

SEPTEMBER 2024

THE MESSENGER

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Beloit, WI



Talking with Myself

"In their freedom from me, other persons want to be loved for who they are, as those for whom Christ became a human being, died, and rose again, as those for whom Christ won forgiveness of sins and prepared eternal life."
– Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*, p. 18.



I got to talking with myself the other day. Here's some of the highlights:

You're looking busy, is there anything going on at church in September?

Well, yes there is. "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday is September 8. We have four projects planned for here and throughout the community. After the late service we will have lunch and then get to work. That day we're also starting a new year of Kids Connect for students 5th grade and younger. Beginning on September 8, they will start upstairs at 10:30 am every Sunday and come in for worship near the end for communion and the Children's Message. Confirmation kicks off for 7th and 8th graders with an orientation on September 4. Youth Connect for students 6th grade and up will start this month as well. Of course there is a full slate of WELCA circles, Young at Heart, Men's

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

Group, dart ball, Second Harvest all happening too, just to name a few. We host a memorial service on September 7, a wedding on September 14, and "Lutheran's on the Move" leaves on September 28 for Virginia.

I've noticed that you have Bonhoeffer on the brain. Really, how is some old theologian relevant to what we do at Our Savior's today?

The staff and Board have been discerning our purpose and vision for the last several months. We can learn so much from Bonhoeffer's teachings because it's grounded in Jesus. For example, we are of course called to love one another when we live in Christian community. But what makes that love unique and powerful here at Our Savior's is that we are called to love each other with spiritual love. This is a love that does not make demands on others; trying to intimidate them, control them, or make them in our own image. In Christian community we love our sisters and we love our brothers for exactly who they are. They belong to Christ and not to you.

What are you getting ready for Tuesday morning's weekly Staff Meeting?

I'm thinking of getting bagels again. I'm just so grateful for all of them. Kellie Carrier and Molly Rosenbloom have been their positions for just a few months, and they've already accomplished so much in the ministries to our children, youth, and families. Kellie's leadership led a successful Good Shepherd Sunday program last spring and a fantastic VBS last month.

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

Molly is meeting with youth on a regular basis and has worked collaboratively with the students to plan service projects including helping with a Community Garden project in September. Cheryl Licary is such a treasure for us in leading our music ministry. Jean Lincoln supports me in worship when I need to be away, makes visits to those in need of care, and relates to more than half of our working committees. Kelly Erdmann keeps our finances in order working through the processes we have carefully established over the past few years. Valerie Dusso is amazing, after seeing her do her magic at other churches for many, many years, I'm so grateful to now be able to work with her as she tackles the tall tasks of organizing our office, building needs, and communications.

No wonder you're smiling. Are you still seeing God on the loose here?

YES! God, in whom we live and move and have our being in on the loose here at Our Saviors.

Rejoice always! Pastor Tony



Confirmation Orientation

Wednesday, September 4

Our Savior's Confirmation program will be kicking off with an Orientation Night on **Wednesday, September 4** at 6:00 pm with the Ninth Graders, their parents and mentors to go over details in preparation for their Confirmation in worship on Sunday, October 27. Then at 6:30, Pastor Tony will be meeting with the returning Eighth Graders and new Seventh Graders (and their parents) to go over the expectations and schedule for the coming year. This year's focus is on Martin Luther's Small Catechism as well as Lutheran history and theology. Reach out to Pastor Tony if you have any questions.



Young @ Heart

On **Thursday, September 12 from 12:00-2:00 pm**, come out for lunch, fellowship, and a presentation from the Beloit Police Department on "Scams."

Menu: BBQ, Pasta Salad, Chips, and a Cookie. In order to prepare lunch, please sign-up on the sheet located on the counter in the Commons by Sunday, September 8.



Summer Book Study

Concludes on Sunday, September 15 & 22 @ 9:30 am

Pastor Tony will wrap up his book study on Bonhoeffer's *Life Together* on **September 15 & 22** (there will be no study on September 1 & 8). The study meets between Sunday services in the Chapel. Looking at his final chapters "Service" and "Confession and Lord's Supper" we discover that Bonhoeffer's words about Christian community continue to be relevant for our life together here at Our Savior's. A recorded version of the study is also available each week on our YouTube channel. All are welcome to participate.



God's Work. Our hands.

Our Savior's will participate in the ELCA's National Day of Service, God's Work Our Hands Sunday, on **Sunday, September 8**. Already, several projects are in the works that will be held here on site as well as at various

locations in Beloit. Box Lunches will be available before heading to the various projects that day. Be sure to wear your yellow "God's Work Our Hands" t-shirt.



