

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Redfield, South Dakota

"Messenger"

January 2024

*"Through the Grace of God We
Are Worshiping, Sharing,
Growing"*

Annual Meeting

The annual congregational meeting of Our Savior's will be held on Sunday, January 21, at 10:15 am, following the morning worship service. All active, confirmed members are encouraged to attend.

At this time we will elect chair persons of the various committees that form the church council and the various committees. The following positions will be filled: President: 1 year term; Vice President – 1 year term; Buildings & Grounds – 3 year term; Welcome & Outreach – 2 year term; Youth Ministries – 3 year term; Endowment Committee – 5 year term; Farm Committee – 6 year term; Memorial Committee – 3 year term; Nominating Committee – 1 year term (need 3); Audit Committee – 1 year term – need 2; Bethesda Home Corp. delegates – 1 year term – need 4.

Other items of business will include reports of the accomplishments of 2023, approve minutes of congregational meetings, approve the treasures report, approve a budget for 2024 and other business. If you items you wish to have brought before the meeting please forward these to President Randy Maddox by January 16th so they can be included with the printed agenda.

Planning Ahead

Ash Wednesday is February 14 this year. This begins the season of Lent. Here at Our Savior's we ask for volunteers to plan and prepare the six Lenten Wednesday suppers. This gives our weekly WOW crew a break and allows others to step forward and get involved. The dates are February 14, February 21, February 28, March 6, March 13 & March 20. If you would like help serving the meal and with clean-up young people will be available to help. Just ask. Pick your date and let the office know. The meal will be served from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm. Worship will begin at 6:30 pm.

SOUP

February 11 is "Super Bowl Sunday." OSL will participate in the "Souper Bowl" of giving by collecting canned soups to be given to the Good Samaritan Food Pantry. They can be delivered to the grocery cart any time the week prior to Sunday, February 11th. Let's fill the cart to overflowing.

You are also encouraged to wear your favorite teams shirts to worship that Sunday.

From the Pastor's Desk

As I am not here this year for Epiphany, but I love Epiphany, I am using this as an excuse to talk about the wise men. They were most likely from Persia, an area that, at the time, was considered vastly more sophisticated and cosmopolitan than Judea, a known backwater. I've seen speculation that wise men from Persia would have likely been Zoroastrian priests as Zoroastrianism was a major religion in Persia in which the movement of the stars was considered particularly important. While that is certainly possible, it isn't conclusively proven, and it certainly isn't the main point of the story for Matthew. What does seem clear is that they were powerful, important people, and that they were not Jewish. Magi is the word that we get the word "magician" from. And they could be what we think of as magicians, possibly like Simon the Magician in Acts, who wants to know how much he has to pay Peter on the side to get some of that Holy Spirit for himself. But magi could also be so much more. They understood astronomy and astrology, which were not as separate then as they are today. And reading the stars was valued the world over, from the courts of China to the temples of the Maya. The magi could interpret dreams. This was also considered an important skill, look at how much power and influence Joseph achieved in Egypt through his ability to interpret dreams. Men with such knowledge and skills could be advisors to kings. They could be regarded as wise men, educated, powerful, and sought after. And these magi were not Jewish. It's not simply because they came from the East, where few people were Jewish. But look at how little they knew of Jewish politics. They assumed that Herod would be thrilled about this new king. But the Herodians were political opportunists, known for working with Rome, not for their overwhelming piety. They even murdered an astonishing number of their own brothers and sons to ensure there would be no threat to their rule. These magi had no idea of the divisions running through the Jewish community. But these magi are sincere in their desire. They may not be Jewish, but if the stars tell them

about a Jewish king, they will listen and follow, however long it takes to see it through. So here you have these powerful, important outsiders acknowledging who Jesus is and bowing before him. This is the world outside of Judaism sitting up and taking notice. This is the first such acknowledgement of who Jesus is, hence the word "epiphany" - "an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure," or "an intuitive grasp of reality through something usually simple and striking." The magi are the first Gentiles to experience the epiphany of who Jesus is. It is a story that has been repeated throughout the ages and in each of us in various ways.

