



# Parish Scope

FEBRUARY 2024

## Generous Giving Lent 2024

As we enter the season of Lent this year, we invite you to focus intentionally on the spiritual discipline of giving. A Lenten devotional will be available to help inspire your reflection.

As we gather for worship each Wednesday in Lent, a voice from our midst will share their own personal reflection around a gospel passage and form of generous giving. We will consider together why we give, what we give, the power of our gifts, and the impact our gifts have on those around us.

During our Wednesday Lenten worship, we will also sing the songs of faith as expressed in Holden Evening Prayer. If you would like to help lead our singing, please reach out to Pastor Heather or Pastor Sarah!

### 2024 Lent Schedule

#### February 14

Lenten Supper: 5:15-6:00PM  
Ash Wednesday worship: 6:30PM

#### February 21

Lenten Supper: 5:15-6:00PM  
Lent worship: 6:30PM

#### February 28

Lenten Supper: 5:15-6:00PM  
Lent worship: 6:30PM

#### March 6

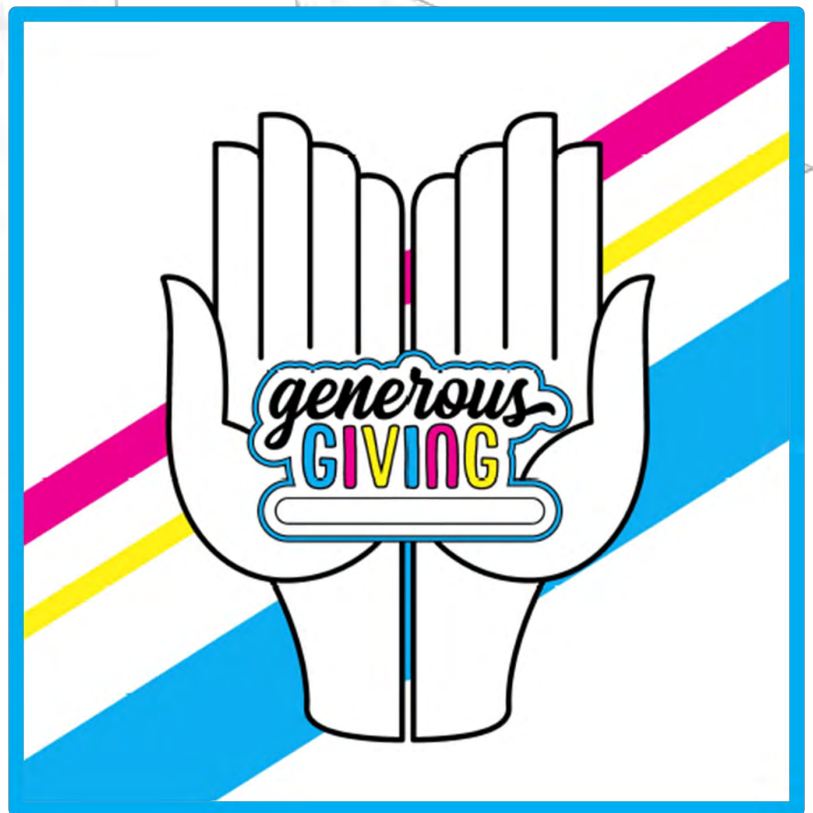
Lenten Supper: 5:15-6:00PM  
Lent worship: 6:30PM

#### March 13

Lenten Supper: 5:15-6:00PM  
Lent worship: 6:30PM

#### March 20

Lenten Supper: 5:15-6:00PM  
Lent worship: 6:30PM



*Lenten Suppers will be served each week in our downstairs fellowship hall. Signups will be available to donate desserts and beverages.*

*Confirmation and the OSL Choir will meet from 7:00-7:30PM following worship each week.*

# Online Worship Viewing

Click here: [YouTube](#)

*By attending any service you give consent that your image and the image of all of the people in your group may be portrayed in the livestream and recording. We will not use your likeness in any other promotional material.*

# Sunday Worship

## 9:00am

(Recorded)

### Sunday Worship Bulletin

Did you know that the Sunday Worship bulletin is available online for review or to print? The bulletin includes the prayer concerns; upcoming events; and current announcements. Go to [oslme.com](http://oslme.com) to view or print the bulletin. Note: bulletins are updated weekly.

