
SIDELITES

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

January 2024



***The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
will be held Sunday,
February 4, 2024 at 11:30 A.M.***

All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend this meeting. Seventy-five voting members shall constitute a quorum.

Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation.

There will be a church budget meeting on Sunday, January 28th, between services. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to discuss and ask questions about the 2024 Our Savior's church budget.

Copies of the 2023 Congregational Annual Report, including the 2024 proposed budget, will be available in the Social Hall and on our website by January 24th.

Church leadership and Ministry Team reports to be included in the **2023 Annual Report** are due **no later than Friday, January 5th**. Reports may be dropped off in the church office, or emailed to jen@oursaviorsnewulm.org.

**Ministry Team Members and Leaders...
Thank you for serving!**

Thank you to all those members who served in 2023. Your willingness to serve and participate in ministry through your leadership has made a huge difference! Thank you for sharing your gifts with Our Savior's Lutheran Church.



The nominating committee has been diligently working to nominate people for church council and ministry teams. The council and teams are a place for you share your time and talents to further the ministry of our congregation. Thank you to all who have said "yes" to being on a team, and thank you to the nominating committee for their work. Please prayerfully consider the opportunity to serve on church council or a ministry team when you are called. Thank you!

Pastor Kathy



What will be new in the New Year?

Our calendars will change. We will struggle to write 2024 rather than 2023. We will continue all our busy-ness. So what is new in the New Year?

That is a question that depends on us. Just because the year changes doesn't mean that anything else will. We are the ones who decide where our priorities lay and what we will do about that. Will we pick up a new hobby? Will we leave an old hobby that is no longer bringing us joy? Will we find time for what is important? Will we attempt to fill all our time with events and activities? Will we work to make changes to see the world we are hoping for?

Making New Year's resolutions are difficult; we often abandon them before they are able to take effect. Let's focus on one simple thing that can be a broad theme for the year instead. Pick from the list below or come up with a theme that speaks to you for 2024.

- Focusing on Family and Friends
- Finding joy each day
- Bringing peace to others
- Giving of myself
- Generosity
- Simplicity
- Prayer and meditation
- Compassion
- Teaching and guiding others
- Learning something new
- Be a blessing
- Time with God

Each of these themes can be a guide for your year. Simply ask the question, "How does this decision align with my theme?" and see where that guides you. When we make intentional decisions based on our faith, our dreams, and our desires for God's will to be done, everything can be new in the New Year!

God of all, guide us through our lives, always placing you at the center. Open our eyes to see the life you have blessed us with and the new life you give to us through our Savior. Let us center on you, focus on the needs of others, and be encouraged to do your work each day of the new year! Amen.

Blessings and Peace, Pr. Dave

As I write this, it is still Advent. In the church, we are still waiting and preparing for Christmas. While Advent is four weeks, Christmas is twelve days. On the twelfth and final night of Christmas, January 6th, we celebrate Epiphany, which means "manifestation." On this day, the church tells the story of wise men from the East following the star to find the child "born king of the Jews (Matthew 2:2)." The journey led them to Jesus and when they saw him, they knelt down and gave him homage. For us, the Word and sacraments are an epiphany, for here is where we experience God's grace and mercy through Jesus in water, bread and wine. Then, like the wise men, a new journey begins: we are sent out to witness to the light of Christ. Bearing witness to the light of Christ, I think, looks a lot like being a light or bringing light wherever we are. What a great way to begin 2024. A simple resolution: be a light in our corner of the world.

Pastor Kathy

Thank you to everyone who helped contribute to our building's Christmas environment. Your gifts of time, flowers, and monetary donations are greatly appreciated.

Thank you! - Tom M





Our new Business Administrator is Lois Aufderheide! Caryn Nelson will be helping with the transition over the next few weeks.

Prior to coming to Our Savior's, Lois was at Frandsen Bank & Trust in New Ulm for 34 years as a mortgage lender and underwriter. Lois and her husband, Dale, live in New Ulm. They have two adult sons: Bob of New Ulm (married to Deanna) and Travis of Willmar (married to Kylie). They also have three grandkids: Blake - a 7th grader at Cathedral, Kyla - a 4th grader at St. Anthony's, and Peyton - a Kindergartner in Willmar, MN. Lois enjoys reading, cooking, gardening, canning, and attending grandkids' activities



Have you switched to automatic giving and are no longer using offering envelopes? Please let Jen know to remove you from our envelope orders by calling (507) 233-4430 or emailing jen@oursaviorsnewulm.org. If you don't receive envelopes but would like to, you can speak to Jen about that, too.

Please also note that the frequency of envelope mailings has changed – you will now receive two months of offering envelopes at a time instead of three months. Thank you for your generosity to Our Savior's. Because of you, our mission and ministry continue.

