



Good News

A Joint Newsletter for Christ and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches

Christ Lutheran
Our Savior's Lutheran
1860 Wisconsin St
Oshkosh, 54901

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday
9:00 am-1:00 pm

SUNDAYS
9:00 am Worship
In-Person Service
On-Line: FB & YouTube

CONTACT
INFORMATION:

CHURCH OFFICES

Our Savior's:
Megan Hafenbreadl
920.235.4850

secretary.coslc@gmail.com

Christ Lutheran
Barb Schneider
920.231.6570
clcoshkosh@gmail.com

PASTOR

Rev. Connie Weiss
920.904.5919
pastor.cweiss@gmail.com

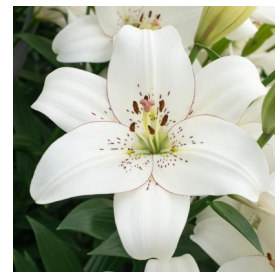
PRESIDENTS

Kevin Harvot
920.379.0829

Barb Schneider
920.279.3795

Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:4



Dear Friends,

We have long lived through the dead of winter that we have been so hungry for signs of spring. Spring - where we'd see the color green more, where we'd see the robins return, feel temperatures rise, and just smell it. And, we did! The Saturday before Easter as we were setting up for our Resurrection Sunday worship, all we could do was smell! And our allergies kicked in big time! Oh yes, I remembered what also comes with spring - runny noses and itchy eyes. And we did our best to lesson the blow for worshippers. We turned on the fans, cracked open some windows and armed ourselves with antihistamine. When morning arrived, the church was alive with people filled with joy and a newness that seemed familiar - yet different.

Good Friday was a reminder for us that God chose to die so that we might live a new way now and an eternal one after death. As Jesus suffered, so must we while on this earth. We will feel the sting of pain and loss as we live in these human bodies - co-existing with other human bodies. So how is it that we can walk in newness of life in the here and now?

The apostle Paul was sharing with new Roman believers, that we can die to our old ways of living. We can give up the worries, burdens and hardness of heart and remember the one that died to take those things from us by forgiving us. That means we can choose to trust that, through our baptism, all those human tendencies that cause ourselves and others pain and sorrow have been buried with Christ in his death. And as he was raised from the dead, we, too, can start anew and live in forgiveness, joy and love. For we are resurrection people! We have the hope of eternal life and being reunited with our loved ones who have passed on all because God chose to love us. So everyday, while in this world, we can see signs of spring and be that sign of a new life in Christ.

There's so much new life in us as God's church, my friends. I see signs of it everywhere. Do you see it? More importantly, do you live it? I know I'm diving into this new season with out hesitation. The old, while most of it was good, is in the past. Today is a new day. And it looks beautiful from where I'm standing!

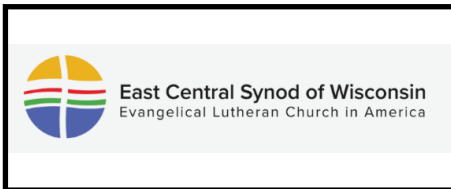
In Christ's Love,

Pastor Connie



The Rev. Grant Applehans has resigned his call as Director of Evangelical Mission (DEM) in the East Central Synod of Wisconsin (ECSW) to pursue further education at Georgetown University in Washington DC beginning this fall. In his time as DEM, Pastor Grant has engaged call committees, evangelism teams, and church councils in discerning new possibilities and configurations to let their light shine. From his early connection to the ECSW as an Intern Pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Seymour, Wisconsin, up to and through his work to quickly coordinate refugee relief efforts across the synod, Pastor Grant’s impact has been lasting and will not be forgotten. Pastor Grant has walked with congregations through the processes of holy closure and disaffiliation, served on the faculty at lay school, collaborated to develop a new training for congregations in transition, and faithfully supported congregations through regular preaching and presiding at worship services across the synod. His energy and dedication helped to launch new efforts including a synod anti-racism team, hunger team, renewal and revitalization of the global mission team, and the creation of a composer’s circle. These are among the many seeds planted with us that God’s Spirit will help to grow. Pastor Grant’s last day at the Synod will be May 26th. He will be spending the summer with his family back in Montana, serving at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp and preparing for his post baccalaureate pre-med program in the fall. A public blessing and sending will take place at the upcoming Synod Assembly. Any personal notes or remembrances to Pastor Grant at grant.applehans@ecsw.org.

SYNOD BUILDING UPDATE



As the Executive Committee of the Synod Council, we are writing to inform you that the Synod Council has voted to close and sell the physical synod office building located at 16 Tri-Park Way in Appleton, Wisconsin. This decision was made in conjunction with the budgeting process for 2023 and reflects the shifting nature of the church in these times. We hope to be wiser stewards of the gifts you give. We hope to support ministry partners. We hope to gain increased presence of synod staff throughout the synod. We hope to share in the narrative of great success. We hope to be generous and intend to use income from the sale of the building wisely. Each congregation should have received a letter via snail mail last week. Any questions may be directed to ecsw@ecsw.org.

