



PARTNERS



DECEMBER 2023

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 12



A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head.
Revelation 12:1

Do you remember singing *Silent Night* for the first time? I certainly do not, but I'm almost certain that I've sung it every single year since birth! In fact, when my son Micah was an infant, we took him to a doctor's appointment and in the midst of waiting our turn, he became incredibly upset. Presumably, he didn't feel well and because of it he just wasn't happy. At that moment, I instinctively sang *Silent Night* to him in an attempt to calm him down.

In the twelfth chapter of Revelation, we are given a picture of what happened so that we can sing *Silent Night*. The picture is of a woman about to give birth. There is someone, presumably Satan himself, who is poised to destroy the child who we understand from the text is Jesus. This is a much different picture of the incarnation. We think of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem, making the provisions for the birth of their son. ****What we and sold him anyone ever think of is that if the gospel is really true, then the forces of evil would want to work double time to destroy the Messiah before he even has a chance to get going.

God gives us many gifts, and one of the gifts that he continues to give us is the ability to sing *Silent Night* into a world that isn't very silent. My invitation to you this advent season is to sing *Silent Night* with renewed fervency. We have the ability to do that because God has protected us from so much and has been our shield against sin, death and the power of Satan himself. Thanks be to God for the things that He does not show us nor things that we do not have to see. We are protected from having to witness things that go on behind the scenes so we can rest in a *Silent Night*.

For Him,
Pastor Steve

**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
November 1, 2023**

These minutes were recorded at the last council meeting and will be approved at the next meeting.

The OSLC Church Council met for its monthly meeting on November 1, 2023 in fellowship hall. Members present were Kevin Graff, Deb Furth, Courtney Thram, Janice Werner, Steve Halter, Kari Halter, Brian Benedict, and Pastor Steve Walswick. Absent: John Smith and Kurt Willhite.

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

Secretary's Report: October minutes were read by Deb as corrected. Steve moved and Brian seconded to approve the minutes as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Kari reported the October checking balance of \$48,983.79 and savings balance of \$46,062.05. Kari checked on PO Box rental. She was told the other churches pay rent and our rent has been paid. On a motion by Janice and seconded by Deb, the treasurer's report was approved. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Steve reported due to a conflict on Tuesday, November 21, the Thanksgiving Eve service will be set back to Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at OSLC. Pastor Steve, accompanied by Steve Halter, made some visitations for OSLC parishioners and will continue to get to others. An email from one of our parishioners showed some concern about the wording of the CEV version of the Bible, being used for our Sunday readings, not being to our liking because it deviates too much from the traditional wording and meaning. Pastor prefers the ESV and it is suggested that from now on, our Sunday readings use a different version. We also talked about the fact that the NIV (New International Version) is currently being used with our confirmation students. Pastor Steve likes this version for confirmation. We need to order some of those so every student has their own for confirmation class.

Courtney will check with the board of Education as to how many to order. (In a group text after our meeting, Courtney told us that the Bibles we ordered for our 7th graders have been back ordered for 7 months. They will continue to think how to proceed with Bibles for our confirmation classes.)

Committee Reports

Education: Courtney no meeting. They continue to work on the Christmas program. Our community youth groups collected 594 lbs. of food and \$100 during the WAFER food pick-up.

Worship and Music: Janice reported they are meeting on Monday, Nov. 6 at 6 PM.

Life, Growth & Stewardship: No report. Pastor Steve has been asked to join one of their meetings in November.

Property: Brian handed out information on door and faucet replacements for the church office doors and church kitchen faucets. Steve moved to replace both Nicole and Pastor Steven's office doors as Brian presented. Courtney seconded. Motion carried. Steve moved and Deb seconded to replace the church kitchen faucets with those that Brian presented. Motion carried. The leaves need to be removed from the gutters on the parsonage and the AC covers will be put on. The cement patch for the parking lot will be taken care of when the temperature is conducive for that work.

Old Business

Missions ideas: Working on ideas for this. Will be decided at next month's meeting.

New Business

Computers: Since the pastor's and Nicole's computers are quite old, we should look in to replacing them. Jodi Smith will be asked to contact our computer service person and have him meet with Nicole and Pastor Steve as to what to get for them.

Nominating Committee: Everyone should be thinking about possibilities for offices to be filled for next year.

Council Minutes Continued...

Budget: Council members should study the budget before next meeting and be ready to make recommendations for the 2024 budget.

