

LEARN LIVE SHARE

Winter 2022-23



Our Savior Lutheran Church and School
Quarterly Newsletter

Fullness of Time

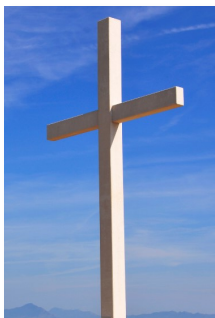
By Pastor Bill Wangelin



A traditional reading for Christmas Eve is Galatians 4:4-5, "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons." God had promised a Savior long ago, and through 40 direct prophecies and

400 prophetic allusions, He described how this Savior would bring redemption, peace, and hope. The ancient Israelites waited a very long time for a Savior. The expression "in the fullness of time" relates to God's plan and timing to accomplish His salvation. It is a timing known only to Him.

We continue to trust in God's timing in our lives, even when it is difficult or murky to see His goodness and grace. In the fullness of time, God will reveal His good and gracious plan for your life. In the fullness of time, He will heal and bind up the broken hearted. In the fullness of time, He will take us to be together with Him and the saints above to eternal glory. In the fullness of time, Jesus will come again and make all things new.



We celebrate God's promise fulfilled in Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection. This gives us a constant reminder to trust in God's timing for our lives as well. Whatever 2022 brought you, you can be sure of this - God is able to work through all things for our good (Romans 8:28) and will continue the good work He began in you to bring it to completion in the Day of our Lord Jesus (Philippians 1:6). We put all our trust and hope in Him for the new year 2023!

In this edition of Learn, Live, Share, you will see a number of ways that our church and school Learn, Live, and Share Christ during this time of year. There are wonderful gatherings around the hope, light, and life we have in Christ. We pray that you can join us and invite others to come as well and enjoy the blessings of our Savior.

May the Lord bless you and yours this special season,

Pastor Wangelin <><

Hmong Ministry

By Pastor Yang, Hmong Ministry

It is God's grace that the Hmong Ministry at OSL welcomed new members Yer Hang, Vanchin Hang, and Myker Vang into God's family and baptized Zora Hang, daughter of Jerny Hang and Sao Thao. We thank God for bringing these families to Christ. Linda Yang and her daughter Anjolie were dressed in traditional Hmong clothing for the Ministry Fair table on October 23, 2022. May we be strengthened through His works as we Learn, Live, and Share Christ.



OSL Man Camp Weekend II

February 17-19, 2023
Higgins Lake - Camp Westminster

ATV/snowmobile rides, Ice fishing, Axe throwing, Campfires, Snowshoeing, Cross country skiing, Group games, Bible study, Devotions, Awesome food

For more information or to sign up, contact
Dave Wright at dwright@oursaviorlansing.org



BIBLICAL SEL

SEL = SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

School staff and students have placed a focus on these skills and experiences as they strive to build a Christ-centered community in our school.

"As Education Specialist, I am most excited about bringing Scripture to life through daily social and emotional practices in our school and amongst our staff. 'May they know us by our love.'"



Sara DeYarmond
Education Specialist



THINKING

Students will build mental skills for interpreting and reasoning about social and emotional experiences.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will.
Romans 12:2



ACTING

Students will learn how to connect with others and make decisions that will help them achieve their interpersonal and independent goals.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.
Hebrews 10:24



REGULATING

Students will build mental and behavioral skills used for regulating their own emotions and managing their own upset in order to reach social goals.

For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.
2 Timothy 1:7

Perhaps a new ministry at OSL?

By Dave Wright, Minister of Family Life

A few weeks ago, thirty members of OSL and Trinity Lutheran in Lansing embarked on what one participant called "the 8th grade trip for adults." We chartered a bus and travelled to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter. During our four days together we shared great conversation, developed new friendships, laughed together, ate at some great restaurants, and enjoyed touring the museums. We also experienced a beautiful evening on a riverboat dinner cruise on the Ohio River near downtown Cincinnati.

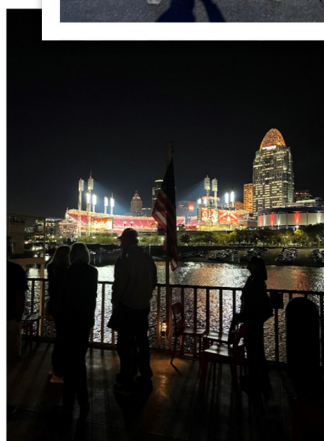


Is this a new ministry opportunity? It seems to meet our objectives to learn, live, and share Christ. We learned so much at the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter. The undeniable truth of scripture certainly strengthened our faith. The fellowship of believers through morning devotions, prayer time, breaking of bread together and conversation each day was clearly present. An opportunity to be witnesses

outside our church walls was there. And we experienced God's creation in a different part of the Midwest. Yup, it checks off all the boxes.

