

May 2023 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.



May Memory Verse

Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ

Romans 10:17

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

William & Alicia Jackson, Youth Leaders

Brad Anderson, Congregational President

Upcoming Events:

Confirmation Sunday ~ Sunday, May 7th at 10:00 am
Reception after worship

Summer Worship Schedule Begins
Saturday, May 27th at 7:00 pm
Sunday, May 28th at 9:00 am

Children's Ministry Report (Birth-Grade 6) April 2023

Sunday School –

Mission Project Updates – Thank you for your gifts to the Lutheran Heritage Foundation to purchase Bible books for Ukrainian families! We sent \$405 to purchase 81 books. Please pray that many people are blessed with the hope and peace we have through Jesus!

Spring Mission Project – This Easter season we continue to collect offerings for the LC-MS World Relief and Human Care. Our offerings will be used to help those who have experienced natural and man-made disasters. To learn more, go to lcms.org/mercy. Thank you!

Bible Reading Challenge – Many of our Sunday school students are doing a great job on our Bible reading challenge! After every 20 minutes of reading, students receive a Bible buck. \$1 is donated to our current mission project for every 20 minutes that is read.

Total for mission project: \$21 (\$191 sent to LHF)

We are having a boy/girl competition to see who will take a pie to the face on May 21st.

Totals so far: BOYS 2,140 minutes GIRLS 2,100 minutes

Singing in Worship – Thank you to our students in grades 1-8 who sang with our adult choir at both services on Palm Sunday, April 2nd! Our preK & kindergarten children will sing for worship on Sunday, May 21st, at the 10 am service.

Easter Mini-Musical - Grades 1-8 are preparing to share an Easter musical on Sunday, April 30th, at the 10 am service. We will have a special rehearsal on Saturday, April 29th, 9-10:30 am. Hope you can join us as we praise our risen Savior!

Family Ministry / Cradle Roll –

Chapel for Home School Families – Thank you to those who were able to attend our home school chapel on Wednesday, March 29th. Our next chapel will be Wednesday, April 26th, at 11 am.

Family Resources – Each Monday I send an email to families to review our Sunday school lesson and to share the Family Activity Page (families with 5K-8th grade) and the God Talk sheet (families with 2-3 year olds). I also share reminders and upcoming events.

IF:Gathering – Our second local IF:Gathering was held March 3rd-4th. 33 women attended our event. We were blessed through the study of Psalm 23, presented by many speakers throughout the weekend. Thank you to our host committee: Amy Kufahl, Brenda Husing, Karla Healy, Carol Litchfield, Holly Nier, and me. IF:Gathering 2024 will be held live from Dallas on February 23-24, 2024. We could host an IF:Local on the same weekend or choose to watch it delayed.

Vacation Bible School –

“Keepers of the Kingdom” Vacation Bible School will be held July 24th-27th from 9-noon each day for children ages 3-12. Registration is open and can be accessed on our website. We have 25 students pre-registered so far. A postcard invite was sent to former participants and current church families. A reminder registration link is included in weekly Sunday school emails.

At Keepers of the Kingdom VBS, children will learn how they are part of God's kingdom through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God's Son. God equips us with His armor to become Keepers of the Kingdom who stand strong in today's battle for Truth. Throughout the week we will focus on each piece of the Armor of God from Ephesians 6.

The four daily themes will be: Monday-Two Kingdoms & the Belt of Truth; Tuesday-The Breastplate and Shoes; Wednesday-The Shield and Helmet; Thursday-The Sword & Prayer

We will have the much-anticipated daily drama each day with two scenes presented on Thursday. Laura Campbell is directing our drama team of six individuals. We will be able to borrow medieval dresses from Northland Pines High School for the female actors. Laura and I would like to have a costume coordinator this year.

We have a great group of volunteers so far! Volunteers can sign up on our church website or contact me. I will be contacting volunteers and setting up meetings soon.

A closing program and lunch are tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 27th, at 11:30 am.