**LISTEN TO CHURCH**  
**715-430-2720**

Our new "Listen to Church" service is up and running! Using your phone (any phone will work), **dial in at 9 am** to be able to listen live to worship.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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# ANNUAL MEETING

February 18, 2024  
10:15am

OSL Sanctuary

Please join your OSL  
community  
as we plan for our shared  
ministries in 2024!

**BUILDING HOURS**  
**Office/Building Hours**  
**8am—3pm, Mon-Thurs**





## 'YOUR' OSL LIBRARY

In concert with Our Saviors becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation and in an effort to keep our library current and contemporary, the OSL Reading Club has purchased 5 recommended books for our library collection. They will temporarily be on display and available for checkout featured on the north wall of the library. Feel free to give one or more of them a read to familiarize yourself with terms and concepts. Many thanks to Pastor Heather for giving us this booklist.

The books are:

*The Everyday Advocate* by Ross Murray

"As Christians, we are called and anointed to bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed. In *The Everyday Advocate*, Ross Murray helps Christians explore our individual callings to justice and start taking practical steps to live that out." --*Amazon*

*How to They/Them* by Stuart Getty

"A clear, kind guide to gender nonconformity. Getty's cheeky tone and the punchy black-and-white illustrations by Brooke Thyng make this book a useful reference for anyone with questions about gender, whether their own or those they witness in the larger world." --*Booklist*

*Queer Virtue* by Rev. Elizabeth M. Edman

Written by openly lesbian Episcopal priest Rev. Elizabeth M. Edman, a "rich and nuanced exploration, *Queer Virtue* mines the depths of Christianity's history, mission, and core theological premises to call all Christians to a more authentic and robust understanding of their faith." --*Amazon*

*Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians* by Austen Hartke

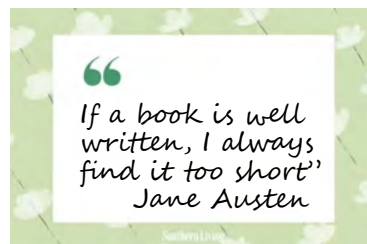
"*Transforming* deftly weaves ancient and modern stories that will change the way readers think about gender, the Bible, and the faith to which Jesus calls us. Hartke helps readers to visualize a more inclusive Christianity, equipping them with the language, understanding, and tools to change both the church and the world." --*Amazon*

*God and the Gay Christian* by Matthew Vines

"*God and the Gay Christian* is a game changer. Winsome, accessible and carefully researched, every page is brought to life by the author's clear love for Scripture and deep, persistent faith. With this book, Matthew Vines emerges as one of my generation's most important Christian leaders, not only on matters of sexuality but also on what it means to follow Jesus with wisdom, humility, and grace. Prepare to be challenged and enlightened, provoked and inspired. Read with an open heart and mind, and you are bound to be changed." --*Rachel Held Evans, author of A Year of Biblical Womanhood*

Bonnie Nelson, librarian

[bjnelson7@gmail.com](mailto:bjnelson7@gmail.com) or [librarian@oslme.com](mailto:librarian@oslme.com)



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Submitted by Denise Vick  
Any questions, you can reach her at [denise@oslme.com](mailto:denise@oslme.com)  
or call her at 214-435-3323

## NO Sunday school on February 11th.

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### *Kwik Trip Gift Cards—Fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering*



The youth attending the NYG in July will be selling Kwik Trip Gift cards, in the Friendship room following worship, every month to earn money for their trip. Once a month an order will be submitted. Orders arrive back in about a week. Youth will contact you for pick up.

NEW: Cash and Carry carwash cards are now available for \$36 each. Each card is pre-loaded with five washes (retail price \$50).

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### *Bring Your Appetites!*



NYG youth will be hosting the Wednesday Lenten Meal on **February 28th** with a taco bar. All donations that evening will go towards their trip in July.

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### *Kids Cooking and Caring class returns February 2nd with Cookie/Treat Edition.*



We will be mixing up some cookie dough to take home and bake along with baking a frosted pan of brownies during class. Cookies will be going home and also added to our Meals-to-Go ministry. Kids 3rd—8th grade are invited. Friends welcome. Cost \$15/child.

Be on the lookout for signups under the skylights.

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February is SOAP offering month.

Bring bars of soap or money to support our Women's Global Health Kits ministry.

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**Meals-To-Go-Ministry** Meals are available to pick up and deliver to anyone who would benefit from a meal. Brunch casseroles, Ham and Broccoli dishes, Pizza baked ziti and Lasagna are available.



