
SIDELITES

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

December 2024



Christmas Eve Worship – Tuesday, December 24th
3:00 PM, 5:00 PM & 7:00 PM

The 3:00 PM service will be Live on Facebook.

Special Worship Events in December:

Healing Service: Sunday, December 15th at 8:30 AM
This Service will not be on Facebook.

LinC+ Christmas Program: Sunday, December 15th at 10:30 AM
This service will be Live on Facebook.

Cantata: Sunday, December 22nd at both services

Sunday, December 29th – Worship at 9:00 AM Only, also Live on Facebook.

Merry Christmas!

Your church staff would like to thank you for your partnership with us as together we make Christ known in both word and deed. Merry Christmas to you and your family. May your Christmas be filled with love and joy.

Pastor Kathy

Madeline

Sarah



Advent

Advent is a celebration of Christ's coming into the world at Christmas. As we prepare and look forward to Christmas, it gives us hope. In a world filled with news of war, poverty, division, and other bad news, we wonder if darkness is winning. The candles of the Advent wreath help us to look forward to the coming of Jesus, God's light for the world.

Advent is a celebration too, for the second coming of Jesus to reign. Some of our scripture readings during Advent will refer to this second coming of Jesus. This too, brings us hope, knowing that what we go through now is only temporary.

Finally, Advent is a celebration of how Christ comes to us weekly in the sacrament of Holy Communion. That presence goes with us as we go about our daily lives. Christ comes to us in other ways during our days, too: in the kindness of a friend, in the prayers being said for you, and in the help of a neighbor.

In our baptism, we were given the light of Christ and were told to let our light so shine that others would see our good works and glorify God our Father in heaven. During this season of Advent, let the light of Jesus shine in your heart and celebrate that we have a Savior who is with us always.

This Advent, I hope you will join us for worship as we light the Advent candles and prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ. In the busyness of the season, may worship be a time to experience peace, hope, joy, and love.

Pastor Kathy

The Gospel of Luke

The new church year begins with Advent. In the year ahead, we will explore the Gospel of Luke. Luke wrote both the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. The Gospel of Luke is a journey of Jesus to Jerusalem (the Gospel of Luke begins and ends in Jerusalem), and the book of Acts is a journey and growth of the church away from Jerusalem. Luke's purpose in writing is stated in Luke 1 and Acts 1, which is to give an orderly account of the life of Jesus so Theophilus will come to "know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed" (Luke 1:4).

Luke's gospel contains some of the best-known and best loved stories. For example: the Birth of Jesus, Zacchaeus, the Prodigal Son, Mary and Martha, the Road to Emmaus, and the Good Samaritan. As this new church year begins, I encourage you to read through the Gospel of Luke and the book Acts.

Call Process Update

The Church Council wants to keep you up to date on the process for calling a new associate pastor:

The first step is to complete a mission site profile. At the November Church Council meeting, the council will appoint a team to write the profile. The team will be trained by Synod Minister Heather Cularis. When that is complete, the congregation will elect a call committee. The call committee will interview candidates and then present a candidate for call to the congregation. Currently, there is not an interim pastor available. The hope is that without an interim, we will have guest pastors preach periodically and hope members of the congregation will come forward and help where needed. If you have any questions, please ask a church council member.

- Our Savior's Church Council



This is a family event! Please join your child for a fun morning of making holiday crafts!

The Weary World Rejoices - Advent Study/Discussion

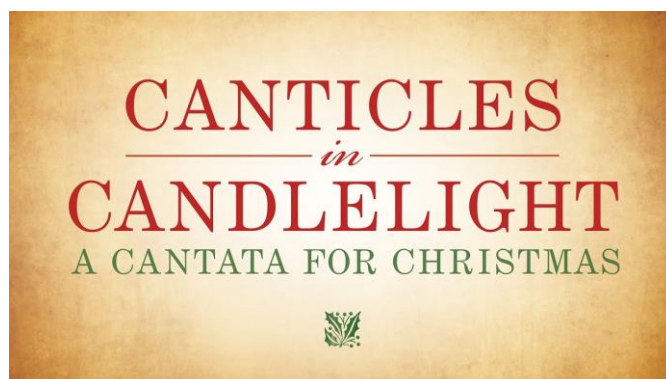
The Adult Ministry team invites you to join in an Advent discussion on the four promises of Advent: truth, compassion, restoration, and justice. The study will be offered on **Sundays, beginning December 1st, at 9:40 AM, and Tuesdays at 1:00 PM** (December 3rd, 10th, and 17th only). The study will meet in the Upper Room.