Do you enjoy visiting with people? Are you an encourager?

Here at Our Savior's, many of our sisters and brothers in Christ are homebound, make frequent hospital visits, and have difficulty getting out and making it to church. Our Care Team is a group of volunteers who make regular visits with members who are in that season of life where mobility is a struggle. The Care Team is looking to recruit compassionate people who would like to participate in this important ministry. Care Team members are assigned a member to visit monthly for conversation, prayer, bringing communion, and representing the church in giving them a sense of community. All involved are enriched spiritually through the process. Please contact Jolynn Garetson (jgaretson@charter.net) if you have questions or are interested in joining.

Follow Us Online



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We got a Fish Farm!

A special thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's VBS special offering. With your help we were able to raise \$391.14 - we purchased a fish farm, plus several shares of a fish farm. Thank you! Give your

neighbors a fish, and they'll eat for a day. Give your neighbors a community fish farm, and they'll eat for a lifetime. As an incentive to hit our goal - Ms. Molly will be taking a pie to the face on **Sunday, September 8** during our Kids Connect Kick-off!



Kids Connect

Sunday morning Children's Ministry

We are so excited to introduce our new curriculum for Kids Connect! Digging Into **The Heart of God** brings a fresh approach to growing a lifelong relationship with God. As kids

explore God's character throughout the Bible, God transforms them from the inside out. With the Heart of God curriculum, kids discover what it means to reflect the heart of God in everyday life. Kids Connect is offered Sunday morning from 10:30 am - 11:15 am for children pre-k through 5th grade.

Special outdoor activities on **Sunday, September 8** begin at **10:00 am** for the Kids Connect Kick-Off include games, the bounce house and a pie in the face! Register for Kids Connect online:

www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/families



Youth Connect

Sunday morning Youth Ministry

Join us for Youth Connect every Sunday at 9:30 AM starting on **September 8** as we explore how our choices impact our lives. It's a fantastic chance for fun, fellowship,

and deepening your faith! In addition, our youth will be undertaking a variety of service projects throughout the year, starting with God's Work. Our hands at Project 16:49 on September 8. We'd love to see you there!

Join us for

"God's work. Our hands."



Sunday, September 8

A dedicated day of service in our community. Sign up today for one of our service activities!

Lunch will be provided immediately following the late service.



Help for Caritas

Volunteers will help with various duties, like clean-up and organization.



16:49 House Clean-up

Help with clean-up and minor home repair for homeless youth in our area.



Birthday Bags for Caritas

Volunteers will fill bags with supplies to help a family make a cake and have a small party for their child.



Notes & Cards for VetsRoll

Make handmade cards or simply write a note for a Veteran. This activity is for anyone - come make your card, put together a card kit, or simply write a note in an already made card.

“
**THANK
YOU**
”

Vacation Bible School

I just wanted to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped with VBS: SCUBA, Diving into friendship with God. This years program was a huge success! We had 18-20 children attend. They had a

wonderful time learning about how God is a friend who... Loves, is Real, is Trustworthy, is Forever, and for Everyone! Music, Sticky Scripture, Crafts, Games, and Dinner every night. Wednesday night, being National Night Out, and the children were able to explore a fire engine, a police car and an ambulance as well. Fun was had by all! We ended Thursday night with the children making their own ice cream sundaes! Yummy!

A special thank you to Valerie and Kelly for creating our ocean under the sea in the Commons! The decorations were beautiful and they livened up the festivities.

Also, a special thank you to Amanda Van Fleet, Anna Circle, Fellowship Committee and Sue Schimke (Mark's Pizza) for proving all the wonderful meals all week long! The food was delicious!

And I absolutely could not have pulled off the VBS week without all the help from Molly, Nancy, Dawson, Maggie, Julie, Harry, and Beb. Thank you for all your planning and preparations to make this week eventful and memorable!

God's Blessings and I can't wait until next year!

Kellie Carrier-Richards





Fall Harvest Festival

This year's WELCA Fall Harvest Festival will be held on **Friday, November 1** from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm and **Saturday, November 2** from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. On Friday we have added a barbecue, chips and ice

cream lunch in the Fellowship Hall from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm for \$8.00. On Saturday a luncheon of scalloped potatoes and ham, vegetable, coleslaw and a roll will be served from 11:00 am until 12:30 pm for \$10.00. A variety of desserts will be offered for a free will offering.

