

The Parish Internet

Our Saviour's Lutheran of Holway

Sunday Worship 8:00 am



He is the God
who makes me strong, who
makes my pathway safe.

Psalm 18:32 GNT

February 2024

Our mission is to share the love of Christ with each other, our community, and the world.

The Parish Internet—February 2024

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March Newsletter
Deadline February 22

February Calendar

Sunday Worship 8:00am

- February 4 Worship w/Communion, Bobbi Marion
February 7 WELCA @ Our Saviour's 6:45 p.m.
Confirmation 4-6:00 p.m.
February 11 Worship w/Communion, Barb Krug, SAM
Sunday School after worship
February 13 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting @ Our Saviour's
February 14 Confirmation 4-6:00 p.m.
Ash Wednesday Worship 6:15
February 17 Walking Together (see page 9)
February 18 Worship w/Communion, Rev. Bob Giese
February 21 5:45 p.m. light dinner, 6:15 Lenten worship
February 25 Worship w/Communion, Barb Krug, SAM
Sunday School 9-10:00 a.m.
February 28 5:45 p.m. light dinner, 6:15 Lenten worship



After much prayer, reflection and conversation with my family I have decided not to seek a second term as bishop. It has been an honor and privilege to serve this synod first for four years as the Director of Evangelical Mission and now for the last six years as Bishop. I am grateful for your partnership in ministry, your prayers, support and trust through these years.

Please know that I will pray for you and for the next bishop. Thank you all. God's blessings, as we move forward bravely in this new year taking the next most faithful step!

Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson

A message from Bishop Laurie

*Message not available
prior to our meeting.*

A Simpler, Humbler, and Bolder Church

**Dear Members and
Friends of the Northwest
Synod of Wisconsin,**

Philippians 2 Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God... emptied himself ...he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

It is time for your congregation's annual meeting! This is a great opportunity to reflect on the past year of faithful ministry. Now is the time to ask the BIG questions! How were we faithful in ministry? How were we faithful in participating in God's simple mission to love our neighbor? Now is the time to celebrate how God's Spirit has inspired your ministry! Give thanks to God and celebrate for the good that your congregation has accomplished!

Now is also the time to tell the truth about your ministry. How has your congregation fallen short and not been faithful to God's will? Lacked energy, a sense of purpose or mission? Now is the time to humbly tell the truth if your congregation has lost its focus or has little energy for God's work.

We all need to take an honest look in the rear view mirror of the last year and ask how have we been faithful and how have we failed to be faithful to our baptismal promises. Then we can boldly move into the New Year 2024 asking how we can with God's help do better.

The Church of England took a long look into the rear view mirror and with much prayer has discerned that moving forward they will strive to be a Simpler, Humbler and Bolder Church in the future. The Church of England described their vision for the future in this way:

Simpler, humbler, bolder are virtues we believe God is calling from us at this point in our history. They run through the vision and shape all we do and all that we are.

Simpler because we are not as big a church as we used to be.

Humbler because we are facing our failures, and this is not easy.

Bolder because the love of Christ compels us. We have a gospel to proclaim, and we live and minister in a world of much pain and confusion.

News & Events

I believe these three virtues could also help us in the coming year. I invite your councils and leaders to lean into these questions in 2024:

Simpler: How can we simplify our structure so more time and energy can be spent on loving our neighbors and joining in God’s mission in our community? How can we focus on what is really important and let go of the trivial or unnecessary?

Humbler: What isn’t working? How have we fallen short? We can’t do everything we use to do so what ONE thing can we do for Jesus? How can we work with other churches, denominations in our community?

Bolder: How can your congregation be braver and bolder in sharing the good news about Jesus in a hurting world? In prophetic witness to justice issues in our world? In working for right relationships with our neighbors and all of creation?

Friends, I am truly grateful for your partnership in the gospel and all the ways you are faithful in ministry. I invite you to move joyfully, simply, humbly and boldly into God’s future in 2024.

