

Our Savior's Voice

Our Savior's Lutheran Church 359 Leonard Street N
West Salem, WI 54669
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May 2019



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.***

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May 2019

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Check out our new newsletter format ... it's still a work in progress!

Pastor's Page

April showers bring May Flowers...maybe, but now that Easter and Confirmation are behind us, I've got "sabbatical on my mind!"



In late May I begin my sabbatical leave, my first in 33 years as a pastor. A sabbatical leave is a time of rest and renewal, the opportunity to take a few steps away from pastoral ministry, to engage in some reflection, and then to come back with restored enthusiasm and energy. The La Crosse Area Synod policy includes a sabbatical leave for pastors, and it is a part of our call package. That has also included setting aside some financial resources.

My sabbatical begins May 20th with a part time week of work. May 25/26th will be my first weekend away, and after that I will be on leave. I will return for a part time week August 19th and be in worship August 24/25 (just in time for "Gospel on the Green!")

During my absence Pastor Jean will be the pastoral presence, other than three weeks of vacation she will take. Next year will be Pastor Jean's turn for a sabbatical – and I'll "hold down the fort."

So, what's happening on my sabbatical?

- A tour of Germany, with Pastor Jean and Rebecca, including Wittenberg (Martin Luther's home) and Dachau (the first Nazi concentration camp).
- A day trip to Wausau, and a week trip to New York, to gather stories from aunts on both sides of my family, and then to collect those stories into a family narrative.
- Time to learn more about photography and experiment with GIMP, an open source program similar to Photoshop.
- Broadening my horizons with some book reading – can I read one book a week? Books on the list include:
 - German Boy: A Child in War (Wolfgang Samuel)
 - Making Sense of Martin Luther (David Lose)
 - Gettysburg Rebels (Tom McMillan)

- Blood, Sweat and Chalk (Tom Layden)
- The Good War (Studs Terkel)
- Red Fortress (Catherine Merridale)
- Old Man River (Paul Schneider)
- 1491 (Charles Mann)
- For Labor, Race, and Liberty (Bruce Mouser)
- Worship at neighboring congregations
- A little more intentional exercise, including bike riding.
- Going fishing with my daughter!

Meanwhile...here at Our Savior's...Pastor Jean will carry on the ministry as she leads worship, provides pastoral care, handles funerals, visits hospitals, and anything else that comes up.

But wait, there's more!

We have arranged for pulpit supply for seven weekends. Pastor Jean will usually lead worship, but other voices will share the message. And not just any message, but a presence and message that reflects our ministry. Here's the plan:

June 2	Dori Jensen, School of Theology student
June 16	Bishop Arends' video sermon during synod assembly (<i>Pastor Jean on vacation</i>).
June 23	Pastor Barbara Bruneau, representing the synod, as a member of the synod assembly planning committee (<i>Pastor Jean on vacation</i>).
June 30	Mission trip report
July 13	Becki Murphy, graduate of Viterbo's Servant Leadership Master's degree program
July 27	Pastor Ben Morris, Lutheran Campus Ministry (<i>Pastor Jean on vacation</i>).
August 11	Pastor Kathy Ingbritsen, World Hunger Task Force

Come and hear another preacher, but also learn about our ministries and the ministries with which we partner.

But wait, there's YET more!

We have Vacation Bible School this year – with some twists! VBS will be in the evening (with a meal included), and will be for ALL ages, including Moms, Dads, and grandparents. Pretty much everyone. Come one, come all, beat the “dog days of summer blues” and have a blast doing it! Watch for details...

And then (*what, even more???*), the intergenerational mission trip to New Mexico. Service, fellowship, growth, fun...for kids and adults (together). And next year? Maybe New Orleans?

Now, I will confess that I am looking forward to this time, not because I can get away from Our Savior's (that will be the tough part), but because it will give me time and space to recharge and refresh. In the end, however, I expect that while I'm looking forward to May 20th (day one), I will really look forward to August 24/25, when I worship with you again!

Until then, I've got work to do. I'll need to get confirmation for next year (can't wait until late August!). And I'll want to make sure peaches and other ministries are ready to roll, and that those carrying out those ministries are comfortable and confident.

Which brings me to two final observations...first, thank you to Our Savior's for giving me this opportunity. You have been a great gift to me (and to us) for over six years, and you are still gifting us!

