

# Our Savior's Voice

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

359 Leonard Street N - West Salem, WI 54669

[www.oursaviorswestsalem.org](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org)

608-786-0030

## April 2022



### **Vision Statement:**

***We are a church centered in Christ,  
inviting all into a community of worship,  
nurturing all to be disciples of Jesus.  
Together we reach out to make a difference  
here and throughout the world.***

# **Our Savior's Voice**

## **April 2022**

### **Table of Contents**

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Worship Opportunities              | Page 3      |
| Pastoral Acts                      | Page 3      |
| Pastor's Page                      | Pages 4-7   |
| Holy Week Worship Opportunities    | Page 8      |
| Easter Greeting                    | Page 9      |
| Sunday School                      | Page 10     |
| Mom's Group                        | Page 11     |
| First Communion                    | Page 11     |
| Confirmation                       | Page 12     |
| Affirmation of Baptism Worship     | Page 13     |
| Sugar Creek Campership             | Page 14     |
| College Scholarship                | Page 15     |
| College Connection                 | Page 15     |
| Youth News                         | Page 16     |
| REBOUND Information                | Page 17     |
| LWR Personal Care Kit Instructions | Pages 18-19 |
| Adult Bible Study                  | Page 20     |
| Ukraine Support                    | Page 20     |
| New Members                        | Page 21     |
| Sabbatical Update                  | Pages 22-23 |
| Covid Protocol Update              | Page 24     |
| Tech Project                       | Page 25     |
| June Dairy Days                    | Page 26     |
| Salvation Army                     | Page 27     |
| Scrip Card Information             | Page 27     |
| Council Review                     | Page 28     |
| Thank You's                        | Page 29     |
| Online Giving Changes              | Page 29     |
| Financial Support Ministry         | Page 30     |
| Giving Opportunities               | Page 30     |
| Food Pantry Hours                  | Page 31     |
| Newsletter Deadline                | Page 31     |



## Worship Update!

Saturday @ 6 PM  
Sunday @ 8 and 10:30 AM

***Masks are NOT required, but if you feel safer with a mask, we encourage you to wear one!***

*Meanwhile...*

Virtual worship options remain ...

We **Zoom 10:30 Sunday worship** (check out our home page for the link and have your Communion elements handy!)

**We also record the Saturday worship and post it later that evening as a YouTube.** You can access this worship through our web site: [www.oursaviorswestsaalem.org/videos](http://www.oursaviorswestsaalem.org/videos). You can watch any time, and you can even catch up on previous weeks.



### Pastoral Acts:

Baptism – Carson Kyle Vike – March 6  
Baptism – Layne Elizabeth Arttus – March 27  
Funeral – Alice Gums – March 26



## Pastor's Reflections

I am frustrated! It's time for my pastor's page, and I'm at a loss for what to share. And that frustrates me...and quite frankly, it's driving me a bit crazy!

This has happened before. What to write, what to share, what's important and timely enough. But not like this. This is different.

# Kairos

We are on the verge of Holy Week and Easter. This is the ultimate, the "kairos" moment, the most significant moment, not just for the church, but really, for all of human kind. No other moment in human history is as important and decisive as this one.

We celebrate in the coming weeks God's ultimate work to redeem and restore creation. All the brokenness, vulnerability, and failure is placed on the crucified Jesus. And then, in his resurrection, God breaks the power of sin, death, and evil. And we have life.

Big, big stuff!

And then, as we think (and hope and pray) that Covid is finally waning a bit, we are ready for this moment. What timing! Things are getting better; Holy Week and Easter are on the horizon. You might even think God had something to do with this...



Yes, the resurrection is upon us!

But not so fast. Hold on a moment. Covid isn't gone, a new variant is loose in Europe, and may be already here, and

then... Ukraine! Easter is supposed to be bright and sunny, with joy and wonder, and lots of good news. And instead...I'm not so sure. And quite frankly, as I write this (last week of March), I wonder what will things be like come Easter (mid-April).

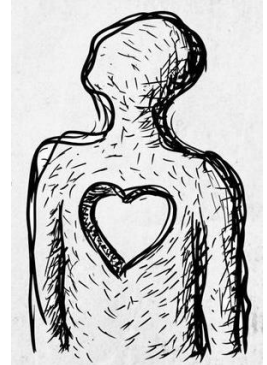
Ugh...so what to write? What can I possibly say?