I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete^[a] it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:3-6

Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson

[Jesus Christ Centred and Shaped | The Church of England](#) (accessed December 22, 2023)

February Worship Assistants

Date	Ushers	Reader	Communion	Counters	Scr Acolyte	Musician
2/4/24 Green - BM	Rod & Nancie Adams	Rod Adams	Bobbi Marion	Carol Lekies Nancie Adams	Nancie Adams	Bradin Brunner Nancy Jones
2/11/24 White - BK	Gordy Lekies Peter Jasowski	Carol Lekies	Brenda Nernberger	Gordy Lekies Peter Jasowski	Julie Janke	Savanna Brunner Misty Hartman
2/18/2024 Purple - RG	Julie Janke Adele Adams	Janet Sova	Carol Lekies	Carol Lekies Julie Janke	Nancie Adams	Xander Cynor Pastor Bob
2/25/2024 Purple - BK	Mike & Heidi Kesling	Heidi Kesling	Karen Frosch	Marian Nernberger Karen Frosch	Marian Nernberger	Stormie Dums Joanie Lindau

February Altar Guild: Brenda Nernberger & Janet Cypher

A message from Barb, SAM

Members and friends of Our Saviour's,

Children are such a blessing, until you have an evening planned to sit and read. Getting asked the question, from child number 2 "are you busy tonight?" Well..... yes and no. So instead of sitting and reading the book for an upcoming book study, I was taking my granddaughter to dance and waiting for her classes to be finished so I could take her to the event her parents were at. Then, as I'm on my way to the event, child number five calls from Wausau saying his car broke down. He thinks it's the timing chain – again! Lining up a tow truck, trying to find a vehicle for him to drive to school and work, keeping my husband informed and not getting any reading done equaled a frustrating evening. Finally, I sat down to write this message. After praying, I turned to the Bible. In the subject guide, I went to worry first, then frustration, then children, then finally to praising God. You see after reading the passages on worry, frustration and children, my frustration was gone and all that was left was praising God. It absolutely amazes me that a book written so many years ago can still speak volumes to us when we listen.

Turning the worry and frustration over to our Lord cleared my mind and has allowed me to stay focused so that the reading can get finished. If you are feeling what I felt tonight, I encourage you to turn to God in prayer and then to His word. Listen with an open heart and feel the love of our Savior and Lord fill you with His understanding and love.

It is a blessing for me to be able to serve our congregations in the capacity of a SAM (Synodically Authorized Minister). Pastor Bob has been a great inspiration and mentor to me and will continue to be there for all of us, as needed. Pastor Nancy holds a special place in many members' hearts and we, as a parish, are blessed that she continues in her calling to share God's word with us. Reaching out to any of us, in a time of need, is certainly okay to do. It is my goal, with the Lord's help, to be a leader that members of both congregations can turn to in times of joy, sorrow, celebration, and uncertainty.

Life at St. Paul's and Our Saviour's is exciting and growing. I hope you feel it like I do. And children are a blessing even when you have other plans. 😊

God's Blessings,
Barb Krug, SAM

**For pastoral care emergencies
call Barb Krug at 715-965-5696**



Lenten Schedule

The Ash Wednesday service will be held at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14th. Prior to the service, there will be a light sandwich supper served from 5:45 to time of worship. The service will be ½ hour long with the Confirmation students participating.

This will be the norm for the mid-week services, February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20. There will not be a service on Wednesday, March 27, but there will be Confirmation. There will be a service, with the sandwich supper on Maundy Thursday with the stripping of the altar, 5:45 supper and 6:15 service. These services will be about ½ hour. Everyone is encouraged to bring sandwiches or a dessert to share.

2024 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

Friday, March 1 at 6:00 P.M.

