



PARTNERS



FEBRUARY 2024

VOLUME 36 ISSUE 2



The Love of Ash

As we turn the calendar to the month of February, the year 2024 is steamrolling along. I noticed an interesting phenomenon this year: Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday. It spawned a question in my mind: Is there any significance to that phenomenon? Perhaps the best way to answer the question is to first offer a definition for those two days. I suspect all of you have some understanding of Ash Wednesday, which is historically the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday is customarily a day of reflection, contemplation, and perhaps even repentance. Valentine's Day is supposedly the anniversary of the death of a Christian saint named Valentine about the year 270 A.D. He was a martyr of the early church, and that day came to signify not only his own death, but the value of giving one's entire life for the sake of Christ. As you know, that commemoration has morphed over the centuries into more of a social holiday to celebrate love in our culture.

So again we return to the question: what do these two things have to do with each other if at all? I see the coincidence of these two days falling on the same date as, once again, a wonderful reminder to us of the love that Christ has for us. That love was forged not in a feeling, but in a promise. The love that Christ displays for us is a love that took him all the way to his own execution, to his own death. If you'll allow me to say it this way, he was willing to become as for us. God demonstrates his love for us not in a feeling, but rather in the promise that anyone who places their faith in him will never experience death, their life has already passed by.

So whatever your plans are for February 14—a quiet evening with a special someone, or plans to attend some sort of worship service at the beginning of the Lenten season, or some combination—I would invite you to treat Jesus as your Valentine this year. In the words of the prophet Jeremiah, Jesus is the one who “loves you with an everlasting love (31:3).” This is a love that will not end, a love that has transcended space and time, and has given you life in every season of the church year...including Lent.

4Him,
Pastor Steve



**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
January 3, 2024**

The OSLC Church Council met for its monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, in fellowship hall. Members present were Kevin Graff, Deb Furth, Courtney Thram, Janice Werner, Steve Halter, Kari Halter, Brian Benedict, John Smith, and Kurt Willhite.
Absent: Pastor Steve Walswick.

President Graff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the group in prayer.

Secretary's Report: December minutes were read by Deb. Kurt moved and Janice seconded to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Kari reported the December checking balance of \$49,263.57 and savings balance of \$66,145.69. On a motion by John and seconded by Courtney, the treasurer's report was approved. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Kevin reported in Pastor's absence: Pastor Steve expressed interest in attending the Augustana District Theological Conference Feb.4-6, 2024, in Minneapolis. Council encourages Pastor Steve to attend if he wants to.

Committee Reports

Education: Courtney reported they have will meet January 17, 2024. The Christmas program went well and the program and potluck were well attended.

Worship and Music: Janice reported no meeting.

Life, Growth & Stewardship: Kurt reported no meeting. \$285 was raised for the Lamberton Cemetery Association from blue envelopes.

Property: Brian reported the office doors are waiting to be stained and varnished, after which they will be installed. Steve moved to have Brian order 3 key code locks for church office doors, providing they are available for commercial doors.

Property continued:

Kurt seconded. Motion carried. The new water heater and faucets have been installed. Water had formed around the base of the boiler. Lamberton Heating and Plumbing cleaned out the line. Will be monitored for future issues. Mike Vollmer fixed the light in the overflow. Property committee is looking to get a new, lighter stepladder.

Old Business

Curtain/Divider Discussion: Steve has been in contact with NetWell Noise Control about dividers. After sending in the measurements we need, we are waiting on a price quote from this company. Also, waiting on some information from some places in Comfrey that have the type of dividers we are looking for.

Computers: At this time, we were unsure as to whether new computers were ordered.

Nominating committee: Working on getting names on the ballot for the annual meeting.

New Business

Piano: Our church has received a donation for a new piano. Worship and Music Committee has found a very nice digital piano to purchase. John moved to have worship and music follow through with the purchase of the recommended piano. Kari seconded. Motion carried.

Budget: Deb moved to present the proposed budget at the annual meeting. Brian seconded. Motion carried.

Communion Assistants

January 7 – John, Courtney & Kari
January 14 – Kurt & Janice

Next council meeting: Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Adjournment: With no further business to conduct, Steve moved to adjourn and Kari seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:05 PM. Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Furth
Council Secretary

BUDGET RECAP	
as of 1/21/2024	
Total Outstanding:	
Accounts Payable	\$0
Estimated Payroll	\$4,000.00
Income:	
12/17/23— 1/21/24	\$33,027.35
In Checking Acct.	\$38,487.84
In Savings Acct.	\$66,145.69
Needed weekly to Meet budget	\$2,824.62

Online Giving

To assist you with your stewardship ministry, you may make a gift online! You may visit our website or use the link.