Each week will include scripture, discussion questions, and prayer. You can attend one week or all of the weeks. Copies of the group guide are available in the church office.

Advent Prayers of Wholeness and Healing

Sunday, December 15th at 8:30 AM

During this season of Advent, Our Savior's will be holding a service of Advent Prayers of Wholeness and Healing. During this service, we will hear how the coming Christ brings gifts of wholeness and healing to his people. This service of Holy Communion will also have a time of laying on of hands and anointing with oil for healing. If you are in need of healing of body, mind, spirit, or relationship, please join us for this worship service. The LinCt Christmas program will be at the 10:30AM service that day.



A Christmas Cantata by Joseph Martin
Presented by the Adult Choir
Sunday, December 22nd at 8:30AM and 10:30AM

Retired Persons Coffee

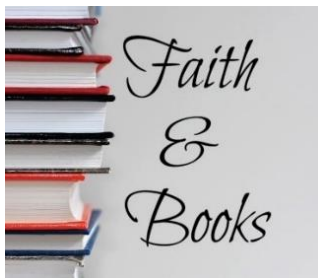
Something new for the retired, semi-retired, and all who have some free time in the mornings! On **Wednesday, December 4th**, we will have a coffee and conversation time from 9:00AM - 10:00AM. The intention is to get together for fellowship, to sometimes have a speaker, and to stay connected to Our Savior's and the people here.



December 7th from 9:30AM – 11:00AM at Our Savior's

All women of the church are invited to join us for a delicious meal of breakfast pizza, fresh fruit, coffee, and juice (cost is \$8), with music and a program. WELCA circle members will reveal prayer partners and choose new partners for next year. Please sign up in the Social Hall!

Attention WELCA Circle Members – Beautiful Savior Circle and Immanuel Circle will not meet in December.



Faith and Books meets on **Wednesday, December 11th, at 5:30PM** in the church library. The book for November is *The Christmas Box*, by Richard Paul Evans. Discussion questions will come from the 30th anniversary reading guide on the from Simon and Schuster. Questions are also available in the church library.

Looking ahead: The January book is *The Five-Star Weekend* by Elin Hilderbrand. Contact Pastor Kathy if you have any questions.

Wednesday Night Suppers

We gather on Wednesday evenings for suppers from 5:00PM-6:15PM! All proceeds from the free will offering go to support Wednesday LinCt programming.



December 4 th :	Pancakes
December 11 th :	Tacos
December 18 th :	No Meal – No Confirmation/Worship
December 25 th :	Church Closed – Christmas Day

The Stewardship Team would like to thank the members who returned their time and talent forms. This goes a long way in planning for the future of OSLC. If you have not yet returned the form, there is still time! All responses are greatly appreciated. Remember: Because of you, our church changes lives!

Church Leadership, Staff, Committee, and Ministry Team reports to be included in the **2024 Annual Report** are due no later than Friday, January 3rd. Reports may be dropped off in the church office, or emailed to office@oursaviorsnewulm.org.



Mission Corner:

The December *Noisy Offering* will be for the Red Kettle Salvation Army Campaign. 88% of donations will stay within our community, while 10% helps support The Salvation Army and 2% helps support world services. Our local funding is distributed between Brown County Human Services, New Ulm Police Department, Sleepy Eye Police Department, and Minnesota Valley Action Council for disbursement to those in the Brown County community.

Last year over \$11,000 was raised for our community and was spent by the end of August 2024. Financial assistance was provided for groceries, rent or utility bills, transportation including gas money or bus tokens, vehicle repairs and paying for medical necessities like medication. This is a great way to give back to our community and help serve those in need. If you would like to be a bell ringer, you can register online at www.registertoring.com



The Food Library is a ministry of Our Savior's. We are looking for people who would help keep the food library filled. It is kept full of non-perishable, season appropriate foods, and restocked 2-3 times per week. If you would like to help, a sign-up sheet is located in the Social Hall. Questions? Contact Pastor Kathy or a member of the Mission Team.

We are also in need of food to fill the Food Library! Please consider donating non-perishable, and/or single serving foods (pop-tops are a bonus!). Donations can be left in the wooden box outside the church office.

