laura Lorenz for shopping for us!

Birthday Celebrations – Children receive a card, bookmark, and small gift on their birthdays. Thank you to Holly Nier for preparing the cards & gifts for the children!

Singing for Worship – Thank you to our students in grades 1-8 who shared their faith and musical talents with us on Sunday, October 23rd, at the 10 am service!

Christmas Service – Our children's Christmas service, "From the Manger to the Cross" will be held on Sunday, December 18th, at 10 am. Through drama, special music, and Scripture, the children will share how Christmas and Easter are connected. Jesus came that first Christmas, to live, die on Good Friday, and rise again on Easter so that we are loved and forgiven children of God! Our PreK and kindergarten children will be participating at the beginning of the worship service and then sit with their families. We will rehearse on Sunday mornings and grades 1-8 will have two special rehearsals: Saturdays, December 3rd & 17th, 9-11 am. Special thanks to Laura Campbell who is directing our drama team and Carol Litchfield for her help with props.

Bible Reading Challenge – Our Unit 1 Bible reading challenge will be completed at the end of November. I will check with teachers and families to evaluate the challenge for Unit 2 that will begin in January.

Children's Choir & Chime Choir – Our children's choir meets on Wednesdays from 4:40-5:15 pm. We have an awesome group of singers ready to praise the Lord! We are preparing music for worship as well as learning music for the Christmas service. Our chime choir (grades 5-8) is also preparing music for the Christmas service.

Candy bags – The Board of Christian Ed will provide children with small candy bags after our Christmas service on December 18th. Any donations or suggestions for gifts are welcome.

Family Ministry / Cradle Roll –

College Students – I reached out and received updated addresses from 8 of our college students. The new addresses are on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please consider sending a note to encourage them! Thank you for your prayers as well!

VBS 2023 – I will be attending a VBS showcase at the Ark Encounter on January 27th-28th, 2023. This will include lots of ideas and information about our 2023 VBS theme, "Keepers of the Kingdom" based on Ephesians 6, the armor of God. I will share what I learn on my return! All of our curriculum supplies have been ordered at a discount and with free shipping.

Board of Christian Education Meeting

Wednesday 11/02/22 – 6:45pm @ Church

IN ATTENDANCE: Rick Behrens, Carol Litchfield, Marlene Rieck, Pastor Kufahl, Will Jackson

MEETING AGENDA (MINUTES IN PARENTHESIS)

1. Opening: Prayer/ Devotional (Led by Rick)
2. Review minutes that were emailed to all after last meeting. (Carol motioned to accept, @nd by Rick. Passed unanimously)
3. Financial Report- Rick (Carol motioned to accept, 2nd by Rick. Passed unanimously)
4. Children's Report- Marlene (See Marlene's awesome report for more info!)
5. Youth Updates- Youth Leader or Representative (Will presented.)
(Youth Group going well with a consistent 4 or more each meeting. Talked about the upcoming ideas and how things are progressing.)
6. Old Business items:
 1. Paintings of the 1-2nd grade and 3-4th grade classrooms (Most likely to paint background/base coat over Christmas break. Looking into design ideas including decals)
 2. Recruiting new board members is ALWAYS on our minds!
 3. Ladies Bible study (Carol and Marlene originally planned to start in fall, but are reconsidering that to start in winter going into spring, due to holiday busy times)
 4. Trunk or Treat- Post event discussion
 5. 2023 Budget
7. New Business items:
 1. None to Discuss
8. Next meeting: TBD (Usually no December meeting due to busy schedules. Meeting tentatively set for January 4, 2023 @ 6:45 at the church)
9. Close with the Lord's Prayer

Our Savior Lutheran

Evangelism Committee

7 November 2022

5:00 pm

ATTENDEES

- Jim Harper, Marlene Rieck, Pat & Jan Grosse, Gary Fawcett, Pastor Kufahl and Greg Highstrom.

AGENDA

- Old business follow-up

Veterans Recognition

Veterans' recognition will take place on Sunday, November 13. Letters from the Pastor and the congregation have been sent out to each veteran, along with a gift card from Pic & Save.

New business

Northwoods Share dinner is scheduled for February 21, 2023. We will be actually serving the meal this time, so extra "hands" will be needed from the congregation to accomplish this event as most of our board members will be "down south" for the season. Trigs will be asked to cater the meal again this year.

The new member information package is being reviewed and updated by Greg Highstrom and Gary Fawcett. The updated letters and materials will be presented to the Evangelism Committee for review and finalized when completed.