<https://oslclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

You may still mail checks to the church office.
*Address found on last page of newsletter.

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of

Betty Kronback

May the strength and hope of God's love be theirs.



~ Hospitalized ~

Because of privacy laws, a phone call from a family member or friend is the best way to make sure the pastor is notified if you or a loved one are hospitalized or in a nursing home or would like a pastoral visit.



Lent Services

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024



6:00 P.M. Lenten Meal
7:00 P.M. Lent Service
The 7pm service will also include the Imposition of Ashes & Communion

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

6:00 P.M. Lenten Meal
7:00 P.M. Lent Service

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

6:00 P.M. Lenten Meal
7:00 P.M. Lent Service

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

6:00 P.M. Lenten Meal
7:00 P.M. Lent Service

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

6:00 P.M. Lenten Meal
7:00 P.M. Lent Service

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

6:00 P.M. Lenten Meal
7:00 P.M. Lent Service

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024 @ OSLC

7:00 P.M. Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday, March 29, 2024

7:00 P.M. Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, March 31, 2024

9:00 A.M. Easter Service (C)

FEBRUARY MISSION EMPHASIS
~RRC Backpack Program~

So what is the Back Pack Food Program? Backpack food programs offer families free groceries for weekends and school breaks. Food backpacks include healthy, easy-to-prepare food for kid-friendly meals. Food banks partner with schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, and community centers to distribute backpacks to kids. The Feeding America network hosts over 10,000 Backpack Programs across the United States. Every Backpack Program is unique. Most backpacks include enough food to make a few healthy meals. That way, kids return to school on Monday, ready to learn.

Backpacks may include:

- Breakfast items like cereal, oatmeal, or granola bars
- Easy to prepare meals like mac and cheese, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, or canned soup
- Bread
- Milk or juice
- Fresh or canned fruit
- Fresh or canned vegetables
- Snacks

Our local food program is sponsored by WAFER and food is ordered through 2nd Harvest Heartland Food Bank at a lower cost.



You can pick up an envelope in the pew or use your own envelope and write "RRC Backpack Prog" on it to designate for mission giving. You may also give your donation online via our website or use the link below and select 'mission'.

<https://oslclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

Your contributions are greatly appreciated!!

Thanks for your support!

"Stewardship Sound Bites"

A Guide to Good Stewardship

Have you ever wondered what it means to serve as a good steward in today's society? Last month we looked at how we can serve others. Over the next months we will look at how to serve God, how to serve with your income and how to serve with your resources.

If you've grown up in a Christian church or participated in a Bible Study, chances are you've heard the term stewardship and have some idea what it means. Typically, the first thought we have is that it means tithing or relates to our finances. I believe that is true but not the whole story. To me, good stewardship is carefully managing what God gave you to serve.

(Mywell.org)

To Serve God

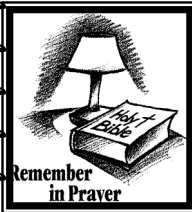
From the parable of talents found in Matthew 25:14-30, we find a lesson on serving God. In the parable, each servant is given an amount of talents or gold based on their ability. The servants who used their talent to produce more were admonished, and the one who buried their talent was criticized. The message is clear; don't waste the talents given to you by the master.

It doesn't matter how much talent you have; all that matters is that you use it. Again this looks different for different people, but if you've been given a certain skill, then there's probably an area that skill can be used.

Thank you for supporting our monthly missions! Here's how much we helped the mission last month.

December—Lamberton Cemetery—\$385.00

Thank you for your support!



Please note our list of people needing our prayers regularly. This list is much more complete since it addresses ongoing issues while the Sunday bulletin list is aimed at more immediate concerns.

We ask that you would keep all these people in your prayers each day.

- Arlene Theis (in hospital with pneumonia)
- Rick Hammerschmidt (surgery)
- Randy Hammerschmidt (health issues)
- Joyce Hoffrogge (multiple myeloma)
- Paula (Mattison) Meidl (need to improve #s before transplant)
- Kim Churchill Oelfke (stroke & cancer)
- Vicki Churchill Schenk (cancer treatments)
- Maria Bedner (stage 4 ovarian cancer)
- Briana Halter Peterson (health concerns)

Pray for people affected by other disasters ...



Our Savior's Lutheran Church Luther League
Soup and Pie Supper
Sunday, February 25, 2024
Serving from 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
 805 Birch Street in Lamberton, MN

All You Can Eat Homemade Soups:
 Chicken Noodle, Sauerkraut, Potato, and Chili. Relish, crackers, beverages, and pie also provided!



