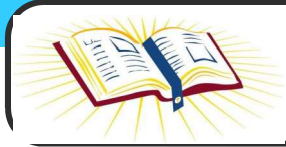


Good News

January 2025



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

Last month I shared with you a little of my background as an introduction as to Who I am. This month I want to share with you What I Do as your Interim Pastor.

One of the questions I frequently receive is, “When are you available?” My arrangement with the Congregation Council is for 20 hours a week. My fixed responsibilities are for office time and worship. I am in the office on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 until 12:00. Most of those afternoons I am visiting Homebound and Nursing Home members and Hospital patients. That does not mean that I am not available at other times. You might see my car parked outside at other times. In emergencies, I am ready to cover them as necessary. I also will attend Congregation Council sessions and Committee meetings. I live in Palmyra (30 minute drive) and am available when needed.

During the pastoral vacancy a study called the Mission Site Profile (MSP). This document is an analysis of the status, composition, values, and vision of Our Savior and expectations and priorities. While I am not going to be a part of the Call Committee, I will be involved in the development of the MSP. The MSP becomes an introduction of Our Savior to any potential candidate as well as a way for you to evaluate who you are as a parish and how you understand how God is calling you.

As the MSP is developed new opportunities for ministry and pastoral service may emerge. The Holy Spirit will guide you to discern what path the future will offer. I will be a resource as the Congregation Council processes these options and opportunities. All of your prayers and input are needed during this time of discernment.

All of this sounds daunting. I am here to preside over this process and to provide you with pastoral care during this time. Be assured that I will do my best in guiding Our Savior to your next chapter in your great history of witness in the Harrisburg area.

Peace, *Pastor Terhune*

Sunday Morning Bible Study Planning Session on Sunday, January 12th.

Please come join us as we plan our upcoming Bible Study classes. You will be surprised at how you view these stories of faith and what they mean for us today.

Lessons for January 2025

January 5 - Christmas 2

Jeremiah 31:7-14
 Psalm 147:1-12
 Ephesians 1:3-14
 John 1:1-18

January 12 - Baptism of Our Lord

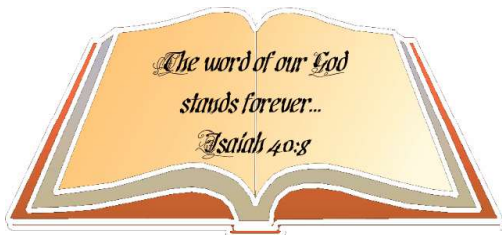
Isaiah 43:1-7
 Psalm 29
 Acts 8:14-17
 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 19 - Epiphany 2

Isaiah 62:1-5
 Psalm 36:5-10
 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
 John 2:1-11

January 26 - Epiphany 3

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
 Psalm 19
 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
 Luke 4:14-21



Congregation Meeting

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, January 19th. At this meeting we will be reviewing the year 2024 committee reports & vote on the 2025 budget. A quorum of 30 voting members is needed to conduct this meeting, so please make every effort to attend.



Attention All Committee Chairs

In advance of our congregational meeting on January 19th, please start preparing your annual reports for 2024. All reports are due in the office **no later than Friday, January 10th**. Submission via e-mail is preferred. Thank you.

A Very Big Thank You!

The Social Ministry Committee sponsored a very successful Christmas collection for the Salvation Army in Harrisburg. Our collection barrel was overflowing with gifts which were delivered to the Salvation Army on December 3, 2024. We would like to thank everyone for their contributions. Our congregation again showed their generous support of caring for others in our community. We are always looking for new committee members to join us. If you are interested, please talk to any committee member. Members are Nadine Martin, Otis Martin, Penny Zimmerman and Donna Miller.



Parish Staff

Rev. Frank Terhune , interim 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.

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 January 19th!!** 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 will be needed to keep these looking nicely kept **this coming spring**. If you can help please call or text Andrea Faber at 717-576-3329. Any & all help is greatly appreciated.