UKRAINE RELIEF



Our hearts are overwhelmed with your generosity. Because of your rapid response, the match has been met. Time is of the essence and your love is reaching neighbors immediately. Thank you so much. Our teams are on the ground meeting immediate needs and planning a longer-term response as families rebuild their lives after destruction. But we can’t do it without you. Mail gifts to LWR, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297. Write “Ukraine Match” in the memo line. Or give at www.lwr.org/match. This link can be used for your congregational gift or by your individual members.

ELCA’S STYLE GUIDE



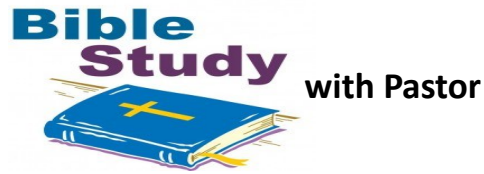
As language continues to evolve around the way we identify ourselves and others, so has the ELCA’s style guide. The most recent shift involves use of gendered language regarding our siblings in Christ, with a focus on ways to ensure that we represent everyone in the church, emphasizing gender-inclusive terminology and using titles and pronouns to reflect and honor non-binary identities. These changes may seem small, but they are significant steps toward ensuring that we are all seen and loved as children of God throughout the church. Download the newest version at ELCA.org/brandmark.



Do you know anyone caring for a loved one at home who has memory loss, Alzheimer's or dementia? Let them know

about the Respite Care Program. Have them call Colleen at Valley VNA at 920-727-5555 to get information and sign them up. Our church is a site for this program, 1-day a month, the 4th Tuesday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. you are interested in volunteering for the program or just have questions, please contact Diane Schmude with any questions at

920-235-4689 or Diane 4689@att.net



Every Monday at 1pm

Join us in-person or online!

Join us every Monday at 1 pm either in-person or on Zoom. We will be meeting at 1 pm every week in the Fellowship Hall or Grace Place. We will look at the upcoming text for each Sunday. We hope you can join us, whether it is online or in-person! Look out for an email for the weekly link to join us.



By the end of this year, we would love to be sending out under a certain number of newsletters. If you are receiving the newsletter and would like to save us the paper and manpower it takes to get it to you every month, please send us the blue or pink card back that we have provided in this/past newsletter. You can either email us your response and address, use the google forms response in our weekly emails or you can send it back to the church address which is listed below:

1860 Wisconsin St., Oshkosh, WI 54901

The newsletter is always available online and we will still send to those that can't access the internet, but we would love to send out less than we have before. Please consider reading the newsletter online instead of receiving it in the mail.



Thank You Mark Backus!

We wanted to thank Mark Backus for helping the church during this Lenten season. Thank you for making the beautiful crosses that are displayed in the courtyard for Lent/Easter. Your time and effort that was put into the crosses is very much appreciated.



If you are not receiving our weekly emails, please email Megan or call the office. Please check your spam or junk folders first, if not, we can set you up in our new system so you are receiving our link for Facebook and YouTube.



4 Ways to Worship with Us!

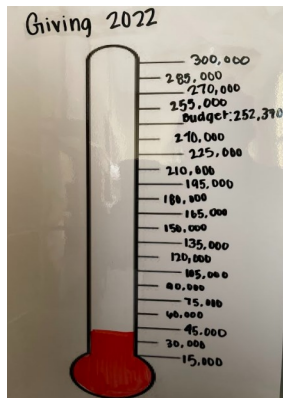
1. In Person Worship
2. Facebook Live during in-person worship
3. YouTube Channel Recorded Videos
4. Spectrum Oshkosh Channel 2

SUN - 10 AM / TUE - 2:30 PM / WED - 9 PM / THU - 10 AM



Stephen Ministry is a special part of our congregation. If you would like to be connected to a Stephen Minister, we can match you with that special person. We have numerous Stephen Ministers to help.

There are also numerous ways to be involved in this ministry. Stephen Ministers can help in a variety of ways. If you would like any more information about Stephen Ministry, how to get involved or want to be matched to a Stephen Minister, please reach out to Linda Tedlie at: 920-410-0745 or Tedliel@gmail.com



Giving Campaign:

We have put in three different places, a thermometer gage that shows our current giving situation. The thermometer tracks how much giving has currently been giving

since January of 2022. The thermometer in the Narthex shows where we should be vs where we are. We update it as much as possible. If you have any questions, ask one of our Council Presidents!



The joint women’s group did not meet this month, however, if a meeting is needed, we’ll announce an impromptu one on short notice. The women’s group is still looking into summer programs to participate in. The women’s group will meet again, June 12th after Worship.