And second, as I prepare to take a step or two back, I am confident that you are in great hands. Pastor Jean will do what she has always done – faithful and passionate ministry in the name of Jesus. Really, can you do better than that?

So enjoy the summer, remain faithful in all your daily discipleship, and don't forget to gather in worship to be fed by God's gifts of Word and Sacrament! And I'll see you at Gospel on the Green!

Pastor Jon

Summer Worship
*Beginning May 26 through
September 2*

Saturday 6 PM
Sunday 8 and **10 AM**



Pastoral Acts:

Funeral – Dorothy Romskog – April 2

Funeral – Roy Hesselberg – April 30



Forward: Fearless and Faithful!

The Forward: Fearless and Faithful team has met with our coach (Carla Stanton, from First Lutheran, Onalaska), and gathered with other “F3” congregations at our first retreat. We are now moving ahead “fearless and faithful.” Please keep our team in your prayers as they begin their work together.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We have had a great year of Sunday School and will be sad to see it end. The kids have had wonderful teachers who shared their faith and witness. Our friends from *Whirl* introduced our lessons each week, along with Pastor Jean. Thank you for joining us each week, for being good learners, and for sharing your offerings for God's Global Barnyard. We will end our time together on Mother's Day (May 12) and celebrate our year together – ending with an ice cream social! Our classroom grandparents have been invited to join us that day too.

And ... Don't forget your offering for God's Global Barnyard! The "friendly competition" between our classes is almost complete. As of Palm Sunday, our **3rd grade** class continues to hold the lead at \$210.50 in offering, while the Kindergarten and 5th grade classes are back and forth with the **Kindergarten** class now at \$200, and the **5th grade** class closing in at \$193.11. So far for the year, altogether we have collected \$923.36. We are so close, can we make it to \$1,000 by Mother's Day? The more animals in our barnyard, the more we can help to end hunger.

Sunday School Offering

Our Sunday School offerings this year are being collected for **God's Global Barnyard**. Each week the classes are adding to our barnyard depending on how much offering was collected the week before. The more that a class collects, the bigger the animal that is added. Our barnyard is bursting at the seams! Way to go kids! Check out the barnyard between the pastor's offices to see our progress.



Important Dates

Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day) - Grades 4K-5 sing during 10:30 am worship

**** Note:** this is the last day of Sunday School

Parents can you help ...



We are looking for parents to help with our annual Sunday School end of year ice cream social on May 12th! We will provide the ice cream, if you could help serve it. We could also use some bars or cookies to go along with the ice cream. If you can help with this, please speak to Pastor Jean.

Mark your calendars now and watch for more information in the coming months!

July 29-August 1

Intergenerational Vacation Bible School



First Communion

Please keep the following students in your prayers as they celebrated First Communion on Maundy Thursday. We welcome them to the table for Holy Communion.



Danielle Christianson
Cade Donahue
Baylee Faucett
Bennett Fennigkoh
Aiden Hillyer
Erin Jones
Lydia Jothan
Spencer Kammel
Tyson Labus

Dayne Langrehr
Autumn Loring
Camdyn Lyga
Hayden Massman
Samantha Niemeier
Nathan Premo
Breanna Smith
Emelia Tlustosch



SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP - 2019

"Creating Sacred Space"

Check out the brochures for camp on the kiosk in the gathering area!

OUR SAVIOR'S CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE

\$100 full week -- \$50 half week

Request forms due in the office NO LATER than May 1st

(Forms are available in the church office, on the kiosk in the gathering area, or on the website – www.oursaviorswestsalem.org)



Confirmation

Confirmation Update

Confirmation classes for 6-8th graders are just about done! 6 grade finishes their work on May 15, while 7/8th graders finish up with small groups that same day. After School finishes up on May 15.

Meanwhile, congratulations to our 9th grade confirmands. Affirmation of Baptism was held on Sunday, April 28, with 15 of our kids affirming the promises made for them at baptism, and receiving the affirmation of God's continued promises to them! This year's class includes:

Adam Chandler
Delaney Christianson
Madeline England
Kylee Gander
Justin Hennessey
Madeline Janisch
Zach Long
Megan Marcou

CJ McConkey
Elsa Mitchell
Ryan Nickles
Ed Schmitz
Bennett Turnipseed
Blaine Wheeler
Maxwell Williams

Special thanks to this class's confirmation guides: Deelyn Christianson, Sarah Hennessey, Tiffany Janisch, and Ryan Wheeler. You did a great job!

