



PARTNERS

NOVEMBER 2024
VOLUME 36 ISSUE 11



Blind Faith

Do you ever wish that your faith had a little bit more clarity to it that it wasn't a seemingly endless array of shrouded promises. That it was a little bit more tangible perhaps a little bit more concrete or certainly something that you could actually reach out and grab. Face it, even though it is a dynamically wonderful thing it has some purposeful limitations. Because I think if we were granted to understand faith perfectly, all of us, all that we wanted in a moment, it wouldn't be faith. We'd have to re-characterize it as something else other than faith. Which leads us to Bartimaeus, I don't know if you know him or if you've ever been introduced to him but he's one of my favorite New Testament characters. At the end of the 10th chapter of Gospel of Mark we encounter a final Vinette, a final encounter with one last character prior to the events of Palm Sunday. And in this last encounter, Mark is doing something incredibly intentional. The disciples have once again got into an argument between verses 35 and 45 of Mark 10. This argument that they have is based on which one of them is the best disciple, the most gifted, and perhaps even Jesus's favorite. And then at the end of that striking account, the end of this discussion about greatness, Mark gives us the Apex of his gospel the thesis statement the main idea for everything he has written and will write that is, Mark 10:45, which says that Jesus will be "ransom for many" so right before that actual ransoming takes place where Jesus goes to die for the sins of the entire world. Mark includes one final story, almost like an epilogue, one final account that solidify everything that he has been teaching us since the beginning of the book. In the story.

Mark tells us that they are arriving again in Jericho so it's very clear geographically speaking that they're heading towards Jerusalem and the disciples are with Jesus and there is also a large crowd which is also now following Jesus. And then we get to the introductions because Mark tells us that there's a blind man named Bartimaeus and then parenthetically tells us that he's the son of a man named Thimaeus, many scholars believe the only reason he mentioned is because that means that Bartimaeus was perhaps someone of prominence because he would never name the name of the parents of a slave. Thus, he is insinuating that he comes from some means. However, tragically it appears that whatever wealth he had has been lost. Consequently, he's relegated to sitting on the side of the road begging. But, please note he's not asking for money he's simply asking for mercy. Now the disciples are bothered by this. They think Jesus has as we might say "bigger fish to fry" than some random bagger on the side of the road, but in customary fashion, Jesus is never in too much of a hurry to meet the needs of individuals that he encounters this is no different. Jesus immediately invites him over and engages him in conversation, and he asks perhaps the most pastoral question that you can ever ask, which is what do you want me to do for you? This is a simple question. But Jesus asks us that all the time. What specifically do you need and how can I meet it? Please notice how Bartimaeus addresses Jesus in verse 51. He refers to him as rabbi or teacher which of course is an authenticity Jewish term but, he uses it in the context healing. It would be the equivalent of one of us going to a teacher because we're sick. The beauty of this confusion is that we can come to Jesus with whatever our needs are and know that his attributes are uniquely able to meet our needs.

In conclusion, it is the faith of the bigger that leads to his healing. Jesus, simply by saying "go" he said your faith has healed you and immediately he received his sight and follows Jesus on the road. So, even as seemingly limited as our faith is the dynamic quality again demonstrates in this story it's unique ability to heal and that the faith of this obscure blind beggar on the side of the road, had the unique ability to, as it is intersperse with Jesus to have unique healing power. Friends, our faith is the most important thing about us. A. W. Tozer, a preacher from Chicago who lived 100 years ago said, "when we think about God, what we think about is the most important thing about us." Therefore, let us continue to be steadfast in faith for what Christ has done. Let us grow in our ability and our understanding to believe that our faith can truly heal us, and to set us free.

4 Him,
Steve

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Monthly Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2024

The OSLC Church Council met for its monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 in fellowship hall. Members present were Sharon Vollmer, Kari Halter, Courtney Thram, Kris Vollmer, Steve Halter, Brian Benedict, Deb Furth and Pastor Steve Walswick. Absent: Kevin Graff and Chad Coulter

President Halter called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and Pastor Steve led the group in prayer.

