

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1924 Wyoming Ave.
Superior, WI 54880
oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com
pastorkoos@gmail.com
(715) 394-3472

Sharing the Joy

Church Office Hours:
Monday -Thursday
9am -1 p.m.
Closed Fridays

April 2020

Sharing the Joy



Our Savior's Lutheran Church



Sunday Worship

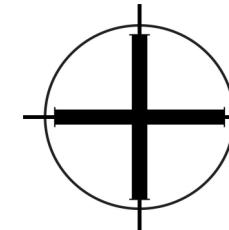
9 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Our Savior's Lutheran Church ELCA

(715) 394 3472 oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com

pastorkoos@gmail.com



OSLC and the Corona Virus

As most of you know, the governor has ordered churches to be closed. There can be no activities in the church involving more than 10 people. Sunday School and confirmation are on hold until public school resumes. All meetings in April are cancelled. The soup suppers have been cancelled. The Bunco games were cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later date. The Clothes Closet is closed. Weight Watchers have also cancelled their meetings.

The office will be open at it's usual time—Monday through Thursday 9:00 am—1 p.m.

Most importantly, the Lenten and Sunday services cannot be held at the church during this crisis. The good news is that Pastor Sean, Johanna and Megan have agreed to do an abbreviated service through our website. The services will be held at the usual times of 6:00 pm on Wednesdays and 9:30 am on Sundays. Sign in to Facebook and go to our website, superioroslc@gmail.com. If you miss the live service, it will remain on Facebook. If you have trouble, contact Pastor Sean or the office. He will also have printed copies of the message, readings and prayers available.

Wellness Checks

One of the populations most at risk during this crisis are the elderly. This is especially true for those who live alone. To help, we have compiled a list of church members over age 70. Volunteers will call or text them everyday to make sure they are okay and if they need help. If you know of others who could use this service or you can help, please call the office.

Errands

We also have someone who will pick up prescriptions or get groceries. Again call the office if you or you know of someone who needs this help.

Remember even if you are young, or otherwise healthy, you are at risk and your activities can increase the risk for others.

- If you feel sick, stay home.
- Practice good hygiene (wash your hands frequently, avoid touching your face, sneeze or cough into a tissue or inside of your elbow, disinfect frequently used items or surfaces).
- Work or study from home if possible.
- Avoid gathering in groups of more than 10.
- Avoid eating or drinking in bars or restaurants. Use pickup or delivery options.

April 2020

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

My, oh my, what a difference a month makes. Who would've known the coronavirus would have gripped our world and brought it to such a standstill?! What an eye-opening time we're living through. Not that it's a particularly new experience for the world. We've had several terrifying outbreaks in our time in this world. Just in the last hundred years we've battled through four major pandemics (HIV/AIDS, Hong Kong Flu, Asian Flu, and the flu of 1918-1920). Millions of people lost their lives and the world cried out, "Why, oh God, why?!" Alas, God doesn't seem to answer our pleas. Some try to speak for God, claiming He is angry and punishing us for our sinful ways. Others claim He is testing our faiths. Still others claim He is testing our will to survive. Now these may or may not be valid claims but in the end, we just don't know God's definitive answer. Why is there suffering in the world? I don't know nor will I claim to know. What I do know is that God knows. And I also know that God doesn't abandon us in our suffering. That is perhaps all we are meant to know. God has his reasonings and I trust they are good reasonings. I trust in God's merciful and gracious love. I trust "that in all things God works for the good of those who love him." (Romans 8:28) Rather than stretching our minds to understand God's ways, perhaps we should instead focus on loving and trusting God more.

You've heard me say it since the beginning of this pandemic and I'll continue to say it all throughout it: God has not abandoned us. God still loves us just as much as He did before the outbreak and He'll keep on loving us to the end. God's love is beyond anything we could possibly grasp. Stop doubting it! Rejoice in it and be glad for it!

Incidentally, the ministry around the church will remain bare bones (no Bible studies, no committee meetings, no visitations, no Sunday school, no confirmation classes) for the time being. Please find a way to get online and check out our services on our Facebook page on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Even if you can't make it at those times, the videos will stay posted on Facebook indefinitely so catch them when you can. I guess that's how we're going to be the body of Christ for now. Pretty minimal but hey, better than nothing!