Finally, please keep these young people in your prayers as they seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus. God's blessings be upon them!



What's going on in the Youth World?!

Flamingos

Flamingos have taken flight! They will continue to fly through May 12. Please continue to order flockings for your friends and neighbors! Please sign-up on the youth board to help with the flocking.

Brat Barn/Bake Sale Fundraiser

Saturday, May 4 at 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Hansen's IGA we will be selling brats, hot dogs, pork chops and chips. We would like to sell baked goods, but are looking for individually wrapped baked item donations to be sold at the brat barn for the fundraiser. Please contact Cat or Pastor Jon for more information.

Mission Trip

Please keep these people in your prayers as we continue to prepare for the Crownpointe, NM mission trip:

Ben Bakkum	Scarlett Fullwood
Allyson Bottem	Kylee Gander
Cathryn Bottem	Connor Koepp
Carolyn Karl	Nancy Koepp
Oscar Engh	Stephanie Subjek

We are still in need of a male chaperone, so if anyone is interested or if you know someone who would be interested PLEASE have them contact Cat ASAP. The dates are 6/14-6/24.

Peaches

Looking ahead, we will have peaches again this summer. Please see Pastor Jon or Cat to sign-up to help sell peaches come this summer. Dates for peach delivery coming soon.

Graduate Recognition

High school graduate recognition is set for Sunday, May 19, at the 10:30 worship service. We will honor our graduates, ask God's blessings upon them, announce scholarship winners, and celebrate with a bit of cake and punch after worship.



Students should join us around 10 AM in the lower level, and bring your robe if you have it. An RSVP to the office is helpful, but not necessary. And bring your parents!



As our students are finishing their year of college, we keep them in our prayers during these days of studying and exams. We pray for those who are graduating, that they find jobs that will bring them fulfillment and enjoyment. We look forward to seeing them all when they are home this summer and hope they will join us in worship.

college+
connection



Hungry Jar Offering for May Feed Our Children Summer Lunch Program

We learned in April that the school did not receive the grant for summer lunches that they had hoped to get, so ... we will once again be rallying the troops to serve lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In addition to your monetary donations, we will be seeking your help to prepare the lunches and serve them. Angie Hemker is heading up the project again this year - please contact her if you are able to help. Watch for details how you can be a part of this ministry. In the meantime, our Hungry Jar offerings for May will help support this ministry to feed the children of our community this summer with nutritious meals.



Adult studies

Wednesday morning Bible study meets at 9:30 in the Library. We are finishing your exploration of 2 Corinthians.

And then...**starting May 29**...each week through the summer, exploring the gospel reading for the coming Sunday...with Pastor Jean! Our study includes sharing, reflection, and lots of conversation. No previous knowledge or experience required!

SENIOR CONNECTION

Coffee & Conversation at Linda's Bakery 9:15 AM on Tuesday, May 14

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Check out the Senior Connection bulletin board (outside of the Koinonia Room) for additional opportunities.

Join us ...

Thursday, August 1st La Crosse Queen Paddleboat tour and lunch at the Blue's Lounge (Piggy's)



We will gather at church at 10 AM to carpool downtown.

The cruise begins at 11 AM and is 90 minutes long.

Following the cruise we will head over for lunch.

The cost is \$8 for the cruise, *plus* your lunch.

Access to the boat is via ramps (wide enough to accommodate a walker).

We will need an RSVP by June 30 – sign up on the Senior Connection bulletin board (outside the Koinonia Room)

The American Protestant Experience May 13th

@ Salem Terrace – 9:30 am

Join us for breakfast & fellowship



Breakfast is served as we gather for fellowship and study. We meet in the small kitchenette off the parking lot between Salem Terrace & Mill Street Manor. All are welcome!

CHECK IT OUT ...

Can't see the bulletin ... we have large print bulletins



Can't hear the worship service ... we have a hearing assist device

Missed worship ... check out the website – www.oursaviorswestsalem.org – to see the service.



