

APRIL 2025

# THE MESSENGER

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Beloit, WI



## Signs of Birth and Regrowth



*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

*In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,  
thinking that he would never wake again;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

*Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

**Words from Now the Green Blade Rise—ELW 379**

As I sit here writing this article, I noticed a robin just outside my window. Now I've been told that when you see a robin that spring is right around the corner. However, last week I read where some robins tend to stick around during the winter so it's really the red-winged blackbird that we should be watching for.

Well I've seen both now and for me that means spring

is quickly approaching, the birds are coming back, the trees are beginning to bud, the grass is turning green. All signs of birth and regrowth.

So it is with the church too. We are always evolving and growing as a congregation. We travel through the different seasons of the church to prepare us for what's coming.

We are currently in the season of Lent where we prepare ourselves for Holy Week and then on to Easter. We take this time to come together for our annual Lenten Soup Suppers at 6:00 each Wednesday night through Lent with the last one on April 9. After the suppers we then go into the sanctuary where we gather for Holden Evening Prayer and listen to a meditation on various parables.

We find the season passes so quickly because Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter will be here before you know it.

This year for Palm Sunday (April 12/13) we will hear the Passion Drama read to us by members of the congregation, with Holy Week services to follow with Maundy Thursday services at 7:00pm and Good Friday Services at 12:00 noon and 7:00pm.

There will be no services on Saturday, April 19.

Easter services will begin with a Sunrise Service at 6:30 am and our usual time of 8:30 am & 10:30 am. There will be special music as well as our choir with a brunch served between the two early services.

In looking at the planning that is already being done it will be a very festive morning, and I hope that you will plan to be with us experiencing the wonder and excitement that Easter brings to us at the end of our Lenten Journey.

Jean Lincoln  
*Lay Pastoral Assistant*

To reflect God's love through caring service to our church, the community, and the world.

## A message from Pastor Brian Ferguson

Dear friends in Christ,

My name is Brian Ferguson, and I am serving as Our Savior's short-term pastoral leader. I have been invited to walk with you through Easter and perhaps a bit beyond. During this time, the staff of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin will be working to identify a longer-term Interim Pastor who can lead this faith community during this time of pastoral transition.

A little bit about myself. My wife and I moved to Madison last October. I am in the process of searching for a Call to serve a congregation in the Madison area. I have been an ordained minister in the E.L.C.A. for over twenty years, serving congregations in Hudson, Wisconsin and Cincinnati, Ohio. Prior to Ordained ministry, I served as a Youth & Family minister in my home congregation located in Sandwich, Illinois.

My ministry focus with you will be to ensure that Our Savior's continues its calling to be the Body of Christ. Currently that means, continuing to gather regularly for worship; that you support and encourage one another; that you continue your ministries of care and service; that our youth are offered instruction in faith; and that we pray for one another. Together we will continue to be the church.

Finally, I ask that you pray. That you pray for the members of the Board as they lead Our Savior's through a challenging time; that you pray for members of Our Savior's staff as they continue to plan and lead ongoing ministry; that we pray for the staff of the South Central Synod of Wisconsin as they provide guidance and oversight; that you pray for the Dusso family as they have now stepped into a new reality; and that you pray for all the members and friends of this faith community. If you find yourself not sure what to pray, trust in Apostle Paul's words in Romans 8 where he tells us, *"The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words."*

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of partnering with you in the sharing of the gospel.

In Christ,  
Pastor Brian Ferguson



## Young @ Heart

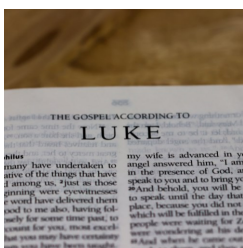
On **Thursday, April 10 from 12:00-2:00 pm**, come out for fellowship, lunch, and more. Mark Lindsey will present slides of England and Norway. Lunch will be ham, baked potato, vegetable, roll, and ice cream, In order to prepare lunch, please sign-up on the sheet located on the counter in the Commons by Sunday, April 6. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Lincoln or any member of the Fellowship Team.