Secretary's Report: September minutes were read by Deb. Sharon moved and Kari seconded to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Kari reported the September checking balance of \$14,505.63 and savings balance of \$66,488.23. On a motion by Kris and seconded by Brian, the treasurer's report was approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Steve has contacted Pastor Mike Stangeland about filling in for Friday morning Bible Study and they will work together if Pastor Mike ever needs someone to fill in for him.

Committee Reports

Education: Courtney reported that the committee will meet on October 9, 2024. They had a teacher meeting before Rally Sunday. Sunday School is going well and we have approximately 60 Sunday School students. Students will sing in church and at the nursing home on Sunday, October 13, 2024. Prayer Partners will meet on Sunday, October 13, 2024 after the church service.

Worship and Music: Sharon reported no meeting. The pew Bibles seem to be used during services.

Life, Growth & Stewardship: Kris reported that they will be meeting October, 15, 2024 at 7 PM. About 80 people attended the rally day pot luck. A donation from Thrivent choice funds was given for the August mission of Suicide Prevention. September's mission emphasis is The Table Ministry. Coffee fellowship has started. Kris also gave a final report about Bibles, Burgers and Brew from this past summer.

Property: Brian reported that they are still working on a plan for the boiler with Lamberton Heating and Plumbing.

Old Business

LCMC Convention: Deb Furth and Jan Benedict served as Our Saviors delegates to the LCMC Annual gathering from Sunday, Sept. 29 to Oct. 2, 2024 in Marion, Iowa. A report about the gathering will be put in the newsletter.

Items under old business, including wedding policies and pastoral evaluation, were tabled until next meeting due to several council members absent at the time.

New Business

Water Fountain: It was discovered that the water fountain by the church offices was leaking before services on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2024. Water was vacuumed up and area was cleaned up. Lamberton Heating and Plumbing were called and found they had to bypass the refrigerant, the cause of the leak. Quotes were received for repair or replacement. Kris moved to operate the water fountain without refrigerant before repairing or replacing to see if it works and then revisit solutions. Deb seconded. Motion passed.

Church Directory: The question was asked if we want to have a new church directory or at least an update. Kris will look into this to find more information as to choices we might have.

Visitation List: Steve H. presented a list of possible parish members that might need or want a visit from the pastor. Parishioners should contact the church office if they know of someone that desires a visit(s) from Pastor.

Request Approval to form a committee for "refresh of overflow and east hallway: Council agrees this would be a good idea. Kris presented information on what needed to be refreshed, why it was needed, what items needed attention and suggestions for action. Sharon moved to have Kris form a committee to look at refreshing the overflow and east hallway, determine what is needed for a budget and present a plan. Brian seconded. Motion passed.

Communion Assistants

Congregation members are encouraged to sign up on the bulletin board outside the offices if they would like to assist with communion.

- October 6 – Courtney Vollmer & Kris Vollmer
- October 13 – Deb Furth and Gayle Erickson
- November 3 – Steve and Val Halter

Next council meeting: Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Adjournment

With no further business to conduct, Brian moved to adjourn and Kris seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM. Closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
 Deb Furth
 Council Secretary



BUDGET RECAP
 as of 10/20/2024

Total Outstanding:

Accounts Payable \$0
 Estimated Payroll \$4,000.00

Income:

9/22/24— 10/20/24 \$14, 855.09
 In Checking Acct. \$14, 307.03
 In Savings Acct. \$46,062.05

Needed weekly to

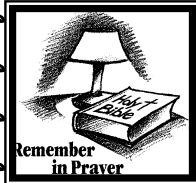
Meet budget \$2,824.62

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://oslclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

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



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.



- David Rue (health issues)
- Nancy Rue (health issues)
- Judy Dagner (heart health)
- Paula (Mattison) Meidl (bone marrow transplant) recovery
- Randy Hammerschmidt (health issues)
- Joyce Hoffrogge (multiple myeloma)
- Kim Churchill Oelfke (stroke & cancer)
- Vicki Churchill Schenk (cancer treatments)
- Briana Halter Peterson (health concerns)
- Pray for people affected by other disasters ...

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.



Media System Operator Schedule

November 3, 2024	Val Halter (507-276-0008)
November 10, 2024	Sam Furth (507-227-7666)
November 17, 2024	Trenton Blomgren (507-822-6571)
November 24, 2024	Char Graff (507-829-0105)



Wishing You a
Happy Birthday!

