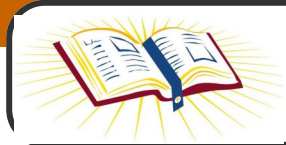


Good News

November 2024



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

ALL SAINTS DAY NOVEMBER 3



In celebration of ALL SAINTS DAY, we share with you the names of our loved ones who are no longer with us.

Jim Simmons 1/22/24

Jean Lisse 4/3/24

Larry Wilt 10/30/24

We are sharing some thoughts from Benjamin M. Stewart (Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago. Source: <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2022/11/all-saints-day/>) and Tim Brown, a pastor, writer, and ELCA director for congregational stewardship.

“All Saints calls to mind specific individuals: particular beloved faces, names and memories. On All Saints, your congregation might name in worship your loved ones who have died in the past year, alternating the names with a bell or a sung prayer of thanksgiving. Some congregations set aside places for photos of loved ones among candles and images of other saints. We may be all too aware of the particular names we are now carrying with us toward All Saints this year - names of those who have died in the past months...

All Saints sets out a place for all of them - an assembly the book of Revelation describes as “a number no one could count” with saints “from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages” (7:9). All Saints brings into focus our own beloved dead while also stretching our imagination toward the whole company of saints, more diverse and populous than we can fully comprehend...

All are saved by grace. The festival originally honored those who were considered especially holy: heroic figures from the Scriptures and martyrs who had given their lives nonviolently in witness to the faith. However, it is an especially Lutheran accent for the feast to honor not only those who lived exemplary lives, but all who have been baptized into Christ’s death.”

During COVID, Pastor Brown published an article on ways to observe ALL SAINTS DAY at HOME (<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2020/10/five-ways-to-celebrate-all-saints-day-at-home/>):

1. Pictures and candles – photo of loved one and small votive candle as a symbol of the light they were in life and the light they shine even now. The candle(s) can be relit during meals or during a time devoted to remembering those who have died as you look through family albums, read old letters or watch home movies.
2. Food and familiar smells. Use All Saints Day to make a favorite meal once cooked by someone whom you love but who is no longer with you. With children or other family members, go through an old cookbook and seek out recipes. With your family, make a meal from your childhood and reminisce with the smells and tastes.
3. Stories and songs - All Saints Day is the perfect day to listen intentionally to your loved one’s favorite music or pass along family lore to children, partners or anyone willing to hold the space and the day with you.
4. All Saints Day is also a wonderful day to search the web for spiritual songs of the church that have passed the test of time. “For All the Saints” (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship* 422) is a standard offering, but “Faith of Our Fathers” (*ELW* 813) and “For All the Faithful Women” (*ELW* 419) are also excellent choices.

(continues on page 3)

Lessons for November 2024

November 3 - All Saints Sunday

Isaiah 25:6-9
 Psalm 24
 Revelation 21:1-6a
 John 11:32-44

November 10 - Pentecost 25

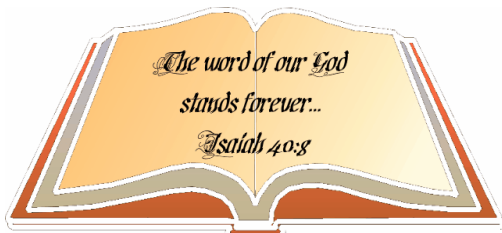
1 King 17:8-16
 Psalm 146
 Hebrews 9:24-28
 Mark 12:38-44

November 17 - Pentecost 26

Daniel 12:1-3
 Psalm 16
 Hebrews 10:11-25
 Mark 13:1-8

November 24 - Christ the King

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14,
 Psalm 93
 Revelation 1:4b-8
 John 18:33-37



Our 2024-2025 Church Council Officers

President: Brad Neil
 Vice President: Carol Ranck
 Treasurer: Jim Lubrecht
 Secretary: Deb Flage



Daylight Savings Time Ends

Daylight Savings time ends Sunday, November 3rd @2am. Don't forget to turn your clocks back before going to bed Saturday night!



Thank You!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, I want to thank you all for your cards, gifts, and well-wishes to me and my family. Your kindness is so very much appreciated. In particular, I want to thank you for the wonderful farewell luncheon and the beautiful plaque. The congregation of Our Saviour and all of you, my sisters and brothers, will continue to be in my heart and in my prayers. God bless you in your continued journey in Christ. God is good all the time. Thanks again.
 In Christ, Pastor Joel



Parish Staff

Rev. Frank Terhune , interim pastor (begins November 15th)
 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.

