

# The Messenger

Newsletter of Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Hastings, Minnesota

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume XXXIX - No. 2

March 2022

## worship WITH US

### Sunday Morning

- 8:00 Worship
- 9:00 Traditional Blended Worship
- 10:30 Modern Blended Worship

*Child Care is available at the Sunday morning 9:00 & 10:30 services for children age 3 and younger.*

### Wednesday Evening

- 7:00 REFRESH Service

### Education Opportunities

#### Sunday Morning

- 9:00 & 10:30 JAM (Jesus & Me)
- 10:00 CONNECT Adult Learning

### Wednesday Evening

- 6:00 JAM
- 7:00 God+Life

### Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship

We've added a few more beverage choices to Sunday morning coffee fellowship. We now offer hot chocolate, tea and hot apple cider along with coffee and donut holes. Check it out!!



Wednesday  
March 9  
5:30-7:00 pm

*Join us for our next*

## Chili Cook-Off Challenge

Hosted by Youth of Our Saviour's

### We need:

- Contestants to prepare and bring chili
- Dining guests to judge the chili

Contestants - Sign up at the Information Desk by March 2 to participate or call the church office.

Bring in a crockpot of your favorite chili hot and ready to serve by 4:30 pm.

Everyone will taste and vote for the winner.

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# Pastor's Page

*"Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."* (Matthew 6:10 NRSV)

## My Way

It starts early. The test of wills that is. I am told I was a handful to toilet train. I can remember having an "argument" with my son when he wasn't yet able to talk. I was trying to supplement his diet with some different baby foods, he didn't want them. Instead, he pointed to the toast. I would try to feed him some vegetables. He would shake his head and point to the toast.

This test of wills between parent and child is a common one. There is a scene in the movie, *A River Runs Through It*, that always make me smile. For those of you who haven't seen it, the movie follows the lives of the Maclean brothers, Paul and Norman from early childhood into their adult years as they live a relatively blissful life in scenic rural Montana. They are sons of a Presbyterian minister. Early on in the movie, Paul who is eight at the time, does not want to eat the oatmeal served to him at breakfast.

The family has a tradition of saying "grace," offering a prayer at the end of their meal, before they are excused from the table. His father tells him that they will not say "grace" until his bowl is clean. Paul doesn't move. He stares silently straight ahead. The rest of the family leaves. Paul doesn't move. It is a test of wills. It gets to be 11:45. Paul's father returns, the family and the family say "grace," in which the father prays, giving thanks for blessing and the gift of forgiveness.

Part of me says, "Yay, for Paul!" There is something admirable about not giving in to pressure—being your own person. There are times when it is important to hold fast to important values, standing up for the truth, and not capitulate to evil.

But, there is also a fine line between determination and stubbornness. There is a point where insisting on your own way is no longer admirable—a place where it becomes rude or even abusive. There is a place where it becomes the opposite of love. Paul in 1 Corinthians 13 in describing love says, "...it does not insist on its own way..."

Knowing where that line is in human interactions is nuanced and more art than science. Now that I stop and think about it, Paul's dad was probably teaching his son as much or more about knowing where the line is, than about the importance of appreciating the food you have.

I have spent this time talking about the ambiguity and nuance of asserting our will with respect to each other, because I think there are similarities when it comes to responding to God's will. First of all, there are times when I wish God's will was more clear—when I don't want the responsibility of making a decision, especially if I am afraid that I might make the wrong one, and face consequences that I think will be unpleasant or harmful.

God also invites me to express my will to God in prayer—to let God know

what I want. God does not want me to be an automated robot or a doormat. God has created me to have perspectives, desires, and opinions.

God wants to know them. God may not always agree. Sometimes the purpose of prayer is that it changes me. But, the bible gives testimony to times when God changes God's mind because of prayer—Abraham praying to God about Sodom for example.

But, there are also times when I am stubborn, hard-hearted, and when I just plain ignore, discount, or do not listen to what God wants. There are times when I insist on my own way—when I pray, "Thy will be done," but what I mean is: "Bless what I want or what I am doing," because I do not plan to change. I can go along blissfully like that for a while. Eventually, the Holy Spirit gets ahold of me in these times and will not let me rest.