But that's not where the story ends. These men, faithful enough to follow a star to lands unknown, traveling for who knows how long, would certainly have been changed by these events. They entered Judea trusting King Herod and telling him everything. After their encounter with the Christ child, upon the word of a dream, they will avoid Herod, rearrange their plans, adding how many more months and dangers to their journey, all to protect a tiny child. After all that, did their lives ever really go back to the way things were before?

In our own lives we may have experienced epiphanies, but they only become true epiphanies when they change us, when they change what we do and what we are, when, no matter the inconvenience, we can no longer go back to the way things were. And I think sometimes in our own lives we get so used to Jesus that we forget what a revelation he is and that this kind of good news should change us. It should be reshaping us every day. Over time, every year, through the decades, as we let the revelation of Christ soak into us, we should be affected. We should be slowly remade, never fitting back into who we used to be.

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

The Church Council met on January 7, 2024, at 7 pm. Preparations for the annual meeting on January 21 were made.

Children's Ministries

Happy New Year from the Children's Ministries crew! We hope you enjoyed the break and are excited to get back to learning on January 10th.

Reminder that we start at 4:40 and end at 5:30. Thanks so much for the prompt pickup and drop-offs so far this year. We sometimes have a bit of a dip in attendance after Christmas. Keep those kids coming (unless they are sick - then keep them home!) so we can learn about God's love for us together!

Melissa Zastrow

Spiritual & Financial

Offering envelopes for 2024 are on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Many of you do not use your envelopes any more. As a result we have a lot of the books going in the trash at the end of the year. Not very cost effective. We plan to reduce the number of books ordered for 2025 in an effort to cut the cost. Each year the cost goes up. If you cannot find a book with your name on it and wish to use envelopes, there is a sheet to sign. Thank you to those using VANCO to support their congregation. It is a convenient way to donate and saves on the cost of envelopes and your check purchases.

As you begin using your envelopes in 2024, please put your name on your envelope each time. This will serve as a check for accuracy. Some numbers have changed.

WOW Menus

Dana has done the meal planning for the rest of the WOW year. This does not include the 6 Lenten suppers. The volunteer groups get to plan their own menu and make a suggestion to donate the freewill donations. Donations of the ingredients for WOW is always appreciated; especially the meats. If you have questions check with Dana Lewis. Help is always needed to cook, serve, and cleanup. This service is a part of the mission of OSL to help families attend class and worship on Wednesday evenings. A freewill donation basket is available each week to help cover the cost.

January 10 – Barbecues

January 17 – Baked Potato & Hotdog bar

January 24 Chicken Cordon Bleu Casserole

January 31 – Hot Ham and Cheese

February 7 – Million Dollar Baked Ziti

April 3 – Chili & Tomato Soup

April 10 – Tacos

April 17 – Pepperoni Pizza Casserole

April 24 – Pizza

The weeks of February 14 – March 20 are the Wednesdays in Lent and volunteers will serve. March 27 there will be no WOW activities because this is Holy Week. No supper prior to these services.

January

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Regular Sunday Schedule 9 am – Worship 10 am – Fellowship Additions listed weekly	1	2 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	3 No Wednesday Activities	4 7:30 am – Bible Study 11 am – Food Truck	5	6
7	8	9 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	10	11 7:30 am – Bible Study	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day	16 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	17	18 7:30 am – Bible Study 1:30 pm – Love Circle, Lakeside	11 12 pm - RAMA	20
21 Deacons deliver Communion Congregational Meeting	22	23 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	24	25 7:30 am – Bible Study 4 pm – Girl Scouts use Fellowship Hall	26	27
28	29	30 1 pm – Pastor’s Text Study	31			
			Wednesday Schedule 4:4pm – WOW Classes 5:30 pm – Supper 6 pm – Worship 6:35 pm - Confirmation			