November Birthdays

- 2nd - Shanna Keck
- 6th - Harley Johnson, Joyce Bittner, Daniel Hesse, Madilynn Senst
- 8th - Ray Hildreth
- 9th - Matt Bedner, Madison Neperman,
- 10th - Jodi Smith
- 11th - Karli Arkell
- 13th - Randy Koch
- 14th - Cheryl VanMeveren, Brian Pfarr
- 15th - Gretchen Thillen, Connie Albrecht, Jayden Anderson, Ruth Myers
- 16th - Jerilyn Knutson
- 17th - Austin Price
- 18th - Courtney Vander Wal
- 20th - Amanda Christenson, Matthew Horning, Claryssa Olson Marlys Jenniges, Eleanor Watercott
- 21st - Amy Paplow, Katie Schwering, Bowen Hesse
- 22nd - John Mariner, Tom Polkow
- 25th - Ella Erickson, Cathy Halter
- 26th - Carter Beranek
- 28th - Stephen Jeckell
- 29th - Kelly Pfarr
- 30th - Byron Anderson



November Anniversary Celebration

- 13th - Brian & Lexi Benedict
- 20th - David & Nancy Rue
- 26th - Darold & Sharon Coulter


NOVEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS *Share the Spirit!*

The mission of Redwood Share the Spirit is to help provide the overall basic essential needs of toys, food, winter wear and blankets to families in need in Redwood County. Share the Spirit has been helping families for over 40 years. Please help ensure families going through difficult times are able to provide a holiday experience for their family.

If you desire to support our mission, please use the envelopes provided in the pews and mark the envelopes, "Share The Spirit". 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://oslclamberton.churchcenter.com/giving>

Your contributions are greatly appreciated!!
 Thanks for your support!

SHARE THE SPIRIT




Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at UMC @ 7 pm

give Thanks



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

September—The Table Ministry—\$185

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thank you so much to the confirmation parents for providing snacks and the role of helper on their assigned Wednesday class times. We greatly appreciate it!



Sunday School singing during 9:00 am church service: Sunday, November 17th

Prayer Partners:

Sunday, November 17th at 10 am

Everyone is invited to join us for treats from 10:00 am - 10:30 am. All Sunday School students will then walk over to the nursing home to sing for the residents.

Christmas Program

Join us on Sunday, December 15th at 10am as our youth share with us the story of Jesus' birth. The youth will begin practicing music in November. Please help them make it to as many practices as possible. If your child(ren) won't be able to participate in the December 15th Christmas program, please let their teacher know.



NOVEMBER ACOLYTE & VIDEO SCHEDULE

9:00 A.M.

Worship Service



November 3, 2024

Dawson Rue & Braedon Mariner

Video: Dawson Mariner

November 10, 2024

Sam Thillen & Abby Thram

Video: Quintin Willhite

November 17, 2024

Isaac Wondercheck

Video: Austin Werner



November 24, 2024

Lincoln Hesse

Video: Braylen Braulick

**Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 27, 2024**

Worship Service @ UMC

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

NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD



Deb Furth
Jan Benedict

NOVEMBER USHERSCHEDULE

Chad Beranek
Jason Willhite
Ethan Willhite
Roger Polkow



Steve Halter—Sub



TAXI

Please call an Usher by Fridays for a ride!

Our Savior's Women Group Minutes

Our Savior's Lutheran Women met Oct 8, 2024. We watched a video based on Psalms 95:1-7. The sec report and treasury updates were read. Thankoffering letters are being sent out. The chairman of last years committee's have agreed to do so this year. Jan Benedict will go on as funeral co-chairmen. Correspondence and thank yous were read.

Mary Jo Vollmer served coffee.

Secretary, Judie Harnack

LCMC Annual Gathering

“Engaging Your Cultural Moment” was the theme for the 2024 LCMC Annual Gathering and Convention held at FaithLife Church in Marion, Iowa, September 29 – October 2, 2024. The purpose was to recognize and lift up the wide variety of ministry contexts within LCMC. Each context suggested a different way of engaging our communities with the good news of Jesus Christ.