On the other hand, in a sense, it's a bit of a "been there, done that" for me. Once upon a time I had an Easter kind of like this.

Two days before Palm Sunday, 1997, my father died. That took the wind out of Holy Week, and clouded my Easter. The awe of walking the path to the cross, and then the joy of discovery on Easter morning, just didn't happen. Not the way I wanted, and not the way I planned. Just a lot of gloom, doom, and emptiness.

But surprise – Good Friday, with the crucified Christ, and Easter with the risen Lord, still happened. Despite my emptiness and the distractions of the week, God still acted in Jesus' death and resurrection.

Or maybe not despite, but instead, *because* of my emptiness and distractions, God acted! That is to say, the emptiness, gloom and doom, the uncertainties, the distractions, and everything else that seems to detract from Easter are, in fact, the very point. Holy Week and Easter are not about bright, sunny days, where all is again good. The resurrection is not the moment when all the bad stuff is gone. Holy Week and Easter are instead about God's work in the midst of difficult, overwhelming, even dark days.



Which brings me back to my dilemma – just what do I say when we desperately seek resurrection, new life, new hope, and a new dawn, and all seems to be...not!



Perhaps what I say is... just simply the story. The story that in the cross, Jesus takes our brokenness, and in the resurrection, Jesus overcomes all that overwhelms us. Simple, and to the point.

Someone once said that for a preacher the biggest challenge at a moment like Good Friday and Easter is not to say the right things, but rather to be careful not to say too much! That is to say, sometimes the best thing I can do is get out of the way and let the story speak. Let God's word run wild among us!

That's a sobering thought, as I am preaching this Easter. And yes, there will be a sermon. But the point is well taken. I don't know what to say (remember?). Yet, what I say is not nearly as what God is doing in Jesus, even in the midst of days like these.

And perhaps for all of us, the gift of Easter is not a glorious resurrection, a bright, shiny day when we can put behind us all the troubles of our world. Instead, the gift of Easter (and the Holy Week that precedes it) is that even in the midst of "gloom and doom," there is still life. Life where there appears to be none.

Not just because of Covid or Ukraine. Those crises will pass. Someday they will be chapters in a history book, and new crises will take their place. New crises that challenge a world, or just new crises that challenge us. Regardless, even then, there will be a crucified Christ, a risen Jesus, and life where we would never expect to see it!

So, here's my invitation to you. Come to worship this year. Not because all is now well, the masks are dropped, and some sense of "normal" has returned.



Come to worship because no matter what is happening in the world, across the globe, or in the world, in your little corner, God is still at work, and God is still bringing life. Emptiness, gloom and doom, aside, there is life, and in God's hands, abundant life!

We will celebrate that life this year as we always do, but we will celebrate knowing that life is still sometimes more than we can handle. But never more than God, through the crucified Christ and risen Jesus, can handle.

And there it is, finally, my pastor's page. Just had to stick to the story. And let God do the rest!

*Pastor Jon*



# **Holy Week Worship**



## **Palm Sunday – April 9/10**

We read the Passion story, celebrate Holy Communion, and look ahead to the “holiest of weeks!”

## **Maundy Thursday – 7 PM**

We gather as Jesus did, celebrating the Lord’s Supper, and hearing stories of betrayal, denial, and some really intense praying!

## **Good Friday 1:30 PM**

Were you there? We are...at the foot of the cross, to ponder the awesome grace of God in the crucified Jesus!

## **8 PM**

As the day draws to a close, and darkness descends, we hear the story again in the words of prophecy, the words of the Gospel, and the Word of God.

## **Easter Sunday 6:30 + 8:30 + 10:30**

It’s party time! The tomb is empty, the risen Jesus calls us by name, and new life is ours! Lots of music, the message of the Gospel, and the celebration of Holy Communion.



alleluia!