Everyone is invited — women, men, and children of all ages — to join our local 2024 World Day of Prayer to celebrate the theme “I beg you...bear with one another in Love.” The Community United Church of Christ of Medford will host this year’s World Day of Prayer service on Friday, March 1, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at 510 E. Broadway in Medford, WI.

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Each year a different country serves as the writer of the World Day of Prayer worship service which is celebrated in over 146 countries. The Christian Women of Palestine created the 2024 service to call us to connect with the land from where Jesus came; where he was born, ministered, and died — and from where our faith began and is rooted. Despite living in an area of the world where there is ongoing conflict and the future is uncertain, the women of Palestine are sharing with love a reminder that they are there, and they want to give hope to everyone.

For more information about the local event, contact 2024 CUCC WDP coordinator, Pam Ouimette (pamouimette@me.com or 715-551-5767). To learn more about the World Day of Prayer, visit <https://worlddayofprayer.net/palestine-2024.html>.

Council Meeting Minutes—January 9, 2024

Attendees: Barb Krug, Paula Stroinski, Mike Kesling, Josh Krug, Andrew Krug, Carol Lekies, and Meagan Neitzel

Mike led us in devotions to open the meeting with the Beatitudes.
Recited mission statement

Add to Old Business the water update from Carol.

Add to New Business potential to hire a handyman.

Motion to approve the agenda with new additions was made by Andrew and seconded by Carol. Motion carries.

Parish Secretary Report

New Year's service was canceled due to weather

There is a Synod level council and is represented by all the different conferences within the Synod. Carol has been participating for 2 terms now and can help present things to the Synod at these council meetings, held via Zoom.

Carol is working on putting together her schedule by day, weekly, monthly, and then newsletter to provide to Nancy Jones our suggested new secretary

Carol will be working on purging the files within the office

Treasurer Report:

Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Andrew and Paula seconded. Motion Carries

Co-Mission Reports:

Sunday School program was Dec 17.

The Confirmation teachers are trying some new ways to reach the youth in today's world.

Should we set aside Scholarships for Summer Camp to be earmarked by the council from the budget

Carol made a motion to earmark \$400 for camp scholarships every year within the budget to be divided by the campers that attend, and if it's not used it accumulates to the next year, 2nd by Andrew. Motion carries

WELCA lunch is set for Jan 10 at 11:30 at the Medford Cafe .

Sound system updates to be discussed later as both Pastor Bob and Mike have determined to work with what we have. The current sound system is a closed system and to make updates would have to replace it. Will leave on agenda for another date

News & Events

Old Business

Fresh Expressions didn't turn out as expected but was a refresher for FIN

Carol made a motion for Nancy Jones to take over as Church Secretary starting Feb 1 with a budget to be determined at the next Joint Council meeting and seconded by Andrew. Motion carries

March 17th Sunday St Patrick's Day Gathering after the church service with games and food

Community Mission for Jesus is doing a sub sandwich sale on 08/14 - so keep this date marked.

Railing for the quilting ladies has been put up for the stairs leading to the basement by Mike and Heidi.

Water sample was taken and dropped off in town. The water sample passed however there is a need for a plumber to check out the basement kitchen for some small needed updates. After the updates are done a form will be sent in showing that it's all taken care of. Water sample is needed on an annual basis

New Business

When a service needs to be canceled a plan should be established on how the notifications should go out and who makes decisions.

Carol will look to see if a previous policy is in existence for the council to review and revise if needed

Should St Pauls and Our Saviour's share the subscription cost of Sundays and Seasons? Carol to talk with Nancy J on suggestion.

Looking to have someone be available to check up on things at church that are minor and can be easily looked at every so often. Have a set amount each month set aside and this person just checks in weekly or so and if there are issues bigger than they can handle they know who to contact .

Motion for the council to set aside \$80 a month for a watchman for the church made by Meagan and seconded by Carol. Motion carries Suggestions for this responsibility are welcome

Will want to go through the items in the shed on the property. Connect with the cemetery committee and determine

what goes where and if anything else needs to be gone through

Reminders

Next council meeting is February 13 at 6. Mike will be out of town and Meagan will be gone for son's basketball.