Cards for shut-ins

Don't forget to stop by the "Card Ministry" table (located outside of the Pre-K classroom) each weekend when you are at worship to sign the cards for our shut-ins. You really do make a difference in the lives of those who cannot be with us.





Summer Lunch Update

Dear Members of OSLC,

There continues to be a need to provide meals to the youngest members of our community.

The Feed Our Children Summer Lunch Program will be up and running from June 18-August 22 this year.

New this year, there will be a Facebook page and the current plan will be to serve at 3 sites.

Look for opportunities to help prepare and serve meals, those sign-ups will be coming soon to both church and Facebook.

You may also help by donating any of the following items (look for the donation box in the gathering area.)

- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- fruit cups and or pudding cups
- ranch dressing
- Zip locks, snack and sandwich size
- goldfish, animal crackers, Chex mix

Thank you all for helping by donating, saying prayers and all of the kind words of support for those who serve and participate in the summer lunch program.

Angie Hemker



US Postal Service Food Drive

May 11 is the US Postal Service Food Drive. Community Care and Share Food Pantry Board is asking for volunteers on Saturday, May 11 anytime from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. to sort the 5000 pounds of food received. All ages welcome.

Sorting will take place in the basement of Our Savior's. Questions call/text Lynette Ender at 608-386-5310.

Garden Plots

Space remains available for any members of the congregation interested in establishing a garden in 2019. The garden size can be tailored to your needs and interests. If you'd like to talk with a prior year gardener, let me know. The plot is located 1½ miles north of West Salem directly off County Road M. If you are interested in reserving a parcel or have questions call Jim at 786-1236.



June Dairy Days



The 50th(!) June Dairy Days is **May 31, June 1 and June 2**. As in the past, OSLC is particularly active in two areas and we need your help! The **Fun Run** is held Saturday, June 1, and volunteers are needed to help with registration, set-up, and serving as crossing guards from 6:30 - 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. AND, there are LOTS of opportunities to help at the **Food Stand** (at Village Park) which serves food all weekend. Grillers, servers, ticket workers, window workers, and shift leaders are needed. Youth and their families are especially encouraged to help out on all shifts. Signup sheets for helping will be available at church and online at <https://signup.com/go/KivDdtY>. In order to indicate you're with our group, please add "OSLC" after your name so we know which folks are coming from which group. If you are a family signing up for several spots on the same shift but don't have separate emails, you can add a comment with the family member's name.

Also watch for information on the **Medallion Hunt**, with clues written by our own Errol Kindschy! If you love June Dairy Days and want to have it continue next year, please consider attending the JDD planning meeting on May 5 at Westview, 6:30 pm, as the future of the event is dependent upon having greater involvement. We don't want this to be the final year of such a wonderful community event!



SOS Band



Our very own SOS Band will once again be playing at June Dairy Days! Join us Sunday, June 2 at 11:00 a.m. at the Gazebo in Village Park to hear 50 minutes of our band playing music we enjoy. Come on over after the 10:00 church service!



Flags of Honor

This year, the June Dairy Days committee is sponsoring a wonderful tribute to military personnel (past and present) with **Flags of Honor**, May 17-19 at the Village Park. You may sponsor a flag in someone's honor and/or stroll through the park that weekend to view the more than 600 American flags. (Volunteers to help with the respectful setup and takedown are welcome - contact Rita Schmitz for more information.) Information on Flag sponsorship (deadline May 12) can be found at www.junedairydays.com/content/events.



Welcome!

Welcome to Carolyn Karl! Carolyn was formally received by the Congregation Council on April 8, but has already made a big difference in our work together. She is in choir, Bible study, several fellowship groups, and a part of the Forward: Fearless and Faithful team.

Carolyn was born in Sumatra, what is now part of Indonesia. At age 9 she moved to the United States, where her father farmed tobacco in the Connecticut valley. She has a physical therapy degree from Boston University. Carolyn has four children, 11 grandchildren, and one great grandson. She lost her dear husband Joe in 2017, and then moved here from Tennessee. She says, "I love to be here and love the church!"

Our Savior's Loves New Members!

We love to welcome new partners in our life and work as disciples of Jesus! If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining Our Savior's, please contact one of the pastors. We'll get you set!