*Christ has Risen!*

# Sunday School



It's hard to believe we are beginning to wind down our Sunday School year – our last classes will be held in

May. We have so much enjoyed having our children back in the building, seeing their smiling faces, and experiencing their enthusiasm. In April, along with celebrating Easter with a return visit from our special Bible Buddy Olivia the barn owl, we will be introduced to our last Bible Buddy, Sal the spotted salamander, who reminds us that ***Jesus shows us how to live – Follow Jesus!*** Our Bible verse comes from Philippians 4:13 – *For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.*

## Our April schedule:

**PreK/4K to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – April 3**

**3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – April 10 and 24**

Thank you for bringing your offering envelopes to be shared with Lutheran Disaster Relief. This support is critical at this time as LDR is helping those suffering from the war in Ukraine, especially women and children.



**The Mom's Group invites our PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> Graders ...**



**Easter Egg Hunt**  
**Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**10 AM**  
**(following Sunday School)**

# Hey Mom's ...

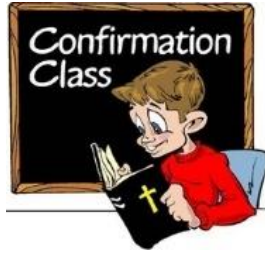
We have missed connecting and are hoping to get together in the near future. Check out the **OSLC West Salem Mom's Group Facebook** page and watch for more information. And, if you aren't already a part of our group, we'd love to have you join us!



We celebrate with the following 5<sup>th</sup> graders who received first communion on Maundy Thursday:

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Jake Bahl          | Sophia Johnson     |
| Traenor Campbell   | Addison Kendhammer |
| Paige Christianson | Max Langrehr       |
| Chloe Drury        | Olivia Sprehn      |
| Camille Godlewski  | Alana Steinke      |
| Adelyn Tlustosch   |                    |

Claire Gross and Brooklyn Weiland also joined us for making our communion cups and worshipping on Maundy Thursday. These girls received first communion instruction prior to joining Our Savior's.



## Confirmation Ministry

Aprils showers...bring back Confirmation instruction! Confirmation instruction resumes the week after Easter, as we enter the final stretch for the year.

**6<sup>th</sup> graders** meet Wednesday evenings (April 20 & 27) at 6 PM to continue their journey through the Bible, with Corey Sjoquist as their guide.

### 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders

- Meet on Wednesdays at 6 PM as they continue to explore the gift of prayer, learning about the Lord's Prayer.
  - ✓ 7<sup>th</sup> grade – April 20
  - ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> grade – April 27

### And 9<sup>th</sup> graders?

- *The last class!!!* Wednesday, April 20 we wrap it all up. Four years of learning about discipleship, practicing it, and celebrating the community...we'll pull it all together...and make sure we are ready for...what's next!

Affirmation of Baptism (aka "Confirmation") April 24, at 10:30 AM, at the Lion's Shelter. More info below!



## **Affirmation of Baptism**

The Rite of Affirmation of Baptism, or “Confirmation” for our 9<sup>th</sup> graders will be Sunday, April 24, at 10:30 AM, at the Lion’s Shelter. YOU are encouraged to join us as we ask God’s blessings on these young people who seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus.

Bring a chair, and elements for Holy Communion (we will have some prepackaged elements if you forget!), and dress for the weather. Your support is an incredible gift of God, and is very important as we hear them affirm their baptismal promises, and as we become God’s voice affirming God’s promises to them. Don’t miss this opportunity to make a difference in their lives!

The following young people will be lifted up, blessed by God’s people, and sent forth in the power of God’s Holy Spirit:

Trevor Arentz  
Emily Bell  
Turner Campbell  
Marissa Eckland  
Jayden Hansen  
Emma Haun  
Jessalyn Hickey  
Makena Ihle  
Hailey Ives  
Owen Kendhammer

Aubrey Langrehr  
Andrew Larson  
Leah Lehren  
Mallory Long  
Ella Muellenberg  
Sammie Niemeier  
Carter Quackenbush  
Will Stefferud  
Eve Twite  
Lauren Zarecki

# **SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP - 2022**

**“Boundless”** – *Ephesians 3:18-19*



Back in the SADDLE again, with ELEVATED excitement, this summer is sure to be a SPLASH! PADDLE along with us, and bring your FRIENDS! You'll be GAGA about camp because it's a cool place

Sugar Creek Bible Camp is excited to report “following the many ACA & CDC safety standards for accredited camps, with God’s help, Sugar Creek provided a 100% Covid-free summer in 2021” and they are ready to do the same in 2022!

All Covid-19 safety practices will be fully in place through the entire 2022 summer season. Campers will receive detailed information on prevention, preparations, and camp expectations before arriving for summer camp.

