

JANUARY 2023

# THE MESSENGER

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Beloit, WI



## A Message from Pastor Tony



### Jesus Christ, Our Source of Hope

*We put our hope in the Lord. He is our help and our shield. – Psalm 33:20*

The church is a place of hope. Sometimes we find hope in the great services and opportunities that are provided to us by the church. Worship services grounded in Scripture and filled with beautiful and inspiring music is such a blessing. Taking part in a Bible study, receiving pastoral care and the prayerful support of our friends in difficult times are other ways we find light in the church. Hope is found in what we receive.

At other times, hope breaks into our lives within the church because of how we serve. Having a worship leader role in the service or singing with the choir often fills people's hearts with a sense of having

contributed. Volunteering to help with Family Promise, making quilts or mentoring a confirmation student leads one to discover the truth that we are blessed when we are a blessing to others. Hope is found in what we give.

But know this, Jesus Christ is at the heart of the hope we are given in the church: every single time. Christ is our hope. Jesus is our light. The Lord is our life. When the trials of life become too much to bear: Christ is our hope. When our friends disappoint us, and our hurt goes unnoticed: Christ is our hope. When our frustrations with the world and the nastiness of the ways we treat one another overwhelm our souls: Christ is our hope.

We must draw from God's grace and acknowledge Christ as the source in all the good we give and receive in church. We serve in the name of the Lord and seek the hope that Jesus offers to us in our actions. This message is loud and clear in the Scriptures and in so many of the great hymns of the church. An example is found in "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less," sung to the tune of the Navy Hymn. "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand."

Rejoice always!  
Pastor Tony

### Welcome Statement

We welcome and encourage the full participation of all people, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, appearance, or anything else that threatens to divide us. We have all been claimed as God's children, and all are welcome here.

*"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." -Galatians 3:28*

Our Mission Statement: To reflect God's love through service to the family of God.



## Practice Prayer | Phone Apps

Creating regular patterns and habits for prayer can keep prayer as natural as brushing your teeth or having lunch. Check out these free phone apps that help fit times of prayer, devotion, Scripture, and mediation into your day:

**Day by Day**, produced by the Episcopal Church, presents everything from simple devotional writings to the longer praying of the offices (Morning Prayer/ Evening Prayer/Compline). The "Daily Devotions" option gives you a brief reading, a psalm, and a prayer. Also on the app, "Forward Day by Day" is a devotion like Christ in our Home.

**Lectio 365** is produced by "24-7 Prayer," an international, interdenominational Christian movement of prayer, mission, and justice. Both Morning and Evening prayer is available. The app walks you through moments of silence, prayer, and scripture in an appealing way. There is also the option to listen to the devotion.

**Pray As You Go** is designed by the Jesuits in the United Kingdom and is primarily meant to be listened to once-a-day. There are additional optional practices included that tie into the season of the year and the meditative practice called "The Examen."

**Divine Office** is a Catholic app and website that provides the daily readings for the "Liturgy of the Hours" with options for various feast days and memorials as they come up. An audio recording of each hour's prayers makes this handy on the go.

**Common Prayer** is an app version of the book "Common Prayer for Ordinary Radicals" written Shane Claiborne. It includes Morning, Midday, and Evening prayers, grounded in Scripture and written in an engaging and meditative ways.

Give it a try... God is ready for you.



## News from the Board

As we reflect on our blessings during this Christmas season, we want to thank the congregation for all your support and commitment during the past year. You are truly a blessing as we continue the missions of our church and the growth of our personal faith journeys. From the Board, we wish you a Blessed Christmas and our best wishes to you for the New Year. Peace on earth to all, Mark Sorenson



## Sock Collection

Thank you for your sock donations! Thanks to your generosity we sent 258 pair of socks to Head Start! That will cover and warm a lot of feet this winter!



## Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars! Our Savior's Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 5**, immediately after the late service. In addition to celebrating Our Savior's many ministries in the past year, we will pass our 2023 budget and look to ministries in the future.



## 2023 Flower Chart

A new Flower Chart has been posted in the Commons. To sponsor Altar Flowers please write your name next to the date on the sign up sheet, take an Altar Flower envelope, and return the completed envelope with payment in the offering plate or to the church office. The cost to sponsor flowers is \$50.00 per week.