Once again we will be having our Household, Craft, Bake and Jewelry sales...no clothing or purses. So, it's time to clean out your closets, drawers, basements, attics and donate any unwanted household items, antiques, small furniture items, unwanted jewelry for our sales.

Donations of household items may be brought to the church beginning October 1 - if you need help carrying items, please plan to drop them off on Sunday or Monday morning, when someone will be available to help you. A selling price on any antiques is appreciated. We welcome volunteers to help in the kitchen or with any of the sales, If you would like to volunteer or have any questions feel free to contact Betty Johnston or call the church office at 608-362-0716.

Proceeds from the Fall Harvest Festival go to Vets Roll, Lutherdale Bible Camp, Defy Domestic Abuse Beloit, Caritas, Sparrow's Nest, Skaalen Home and OSLC Internal Projects.

Raffle Prizes

Tickets for the raffle prizes will be on sale before and after services starting September 14-15. Admire the handmade quilt, unique afghan, wooden barn quilt, and garden bench that are on display in the Commons. Take a chance to win one of these prizes or a \$75 Geronimo gift card. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Theme Baskets

WELCA circles are providing theme gift baskets to be raffled. Other members are welcome to donate a basket as well. Tickets will be sold starting September 14-15 for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.



September Circle Meetings

Anna Circle - Tuesday, September 3 at 6:30 pm Meeting at church.

Naomi Circle - Monday, September 9 at 5:30 pm Meeting at Shopiere Park.

Rebekah Circle - Thursday, September 12 at 9:30 am Meeting at church.

Elizabeth Circle - Tuesday, September 19 at 1:00 pm Hostess: Sue Hanewall

Shalom Circle - Wednesday, September 18 at 9:00 am Hostess: Pat Brogan

SEWING BEE

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

KNIT WITS | Wednesday, September 11 at 2:00 pm

GREETING CARD SALES | Sunday, September 14 During Coffee Hour in the Commons

BOARD MEETING | Thursday, September 19 4:00 pm in the Chapel.

▶▶▶ WELCA RETREAT

Saturday, October 5 2024

Bethany Lutheran Church – Wisconsin Dells

You are invited to the 2024 South-Central Synod of Wisconsin WELCA Women's Retreat. We will gather on Saturday, October 5, 2024 from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm at Bethany Lutheran Church located at 620 Broadway Ave., Wisconsin Dells, WI.

Link for information:

<https://scsw-elca.org/welca2024/>

Please contact Pat Brogan or Sue Hanewall, if interested in attending

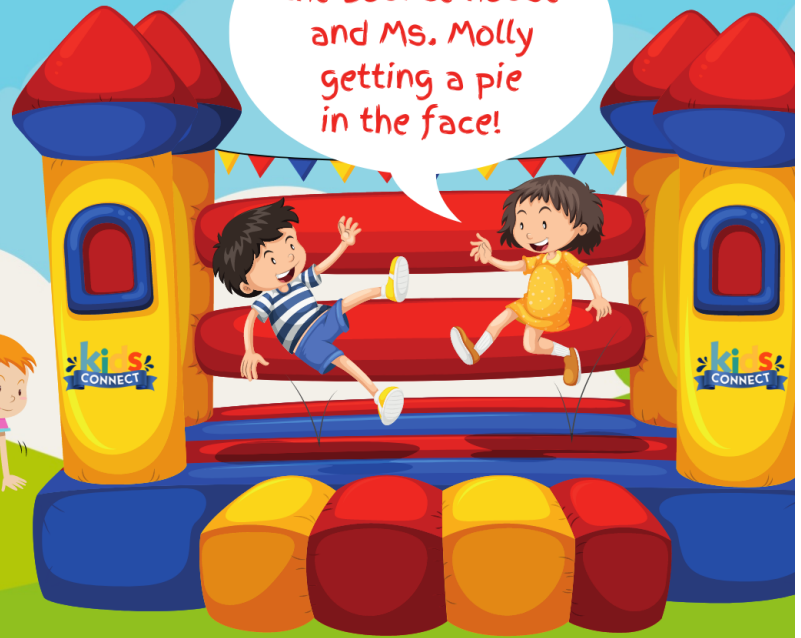
KIDS CONNECT KICK-OFF

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 @ 10:00 AM

Let's KICK-OFF our new year of Kids Connect with some outdoor fun!

Join us for special activities, games, and more!

Featuring:
the bounce house
and Ms. Molly
getting a pie
in the face!



Kids Connect is offered Sunday morning from 10:30 am - 11:15 am for children pre-k through 5th grade.

