

March 2024 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.

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and
forget not all His benefits,
Who forgives all your iniquity,
Who heals all
your diseases.*

Psalm 103:2-3



March Memory Verse

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits,
who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.*

Psalm 103:2-3

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 (Cell)

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

Jackie Pearce, Choir Director

Vicki Holewinski, JuBELLation Director

Brad Anderson, Congregational President
715-479-6226 (Church Office)

Upcoming Events:

Midweek Lenten Services
March 6th, 13th, 20th @ 4:30pm
Lenten Suppers @ 5:15pm

Palm Sunday, March 24th, 7:30 & 10:00 am

Maundy Thursday, March 28th, 7:00 pm
with Holy Communion

Good Friday, March 29th, 1:00 & 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, March 31st, 7:30 & 10:00 am
with Holy Communion

Children's Ministry Report (Birth-Grade 6) February 2024

Sunday School –

Mission Projects - During February we continue to support Phil's Friends, a non-profit whose mission is to provide Christ-centered support and hope to those affected by cancer. For a \$100 donation, Phil's Friends will send a care package and 12 months of Cards of Hope to a cancer patient. Our goal is \$300 to provide hope in Jesus for three cancer patients. We will also color Cards of Hope on our Mission Sunday, February 25th. Thank you for sharing God's love through your offerings!

Bible Reading Challenge – Our Sunday school students can take part in a Bible reading challenge until February 25th. To take part in the challenge, students fill out a chart for every 5 minutes of Bible reading. A Bible buck is given after every 20 minutes of reading. Parents/guardians need to sign the chart prior to turning it into teachers. \$1 will be given to our current mission project for every 5 minutes of reading. The classroom that reads the most minutes will receive prizes!

Bible GameDay/Mission Sunday – On Sunday, February 25th, we are having a Bible game day and mission project focus during the education hour. Students will color Cards of Hope for cancer patients that will be distributed through Phil's Friends (See information above). They will enjoy Bible games with their class and the Bible buck store will be open. Anyone interested in helping to make the Bible games, please let me know!

Music Opportunities – Our chime choir is preparing to play for worship on Sunday, February 18th, and for the midweek Lent service on March 13th. The junior choir is preparing to sing for worship on Wednesday, February 21st, and Sunday, March 10th. Our Sunday school students will sing with the adult choir on Palm Sunday, March 24th, at both services. A special rehearsal is planned Saturday, March 23rd, at 9 am.

Family Ministry / Cradle Roll –

Lent Begins – Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Our midweek Lenten services will be held at 4:30 pm and online. On Ash Wednesday two services will be offered at 4:30 & 7 pm.

Chapel for Home School Families – Pastor and I continue to offer chapel for home school families on the last Wednesday of the month at 11 am. Our February chapel will be February 28th.

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.

Staffed Nursery – We have approximately \$250 left in a grant that helped us support and pay a nursery director. I'd like to use some of those funds to update our worship bags for children. I'd like to purchase new Bible related books and activities that could engage children during worship. They continue to listen and learn while they stay busy during worship!

College Students – We have an additional \$100 for college ministry from the Martha Society. Should care packages be sent again this semester? Any other ideas to encourage them in their faith?

Faith Legacy Retreat for 5th/6th/7th grade Girls and Moms – We have four families committed to our mother/daughter retreat for preteen girls and their moms on March 15th/16th at Camp Luther. Laura Campbell will be our speaker and a group of women are helping to make the weekend a memorable one for the girls and their moms. The purpose of the weekend is to strengthen the mother/daughter bond, encourage communication, and discuss upcoming changes and relationships in the teen years.

Vacation Bible School –

Registration has begun for the "The Great Jungle Journey" Vacation Bible School which will be held August 5th-8th from 9-noon each day for children ages 3-12. Children will take an epic cruise from Genesis to Revelation to discover that history is centered on His Story, the story of Jesus and God's plan of salvation for us. A closing program and lunch are tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 8th, at 11:30 am.

Volunteers - I've started checking in with former volunteers to see if they are able to help this year. New volunteers are welcome!

VBS Conference - Carol Litchfield, Mike Rieck, and I enjoyed the VBS training and showcase we attended at the Ark Encounter on January 26th & 27th. On Friday we listened to various speakers who gave us Biblical, apologetic, and informative talks about the 7 Cs of history which will be covered during VBS this summer. On Saturday we learned and explored various aspects of VBS including the Bible teaching, crafts, snacks, drama overview, decorating ideas, software, and general tips about The Great Jungle Journey. After reading the Bible lessons and attending the Bible overview session I feel prepared to equip our Bible teachers. I also have new ideas for organization and kid appeal.

Supplies - All supplies are purchased (including T-shirts) from Answers in Genesis with a discount and free shipping. Snack, craft, decoration, and game materials/supplies will still need to be purchased or collected.

Other Board of Education items:

Campership – Our 2024 Board of Education camperships went to Hadley Hoelzel and Abbie Forss. IMPACT awards for 8th, 9th, and 10th graders were given to Naomi Kadlec and Connor Clark. Every Kid to Camp certificates from the North Wisconsin District went to JD Husing and Amelia Husing.

