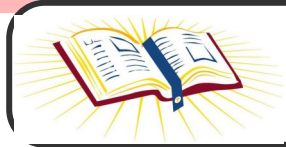


Good News

February 2024



Newsletter of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
420 North Progress Avenue
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109

Dear Brother & Sisters in Christ,

As many of you know, Pastor Joel is on medical leave. Pastor is the one who writes the article that is always on the front page of our newsletter each month. He also writes the articles *"About Worship"*, *"A Word on Stewardship"* & *"Dear Padre"*. During his absence from the office these articles will not appear in our newsletter. Please continue to keep Pastor Joel & his family in your prayers for healing. Thank you.

The Council & Staff of Our Saviour.

Lessons for January 2024

February 4 - Epiphany 5

Isiah 40:21-31
 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
 Mark 1:29-39

February 11 - Transfiguration of Our Lord

2 Kings 2:1-12
 Psalm 50:1-6
 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
 Mark 9:2-9

February 14 - Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
 Psalm 51:1-17
 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 18 - Lent 1

Genesis 9:8-17
 Psalm 25:1-10
 1 Peter 3:18-22
 Mark 1:9-15

February 25 - Lent 2

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
 Psalm 22:23-31
 Romans 4:13-25
 Mark 8:31-38



Ash Wednesday

We will be holding our Ash Wednesday worship service on February 14th beginning at 7pm. Please join us as we begin our Lenten journey.



Invitation To Join With Good Shepherd For Lenten Vespers

The members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church have extended an invitation to their brothers and sisters from Our Saviour to join them on Wednesday evenings during Lent (2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, & 3/20) for Souper Suppers and Lenten Vespers. The Souper Suppers, which include a simple meal of soups and bread, will begin at 5:30 PM in All Saints Hall in the basement followed by Lenten Vespers at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. Please consider making this a part of your Lenten journey.



Parish Staff

Rev. Dr. Joel D. Petruschke, pastor
 Barbara Johnson, administrative assistant
 Mitchell Sensenig, organist

Good News is a monthly publication of **The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour**, 420 North Progress Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109, 717-545-9992, ossec@comcast.net. **Deadline** for submission is the third Sunday of each month.

If you do not have email or internet access, your addressed copy of *Good News* will be available in your church mailbox the first weekend of each month.

Easter Egg Making Has Begun

It is that time of the year, egg making has started. Easter is on March 31, 2024. Due to the increase in the cost of ingredients the price of an egg was increased to \$1.50.

This was determined by the church members attending the egg making meeting in November 2023.

Egg making sessions will be on Sunday after our church service. On Thursday and Saturday mornings starting at 8:00 AM.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with mixing and making eggs. Training will be provided to new volunteers. If you have any concerns about standing too long, we have many egg making tasks that can be done while sitting. You do not need to stay for the entire session if your time is limited.

A table is in the Narthex with egg forms for ordering. Also, there are eggs on the same table that can be purchased for cash and carry.

We cannot do this project without the help of ALL church members. Please remember to SELL eggs. If you know of any business that would like to sell our eggs, please let us know. Any questions or concerns, please contact one of the egg chairs.

Egg Committee Chairs are Nadine Martin, Alice Lubrecht and Donna Miller



InBetweeners 2024

It's time to start planning events for 2024. Save the date for Sunday, February 4 at 5 p.m.

Since a number of us make eggs on Sundays, we will order pizza for our dinner along with a tossed salad to accompany the pizza. Please bring drinks and snacks as well as your calendars and suggestions for activities this year.

Manna Food Pantry

Our "2nd Sunday" food collection is still ongoing. During this time of continuous rising food & energy prices food pantries are seeing a greater demand of their services. If you would like to make a donation you may bring your items into the church & place them on the table in the Narthex at any time. There is a list of suggested items now on the table. If you would like to make a monetary donations, please mark your envelopes "Manna Food Pantry" and place it with your regular giving envelope.



Jesus Said, "Let the Little Children Come to Me."

We have Children's Sunday School on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month during the service. At each session the children complete a craft and enjoy a snack. **Classes for February will be held on January 4th & 18th!!** Children will be excused for their lesson after the children's message. Please share our news with anyone you know who may be interested. We welcome every child to join us and learn!



Council Minutes

Please Note: Council Minutes cannot be included in the newsletter until after Council has approved them.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Members Present: Pastor Joel Petruschke, Antonetta Fleming, President, Brad Neil, Vice-President, Jim Lubrecht, Treasurer, Jeanette Logan, Secretary, Steve Barron and Penny Zimmerman.

Members Absent: Joel Haines

At 6:10 pm the meeting opened with a word of prayer by Pastor Joel.

Pastor Joel made a motion to accept the minutes, as edited from the October 11, 2023 Regular Council Meeting. Penny seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Pastor Joel recalled his motion to approve the minutes from October 11, 2023. Anneke asked if there were any additions or corrections to these minutes. Brad mentioned that Penny has agreed to be the back up to take Council Meeting Minutes in the event Jeanette is unable to attend a meeting. Brad also noted that there was agreement from Council members that the recorded minutes from the audio recorder be erased once the minutes from each meeting have been documented and typed. These two points were not included in the October 11, 2023 minutes.