The Holy Spirit works in its own way and on its own time schedule, but the coming season of Lent is a time when we acknowledge this tendency we have to be hard-hearted and insistent on doing things our way—my will be done. It is a time when we seek to open ourselves to the Holy Spirit's work of correcting us and bringing us into closer alignment with God's will. It is a time when we seek to truly pray, "Thy will be done."

May God bless your Lenten journey.

Pastor Lloyd Menke



**Our vision:** *Rooted in God's grace, always made new.*

**Our mission:** *Living as the hands, feet and heart of Christ.*

**Our promise:** *Rejoicing together in God's grace, hope and love.*

Our Ministers:  
All members of Our Saviour's

Pastoral Staff:  
Lloyd Menke, Senior Pastor  
Joel Rova-Hegener, Associate Pastor

Our Website: [www.OSEL.org](http://www.OSEL.org)  
Church email: [OSEL@OSEL.org](mailto:OSEL@OSEL.org)



# Worship and Music Ministry



## Lenten REFRESH

### Messages

We invite you to REFRESH worship services on Wednesday evenings during

the season of Lent, which begin on Ash Wednesday and continue until Easter.

For the first four Wednesdays in Lent, we will meet a character from the Passion story of Jesus Christ. Each character will give insight from their point of view about who Jesus was, and how he touched their hearts on that first Good Friday or Easter Sunday.

We will meet:

- *Procula* the wife of Pontius Pilate,
- the *Thief upon the cross*,
- the *Roman Centurion* who stood at the foot of the cross,
- and *Mary Magdalene*, Jesus' good friend and disciple.

On the fifth and last Wednesday of Lent, April 6, Ray Menard will speak, "*Behold the Man: When did I see You?*"

REFRESH starts each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

## Lenten Suppers - Join Us!

Wednesday night dinners 5:30-7:00 pm  
(before the REFRESH worship service)

Bring your family, invite your friends, and enjoy a wonderful meal served by our very own youth! Each Wednesday of Lent, Chef Johnny and our youth will prepare and serve a delicious meal from 5:30-7 pm. All proceeds from these evenings will go directly to support our youth attending mission trips and camps this summer. Thank you for your support!

- |          |                                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| March 2  | Chicken Noodle Soup & Sandwiches      |
| March 9  | Chili Cook-Off (see front page)       |
| March 16 | Corn Beef Cabbage, boiled potatoes    |
| March 23 | Pizza Hut Pizza (\$1 per slice)       |
| March 30 | Meatloaf with mashed potatoes & gravy |
| April 6  | Roasted chicken breast dinner         |

*Menus are subject to change based on limited availability or expense of some food items.*

ASH WEDNESDAY  
*worship*

## Ash Wednesday Schedule on March 2

- **4:30 pm** – Ash Wednesday worship with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.
- **5:30 pm** – REFRESH meal (Chicken Noodle Soup with assorted sandwiches.)
- **7:00 pm** – Ash Wednesday Worship with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.

*(During the imposition of ashes the pastors will wear N95 masks. If you would prefer to receive ashes outside, the pastors will impose them upon your exit from the church at the two main doorways.)*



## Palm Sunday, April 10

- **8:00 am** – Palm/Passion worship.
- **8:30–12Noon** - Pancake Breakfast (Fundraiser by and for the High School youth for the mission trip to Alaska)
- **9:00 am** – Palm/Passion worship.
- **10:30 am** – Palm/Passion worship (New Creation Band)

(No CONNECT learning. Instead, come, and eat breakfast and support the youth!)

## Maundy Thursday, April 14

**7:00 pm** – worship service with Holy Communion with First Communion participants.

## Good Friday, April 15

**7:00 pm** – Tenebrae worship service (no sermon)

## Easter Sunday, April 17

- 8:00 am** – Easter worship
- 9:00 am** – Easter worship
- 10:00 am** – Easter worship
- 11:00 am** – Easter worship (New Creation Band)



# Pancake Breakfast



**Palm Sunday**

## Pancake Breakfast

**Sunday, April 10**

**8:30 am-12 Noon**

Enjoy pancakes and egg bake in-between services on Palm Sunday! Food served 8:30 am – 12 Noon and the event is a youth fundraiser. Bring your friends!