Meet Our New Interim Pastor

People of Our Savior, let me introduce myself. I will be serving you as Interim Pastor during this time of Pastoral transition. It is my privilege and honor to join you during this important time, I will be serving on a part time basis, 20 hours a week. My primary task is to provide you with care. This will include leading worship on Sunday and special festivals, hospital and shut-in visits, participation with committees, and guidance during the Call process. This will be sixth opportunity to support a congregation in this process since I retired in 2016. Some of you might remember me from my time as the Interim Pastor at Epiphany when Pastor Joel and I shared leadership in some joint programs and worship opportunities.

Let me share a bit of who I am. I was born in Berlin, Germany, during the post World War 2 recovery period. My mother and her family endured the horrors of the Nazi regime and the devastation of the war. My father was a American soldier. I came to the US at the ripe old age of four months old. I was raised in northern New Jersey. I graduated from Newark College of Engineering with a degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering, but felt a different calling for my life and entered seminary to pursue ordained ministry. I studied at both the Gettysburg and Philadelphia Lutheran seminaries and later received a graduate degree in Pastoral Care from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. I served parishes in Willingboro, NJ, and Clairton, Blakeslee, Wilkes-Barre, Old Zionsville, and Plainfield Twp in PA. I also served on synod staff in West Virginia for three years.

I look forward to meeting you and being a part of your ministry during this time of transition. Together we will celebrate your past and build a new future, trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit to lead us on this journey.

Peace,

Pastor Frank Terhune

(All Saints article continues)

5. Sainly study - do a little research on a saint. Popular saints such as Saint Francis, Saint Clare or Saint Julian of Norwich are wonderful options, but if you're open to learning about someone you may not know much about, Saint Kevin of Glendalough, Saint Moses the Black and Saint Lily of the Mohawks. There are saints from every heritage, so a search of saints from your ethnic roots will enrich your spiritual journey.
6. Postcard from the past - Write a postcard to a younger relative, noting some of the beauty you see in the world, giving a nod to your favorite music and perhaps even telling a simple memory or two that have shaped your life. Plant seeds of memory for those who will come after us.

Veterans & Military

In honor of Veterans Day, we recognize those who have served or are serving in the military. We are celebrating our military personnel and veterans on Sunday, Nov 10th and publishing their names in our Bulletin.

Samuel G. Bateman
Michael Hains
Amanda Lubrecht
Edward Neil

Ian Bowling
Dennis W. Hocker
Nadine Martin
Thomas C. Rine

John E. Farling
James Lubrecht
Otis Martin
George Zimmerman

At OS� we honor our veterans, active duty, and reserve or national guard personnel. We continue to pray for our POWs and MIAs.

DID YOU KNOW? Veterans Day originated as “Armistice Day” on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 making it an annual observance, and it became a national holiday in 1938. Sixteen years later, then-President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation changing the name to Veterans Day to honor all those who served their country during war or peacetime. On this day, the nation honors military veterans - living and dead - with parades and other observances across the country and a ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. <https://department.va.gov/veterans-day/history-of-veterans-day/>.

PLAN a visit to the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.

A FEW FACTS:

As of September 2023, there were about 1.29 million active-duty troops in the United States military. This is part of a total military strength of 2.86 million, which includes active-duty troops, national guard and reserves, and civilian employees.

16.2 million is the number of military veterans in the United States in 2022, representing 6.2% of the total US civilian population age 18 and over.

Source: US Census Bureau.



If you are a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, connect with the Veterans Crisis Line’s caring, qualified responders for confidential help. Many of them are Veterans themselves.

Call **988 and press 1**

Text **838255**

Start a confidential chat

For TTY, call **711 then 988**

Get more resources at VeteransCrisisLine.net.



Important Message From Council

By Brad Neil, Council President 2024-2025

Hello from Council. October was an extremely busy month and November's outlook is busy as well. On Sunday, October 13th we provided a write up in the bulletin describing the activities from our October 10, 2024 Council meeting:

Executive Committee was elected: President Brad Neil, Vice President Carol Ranck, Secretary Deb Flage, and Treasurer Jim Lubrecht. Members of Council include: Steve Barron, Jeanette Logan, Joel Hains, Sandy Moritz, and Penny Zimmerman.

Pastor Beth Martini, Assistant to the Synod Bishop, provided information in proceeding with securing pastoral services while we determine all of our pastoral options and next steps as we look to our future.