Prayer Labyrinth

With the arrival of warmer weather, and the melting of the snows, the prayer labyrinth is now open for business! There are still some improvements yet to be made, but feel free to stop by and “walk the labyrinth.”

How do you do that? As you approach the labyrinth you will see a grass path set apart by bricks. Enter the labyrinth slowly and deliberately, and as you follow the path, allow yourself to withdraw from the world around you, and enter a posture of prayer. Pray for your concerns as well as the needs of the world, but also spend some time in silence as you allow a good and gracious God to embrace you, and to speak to you.

As you wind around the labyrinth, you will come to the center. There, in the world, and yet also in your own world, take some further time to pray (in the near future there will be a bench on which to sit).

When you are ready, retrace your steps and wind your way back from the center to the edge. Continue to pray, listen, and reflect as you prepare to reenter the world and then go forth to live as a faithful disciple of Jesus!

Make use of the labyrinth as often as you wish, and invite others to do the same. Further improvements will include small signs with Bible passages to help in your reflections.

Thanks again to Kessler Goodenough for creating the labyrinth as his SEP for this year.

Boundaries Workshop

In early April Our Savior's hosted the La Crosse Area Synod "Boundaries Workshop." This event is required of pastors every 3-4 years, and helps them reflect and consider the appropriate boundaries for pastoral ministry. From its beginning as a reflection on sexual misconduct, the workshops now also address dating and romance, finances, and child safety. Even taking a good day off is part of boundary issues. The ELCA takes all these needs very seriously, and clergy are expected to engage in healthy relationships with parishioners (and others), and with themselves. Boundaries help us understand what is helpful and what is not.

Good boundaries are also important in the life of the congregation. Coming out of the workshop, the pastors have identified three boundary areas for us to continue to work on as a congregation:

- Child safety – we have a “child safe” policy that we will be reviewing, and if necessary, revising. It is important for us to provide a safe place for children, and to have the proper boundaries.
- Sexual harassment – we treasure all who are a part of our ministry. Using a model from another congregation, we will be creating a policy to cover pastors, lay employees, and volunteers. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated!
- Financial practices – over the past few years we have “tweaked” our system to ensure that our financial practices are clean and transparent. We want to continue that review, and maintain appropriate boundaries to ensure our financial integrity.

Finally, the workshop was a great success – almost 60 in attendance. Thank you to all the ladies who helped put on the lunch, and especially to Connie and Larry Blunck for ALL their hard work!

If you have any questions about boundaries in general, or just curious about them, see one of the pastors.

Staff Changes

As summer approaches we have some changes to our staff. We welcome Josh Corning as our new custodian. Josh has been our snow shovel-er for the past two winters, and filled in for us when we needed a quick, interim custodian. We are excited to have Josh working with us!



Meanwhile...

A note from Cat: After many hours of praying and soul searching, it is with a heavy heart that I have turned in my notice to end my position as the youth director here at Our Savior's. My last day will be August 31 to help as much as I can while Pastor Jon is on his sabbatical. I cannot emphasize enough how much I have appreciated the experiences I have gained from working with Our Savior's. I have learned so much and have been so blessed to work with everyone these last 2.5 years. I wanted to thank everyone for everything I have been taught, and these experiences are ones that I will carry with me forever. Thank you, and God bless all of you.



Thank you...

Thank You!

... to the April newsletter mailing crew - Connie & Larry Blunck, Bev Bockenhauer, Sandra Holthaus, Carolyn Karl, Judy Morzinski, Carol Peterson, Velma Schmidt, Mary & Rich Storandt, and Betty Whitlock.

... to Dana Roemhild and Stacey Sjoquist for making the communion bread for April.

... to those who helped with the kitchenette remodel project: Melody Schmitz and Connie Blunck for cleaning and organizing the shelves and cabinets; Jeff Haldeman for making the cabinet; Carl Wallace, Jim Quamme, and Larry Blunck for installing the countertop; Mary Gavaghan for providing the dishwasher

... to Stacey Sjoquist and Tracy Skrentny for cleaning and organizing the sacristy and sacristy annex

... to Steve Ahles for removing the gravel out of the grass by the parking lot

... to our Sunday School teachers and helpers and musicians for a great year of learning and witness

... to Laura Fitzpatrick for keeping track of confirmation sermon notes

... to our confirmation parents for providing dinner throughout the year

From others ...

