

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

1300 Mansfield Street
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
Phone: 723.6048

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

8:00 A.M. – Worship
9:15 – Education Hour
10:15 A.M. – Worship



If you received this in error and would like to be removed from our membership list, call 723.6048.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 269
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

“CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED”

Water Bottle Caps

At this time, we are no longer collecting water bottle caps. Thank you for your enthusiasm and commitment to bringing them in. It is much appreciated.

Homebound? Hospitalized? In Rehab?

Faithful Friends, a ministry for senior and shut-ins, is made up of people who care deeply for those who may find themselves suddenly separated from their community of faith. And, the people serving in this ministry rely upon information to help keep track of the many changes in the lives of people in this situation. Therefore, if you know of someone who is now homebound, in the hospital, or in a rehab facility for some duration, please let us know by contacting us at the church office 715-723-6048. You or your loved one is important to us.

Title	Name	Email	Phone
Interim Pastor	Jeanne Warner	revjlw@gmail.com	715.559.2624
Administrative Assistant	Ellen Fransway	office@oslccf.net	715.723.6048
Director of Youth and Family Ministries	Shannon Fleischfresser	shannon@oslccf.net	715.723.6048
Christian Education	Toni Eckardt	tonieckardt@gmail.com	715.723.6048
Coordinator of Worship/Music, Technology	Jared Johnson	jared@oslccf.net	715.723.6048
Custodian	Chad Burton	chad4pack@gmail.com	715.577.1630
Choir Director	Ron Buckles	ron_bon23@hotmail.com	715.726.9732

Deacon Listing

<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Last Name</u>
Randy Roseen	A-Bow,
Tony & Kay Beardsley	Boy-Elk
Susan Boyer	Eng-Gub
Lisa Merrill	Gum-Jar,
Mary Blake	Job-Lind
Pat & Jill Carroll	Linhart-Nev
LaMae Rohland	Nun-Rob,
Mary Arntson	Roh-Str
Betty Larson	Svo-Zwi

Deacons will be wearing nametags on Sundays. Please look for your Deacon and introduce yourself.

Pastoral Contact: If you are in need of pastoral contact because of illness, hospitalization, grief, life changes or losses, please feel free to contact Pastor Jeanne, your deacon, the executive committee or leave a message with Ellen at 715-723-6048.

Rich Boardman--President 715.944.4691
Deb Olson-President Elect 715.723.4115
Matt Lind--Past President 715.944.4170
Bob Klitzke--Trustees Chair 715.723.5053

Our Saviour's Voice

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

February 2018
Volume 18 Issue 2

Worship Schedule

Sunday

8:00 A.M. - Worship
9:00 A.M. Educational Hour
10:15 A.M. - Worship

Wednesday

6:30 P.M.

January Noisy Offering
“Lighten Your Load”

\$187.28 (thru 1/21) Thank You!
February Noisy Offering is for
“Carelink”

MIDDLE HOUR 2018

Our first 2018 middle hour classes will start up the first Sunday in February and will feature the recent highly acclaimed DVD movie, *Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed the World*. We will watch and discuss this 90-minute movie in six sessions, including Bible study and Lutheran theology. These are the Sundays we will meet during the usual middle hour time, 9:15-10:15 in the fellowship hall.

February 4, 18, & 25
March 4, 11, & 25.

All members are invited and encouraged to join us. Bring your friends. Curt Rohland, Jared Johnson

We Care Sunday Meal

Join us on Sunday, February 25th at 11:30 for our next We Care Sunday Meal. Come and fellowship with other members of our community as we serve this meal. All are welcome!



Ash Wednesday and Lent 2018

We will be having Ash Wednesday services on Wednesday February 14th at Noon and at 6:30 pm. Join us on Wednesday's for Our Lenten Services at Noon and 6:30 pm.

Change is a constant in our lives. Some changes mark gradual transitions, as when daytime shifts toward twilight or winter turns to spring. Others happen in the blink of an eye, separating time into "before" and "after". We choose to undergo some changes after carefully considering our options, while others are forced upon us.

In the weeks, days, and hours before Jesus' crucifixion, the disciples also experienced change: a change of venue as the gates of Jerusalem approached; a change of plans as their long-awaited Messiah was arrested and tried; a change of circumstance as the crowds shouted "Crucify!"

Change is hard. We long for the expected and familiar, but all too often find ourselves in the midst of uncertainty and the unknown. We cannot predict how things will turn out. Yet, as we gather together to journey through Lent, we declare that God's love is steadfast even in the midst of life's inevitable changes.