Synod has identified a proposed part-time interim pastor who is available. Some of you may know Pastor Frank Terhune. He served as interim pastor at Epiphany Lutheran a couple years ago, visited us as a Supply Pastor and attended an event we held in our Fellowship Hall. Pastor Martini will continue to serve as our Synod resource/contact person during our transition processes.

Per Synod's requirements, when a pastor leaves, an exit interview is conducted. Pastor Joel completed both Synod's forms as well as an exit interview with representatives of Church Council. We thank Pastor Joel for his 16 years of service and ministry with OSL and wish him well as he meets new challenges and ministries.

Other items of interest:

On October 12th, 10 representatives from OSL participated in the "Sharing Pastoral Resources" meeting conducted by the Harrisburg and Cumberland Conferences and facilitated by Pastor Gwen Trout. The meeting was the second to be held to discuss what Lutheran churches are experiencing with the decrease in the number of "rostered ministers" and needs for pastoral services. Another meeting will be held in January and hosted by OSL. Thank you to Joan Bateman & Tom Rine, Nedda Pollock, Linda Schreier, Deb Flage, Carol Ranck, Otis & Nadine Martin, Alice & Jim Lubrecht.

Council members met with interim pastor candidate, Pastor Frank Terhune, on October 21. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce ourselves to Pastor Frank and vice versa. Follow-up with Pastor Terhune & Synod is underway. Update on status of OSL acquiring an interim pastor will be shared as soon as possible.

Securing a supply pastor for the pulpit was a challenge for Reformation Sunday. We received permission from the Bishop to have our very competent lay leaders, Herb Logan, Alice Lubrecht, and Jenna Youngblood to provide our service. The elements for Communion were consecrated in advance by Pastor Carol Bowman. THANK YOU ALL.

For November we have secured supply pastors until we negotiate an interim pastor agreement.

Council has started 2025 Budget preparations. Any comments or input should be submitted to any Council member.

A wrap-up meeting for GermanFest was held on October 23rd. We would like to thank everyone who volunteered and helped to make the day a success. We received many nice comments and hope to continue this event again next year.

The CODE for the church's front door was changed on Sunday, October 27th. The key code is not included in this newsletter for security reasons. Everyone has the new key code in their church mailbox on an index card. If you should need the new code before attending Sunday service, please call Barb at the

church office or Brad Neil, council president. Also, if you need to get into the church & Brad isn't available to answer the phone, Barb's phone # is in the pictorial directory. Thank you for your understanding.

We wish you all a wonderful November as we celebrate **ALL SAINTS DAY, VETERANS DAY, and THANKSGIVING.**

Thank You!

Thank you so much to those of you that donated items to our GermanFest Silent Auction this year. We had a great event and the proceeds from Silent Auction were \$977! We sold a total of 103 items! It would not have been as successful without your donations and help! Thank you again!



Poinsettias

You have the opportunity to order Christmas poinsettias to beautify God's House. This year the cost for the red or white poinsettias is \$9.50 for a 5+ bloom plant. The order form is now in the bulletins (or you may call the church office to order). If you have any questions, please call the church office also.



Remember: deadline is Sunday, November 17th. This is the request of our florist.

Manna Food Pantry

Our "2nd Sunday" food collection is still ongoing. During this time of continuous rising food, energy & gas 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 3rd Sunday of each month during the service. At each session the children complete a craft and enjoy a snack. **The next class will be November 17th!!** 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!



Help Is Needed

The flower beds around the church need regular upkeep. Additional help is needed to keep these looking nicely kept. If you can help please call or text Andrea Faber at 717-576-3329. Any & all help is greatly appreciated.



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, September 11 2024**

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

Members Absent: Brad Neil, Vice-President and Joel Hains.

Guests: Marilyn Chubb, Sandy Moritz, Deb Flage and Carol Ranck.

At 6:07 pm Pastor Joel opened the meeting with a devotion. Pastor Joel made a motion to accept the July 10, 2024 minutes as edited. Penny seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jim reviewed the Previous Year Comparison document with Council. He noted that we have a deficit of \$19,182.64 as of the end of August 2024. Jim reviewed the following reasons for the deficit.

- He informed Council that Our church's insurance keeps going up. We only budgeted \$5,500 for insurance and our bill was \$6,299.00. The increases are occurring yearly. He contacted our insurance carrier, Church Mutual, and asked for reasons for the increases. He was told that ongoing disasters and skyrocketing construction material prices have continued since COVID. This has led to increases in premiums. Jim suggested that we continue with Church Mutual. He doesn't believe that things would be any different if we changed to another insurance carrier. He plans to review this information with the congregation during a Temple Talk.
- The Pastoral Mission has ended. We are no longer receiving income from this.
- Envelope Giving is down about \$5,000.00 in comparison to last year at this time.
- Egg Gross Sales are down about \$2,600.00 in comparison to last year.