## EGGSTRAVAGANZA

**Sunday, April 10**

After the 10:30 am service, stay for our annual Egg Hunt! Gather in the Fellowship Hall (around 11:30 am) and decorate a bag in which to carry your eggs. Egg Hunt will start around 11:45 am.



## No-Cost Fundraiser

**BUY GIFT CARDS HERE for gifts and your everyday purchases**

Did you know you can purchase gift cards for all of the popular retailers and restaurants right here at

Our Saviour's for no extra charge? Caribou, Starbucks, Kwik Trip, American Eagle, Cub, Holiday, too many to list! AND, a portion of your purchase will go directly to supporting this summer's High School Mission Trip and camp – that's a win-win!

To order, visit [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) and use code **2E76F91A13753** to register and start ordering gift cards. Or, you may call the office at 651-437-9052 to place an order over the phone. Order forms available at the Information Desk.



Donate online at [www.osel.org/donate](http://www.osel.org/donate) or mail your donation to the church office at: Our Saviour's,

400 9th Street West, Hastings, MN 55033. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of Our Saviour's!

## Online Worship Services Continue



We continue to offer an online option for our Sunday services. We invite you to join us each week if you are unable to attend in person:

- Our website: [www.osel.org](http://www.osel.org)
- Like our page on Facebook @oursaviours
- Subscribe to our YouTube channels:  
Our Saviour's Hastings  
Our Saviour's Youth - Hastings

Visit sites often but especially on Sunday mornings for the most recent service or music project.

For those who don't have access to a computer or internet, please tune in to **KDWA 1460 AM** or **97.7 FM** radio at 6:30 pm on Sundays or 6:30 pm Wednesdays.

# Children, Youth & Family Ministry

*Amy Hanson*

Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry  
651-437-9052, ext. 30; [cyf@osel.org](mailto:cyf@osel.org)

## Dates to Remember for Youth Programming

There will be *NO* youth programming (JAM or God+Life) on the following dates:

- **Wednesday, March 2**  
Ash Wednesday – Please come for dinner and an Ash Wednesday service!
- **Sunday, March 13**  
Spring Break
- **Wednesday, March 16**  
Spring Break
- **Wednesday, April 13**  
Holy Week
- **Sunday, April 17** - Easter



## Gertens Flower Sale

**Starts Feb. 28**

Get ready for Spring and help out our youth – it's a win-win! This is a fantastic fundraiser for our youth who are attending mission trips or camp this summer. It's easy to order – simply use the link on the website at [osel.org](http://osel.org) beginning Feb. 28. If you'd like to sell flowers specifically for your family account, please contact Ann Traeder at [ann.traeder@osel.org](mailto:ann.traeder@osel.org). Orders must be placed **no later than Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** with flower delivery on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Vacation Bible School – God's Wonder Lab

The study of science is really a study of God. He made the Earth. He created gravity. He put the stars in the sky. Studying science is learning about God's creativity! Join us this summer on an exciting journey of experiments and fun as we explore this wonderful world from God!

**WHAT:** God's Wonder Lab VBS

**WHEN:** Monday, Aug. 8 through Wednesday, Aug. 10, 9 am–12 Noon

**WHO:** Ages 3 years (fully toilet-trained) through completed 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

**REGISTER:** \$25/participant

Register online at [OSEL.org](http://OSEL.org) today!

## Summer BLAST is BACK!

Back by popular demand, Summer BLAST provides the opportunity for those who have completed 5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> grade to participate in community service projects and summer activities—all in one day! On select days throughout the summer, youth will serve those in need, share a lunch, and then enjoy a fun afternoon together. Last year's activities included cleaning up our local parks, serving at Hastings Family Service, volunteering at Feed My Starving Children, hitting up the Hastings Aquatic Center and visiting Prescott Beach. Bring a friend and join in the fun!