Our Savior's Endowment Fund

Our Savior's Endowment Fund was established in 1996. The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to provide a sustainable source of income to enhance the outreach ministry and sustain the facilities of OSLC. The Fund is managed by an Endowment Committee elected by the congregation. Contributions to the fund are invested, and only interest earned can be distributed based on fund guidelines. Endowment Funds are invested in the ELCA Mission Investment Fund. Our Savior's members can ensure the fund generates dollars for congregational use by: (1) Making outright gifts of cash, (2) Charitable annuities and trusts, (3) Gifts through a will, (4) Life insurance beneficiary, (5) IRA or 401K beneficiary. If you would like to contribute to the Endowment Fund or request funds for an Our Savior's project, please speak with Pastor Kathy or an Endowment Fund committee member.

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering Fundraiser!

Help support our Youth going to the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans next summer, and enjoy a tasty meal at our local Taco John's! Stop in to see Jen during regular office hours to get your \$10 Taco John's gift cards! A portion of each gift card goes directly back to our youth program. Checks can be made payable to OSLC, or Venmo the church at @OSLCNewUlmMN. Please write "Gift Card" in the memo line.



Mission Prayer Corner:

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Heavenly Father,

As we enter this new year, may we remember to always rejoice and appreciate the little things, continually look to you for guidance and support, and remember to be thankful for each minute we are given on this earth. Every day is an opportunity for us to shine our light and share our gifts. Help us Lord to wake up each morning with you in our heart. Amen.

Confirmation In January

Just a reminder about our schedule in January for Confirmation: We come back from our Christmas break on January 3rd. The next week, January 10th, our 9th graders have off for Finals preparation. Our 7th and 8th Graders will still meet for team building games. After that, we are back to our normal schedule until Lent! There will be another announcement for Lent as we get closer.

Theology on Tap

Join us for Theology on Tap at the Schell's Bier Halle on **January 4th at 6:30PM!** *Event for Adults 21+.*

Faith & Books

Faith and Books will meet **Wednesday, January 10th at 5:30PM**, in the church library. Our book for January is *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Questions to think about as you read: What surprised you about the history of Belle and her family? What sacrifices did Belle make by choosing to follow her mother's path? What advantages did she gain? What did you like or dislike about his book? What new learning did you have in reading this book?

Snow Tubing

Grades 4 and up! Monday, January 15th

Meet at church at 12:45 PM (we are taking a bus). We will return around 4:15 PM. \$20 per person. Parent chaperones are needed!

Sign up with Lindsay, or on the Youth Board!



5th Quarter – for 7th – 12th Grade January 26th, 2024, 8:00PM - Midnight

Come and play games, eat pizza, and have a ton of fun! You can either go to the Basketball game and come once it's over, or come right at 8:00PM. We hope to see you there!

Adult Trivia and Game Night

January 22nd from 5:30PM - 7:30PM

The Adult Ministry Team is putting together a trivia and game night for adults at OSLC! Games will be provided, but feel free to bring your own if you would like. There will be a movie in the youth room for kids and we will find Youth helpers to babysit. This will also be a potluck; bring an appetizer to share! More details coming soon.

Wednesday Night Suppers

We are so grateful to be gathering on Wednesday evenings for suppers from 5:00PM - 6:15PM! All proceeds from the free will offering go to support Wednesday LinC† programming.

January 3rd: Spaghetti

January 17th: BBQs and Hot Dogs

January 10th: Pizza

January 24th: Chicken Tater Tot Hotdish

WEATHER RELATED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If weather is in question, please check our website and Facebook page for any cancellations or postponements. Be sure to 'like' and follow us at facebook.com/oslcnewulm to stay up to date! For midweek classes and programs, we'll follow the lead of the public schools. If ISD #88 dismisses early, LinC†, choirs, Confirmation, and groups will not meet. We will also not hold evening supper.

Baptisms at Our Savior's

Our Savior's has welcomed ten children into the family of God since May, and an astonishing TWENTY children total in 2023! May God's blessing be upon all of these children.



Cameron Brethorst
Son of Justin & Janelle



Blake Eckstein
Son of Jay & Jennifer



Holten Hale
Son of Brandon & Bailey



Maverick Furth
Son of Matt & Megan



Chloe Schugel
Daughter of Zach & Cassie



Elleigh Kraus
Daughter of Josh & Cassie



Elle Goette
Daughter of Ryan & Megan



Kallan Friesner
Son of Josh & Amie



Harlen Gudmonson
Son of Cory & Jennifer



Elisabeth Uhl
Daughter of Michael & Lexi

Thank you to our Wednesday LinCt and Sunday LinCt children for a wonderful Christmas program!



Notes of **THANKS**

I would like to thank my church family that has prayed for me and the beautiful cards I receive from Our Savior's. Very much appreciated. I am still taking chemo treatments every 4th week, so every prayer helps me. Here's sending you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. God Bless each and every one of you.