Jim reported on the outcome of our Germanfest event. The Gross Sales through today, September 11, 2024, are \$6,219.00, minus expenses, our profit is \$3,436.00. In comparison, last year our Gross Sales were \$7,162.50, minus expenses, our profit was around \$5,000.00.

Jim reviewed the Scholarship Mutuals with Council. There was another interest gain this month. The current balance as of 8/31/2024 is \$193,608.42. As of 7/31/2024 the balance was \$173,976.74.

The Treasurer's Report was filed for Audit.

Secretary's Correspondence - Nothing to report.

Committee Reports:

- **Christian Education:** No report. Sunday School will resume on 9-15-2024 and will be held on the third Sunday of each month.
- **Child Protection Policy:** No Report
- **Fund Raising:** No Report

- **Mutual Ministry:** No Report. Carol Ranck agreed to be a part of this committee.
- **Property:** No Report
- **Scholarship BOT:** No Report
- **Social Ministry:** No Report
- **Stewardship:** Not an active committee
- **Welcome Committee:** Pastor reported that there will be a pet blessing on October 6th at 3pm. There will be a Veteran's Day flag service on November 10th and refreshments will be served in the Narthex following the church service.
- **Worship and Music:** No Report
- **Finance:** Jim reviewed the August 26, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes with Council. The committee will meet on October 2, 2024 to discuss the budget.
- **Pastor's Report:** reviewed by Council. Pastor reported that on 9-21-24, 9-28-24 and 10-5-24 Otis, Nadine and Pastor have invited the congregation to attend debriefing meetings where they will discuss their participation in the Thriving Together Civil Rights Tour.

Old Business:

- **IT Committee:** on hold
- **Building/property evaluation Committee:** on hold.
- **Update on Membership role ad-hoc committee:** Jim informed Council that 43 letters were sent to 59 inactive members and only 1 response came back. Barb suggested that we form a new list since many haven't responded.
- **GermanFest fundraiser:** Pastor Joel and Jeanette provided some feedback. A Germanfest wrap up meeting will be held soon.
- **Update on new positions open:** church council/committees.
- **Update on sharing of pastoral resources:** Our Saviour will be hosting a meeting at the church on Saturday, October 12th from 9 am to 11:30 am. This will be a meeting of the East Shore Churches to discuss how churches can work together. Discussions about sharing pastoral resources, partnership opportunities and other options will take place.
- **Results of the 6-8-2024 Pastoral Resources Meeting:** that was held on the West Shore. An email was sent by Lisa Neil. She asked for a status report to be given to the congregation about the results from the June 8th meeting. This meeting was a gathering of churches on West Shore to discuss the sharing of pastoral ministries, partnering with other churches and other ways churches can help each other. Anneke explained to Council that she intended to reach out to Pastor Beth Martini to discuss pastoral ministry options but unfortunately her husband was hospitalized for many weeks, and she was unable to arrange a meeting with Pastor Beth. Anneke believes it would be best for another Council member to reach out to Pastor Beth.

New Business:

- **New Vision Statement announcement to congregation:** Anneke shared the new Vision Statement with Council. She has planned a Temple Talk for 9-15-2024 at which time she will review the new Vision Statement with the congregation. A vote on the new Vision Statement will be taken at the congregational meeting on September 22, 2024.
- **Service Time Change?** Brad Neil sent an email asking whether or not we will be going back to a later service time? Typically, after GermanFest the service changes to a later time. This will be discussed at the congregational meeting in September.

- **Request for Transfer from Ann Wolf:** Ann Wolf has asked to be removed from our rolls. She wishes to transfer to a church in Oberlin. Pastor Joel made a motion to agree to Ann Wolf's request to transfer to a church in Oberlin. Jeanette seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- **Congregational Meeting Topics:** Election of New Church Council Members.
- **Synod Assembly Volunteers Needed:** Pastor Joel informed Council that this year will include the election of a new Bishop. Meetings will be held on February 6th and March 20th. The Conference Assembly will take place June 5th through the 7th.
- **Pastor Joel's Letter of Resignation:** Pastor Joel read out loud his letter of resignation to Council. He explained to Council how much he has enjoyed being Pastor at Our Saviour for the past 16 years and he will certainly miss our congregation. He explained that he believes this is a new season for him. He has accepted a position at a church in Lancaster. His last day of preaching will be October 6th at which time he will take his remaining vacation leave and begin preaching at his new church on October 27, 2024.