Andrew made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Carol. Motion carries. Closed with the Lord's Prayer
Submitted by Meagan Neitzel, secretary



February 17, 2024

Walking Together

I Love to Tell the Story

9:00am - 5:00pm

Bethany Lutheran, Rice Lake, WI

Join us for a day of worship, workshops, and inspiration!

Together we will enjoy Biblical storytelling and workshops about ministry innovation, creation care/green teams, Reconciling in Christ, hunger, and more!

Register online at Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
nswwi.org, calendar, Walking Together
\$25.00 each includes lunch.

Deaths:



Mathias "Matt" Alvin Jari, 84, of Medford, died Saturday, January 6, 2024 at The Waterford at Colby while under the care of St. Croix Hospice. On January 14, his funeral was at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Medford.

In May of 1960 he married Anna Vesnefsky. Together they had four children. In 1988, she preceded him in death. In August of 1989 he married Carole Carlson. They resided in Medford. She survives.

Thomas W. Nelson, 81, of Medford died Friday, January 26, at the Colby Senior Care Center. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Doris Neibacher, 92, died Saturday, January 27, 2024. She was a resident at the Clark County Health Care Center, Owen, WI.. Funeral arrangements are pending.

News & Events: Finance

Our Saviour's December Financial Report: 2023

EXPLANATIONS:

This report shows the normal, ongoing bills that are paid on a regular basis each month. I have detailed the Income, as well as the line items expenses. Nancie

Income Section:

General	\$7689.50	
Hunger	\$545.00	
Scrip	\$2075.00	
Special Offerings/In-Out	\$322.00	\$100 Cemetery, \$50 CMWJ, \$132 Poinsettia's \$40 copies
TOTAL INCOME:	\$10,631.50	

Expense Section

Benevolence	\$307.58	to NW Synod of WI General Mission Support – 4%
Hunger	\$545.00	to Northwest Synod of WI for ELCA World Hunger
Special Offerings In/Out	\$310.00	(\$100 to cemetery, \$50 to CMWJ, \$160 to Laurie's flowers for Poinsettia's.)
Internet Service (Clark Electric)	\$61.94	
Phone (TDS)	\$51.70	
Electricity (Taylor Electric)	\$168.82	
Dumpster (GFL Environmental)	\$25.92	
LP Gas (Budget-Medford Coop)	\$232.00	
Insurance (Church Mutual)	\$445.74	
Newsletter Postage	\$37.72	
Payroll	\$515.31	
Church Administrator	\$200.00	
Supply Pastors	\$579.54	
Music (Organist)	\$200.00	
Copier Lease (E.O. Johnson)	\$122.14	
VANCO charge	\$5.90	
Script Cards	\$3770.89	(Co. Market \$1728, RaiseRight Script \$2042.89)
Janitor Supplies	\$48.47	(toilet paper, toilet cleaner and air freshners)
Office Supplies	\$128.29	(2 cases copy paper, seals and address labels)
Worship Supplies	\$53.73	(baptismal supplies)
Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$155.64	(\$75.50 water testing, \$80.14 toilet, urinal repair parts)
Holding Tanks	\$215.00	(Decker Sanitation)
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$8181.33	

To reach the parish secretary, Nancy Jones, call or email her at Our Saviour's, leave a message, and she will get back with you.
Phone: 715-785-7975 or secretary.saviourschurch@gmail.com

Savings Account: **\$7547.50**

Mission Investment Fund:

Term Investment Fixed 4 Year – 3847	Rate 1.49%
YTD Interest Earned \$246.66	Matures 9/24/2025
Balance 09/30/2023	\$16624.65
Interest 12/31/2023	\$61.84
12/31/2023 New Balance	\$16686.49

You may also reach Nancy at St. Paul's Lutheran, Medford, by calling 715-748-4909. She is their part-time secretary also. As a last resort, Nancy can be reached on her cell phone: 920-287-1089.

