

# 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

## November 2025



### **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**

## **November 2025**

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# Worship Opportunities

Saturday 6 PM  
Sunday 8 & 10:30 AM

***10:30 AM worship livestreamed!***

Find the Livestreaming link on the home page of our web site ([www.oursaviorswestsalem.org](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org)) or directly to YouTube at [youtube.com/@techoslclstreams](https://youtube.com/@techoslclstreams). Click on “live” to access the livestream.

Livestreams remain on the YouTube page as recordings for later viewing.



We invite you to subscribe to our YouTube channel to keep up to date with our online worship. Thank you for your support of our virtual ministry!

**YouTube**

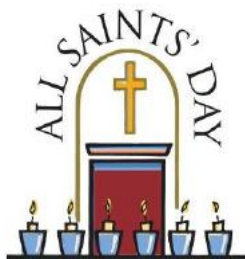
**Check it out ...**



Facebook Page –  
Our Savior’s ELCA – West Salem



Instagram Page –  
[oursaviors\\_ws](https://www.instagram.com/oursaviors_ws)



## All Saints Sunday November 2<sup>nd</sup>

As in past years we remember on All Saints Sunday (November 2) all the saints who have gone before us. We remember in our prayers all who continue to grieve, and we thank God for the gift and witness of all who have gone before us. This year we especially remember those who have joined the church triumphant during the past year, including:

*Delvan Horstman - December 4, 2024*

*John Reynolds - December 14, 2024*

*Elvera Welsch - January 1, 2025*

*Donald Miller - January 5, 2025*

*David Meyer - January 28, 2025*

*Eva Farris - January 29, 2025*

*Saundra Holthaus - March 22, 2025*

*Joan Schild - March 27, 2025*

*Kenneth Herman - April 2, 2025*

*Luella Pierce - April 9, 2025*

*Earl Farnam, Sr. - April 23, 2025*

*Harriet Hessler - May 5, 2025*

*Norma Piper - May 24, 2025*

*Douglas Eckelberg - June 21, 2025*

*Judith Vick - July 13, 2025*

*Virgil Mikkelsen - July 28, 2025*

*James Tocko - August 11, 2025*

*Helen Friell - August 13, 2025*

*Randina Clements - August 24, 2025*

*Judi Rogness - October 11, 2025*

Join us to celebrate their witness, give thanks for their presence, and pray for continued healing for all who grieve the loss of loved ones!



## The Stories

Stories, stories, and more stories ... but always, God at work! Our worship each week features another Biblical story as we work our way from Creation to the birth of the Church. As we hear the stories, we explore how God is at work way back then ... and even today!

Each week will be a different “unit,” so you won’t be missing if you happen to miss, but remember that there is always livestream or the YouTube video to “catchup.”

What’s coming in November?

- November 2 – Ruth
- November 8/9 – Elijah and Ahab
- November 15/16 – Esther
- November 22/23 – Daniel
- November 29/30 – Amos and Ezekiel

Join us as we hear the story of the ages ... in the stories that have aged so well!



## **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship**

**(Presbyterian Church – St. Teresa's of Kolkata – Our Savior's)**

**Wednesday, November 26  
6:30 PM at Presbyterian Church**

*Take time to give thanks before  
the feasting and festivities ...*

*Join us as we come together as the Body of Christ in different faith communities, but gathering around the same cross and empty tomb. Hear the message and music by the joint choir, followed by a time of fellowship. Together we will give thanks to a gracious God for all the gifts of life!*



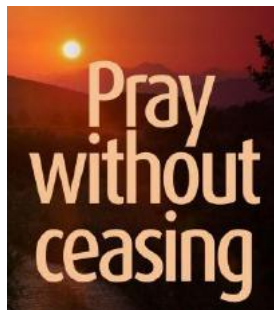
**Fall Back – Time Change  
November 1 – Saturday night**

## **We are praying...**

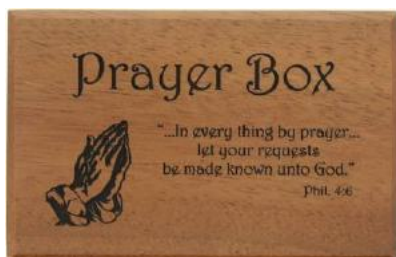
Our new prayer worship time continues on Mondays at 6 PM, in the Koinonia Room. We share our prayer concerns, hear God's word, and then ... we pray!