BUILDING & GROUNDS UPDATE:

The Building and Grounds had a great meeting this month to go over some things in the building. The building is in good shape. Building and Grounds wants to remind you that only Pastor Connie and Hayden can touch the Thermostats. Please do not touch them otherwise, our heating and A/C will be messed up. Also, with it turning to spring, the mud is back. Please make sure to wipe your feet off when you enter the building. This will help with the cleanup of the church.



QUILTING UPDATE

The Quilters are still at work again every Thursday starting at 8:30 am in the quilting room. They are hard at work every week making and sewing quilts for Lutheran World Relief. If you want to support the Quilters, they are running out of blankets and flat sheets. If you have any laying around, consider donating them so the Quilters can make more quilts. Any size top bed sheets in any color or design they will take as well. Blankets do not need to be in excellent condition as they are used as fillers. Thank you!

A NEWSLETTER ARTICLE REQUEST

When submitting articles, please try to keep them brief when you can. We are receiving many articles and want to make sure everything makes it into our monthly newsletter.

May articles due by:
May 21st no later please



**Oshkosh Animal Allies-
the Animal Ministry**
group at First Congrega-
tional Church invites you
to meet the Oshkosh Po-
lice Departments new
therapy dog at the
groups June 7th meeting.

Magic is a therapy dog who works with Behavioral Health Officer Scott Sopata. They respond to behavioral health calls together to bring a sense of calm with a focus on peaceful resolutions. She also helps our officers after critical incidents. Magic was trained through Oshkosh based Journey Together Service Dog Inc. Dogs receive the training from selected inmates at the Oshkosh Correctional Institute. Volunteers from Journey Together go into the Oshkosh Correctional Institute to provide instruction on how to train the dogs. Officer Scott Sopata will give a 30 min presentation, followed by a 15 min Q&A. Light refreshments will be served after presentations. All are welcome to attend but RSVP is requested so we know how many to plan for.

Please RSVP by May 31
to Cheryl.Hentz@gmail.com

Event will take place at First Congregational Church
137 Algoma Blvd

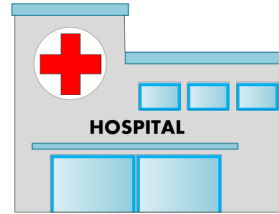
Tuesday June 7th 6-7:00PM

We hope you can join us for this exciting event.



WEBSITE UPDATE!

The website is being updated weekly. Please check out the many resources that are on it. If you have any suggestions, call us or email us! We would love to hear from you!



Your friendly smile and knowledge would be appreciated by our patients and visitors at **Ascension Mercy Hospital's** Entrance Desks to

offer a kind word of greeting or help patients find their destination. Duties may include escorting patients and family to appropriate department or nursing unit or transport of patients in wheelchairs.

There are many other ways to be involved and become part of our volunteer team! For more information volunteer opportunities, please contact Ascension Mercy Hospital Volunteer Services at 920-223-0225 or apply on-line at:

www.ascension.org/ascensionmercyvolunteer



If you would still like some offering envelopes, you can pick them up during office hours or on Sunday's during worship. They are located

outside the Sanctuary in the Narthex Some boxes are already labeled so please check if we have made you a box already. If not, we have plenty extra!

Just a reminder that we designed the envelopes to be sent in the mail if you want to give to our ministry that way. They are not just for giving in-person. If you would like a box, we can get one to you. Just call the office and we can arrange that Thank you for supporting our ministry financially!



Thank you for all those that participated during Holy Week and helped for Easter Breakfast. We are so excited to see the

church community come together for an eventful time in the church! Thank you all!



MILESTONES

Congratulations to our newly baptized
on 4/3:

Colton Robert Bednarek

Jonah Jeffrey Sonnenschein

Lila Ellyn Wilson



We need counters for the weekly offerings. We would like to have them count every week on Sunday's after church or Monday mornings

around 11 am. These people would be responsible for counting the weekly offerings given at church on Sundays and the offerings given through mail and online. If you would be interested in helping or signing up, please sign up in the Narthex or email Barb Schneider.



Confirmation Update:

On May 1, we will have 7 youth Affirm their Baptisms. Please be sure to congratulate Rhett Jodarski, Connor Palmquist, Ella Seeley, Lucas and Nathan Mc Williams, Tiffany Schwartz and Treston Eckstein.



Joy Circle meets monthly on the third Tuesday of each month at 6pm in the Fellowship hall. All are welcomed to attend. We hope to see some

familiar faces and hope you can join us for a joyful time at church!



PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain is an on-line ministry. A wonderful, loving, caring, tenacious group of "Prayer Warriors" who take time each day to pray for the needs of others.