Date	Theme
February 14	Ash Wednesday - Change of Attitude
February 21	Change of Season
February 28	Change of Heart
March 7	Change of Circumstances
March 14	Change of Habit
March 21	Change of Plans
March 29	Maundy Thursday – First Communion
March 30	Good Friday

Starting on Wednesday, February 21st after the Noon worship time we will be having soup and sandwich lunches. Please sign up in the Narthex to bring soup, sandwiches or bars.

“In Case You Missed It...”

In case you missed it, during the mid-hour on Sunday, January 7th, we said goodbye and thank you to Pastor Kurt Jacobson. We had over 70 members present. During the mid-hour we were also able to give a brief update on the transition process. Welcome Interim Pastor Jeanne Warner. We are glad you will be with us.



During February we will begin moving into discussion of results from the CAT. We will have a Site Profile Team made of OSLC members begin working on issues and concerns set forth from within the CAT data. We look to keep you posted on our progress through the Grace Notes and updates in the newsletter such as this one. There will be regular ‘Temple Talks’ at services and watch for ‘Listen and Talk’ sessions during mid-hour. The ‘Listen and Talk’ sessions will give you an opportunity to hear about our progress and join the discussion. The first session is scheduled for Sunday, February 11th. We wish to take time to listen to members and keep you posted on our progress.

We do have a brief transition update scheduled for 5:30 pm on Wednesday, February 7th, for those who attend on Wednesday evening (similar to the mid-hour on January 7th). The Executive Council is very committed to keeping you informed. Please join us. Rich Boardman, Incoming President

PASTOR'S LETTER/NOTES

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ –

Grace to you and peace, from God our Father, through our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit!

This is how I start most sermons. It is a lot like St. Paul's greeting in his letters to congregations during his missionary journeys. (See Romans 1:7, 1 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:3, 1 Thessalonians 1:1, Philippians 1:2, and Philemon 1:3.) Grace and peace are important. Grace and peace are not, however, our experience of the world most of the time. Grace and peace are what we long for and what God intends for us, though.

As Lutheran Christians, we declare that we are "Saved by grace, through faith." We are reminded and reassured that this is true throughout the New Testament. Ephesians 2:8-9 says: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast." This is the very passage that turned around Martin Luther's life – from despair to gratitude and hope. The trouble is, the world does not function in a state of grace and so we are hard-pressed to find peace.

That is why I remind you that God intends for you to dwell in grace and peace. God intends this grace and peace for all of us individually and as the Body of Christ here at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. This grace is a gift and peace is the result of living in a state of grace. We, however, can be VERY resistant! We like to keep score. We like to justify our behavior and feelings. In an attempt to not repeat the past, we dwell in it. In order not to fail, we rely on "the way we have always done it." And the result is that we have no peace and do not accept the grace which is ours because of God's love for us – NOT because of anything we do.

As an Intentional Interim Pastor, I serve congregations who have recently undergone a challenging change in their pastoral leadership. Mourning the loss of a pastor always involves uncertainty and sadness. A pastor's departure that has been stressful sets up a more complicated grieving process and that is why I am with you. I will journey with you through this transition, helping to facilitate healing and hope, reassessment and renewal. I will be encouraging you to move together into the future mission and ministry that God has in mind for you. I will be nudging you to notice the Holy Spirit's movement in and among you as a sign of God's direction. I will be suggesting some changes, but I will also be affirming what is going well. I will be praying for you, as I have been doing since I was first approached by the Bishop and his staff to come walk with you.

I am excited to share this time of transition with you! I look forward to discovering with you the future into which God is calling Our Saviour's Lutheran Church!

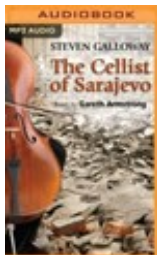
Grace and peace, Pastor Jeanne Warner



FACT
Do you enjoy playing 500? How about other games? Please consider joining one of OSLC's small groups, Fellowship and Cards Together (F.A.C.T.) February 11th at 7 p.m. at the church. All ages are welcome!

Knot Just Knitters February Meeting
Knot Just Knitters continue to take advantage of the cold weather to get some knitting and crocheting projects completed. They will be meeting again on February 7. They plan to go to Johnny's Steakhouse at 11:30 for lunch and then the Stitch Supply Co. at 1:00 - 3:00 to knit/crochet and chat. Please contact Marilyn Murphy if you have any questions. 715-239-6277

Book Buddies to Resume Reading!