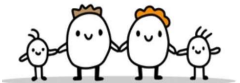
Family Promise

Our Saviour, along with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, will be hosting Family Promise Sunday evening, January 12 through Sunday morning, January 19, 2025.

Won't you **please** consider providing a meal, driving the van, or sleeping overnight at the Church?

If have any questions, please call me at (717) 497-1200.

Sign-up sheets are posted in the Narthex.



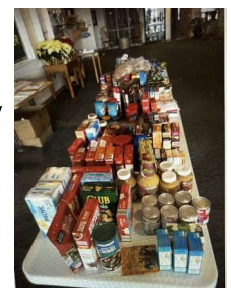
Baby News to Share!

Congratulations to Jessica & Jesse Burigana on the birth of their 2nd daughter, Rowan Marie, who was born on December 12th. Little Rowan weighed 6lbs. 9oz. and measured 19” long. Congratulations also to the proud big sister, Mia and to the grandparents, Herb & Jeanette Logan.



Reverse Advent Food Collection

Thanks to all who participated in our food collection. We delivered 323.8 lbs. of food to support the Manna Food Pantry. This will help them to replenish their shelves after a busy Christmas season.



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 13, 2024

Members Present: Interim Pastor Frank Terhune, Brad Neil, Jim Lubrecht, Jeanette Logan, Penny Zimmerman, Deb Flage and Sandy Moritz.

Members Absent: Steve Barron, Carol Ranck and Joel Hains

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. Pastor Terhune offered a prayer.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes from October 10, 2024: Sandy made a motion to approve the minutes. Brad seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Approval of Meeting Minutes with Zion Lutheran on November 6, 2024: Jeanette made a motion to approve the minutes. Sandy seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Approval of OSL Finance Committee Minutes from November 7, 2024: There were two changes made to the minutes. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Sandy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jim reported that there is currently a deficit of \$21,000 through October. Expenses will be less in November and December due to not paying Pension/Disability/Medicare expenses for the pastor. He passed around invoices paid since the last meeting for everyone to review. He noted the Thrivent accounts continue to grow.

Deb made a motion to transfer \$480 from the Pension/Disability account to cover the Welcome Committee budget for Pastor Joel's farewell luncheon since the Committee did not have enough money in their budget to cover it. Penny seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Proposed 2025 Budget: The proposed budget was discussed at this time. Jim noted that a new contract will be needed for Mitchell in January 2025 to be able to give him an increase in salary. The amount given to Synod was reduced to \$3000. Jim made a motion to accept the 2025 proposed budget as amended. Sandy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Secretary Report/Correspondence: None

Church Committee Reports:

Christian Education – none

Child Protection Policy – none

Fund Raising – none

Mutual Ministry – still need additional members

Property – parking lot light pole – Sandy contacted someone who can repair it for us in the near future.

Scholarship BOT – none

Social Ministry – none

Stewardship – not an active committee

Welcome – Committee met on Tuesday. Jeanette informed the Committee that they should give a budget amount for 2025 and account for the expenses.

Worship and Music – none

Finance – Committee met on November 7 to start work on the 2025 budget.



Pastor's Report: Pastor Terhune reported the following activity – visited the Wilt family and will plan Larry's funeral; visited Bernie; met with Kunz family to plan Bernie's funeral which will be held on November 22 with a luncheon following the service; suggested a project called Reverse Advent – starting December 1, a food item is suggested for members to collect each day. On December 24, the collection of food items is brought to the church to be distributed to food pantries. Council thought it was a good idea and the list will be included in this week's bulletin.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Membership Roll – Jim made a motion to remove everyone on the list who has not responded from the active roll plus anyone who has requested to be removed. Deb seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Update of positions open on Mutual Ministry and other committees – Brad suggested that an article be included in the newsletter each month about a church committee and what it does. Council agreed and Social Ministry will be the first committee highlighted.

Election Day Bake Sale – The sale was successful and we collected \$583.56 in profit.

Update Committee Chairs List – Barb sent an email to all committee chairs to verify their committee information.