**DATES\*:** June 16, July 14, August 10  
(\*Additional dates TBD!)

**TIMES:** Drop-off from 8 am–9 am,  
Pick-up is 4 pm – 5 pm.

**REGISTRATION:** \$20/date per student, register online using the Sign-up Genius link at [osel.org](http://osel.org)

## Blankets for our Senior Class of 2022

It's hard to believe, but graduation is only a few months away for our Class of 2022! Each year, congregation members at Our Saviour's make homemade fleece blankets for each of the graduating students who were confirmed at Our Saviour's. If you'd like to make a blanket for a particular student, or one that can go to any student, please sign up at the Information Desk or contact Ann Traeder ([ann.traeder@osel.org](mailto:ann.traeder@osel.org)) in the office at (651) 437-9052.

## Baccalaureate Service for the Class of 2022

Save the date! We will be celebrating our Class of 2022 Seniors on Wednesday, June 1 at 7 pm. This special Baccalaureate service honors and celebrates our students on this milestone in their lives. Join us for light refreshments after the service. Friend and family are welcome!

## High School Mission Trip to Colorado Added!

From June 20–25, 2022 join a small group heading to Denver, CO to build relationships within the community by serving those experiencing homelessness and poverty. This trip is a perfect 'first' mission trip experience finishing with a full fun day in Colorado! All students who have completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade or older are eligible—invite a friend! Trip cost is \$550/person and includes all travel, lodging, meals, and activities. Spots are very limited, please contact Amy Hanson at [cyf@osel.org](mailto:cyf@osel.org) today if interested!

# Food 4 Kids

Join us to help pack Food 4 Kids bags  
March 23  
April 20

We will be packing the bags in the gathering area from 5:30-7pm.  
Thanks to all who helped in February.

## Military Care Packages

Thank you to all who donated items for the military care packages. We donated the items to the Armed Forces Service Center at the MPLS Airport. Volunteers will hand out the items to troops being deployed or returning from deployment. Debra at the center was so appreciative, and mentioned that a large group of troops is coming home and items are needed to fill the goody bags they will hand out.



The OSEL Quilting Group made 30+ quilts!! Some of the quilts were donated to the Vets home and some were donated to Rise-Up Recovery for women transitioning from a treatment facility to being on their own.

**Fare For All**, a non-profit organization that purchases produce and meats in large quantities, is for people of any age and any income, resulting in 40% savings to people who participate. Food is packaged in boxes. All meat is frozen. For 2022, All Saints Lutheran (8100 Belden Blvd, Cottage Grove) will host this event the first Thursday of every month, always **between 4-6 pm**, with the next two food events on **Thursdays, March 3 and April 7, 2022**. No appointment needed. Cash, credit, debit, or EBT cards accepted. Check website or call 763-450-3880. For more information visit <https://fareforall.thefoodgroupmn.org/> or contact Parish Nurse Sherri at [sherri.lohmann@osel.org](mailto:sherri.lohmann@osel.org).



## Hops & Hymns is currently ON HOLD

A huge thank you to Gordy Pearson for leading the music over the past several years and to Spiral Brewery for letting us enjoy their casual atmosphere.



## Food With Friends

## Food With Friends

### Sign up for March & April Meals

We are providing a meal twice a month on the first & third Thursdays:

**Curbside pick-up** (be in front of the north doors at 6:00 pm to pick up your meal.)

To sign up for Thursday meals call 651-437-9052 by the Tuesday before the Thursday meal.

**March 3 - Chicken Tortellini**

**March 17 - Pork Chops**

**April 7 - Goulash**

**April 21 - Honey Mustard Chicken Thighs**

To donate food for the meals, visit [osel.org](http://osel.org). Also accepting monetary donations for food – drop off at the church office.

## Hastings Family Service

With your help, Hastings Family Service is able to offer help and hope to our neighbors in the Hastings area. Your generosity makes a difference!

With a \$25 donation HFS is able to feed a family of 3-4 people for an entire week! Please consider making Hastings Family Service one of your regular charity choices. HFS is able to stretch your dollar to provide a greater quality of life through a variety of services for people living in the Hastings area. HFS can stretch your donation to make a significant difference in your community.