The Our Savior's Funeral Committee is looking for additional volunteers! For an average funeral at OSLC, we need a group of 4-8 people to serve food/coffee, as well as 1-2 people to run the dishwasher. If you are interested in being on the contact list for a funeral, or to volunteer for an announced funeral, please contact Carolyn Drexler at (507) 276-6280 or Betty Sauers at (507) 304-2990.



**Event is weather-permitting.
Stay tuned for more information!**

WEATHER RELATED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

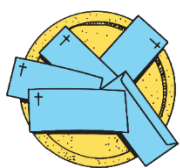
If weather is in question, please check our website and Facebook page for any cancellations or postponements. Be sure to 'like' and follow us at facebook.com/oslcnnewulm to stay up to date!

For midweek classes and programs, we'll follow the lead of the public schools. If ISD 88 dismisses early, choirs, confirmation, and groups will not meet. We will also not hold evening suppers.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

OSLC is planning on attending GLLM Bible Camp in late June 2025 (week to be determined). Bible Camp registration opens December 12th. We have spots reserved through January 16th. Early Bird discount of \$65 per camper ends February 13th.
camp mailing will be sent soon



Offering Envelopes

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 office@oursaviorsnewulm.org. If you don't receive envelopes but would like to, you can speak to Jen about that, too.

Thank you for your generosity to Our Savior's. Because of you, our church changes lives.

2024 Year-End Contributions

As the calendar year is quickly coming to a close, please remember that in order for your offerings to be credited in 2024 for tax purposes, we must receive them in the church office or be postmarked by December 31, 2024. Please consider the seasonal postal delays if you choose to mail your offering.

If you intend any mailed offerings at the end of December to be credited toward 2025, please indicate it on your envelope/check. Thank you for your gifts to Our Savior's!



Notes of THANKS

The family of Don Solberg would like to thank everyone who sent cards, called, and brought food to our home. Thank you for all the prayers. Pastor Kathy and Pastor Dave, thank you for your visits at home and the hospital. Also thank you for the lovely service. Thanks to all who took part in the service. Ladies of Our Savior's for serving the meal after the service, thank you. Your kindness will always be remembered.

- Mary Jo and family

Dear Our Savior's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$125 supporting the services of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota. Together, we are neighbors helping neighbors. With gratitude,

- Pastor Amanda, LSS Church Partnership Team

Welcome to our New Members!

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to the newest members of our church family!



Jane DeMarco



Kathy Hubert



Sharon Mandel



Nicole Neumann



Dean & Joyce Fischer



Brodie & Trista Raymond



Kirk & Lou Ann Smith



Denny & Jen Waloch
Leo, Henry, and Lili



Dalton & Bethany Demarais
Luke, McKenzie, and Anna

Not pictured: Steven & Desiree Horner, children Liam and Karli

Baptisms at Our Savior's

Our Savior's welcomed thirteen children and one adult into the family of God in 2024!



Emelisse Schmiesing



Bryson Suess & Ariya Martinez



Mylah Mehlhop



Addie Utz



Caleb Beranek



Beck Andersen



Jacob Anderson



Cecilia Warta



Sullivan Engstrom



Brian Emerson



Mackenzie Fenske



Baylor Thompson



Archer Haas

Weddings at Our Savior's!

We were also thrilled to celebrate the following members, who were married this year:



Caleb & Kristi Davis



Brady & Jasmine Zupfer



Ryan & Sara Bidinger



Jordan & Bella Hillesheim



Tim & Sydney Mandyck

Kudos to our 2024 Confirmands!



Back Row (L to R): Taven Wurtzberger, Owen Rasche, Levi Hopp, Tanner Backer, Colton Anderson, Mitchell Hopp, Kane Johnson

Middle Row (L to R): Pastor Dave Nissen, Keira Kral, Natalie Severson, Allie Schneider, Megan Brudelic, Keira Sullivan, Jesalyn Skoglund, Ian Lee, Jackson Sharits, Pastor Kathleen Ulland-Klinkner

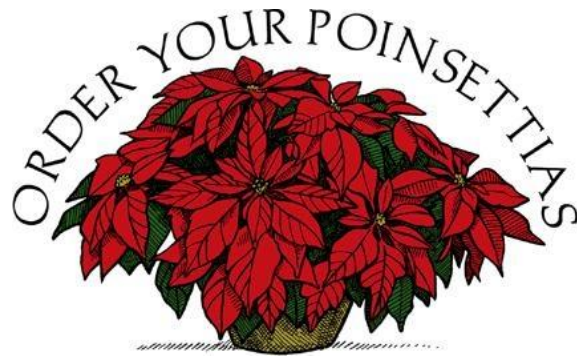
Front Row (L to R): Jett Volk, Shyla Gehring, Natalia Frederickson, Kate Schmidt, MaKenna LeGare, Eliana Cariveau, Gracie Baker, Regan Johnson, Logan Booth