Join us for some quiet time of sharing and praying – takes about 25 minutes. And then we are on our way back into the world around us!

And remember ... no matter who joins us, we are praying ... and we might just be praying for you!



***But wait ... there's more ...***



## **We want YOUR prayer concerns!**

In the Gathering Area, on the stand beneath the banner, is our new “prayer request” box – a box just for your prayer concerns. Use one of the request slips by the box and share a concern with us.

- ♥ Give us the person we are praying for (first name only is fine, or even a “nickname”),
- ♥ What the need is, and
- ♥ Your name so we can follow up with you.

Each week we will include those concerns in our prayers. Because ...

***We are praying!***



## Pastor's Reflections ...

November...Thanksgiving...and I guess that's what this Pastor's Page should be about.

Except, "I don't wanna!" I'm tired of always doing Thanksgiving in November. I want to do something else. I want to do something different this year.

Back in October I had my 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class ponder a question.

*Just imagining...being bold...what do I think the Holy Spirit is calling ME to do in the world today?*

I got some interesting answers:

*"Not judge and (instead) care about others."*

*"Help (a friend) with his homework."*

*"Be kind to the people who need more kindness in their lives."*

*"Make a difference; be a leader."*

*"Be a leader in my community."*

*"Be there for others and loving to all."*

*"Be kind to everyone because you never know what people are going through."*

*"To make people happy and smile to brighten their day."*



Now, understand – they didn't have a lot of time to think about this. I didn't give them a warning the week before, they didn't have time to consider possibilities. This was just "off the top of the head, what do you think" kind of thinking. And they did really well. Nobody was looking to cure cancer, figure out world peace, or save the planet. But they were looking at others, at people in need. People right alongside them in the journey of life.

Kids seeing some needs and imagining that THEY just might be part of the solution, even part of “God at work” in our world.



And that is reason for giving thanks! (Hang on to that for a moment.)

Then, in late October, several of our women attended the Synod WELCA gathering. The program was around human trafficking, the luring of (mostly) young girls and women into prostitution. A downward spiral that leads at best to a devastated life. And at worst, to (literally) no life at all. Bad stuff, to be sure.

But with great passion, one of our women returned. What are we as a church doing to meet this need? How can we help protect the young girls and women in our community – and beyond?

She didn’t just ask the questions. She also began to pose some answers. Or, in other words, she is not just “talking the talk,” she is ready to “walk the walk.”

Now, another thing to understand – this particular woman is not from West Salem, nor does she have family here. So why should she care about young girls and women in this town? I don’t know, and I don’t need to know – I just know she cares! Just wait and see what happens next. And that is worthy of a bit of thanks, don’t you think?

Oops! There it is again – “thanks!”



Funny, don’t you think? I’m trying to avoid “Thanksgiving.” If I try hard enough maybe I can avoid the turkey, stuffing, yams, and pie...and maybe I can avoid the football...and maybe I can even avoid “Thanksgiving,” but I can’t avoid “giving thanks.”

Thanks to and for kids who are looking out beyond themselves, seeing needs and imagining they could be part of God's work. And thanks to and for a woman who sees a need, is filled with what I can only imagine is Holy-Spirit-filled-passion, and is ready to lead us in doing God's work.



And there you go – I'm "giving thanks."

Of course, there are other November examples. The Norwegian Dinner – a crew of eager folk, not just sustaining a tradition, but through the proceeds making a difference in the world. *"Thank you!"*

Or after the "trucks load" of quilts sent forth earlier in October, in November the quilting group is back at work – starting on next year's batch. *"Thank you!"*

Or the remembrance of the saints who have gone before us, witnessing to God's work in their lives...and the world around us. *"Thank you!"*

Or you...as later in November we engage in our stewardship emphasis, and how you, in your response, see the needs (like the kids and a certain woman) and respond by looking outside of yourselves (like the kids) and with passion (like the woman), so that together we make a difference in lives in the neighborhood and around the world. *"Thank you!"*

So, there you go. I'm tired of always writing about Thanksgiving, and this year I'm not doing it.