There will be exciting new programs as well as beloved favorites. Check out the Summer Brochure on their website - [www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org](http://www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org).

## **OUR SAVIOR’S CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE**

\$300 full week -- \$125 half week

**Request forms due in the office NO LATER than  
May 5<sup>th</sup>**

(Forms will be available in the church office,  
or on the website – [www.oursaviorswestsaalem.org](http://www.oursaviorswestsaalem.org))



## College Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of several families, Our Savior's has several scholarships to offer to high school seniors for the next academic year.

These scholarships are a one-time award for members of Our Savior's, ranging between \$300 and \$700. Information on the scholarships has been sent to all high school seniors, or go to [www.oursaviorswestsalem.org/forms](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org/forms).

Our Savior's also offers a one-time scholarship to a college freshman, for their sophomore year. This year, due to Covid, we also have a scholarship for current sophomores. Information on these scholarships is also posted on the web site, or contact Pastor Jon.

The deadline for all scholarship applications is Monday, May 2. Applications should be sent to the office, either in paper form or electronically.

As our college students are studying in challenging



environments at home or on

campus, we keep them in our thoughts and prayers. This month please pray for:

**Haley Jones** (UW-GB), **Angela Vick** (UW-L), **Allie Arentz** (WTC), **Sydney Fitzpatrick** (UW-L), **Everett Michael** (UW-P), **Hannah Anderson** (UW-L), and **Alayna Kennedy** (Viterbo).

college+  
connection

## From the Youth Director ...



**REBOUND** - High School students, check out the information on Page 17 for an opportunity to connect with your peers from around our synod, as well as make new friends from the Northwest Synod of WI and Northern Great Lakes Synod. You are invited to REBOUND.

8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders, you should have received a personal invitation for this event via email from Wendy.

We would love to send a group to River Falls and be a part of this gathering. Talk to Wendy or one of the pastors!

**SCRIP CARDS** - Youth of all ages ... don't forget selling Scrip cards will help you get to Sugar Creek, youth gatherings, and mission trips.

**Adults** ... your purchase of these cards helps our kids and makes shopping and eating easy.

*Wendy Amundson*, Youth Director  
[youthsaviorswestsalem@gmail.com](mailto:youthsaviorswestsalem@gmail.com)



JOIN US FOR  
**REBOUND**

Tri-Synod High School Youth Gathering

**Dates: July 25-27, 2022**  
**Location: UW River Falls**  
**Cost: \$275\* Per Participant**

All high schoolers in 9-12th grade\*\* are invited to join us at UW River Falls where we will encounter God together in new ways through creative ministry, challenging conversation, inspiring guest speakers, service learning projects in the twin cities, and uplifting worship.

Rebound will also include a multicultural youth leadership session - a time designed specifically for youth of color or whose first language is not English - for the purpose of deepening faith, building relationships, celebrating culture, and empowering young leaders.

This event will include participants from the **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin**,  
**the La Crosse Area Synod**, and the **Northern Great Lakes Synod**.

**Guest speakers and musicians will include:**

Joe Davis  
David Scherer  
Rachel Kurtz  
My Anchor Holds  
and...more to be released SOON!

*We are excited to see you there!*

\*Event cost includes: program/materials, speakers & musicians, housing, meals, event shirt, & service learning opportunities.

\*\* This includes youth entering 9th grade in the '22-'23 school year and those who will complete 12th grade before this summer.

**REGISTRATION AND EVENT DETAILS CAN BE FOUND:**  
[NWSWI.ORG/REBOUND](http://NWSWI.ORG/REBOUND)



## Personal Care Kits deadline extended ...



### A Season of Hope – Lutheran World Relief

Around the world, our neighbors are suffering in the aftermath of war, displacement, and poverty. A Personal Care Kit contains simple, yet life-saving items that help families maintain good hygiene, health and basic human dignity.

We are inviting our families to assemble **Personal Care Kits** – maybe even more than one! The list of items needed and the instructions for assembling the kits follows on page ??.

What a great project to do together with your children – from shopping to assembling!

Kits need to be returned to church **by the end of April** (*note deadline extension*). Financial assistance is always welcome, too, to help ship the items to LWR.