Elders Meeting – April 12, 2023; 7-8 PM

Agenda:

1. Opening devotion
2. Shut-in update
3. Vicarage program update
4. Circuit pastoral openings update
5. LCMS convention update
6. Summer service schedule, potential time change discussion
7. Confirmation
8. Elder service training/Pastoral vacation support
9. Lenten dinner money allocation
10. General discussion, open topics
11. Closing

Attendees: Pastor, Art, Brad, Pat Crum, Tim, Ron, Keith

Notes:

- Pastor opened the meeting with an Easter gospel devotion.
- Circuit pastoral openings were discussed. Several parishes continue to be served by retired Pastors. A circuit meeting with the District President is being contemplated to discuss options these churches may have on a go forward basis.
- Vicarage program will not occur this year. We will revisit in the future should Vicar's become available for our consideration.
- Nothing new to report on the upcoming Synodical convention in Milwaukee this summer.
- Worship time for Saturday summer worship schedule was discussed. It was decided to continue to gather for worship at 7 PM, status quo.
- Elder service training will occur at next month's Elder's meeting.
- Lenten monies collected will be ear marked for the churches sponsorship of Eagle River youth baseball jersey's this summer. Jersey's will highlight our church name on them.
- New members continue to be catechized by Pastor. Those in need of bibles will be given a Lutheran Study edition.
- Artwork for the sanctuary will arrive this Friday. Pastor will work with the board of trustees on framing. Dedication of each painting will be coordinated by Pastor.
- Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Board of Christian Education Meeting

Wednesday 4/13/23 – 5:00pm @ Church

In Attendance: Rick Behrens, Carol Litchfield, Lynn Parker, Sue Kurth, Marlene

MEETING AGENDA

1. Opening: Prayer/ Devotional
2. Review minutes that were emailed to all after last meeting. (Motion to accept from Sue, 2nd from Lynn. Passed)
3. Financial Report- Rick (Motioned to accept from Rick, Carol 2nd. Passed)
4. Children's Report- Marlene (See Marlene's awesome report for more info!)
5. Youth Updates- Youth Leader or Representative (Pastor updated on youth, the servant event, confirmation, etc.)
6. Old Business items:
 1. Recruiting new board members is ALWAYS on our minds!
 2. Lenten Supper takeaways from 3/22
 3. Asheville Servant Event- July 7-20th Updates (Waiting on a couple registration packets yet, and there is a vehicle available from Parsons, but not as big as a van, so we are still exploring possibilities.)
 4. Luke (Trigger) from Camp Luther would like to do more with the church, and expand his horizons. Retreats, connections, etc...
7. New Business items:
 1. Youth Room/Lower Level Rooms- Removal of unused/unnecessary items, reminder of respect of those rooms/areas and their contents (Discussion had about cleaning out things we don't use or need. Opening up space for the area)
 2. Confirmation coming May 7th- Reception following 10am svc hosted by our board? (Board of Ed will host the reception. Carol offered to take the photo again. Sue offered to get the corsages.)
 3. High School Grad Recognition- June 4th @ 9am. Slideshow, gifts for grads. Seniors include: Hunter Behnke, Emily Rottier- Douangmala, Krystal Kasmarek, Russell Klein, Gaige Marien
8. Next meeting: Tuesday May 9, 2023, 6pm @ Church
9. Close with the Lord's Prayer

Board of Evangelism Meeting

April 3, 2023

ATTENDEES

Pastor Kufahl, Jim Harper, Greg Highstrom, Marlene Rieck, Ron & Katelynn Ritzer, and guest Brad Anderson.