But I can't avoid giving thanks. Too much around me for which to be thankful.

Too much "God at work!"

*Pastor Jon*



## 2026 Stewardship Emphasis

During November we invite you to **consider the part God calls you to play in our work together**, and especially in the financial support of our ministries. Our stewardship mailing this fall highlights the many ways we make a difference as a community of faith. It also includes a “thank you” from the Congregation Council, a “bold” request for your continued support, and a challenge to consider how you can grow in your faithful response to God’s call.

***Join us in worship on Saturday/Sunday, November 15/16!*** We will hear about Esther, a queen, and a faithful steward of much more than money, and how she saw that it was “for a moment like this” that God gifted and called her.

We also encourage you to return to us then (or another time) the estimate of giving card included in the mailing. Your estimate of giving for 2026 helps us to build a responsible ministry plan for next year.

Thank you for your support and your partnership with us in the ministry of the gospel of Jesus Christ!



## Faith Formation ...

### Sunday School



Sunday School is humming along. The kids are learning about Jesus' life and teachings from our friends at *Whirl* and their teachers. They continue to follow the lectionary, and we are working to make the connection to the Old Testament Bible stories they are hearing in worship which is "off script" this year.

Having shared their music with us the last two months, they are now beginning to work on their Christmas program – yikes! So ... please be sure your kids are in class in the weeks to come so they can be prepared.

And, don't forget your offerings to "stock the backpacks" so we can feed hungry children. Remember our "friendly competition" between the grades to see which class can share the most offerings to feed the children.

### Important Dates

Saturday, December 13 - Program rehearsal - 3-5 PM

Sunday, December 14 - Christmas Program - 10:30AM



## **Sunday School Offering for 2025-2026**

### **Stock a backpack with food**

More than 30 million children in the United States depend on federal school meal programs to stay well-nourished and ready to learn. But many children struggle to receive the same level of nutrition at home. Backpack programs across the country help students at risk of hunger by discreetly stocking their backpacks with food or distributing pre-packed bags to bridge the gap. That way, children and their families have healthy meals all week long.

Our Sunday School offering this year will fill backpacks. Watch the bulletin board by Pastor Jean's office to see how many backpacks we can fill – each backpack is worth \$10.

***We thank one of our classroom grandparents for “stoking” the pot and filling a couple of our backpacks.***





## Faith Formation ...

### Confirmation Ministry

November ... and confirmation is hip-deep in learning and growing ... all for the sake of kids, Jesus, and the gospel!

**6<sup>th</sup> graders** continue to meet on Wednesdays at 6 PM and are working through more stories of the Old Testament, including Samuel, Saul, and David.

**7<sup>th</sup> graders** also meet on Wednesdays at 6 PM. They will finish off the sacraments, consider what it means to be a servant leader, and explore several ways to “live faithfully.”

**8<sup>th</sup> graders** meet on Wednesdays at 7 PM. After learning more about being a servant leader, they will discover more about God’s gifts and faithful stewardship. In addition, part of the class will assist with the Norwegian Dinner, while the other part will get ready for the “Hanging of the Greens.”

**\*\* NOTE: Class on November 19 is at 6 PM! \*\***

***For all three grades there is NO class on November 26 – attend Thanksgiving Eve worship at the Presbyterian Church (6:30 pm)!***



**6<sup>th</sup> Graders**, you are invited to try something new this year!

**Lock-In at the church**  
**Friday, November 14**  
**Arrive at 7 PM / Leave by 7 AM**



We are going to make fun snacks, play games, watch movies, and have spiritual time.

What you need to bring:

- Sleeping bag, pillow, and blanket
- A Bible verse you want to discuss

The drinks and snacks will be provided by the church.

Wendy is excited to try this new adventure and see where the evening takes you.