Pick one up from the freezer in the maintenance room (downstairs) and deliver it on behalf of OSL.



# February Little Free Pantry Update

*How can you help this month?*



*Do you have a spare 30 minutes once per week to help out our neighborhood/community?  
If so, please consider signing up to be a pantry Steward.  
Check out our [OSL website](#) or the QR code below to see the sign up page.*



**Contact information:**

**Becky Kneer** ([becky.kneer@gmail.com](mailto:becky.kneer@gmail.com))  
**Beth Mason** ([terrybethmason@gmail.com](mailto:terrybethmason@gmail.com))



# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES--DECEMBER

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Council Minutes for Tuesday, December 12, 6pm

Present: Present: Rod Smeltzer (president), Lindsay Barnhart (vice president), Katie Benson (secretary), Gayle Holte, Jeff Jaeger, Beth Mason, Pastor Sarah Miller, Sarah Place, Becky Scheuffele, and Marni Waznik

Call to order

## Opening Devotion

## Old Business

- A. Motion to approve November minutes by Pastor Sarah and seconded by Jeff. Motion carries.
- B. Financial Report: Income for November of \$31,639.26 and total expenses of \$31,157.41 for a net positive of \$481.85. Motion by Marni and Jeff to accept financial report. Motion carries.
- C. Pastor Sarah's Report
  - Welcome/Hospitality
    - We hosted the funeral for Don Kuether on Friday December 8th.
    - We are hosting one baptism in worship on Sunday, December 10th.
    - We are hosting a recital for Dean Langby's students on Sunday December 17th.
    - The church office will be closed Monday, December 25nd and Monday January 1st.
  - Worship
    - On Sunday December 10th we will welcome Sara McCullough and students from LCM to help lead worship.
    - Our annual Children's Christmas Program will take place on Sunday December 17th at 10:45am. This year's program is, A Very Mixed-Up Christmas Pageant and involves both our Sunday school students and several of our confirmation students.
    - December 24th is both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. We will gather for worship for Advent 4 in the morning at 9am per usual (band will lead and the service will be livestreamed). Then we gather at 4pm and 7pm for our candlelight Christmas Eve services. The OSL Choir will sing at 4pm and that service will be livestreamed.
    - We'll gather for a service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday December 31st at 9am.
  - Equip
    - Our Youth Gathering Students are currently selling Kwik Trip gift cards as a fundraiser for their trip. Other fundraising opportunities are currently being planned by students/families.
    - There will be no Sunday school on December 24, December 31, or January 7th. Instead of Sunday school on January 7th we have a family fellowship event planned – sledding! (or roller skating if there is no snow)
    - As part of our Reconciling in Christ process, a small task force has been working on a draft welcome statement. We hope to hold an adult forum in January, to share this welcome statement with the

*(Continued on page 7)*

# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES--December Cont.

congregation and to give people an opportunity to ask any questions they may have about our RIC process.

\* Our Savior's Lutheran Church believes that all people are beloved of God. We celebrate and give thanks for the sacredness of all people. We affirm and embrace people of all ages, races, backgrounds, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. Rooted in Jesus' call to love and serve our neighbor, we are committed to the work of anti-racism and the work of social, economic, and environmental justice in our community and in the world. We believe that by being inclusive of all people we better embody Christ's teaching to love one another. We welcome you on this journey with us to live in faith active in love.

- Send
    - Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity are building houses here in Menomonie. I will lead a Ground Blessing for the home being built by MAMC on December 10th. There are lots of opportunities to get involved with this project. Interested volunteers can simply sign-up through this link: <https://cvh4h.volunteerhub.com/vv2/>
      - OSL is scheduled to serve the Monday night meal to LCM students on Monday January 22nd. We'll be inviting congregational members to help serve this meal.
  - LCM
    - Thank you from LCM
    - OSL is scheduled three more times to prepare food for LCM students.
    - Idea to invite LCM students to OSL for a meal in April.
  - Habitat for Humanity request was given money by MEF and that money was matched.
  - Welcome statement discussion. Jeff makes a motion to approve as presented and seconded by Beth. Motion carries.
  - Discuss to find a date in January to host a forum about the draft of the welcome statement. It is decided to have an adult forum about this on January 21.
  - A congregational member emailed wondering about a church directory or a published list of addresses. Are we interested in doing this? And/or how do we feel about publishing a list of names and addresses of our members that we share with members? Pastor Sarah will look into options for a possible church directory.
- D. Lindsay has found some students who will help with Sunday school activities for kids to do during the annual congregational meeting.