If you are interested in participating in this email ministry, please contact Eileen Kuehl at 235-6393 or eileenkuehl4@gmail.com or 920-573-7205. Or you may contact: Diane Schmude at 920-235-4689 or diane4689@att.net.

These are also the people to contact if you wish to ask for a specific prayer that needs to be addressed.



A COLORFUL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY!

Consider signing up to sponsor the flowers for a Sunday. The sign up sheet is located in the narthex. See Christine Esselman about the flowers. The cost is \$20.00. Christine will take care of the rest. If you are interested in a special flower, just let Christine know and she will do her best to accommodate. Flowers come from Festival Foods.



Have you suggestions for content for our newsletter? Let us know:

Mark Arend: mwarend@gmail.com

Maryla Karl: mjkdirk124@gmail.com



Women's Study Groups Available :

We have finished our study of Twelve Women of The Bible. There is another study that follows called Twelve More Women of The Bible. If you are interested, please plan to order a copy online and join us next month. We have been meeting in Grace Place at 6pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Please share this information with anyone who might be interested in joining our study group.

Take Care,
Diane



Hey Youth - IT'S FINALLY HERE!

I had so much fun on my most recent trip to Costco. I was on a mission - to get our youth a big TV for their room. And I found it! Currently, it resides on the stage of our Fellowship Hall. But soon, I will be inviting youth to a Painting Party to get the walls ready for a new time! So stay tuned friends. Not only will there be a 75" TV mounted to the Youth Room wall, but we will begin a new chapter promising fun and meaningful fellowship for our youth! - *Pastor Connie*



SUMMER CAMP IS BACK!

Crossways Camping Ministries is fully back and ready for youth of all ages to experience the fun of church camp

at three different sites. After starting up again last year, they know how to keep kids Covid safe. While so much has changed, the experience of meeting new friends and camping out is the same fun adventure. For more details on camping programs, please contact the church office.



Refugee Family Update:

On March 30th we welcomed our Syrian Family to Oshkosh.

We have a team of 9 from our churches that have chosen to become their friend and walk along side of them in this journey. Their journey started over 6 years ago when they fled Syria for a refugee camp in Egypt. Prior to their arrival, World Relief found them an apartment and the day before they arrived our team, with your support, set up that apartment for them.

We have discovered that they are extremely appreciative of what we have done for them. Our team has grown to love their acceptance of us, their kindness and humor. They are now starting to blend their past Syrian life with American life. The biggest focus now is on learning the English language. They are attending English as a second language classes at the Oshkosh library and FVTC. The children have now started school. Like most teenagers the girls like shopping and the boys sports. All are hoping to learn to drive.

Our team has been so impressed with how they have accepted the changes forced upon them, and how they cope by using their faith and humor. We look forward to getting to know them better and sharing experiences with them.



Coffee Hour Update:

We have officially started coffee hour again after Worship at 10am. We will also offer it online as well for those that cannot attend in-person. Please use the link in our weekly email. We hope this Fellowship time will bring us together again. Pastor will also be talking about her Holy Land trip during coffee hour. Come join us!



Education Team Update:

We are so excited that several people have stepped up to help us serve on the education team. We are so excited to get a fresh new perspective on the education in our church.



Christ Lutheran Church

	Month	Year-to-Date	Annual Budget
Offerings	\$4,564.66	\$12,418.17	\$59,500.00
Other Income	\$5,502.90	\$14,076.65*	\$5,320.00
Expenses	\$9,365.31	\$29,419.81	\$159,692.91
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$702.25	(\$2,924.99)	(\$94,872.91)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

	Month	Year-to-Date	Annual Budget
Offerings	\$10,144.81	\$30,171.02	\$165,700.00
Other Income	\$183.81	\$6,987.62**	\$20,050.00
Expenses	\$16,337.23	\$56,144.76	\$234,105.70
Net Profit/(Loss)	(\$6,008.61)	(\$18,986.12)	\$46,55.70

Special Notes:

* Other Income for Christ Lutheran includes payments from Our Savior's toward Pastor Connie's salary (which was not included in the budget figures).

** Other Income for Our Saviors includes more than \$5,000 that is being held for future expenditures.



COUNCIL NOTES:

Our church council would like to remind everyone of the importance of giving. Giving is very low and it is important that we are able to pay our bills. We have made it easier than ever to give online. The online giving instructions are to the right or you can find a direct link on our website.

3 WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY

- Mail in a Check
- Mobile Give+ App (also on website)
- AHC Bank Payment

YOU CAN GIVE ONLINE!

Check out this easy way to send your offering to the church through our website at

www.christsaviorsoshkosh.com

"A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great."
Proverbs 18:16"



ONLINE GIVING is secure, easy to set up and allows you to schedule recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have internet access. We use an online giving system called Vanco.

You can visit our website for the link to online giving. Click the "Vanco/Giving" tab and it will direct you to the right place.