*From Wendy ...*



I want to give a shout out to all the confirmation kids that came to attend the outdoor gathering on October 8<sup>th</sup>. We enjoyed hanging out by the fire, while enjoying hotdogs and snacks, and learned a passage from the Bible

that inspired conversation on what the message meant to everyone. Each time we have an outdoor gathering the kids always ask why we don't do it more often!



## **Hungry Jar Offering for November – LaCrosse Warming Center**

As we anticipate the cold weather ...  
The La Crosse Warming Center's

mission is to work with the greater La Crosse community to better serve those experiencing homelessness with dignity and respect by providing a safe and warm place for homeless adults 18 years and older to get in out of the cold during the winter months from November 1 until May 1. The Warming Center is located at 413 South Third Street in La Crosse. Guests are able to take a shower and wash their clothes. To keep the doors open, hundreds of volunteers from area churches and the community are needed to staff the center. Please be generous as we care for those who are hurting.



Thank you for your generous donations to  
the Hungry Jar ...

♥ September – Quilt & Kit Shipping –  
\$813.40

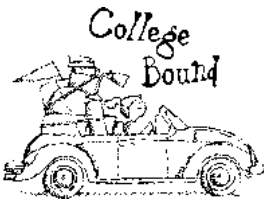
As our college students are studying in challenging environments at home or on campus, we keep them in our thoughts and prayers. This month please pray for:



***Ella Beal*** (Madison Technical), ***Delaney Christianson*** (Viterbo), ***Regan Peterson*** (UW-M), ***Mya Koudelka*** (UW-L), ***Trevor Arentz*** (UW-L), ***Andrew Larson*** (UW-M), and ***Jessalyn Hickey*** (UW-L).

## Last Call ...

Whether you're going to WTC and living at home or traveling to the far ends of the country, we need your **campus address** and your **email address**!



You are important to us, and we want to keep in touch – *Please get the information to the office or to Pastor Jean.*



## **Adult Bible Study**

*Wednesdays 9:30-11 AM*

*In the Library – or join us by Zoom*

Bible study continues to meet – and we are always digging a way to find new nuggets and hear God speak anew to us. YOU are always welcome. NO prior knowledge expected, just a bit of curiosity and excitement to encounter God's word ... and live as faithful disciples.

Through next May we are looking at the primary text for the coming Sunday – so lots of Old Testament, and then New Testament stories to explore!

See Pastor Jon for more information, or to get the Zoom link.

**Coffee & Conversation  
at Linda's Bakery  
9:30 AM on Tuesday, November 11**



## **Grief Ministry**

Our new grief ministry, facilitated by Trudy Drugg, is off to a great start! We hope to have another "grief group" in the new year, so if you are struggling with the loss of someone special to you, or know someone who is, watch for a new group next year, or let the pastors know of your need and interest. We'll keep you posted!

# Norwegian Dinner & Bake Sale



**November 1, 2025**

**3:30-6:30 pm**

**Ticket sales start at 3:00 pm**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

359 N. Leonard St.

West Salem, WI 54669

**Plated meal** serving lutefisk, meatballs, lefse, boiled potatoes, rutabagas, cranberry sauce, sweet treats, coffee, milk, and water

Pricing:

Lutefisk & Meatballs - \$22

Meatballs Only - \$18

Children ages 4-12 - \$10

Under 4 - Free

All proceeds given to missions

# Looking ahead ...



## Lakeview Caring Tree

Lakeview Health Center is once again offering an opportunity to share a gift with a resident. The caring tree will be available starting on November 3. You can pick up a tag at church or call the office (608-786-0030) and we will get one for you. You then purchase a simple gift for the nursing home resident on your tag. The ***wrapped gift, along with the tag on the outside of the package***, should be returned to church by **December 5**.

Thank you for helping to make Christmas just a little brighter for our neighbors!



## Sunday, November 30 Following 10:30 AM worship

The time is coming again to decorate our sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season. Please join us as we put up the trees and decorate the rest of the church. Hot chocolate, apple cider, and cookies will be provided. Your whole family is invited to have fun and make memories.