IT Committee – on hold

Building/property evaluation committee – on hold.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting with Zion Lutheran in Dauphin regarding sharing of Pastoral resources – Those who attended thought the meeting on November 6 went very well. Zion's Council met on November 12 and their President contacted Brad to say they are interested in working with us. OSL Council asked Brad to contact Zion's Council to let them know we are interested in working with them.

Discuss what needs to be communicated to OSL members - Brad will give a brief Temple Talk this Sunday (November 17) to inform the congregation that we will work with Zion to explore options.

2025 Budget – was discussed earlier in the meeting as noted above.

Outreach ideas – Sandy suggested we might try a food truck in the parking lot as part of the 1st Sunday social. Penny suggested putting a flyer at the Hanna Food Pantry about our December services.

Council Installation – Brad noted that we need to have an installation service for the new Council.

Sandy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deb seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Flage



OUR SAVIOUR FINANCIAL REPORT

	AS OF <u>11/30/2024</u>	AS OF <u>10/31/2024</u>	<u>difference</u>
ENVELOPES AND PLATE	\$107,353.04	\$96,238.04	\$11,115.00
FUND RAISING - EGGS	\$18,581.31	\$18,581.31	\$0.00
FUND RAISING - GERMANFEST	\$7,181.00	\$7,181.00	\$0.00
FUND RAISING ELECTION	\$934.57	\$324.01	\$610.56
FELLOWSHIP HALL RENTAL	\$2,200.00	\$1,725.00	\$475.00
ST STEPHENS MISSION	<u>\$19,933.38</u>	<u>\$19,933.38</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$156,183.30	\$143,982.74	\$12,200.56
EXPENSE	<u>\$171,386.02</u>	<u>\$164,984.20</u>	<u>\$6,401.82</u>
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	<u>-\$15,202.72</u>	<u>-\$21,001.46</u>	<u>\$5,798.74</u>

PNC BANK STATEMENT BALANCES

	<u>11/30/2024</u>	<u>1/1/2024</u>	<u>difference</u>
CURRENT FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$16,245.05	\$20,985.41	-\$4,740.36
MEMORIAL FUND MONEY MARKET #	\$15,486.41	\$14,854.87	\$631.54

THRIVENT ACCOUNTS

	<u>11/30/2024</u>	<u>1/1/2024</u>	<u>difference</u>
CURRENT FUND MONEY MARKET	\$51,151.78	\$48,874.97	\$2,276.81
SCHOLARSHIP MUTUALS	\$207,132.85	\$173,976.74	\$33,156.11
MEMORIAL FUND MONEY MARKET *	\$86,661.60	\$82,804.13	\$3,857.47

\$61,000 of Thrivent Memorial Fund Money Market is from the Neidich estate

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Deb Flage	1/4
Jeanette Logan	1/7
Marian Tosheff	1/9
Tiffany Landis	1/14
Ruth Ondeck	1/15
Doris Balas	1/18
Riscardo Vega, Jr.	1/21
Nicholas Sheleman	1/27
Peter Ingavo	1/28
Anniya Armstrong	1/31





Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sat

			<p>1 - New Year's Day</p> <p>Happy New Year!</p> <p>office closed</p>	2	3	4
<p>5 - Christmas 2</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>1st Sunday Social</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6pm - Welcome Committee</p> <p>committee reports due in office</p>	7	<p>8</p> <p>6pm - Council</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>committee annual reports due in office</p>	11
<p>12 - Baptism of Our Lord</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Bible Study planning session</p>	13	14	<p>15</p> <p>6:30pm - Council talk with Zion @Zion, Dauphin</p>	16	17	18
<p>Family Promise Host Week</p>						
<p>19 - Christmas 4</p> <p>9am - Worship Annual Congregational Meeting</p> <p>Children's Sunday School</p> <p>February newsletter deadline</p>	<p>20 - MLK Jr. Birthday</p> <p>office closed</p>	21	22	23	24	<p>25</p> <p>9am - Thriving Together @Messiah University</p>
<p>26 - Christmas 5</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Bible Study</p>	27	28	29	30	31	

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



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