After taking a couple months off, the Book Buddies are anxious to resume reading and discussing books. They will be meeting on February 18 at 6:30 to discuss The Cellist of Sarajevo by Steven Holloway. This is a story of four people in a city under siege whose lives have been upended. A musician sees 22 of his friends and neighbors waiting in a breadline killed by a mortar attack. A young man leaves home to collect drinking water for his family in the face of danger, A third man, older, who sets off in search of bread and distraction. A young woman, a sniper holds the fate of the cellist in her hands. Please come and join us even if you haven't read the book at Karen Petersen's home at 821 W. Columbia St., Chippewa Falls, 715-723-3894

Lather With Love

The Chippewa Falls Mission Coalition is collecting the following soaps for area food pantries because they are in short supply:




- Laundry detergent, Dish soap**
- Hand soap, Shampoo**



Share your blessings by helping others in need. Please place "Lather With Love" items in the designated box in the narthex by **Sunday, February 25.**

Lighten Your Load needs YOU!!!



Lighten your Load is a laundry assistance program sponsored by the Chippewa Falls Mission Coalition located at Express Mart Laundromat. The program began after hearing from a Chippewa Falls School District social worker that there were families who did not have enough money to go to the laundromat to wash their families' clothes. Lighten Your Load offers quarters, detergent, and dryer sheets four times each month for people who are financially challenged. While at the laundry session volunteers talk, listen, and pray with participants.

In 2017 more than 400 individuals came to the laundry sessions washing and drying more than 700 loads of laundry for at least 510 adults and 176 children. Thirteen OSLC members have volunteered to help our community. We are looking for additional volunteers to help on either Tuesday evenings 6-9 pm or Thursday afternoons 1-4 pm. If you are interested in learning more about how you can help please ask Gayle Klitzke phone 723-5053 or email gayleklitzke@hotmail.com

Wanted by the Quilters

The quilters are in need of good, used flat sheets that can be used for backs on the mission quilts. If you have any questions, please contact one of the quilters. The quilters are always looking for more help in putting quilts together. Thank you!



Abraham & Sarah Update

As I write this, we have come through a couple of the coldest snaps that we have had for some time. When we have these extended periods of stress on our systems (mechanical and human), it seems that if something is close to breaking down it will for sure happen during these times.

The Abraham & Sarah Group has been privileged to work with a single mother and her 3 children for about 2 years. The family went to the Chicago area to be with extended family over the Christmas holiday. During that time period, the Chippewa Valley had one of the coldest, lengthiest snaps that we have experienced for a long time. She came back to find her apartment at 39 degrees, broken water pipes and registers that leaked creating mold and a terrible mess.

The family was not able to stay in that environment so they have been living in a motel since January 7th. The first week Catholic Charities gave them coverage at the Indianhead Motel. The second week is being covered by several organizations – Central Lutheran, a family from OSLC who had a coupon, and Knot Just Knitters.

To make life a little easier for the family and give them more than just one room to exist in for a week, it was decided to move them to the AmericInn. The benefit of making that change is a free breakfast for all, a swimming pool, an exercise room plus the motel room.

As a group, we are all learning as we work through the issues that surround this experience. We know that we do not want a three, four and nine year old out on the street and homeless.

Many helping hands make this seem less overwhelming, please consider contributing to Abraham and Sarah (Account #514) to help us provide support to those in need in the community.

Trustees Report

The December 2017 financial report is highlighted in the following table. Thank you for your on-going support! Our Servants of OSLC fundraiser was a huge success! Thank you! If you have questions or would like more details about the following numbers, please contact a member of the Board of Trustees or the Church Office. The financial data has been submitted by the Board of Trustees which includes the following members: Randy Passint, Gary Fox, Bob Klitzke, and Roger Hunt.

As of 12/31/2017	Dec 2017 Actual	Dec 2017 Budget	Dec 2016 Actual	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget
Total Revenues	\$53,117.26	\$35,253.84	\$46,633.24	\$353,673.45	\$379,180.00
Benevolences	\$2,429.94	\$2,230.33	\$3,268.44	\$23,424.82	\$26,764.00
Total Expenses	\$33,880.51	\$31,503.61	\$34,608.81	\$377,115.13	\$379,180.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$19,236.75	\$3,750.61	\$12,024.43	\$(23,441.68)*	\$0

* Includes transfer of \$18,273 left in sabbatical fund to general unencumbered funds