To learn more about this important ministry, check out a new YouTube ([https://youtu.be/978eLqj\\_Tzs](https://youtu.be/978eLqj_Tzs)) that highlights staff from around the world describing the challenges they face in their work and the ways they witness hope breaking through.



## **INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT**

- ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), **dark color recommended**
- TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging\*
- ONE sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ONE metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

\* Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

## **HOW TO PACK YOUR PROJECT PROMISE KITS**

- Fold the towel in half. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.

## **SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER**

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

# Adult Bible Study

Bible study, live or via Zoom, continues on **Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11 AM**. We take time to ponder the gospel reading for the coming Sunday, so each session is “stand-alone.” NO previous Bible knowledge is needed – just come and enjoy some great conversation and “faith-deepening” discussions.



We meet in the Gathering Area. If you'd rather join via Zoom, contact the church office or Pastor Jon.



## Ukraine

The ongoing war in Ukraine has displaced over two million people, injured and killed thousands, and destroyed villages, towns, and cities. Lutheran

World Relief (LWR), working with its partner agencies in various countries in Europe, is already on the ground, working to ease suffering, and to rebuild shattered lives.

You can be a part of this work. Your gift will make a difference. To support the work of LWR, make your check out to Our Savior's, but note on the check "Ukraine." We will get it to LWR.

These needs will continue for a long time, so your gift today – or tomorrow – will change lives!



## Meet Our Newest Members

We welcome ...

**Scott & Carol Thompson** – Scott grew up in La Crescent and Carol grew up on the south side of LaCrosse. They met at UW-L and after graduating moved to Ashwaubenon for jobs. They raised their three daughters in the shadow of Lambeau Field (*can you guess who their favorite team is?* 😊). Scott worked many years in the Shopko Corporate Office, and then moved on to Isotoner Totes as a National Sales Manager. Carol taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for many years. After retirement, they returned to the Coulee Region to take care of elderly parents and to be closer to their daughters and their families. They enjoy the Green Bay Packers, camping, and spending time with their eight grandchildren.

**Jane Henricks** – Jane grew up in north central WI, attended college at UW-L and graduated from Mankato State. She and her husband, John, raised three daughters and a son in West Salem. During her career, Jane taught middle school computer skills and 6<sup>th</sup> grade English, as well as 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Missing the classroom and kids after retirement, Jane is now back subbing and liking it very much. When not at school, Jane enjoys doing projects around the house, sewing, reading, listening to music, and spending time with her family. She also enjoys traveling to see her kids and grandchildren in Madison and Chicago. Coming from a different faith tradition, Jane is looking forward to learning and growing with her new faith community here at Our Savior's.

# Sabbatical ...

The Congregation Council has endorsed Pastor Jean's sabbatical plans for summer, 2022. The theme of her sabbatical is "reconnecting" ... with things that she used to do, with people who touched her life, with places of significance. But why should Pastor Jean have all of the fun ... **YOU** too can be a part of the action!

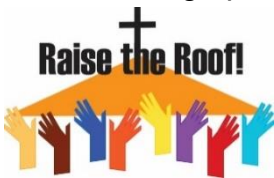
Reconnecting with cooking is one part of Pastor Jean's plan, trying new recipes, and attending a cooking class.

What better place to find new recipes, than a cookbook! And, if you're going to find *new* recipes to try, you need a *new* cookbook within which to find them.

That's where YOU come in ... providing the necessary recipes for a new cookbook. So, while Pastor Jean is on sabbatical, the congregation is invited to submit your favorite recipe(s), and when Pastor Jean returns, she (along with a few helpers) will compile the recipes and create a new cookbook.



Now, if we're doing all of this work, there should probably be a good purpose. And, we have one! In the council highlights on page 28, you'll notice the Property Committee is researching options for a new roof, and you'll be hearing about those plans in coming months. So, let's get a head start on the fundraising that will be necessary to pay for the new roof. *Cookbooks!!*



We'll have fun collecting ... and testing ... and maybe even sampling ... and raising the roof!

Drop your submissions off in the office and watch for further details in the months to come.

## ... and speaking about Sabbaticals

## ... and trying something new ...

Three years ago, when Pastor Jon was on Sabbatical, we had active committees that were able to help Pastor Jean survive and thrive that summer. With the pandemic these last two years, those committees have been on hiatus. But ... now is your chance to try something new and lend a helping hand at the same time. Pastor Jon would be excited if you said *“me, me, me ... I want to make a difference ... let me help!”*



We will need your assistance with the following tasks ...