## ✝ Pastoral Acts ✝

**Burial:** Ann Vollmer

**New Members:** Sandra Chamberlin  
Joshua Droogh  
Josh Peterson-Droogh  
Hudson Droogh  
Genellaive Droogh  
Logan Droogh  
Jacob Droogh  
Rosie Droogh  
Preston Droogh  
Christine Fjalstad  
Arlene Ruegger  
Linda Smith

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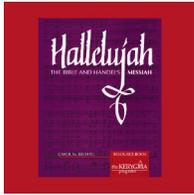


@oursaviorsbeloit



## From the OSLC Staff!

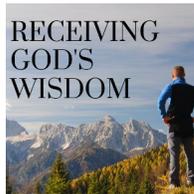
Thank you for your generous Christmas cards and gifts! We are grateful for all of your support this past year and are blessed to be called by God through you to serve in this place. The OSLC Staff, Valerie Dusso, Kelly Erdmann, Cheryl Licary, Natasha Reed, Amy Smith, Pastor Jason Poole-Xiong, and Pastor Tony Dusso.



## Hallelujah: The Bible and Handel's Messiah returns

After working through the first part of Handel's Messiah, which connects with the Seasons of Advent and Christmas,

Pastor Tony's Bible study will take a break until Sunday, February 5, to continue with Part 2 of Messiah, focusing on Lent, Christ's Passion, and Easter. In the meantime, recordings of the first four sessions of this Bible study can found on Our Savior's YouTube channel.



## Receiving God's Wisdom

Beginning January 9, weekly meditations from the Old Testament book Ecclesiastes will be dropping on Mondays on Our Savior's YouTube channel.

Focusing on passages from this book of

God's Wisdom, Pastor Tony will reflect on how these passages are relevant gifts of grace for our lives today.



## New Livestream Schedule

Beginning this month, livestreams of both the 8:30 and 10:30 Sunday services will be available on our YouTube channel, with the recordings remaining available afterwards for you to view at your

convenience. Because of this change, we will no longer be livestreaming the Saturday service. Also, for 2023, we have discontinued providing a phone-in only option for taking in the 8:30 service.



## WELCA Annual Meeting

On **Sunday, January 8 at 9:30 am** WELCA will hold its Annual Meeting in the Chapel. Please feel free to join us. We will have two new officers seated.

Sue Hanewall as Vice-President and

Nancy Lindsey as Treasurer. We will also decide how to distribute our profits from the Harvest Festival between the various ministries we support: VetsRoll, Caritas, Sparrow's Nest, Lutherdale Bible Camp, 16:49 House, Family Promise, Defy Domestic Abuse Beloit, and Skaalen Home.

## gen Z and the church

A two-part discussion led by Pastor Jason on the role of this new generation in the life of the church now and in the future.

**SUNDAY, JAN 8**  
9:30 A.M.

**WEDNESDAY, JAN 11**  
5:30 P.M.

part 1

**SUNDAY, JAN 15**  
9:30 A.M.

**WEDNESDAY, JAN 18**  
5:30 P.M.

part 2



## Family Promise Schedule

OSLC is scheduled to host Family Promise the following weeks in 2023:

- March 26—April 1
- May 28—June 3
- August 13—19
- October 22—28

Please consider helping with this important ministry. Sign up sheets will be posted on the bulletin board in the Commons. If you have any questions, please contact Jane Lang at [klang@hononegah.org](mailto:klang@hononegah.org).



ALL ARE WELCOME!

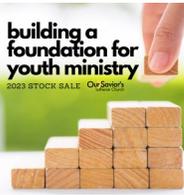
FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE HOSTS

## PUZZLE PALOOZA

Jigsaw puzzle fun for all ages!

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 8**  
**12 NOON**

Come, enjoy, and relax after the holiday rush for a fun afternoon doing puzzles. Chili and Soup will be served!



## Youth Ministry Stock Sale

Youth ministry is a shared ministry of our entire congregation. During the month of January we are looking for your financial support to **continue to build a**

**foundation for our youth ministry programs** here at OSLC by purchasing "stock". Your purchase of stock will allow our middle and high school students to participate in ministry opportunities, service projects, the 2022 and 2024 ELCA Youth Gatherings, and 2023 summer mission trip. On the bulletin board in the Commons there are 100 numbered envelopes. Complete the form inside the envelope and return it to the office or in the offering plate before the end of January. You can choose how many shares of stock to purchase based on the envelope you choose. \$1 = 1 share in our youth ministry. Payment can be made in cash/check in the envelope or you can pay with a credit card online at [oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/give](https://oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/give) and choose "Youth Stock Sale" as the fund designation (if paying by credit card please consider covering the credit card fees by selecting the necessary check box online). If you have questions please contact Pastor Jason.