Deb Furth and Jan Benedict were delegates attending this annual event from Our Savior’s Lutheran Church. Together with delegates from all over the US and foreign countries, we explored how the cultural moments happening all around us can be seen not as something negative, but as potential opportunities for carrying out the Great Commission. LCMC now has 1001 congregations across the United States and in 16 international countries.

This time together was a time for prayer and praise, a time of inspiration, a time for building relationships and fellowship, and a time for recommitment to our purpose as an association.

Topics covered were:

- How can we embrace our Lutheran theology and use it to positively impact the lives of the people around us?
- How do we empower the people in our churches to be ready to share the gospel with others, and to recognize a favorable moment to do so?
- How can we reach people who are living in smaller, less populated, or less accessible areas?
- What resources are available to help congregations carry out this mission in their communities?

“Engaging Your Cultural Moment” Over the four days, we had a chance to connect with other people from LCMC for fellowship, networking, prayer and worship, and explore what God is doing in our association. There were also elections for boards and an annual business meeting.

Each day, we started with a Bible study, followed by worship, led by LCMC pastors and uplifting musical groups, both contemporary and traditional. Over the four days, we heard from some very inspirational and spiritual keynote speakers who shared experiences from their lives and how God has helped them navigate.

LCMC Annual Gathering continued

Breakout sessions allowed us to explore a topic of interest, such as healthy congregations and healthy leaders, grandparenting in the present age, foundations for healthy church councils, re-engaging the disenfranchised Christian, healthy conflict resolution, sharing our God stories and many more.

We heard our service coordinator’s report on some of the various projects that are taking place to help support our congregations and leaders. Vendors of various mission and ministry organizations were available on site. We also met as a group of the Augustana District where we met Aaron Deutsch from Mankato, Minnesota, the head of our district. He enlightened us with goals for our district and updated us on coming events.

The main session of this event was live streamed. If interested, to access the livestream, go to www.lcmc.net/annual-gathering. Videos from the event will be available. Go to www.lcmc.net/enewsletter and sign up for the monthly newsletter. If you haven’t checked out the lcmc website, take some time to explore. It has a wealth of information about the lcmc organization. More information about our Augustana District can be found at augustanadistrict.org.

The time spent at this conference was very interesting. It was well organized and we would like to recommend that others from our congregation take the opportunity to attend if they have a chance. Next year’s gathering will be October 5-8, 2025 at Hosanna Church in Lakeville, Minnesota where they will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of LCMC.


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.

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.



November 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>					<p>1 Church Office 9:00 Community</p>	2
<p>3 All Saint's Sunday! 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship </p>	<p>4 Offices Closed</p>	5	<p>6 3:20 7th Grade Confirmation 4:25 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation</p>	7	<p>8 Church Office 9:00 Community</p>	9
<p>10 9:00 Worship/Communion SS Choir (N-5th) Sings during worship!</p>	<p>11 Offices Closed</p>	12 2:00 OSW Meeting	<p>13 3:20 7th Grade Confirmation 4:25 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation</p>	14	<p>15 Church Office 9:00 Community</p>	16
<p>17 9:00 Contemporary Worship SS Choir (N-5th) Sings during worship!</p>	<p>18 Offices Closed <u>NEWSLETTER</u></p>	19	<p>20 3:20 7th Grade Confirmation 4:25 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation</p>	21	<p>22 Church Office 9:00 Community</p>	23
<p>24 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal</p>	<p>25 Offices Closed</p>	26	<p>27 7:00 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service at UMC</p>	<p>28 </p>	<p>29 </p>	30

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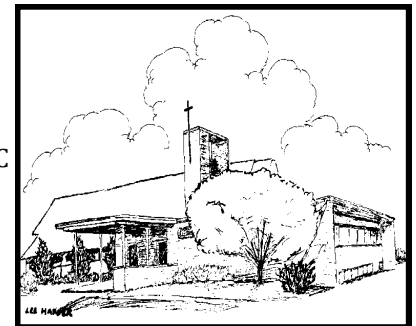
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PARTNERS

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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: www.osclamberton.com

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—WED: 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

- ◆ 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.