... **Altar Guild** - getting things ready for worship each week – filling candles and changing banners/paraments if needed (but truth be told, we are going to be in the ‘green season’ for a loooong time!)

[www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-altar](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-altar)

... **Ushers/greeters** – be a welcoming presence to those coming to worship, handing out bulletins, counting how many are in attendance

[www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-ushers1](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-ushers1)

... **Communion Assistants** – preparing the trays before worship (putting in the cups and filling them with wine/grape juice) and getting the wafers on the plate, helping the pastor serve communion during worship, cleaning up afterwards

[www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-communion](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-communion)

Please use the appropriate SignUpGenius link above or let the pastors know you will share your time with us.

# Covid Protocols



The Congregation Council continues to monitor the pandemic level in our community, and consider the protocols for safe living. As the infection and hospitalization rates have dropped significantly, the council has determined that we can – and should – gradually relax protocols and move toward a more “normal” church life. These changes include:

- Masks are no longer required, but if you feel safer with a mask, *please continue to wear it!*
- Sign in for contact tracing is no longer used, but we are returning to the use of pew pads (instead of Communion cards), so please use them.
- Pews are no longer taped off. You may choose to sit distanced, and if others prefer to be distanced, please respect that.
- Drinking fountains are now “open for business.”

In the coming weeks, other protocols will be relaxed. We hope that for Easter we can return to a more “robust” worship, with additional music.

And then...watch the May newsletter – our hope is to be fully back on May 7/8, with the SOS Band leading our worship.

We are thankful to all of you for your patience and understanding as we have navigated over two years of challenges. Your support has enabled us to meet the diverse needs of the congregation, and more importantly, of the community around us.

Please note, however, that the pandemic remains, and if conditions require, we may need to resume some of the safety protocols. For now, however, we celebrate our time together!





## **Tech Project ...** ***good news, of a sort!***

After a very long delay, the supply chain is beginning to “un-freeze,” and the parts for our tech upgrade are starting to move! We now have a tentative installation date of the last week of May. This project will include a drop-down screen, monitors, livestreaming, and a significant audio upgrade.

The cost has risen due to supply issues, and YOUR gift can make a big difference! So far, over \$15,000 has been given toward the project – but there’s still time for you to be a part of this new venture. Mark your gift “tech project” to make a difference!

See Pastor Jon or Dean Olson for more information on this new resource for our ministry together.

# June Dairy Days



Summer is coming and will kick off with June Dairy Days on June 3, 4, and 5!

Please save the date and plan to participate in one or all of the following ways ...

The **Fun Run** will be held Saturday, June 4.

- Volunteers are needed to help with registration, set-up, and serving as crossing guards from 6:30 - 9:30 AM.
- Runners/walkers are also needed! Soon, you will be able to sign up your family and friends to participate in the 5K or 5 Mile run or walk – watch for more announcements.



The **Food Stand** is back! We will need lots of folks helping out, so please answer the call to sign up for duties at the Village Park all weekend – we need grillers, servers, ticket workers, window workers, and shift leaders. Youth and their families are especially encouraged to help on all shifts.

Sign-up sheets (at church and online) for volunteering will be available as we get closer to the event.

THANK YOU for helping us return to our fun traditions in June!

# Salvation Army



The Salvation Army is looking for folk to assist in the serving of their evening meals in La Crosse. They are asking Our Savior's to take the first Friday of each month. Several families and individuals have already shared in making a difference – you can too! **We need people starting in May.**

Teams of three are asked to come to the Salvation Army building at 223 N 8<sup>th</sup> Street at 4:15 PM. Serving lasts a bit over an hour. It's a great service and witness, but also a moment to build relationships with folk who are in need. YOU can be the presence of Jesus for them, and maybe even discover that THEY can be Jesus to you!

Sign up on SignUpGenius or call the church office.

[www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-salvation](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-salvation)

## Scrip Cards News

**Available** ... Culver's Scrip cards – \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$25! We earn 10% on the purchase of each Culver's card. Grab a card and enjoy a *Butterburger* and frozen custard!