AGENDA

New Business

- Easter meals will be picked at Trig's, Thursday April 6th, at 7:00 am for delivery to Land-O-Lakes, St. Germain and Eagle River Elementary. There are 71 meals to be delivered.
 - The Embrace Grace program will be presented to the Council meeting April 19th.
 - Outdoor worship was discussed, and a preliminary date was set for June 11th. Event will be advertised in the local paper, radio and Chamber of Commerce.
 - Ideas for a 4th of July parade were discussed: billboards on trailer with outreach programs conducted by Our Savior congregation; pass out inspirational cards with lifesavers/lollipops attached, chip clips with Our Savior printed on them and small bottles of water with logos. Other ideas are welcome.
 - A big thanks to Marlene, Adalynn and Alayna and Pastor for putting together insert packets for the Easter meal bags.
-
- ***Next Board of Evangelism meeting: May 8th, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.***

God's Draft Choices

Two of the most highly watched sporting events on television are not when teams or athletes are competing against each other; rather they involve the drafting of players for the National Football League (NFL) and National Basketball Association (NBA) teams. For many hours, fans of professional sports will watch intently to see whom their favorite teams will draft.

Most of us won't be drafted by professional football or basketball teams, but, as Christians, we receive a greater calling. We, in essence, are God's draft choices. *"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit"* (John 15:16). God has made us a part of His team. We are not chosen by God because we are successful in our careers, great athletes, or wealthy. God chooses ordinary people to do extra-ordinary things. *"But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are"* (1 Corinthians 1:27-28).

Through faith, we understand that we are among the foolish and weak through whom God carries on his life-saving work. *"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us"* (2 Corinthians 4:7). God entrusts us—clay jars—with this treasure—the Gospel. Even though we are frail and unworthy of our tasks, God has chosen us to carry His message of love to the world. As humble people of faith, we are empowered by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. He transforms and molds us. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"* (2 Corinthians 5:17). It is God Who does the drafting and the changing. Through faith, we will stay on God's team, and we will bear the fruit that He calls us to bear.

The professional athletes who are drafted are expected to perform. They are paid large sums of money to do very athletic things. As God's chosen people, we may not receive large compensation, but our benefits are out of this world! Therefore, we are eager to use our lives and resources in God's service for His glory. Paul wrote, *"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"* (Ephesians 2:10). What a privilege it is to be part of and serving on God's winning team!

Martha Society News

MARTHA SOCIETY

MAY 2023

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10. There is a Board meeting at 10:30 followed by a luncheon at 11:30. The general membership meeting will start at 12 noon. Hostesses are Carol Johnson and Lois Parnitzke. Christian fellowship will be given by Diana Sell.

We have a guest speaker, Mandy Rottier, who will present the program "Embrace Grace".

Approval has been given to start this program at Our Savior and we would like to hear about it and how we might possibly get involved. Any woman from our congregation is welcome to attend.

The LWML Spring Rally was held on April 20 at Peace Lutheran Church. We had a good turnout from our ladies. Lunch was delicious. The keynote speaker was their pastor who spoke on his mission trip to Honduras. Donna Liedtke and myself gave the Christian Life presentation on Holy Communion. We brought unleavened bread to be distributed at the closing of the rally with communion.

Our main topic for discussion will be our card party/salad luncheon to be held on May 17. Ticket sales have started. Sharon Gifford is the chairperson for the fundraiser. We're hoping for a great turnout. Remember, men are invited as well as women.

We'll be getting more information regarding the four-year-old girl we adopted through India Transformed. There has been some confusion regarding this.

Also, please bring your ideas for missions that should be approved prior to the LWML National Convention. I, as your delegate, will be voting on them the latter part of May.

We extend a welcome to all ladies of our congregation to come and attend a meeting as our guest. A special thank you to all the Martha ladies and the tremendous jobs they are doing to make the salad luncheon, card party a success. Our next meeting will be June 14.

Teri Kressin

President



North WI District Disaster Response

*Gospel centered
care for both body
and soul in times
of tragedy.*



1 JOHN 4:19 **WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US.**



DISASTER RESPONSE SUNDAY

Tornadoes. Fires. Floods. When disaster strikes, immediate response is often crucial. But where to start? How should volunteers be managed? What training is needed for good-intentioned groups wanting to serve? The North WI District has a Disaster Response Coordinator to help congregations manage a disaster in their location and support the disaster response of congregations looking to serve. Sunday April 30th is simply a day to become more aware of and support NWD Disaster Response.