Donate or learn more at:  
[hastingsfamilyservice.org](http://hastingsfamilyservice.org).



Hastings Tastings is an event that provides support to Hastings Family Service during the Minnesota FoodShare campaign. Local restaurants give generously of their time, talent, and delicious food, allowing guests to sample selected menu items. In between bites, guests can participate in the silent auction and beer, wine, and restaurant gift card raffles.

**The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Hastings Tastings will be Monday, March 28, 4:00-7:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Social Hall.**

Tickets are \$25 and are available for purchase at the Hastings Family Service Donation Center, Hastings Cub Foods, and the Hastings Area Y, or online using the link below. This year's event will be limited to 250 tickets.

Proceeds will be proportionately **MATCHED** by MN FoodShare.

Purchase Hastings Tastings Tickets at <https://hastingsfamilyservice.org/news-events/hastings-tastings.html>



## Parish Nurse Notes

by Sherri Lohmann RN

**Grief. Loss.** Just reading the words ***grief and loss*** can conjure up emotions in our souls. They are words we try to avoid. They result in pain and sadness. And emptiness...loneliness...heartache. **We each have our own unique life experiences with these two words.** Our individual grief and loss experiences can vary with the type of loss, and with our physical or mental health at the time of the loss. The circumstances surrounding the death of someone can greatly affect our grief journey. Death can be expected, such as when it occurs in hospice care, or unexpected, such as by accident, or by suicide. We may have been able to hold the hand of our loved one and share their last moments. But that scenario doesn't always happen, not even in hospice care. It doesn't happen when we are notified of a sudden death, an accidental death, or a death by suicide. In those situations, we try to remember our last interaction with our loved one and hold onto that memory. We may wish we could have done something to prevent whatever caused our loved one to die, from happening. **We can be very hard on ourselves in times like this.** Such grief and regret, played and replayed, can become almost paralyzing to survivors.

Anticipatory grief may occur prior to the death of a loved one from a progressive life-threatening condition. **We might feel that we fully grieved the loss prior to the death of a loved one.** We might not expect to experience grief following the loved one's death. Grief after expected death may surprise us, but it is quite normal. The loved one is no longer on this earth. Different feelings and impacts of the loss may exist after the actual death. Layers of loss such as companionship, shared hopes or dreams, potential children or grandchildren, or management of daily life challenges can stem from the death of a loved one.

**Life situations can cause feelings of loss.** We may suffer a life-altering accident or disease that results in the loss of our ability to walk. Or we may lose a job, our housing, or our income. We feel loss when we struggle with changes in a relationship or divisions in our families. If we are no longer working, we might feel the loss of our value or identity. If we are faced with changes in our physical or mental health, we are bound to experience loss, probably on numerous levels. **It can be hard to still see hope when we are living in grief.**

But grief serves a purpose for us. **It is healing to grieve.** Let those tears flow. Who cares if someone might see tears in our eyes? We are human. An uninvited ache moved into our heart. **It is not easy to suffer with loss of life and losses in life.** There is no "right way" to grieve, and no one grieves in the same way. **If you are walking a grief journey, be gentle with yourself.** Allow yourself to experience the feelings you feel and acknowledge them. Some days are harder to get through than others. Reminders of grief can interrupt our thoughts even in the midst of a "good" day. If you feel overwhelmed, don't be afraid to reach out to someone who can help you through the journey. The Lord comforts us in our troubles "so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." (2 Corinthians 1:4b) If you are in need of help along your journey, reach out to me at [sherri.lohmann@osel.org](mailto:sherri.lohmann@osel.org) or call the church office at 651-437-9052.

Even though we may not always remember, **our Lord is with us every moment of every day.** He knows what it means to suffer loss, to feel overwhelmed with grief, to have eyes so filled with tears it is hard to see your way ahead. **He can see your path ahead.** He will be your guide as you continue, on your way. The Psalms are filled with reminders that grief and loss exist in our world, but our Lord will help us through our struggles. Psalm 119:28 "My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your word." Psalm 147:3 "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." Bring your sorrow to the Lord...in whispers, in shouts, in sighs, in tears, in groans, in thoughts. **The understanding and compassion of our Lord knows no end.**



### Are you receiving weekly emails from Our Saviour's?

We have been sending emails on Wednesdays each week to keep you updated with what's happening at Our Saviour's. If you have not been receiving them and would like to, please provide us with your best email.