## New Business

### A. Committee Reports

- a. Worship: Did the trial of the Compline prayer service in November. It was tricky to get out of confirmation quickly enough. There were folks who came that enjoyed the service. May start offering it once a month in the future.
- b. Youth and Family: Sunday school Christmas program coming up.
- c. Personnel: No new report.
- d. Property Management: The committee is working with the neighbor to possibly cut down the black walnut tree.
  - e. Mission Endowment: Met last week and gave around \$16,000 for various requests, many of which

(Continued on page 8)

# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES--December Cont.

(Continued from page 7)

were local in nature.

- f. Money Matters: has met a couple of times and have a plan to update the roster and launch a campaign in a few months.
- g. Health/Visitation Ministry: Did an orientation for the visitation. There are approximately six people on the team. Pastor Sarah and Gayle will be meeting to match visitors with members. The funds for more resources will come from donations in memory of Gayle's husband.
- h. MOOW: Had email conversation around a couple of Mission Endowment grants. Big push on Habitat for Humanity. Also \$1000 grant approved for winter clothes and boots for kids in the Menomonie area school district. We collected about 25-30 blankets to the blanket drive. They have all been distributed and much appreciated.
- i. Technology: Going to try to renew a technology committee to have schedule to replace computers.
- j. Look into adding a social media and website committee.

## **B. Other new business or discussion**

- Concern related to security cameras. Mostly concerned about someone entering the building without office staff knowing it.
- It was decided to close the office on Tuesday, December 26.
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## **C. Lord's Prayer**

## **D. Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.**



Church Council meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6pm.



# OSL Activities



## Family Fun Day January 7

Roller skating at Skate  
Ranch



Sunday school youth have been taking turns being "stewards" for our Little Free Pantry. Here they are busy filling the pantry with help from Dave Bergstrand.



# OSL NEWS

## A.M.ers BIBLE STUDY

February 1, 2024  
9am

The "A.M.ers Women's Bible Study meets on the first Thursday of every month in the Friendship Room. Use the parking lot entrance door.

For information contact Jan Willow, 715-235-9571

## OSL READING CLUB

February 21, 2024  
1 pm

The Reading Club meets: the third Wednesday of each month, September to June in the Friendship Room.

Like all good Lutherans, we start with coffee and dessert, followed by a short business meeting. We also talk about any good books we have read during the previous month.

If you are interested in learning more about the Reading Club, contact President Marie Young at 715-235-4690 or [mkyoung4690@gmail.com](mailto:mkyoung4690@gmail.com).



### Fair Trade

products are available for sale in the Friendship Room.

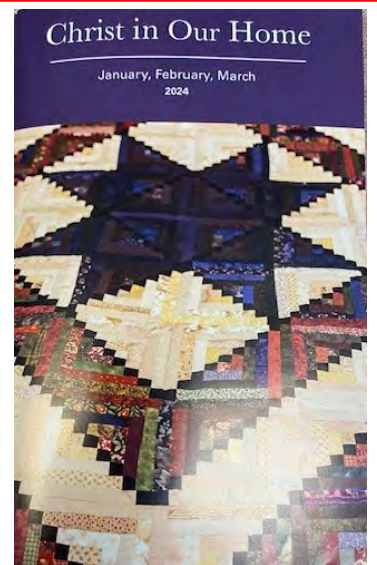
Coffee \$7.00  
Cocoa \$5.00

## Christ in Our Home Booklet

We have **January, February & March 2024** booklets available in the Friendship Room or stop in the office to pick one up.

If you would like a copy mailed to you, please call the office at 715-235-0693 or send an email to [office@oslme.com](mailto:office@oslme.com) with your request.

We have regular print and a limited number of big print booklets available. Indicate which size print you would like.



## Luther Park Annual Meeting


February 3rd, 2024


9:30am - Coffee and Fellowship

10:00am - Meeting Start

12:00pm - Lunch

Contact our office to RSVP

 [info@lutherpark.org](mailto:info@lutherpark.org)

 (715) 859-2215

## Luther Park Annual Meeting Documents:

Click [here](#) to view documents (scroll to the bottom of the screen).