Blessings,

Pastor Sean

Narrative Lectionary for April are:

4/5/2020 Palm Sunday — Mark 11: 1-11, 14:3-9, Psalm 118:25-29

4/9/2020 Maundy Thursday— Mark 14:22-42, Psalm 116:12-19

4/10/2020 Good Friday— Mark 15:16-39, Psalm 22: 1-2, 14-21

4/12/2020 Easter Sunday—Mark 16:1-8, Psalm 118: 21-27

4/19/2020 Acts 1:1-14, Mark 6:7-13

From Our Congregational President

To all members of OSLC,

A previous letter was sent via email to you. So much has changed since that letter a few weeks ago that I thought we should send a more up to date letter.

It felt very strange leaving our council meeting on March 17th not knowing when we would see each other again. We turned down the heat and discussed that there would be no snowplowing unless needed. The janitor is staying home due to health reasons. The council is trying to keep expenses at a minimum.

The governor has made the decision for us. Putting safety in the forefront. The Covid-19 pandemic has stopped us from gathering together as a congregation but we can still worship via the internet. Pastor Sean is providing sermons via the web.

This time in our lives is unpredictable. Our goal is to stay healthy and strong. Keep God in the forefront. Keep the church family in your prayers. Our bills will continue. Please if possible, remember the church in your prayers.

In Christ,

Kathy Nelson

OSLC Council President

Education Corner



Confirmation—

Confirmands would like to thank everyone who purchased pizzas during their recent fundraiser. Each event is a step closer to camp. They will be having an Easter breakfast 8:30 to 9:15 am prior to the service on Easter morning. They will ask for a good will offering. They will be serving a lunch during the rummage sale. Other future fundraisers include selling Kwik Trip car wash cards, bagging groceries at Super One and doing car washes here.

Pastor requested and council approved moving the confirmation service to spring 5 students will be confirmed on June 7th.

Sunday School-

Pending the corona virus recommendations, Sunday School students will lead the palm procession and sing during the Palm Sunday service. They will also sing again on Mother's Day.

Adult Education-

Both the group here and the one at New Perspectives are on hold due to the corona virus. Bible study here will resume on April 15th and at New Perspectives on May 7th.

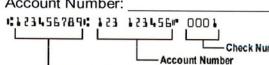
This year is the 50th anniversary of women being ordained in the Lutheran church. We plan to do a bible study on "Women in the Bible" in the fall.

Offerings

With the services now on the website, there is not the opportunity to put your weekly donation in the collection plate. However the expenses of the church continue. There are several ways you can continue your usual monetary support of the church. You can bring your donation to the church where there would be minimal contact. You can mail it in. However, the easiest way to continue your support both now and in the future is by **Simply Giving**. **Simply Giving** is an automatic deduction from your checking or savings account. This is equivalent to what many of you may be doing to pay some of your own bills. However, with **Simply Giving** you can choose how much you want to contribute and how often (weekly, biweekly or monthly). To enroll fill out a form, attach a voided check and return it to the office. You can print out a form here or get one at the office. If you elect to email or mail the form back, please include your bank's routing number and your account number. If you have questions, please contact Carol Roberts.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

The **Simply Giving** Program
endorsed by
 Thrivent Federal Credit Union

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | ENVELOPE/DONOR # | DATE | |
| Effective date of authorization: ____ / ____ / ____ | | | |
| Type of authorization: | <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation | | |
| Last Name | First Name | | |
| Address | | | |
| City | | State | |
| Email Address | | | |
| DATE OF FIRST DONATION: | FREQUENCY OF DONATION: | FUNDS: | AMOUNTS: |
| ____ / ____ / ____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly – Mondays <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th | <input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | \$ _____ \$ _____ Total \$ _____ |
| CHECKING / SAVINGS | <p>Please debit my donation from my (check one):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below)</p> <p>Routing Number: _____ Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3</p> <p>Account Number: _____ </p> <p>I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.</p> <p>Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____</p> | | |

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check at the bottom of this page.

Building Fund

There appears to be some confusion between the general fund and the building fund. The general fund is for all the expenses of running the church. Monies designated as Building Fund are applied to the mortgage. We still have a large principal from the remodeling. If you give additional monies you want to go to the mortgage, designate them as Building Fund. We are also looking at fundraising possibilities. The annual rummage schedule is scheduled for May 9th. If need be because of the pandemic, it will be rescheduled. The bunco games will also be rescheduled. We will be selling hanging baskets (see elsewhere in this newsletter). Other suggestions have been a chili supper, pie sales, a cookie sale (around Christmas) and pasty sale. If you are willing to chair any of these events or have other suggestions, please contact the office.