Past winners of Board of Christian Education campership: 2018 Naomi Kadlec; 2019 Kamryn Boehm; 2020 Isabella Stenschke; 2021 Adalynn Kufahl; 2022 Kayden Halsey, Hannah Kadlec, Jessica Kadlec; 2023 Toby Kadlec, Ava Kube
IMPACT Award for 8th, 9th, or 10th graders: 2020 Emily Rottier; 2022 Alex Gensch; 2023 CJ Forss

Women's Bible Study – Our Wednesday morning Bible study continues to have good attendance. We are studying "God's Unbreakable Promises" from RightNow Media. Amy Kufahl is offering the same Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm. We are now considering a Bible study for Lent.

IF:Gathering – Our IF:Local for woman will be held Saturday, April 6th, 8 am to 5 pm. The planning committee will be meeting soon to work on details. Members of the committee will watch the live event later this month to decide what will be included in our event. Registration is open and can be accessed from our website. More publicity to come!

Board of Christian Education Meeting

Sunday 02/04/2024 after Late Svc @ Church

**In Attendance: Rick Behrens, Carol Litchfield, Amber Reiner, Sue Kurth, Pastor Kufahl,
Marlene Rieck, Dexter Kube**

MEETING AGENDA (MINUTES IN PARENTHESIS)

1. Opening: Prayer/ Devotional (Led by Pastor)
2. Review minutes that were emailed to all after last meeting. (Motion by Rick, 2nd by Carol, passed unanimously)
3. Financial Report- Rick (Pending approval. Rick will email a digital copy out to board members to approve.)
4. Children's Report- Marlene (See Marlene's awesome report for more info!)
5. Youth Updates- Youth Leader or Representative (Pastor updated on the youth. Servant event is planned, and transportation is all taken care of.)
6. Old Business items:
 1. Recruiting new board members is ALWAYS on our minds!
7. New Business items:
 1. VBS Conference (Carol and Marlene updated about their experience. See Marlene's Report for info!)
 2. Lenten Supper March 20th – Pulled Pork & the fixings
8. Next meeting: March 3rd After Late svc
9. Close with the Lord's Prayer

Evangelism meeting

February 5, 2024

Attendance: Joe Sanfilippo, Greg Highstrom, Marlene Reich, Pastor Kufahl, Jim Harper

Old business: Northwoods Share Dinner; Preparations have been completed for the dinner. The dinner will be served on February 20th. The Incredible Bank staff have offered to supply servers to help with the meal, as well as helping with the finances. The dinner will be picked up at about 4:30 pm and delivered to the Rock for service at 5:00 pm. Pastor Kufahl will deliver the devotion and blessing. We will be serving approximately 110 people.

New business: The Easter Basket program is coming in March. The board decided to go with a breakfast theme this year. The monetary value for each bag/basket was set at \$35.00. Jim will coordinate with Mike at Trig's for the setup for each bag with the price limit in mind. If everything goes as planned, help will be needed to deliver the bags/basket to area schools of Eagle River Elementary, St. Germain Elementary, Land O Lakes Elementary, and Phelps School on Thursday, March 21, 2024.

Community Outreach Ideas and suggestions:

Pastor Kufahl reported that a couple of new families joining our congregation, stated that they received their information from our booth at the Farmer's Market. **God is Amazing!!** We will continue to have a presence at the Farmer's Market as one Outreach to our community. Other ideas for Community Outreach were suggested and discussed. They are as follows;

Contact the local Chamber of Commerce for ideas for other needs in our community. Also contact city hall for other ideas. Greg will follow through with these ideas.

Joe suggested that we purchase gift cards from our local businesses and had them out to our congregation and others to be used in support of said businesses.

Pastor suggested that we consider meeting at a local restaurant after Sunday services, for a breakfast meal (a second service), in support of said businesses; He also suggested that we consider further outreach to surrounding communities as some other congregations are without a permanent pastor.

Another possible outreach suggested is contacting a local chapter/organization that is working to stop human trafficking in our community and surrounding areas. These are only a few suggestions and ideas to extend our evangelism outreach to our and other surrounding communities. Other ideas and suggestions are welcome and will be discussed by the Board.

The next Board meeting will be held on March 4, 2024.

Do Not Be Afraid!

"A young man dressed in a white robe . . . said, 'You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, Who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter . . .'" (Mark 16:5-7).

"Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid" (Mark 16:8).

Who wouldn't tremble and be afraid! You go to anoint a body to prepare it for a proper burial, but the body is missing. Then some ethereal creature tells you the body isn't there because it is no longer dead but alive. Who could take it in? *"Don't be alarmed"* the man in white said. Yeah, right!

Yet, looking back, perhaps the women remembered the thousands He had fed with only two fish and five loaves of bread (Matthew 14:15-21). Maybe they thought again about the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:38-44). After all, He was the one who had stilled the raging sea (Mark 4:35-41).