## Hanging of the Greens Wednesday, December 3 at 7 PM

*Getting the house ready!  
We sing ... and decorate ... and celebrate ...*

## **Opportunities for Faithful Living!**

*It is a hurting world out there...God is generous...and YOU can change lives! Each month we highlight an opportunity for you to connect with people in need outside of Our Savior's, out on the world around us! See something that kindles your passion and uses the gifts you have? Check it out!*

### **Care and Share Food Pantry**

The Care and Share Food Pantry, located in the lower level of Our Savior's, is open each Saturday from 10 AM to noon. Volunteers on duty assist clients in selecting food items from the pantry. Other volunteers come in during the week to organize the shelves and rotate the food items on hand. This is a great ministry right here in our backyard! If you are interested, contact the office and we will get you connected!





## It's Back!

Good news! **Living Lutheran, the magazine of the ELCA, is back in print!** Living Lutheran

is a quarterly magazine that provides news, reflections, and stories from across the ELCA, and shares insight, inspiration, and resources from pastors, lay leaders, and all the faithful!

The upcoming winter 2025-26 issues include seasonal reflections for Advent through Ash Wednesday, and coverage of Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry's installation. It also covers a number of ministry happenings in rural congregations. Great reading!

***But best of all, a group subscription is available for \$17 annually.*** We need ten to make a group, so if you are interested in a subscription, contact the office or one of the pastors.

## Tech System Invite



We continue to look for folk who are interested in “working the system” during worship, enabling us to use video resources and livestream the service. If you might be one of them, Dean Olson invites you to join him during worship and see how it all comes together – and maybe discover that it isn't as overwhelming as it looks! See Dean or Pastor Jon for more information.

# Capital Fund Appeal

With the warmer weather in October, the recent installation of the new AC unit in the Gathering Area has already been put to use. And it will be a big help next summer.



Meanwhile, the Capital Fund Appeal continues, and the gifts to the appeal will assist in “paying the bill” for the AC. “Thank you” to all of you for your gifts to the appeal. We are grateful for your support and your continued gifts will help us finish off this part of

our projects.

If you haven’t had the chance to contribute to the Capital Fund Appeal, now is the time to do it so we will be ready in spring. Use the QR code or go to our giving page at [oursaviorswestsalem.org/giving...](https://oursaviorswestsalem.org/giving...) or just drop it off at the office.

For the moment, however, ***thank you all for your support and your sharing with us.*** For more information contact the office or speak with one of the pastors.



## *Thank you ...*

... to the October newsletter mailing crew – Connie Blunck, Carolyn Karl, and Carol Thompson.

... to all who made cookies for LuMin.

... to Carla Burkhardt, Brian & Corinne Hanson, Dan & Paula Steele, Tyson and Annie Labus, and Tiffany & Jeremy Janisch for taking the LWR quilts & school kits to Good Shepherd.

... to all who had a part in creating the quilts and assembling the school kits, those who provided supplies, and those who provided resources ... we had a record-breaking year sending 390 quilts and 191 school kits!



## **Pastoral Acts:**

Funeral – Judi Rogness – October 17

Baptism – Cal Goodenough – October 26

## *In Loving Memory*



### *Memorial Gifts Received ...*

*In Memory of Norma Piper for Mission  
Endowment Fund from*

**Lee Friell**

*In Memory of Judy Vick for Mission Endowment  
Fund from*

**Lee Friell**

*In Memory of Helen Friell for Mission  
Endowment Fund from*

**Lee Friell**

**Family & Friends**

*In Memory of Jim Tocko for Building Fund from*

**Family & Friends**

*In Memory of Jim Tocko for Mission Endowment  
Fund from*

**Ilene Pavelko**

*In Memory of Jim Tocko from*

**Jim Michelson**

*In Memory of Michele Czapski for Music Fund  
from*

**Betty Whitlock**

# By the numbers...



Ministry is not a numbers game, but numbers can help us get a feel for what is happening as we carry out our part of God's work in the world! Numbers help us

measure our faithful response to God's call, both in our financial support and our worship life. So ... here is a snapshot of our ministry ... by the numbers!