Rummage Sale will be May 9th 2020

Now that you are stuck at home and may have extra time on your hands, it maybe a good time to go through those storage areas. The church will happily take those unwanted items off your hands. Put items downstairs in the unfinished addition, behind the blue tarps. We ask that you please do the following:

- Put items in a box for easier stacking.
- No clothing
- We only want things that work.
- Don't give us things that we would have to PAY to get rid of. That includes microwaves, computers, computer printers etc. The only exception is if you put your name on it (so we know when we put things out) and take it back if it doesn't sell for you to dispose of.
- If something has an operator's instruction book please include if you have it.

Happy cleaning!!

Think Spring!



OSLC will be selling 10 inch flower baskets from Lilac Hill (formerly Engwalls). Purchase a voucher at the office for \$35.00. Then take the voucher to Lilac Hill and pick out your own basket. You will also receive a 20% off coupon for other items you purchase at the time you pick out your basket. Watch for the dates you can purchase your voucher.

Still thinking spring cleaning? Have your carpets cleaned by "Carpet Cleaning By Kathy". The cost is a donation to the church plus the cost of Bisson shampoo (\$20). Minimal heavy furniture moving. Call Kathy Nelson at 715-392-6665.



Remember Script Cards

Script Cards are also a way for you to help the church monetarily. Use a card for your normal purchases. Use a card as a gift or use it to buy a gift. Buy your card here ahead of your purchase. You buy it at face value and it's worth face value at the time of purchase. There is no extra cost to you and the church profits. It may not seem like much but it all adds up. Check out the table after services. Don't see a card you would use on the table, check the list and order it. Not on the list, ask Carol Skamser and she will check on the possibility of business participation. Unable to attend church, call and she can order your card and arrange for payment and for you to receive your card. Questions? Call Carol at 715-395-0187 or 715-781-0753

The Bunco games which had to be cancelled will be rescheduled. Watch for the new dates. You still don't have to know how to play? There will be plenty of people to show you how.



Mission & Outreach April 2020

Harbor House -Women's Transitional Housing

April 5

Hygiene Products, bath towels, wash cloths, shampoo/conditioner, toothbrush/toothpaste

April 12

Brushes/combs, Hand soap, Disinfecting wipes, Paper towels

April 19

Laundry soap/bleach, Dryer sheets, Diapers (all sizes)
Pillows/pillow cases

April 26

Toilet bowl cleaners, Wound care products, All purpose cleaners, Kitchen washcloths/towels, Garbage bags (13 gallon)

We will still be collecting for the Women's Transitional Housing throughout the month of April. You may bring your items to the 20th Street (office) door.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Those serving in the military, those overseas, for those who return home with mental and physical scars, and for all military veterans. For the health of all unborn children and grandchildren, all those recovering or in nursing home care and for those struggling with addiction.

Congregation Members: Jim and Marcy Rigstad, AJ Nelson, Vern Moore, Pat Shaw, Audrey Larson, Judy Johnson, John Maki, Steve Shaw, Judy Trisko– Nelson, Virgil Everson, Del

Family Members: Darlene Shaw, Jordan Zurn, Julie DeMeyer, Marian Olkonen, Michelle Oman

Pat Hansen, Julie DeMeyer, JR Pietz, Greg McGarry, Holly Evans, Jill and Chris Koudela

Friend/ neighbor : Tim Stratioti, Grace Hebb, Mickey McMullen, Matthew

The Families of: Barbara Olson, Louis Koudela

When services resume in the church, we will again be in need of worship assistants—ushers, coffee servers, readers and communion assistants. None of these are difficult but all are important. Please sign up in the narthex!

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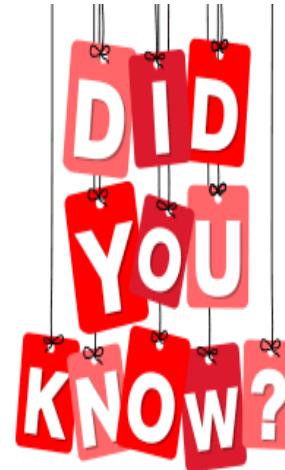
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The security cameras at the 20th street entrance have been repaired.

There are now lights in the narthex.

We are becoming more technologically advanced. The website is up and running. We have the large screen in the sanctuary for services. And we are able to provide services on our website.



Embroidered hand towels for sale \$8.00.
Call Kathy Nelson at 715-392-6665.

Don't forget about the handmade items for sale in the cabinet in the St. Paul's Room. All proceeds go to the church.