Pastor Joel made a motion to approve the minutes as edited. Brad seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jim reviewed the Financial Report with Council. He informed Council that we had a surplus in October of \$1,453.31 due to an extra Sunday in the month of October.

Deficit Analysis Sheet was reviewed with Council.

Lutheran Camping Corporation has sent another letter to the church asking for our donation. Pastor Joel will make an announcement in church informing members that if they wish to donate to Lutheran Camping Corporation they may do so using the envelopes in the pews. Members should designate their donation as, "Lutheran Camping Corporation."

Budget 2024: The **Tasking Line** will be added to the 2024 Budget under the Income Column. If we have a balanced budget then we need to have an amount of \$41,955 in revenue brought in.

Secretary's Report: Jeanette sent a thank you note to Pam Day for her donation of the grill. Jeanette will make an announcement at church on Sunday thanking everyone for their help with baking items, making soup and selling items on the day of the Election. Discussion ensued about leftover soup from that day. It was decided that we will freeze the leftover soup and inform the people who made these soups that they can retrieve them from the freezer if they desire. If not, Pastor Joel can use the soups to take to shut-ins.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education: No Report.

Child Protection Policy: No Report.

Fund Raising: No Report.

Mutual Ministry: No Report.



Property: Brad informed Council that the **sink has been fixed in the kitchen**. Bernie, Brad and Jim Simmons worked diligently on Sunday to make the repair and it finally appears to be working. Brad mentioned that he will ask Jim Simmons if he would be willing to be a part of the Property Committee. Steve Barron is also on this committee. **All of the indoor lights in the church have been fixed. The far light in the parking lot is still not working properly.** Brad continues to work on this. Jeanette informed Brad that **Herb has set the timer for the parking lot lights for 5:15 pm since it now gets darker much earlier. The fridge in the kitchen needs a new battery.** He is researching the replacement of the battery. Penny mentioned that she spoke with Nadine Martin who informed her that **the mice are still an issue in the kitchen pantry.** Even though we very recently cleaned all of the mice droppings up and scrubbed all of the racks in the pantry, it appears that they are now leaving droppings on top of the plastic containers that we used to hold the items. **Orkin pest control is scheduled for a visit and Pastor Joel will ask them to put traps in the kitchen and also in the shed** since the mice have made a home in the shed as well. Discussion about the lights under the front door to the Narthex. It is believed that those lights are motion lights for security purposes and do not stay on to light that area. Brad contacted a place about the purchase of a shed.

Scholarship BOT: No Report.

Social Ministry: No Report.

Stewardship: Not an active committee.

Welcome: The committee met on Monday, November 6, 2023. The Share the Word luncheon will be held this Sunday. Plans are being made for the Spring Banquet in early May. It was noted that Linda, the chairperson for this committee should submit a budget so funds are allocated for the committee.

Worship and Music: No Report.

Finance: Jim had a Finance Committee Meeting and minutes for this meeting were taken. Council reviewed these minutes and Jim discussed the details of this meeting with Council.

Pastor's Report: A Thanksgiving Service will take place on November 19, 2023 because we will not have a church service on Thanksgiving Eve. There will be a baptism of Walker Parson on Sunday. An update on the St. Stephen's arrangement was given by Pastor Joel. He informed Council that they have conversations with two congregations to see if merging would be a possibility. One church is about 10 minutes away from St. Stephen's and the other church is in Carlisle near Dickinson College and they have a full time pastor. This church is checking into getting an associate pastor to help work with the young people at the college. This associate pastor might be able to help out St. Stephen's as part of their duties and responsibilities. St. Stephen's is doing well and they anticipate ending their year in the black. Penny mentioned a meeting that will be taking place on November 26, 2023 at 2:00 pm. It will include youth members of the church, Pastor Joel and Andrea Faber. Pastor Joel provided insight. He mentioned that Andrea Faber has a vision for another service that would be geared more towards the young people of the church and hopefully appeal to other young people in the community. They met with Music and Worship to discuss this vision. John Zimmerman will be a part of the meeting on November 26th as a member of the Visioning Committee as this discussion needs to be a part of the church's visioning. Pastor Joel is away November 19th through November 25th and he will make arrangements for a pastor to be on call for emergencies.

Old Business:

Anneke is still working on developing an IT Committee.

New Business:

Treasurer's Report:

Scholarship Mutual Funds: Jim mentioned that these funds are down a little due to the market.

Current Fund Money Market: This fund shows a slight increase.

Memorial Fund Money Market: This fund shows a slight increase.

Previous Year Comparison: Jim reviewed this with Council.

Memorial Fund: Jim has shown all of the donations that have been made to the Memorial Fund. He has also shown the expenses that have been paid using the memorial fund donations. Jim reminded Council that if a specific designation for the money was made by a member then that money will be specifically used for the item they designated.