# A Special Invitation....



## 100th Birthday!

Please join Wendy, Terrie, and Jon  
for a birthday party  
celebrating our mother

**Nancy Bjornson**

February 4, 2024 at 2:00–4:00pm  
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  
Menomonie, WI 54751

Please RSVP to this email  
By January 31st

As a special surprise for our mom, we are asking  
everyone unable to come to the party to mail her a  
birthday card with a personal message. (If you are  
able to come to the party, please bring the card  
with you.) The goal is to shower our mom with 100  
birthday cards! Her mailing address is:

411 19th St. N.

Menomonie, WI 54751.

If you mail by January 29, it should reach her in time.



# OSL NEWS

## What is Kaleidoscope Center?

Kaleidoscope Peer Recovery Drop-In Center is a communal space that offers a variety of peer support and recovery-oriented programs, as well as activities that promote healing and wellness. All program offerings are person-centered, strength-based, trauma-informed, and draw from different dimensions of wellness.



800 Wilson Ave, Suite 041 (Lower Level)  
Menomonie, WI 54751  
Center Phone: 715-231-3055  
[www.milkweedalliance.org](http://www.milkweedalliance.org)

Kaleidoscope Center is funded through a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and the generosity of our donors.

***OSL quilters donated  
10 quilts to Kaleidoscope  
Peer Recovery Drop-In Center  
(located in the lower level of  
the courthouse). They offer  
peer support, recovery  
programs, health and wellness  
activities.***

***Thank you quilters!***

## *Thank you from Stout Foundation*



December 31, 2023

Dear Our Savior's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent gift to UW-Stout through the Stout University Foundation. Your generosity demonstrates a strong commitment to the success of our University and truly advances our collective work. Behind every UW-Stout graduate, there are hundreds of people dedicated to supporting their success – Thank you for being one of them!

### **Please Retain This Receipt for Tax Purposes**

The Stout University Foundation, Inc. received the following charitable contribution(s).  
No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution.  
All gifts to the Stout University Foundation are tax deductible as provided by IRS regulations.

<b>Gift Date</b>	<b>Gift Amount</b>	<b>Fund Description</b>
12/31/2023	\$3,000.00	Fostering Success Program

## ***Lenten Season***

*The glory of these forty days  
We celebrate with songs of praise;  
For Christ, through whom all things were made,  
Himself has fasted and has prayed.*

*Then grant, O God, that we may, too,  
Return in fast and prayer to you.  
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,  
And give us joy to see your face.*

*ELW 320:1,4*

## JANUARY 2024 MEMORIALS

We thank those who have given to the following special funds:

***In Memory of Don Kuether***

Building Fund: Glenn Miller; Don & Barbara Sorlie

Greatest Needs: Pat Kuether

***In Memory of Orv Gabriel***

Building Fund: Mike & Sally Schendel

Greatest Needs: Hank & Marge Kunkel

OSL Women – Quilters: Judy Kirk

***In memory of Paul Horvath, Sr.***

Little Free Pantry: Nathan & Sarah Miller

### WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

To the family of  
Orval Gabriel  
Died 12.31.2023

To the family of  
Scott VandeBerg  
Died 1.13.2024  
(Steve VandeBerg's brother)

To the family of  
Janice R. Page  
Died 1.15.2024  
(Daughter of Clarence & Lenore Hillestad)



Baptized: January 14, 2024

***Margaret-Jane Palmer***

Parents:  
Sean Palmer & Melanie Carbine  
(Niece to Karl & Jennifer Palmer)



# OSL OFFICE

## Baptismal Family Meeting

Please call the church office at 715-235-0693 or email [office@oslme.com](mailto:office@oslme.com) to schedule a baptism.

## Giving Envelopes

If you are out of giving envelopes, let the office know. We can easily print more. If your offering is in a plain envelope, please make sure you write your name and number on it so you receive credit.

If you have “contribution” questions, contact Bonnie Christianson at: [contributions@oslme.com](mailto:contributions@oslme.com)

If you have “billing” questions, contact Kim Holten, please email her at: [bookkeeper@oslme.com](mailto:bookkeeper@oslme.com)

If you would like to “volunteer” on Sunday mornings, contact Judy Kirk at: [office@oslme.com](mailto:office@oslme.com)

If you have an “announcement” for the Bulletin or Scope, contact Bonnie Christianson at: [bonnie@oslme.com](mailto:bonnie@oslme.com)

## Electronic Giving

Online giving is available on OSL’s website. Whether you’re a member, a visitor or a friend, you’re able to make regular contributions, a special one-time donation, or a memorial gift online using your debit or credit card.