Somewhere, sometime, that trembling and bewilderment turned to joy and faith, for they did go tell His disciples and Peter (Matthew 28:8). And Jesus met them and greeted them, and they worshipped Him. *"Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brothers . . .'" (Matthew 28:9-10).*

Jesus' last command is the same as this one: Don't be afraid. Go and tell. We can understand the fear of the women at the empty tomb. What are we afraid of? Trouble? Or hardship? Persecution? Or famine? Nakedness? Or danger? Or sword? There is no fear in these things! *"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him Who loved us"* (Romans 8:35, 37). We have the benefit of history. The women at the tomb couldn't fathom the outcome, but we have God's Word that assures us of our victory in Christ. We have His promise, *"And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age"* (Matthew 28:20). So don't be afraid! Go and tell!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 7:30am Early Service 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service/Comm	26	27 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 5:45pm JuBELLation 7pm Choir	28 9am Women's Bible Study 11am Homeschool Chapel 4:30pm Lenten Service 5:15pm Lenten Dinner 5:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm Women's Bible Study 7pm HS Youth Group	29	1 Office Closed	2 7am Men's Bible Study
3 7:30am Early Service/Comm 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service	4	5 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 5:45pm JuBELLation 7pm Choir	6 9am Women's Bible Study 4:30pm Lenten Service 5:15pm Lenten Dinner 5:30pm Confirmation 7pm HS Youth Group	7	8 Office Closed	9 7am Men's Bible Study
10 7:30am Early Service 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service/Comm	11	12 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 5:45pm JuBELLation 7pm Choir	13 9am Women's Bible Study 10:30am Martha Board 11:30am Martha 4:30pm Lenten Service 5:15pm Lenten Dinner 5:30pm Confirmation 7pm Elders Meeting 7pm HS Youth Group	14	15 Office Closed	16 7am Men's Bible Study

<p>17</p> <p>7:30am Early Service/Comm 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 7pm Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9am Women's Bible Study 4:30pm Lenten Service 5:15pm Lenten Dinner 5:30pm Confirmation 7pm HS Youth Group</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7am Men's Bible Study 9am Rehearsal Gr. 1-8 Sunday School & Adult Choir</p>
<p>24</p> <p>7:30am Early Service 8:45am Education Hour for all ages 10am Late Service/Comm</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 7pm Choir</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9am Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7pm Maundy Thursday Service/Comm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Office Closed 1pm Good Friday Service 7pm Good Friday Service</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7am Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>31</p> <p>7:30am Early Service/Comm 10am Late Service/Comm Easter</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilting 7pm Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9am Women's Bible Study 4pm 5th/6th Grade W.O.W. 4:30pm Jr. Choir 5pm Chime Choir 5:30pm Confirmation 7pm HS Youth Group</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7am Men's Bible Study</p>

<u>Date/Service</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Media Operators</u>
March 3 7:30 AM Communion	Art Granat	Linda Stenschke Jim Harper	Kris Secord	Vicki Holewinski	
Acolyte: Connor Clark					
March 3 10:00 AM	Keith Kentala	Brian Kube Sonya Kube	Dawn Shantz	Priscilla Ellenberger	Camera:
Acolyte: Bristol Parling					
March 6 4:30 PM Lent	Art Granat	Need Volunteers			
March 10 7:30 AM	Jim Bonson	Chuck Healy Karla Healy	Kris Secord	Mary Malinsky	Joanne Hartman Camera:
Acolyte: Izzy Stenschke					
March 10 10:00 AM Communion	Tim Forss	Christian Forss Grant Meyer	Holly Nier	Sarah Guenther	Jackie Pearce
Acolyte: Jack Westfall					
March 13 4:30 PM Lent	Jim Bonson	Need Volunteers			
March 17 7:30 AM Communion	Pat Crum	Bob Merz Sue Frank	Bob Arndt Rhonda Arndt	Sue Frank	Vicki Holewinski
Acolyte: Ellie Wilson					
March 17 10:00 AM	Jake Campbell	Andy Ellenberger	Priscilla Ellenberger	Marianne Braun	
Acolyte: Ellie Wilson					Camera:
March 20 4:30 PM Lent	Pat Crum	Need Volunteers			
IF YOU CANNOT BE THERE WHEN SCHEDULED, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO GET A REPLACEMENT!!!					
March 24 7:30 AM	Brad Anderson	Bob Merz	Phil Hartman	Bonnie Jozzowski	Vicki Holewinski
Acolyte:					Camera:
March 24 10:00 AM Communion	Bob Olson	Jennifer Kasmarek Paul Kurth	Hilda Rozga	Rick Behrens	
Acolyte: Blake Joslin					
March 28 Maundy Thursday Communion	Brad Anderson	Bob Arndt Rhonda Arndt			Camera:
7:00 PM					

March 29	Good Friday 1:00 PM	Bob Olson	Jim Harper			XXX
March 29	Good Friday 7:00 PM	Pat Crum	Need Volunteers			XXX
March 31	7:30 AM <i>Easter Communion</i>	Jim Bonson	Chuck Healy Karla Healy		Pat Crum	
	Acolyte:					Camera:
March 31	10:00 AM <i>Easter Communion</i>	Jake Campbell	Jennifer Kasmarek Paul Kurth	Dawn Shantz	Sue Kurth	
	Acolyte: Kayden Halsey					