Don't forget we continue to have Kwik Trip, Woodman's, and Ship Shape car wash cards.



Proceeds go to help World Hunger and Our Savior's Youth programs – ***think Sugar Creek Campership support!***



## Congregation Council

The Congregation Council met on Monday, March 14, with President Jen Linse presiding. At this meeting the council:

- Shared in devotions on Acts 2:12-21.
- Continued in conversation around Youth Ministry, with Wendy Amundson, Youth Director.
- Approved the minutes of the February 14 Council Meeting, and received the February financial reports.
- Heard an update from the pastors, including observations on how other congregations are adjusting their Covid protocols.
- Heard that the reconstituted Audit Committee has begun its work, and that the Property Committee reviewed building needs and is beginning to explore roof replacement options.
- Discussed ongoing protocol changes regarding Covid-19, and affirmed a goal to relax protocols by mid-May, provided conditions continue to improve.
- Appointed Jeff & Melissa Haldeman, and Carolyn Karl as voting members to 2022 Synod Assembly. Noted that one more voting member will need to be appointed.
- Approved the sabbatical plan for Pastor Jean for summer of 2022.
- Received new members:
  - Laverne Bjerke (transfer)
  - Pastor Kris Bjerke-Ulliman & Steve Ulliman (transfer)
  - Scott and Carol Thompson (affirmation of faith)
  - Jane Henricks (affirmation of faith)
- Authorized the purchase of four new office chairs and two new computer monitors.

The next meeting of the council will be held Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. If you have questions, or if you have ideas for enhancing the ministry of Our Savior's, contact Jen Linse or one of the pastors.



## Thank you ...

... to the March newsletter mailing crew –  
Connie & Larry Blunck, Bev  
Bockenbauer, Carolyn Karl, Vernetta  
Moe, Velma Schmidt, and Marion Twite-  
Stensven.

## Received from others ...

... My mother Meryl Kirkeng would like to thank-you all for  
the beautiful Christmas card and plant that you gave her.  
You all are so thoughtful and caring and thank-you for the  
prayers. Yours in Christ,

*Meryl & Diane J. (daughter)*

## Check it out!



Changes have been made to our on-  
line and mobile giving! Current  
recurring gifts already set up will  
continue as before, but new gifts and

any changes need to go through the new app. From the  
giving page on our website, you can link directly to Vanco.  
If, however, you use the mobile app, as of February 1 you  
now need to download the new “Vanco Mobile” app. All of  
your passwords stay the same. For more information  
contact the church office.



## Financial Support Ministry

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**THANK YOU!!!** *Thank you for your continued financial support of our ministry together!* You make a difference

in the lives of children and adults, in those across the globe, and those right here in our midst.

Financial gifts can be shared in worship, by mail, or placed in our locked mailbox. You can also make gifts electronically. Go to [www.oursaviorswestsalem.org/giving](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org/giving) to find out more!

*Thank you for your support.  
We are grateful for your partnership as  
we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ!*



## Shopping Online?

Our Savior’s has an account with “Amazon Smile.” If you shop with Amazon, you can support our work together by designating your “Amazon Smile” contribution to Our Savior’s.



## Thrivent Choice Dollars

Remember that if you are a Thrivent member you may have “Thrivent Choice Dollars” to direct. Our Savior’s is one of the many potential recipients of your choice dollars, but your direction needs to be made each time. A number of Our Savior's folk direct their choice dollars – do you? See Thrivent’s web site for more information or stop by the office and we will help you out.

Web Site: [www.oursaviorswestsalem.org](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org)  
OUR SAVIOR'S STAFF

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Jill Iliff, Treasurer

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Linda Berg, Organist/Choir Accompanist/Director of Music

Email: [linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org](mailto:linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org)

Laurie Noelke, Handbell Choir Director/Assistant Worship Musician

Eric Sorenson, Senior Choir Director

Karen DeSchepper, Financial Secretary

Josh Corning, Custodian



Feeding the  
Community

## Care and Share Food Pantry

The Care and Share Food Pantry is open Saturdays, 10 AM to Noon. Food can be dropped off during office hours. Thank you!



## Newsletter Deadline – April 13

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
359 Leonard St N  
West Salem, WI 54669

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**Paid**  
West Salem, WI  
Permit #21

Change Service Requested