To the prayer shawl group, Please accept this check as an appreciation donation to your group. This week marks the one year anniversary of my father's death. You kindly made him a shawl while he was a resident at Lakeview. Thank you.

Barbara Sorenson

In Loving Memory

Memorial Gifts Received ...

*In Memory of Dawn Andres for
quilting*

Doris Michelson

Jim Michelson

Betty Whitlock

Family & Friends

*In Memory of Dawn Andres for
Endowment Fund*

Helen Friell

In Memory of Diane Pfaff for Endowment Fund

Eric & Lynette Ender



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. See Thrivent’s web site for more information or stop by the office and we will help you out.

Shopping Online?



Our Savior’s now 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.



Our Savior's Mission in the World ***God's Work...Our Hands...*** ***Prayer Shawls***

Another in a series of ministries in which we are engaged as part of our faithful stewardship and discipleship.

The making and gifting of “shawls of comfort” for people in a time of need continues. A small group of crafters, about 4-6 members, comprised of multi-age, multi-talented individuals, gathers twice a month to do their work. Some have been doing this needlework for many years, others are learning a new to them skill, but all enjoy our time together. Some members do most of the shawl making at home, others work on it only at the group's twice-monthly meeting...whatever works for each is fine!

When the shawls are completed they are prayed over by the group members, and blessed at a worship service by one of the pastors. Shawls are given for a variety of reasons: illness, hospitalization, shut-ins, grieving, or other needs. Shawls are also given to older children or adults being baptized, and to parents of high school graduates. In addition, each year 20-25 are given to residents at Lakeview Health Care Center, and occasionally to the Dialysis Units at La Crosse medical centers.

The shawls are available for anyone, not only OSLC parishioners. A request to one of the pastors or a member of the group is all that is necessary to wrap someone you know in the love of our Savior, Jesus Christ, as well as being wrapped in the love of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

We have been blessed by generous monetary donations, often memorials, or the gift of yarn itself. These gifts allow the donor to become a part of the prayer shawl ministry!

Your financial support makes this ministry of prayer to people in great need possible by providing yarn and space. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of hurting people by providing a ministry of hope in Jesus!

New! Electronic giving options!

Giving via electronic transfer...

- At oursaviorswestsalem.org, click the “Give” tab at the top.
- Click *Give Online*.
- Your contribution is made directly from your financial institution, and is protected by secure software.
- When making your first gift, set up a GivePlus account.
- You can make a one-time gift, or set up recurring gifts.
- Recurring gifts can be changed at any time.
- Bank transfers have the lowest fees for Our Savior’s, allowing for the greatest amount of your gift to go toward the ministries of Jesus Christ!

Giving via mobile app...

- Visit the App Store or Google Play and search for “GivePlus Church” to download the app for free.
- Select Our Savior’s as your default church.
- Tap *Donate Now*.
- Enter your payment information.
- Review & complete your donation.
- Easily create an account to set up recurring donations and review your giving history.

Giving via text...

- Text to 608-471-7267
- Enter amount
- Send
- The first time you use texting, you will be asked to register your payment information; after that, enter the amount and send the text.

Give in confidence!

At Our Savior’s we take seriously the need for integrity in our financial practices, and we strive to make certain that our resources make a difference in the world. Periodic audits and public reports ensure that we are good stewards of your gifts! And ***thank you for your support!***

Mission Support

2019 is off and running. God is at work, good things are happening, and opportunities for faithful discipleship abound! Thank you for your continued support of our mission and ministry, here in West Salem and around the world. Though the winter weather has taken its toll, we continue to be blessed. ***If the weather has kept you away, we hope that the breaking of winter gives you the opportunity to return to worship, and to continue your partnership as together we make a difference in the world.***

Thank you for all that you share for the sake of the world and the gospel of Jesus Christ!