## Lenten Soup Supper and Worship

Weekly Lenten Soup Suppers continue on **April 2 and 9** at 6:00 pm in the Commons, followed by worship at 7:00 pm.

Sign-up sheets for our Lenten Soup Suppers are now available on the counter in the Commons, please consider signing up to provide soup and/or bread.



## Go and Do Likewise

Among the most exciting practices of our Lenten journey is gathering for worship every Wednesday of the season. We will use the Holden Evening Prayer as our liturgy for these services. This beautiful setting breaks into our soul with the music and prayers that expressed our hope in Christ. This year's services will focus on the theme "Go and Do Likewise: The Parables of Luke."

- 4/2 Luke 15:1-10 "Parables of the Lost Sheep & Coin"
- 4/9 Luke 18:9-14 "Parable of the Pharisee & Tax Collector"

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## Lenten Service Opportunity

This year during Lent we are collecting hair care products to assist Caritas in their service to those in need.

Donations of new shampoo and conditioner can be placed in the blue bin in the Commons.



## Lutherdale Camperships

Registration has opened for camp at Lutherdale this summer and once again Our Savior's is offering camperships thanks to the generosity of several donors, including our WELCA ladies. Register your student

for a week of camp at Lutherdale's website [lutherdale.org](http://lutherdale.org), submit the deposit, and turn in your campership application to us. Campership applications are due to Molly Rosenbloom or the church office by **Monday, April 14.**



## Scholarship Opportunity

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is proud and blessed to offer scholarships for students who will be enrolled in postsecondary education during the 2025-2026 school year. Applications

are now available - visit [www.oursaviorshbeloitwi.org/scholarships](http://www.oursaviorshbeloitwi.org/scholarships) for all of the details. **The application deadline is April 27, 2025.** If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 608-362-0716.

We will be recognizing this year's High School graduates at our **10:30 am service on June 8.** If your child will be graduating this year, please notify the church office or Pat Brogan at [pabrogan@aol.com](mailto:pabrogan@aol.com).

# HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

## Palm Sunday, April 13 [8:30 & 10:30 am]

Services will begin with the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the blessing of palm branches. Members of the congregation will share the Passion Story while the whole assembly sings songs that reflect the events.

## Maundy Thursday, April 17 [7:00 pm]

We will recall Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples and his New Commandment to love one another. The service ends in darkness with the stripping of the altar, propelling us to contemplate the sufferings of Christ.

## Good Friday, April 18 (12:00 & 7:00 pm)

These services of Light and Darkness move us to walk with Christ through his Passion as told in John's Gospel. As candles are extinguished, we ponder how Christ's unity with our suffering and death is made complete on the cross. The Bidding Prayer and final meditation upon the cross grounds us in his salvation path.

## Easter Sunday, April 20 [6:30, 8:30, and 10:30 am]

The tomb is empty! We gather to celebrate Christ's victory over death and the grave. United with Christ in death we are also united in his resurrection triumph. Our Sunrise Service at 6:30 am, begins in darkness and recognizes that this is the night death was defeated and Christ rose from the grave. All the services will be grounded in the Easter Story from Luke's Gospel and include music that sings praises to God and shares the news that Christ is risen!



## Kids Connect

Grow your child's faith with Jesus! Children will learn about HIS love while exploring, stories, crafts, music, and games. Kids Connect is offered **Sunday morning from 10:30 am - 11:15 am** for children pre-k through

5th grade. Contact [kellie@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org](mailto:kellie@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org) for more information.

### Kid's Connect Sunday Worship—Sunday, May 4

Our children are planning a special Worship service and have already begun rehearsing their songs. Additional practices may be necessary with the older youth as we get closer to the date. Music will be sent home for memorizing.