December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 9:40am Advent Festival 9:40am Advent Study 10:30am Worship	2	3 9:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Advent Study	4 9:00am Retired Persons Coffee 10:00am WELCA Board Meeting 3:30pm Wednesday LinCt 5:00pm Wednesday Suppers 5:45pm Adult Handbells 6:30pm 5th & 6th Gr. Youth Group 6:30pm Adult Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship	5 10:30am Ridgeway Memory Care Service 11:00am Ridgeway on 23rd Service 4:00pm Pro Kinship Monthly Meeting 6:00pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	6 11:00am MRCI Group	7 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:30am WELCA Brunch
8 8:30am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 9:40am Advent Study 9:40am Sunday LinCt 10:30am Worship 2:00pm Girl Scouts Meeting	9	10 9:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Advent Study 5:30pm Adult Ministry Team 6:00pm Youth Ministry Team	11 9:00am Cards of Caring 3:30pm Wednesday LinCt 5:00pm Wednesday Suppers 5:30pm Faith & Books 5:45pm Adult Handbells 6:30pm 5th & 6th Gr. Youth Group 6:30pm Adult Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship	12 2:30pm Pro Kinship Activity 4:00pm Oak Hills Worship Service	13 11:00am MRCI Group	14 8:30am Men's Bible Study
15 8:30am Worship - Healing Service 9:30am Fellowship 9:40am Advent Study 9:40am Sunday LinCt 10:30am Worship - Christmas Program	16 Sidelites Deadline	17 9:00am Quilting Group 9:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Advent Study 6:00pm Deacons Ministry Team 6:00pm Mission Ministry Team	18 3:30pm Wednesday LinCt 5:45pm Adult Handbells 6:30pm Adult Choir	19 Blessed Bottoms Distribution - PM 9:00am Blessed Bottoms Prep 2:30pm Pro Kinship Activity 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting	20 8:30am Sidelites Group 11:00am MRCI Group	21 Blessed Bottoms Distribution - AM 8:30am Men's Bible Study
22 Cantata Noisy Offering Sunday 8:30am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 9:40am Advent Study 9:40am Sunday LinCt 10:30am Worship	23	24 3:00pm Christmas Eve Worship 5:00pm Christmas Eve Worship 7:00pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Church Office Closed	26	27 11:00am MRCI Group	28 8:30am Men's Bible Study
29 9:00am Worship 9:30am Fellowship	30	31 9:00am Staff Meeting	1 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	2 10:30am Ridgeway Memory Care Service 11:00am Ridgeway on 23rd Service 4:00pm Pro Kinship Monthly Meeting	3 Annual Reports Due 11:00am MRCI Group	4 8:30am Men's Bible Study



The OSLC church office will be closed on December 25th for Christmas, and January 1st for New Year's Day.



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

If you would like to contribute to the cost of our Christmas Decorations, or if you would like to bring a poinsettia, please complete the form below. This year, our poinsettias will range in price from \$20.00 - \$35.00.

Please print clearly! Names will be listed in the bulletin as written.

Given By _____

Choose one:

- I will bring a poinsettia plant.
- Please bring to the church **by December 22nd** and place on the table by Tom's office.
 - If you bring a poinsettia and would like to have it in your home after the holiday, please label your plant. Plants will be kept for pick up until Sunday, January 5th.
- I would like to contribute \$ _____ toward Christmas decorations.
- **Make checks payable to OSLC, and write "Christmas Decorations" in the memo line.**

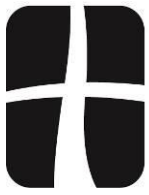
Choose one:

Given in memory of _____

Given in honor of _____

Given as a gift.

Forms must be returned to the church office **no later than December 18th** for memorials to be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin.



OUR SAVIOR'S

Lutheran Church

NEW ULM, MN

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

1400 South State Street

New Ulm, MN 56073

Phone: 507-233-4430

Website: www.oursaviorsnewulm.org

www.facebook.com/oslcnwulm

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