Register for Kids Connect online:
www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/families

Key Financials | July 31, 2024

Month	2023	Actual General Offerings	Budget Offering Per Month	Monthly Surplus (Shortfall)	Cumulative (Shortfall)	Unrestricted Expenses	Budgeted Expenses
January	\$25,392	\$33,122	\$35,417	\$ (2,295)	\$ (2,295)	\$33,133	\$38,074
February	\$34,853	\$30,057	\$35,417	\$ (5,360)	\$ (7,655)	\$33,157	\$38,074
March	\$29,382	\$35,334	\$35,417	\$ (83)	\$ (7,738)	\$35,386	\$38,074
April	\$37,155	\$26,590	\$35,417	\$ (8,827)	\$ (16,565)	\$36,069	\$38,074
May	\$22,532	\$29,958	\$35,417	\$ (5,459)	\$ (22,024)	\$33,379	\$38,074
June	\$30,728	\$30,906	\$35,417	\$ (4,511)	\$ (26,535)	\$33,207	\$38,074
July	\$28,455	\$24,822	\$35,417	\$ (10,595)	\$ (37,130)	\$36,613	\$38,074
August	\$23,479						
September	\$25,713						
October	\$34,779						
November	\$25,513						
December	\$89,490						
Total	\$407,471	\$210,789	\$247,919			\$240,944	\$266,518



September 2024

749 Bluff Street, Beloit, WI 53511 | (608) 362-0716 | www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 PENTECOST 15 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	2 LABOR DAY <i>Office Closed</i>	3 9:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 5:00pm Lutherans on the Move 6:30am Anna Circle	4 9:00am Men's Group 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 6:00pm Confirmation Orientation (9th grade) 6:30pm Confirmation Orientation (7th & 8th Grade)	5 6:00pm WMA Meeting 6:00pm OA	6 9:30am BAREA Board	7 10:00am Visitation for Bill Coldren 11:00am Memorial Service for Bill Coldren 5:00pm Worship
8 PENTECOST 16 God's work. Our hands. Sunday 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:30am Youth Connect 10:00am Kids Connect Kick-Off 10:30am Worship 10:30am Kids Connect 11:45am Lunch, followed by activities 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	9 8:30am Sewing Bee 5:30pm Naomi Circle	10 9:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study	11 10:00am Second Harvest 2:00pm Knit Wits 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 7:00pm Confirmation	12 9:30am Rebekah Circle 12:00pm Young @ Heart 5:30pm Personnel 6:00pm OA	13 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal (Cioni/Ahlgren)	14 2:30pm Wedding (Cioni/Ahlgren) 5:00pm Worship
15 PENTECOST 17 8:30am Worship 9:30am Bonhoeffer Book Study 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:30am Youth Connect 10:30am Worship 10:30am Kids Connect 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	16 8:30am Sewing Bee 9:00am Newsletter Deadline	17 9:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 1:00pm Elizabeth Circle	18 9:00am Men's Group 9:00am Shalom Circle 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 7:00pm Confirmation	19 1:00pm Elizabeth Circle 4:00pm WELCA Board 6:00pm OA	20	21 5:00pm Worship
22 PENTECOST 18 8:30am Worship 9:30am Bonhoeffer Book Study 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:30am Youth Connect 10:30am Worship 10:30am Kids Connect 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	23 8:30am Sewing Bee 2:00pm Care Team	24 9:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Second Harvest 11:00am Pastors Text Study	25 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 7:00pm Confirmation	26 5:30pm Education 6:00pm OA 6:30pm Board Meeting	27	28 8:00am Lutherans on the Move Departure (Faith Lutheran) 5:00pm Worship
29 PENTECOST 19 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:30am Youth Connect 10:30am Worship 10:30am Kids Connect 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	30 8:30am Sewing Bee					Updated: 8/21/2024



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

TO:

Our Staff:
Rev. Anthony Dusso Pastor
Valerie Dusso Administrative Assistant
Kellie Carrier-Richards Children's Ministry Coordinator
Milton Dodson A/V Assistant
Grant Dusso A/V Assistant
Kelly Erdmann Financial Secretary
Cheryl Licary Organist & Choir Director
Jean Lincoln Lay Pastoral Assistant
Molly Rosenbloom Youth Ministry Coordinator

Join us for

"God's work. Our hands."



Sunday, September 8

A dedicated day of service in our community.
Sign up today for one of our service activities!
Lunch will be provided immediately
following the late service.