The Financial Report is filed for audit.

Penny reminded Council that the need to discuss the motion made by John Zimmerman at the September Congregational Meeting needs to take place.

Anneke expressed her desire to get together with Pastor Martini and Pastor Joel to determine how we go about calling to a part time pastoral position. That meeting will take place next week.

Budget 2024:

Jim discussed each line item of the budget for 2024 with Council.

Employee salaries were discussed afterwards.

Penny made a motion to accept the 2024 Budget as it is. Brad seconded the motion. A vote was taken. 6 yes votes were given.

At 8:25 pm Penny made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Steve. The meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

The next Council Meeting will be held on January 10, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette Logan/Council Secretary



**OUR SAVIOUR
FINANCIAL REPORT**

December 31, 2023

	<u>12/31/2023</u>	<u>12/31/2022</u>	<u>Difference</u>
ENVELOPES AND PLATE	\$137,187.75	\$136,294.15	\$893.60
FUND RAISING	\$29,318.47	\$20,744.90	\$8,573.57
FELLOWSHIP HALL RENTAL	\$5,540.00	\$1,055.00	\$4,485.00
ST STEPHENS MISSION	<u>\$28,383.28</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$28,383.28</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$200,429.50	\$158,094.05	\$42,335.45
 EXPENSE	 <u>\$190,775.63</u>	 <u>\$190,502.58</u>	 <u>\$273.05</u>
 SURPLUS/DEFICIT	 <u>\$9,653.87</u>	 <u>-\$32,408.53</u>	 <u>\$42,062.40</u>

PNC BANK STATEMENT BALANCES

	<u>12/31/2023</u>	<u>12/31/2022</u>	<u>Difference</u>
CURRENT FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$20,985.41	\$12,288.96	\$8,696.45
MEMORIAL FUND MONEY MARKET #	\$14,854.67	\$87,474.90	Partial transfer to Thrivent in 2023

THRIVENT ACCOUNTS

	<u>12/31/2023</u>	<u>12/31/2022</u>	<u>Difference</u>
CURRENT FUND MUTUALS		\$54,588.61	closed in 2023
CURRENT FUND MONEY MARKET	\$48,874.97		opened in 2023
SCHOLARSHIP MUTUALS	\$173,976.74	\$150,364.10	\$23,612.64
MEMORIAL FUND MONEY MARKET *	\$82,804.13		opened in 2023

* \$61,000 of Memorial Fund is from the Neidich estate

\$1,310.57 of Memorial Fund is from the Ruth Knerr estate
to be used for Christian Ed expenses

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Aaliyah Armstrong	2/8
Merlin Beachell	2/8
Jonah Petruschke	2/10
Renee Gibson	2/11
Mike Balas	2/13
Arryus Hanton	2/18
Walker Parson	2/22
Don Hoepfer	2/27
Dottie Koppenhaver	2/27
Pastor Joel	2/29





Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

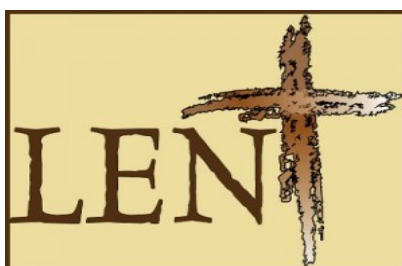
Fri

Sat

				1 8 am - egg making	2	3 8 am - egg making
4 - Epiphany 5 9 am - Worship w/Children's Sunday School 1st Sunday Social egg making 5 pm - InBetweener's planning session w/dinner	5 6 pm - Welcome Committee 6 pm - Praise Him Singers Rehearsal	6	7	8 8 am - egg making	9	10 8 am - egg making
11 - Transfiguration of Our Lord 9 am - Worship egg making	12 council committee reports due in office	13	14 - Ash Wednesday 7 pm - Worship <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	15 8 am - egg making 6:30 pm - Council	16	17 8 am - egg making
18 - Lent 1 9 am - Worship w/Children's Sunday School egg making newsletter deadline	19 6 pm - Praise Him Singers Rehearsal 	20	21 5:30 pm - Soup Supper & 7 pm - Lenten Vespers @Good Shepherd	22 8 am - egg making	23	24 8 am - egg making
25 - Lent 2 9 am - Worship egg making	26	27	28 5:30 pm - Soup Supper & 7 pm - Lenten Vespers @Good Shepherd	29 8 am - egg making		

The Evangelical Lutheran
CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR
420 North Progress Avenue
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109

Phone: 717-545-9992
Email: ossec@comcast.net
Web Site: www.oslutheranharrisburg.org



Mission Statement

Our Saviour Lutheran Church, a caring congregation dedicated to the word of Christ, welcomes all people to worship and to grow with us as we share His love and salvation with our neighbors, our children and ourselves.

Worship
9:00 am.

Please join us!
Holy Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday.

Church Office

9:00 am -12:00 pm Monday through Friday

Phone: 717-545-9992

Email: ossec@comcast.net

Web Site: www.oslutheranharrisburg.org



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.