News & Events

INCOME - Our Saviour's	December	YTD 2023		
General	7,689.50	63,934.89		
Hunger	545.00	4,855.00		
Sunday School/VBS/Camp		520.00		
ChangeWorld/Special Offering/in-Out	322.00	989.00		
Scrip	2,075.00	29,150.00		
TOTAL INCOME	10,631.50	99,448.89		
Expenses:	December	YTD	Monthly/Budget	Year/Budget
Benevolence	307.58	2,557.39	0.00	3,000.00
Hunger In/Out	545.00	4,855.00	0.00	
Special Offering In/Out	310.00	917.00	0.00	
Internet Service	61.94	743.28	62.50	750.00
Phone	51.70	628.30	60.42	725.00
Electricity	168.82	1,735.00	166.67	2,000.00
LP Gas	232.00	4,023.00	409.00	4,908.00
Dumpster	25.92	625.62	41.67	500.00
Holding Tanks	215.00	430.00	20.83	250.00
Snow Plowing		993.75	100.00	1,200.00
Janitor Supplies	48.47	182.61	16.67	200.00
Clear Country Water Solutions		140.00	18.75	225.00
Building Repairs/Maintenance	155.64	1,269.32	83.33	1,000.00
Worship/Devotionals/Resources	53.73	571.90	50.00	600.00
Organ/Piano Maintenance		105.00	25.00	300.00
Insurance	445.74	4,722.29	323.45	3,881.40
Office & Computer Supplies/parts/ink	128.29	323.00	41.67	500.00
Postage and Stamps		0.00	16.67	200.00
Computer Maintenance/Repair		75.00	16.67	200.00
Treasurer Supplies		120.60	8.33	100.00
Newsletter Postage	37.72	444.22	37.50	450.00
Copier Lease	122.14	1,420.68	108.33	1,300.00
Supply Pastors	579.54	5,166.03	58.33	700.00
Conference Dues		33.50	3.33	40.00
Assembly Delegates		100.00	12.50	150.00
Joint Account		1,860.76	4,000.01	48,000.12
Payroll	515.31	7,882.51	650.00	7,800.00
Pastorial Admin	200.00		0.00	
Website		143.88	12.50	150.00
Music Fund	200.00	2,575.00	173.33	2,080.00
Leadership Training		237.50	12.50	150.00
Education (Adult, Confirmation, Sunday School, VBS)		684.27	83.33	1,000.00
Background Checks		0.00	8.33	100.00
Camping Funds		0.00	20.83	250.00
Miscellaneous- Special Events		114.92	0.00	500.00
Scrip Cards	3,770.89	28,401.34	0.00	
VANCO Charge	5.90	65.85	0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,181.33	74,148.52	6,642.46	83,209.52
Checking Account:			Savings Account:	7,546.30
Camping Fund	1,273.54		Deposit	1.20
Sunday School	572.53		Total	7,547.50
General	35,628.29			
TOTAL	37,474.36	<i>Submitted By:</i>	<i>Nandie Adams</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>

National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888
If you suspect something call.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
W7809 Apple Avenue
Medford, WI 54451



Electronic Service
Requested

*Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Holway,
W7809 Apple Ave., Medford, WI 54451
SAM, Barb Krug: 715-965-5696
Website: oursavioursholway.com
Facebook: Our Saviour's Lutheran Holway
Parish Office: 715-785-7975
Email: secretary.saviourschurch@gmail.com
Parish secretary: Nancy Jones
Next issue: March 2024
Deadline: February 22
Submit News to: secretary.saviourschurch@gmail.com*

Happy Valentines Day

Nonprofit Organization
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Medford, WI 54451

Our mission is to share the love of Christ with each other, our community, and the world.