Communion Assistants

November 5 – Courtney and Steve
November 12 – Kevin and Kari
December 3 – Deb and Janice

Next council meeting: Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Adjournment: With no further business to conduct, Kari moved to adjourn and Brian seconded. Motion carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Furth
Council Secretary

**DECEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS
~Lamberton Cemetery~**

Our December mission is the 'Lamberton Cemetery'. The Lamberton Cemetery is a public cemetery for our local churches. Donations are used to support the Lamberton Cemetery board in maintaining the cemetery and developing projects.

If you desire to support our mission, please use the blue envelopes provided in the pews and mark the envelopes, "Lamberton Cemetery". You can put them into the offering plate. You may also give your donation online via our website or use the link below and select 'mission'.

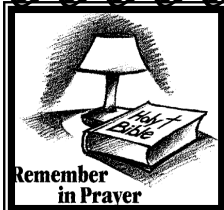


<https://oslcamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>
Your contributions are greatly appreciated!!
Thanks for your support!

Thank you for supporting our monthly missions! Here's how much we helped the missions these past three months.

August—Suicide Awareness—\$170.00
September—Table Ministry—\$200.00
October—Salvation Army—\$230.00

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.

- 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)
- Randy Hammerschmidt (health issues)

Pray for people affected by other disasters ...



Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of **Harlan Halter**
May the strength and hope of God's love be theirs.

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.



BUDGET RECAP
as of 11/19/2023

Total Outstanding:	
Accounts Payable	\$0
Estimated Payroll	\$4,000.00
Income:	
10/22/23— 11/19/23	\$15,228.38
In Checking Acct.	\$52,108.32
In Savings Acct.	\$46,062.05
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://osleclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

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



Annual Meeting
January 21, 2023

NOMINATING TEAM

Can't believe it is that time of year already but it is! The Nominating Team will be working on finding candidates for different positions on the council. When they call you, say Yes!". Also, members for other teams are needed. Contact the chairperson of the various Teams if you would like to be part of a Team.



The members of the Nominating Team for this year are: John Smith, Janice Werner, & Kurt Willhite.

DECEMBER ACOLYTE & VIDEO SCHEDULE
9:00 A.M.
Worship Service



December 3, 2023
Braedon Mariner & Dawson Mariner
Video: Sophie Paplow

December 10, 2023
Aron Van Meveren & Marshal Willhite
Video: Kysha Wani

December 17, 2023 @ 10:30am
Sunday School Christmas Program
TBD
Video: Austin Werner

Sunday, December 24, 2023 @ 9am
Treyton Knutson & Lincoln Hesse
Video: Paige Wondercheck

Sunday, December 24, 2023
5 PM CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Jadyn Beranek & Dawson Mariner
Video: Braedon Mariner



December 31, 2023
Max Erickson & Braylon Bedner
Video: Colton Jeckell

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
REMINDERS:**

Christmas Program Rehearsal
Schedule Parents: Thank you so much for sharing your children with us. Practice for our Christmas Program continues directly after our church services on **Sundays: November 26, December 3, 10** and makes so much more sense to our kids if as many people as possible are there. Practices may run just a bit past 11 am as we are working on songs, costumes, speaking and acting parts. Feel free to join from the back. It is so fun (and a bit nervous) to see it all come together!

If your child will not be at the December 17th 10:30 am Christmas program, please let their teacher, Courtney Thram or the church office know.

No Sunday School
Enjoy Christmas Break!
No Sunday School classes
December 24 and 31



Luther League Advisors Needed!

Luther League is STILL looking for more adults to help lead our youth! They need a couple people/couples to join in the fun right away! If interested contact Kari Redman 507-676-3071 or the church office 752-7334.



PRAYER CHAIN

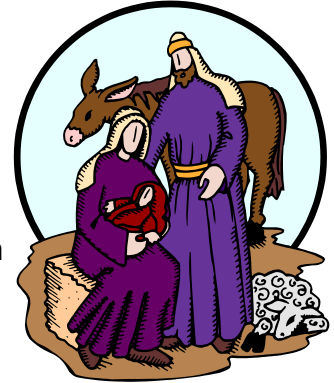
If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along to the Prayer Chain, please contact Judy Kuehl, 507-822-1716, or the church office. Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer chain and/or included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for two (2) Sundays unless request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



OSLC Sunday School presents:

Symbols of Christmas
Sunday, December 17th at
10:30 AM

Join us for a potluck dinner following the program. Ham, buns, beverages, and cake will be provided.



Please bring a side dish to pass and join us for food and fellowship following the program!