2024

- 1 Charlie Anderson
- 2 Thomas Jacobs
- 3 Ruth Jessen
Harlee Nielson
- 4 Audrey Helm
Landry Wager
Lawsyn Wager
- 5 Hunter Avery
- 6 Dalton Jessen
Marge Klebsch
Nicolette Schmidt
Brad Englund
Larry & Donna Crook
- 7 Lynn & Cindy Brace
- 8 Pat Schulte
Connie Bohl
Travis Frost
- 9 Janice Cermak
Kaylin & Travis Frost
- 10 Orman Fixsen III
- 11 Kyara Ratigan
- 12 Shayna Frost
Deagan Maher
- 13 Noah Carr
- 14 Brenda Davis
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19

- 20 Erick Marlow
Logan Jessen
Jim & Erin Schroeder
- 21 Brad Hekrdle
- 22 Leanna Stellmacher
- 23 Hattie Mae Lutter
- 24
- 25 Chloe Stroud
Briggs Uzzle
- 26 Adam McMahan
- 27
- 28 Sandra Schmidt
Peyton O'Daniel
Tenley Marlow
Andrew Roth
- 29 Tim Stellmacher
Creighton Hoots
- 30
- 31 Emily Jessen

If a birthday or anniversary is missing from the list or is incorrect, please call the office.

Memorial Information

Sound System –

In memory of Marlys Cermak from Janice & Sandra Cermak

Undesignated –

In memory of John Solheim from Dawn & Brad Englund, Eileen Crawford, Peggy Miller, Ruth Jessen, Boyden & Florence Frericks, Sandra Blume

In memory of Russ & Mabel Morgan from Jeff Morgan

Approved Memorial wish list includes:

- Banners
- ELW hymnals
- Endowment Fund
- Library Fund
- Radio Broadcast Sponsors
- Sanctuary Project
- Technology Equipment

December 2023 Statistics

There were no baptisms, deaths, marriages, transfers out or transfers in.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1514 E. 1st. Street
P O Box 16
Redfield, SD 57469

Non Profit Standard
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 33
Redfield, SD 57469

The "Messenger" is published monthly at
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship – 9:00 am
Fellowship – 10:00 am

Our Sunday worship service is also
broadcast live on radio station
KNBZ, 97.7 FM, at 9:00 am.
Also on Facebook

Wednesday

WOW Kid's Classes (4 yr-6th) – 4:40 pm
WOW Supper – 5:30 pm
WOW Worship – 6:00 pm
Confirmation – 6:35 pm

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday – Friday: 9 am – 3 pm
Church Office – 472-2640
Pastor Joy Proper – 541-255-8455
secretary.osl@midconetwork.com
web site: www.oslredfieldsd.com

Our Savior's Lutheran Staff

Pastor Joy Proper
Thordys Blume, Secretary
Della Osborn, Custodian
Dana Lewis, Treasurer

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**"Through the grace of God we are
worshipping, sharing, growing."**

THANK YOU:

Dear Our Savior's Lutheran Church:

Thank you so much for your wonderful donation of
grocery items to the Tri Co Good Samaritan Center.
You good folks are such a blessing! We could not
do this without good folks like you. Really! May the
Lord bless you for your generosity and faithfulness
to our communities. Thank you again dear friends.

Sincerely, Penny Ihnen & Sherry Wurtz

**Thank you for the Christmas gift plate of
goodies. Karlene Stellmacher**

Thank you to those that remembered me with
Christmas wishes and goodies. They are very much
appreciated. Thordys

**Thanks to those that brought poinsettia plants to
beautify the sanctuary during the Christmas
season.**

Thank you to those faithful helpers that provide
music for worship services, usher, lector,
communion set-up and serve, furnish and serve
coffee fellowship and Wednesday suppers. All of
these volunteers are so important to a meaningful
worship experience.

CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY –

Weekly Offerings – December 2024

Operating - \$ 18,789.67
Christmas - \$ 1,112.50
Good Samaritan Center - \$50.00
WOW Christmas Program - \$ 679.2100

VANCO – November 2024

Operating - \$ 1,286.88
Sanctuary - \$ 20.00

FAITHFUL READERS

The book club will meet in the OSL
church library at 2 pm on February 15 to
discuss the book A Little Liar by Mitch Albom.
The new reading list for 2024 is on the west
shelf in the Library. We welcome you to join us
for discussion and fellowship.