| 2025 Ministry at Work              |                       |                    |              |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|                                    | Actual-Sept           | Actual-YTD         | Budget-YTD   |
| Income                             | \$26,507.59           | \$233,427.05       | \$277,237.48 |
| Prepaid                            |                       | \$17,500.00        | \$17,500.00  |
| Expense                            | \$30,811.25           | \$287,458.13       | \$291,483.73 |
| Net                                | (\$4,303.96)          | (\$36,531.08)      |              |
|                                    |                       |                    |              |
| 2025 Worship Life – Weekly average |                       |                    |              |
|                                    | In-building<br>Actual | Online<br>Estimate | TOTAL        |
| September                          | 191                   | 56                 | 247          |
| Year to Date                       | 163                   | 43                 | 206          |



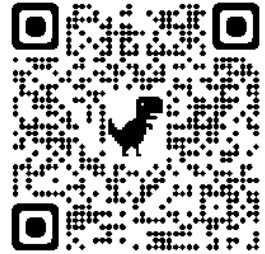
**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

## **Financial Support Ministry**

**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.

Like ... the Norwegian Dinner. Great food, community building fellowship, and best of all ... all the proceeds go to ministries and agencies that meet the needs of people. Your support of Our Savior's allows us to carry out ministries like the dinner and many more!

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), or use our QR Code.



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

# Worship Leaders - November



## November 1 – Norwegian Dinner No Worship

### November 2

|                      |                         |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
|                      | <b>8 a.m.</b>           | <b>10:30 a.m.</b> |
| Worship Assistant    | Harper Niemeier         | Noah Evenson      |
| Communion Assistant  | Scott Gilbertson        | Gillian Twite     |
| Welcoming Team       | K & K Wehrs             | Brian & Jen Linse |
| Home Communion       | Dottie Baumgartner      |                   |
| November Altar Guild | Susan Giblin/Jill Iliff |                   |

### November 8-9

|                     |                         |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
|                     | <b>6 p.m.</b>           |                   |
| Worship Assistant   | Kirsten Rasmussen       |                   |
| Communion Assistant | Trudy Drugg             |                   |
| Welcoming Team      | Jim & Marjorie Anderson |                   |
|                     | <b>8 a.m.</b>           | <b>10:30 a.m.</b> |
| Worship Assistant   | Lexi Schulz             | Darrell Smith     |
| Communion Assistant | Carla Burkhardt         | Stacey Sjoquist   |
| Welcoming Team      | J Hickey/K Sloan        | D Smith Family    |
| Home Communion      | Bev Bockenbauer         |                   |

### November 15-16

|                     |                     |                   |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|                     | <b>6 p.m.</b>       |                   |
| Worship Assistant   | Sophia Sprehn       |                   |
| Communion Assistant | Judy Gilbert        |                   |
| Welcoming Team      | Phil & Judy Gilbert |                   |
|                     | <b>8 a.m.</b>       | <b>10:30 a.m.</b> |
| Worship Assistant   | Amy Stefferud       | Anna Vick         |
| Communion Assistant | Jason Stefferud     | Naoko Giblin      |
| Welcoming Team      | J & B Quamme        | M & J Larson      |
| Home Communion      | Judy Gilbert        |                   |

## November 22-23

### 6 p.m.

Worship Assistant  
Camille Zarecki  
Communion Assistant  
Jon Hetland  
Welcoming Team  
Todd & Inger Michael

### 8 a.m.

Worship Assistant  
Autumn Amundson  
Communion Assistant  
Eric Ender  
Welcoming Team  
Eric & Jill Iliff  
Home Communion  
Carolyn Karl

### 10:30 a.m.

Owen Christianson  
Denise Jones  
Trudy Drugg

## November 29-30

### 6 p.m.

Worship Assistant  
Noah Evenson  
Communion Assistant  
Chad Vick  
Welcoming Team  
Eckland Family

### 8 a.m.

Worship Assistant  
Kaelyn Hebrink  
Communion Assistant  
Wendy Amundson  
Welcoming Team  
Jothan Family  
Home Communion  
Ilene Pavelko

### 10:30 a.m.

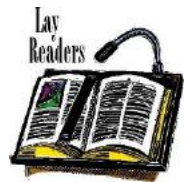
Ava Johnsrude  
Jaime Fortier  
Tracey Beckley



## You are invited ...

### ... to read the lesson during worship

- Choose your date and service time
- Use the SignUpGenius link to sign-up –  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CA5A629A7F85-reader>
- We'll send you the reading one week prior to your chosen date.