LUTHER LEAGUE

November Meeting Minutes

Nov 8th 2023 meeting

Tonight we met after school and had 16 youth help do courtyard clean up at the Nursing Home. Thank you so much for everyone that participated and helped make the courtyard look amazing. Next we met at the church and made 20 goodie bags for our ageing adults within our congregation and delivered them. We then ate pizza while we talked about wreath sales (which we sold #107 items, great job), upcoming projects we'd like to partake in around the community and our Christmas party. We've decided to have our Christmas party at Lamberton Lanes on Sunday December 17th at 12:30. We'll bowl a few games, eat pizza and then head to the church to do a gift exchange, make Christmas goodies and exchange fellowship.

Our next meeting will be December 13th @ 6 pm.

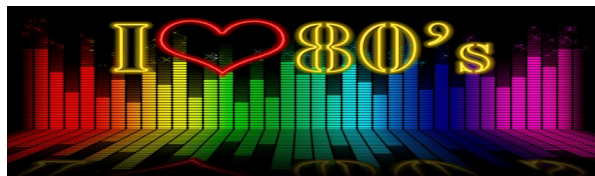


Let's party 80's style

Luther League members are invited to join us for an 80's themed Christmas party at the Lamberton Lanes

Sunday December 17th at 12:30

We'll bowl a few games then head back to the church for a white elephant game. Please bring a gift if you're wanting to participate. Wear your favorite 80's outfit!



Our Savior's Women Group News

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Women will meet Tuesday, December 12, 2 p.m. at the church. The final Bible Study for 2023 will be done together. New books will need to be ordered for 2024; if anyone who hasn't been getting one or attending the meetings would like to have one, you may leave your name with Nicole at the church office.

Thankoffering donations will be distributed at this last meeting of the year. Those attending are invited to bring Christmas snacks to share with coffee. All church women are invited to come and join the group!!!!

The first meeting in the new year will be January 9, 2024.



**DECEMBER
ALTAR GUILD**
Janice Werner
Susan Jeckell

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Advent is a season of anticipation - a season of waiting, praying, serving, and living as a witness to God's reign in this world.

Our traditional Christmas Eve Candle Light Service will be held at 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 24th. We will have the Sacrament of Holy Communion along with the celebration of the Birth of Christ.

We invite you to bring your families. The day has finally come. All the waiting, prayers, hopes, dreams, struggles, joy, and pain is over. We've made it to the manger. We've made it to the fulfillment of God's promise and prophecies. The Savior has been born and we can all celebrate!

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rest." (Luke 2:14)



There will be a come-and-go Baby Shower honoring Mikaela Erickson on Saturday, December 2nd at 10:30 AM at Our Savior's.

Instead of a greeting card, please sign the cover of a book that their little one will enjoy for years to come. The baby's gender will be a surprise to all until he/she is born. You can find their registry at www.babylist.com/list/Baby-Erickson2024

Wishing You a
Happy Birthday!

December Birthdays

- 1st - Tim Osland
- 2nd - Cole Werner, Casey Vogel
- 3rd - Justin Kreuger, O Detta Manthei
- 4th - Avery Anderson
- 5th - Deb Lingle
- 6th - Chad Beranek, Cory Churchill
- 7th - William Buetow
- 8th - Janine Frank
- 9th - Mikaela Erickson
- 10th - Jedidiah Kronback, Jaxon Anderson
- 11th - Perry Kronback
- 13th - Stephanie Mattison, Jon Bergemann
- 14th - Vernon Pfarr
- 15th - Larry Kronback
- 16th - Alayna Erickson, Asher Erickson, Kali Bedner
- 18th - Chad Coulter, Jaden Prechel, Derek Werner, Scarlet Carter
- 20th - Lisa Willhite, Kysha Wani
- 21st - Ron Koch, Cooper Churchill
- 23rd - Hailey Teveldal
- 25th - Heather Brand, Reagan Pfarr
- 26th - Sean Burns, Jordan Vollmer
- 27th - Char Graff, Drake Neperman
- 29th - Morgan Mattison, Steve Wegman

December Anniversary Celebration

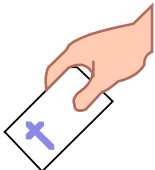

- 3rd - Duane & Virginia Waldriff
- 15th - Charlie & Bonnie Peterson
- 20th - Leon & Jan Benedict
- 22nd - Kent & Leah Teveldal

2023 Contributions

The financial personnel please ask that you have your 2023 contributions into the church office on **Sunday, January 7, 2024** to allow them to credit your accounts and process those reports for the Annual Meeting in a timely fashion.


All contributions for 2023 given after the new year MUST be marked as '2023 Giving'.

Thank you!!

~ 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.