## Show Us What You Know

Our Savior's Trivia Night, presented by the OSLC Fellowship Team will be held **Saturday, February 11 at 6:00 pm**. All proceeds support the 2023 Youth Mission Trip. Gather your team of 6-8

players, cost is \$10 per person. Added bonus: \$10 for 10 Mulligans may be purchased for answers that you don't know. 10 questions in each of 10 rounds, 1 mulligan may be used per round. The team with the most points will be crowned 2023 Champions. BBQ, Hot Dogs, chips, and snacks will be provided courtesy of a Thrivent Action Team. Gift Baskets will be available as raffle prizes.



**Sunday, December 4**  
Youth enjoy bowling and dinner at Viking Lanes.

# 2023 Youth Mission Trips Minneapolis/St. Paul

**NEW**

## 7TH-12TH GRADE TRIP

JULY 15-22, 2023

MISSION TRIP OPEN TO ALL OSLC YOUTH LED BY PASTOR JASON. WE WILL TRAVEL & SERVE TOGETHER.

COST IS GENERALLY COVERED THROUGH FUNDRAISERS.



## FAMILY MISSION TRIP

JULY 16-20, 2023

OPEN TO ALL FAMILIES WITH/AND CHILDREN 1ST - 7TH GRADE.

COST IS \$300 PER PERSON AND INCLUDES HOUSING, MEALS, WORSHIP, AND SERVICE PROJECTS IN THE TWIN CITIES.

**CONTACT PASTOR JASON BY JANUARY 15, 2023 FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER FOR EITHER TRIP**

## Circle Meetings

**Anna Circle** - Monday, Jan. 3 at 6:30pm  
Meeting at church.

**Rachel Circle** - No meeting this month.

**Naomi Circle** - Monday, Jan, 9 at 5:30pm  
Meet at Buffalo Wild Wings

**Elizabeth Circle** - Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 1:00pm  
Hostess: Sharon Larson

**Rebekah Circle** - No meeting this month.

**Shalom Circle** - No meeting this month.

### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, January 8 at 9:30 am in the Chapel.

### KNIT WITS

Wednesday, January 11 at 2:00 pm.  
(Meets at the home of Shirley Von Allmen)

### BOARD MEETING

Sunday, January 19 at 4:00 pm.

### SEWING BEE

Every Monday 8:30-11:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

## Winter

# Youth Ministry 2023

**Sunday, January 15**



Escape Room & Dinner in Rockford  
5:15 p.m. - \$30.00 per person

**Saturday, February 11**



Fellowship Team "Trivia Night"  
6:00 p.m. - Proceeds Benefit Youth Ministry

**Saturday, February 18**



Second Harvest Food Packing in Madison  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Optional Lunch After

**Sunday, March 12**



"Amazing Race" Scavenger Hunt  
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

## Key Financials | November 30, 2022

Month	2021 Actual General Offerings	2022 Actual General Offerings	Budget Offering Per Month	Monthly Surplus (Shortfall)	Cumulative Shortfall	Unrestricted Expenses	Budgeted Expenses
January	\$23,017	\$28,154	\$37,500	-\$9,346	\$9,346	\$40,058	\$40,636
February	\$30,176	\$33,252	\$37,500	-\$4,248	\$13,594	\$37,624	\$40,636
March	\$32,857	\$29,779	\$37,500	-\$7,721	\$21,315	\$47,004	\$40,636
April	\$32,859	\$33,348	\$37,500	-\$4,152	\$25,467	\$40,560	\$40,636
May	\$28,367	\$30,540	\$37,500	-\$6,960	\$32,427	\$41,189	\$40,636
June	\$32,831	\$29,030	\$37,500	-\$8,470	\$40,897	\$52,044	\$40,636
July	\$29,024	\$29,627	\$37,500	-\$7,873	\$48,770	\$37,963	\$40,636
August	\$33,584	\$24,616	\$37,500	-\$12,884	\$61,654	\$38,882	\$40,636
September	\$25,191	\$22,173	\$37,500	-\$15,327	\$76,981	\$76,910	\$40,636
October	\$83,484	\$35,948	\$37,500	-\$1,552	\$78,533	\$35,265	\$40,636
November	\$27,279	\$29,293	\$37,500	-\$8,207	\$86,740	\$36,517	\$40,636
December	\$67,747						
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$446,416</b>	<b>\$325,760</b>	<b>\$412,500</b>			<b>\$484,016</b>	<b>\$446,996</b>

## A Message from Amy Smith, *Children's Ministry Coordinator*

### A special thank you...

- AM Farms (Jon & Jane Lang) for hosting Journey Home to Bethlehem.
- Mark and Nancy Lindsey, Russ and Lisa Albert, and Pat Brogan for helping with music.
- Sue Schimke, Amber Walkey, Kaitlyn Doig, Maggie Walters, Nancy Ribbeck, and Valerie Dusso for all the behind the scenes help!!!
- Parents for getting kids ready and to practices.
- OUR FAITH BUILDERS for truly shining in telling the story of Jesus' birth!

### Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it SNOW!

Keep an eye out for details on our back yard SNOW SLEDDING PARTY at AM Farms!

### Happy New Year!

Faith Builders will be back Sunday, January 8. Join us upstairs as we continue our Journey with Jesus. Since we ended the year with PJs...we are going to bring in the New Year 2023 in our pajamas feeling like we are cozy at home. So get comfortable, bring a stuffie, and let's ring in a New Year with Jesus on January 8 @ 10am!

### Happy Birthday to our January Kids!

Pick a Sunday to celebrate by picking a present out of the prize bucket ☺

**Happy Birthday to Miles, Simon, Robbie, and Karson!**





# JANUARY 2023

749 Bluff Street, Beloit, WI 53511 | (608) 362-0716 | [www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org](http://www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1-Christmas 1</b> 10:00am "Lessons & Carols" Worship 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>2</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 11:00 am Mike Stluka Visitation 1:00pm Mike Stluka Memorial Service	<b>3</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Anna Circle	<b>4</b> 9:00am Men's Group 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 6:00pm Finance (ZOOM) 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>5</b> 10:00am Al-Anon (Chapel) 5:00pm Undecorating Party Potluck w/choir 6:00pm OA 6:30pm Executive Committee	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 5:00pm Worship
<b>8-Baptism of Our Lord</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Gen Z discussion (part 1) 9:30am WELCA Annual Meeting 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:00am Faith Builders 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Puzzle Palooza 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>9</b> 8:30am Sewing Bee 5:30pm Naomi Circle	<b>10</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 3:00pm Nominating Committee 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Board Meeting 7:00pm Dartball (Commons)	<b>11</b> 10:00am Second Harvest 2:00pm Knit Wits (Von Allmen) 3:30pm Fellowship 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 5:30pm Gen Z discussion (part 1) 6:30pm Confirmation Mentor Night	<b>12</b> 10:00am Al-Anon (Chapel) 5:30pm Personnel 6:00pm OA	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 5:00pm Worship
<b>15-Epiphany 2</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Gen Z discussion (part 2) 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:00am Faith Builders 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 5:15pm Youth Escape Room & Dinner	<b>16</b> 8:30am Sewing Bee	<b>17</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 1:00pm Elizabeth Circle 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Dartball (Commons)	<b>18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> 9:00am Men's Group 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 5:30pm Gen Z discussion (part 2) 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>19</b> 10:00am Al-Anon (Chapel) 4:00pm WELCA Board 5:30pm WMA 6:00pm OA	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 5:00pm Worship
<b>22-Epiphany 3</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:00am Faith Builders 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>23</b> 8:30am Sewing Bee	<b>24</b> 10:00am Second Harvest 11:00am Pastors Text Study 12:00pm Staff Lunch 1:30pm Care Team 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Dartball (Commons)	<b>25</b> 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>26</b> 10:00am Al-Anon (Chapel) 6:00pm OA 6:30pm Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:00pm Worship
<b>29-Epiphany 4</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:00am Faith Builders 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>30</b> 8:30am Sewing Bee	<b>31</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Dartball (Commons)				

Updated: 12/20/2022



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Phone: (608) 362-0716

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**Worship with Us.**  
**Saturday - 5 :00 pm**  
**Sunday - 8:30 am**  
**10:30 am**

**TO:**

Our Staff:  
Pr. Tony Dusso Senior Pastor  
Pr. Jason Poole-Xiong Associate Pastor  
Valerie Dusso Administrative Assistant  
Cheryl Licary Organist & Choir Director  
Kelly Erdmann Financial Secretary  
Amy Smith Children's Ministry Coordinator  
Natasha Reed Housekeeper  
Grant Dusso AV Assistant

# MANY WAYS TO GIVE



## GIVING ENVELOPES

Use the giving envelopes to give cash or check



## ONLINE



## TEXT

Text the amount you wish to give to (844) 629-0087 and follow the prompts



## AUTOMATIC GIVING

To inquire or set-up automatic giving via Credit Card or ACH Bank Withdrawal contact the church office or sign-up online at [www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/give](http://www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/give)

Use the QR Code Above or visit our website at [www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/give](http://www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/give) to give via Credit Card or ACH Bank Withdrawal



## MAIL

Mail a check made payable to 'Our Savior's Lutheran Church' to the church office:  
749 Bluff Street  
Beloit, WI 53511