Next meeting of the Evangelism Committee is February 6, 2023

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.

Martha Society News

MARTHA SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2022

The end of the year quickly approaches and filled with the most activities. Martha is holding the Congregational Christmas party at Eagle Waters on December 7. Our entertainment will be the Madrigal Singers from the High School. Hope you got your tickets. It will be wonderful fellowship.

We held election for the offices of President and Treasurer at our last meeting. Teri Kressin will hold another 2-year term. Donna Liedtke will be our new treasurer. Thanks to Karla Lokker for her hard work these last several years in this office.

Martha Society will hold the annual cookie walk after the Children's Christmas Program on December 18. The cost will be \$8 per pound. We're asking for donations from the ladies (and gentleman) of the congregation . This can be cookies, breads, and candies. Please have them to church by early service on Sunday morning. Questions, please call me, Teri Kressin. Thank you.

Thank you to all ladies in the Martha Society for your hard work in 2022. Thank you for all the help from Pastor, Marlene, and Jean.

Remember the reason for the season as we prepare to celebrate our Savior's birth. Have a Blessed CHRISTmas and Joyous New Year!

Teri Kressin

President

Martha Society

Date/Service	Elders	Ushers	Greeters	Readers	Media Operators
December 4 7:30 AM Communion	Art Granat	Debbie Holewinski Jim Harper	Kris Secord	Mary Malinsky	Vicki Holewinski
Acolyte: Connor Clark					
December 4 10:00 AM	Ron Hagen	Rick Behrens Karen Behrens	Dawn Shantz	Jan Toivonen	Shele Fawcett
Acolyte: Kamryn Boehm					Camera:
December 7 7:00 PM Advent	Ron Hagen	Lynn Parker			
December 10 7:00 pm Christmas Cantata	Pat Crum	Need volunteer			
December 11 7:30 AM Communion	Jim Bonson	Chuck Healy Karla Healy	Robin Nikolaus	Pat Crum	Camera:
Acolyte: Izzy Stenschke					
December 11 10:00 AM Christmas Cantata	Keith Kentala	Tim Forss Christian Forss	Hilda Rozga	Diane Kuntz	Camera:
Acolyte: Hannah Forss					
December 14 7:00 PM Advent	Keith Kentala	Lynn Parker			
December 18 7:30 AM Communion	Pat Crum	Bob Merz Sue Frank	Kris Secord	Sue Frank	Camera:
Acolyte: Emily Sauer					
December 18 10:00 AM	Art Granat	Andy Ellenberger Gerald Yetter	Dawn Shantz	Sue Kurth	Jackie Pearce
Acolyte: Jessica Kadlec					Camera:

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

December 24 3:00 PM Candlelight Service Acolyte: Adalynn Kufahl	Keith Kentala	Gerald Yetter		
December 24 5:00 PM Candlelight Service Acolyte: Bristol Parling	Tim Kadlec	Need volunteer		Camera:
December 25 10:00 AM Christmas Day Communion Acolyte: Jack Westfall	Art Granat	Grant Meyer Jerry Gifford Paul Kurth	Dawn Shantz	

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
7:30am Early Service 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service 11:15am Voters Meeting		9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 6pm JuBELLation 7pm Cantata Choir 7:45pm Choir	4pm 5th/6th Grade W.O.W. 4:30pm Children's Choir 5pm Grades 5-8 Hand Chime Rehearsal 5:30pm Confirmation 7pm Advent Worship 7:30pm High School Youth Group	7pm Cantata Full Rehearsal	Office Closed	7am Men's Bible Study 9am Rehearsal Gr. 1-8 Sunday School
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7:30am Early Service 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Christmas Cantata		9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 6pm JuBELLation 7pm Choir	10:30am Martha Board 11:30am Martha Meeting 4pm 5th/6th Grade W.O.W. 4:30pm Children's Choir 5:30pm Confirmation 7pm Advent Worship 7:30pm High School Youth Group	15	Office Closed	7am Men's Bible Study 9am Cantata Final Rehearsal 7pm Christmas Cantata
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
7:30am Early Service 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Children's Christmas Service		9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 6pm JuBELLation 7pm Choir	5pm Grades 5-8 Hand Chime Rehearsal 7pm High School Youth Group	22	Office Closed	3pm Candlelight Service 5pm Candlelight Service
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
7:30am Early Service 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Children's Christmas Service		9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 6pm JuBELLation 7pm Choir	4:15pm Middle School Youth Group 7pm High School Youth Group	29	Office Closed	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
10am Worship/Communion		9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting			Office Closed	