- Dixie Flitter

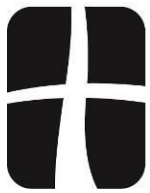
Dear Marlene and Members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church,
I just wanted to say "Thank You" for the generous donations of calculators. I can attest personally that we had students in need of them (I had 2 boys sharing an extra out of my office for over 2 weeks). These will make an immediate difference! Thank you and Go Eagles! - Ryan Ziemer, School Counselor, NUHS

Dear OSLC,
Thank you for sending me cards while I am abroad. I am learning a lot and creating lots of meaningful relationships. I hope all of you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. Love,
- Lucy Sletta

Our Savior's,
Thank you all for your prayers, cards, gifts, and support given to our family in the loss of Ryan. Thank you Pastor Kathy, Pastor Dave & Staff for all of your help with Ryan's funeral, the service was beautiful. Thanks to Tom Maidl & Dennis Ellingson for their beautiful music, and thanks to the OSLC Women who helped serve lunch. We sincerely appreciate everything!
- John, Julie & Nick Busch

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00am Worship	1 Church Office Closed New Year's Day	2 9:00am Church Staff Meeting	3 11:00am WELCA Board Meeting 3:30pm Wednesday LinCt 5:00pm Wednesday Suppers 5:00pm Youth Handbells 5:45pm Adult Handbells 6:30pm 5th & 6th Gr. Youth Group 6:30pm Adult Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship	4 11:00am Ridgeway on 23rd Service 4:00pm Pro Kinship Monthly Meeting 6:30pm Theology on Tap	5 Annual Reports Due 10:30am MRCI Group	6 8:30am Men's Bible Study
7 <i>Schmiesing Baptism</i> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 9:40am Sunday LinCt 10:30am Worship	8	9 9:00am Church Staff Meeting 5:30pm Adult Ministry Team 6:00pm Youth Ministry Team	10 9:00am Cards of Caring 10:30am NU Ministerial Mtg 1:00pm Beautiful Savior Circle 3:30pm Wednesday LinCt 5:00pm Wednesday Suppers 5:00pm Youth Handbells 5:30pm Children's Ministry Team 5:30pm Faith & Books 5:45pm Adult Handbells 6:30pm 5th & 6th Gr. Youth Group 6:30pm 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:30pm Adult Choir 7:30pm Worship	11 9:00am Immanuel Circle 4:00pm Oak Hills Worship Service 6:00pm Cub Scout Neighborhood Meeting	12 10:30am MRCI Group 6:00pm Cub Scout Den Meetings	13 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Private Event
14 8:30am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 10:30am Worship	15 12:45pm Tubing at Mount Kato - Grades 4 and Up 6:00pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	16 9:00am Church Staff Meeting 5:30pm Deacons Ministry Team 6:00pm Mission Ministry Team 7:00pm Stewardship Team	17 3:30pm Wednesday LinCt 5:00pm Wednesday Suppers 5:00pm Youth Handbells 5:45pm Adult Handbells 6:30pm 5th & 6th Gr. Youth Group 6:30pm Adult Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship	18 9:30am Conference Rostered Leaders 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting	19 10:30am MRCI Group	20 8:30am Men's Bible Study
21 1st Grade Bible Milestone <i>Suess Baptisms</i> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 9:40am Sunday LinCt 10:30am Worship	22 5:30pm Adult Trivia & Game Night	23 9:00am Church Staff Meeting 9:00am Quilting Group 6:00pm Facilities & Grounds Team 6:00pm Finance Committee 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	24 11:45am Food Shelf Volunteering 3:30pm Wednesday LinCt 5:00pm Wednesday Suppers 5:00pm Youth Handbells 5:30pm Confirmation Small Group Leader Meeting 5:45pm Adult Handbells 6:30pm 5th & 6th Gr. Youth Group 6:30pm Adult Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship	25 2:00pm Pro Kinship Annual Meeting	26 10:30am MRCI Group 6:00pm Cub Scout Den Meetings 8:00pm 5th Quarter	27 8:30am Men's Bible Study
28 <i>Budget Meeting</i> Noisy Offering Sunday 8:30am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 9:40am Sunday LinCt 10:30am Worship	29 6:00pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	30 9:00am Church Staff Meeting	31 3:30pm Wednesday LinCt 5:00pm Wednesday Suppers 5:00pm Youth Handbells 5:45pm Adult Handbells 6:30pm 5th & 6th Gr. Youth Group 6:30pm Adult Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship	1 11:00am Ridgeway on 23rd Service 4:00pm Pro Kinship Monthly Meeting 6:30pm Theology on Tap	2 10:30am MRCI Group	3 8:30am Men's Bible Study



OUR SAVIOR'S

Lutheran Church

NEW ULM, MN

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
New Ulm, MN
Permit #6

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New Ulm, MN 56073

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Website: www.oursaviorsnewulm.org

www.facebook.com/oslcnnewulm

Address Service Requested

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship – 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

Wednesday Worship – 7:30 PM

Television Broadcasts

(Comcast Channel 14; Nuvera Channel 3)

Mon.–7:00 PM; Thurs. – 5:00 PM

4th Thursday of the month – 6:00 PM

SIDELITES

OUR SAVIOR'S is a Welcoming
community, experiencing God,
reaching out and raising up followers of
Jesus Christ