DISASTER RESPONSE OPPORTUNITIES



TRAIN



SUPPORT



NETWORK

**DISASTER RESPONSE
COORDINATOR
PR. ANDY WEDEN**

715-345-6510
aweden@uwsp.edu

NWD LCMS
3103 Seymour Lane
Wausau, WI 54401



Train

- *Lutheran Early Response Training (LERT)*



Support

- *Spiritual*
- *Supplies*
- *Equipment*



Network

- *Regional*
- *National*
- *Synod*

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- *Pray for people suffering through disasters.*
- *Consider your congregation's plan to serve those in need.*
- *Donate to the NWD Disaster Response ministry*

**CONTACT
PASTOR
ANDY
WEDEN
715-345-6510**

<u>Date/Service</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Media Operators</u>
May 7 7:30 AM <i>Communion</i>	Art Granat	Debbie Holewinski Jim Harper	Kris Secord Debbie Holewinski	Debbie Holewinski	Vicki Holewinski
Acolyte: Izzy Stenschke					
May 7 10:00 AM	Jake Campbell	Rick Behrens RJ Behrens	Dawn Shantz	Rick Behrens	Dawn Lauber
Acolyte: Ellie Wilson					Camera: Dana Lind
May 14 7:30 AM	Jim Bonson	Chuck Healy Karla Healy	Bob & Rhonda Arndt	Vicki Holewinski	
Acolyte: Emily Sauer					Camera: Dan Scafaro
May 14 10:00 AM <i>Communion</i>	Tim Forss	Christian Forss Jennifer Kazmarek	Holly Nier	Priscilla Ellenberger	Jackie Pearce
Acolyte: Samantha Aschenbrenner					
May 21 7:30 AM <i>Communion</i>	Pat Crum	Bob Merz Sue Frank	Robin Nikolaus	Sue Frank	Vicki Holewinski
Acolyte: Connor Clark					
May 21 10:00 AM	Tim Kadlec	Andy Ellenberger Gerald Yetter	Priscilla Ellenberger	Diane Kuntz	Dawn Lauber
Acolyte: Naomi Kadlec					Camera:
May 27 7:00 PM	Keith Kentala	Jim Bonson	Bob & Rhonda Arndt	Pat Crum	
Acolyte: Izzy Stenschke					Camera:
May 28 9:00 AM <i>Communion</i>	Brad Anderson	Grant Meyer Gerry Gifford Paul Kurth	Hilda Rozga	Cindy Gauger	Sharon Gifford
Acolyte: Kamryn Boehm					

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

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 7:30am Early Service/Comm 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service/Comm	1	2 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 7pm Choir	3 4pm 5th/6th Grade W.O.W. 4:30pm Jr. Choir 5:30pm Confirmation Class (8th Grade Only) 7pm High School Youth Group	4	5 Office Closed	6 7am Men's Bible Study
7 7:30am Early Service/Comm 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service (Confirmation)	8 5pm Evangelism Meeting	9 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting	10 10am Endowment Meeting 10:30am Martha Board 11:30am Martha 7pm High School Youth Group	11	12 Office Closed	13 7am Men's Bible Study
14 7:30am Early Service 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service/Comm	15	16 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting	17 11am Martha Card Party 7pm High School Youth Group	18	19 Office Closed	20 7am Men's Bible Study
21 7:30am Early Service/Comm 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service	22	23 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting	24 7pm High School Youth Group	25	26 Office Closed	27 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Saturday Evening
28 9am Sunday Worship/Communion	29	30 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting	31 11am Homeschool Chapel 4:15pm Middle School Youth Group 7pm High School Youth Group	1	2 Office Closed	3 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Saturday Evening/Communion