## Nominations

It's getting to be that time – ***time to lift up new leaders for our mission and ministry.***

We will be seeking leaders willing to share their time and talent with the Congregation Council, Mission Endowment Fund, Synod Assembly, Sugar Creek, and Eagle Crest Communities. If you ... or someone you know ... has the gifts and the calling to provide leadership for our work together, contact Brenda Skittone or one of the pastors. These are challenging and exciting times ... yet, God is at work in you!

Meanwhile, we will be asking worshipers on November 15/16 and November 22/23 to think – pray – and discern – who among us has leadership skills and might also have the calling to be a part of our leadership team. So, start thinking and praying – and be ready to share some names with us!



## Congregation Council Review

The Congregation Council met on Monday, October 13, with President Brenda Skittone presiding.

At this meeting the council:

- Discussed what it means to be generous as leaders in the congregation.
- Approved the minutes from the September meeting and received financials for September and the pastors' reports. Also approved the minutes from the special congregational meeting on September 14.
- Signed "thank-you cards" for the stewardship appeal.
- Heard reports on a number of congregational ministries including worship, new member class, and a new grief workshop.
- Received an update on the computer project and the repairs being made to the rental home (Johnson South).
- Heard that there may be some issues with the elevator, and that Thermopane windows around the building may need either replacement or repair.
- Head that Pastor Jon is exploring an insurance quote through a program initiated by the La Crosse Area Synod.
- Discussed updates to the constitution as recommended by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, and other minor changes. Noted that any updates must be approved by the annual meeting in January.

The council next meets on Monday, November 10 at 7 PM. If you have questions, or if you have ideas for enhancing the ministry of Our Savior's, contact Brenda Skittone or one of the pastors.



## 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? So far, through September, Thrivent Choice Dollars have totaled over \$3600 – they make a difference! See Thrivent's web site for more information or stop by the office and we will help you out.



## Scrip Cards Make Great Gifts!

Scrip cards help support Our Savior's Sugar Creek Bible Camp Camperships and World Hunger! You can't beat that!!



Culver's, Kwik Trip,  
Kwik Trip car wash,  
Woodman's.



Available after worship services and in the office during the week.



- ♥ Jesus is Lord and Savior.
- ♥ All are welcome, and we are intentional about that welcome.
- ♥ God gifts and calls every one of every age to be a difference maker in the world.
- ♥ We treasure the gift of creation and embrace the call to protect God's world.
- ♥ We value the gathering of God's people in worship and all our ministries.
- ♥ We seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in a world that has changed dramatically.



## Care and Share Food Pantry ...

is open Saturdays, 10 AM to Noon. We are thankful for all the donations we have recently received. Many local families have benefited from your generosity. Monetary, food, and personal items are always appreciated.



Once again, you're invited to place poinsettias in the church at Christmas. Many people have found it a special way to remember or to honor loved ones in this season. You may provide your own plant or we will order an assortment of plants for you through Under the Rust.

Please return your **form and money** by **December 8<sup>th</sup>** to the church office or place it in the offering plate. We will acknowledge your poinsettia in the Christmas bulletins.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please purchase a poinsettia for me. **Cost \$25 each.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will provide a poinsettia, but prefer to purchase my own plant. I will have it at church by Tuesday, December 23.

In Memory Of:

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In Honor Of:

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Given By:

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You may take a poinsettia home after the Christmas Day worship service.

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

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Eric Sorenson, Senior Choir Director (608) 397-1832  
Karen DeSchepper, Financial Secretary  
Josh Corning, Custodian



## **Newsletter Deadline – November 13**

### **Keeping up with life at Our Savior's**

Check out the photo gallery on our website  
([www.oursaviorswestsalem.org/photo-galleries/](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org/photo-galleries/)) to see what's been happening.



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

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**Paid**  
West Salem, WI  
Permit #21

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