*As a way to celebrate your online Simply Giving, use the brightly colored giving cards (located in the pew racks) during the offering collection.*

[Give Online](#)

OSL also has a QR (Quick Response) Code:

Give directly using the QR Reader app on your device!



## STAFF

(715) 235-0693

Senior Pastor: Rev. Heather T. Wigdahl, Ext. 203  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Sarah L. Miller, Ext. 204  
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Don Wisner

Administrative Assistant:  
Bonnie Christianson, Ext. 201  
Judy Kirk, Ext 201

Bookkeeper:  
Kim Holten, Ext. 202

Contributions:  
Bonnie Christianson, Ext. 202

Custodian:  
Josh Madsen, Ext. 217

Music Ministry:  
Michaela Gifford, Ext. 216

Youth & Family Ministry:  
Denise Vick, Ext. 206

OSL Choir Director: Jean Enyeart  
Bell Choir Director: Merlyn Aude  
Worship Band Leader: Ted Bensen  
Wedding Coordinator: Michaela Gifford

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Rod Smeltzer  
VP: Lindsay Barnhart  
Secretary: Katie Benson

Beth Mason  
Jeff Vick  
Marni Waznik  
Sarah Place  
Gayle Holte  
Jeff Jaeger  
Treasurer: Becky Scheuffele

# FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> Online Worship Opportunities 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Closet Door Signage - Habitat for Humanity 10:15am Coffee Fellowship 10:15am Sunday School 6:00pm Scout Troop Meeting	<b>29</b> 9:00am Monday Morning Quilters/Crafters	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 4:00pm Communion Instruction 6:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>1</b> 9:00am AMers' Bible Study 6:30pm Scout Pack Meeting	<b>2</b> Church Closed 4:00pm Kids Cooking Class	<b>3</b> 10:00am Luther Park Bible Camp Annual Meeting 10:30am Communion Instruction
<b>4</b> Online Worship Opportunities 9:00am Worship Service w/Communion Blessing 10:15am Coffee Fellowship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am NYG Update (youth and parents) 2:00pm Nancy Bjornson's 100th Birthday Party	<b>5</b> 9:00am Monday Morning Quilters/Crafters 1:00pm OSW Board Mtg	<b>6</b> 10:00am Staff meeting	<b>7</b> 6:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>8</b> 6:30pm Scout Pack Meeting	<b>9</b> Church Closed	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> NO Sunday School Online Worship Opportunities 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Coffee Fellowship 6:00pm Scout Troop Meeting	<b>12</b> 9:00am Monday Morning Quilters/Crafters 4:00pm Menomnie High School Dance Banquet 6:00pm Finance Committee Mtg	<b>13</b> 6:00pm Church Council Mtg	<b>14</b> 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	<b>15</b> 9:00am Quilting Queens	<b>16</b> Church Closed	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Online Worship Opportunities 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Coffee Fellowship 10:15am OSL Annual Meeting 10:15am Sunday School	<b>19</b> 9:00am Monday Morning Quilters/Crafters	<b>20</b> 10:00am Staff meeting 4:45pm Tuesday's Table @ St. Joe's	<b>21</b> 1:00pm Reading Club 1:00pm Writers Group 6:30pm Lenten Service 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>22</b> 6:30pm Scout Pack Meeting	<b>23</b> Church Closed	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Online Worship Opportunities 9:00am Worship Service (SS Children singing in church) 10:15am Coffee Fellowship 10:15am Sunday School 6:00pm Scout Troop Meeting	<b>26</b> LCM Meal Night (#3) 9:00am Monday Morning Quilters/Crafters	<b>27</b> 3:30pm Neighbors of Dunn County Communion Service	<b>28</b> 6:30pm Lenten Service 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b> Church Closed	<b>2</b> 10:00am Communion Instruction



Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
910 9th St E  
Menomonie, WI 54751-2709

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*OUR MISSION*  
God calls all members of Our Savior's Lutheran to:  
+ WELCOME all to faith in Jesus Christ  
+ WORSHIP our Lord and Savior  
+ EQUIP us for a faith that works in real life  
+ SEND us into the world to minister in Jesus' name

Phone: (715) 235-0693  
Website: <http://www.oslme.com>  
FAX: (715) 233-3433  
E-mail: [office@oslme.com](mailto:office@oslme.com)

is a monthly newsletter of Our Savior's Lutheran Church

***The Parish Scope***