At 7:55 pm Penny made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Steve seconded the motion.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9th at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanette Logan



**OUR SAVIOUR
FINANCIAL REPORT**

	AS OF <u>9/30/2024</u>	AS OF <u>8/31/2024</u>	<u>difference</u>
ENVELOPES AND PLATE	\$88,842.89	\$75,812.50	\$13,030.39
FUND RAISING - EGGS	\$18,581.31	\$18,581.31	\$0.00
FUND RAISING - GERMANFEST	\$7,181.00	\$0.0	\$7,181.00
FUND RAISING ELECTION	\$324.01	\$324.01	\$0.00
FELLOWSHIP HALL RENTAL	\$1,725.00	\$1,725.00	\$0.00
ST STEPHENS MISSION	<u>\$19,933.38</u>	<u>\$19,933.38</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$136,587.59	\$116,376.20	\$20,211.39
EXPENSE	<u>\$151,407.14</u>	<u>\$135,558.84</u>	<u>\$15,848.30</u>
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	<u>\$14,819.55</u>	<u>-\$19,182.64</u>	<u>\$4,363.09</u>
PNC BANK STATEMENT BALANCES			
	<u>9/30/2024</u>	<u>1/1/2024</u>	<u>difference</u>
CURRENT FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$13,109.53	\$20,985.41	-\$7,875.88
MEMORIAL FUND MONEY MARKET #	\$15,461.15	\$14,854.87	\$606.28
THRIVENT ACCOUNTS			
	<u>9/30/2024</u>	<u>1/1/2024</u>	<u>difference</u>
CURRENT FUND MONEY MARKET	\$50,775.26	\$48,874.97	\$1,900.29
SCHOLARSHIP MUTUALS	\$196,438.44	\$173,976.74	\$22,461.70
MEMORIAL FUND MONEY MARKET *	\$88,023.68	\$82,804.13	\$3,219.55

\$61,000 of Thrivent Memorial Fund Money Market is from the \$1,310.57 of PNC Memorial Fund Money is from the Ruth Knerr estate to be used for Christian Ed expenses

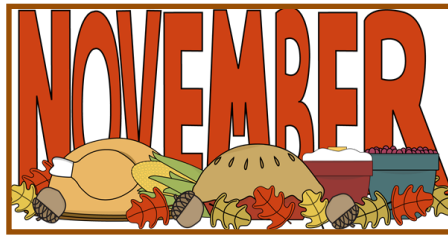


HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jansen Copeland	11/1	Steve Barron	11/13
Kathy Sheetz	11/2	Otis Martin	11/17
Terry Johnson	11/4	Bernie Kunz	11/22
Troy Schreffler	11/5	Bruce Cohick	11/26
Joe Parson	11/7	Linda Freed	11/28
Michael Pitassi	11/8	Robert Trea	11/28
Max Reilly	11/11	Anthem Hanton	11/29
Megan Neil	11/12		

Pastor Terhune, Barb & Mitchell would like to wish you and your family a safe & happy Thanksgiving!





Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sat

					1	2					
<p>3 - All Saints</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>1st Sunday Social</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time ends</p>	4	<p>5 - Election Day</p> <p>Election Day Bake Sale</p>	6	6pm - Council talks w/Zion Lutheran	7	6:30pm - Finance Committee	8	9	1pm - private event		
<p>10 - Pentecost 25</p> <p>9am - Worship with Veterans Day Recognition</p>	11	<p>Veterans Day</p> <p>committee reports due in office</p>	12	6pm - Welcome Committee	13		14	6pm - Council	15	Pastor Terhune (interim) starts	16
<p>17 - Pentecost 26</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>Children's Sunday School</p> <p>December newsletter deadline</p>	18	6:30pm - Praise Him Singers practice	19		20		21	7pm - Praise Him Singers concert	22		23
<p>24 - Christ the King</p> <p>9am - Worship</p>	25		26		27	vacation day for Barb	28 -Thanksgiving	<p>office closed</p>	29	office closed	30



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



Happy Thanksgiving

VISION STATEMENT

*Through the power of the cross, we,
as disciples of Jesus Christ,
are called to nourish those who
hunger in mind, body, and spirit.*

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.