Take outs and deliveries within Lamberton are available!
 Please call the Our Savior's Lutheran Church at 752-7334.

Proceeds will support Luther League activities.

Lent



"If any want to be my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."
 Matthew 16:24

FEBRUARY USHER SCHEDULE

- Ralph Price
- Mark Coulter
- Steve Vollmer
- Lefty Coulter

Tom Neperman—Sub



TAXI
 Please call an usher by Fridays for a ride!

Media System Operator Schedule

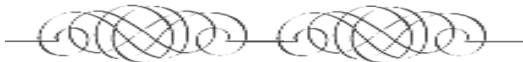
February 4, 2024	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)
February 11, 2024	Trenton Blomgren (507-822-6571)
February 14, 2024 - Ash Wednesday	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
February 18, 2024	Ethan Willhite (507-640-0421)
February 21, 2024 - Lenten Service	Carter Beranek (507-822-4575)
February 25, 2024	Val Halter (507-276-0008)
February 28, 2024 - Lenten Service	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)

New Piano Donated to OSLC!

If you've noticed a shiny black ebony piano at the front of the church recently and wonder where it came from, OSLC has been blessed with a generous donation that made it possible to purchase a new piano, which we have not had for many, many years.

The new piano is a Yamaha Clavinova, a digital piano that was invented over thirty years ago. The name comes from Clavier which means "keyboard instrument" and nova which means "new"; ours is the top of the Clavinova line. The keys are weighted to give the feel of playing an actual piano and the Clavinova has many features that will be helpful both in worship and for our Sunday School music program. The Clavinova can play in virtually any instrument's "voice," it can add harmony to the music when singing or playing, it can be connected to sound systems or computers, a microphone can be hooked into its system, and it can record songs to be played later at the touch of a button. And it never needs tuning!

Although it has many features that may not be used now, Molly will have the opportunity to read the manual and treat us with enhanced music (no pressure, Molly), and the Sunday School will have an accompanist. And in the future, we can hope that many pianists will be able to use and enjoy its many elements. If you play the piano and would like to try it out, just let Pastor Steve know. We will have a proper dedication soon for our new Clavinova and are thankful for this generous gift.



Used Piano Available

With the donation of the new piano, our Kimball Consol piano has been relocated to Fellowship Hall. The upright Gulbransen Minuet Studio piano (which still sits in Fellowship Hall) is available for free, including the attached dolly. Please let the church office if you are interested!

FEBRUARY ACOLYTE & VIDEO SCHEDULE

9:00 A.M.

Worship Service



February 4, 2024

Max Erickson & Braylon Bedner

Video: Aron Van Meveren

February 11, 2024

Austin Werner & Braedon Mariner

Video: Dawson Mariner

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024

7:00 PM

Sophie Paplow-R & Austin Werner

Video: Zoey Keck

February 18, 2024

Jadyn Beranek-R

Video: Lincoln Hesse

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

7:00 PM

Treyton Knutson-R

Video: Max Erickson



February 25, 2024

Kysha Wani-R

Video: Colton Jeckell

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

7:00 PM

Marshal Willhite-R

Video: Quintin Willhite

Please remember it is your responsibility to find a replacement for your designated worship service. Thank you!!

FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD



Kari Halter

Val Halter

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Prayer Partners

Feb 4
10 am

Everyone is welcome to join in making Valentines!

Memory Work

All youth in our Sunday School program have been working on their memory work. Parents - take a minute to ask them what they are working on. They should have each received a booklet in September with their assigned memory work.

Confirmation Retreat

Confirmation Retreat is for all Confirmation students on March 1-3, 2024 at Inspiration Point in Vining, MN. Check-in is Friday evening and concludes late Sunday morning. Youth should sign up during Confirmation class. If you have not yet signed up, please contact Pastor Steve or call or text Wendy Wondercheck at 507-828-6983 to get added to the list. Registration is due towards the beginning of February.

We are in need of one male and one female chaperone (at least 21 years old). Please let Wendy know if you are interested or if you have any questions.

Sunday School Announcements Continued:



The Board of Education would like to thank Karen Beranek for her many years of dedication and impact.

She has been our leader through several changes within our church and we are grateful for her leadership.

With the exit of Karen, the Board of Education welcomes two new members - Lexi Benedict and Justina Erickson.

We are excited for the valuable skills and perspectives they will bring to the group.