Council Minutes March 17, 2020

Meeting called to order by President Kathy Nelson at 5:35 pm

Treasurer's Report: January's income was \$11,539.72 and Expenses were \$13,541.19. The building fund income was \$1225.

Board Reports

Trustees: Superior Glass will look at why St. Paul's room windows continue to leak. Elevator repair will cost \$5133. Security system repaired. Fire Marshall needs a letter on church letterhead. Jack will get that done.

Mission & Outreach: List was made for monthly drives. Received money to purchase clothes for Clothe Closet. Have quilts for the grads. June 14th is our next turn for the Community Dinner.

Stewardship: Plan to update the membership roster. Consider calling members who have not attended. Would like to have a

"Meet & Greet the Pastor". Heather Thompson will continue as "wedding coordinator" but would be willing to train someone else to take over.

Motion approved to sell 10" hanging flower baskets from Lilac Hill (old Engwalls) for \$35. Would be picked out and picked up by buyer. Plus buyer would get 20% off additional purchases.

Education : Carina Barker will organize an Easter Breakfast with proceeds to the confirmands. Other fundraisers under consideration: selling cards from Kwik Trip for 5 car washes for \$36, bagging groceries at Super One and car washes. Sunday School and Confirmation cancelled until school resumes, First Communion planned for Maunday Thursday. In the fall, Adult Bible Study will be on "Women in the Bible"

Pastor Koos Report:

Healing Service that was to be at the end of this month is cancelled.

Questioning if first communion will happen Maunday Thursday because of corona virus.

Bethel is interested in doing Easter Vigil service with us.

Since the governor cancelled church services, Pastor will do an online service. A company has agreed to let us use their site until May 31st. Go to our website www.superioroslc.com to find the live streaming. The service will have music, prayers, the lessons and a sermon. If you miss the live streaming service, Pastor will have it taped and posted.

Vision Victories:

Narthex light valances are up (lights still need to be placed), entry security system was repaired, no Corona virus in Superior yet.

Old Business:

Concerned with keeping up with payments to Mission Investment Fund. Will have better idea by the end of March. Possibility of Christopher Fund as backup. Accounting Process committee is meeting.

New Business:

Will do "Wellness Checks" on our older single/widowed members by calling/texting them each day. Linda Clark, Doris Maki and Kandee Rosburg will organize this.

Staff support meeting for April 19th and debt reduction campaign on hold. Weight Watchers is cancelled for now. Al-Anon has moved and AA does not appear to be currently using the building. Think Byron who was teaching music lessons has left the area. Will need to get his key back.

Will do closedown of building: turn heat own lower, no plowing, hot water heaters off, kitchen refrigerator off, etc. Custodian not working and will not need him for now.

Pastor will send out an email to inform everyone of the closure.

Upcoming Events (all depend on Coronavirus-19 requirements)

April 5th Palm Sunday School children sing and process with palms

April 9th Maunday Thursday 6 pm First Communion

April 10th Good Friday Service at Bethel

Calendar April 2020

When the governor issued the order to close churches, it was for 15 days. We have therefore left Holy Week on the schedule. If that changes, we will notify you by email, put it on the website and put it on the phone answering message. Please check these regularly. All other April events have been cancelled.

Holy Week

April 5th— 9:30 am Palm Sunday

April 9th— 6:00 pm Maunday Thursday

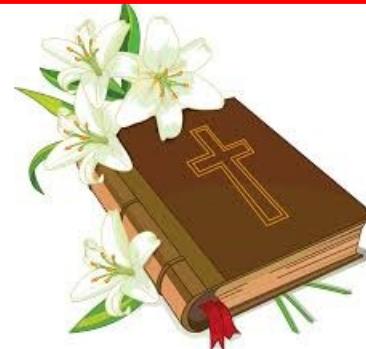
First Communion

April 10th—6:00 pm at Bethel Church

April 11th - 6:00 pm Easter Vigil has been cancelled

April 12th - 8:15 am Continental Breakfast

9:30 am Easter Service



In the event that services still cannot be held in the church during Holy Week, Pastor Sean will continue his online services. They will be at the regular times. Palm Sunday will be April 5th at 9:30 am. Maunday Thursday will be April 9th at 6:00 pm. First Communion will be rescheduled. Good Friday Service will be at 6:00 pm at our website (previously scheduled to be at Bethel Church). Easter Vigil has been cancelled. The continental breakfast on Easter morning will be cancelled. Easter morning service will be at 9:30 am. These are strange and difficult times. Whether it is at the church or online, please join us in worship.