I'm excited to help bring new, exciting, fun, and affordable travel opportunities to adults and seniors within our congregation. What a blessing to share our experiences with some members of a sister congregation also!

Look for upcoming opportunities to learn, live, and share Christ while travelling on a charter bus tour with other brothers and sisters in Christ.



Light Always Prevails

By Pastor Chris Deneen



As I sat in the sun, basking in the 70 degree weather with Lauren, Ida and Eleanor, we looked around and realized, it is November! As I was raking leaves in shorts and a t-shirt, I realized, it is November! As I looked at the weather forecast and knew the sunny and 70 degree days wouldn't last, I realized, it was almost the end of the Church Year, and that means Thanksgiving, which means Advent, which means Advent by Candlelight, Bonfire, and Living Nativity, which means Christmas, which means a New Year, which means the Baptism of Jesus, which means the Baptismal Birthday Party, which means.....



As the weather gets colder, the snow flurries start, the Christmas music hits the radio, the different seasonal candy goes on sale, we make our way through the days where there is less sun time, and more darkness. We long for the days of sunny and 75, we long for the days that the sun shines late into the evening, we long for the days where we don't go to work in the dark and come home in the dark.

This Advent, as we look at our theme, "Advent Conspiracies," we will talk about how our world and the "Christmas Season" takes over, and we focus so much on gifts, presents, and spending money, that we forget about the gifts, presents, and presence that our God gives to us.

Christmas lights are one of my favorite decorations. Not just because they bring some light into the darkness of winter, but because ultimately, they show us the truth that we need:



Light always prevails over darkness.

Why do we celebrate Christmas? Why do we celebrate the almost 30 Baptisms from this past year with a birthday party in January? Why do we decorate the church differently?

Light always prevails over darkness.

When Jesus was born almost 2,000 years ago, darkness was in trouble. The light of the world had been born.

In Baptism we are marked as children of God, brought into the family of God, marked by our Savior as ones redeemed.

Light always prevails over darkness.

As we see the darkness for many hours a day, we always must remember, the baby born in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago. Jesus. The one who is the light of the world, the one who conquers darkness, the one who gives us hope in the midst of all the dreariness of our world.

Light always prevails over darkness. Thanks be to God for our Light of the World!

Baptism Birthday PARTY

Sunday, January 15
BETWEEN WORSHIP SERVICES

All who were baptized in the last year are invited to celebrate!



With 30+ ministries and over 100 volunteers, the Ministry Fair was an awesome event! If you would like to serve on a ministry or would like more information, please call the church office or email contact@oursaviorlansing.org



**Getting to Know You:
Jenn Bach,
Food Service Manager**



We welcome Jenn to OSL!

- 1. Where did you grow up?**
Haslett, MI
- 2. What are your favorite hobbies?**
Gardening & cooking
- 3. What is your favorite bible verse?**
Psalm 119:105: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
- 4. What is your favorite food?**
Macaroni & Cheese
- 5. What led you to seek a career in ministry?**
Making people happy and sharing my gift of cooking.
- 6. One fun fact about you:**
I have a great sense of humor!

**Getting to Know You:
Penny Tovar, School Secretary**



We welcome Penny to OSL!

- 1. Where did you grow up?**
Lansing, MI
- 2. What are your favorite hobbies?**
Crocheting, knitting and quilting
- 3. What is your favorite bible verse?**
Philippians 4:6-7: Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Anxiety can be hard to control sometimes and this verse reminds me that no matter what is happening in my life or in the world, God is in control and I don't need to fear.
- 4. What is your favorite food?**
Dark Chocolate...ok, maybe that's not considered food. I love most fish and coconut shrimp
- 5. What led you to seek a career in ministry?**
I've worked in a couple of other church settings as an office worker/administrator in a temporary capacity and loved working with the pastors and staff. Ever since I have been looking for something permanent in a similar setting that promotes Christian values.
- 6. One fun fact about you:**
I found out about the School Secretary position on a Thursday as I was frantically doing errands and trying to get ready to leave town for my daughter's wedding. On Monday, I had my first interview. In the middle of those 5 hectic but exciting days, I was given the title of Mother-In-Law for the first time.

Class Chapels at Our Savior...Young People Leading & Praising

By Matthew Couser, Principal



Chapel on Wednesdays at Our Savior Lutheran School are a joy and highlight of every week of school. We schedule this weekly morning time to sing, praise, pray, and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We thank our God for the blessings He has given us. Monthly we recognize baptism birthdays to celebrate the gift of life in God's family for our students and staff. With the many student baptisms the past two years, these monthly school baptism remembrances have brought new joy and appreciation for the work of the Holy Spirit in our new students and newly baptized as well as the countless examples and mentors of faith in our school classrooms and church community. Jesus has and will continue to be on the loose. To God be praised!