Thrivent Choice Dollars

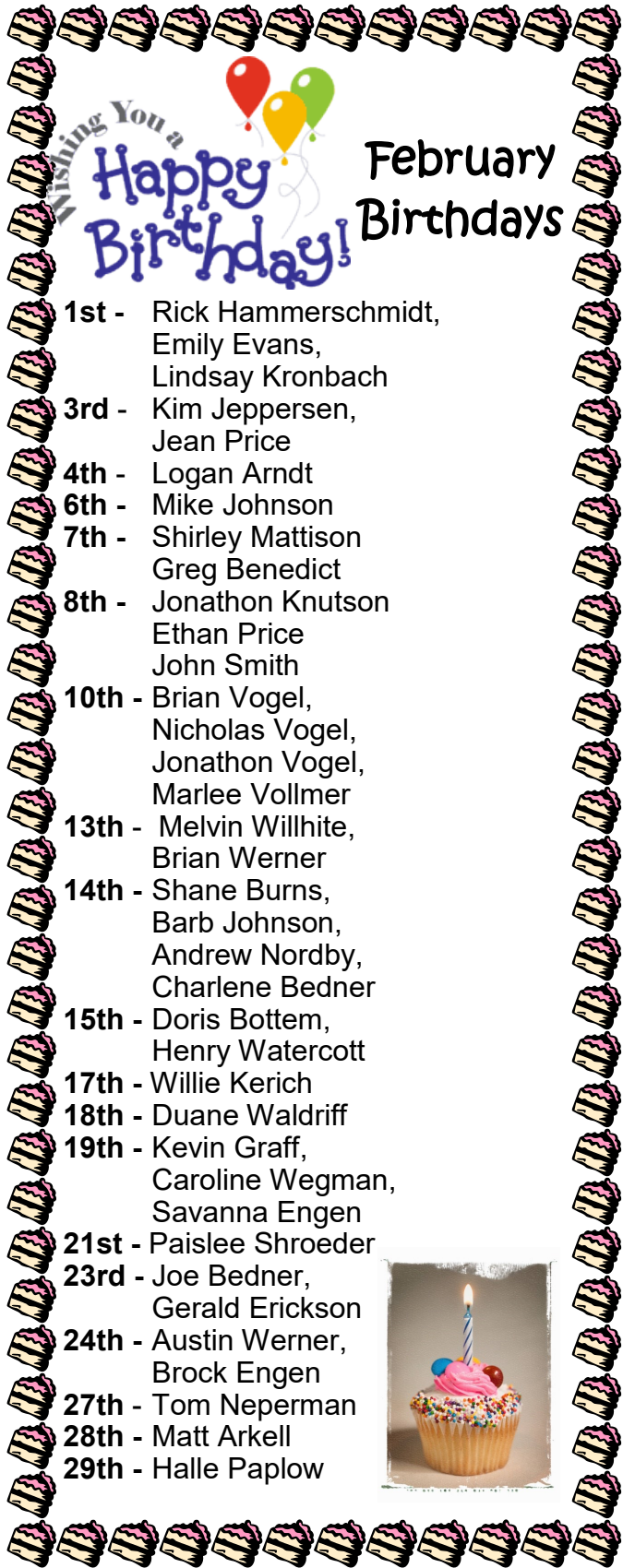
As always, Our Savior's Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member eligible to direct Choice Dollars, we ask you to consider our congregation as you help direct Thrivent Financial's charitable funds. For more information about how to designate Choice Dollars visit: Thrivent.com/choicevote or call 800-847-4836.



FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD



Kari Halter
Val Halter

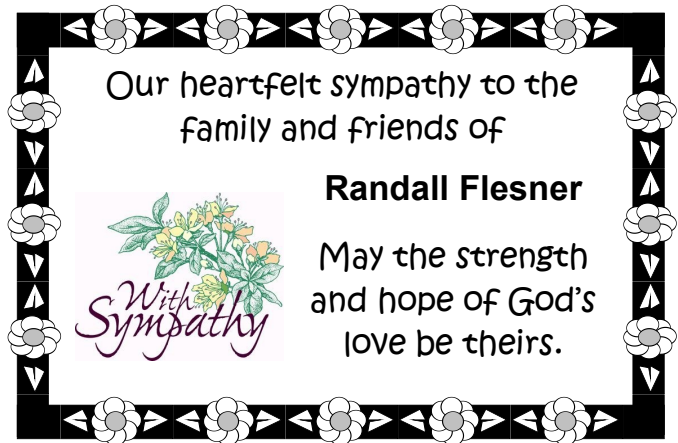


February Birthdays

- 1st - Rick Hammerschmidt,
Emily Evans,
Lindsay Kronbach
- 3rd - Kim Jeppersen,
Jean Price
- 4th - Logan Arndt
- 6th - Mike Johnson
- 7th - Shirley Mattison
Greg Benedict
- 8th - Jonathon Knutson
Ethan Price
John Smith
- 10th - Brian Vogel,
Nicholas Vogel,
Jonathon Vogel,
Marlee Vollmer
- 13th - Melvin Willhite,
Brian Werner
- 14th - Shane Burns,
Barb Johnson,
Andrew Nordby,
Charlene Bedner
- 15th - Doris Bottem,
Henry Watercott
- 17th - Willie Kerich
- 18th - Duane Waldriff
- 19th - Kevin Graff,
Caroline Wegman,
Savanna Engen
- 21st - Paislee Shroeder
- 23rd - Joe Bedner,
Gerald Erickson
- 24th - Austin Werner,
Brock Engen
- 27th - Tom Neperman
- 28th - Matt Arkell
- 29th - Halle Paplow



NEXT
LUTHER LEAGUE MEETING
 Wednesday, February 7, 2024
 6:00 PM


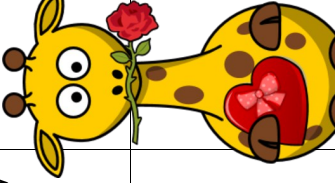


PRAYER CHAIN
 If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along to the Prayer Chain, please contact Judy Kuehl, 507-822-1716, or the church office. Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer chain and/or included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for two (2) Sundays unless request is renewed. Thank you.

PRAYER REQUESTS +



FEBRUARY 2024

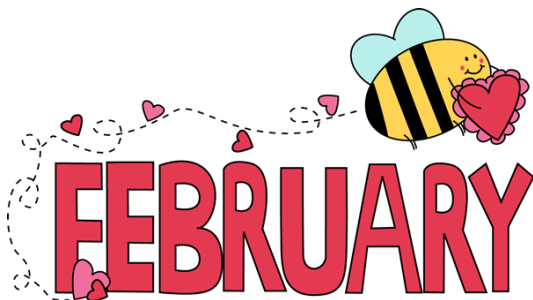
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Please have your bulletin announcements into the Church Office by 10 A.M. on Tuesdays! THANKS!</p>				1	2 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study	3
4 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Prayer Partners	5 <i>Offices Closed</i>	6	7 1:35 9th Grade Confirmation 2:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:00 Luther League 7:00 Church Council	8	9 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study	10
11 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship	12 <i>Offices Closed</i>	13 1:30 OSW Exec. Board 2:00 OSW Meeting	14 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 3:20 9th Grade Confirmation 4:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:00 Lenten Meal 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service 	15	16 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study	17
18 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship	19 <i>Offices Closed</i> Newsletter Articles Due!	20	21 1:35 9th Grade Confirmation 2:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:00 Lenten Meal 7:00 Lent Service	22	23 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study	24 
25 <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 4:30-6:30 LL Soup & Pie Supper	26 <i>Offices Closed</i>	27	28 3:20 9th Grade Confirmation 4:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:00 Lenten Meal 7:00 Lent Service	29		

**OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
805 BIRCH ST
P.O. BOX 67
LAMBERTON, MN 56152-0067
507/752-7334**



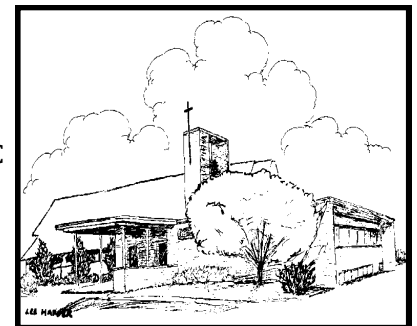
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PARTNERS

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Pastor Steve Walswick

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Pastor Steve's E-mail: stevewalswick@yahoo.com

Church Office Hours:

9 a.m.-Noon, 1-4p.m. Tues-Thurs
Church Phone: 752-7334
Church Email: osclamberton@centurytel.net
Website: osclamberton.com

Worship Services:

Sundays: 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School: 9:00 A.M. (Sept.-May)

Cable Broadcast of Services:

Lamberton -WED: 4:00 P.M.
Springfield -Wednesday: 6:00 P.M.



love is in
the air

The Mission of Our Savior's Lutheran Church is to demonstrate Christ's Spirit through worship, witnessing, and ministry to the needs of the people of this church and the community.

- ◆ **Please have bulletins articles into the church office by 10am Tuesday mornings.**
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- ◆ **Please have your Newsletter articles or calendar items into the church office as designated on the monthly calendar.**