2019 Ministry at Work			
	Actual – March	Actual - YTD	Budget - YTD
Income	\$28,277.55	\$71,911.21	\$81,311.73
Prepaid 2018		\$25,547.07	\$25,547.07
Expense	\$28,593.70	\$88,561.83	\$89,595.50
Net	(\$316.15)	\$8896.45	

Congregation Council Review

The Congregation Council met on April 8, with President Lynette Ender presiding. At this meeting, the council:

- Discussed a portion of The Agile Church, and shared in prayer.
- Heard from Eric Ender and Pastor Jon on “Stewardship for All Seasons” and discussed its possibilities. Decided to continue the discussion at the May meeting.
- Received and approved the minutes from the February meeting. Received and reviewed the financial reports and pastoral reports for February and March.
- Appointed Eric Ender, Lynette Ender, and Nancy DeYoung, to join Wendy Kane, as voting members for the 2019 La Crosse Area Synod Assembly.
- Received updates on Forward: Fearless and Faithful and electronic giving options.
- Heard a report on the Synod Assembly caucus. Noted that the pre-assembly report acknowledges Pastor Jean’s 10th ordination anniversary and Pastor Mitzi’s retirement. It also shares that David Bersagel has resigned from the clergy roster of the ELCA.
- Heard about the recent Synod Boundaries workshop held at Our Savior’s. Pastor Jon suggested that, in light of the workshop, we review our child safety policy and our financial practices, and explore a sexual harassment policy.
- Received by transfer Carolyn Karl.
- Authorized the establishment of a brokerage account with Thrivent Financial to facilitate stock transfers.
- Received a letter of resignation from Cat Bottem as youth ministry director, effective August 31.

The council meets again on May 13. See one of the pastors or Lynette Ender if you have any questions.

WORSHIP LEADERS May 4-5

6 p.m.

Acolyte Benjamin Fleckenstein
Reader _____
Communion Assistant Carla Burkhardt
Ushers _____

8 a.m.

Acolytes Emma Fortier
Readers Jeanne Peterson
Communion Assistants
Naoko Giblin
Lee Fernstaedt
Baskets Riley Wuensch
Ushers _____

10:30 a.m.

Madeline Giblin

Stacey Sjoquist
Kristin Tschumper
Trevor Arentz

Home Communion Judy Gilbert
Altar Guild Stacey Sjoquist / Tracy Skrentny

WORSHIP LEADERS May 11-12

6 p.m.

Acolyte Elly Goodenough
Reader Bonnie Gensch
Communion Assistant Jill Iliff
Ushers _____

8 a.m.

Acolytes Jaden Hammes
Readers Lynette Ender
Communion Assistants
Sharon Olson
Melody Schmitz
Baskets Emily Bell
Ushers _____

10:30 a.m.

Jacob Helgeson

Jeff Haldeman
Eric Iliff
Turner Campbell

Home Communion Pam Gresens
Altar Guild Stacey Sjoquist / Tracy Skrentny

WORSHIP LEADERS May 18-19

6 p.m.

Acolyte Amalia Hemker
Reader _____
Communion Assistant Judy Morzinski
Ushers _____

8 a.m.

Acolytes Jacob Hickey
Readers Kathy Wehrs
Communion Assistants
 Shannon Wiese
 Paula Heilman
Baskets Marissa Eckland
Ushers _____

10:30 a.m.

Kendra Hillyer

Cat Bottem
Michelle Witte
Brooke Gander

Communion Bread Karen Tiber
Home Communion Iliff Family
Altar Guild Stacey Sjoquist / Tracy Skrentny

WORSHIP LEADERS May 25-26 / Time Change

6 p.m.

Acolyte Morgan Kammel
Reader Sharon Olson
Communion Assistant Karen DeSchepper
Ushers _____

8 a.m.

Acolytes Brennan Kennedy
Readers _____
Communion Assistants
 Lynette Ender
 Vicky Johnson
 Jason Stefferud
Baskets Owen Kendhammer
Ushers _____

10:00 a.m.

Benjamin Larson

Kyle Twite
Dori Jensen
Darlene Affeldt
Emma Haun

Home Communion Ilene Pavelko
Altar Guild Stacey Sjoquist / Tracy Skrentny

Web Site: www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

OUR SAVIOR'S STAFF

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Email: youth@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Jill Iliff, Treasurer

Email: treasurer@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Linda Berg, Organist/Choir Accompanist/Dir of Music

Email: linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Kathy Brisson, Organist

Eric Sorenson, Senior Choir Director

Karen DeSchepper, Financial Secretary

Josh Corning, Custodian

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