Chapel also has special meaning for kindergarten through eighth grade students. Throughout the school year, each classroom and their homeroom teacher prepare and lead a chapel service. I recall my first experiences as an Our Savior fifth grade teacher as our class planned and rehearsed and rehearsed. We prepared for the opportunity to bring and give people Jesus through the chapel worship experience. Today, our students continue to experience the same joy and involvement in class chapels.



It is in the planning of the service where we see students offer scripture passages and share their favorite songs and hymns that complement the scripture passages and chapel messages. Students find opportunity to plan the order of worship, to write prayers, to create PowerPoint slides. Teachers and I see Jesus in the ways the students use their gifts and abilities of teamwork and collaboration along with technology skills. We see the Word brought to light showcased through student actors and readers. We see student creativity in presenting skits and dramas to retell Jesus' parables or drawing illustrations of bible stories. All these components through the work of the Holy Spirit in our young people.



Recently I had two separate conversations with two different OSL alumni who are attending a local Christian high school. They were comparing their chapel experiences of current and past. They each shared that they missed the OSL chapels and the true worship experience they had week after week. They hope to come back to join us for a chapel day when their school is not in session.



The chapel leading experience brings satisfaction and appreciation by our students to know the regular planning routine and coordination of our example worship leaders at Our Savior, pastors and music minister. The chapel experience with classrooms leading chapel brings parents, grandparents, and other special people to gather in mid-week worship and see first-hand the Holy Spirit proclaimed through the readings, prayers and messages. It is in chapel and through chapel we Learn, Live, and Share Christ.



Advent Concert Series

Sunday, December 4, 4pm

Early Childhood & Kindergarten Christmas Concert
(In-person & Online)

Thursday, December 8 - 7 pm

Christmas Concert with Our Savior Grades 1-4
(In-person & Online)

Sunday, December 11 - 3 pm

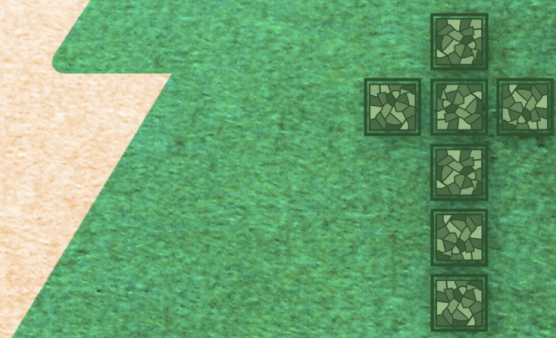
DeWitt Community Concert Band Christmas Concert
(In-Person)

Thursday, December 15 - 7 pm

Christmas Concert with Our Savior Grades 5-8
(In-person & Online)

Sunday, December 18 - 3 pm

Delta Community Choir Christmas Concert
(In-person)



Winter Events at Our Savior

December

- 4 Advent by Candlelight 2pm
- 10 Advent by Bonfire 5pm
- 17 Living Nativity 5pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Worship 4, 7, 10pm
- 25 Christmas Day Worship 9:30am

January

- 1 New Year's Day Worship 9:30am
- 11 Discover Our Savior Begins
- 22 First Grade Bible Milestone 9:30am
- 23-27 National Lutheran Schools Week
- 29 Congregation Meeting 9:30am

February

- 1 Re-enrollment Begins
- 4 Michigan Theological Conference
- 17-19 Man Camp
- 22 Ash Wednesday

**CALLING ALL
SUPERHEROES!**

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
2023 AUCTION**

MARCH 4, 2023 - 4:30PM

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN GYMNASIUM
[OURSAVIORLANSING.ORG/AUKTION](https://oursaviorlansing.org/auktion)

Advent Services & Events

Sunday, November 27

"Advent Conspiracy: Worship Fully"
8:30 & 10:30am

Sunday, December 4

"Advent Conspiracy: Spend Less"
8:30 & 10:30am (Communion)

Sunday, December 11

"Advent Conspiracy: Give More"
8:30 & 10:30am

Sunday, December 18

"Advent Conspiracy: Love All"
8:30 & 10:30am (Communion)

Sunday, December 25

"A Service of Carols"
9:30am (Communion)
Sunday Worship is In-Person & Online

Advent by Candlelight

"Christmas Memories"
Sunday, December 4, 2pm

Advent by Bonfire

Saturday, December 10, 5-8pm

Living Nativity

Saturday, December 17, 5-7pm
*Join us to celebrate the birth of our Lord and
experience the true story of Christmas.*

Christmas Eve Candle Light Worship

"The Great Light"
Saturday, December 24
(Communion at each service)
4pm - Worship Band (In-person)
7pm - Choir, Handbells, Organ (In-person & Online)
10pm - Brass (In-person)

oursaviorlansing.org

Our Savior Lutheran Church & School



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