### Palm Sunday—Sunday, April 13

Children and Youth will lead the processional, waving palm branches at the start of the 10:30 am service. Children's Moment will be at the beginning of service, then children will be dismissed to attend Kid's Connect. They will return to the service for communion with their parents.

### Easter Egg Hunt—Saturday April 19

This event is open to the community for children, ages Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Donuts, juice and milk will be served in the Commons at 10:30 am. Egg hunt begins at 11:00 am. Bring a bag or basket to gather your eggs. If the weather is not cooperating, we will have the egg hunt downstairs on the lower level of the church.

*No Kid's Connect Easter Sunday.*

**ALL CHILDREN WELCOME  
PRE-K - 5TH GRADE**

**Our Savior's  
Lutheran Church**

**EASTER  
EGG HUNT**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 19  
10:30 AM**

## Easter Breakfast Sunday, April 20

A church-wide continental breakfast will be served in the Commons, beginning at 7:30 am. Invite friends, fellowship together, and enjoy this Easter celebration.

Please sign up to bring "easy to eat" breakfast items to share.

We also need help serving and cleaning up, if you are available, please indicate on the sign up sheet.



## Youth Connect

Join us for Youth Connect every Sunday at 9:30 am. It's a fantastic chance for fun, fellowship, and deepening your faith! Reach out to [molly@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org](mailto:molly@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org) for

more information.

*No Youth Connect on Easter Sunday.*

## Passover Seder



Join us **on Sunday, April 27, at 12:00 pm** for a special afternoon of celebration and reflection. We'll begin with a traditional **Passover Seder** complete with matzo ball soup.

Following the Seder, we'll enjoy a screening of the animated film *The Prince of Egypt*.

This is a family-friendly event, and all are welcome to join us. Please bring your appetite, your spirit of celebration, and a friend!

Questions can be directed to Molly ([molly@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org](mailto:molly@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org)). Sign up in the Commons. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Everybody  
Welcome!



Our Savior's Lutheran  
Women of the Church  
749 Bluff Street, Beloit, WI  
608-362-0716

# Salad Luncheon

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Wednesday, May 7, 2025  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

Featuring.....

- Hot Chicken Salad
- Variety of Salads
- Cinnamon Rolls
- Selection of Desert  
Bars



Cinnamon Rolls  
For Sale to Take Home

Tickets  
\$ 8.00 Adults  
\$ 4.00 Children 12 & under

Tickets sold at the door

## A few pictures from last month's Young @ Heart:



Reserve your table today!

# TRIVIA NIGHT

Bring your friends and your brain power for an unforgettable night of trivia!

## SATURDAY, MAY 3

**THE FUN BEGINS AT 6:30 PM**

Gather your team of 6-8 players and sign-up in the Commons! Cost is \$10 per person. BBQ, Hot Dogs, chips, and snacks will be provided. Door prizes will be available. All proceeds benefit our youth ministry.



### Circle Meetings

**Anna Circle** - Tues., April 1 at 6:30 pm  
Meeting at church in the Fellowship Hall.

**Shalom Circle** - Wed., April 10 at 9:00 am  
Hostess: Kay Alpers

**Rebekah Circle** - Thurs., April 10 at 9:30 am  
Meeting at church. Hostess: Linda Nelson

**Naomi Circle** - Mon., April 14 at 5:30 pm  
@ Shopiere Tap

**Elizabeth Circle** - Tues., April 15 at 1:00 pm  
Hostess: Judy Darling

#### SEWING BEE

Mondays from 8:30-11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

#### KNIT WITS

Second Wednesday of each month.  
April 9 at 2:00 pm | The home of Shirley Von Allman

#### BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 10 at 4:00 pm

## Key Financials | February 28, 2025

Month	2024 Actual General Offerings	2025 Actual General Offerings	Budget Offering Per Month	Monthly Surplus (Shortfall)	Cumulative Shortfall	Unrestricted Expenses	Budgeted Expenses	Reimbursed from Foundation
January	\$33,122	\$30,280	\$35,417	\$(5,137)	\$(5,137)	\$33,443	\$38,587	\$3,582
February	\$30,057	\$33,392	\$35,417	\$(2,025)	\$(7,162)	\$36,404	\$38,587	
March	\$35,334		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(42,579)		\$38,587	
April	\$26,590		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(77,996)		\$38,587	
May	\$29,958		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(113,413)		\$38,587	
June	\$30,906		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(148,830)		\$38,587	
July	\$24,822		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(184,247)		\$38,587	
August	\$22,910		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(219,664)		\$38,587	
September	\$24,930		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(255,081)		\$38,587	
October	\$32,017		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(290,498)		\$38,587	
November	\$47,249		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(325,915)		\$38,587	
December	\$35,290		\$35,417	\$(35,417)	\$(361,332)		\$38,587	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$373,185</b>	<b>\$63,672</b>	<b>\$425,004</b>			<b>\$69,847</b>	<b>\$463,044</b>	<b>\$3,582</b>



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

# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>6 5 LENT</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:30am Youth Connect 9:30am Palm Sunday Reading Rehearsal 10:30am Worship 10:30am Kids Connect 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>7</b> 8:30am Sewing Bee	<b>1 ELECTION DAY</b> 6:00am Election/Polling Place 9:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Anna Circle	<b>2</b> 9:00am Men's Group 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir	<b>3</b> 6:00pm OA	<b>4</b> 9:30am BAREA Board	<b>5</b> 5:00pm Worship
<b>13 PALM SUNDAY</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:30am Youth Connect 10:30am Worship 10:30am Kids Connect 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>14</b> 8:30am Sewing Bee 5:30pm Naomi Circle	<b>8</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 6:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>9</b> 10:00am Second Harvest 2:00pm Knit Wits 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir	<b>10</b> 9:00am Shalom Circle 9:30am Rebekah Circle 12:00pm Young @ Heart 4:00pm WELCA Board 5:30pm Personnel 6:00pm OA	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5:00pm Worship
<b>20 EASTER SUNDAY</b> 6:30am Worship 7:30am Easter Breakfast (until 10:30am) 8:30am Worship 10:30am Worship 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>21 Office Closed</b>	<b>15 Newsletter Deadline</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 1:00pm Elizabeth Circle 6:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>16</b> 9:00am Men's Group 9:00am Shalom Circle 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>17 MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 6:00pm OA 7:00pm Worship	<b>18 GOOD FRIDAY</b> 12:00pm Worship 7:00pm Worship	<b>19</b> 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt
<b>27 EASTER 2</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 9:30am Youth Connect 10:30am Worship 10:30am Kids Connect 12:00pm Passover Seder 1:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>28</b> 8:30am Sewing Bee	<b>22 Office Closed</b> 10:00am Second Harvest 6:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>23</b> 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992)	<b>24</b> 11:30am BAREA General Meeting 6:00pm OA 6:30pm Board Meeting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:00pm Worship
		<b>29</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Pastors Text Study 6:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>30</b> 5:00pm Televised Worship (Ch. 992) 7:00pm Confirmation			

Updated: 3/25/2025



749 Bluff Street, Beloit WI 53511  
Phone: (608) 362-0716

Non-Profit  
Organization  
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**PAID**  
Beloit, WI  
PERMIT NO. 167

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

**TO:**

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

AT OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 13 | **PALM SUNDAY**  
8:30 & 10:30 am Services

APRIL 17 | **MAUNDAY THURSDAY**  
7:00 pm Service

APRIL 18 | **GOOD FRIDAY**  
12:00 & 7:00 pm Services

APRIL 20 | **EASTER SUNDAY**  
6:30, 8:30, & 10:30 am Services

Join us as we celebrate the passion and resurrection of Christ Jesus.  
Easter Sunday breakfast will be served from 7:30 - 10:30 am.  
Bring a friend and enjoy!