DECEMBER USHER SCHEDULE

John Smith
Ryan Wondercheck
Kevin Juhnke
Dave (Jill) Irlbeck

Justin Thram—Sub

TAXI
Please call an usher by Fridays for a ride!

"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? This month we will look 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.

To Serve Others

As it says in 1 Peter 4:10-11, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." In this example good stewardship means using your gifts to serve others. The writer then continues and lists ways you could serve, "If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides..."

We were all created differently and given different abilities. Some of us are better at encouragement, while others possess the gift of teaching. Both are needed along with many other gifts and very rarely do you see people who are gifted with everything. No matter what you've been given, it's important to use these gifts to help those around you. *(Mywell.org)*

Do you know what opportunities are available at OSLC to serve? Or who to talk to about participating?

Alter Guild – Janice Werner
 Ushering – Steve or Bob Halter
 Serving Communion – signup sheet on bulletin board by office; council members
 Serving treats at coffee fellowship – signup

Stewardship Sounds Bites continued:

Lector – notify Nicole in church office and she will include you on the sign up email
 Sunday school, VBS, Christmas program – Courtney Thram council rep, Karen Baranek
 Life, Growth & Stewardship – (work with missions, social events) Kris Vollmer
 Worship & Music (plan services, pick music, audiovisual team) – Char Graff
 Trust Committee – Rich Arkell
 Our Savior's Women – Judie Harnack
 Youth Group – Redman's

Media System Operator Schedule

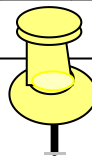
December 3, 2023	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)
December 10, 2023	Trenton Blomgren
December 17, 2023	Jodi Smith (507-360-8326)
December 24, 2023 9am	Char Graff (507-829-0105)
December 24, 2023 7pm	Ethan Willhite
December 31, 2023	Carter Beranek (507-822-4575)

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Be sure to stop and pick up your 2024 offering envelopes in the overflow!

If you do not see one with your name, please let Mike or Kris Vollmer know.

We pray that all will consider the stewardship of sharing what God has given us to meet the needs of our congregation and community.



Annual Report

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3RD!!!

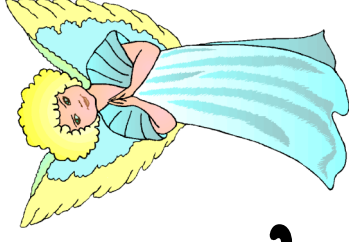
Please have them emailed or dropped off at the church office. Thanks!


This does not include financial reports—they are needed as soon as that information has been attained.



2023

DECEMBER



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Please have your bulletin Announcements into the Church Office by 10 A.M. on TUESDAYS! THANKS!</p>					<p>1 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study</p>	<p>2 10:30 Baby Shower honoring Mikaela Erickson</p>
<p>3 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>4 <i>Offices Closed</i></p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 1:35 9th Grade Confirmation 2:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7:00 Church Council</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>11 <i>Offices Closed</i></p>	<p>12 2 P.M. OSW Meeting</p>	<p>13 3:20 9th Grade Confirmation 4:25 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 10:30 A.M. Sunday School Christmas Program Potluck to follow! 12:30 Luther League Christmas Party @ Bowling Alley then Church</p>	<p>18 <i>Offices Closed</i> <u>Newsletter</u> <u>Articles Due!!</u></p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 <i>No Confirmation</i></p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:00 A.M. Community Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 9:00 Worship <i>No Sunday School</i> 5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service (C)</p>	<p>25 <i>Offices Closed</i> <i>Merry Christmas</i></p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 <i>No Confirmation</i></p>	<p>28 </p>	<p>29 <i>Offices Closed</i></p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 9:00 Worship <i>No Sunday School</i></p>						

**OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
805 BIRCH ST
P.O. BOX 67**

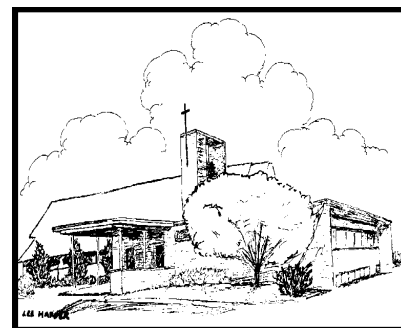


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PARTNERS

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church — LCMC
805 Birch St. P.O. Box 67
Lamberton, Minnesota
56152-0067



Pastor Steve Walswick

Pastor Steve's Cell Phone: 320-808-4588
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:
oslclamberton@centurytel.net

Worship Services:

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

Cable Broadcast of Services:

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



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.
 - ◆ + + + + +
- ◆ Please have your Newsletter articles or calendar items into the church office as designated on the monthly calendar.