Call the office, 651-437-9052, or email: [osel@osel.org](mailto:osel@osel.org).

Checking your spam/junk mail to see if the email came there is also a good idea.

**Note:** Families with students and/or young adults no longer living at parents' address, please provide us with their contact info so they can be added to the church mailings or email/text messages. Send info to [osel@osel.org](mailto:osel@osel.org)



During the season of Lent, watch for a lenten devotion written by different members of the congregation in the weekly email and the Sunday morning announcement sheets.

Thank you to those who submitted devotions. Unfortunately, there were not enough submissions to cover each of the 40 days in Lent to create a booklet.

### **Lenten Devotional for Ash Wednesday**

by Pastor Joel Rova-Hegener

*“Therefore, I relent and find comfort on dust and ashes.” Job 42:6.*

Ash Wednesday has always been a very powerful day for me. The physical sign of the ashen cross upon my forehead speaks...speaks to me reminding me of my sin, it speaks to the world of my belief in Jesus’ power of forgiveness, and it speaks to God that I am ready to relent, yet again, to him.

It is only when we relent of: our chosen path, our cultivated pride, our well-laid plans; and repent of our sins, heaping ashes upon ourselves and sitting in the dust of the world, that we find the comforting arms of our savior Jesus waiting to enfold us in his forgiveness and love.

The ashen cross is a true reminder that in the end, the only one whom we can count upon, whom we can put our trust in, is our Lord God. Our ways ultimately can only lead to sin and death. It is God, in Jesus’ death and resurrection, who is our saving grace. It is in our Jesus and his grace, that we find comfort in God’s love for us, no matter what life gives us. Relent, God is here.

Prayer:

O holy God, turn my eyes from me to you. Help me to relent of my ways, that I may learn to walk in yours. Comfort me with the ashes of repentance that result in your forgiveness. Amen.

### **Small Groups Meeting Weekly**

#### **Join in a weekly Bible study**

Gather together with a pastor to read the scripture for the coming Sunday’s worship, read commentaries concerning the scripture and then discuss, learn and grow in understanding, and faith. **Please know you are invited!**

#### **Each of the following meets in person in the church building. Join a group!**

Tuesday Women's Bible Study, 9:00 am

Thursday Men's Bible Study, 9:00 am

Wednesday Men's Bible Study, 7:00 am

### **Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church Zoom**

#### **Yogadevotion with Suzanne**

Nurture body, mind, and heart with a slow flow Yoga-devotion class! Build strength and flexibility through yoga movements and breathing to encourage health and wholeness. We will concentrate on moving with grace, welcoming God’s presence into our lives.

**It’s not too late to join us for Yoga!!**

**Monday nights 6:30-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**Sign up on our website at [osel.org](http://osel.org)**

**or call the church office, (651) 437-9052.**

Suggested donation of \$10 per session to help cover the cost of the class. The class will run through March 28.



### **Tanzania Scholarships**

Despite the worldwide COVID pandemic, Tanzania schools are continuing to meet, as they are able. Therefore, there is still a need for sponsorship of students for secondary education in Tanzania. Our Saviour’s has committed to provide scholarships to 10 students from our sister congregations in Ilambilole and Ihominyi. We are hoping to raise \$10,000 for these scholarships. These students’ ability to attend school is dependent upon our generosity.

Thank you to those who have already donated \$8,175 toward reaching our \$10,000 goal.

Please indicate on your donation TANZANIA SCHOLARSHIP. Thank you for your willingness to assist those less fortunate. Donate online at [Osel.org/give](http://Osel.org/give) or bring/mail your donation to church.

## Financial Update

by Joyce Nelson

The books are closed for 2021 and thanks to your generosity, we finished another crazy Covid year strong but with a slight deficit. Giving for 2021 was \$910,515, an increase of \$23,240 (+2.6%) from 2020 giving. Expenses were \$911,430, up about \$19,000 (+2%) over 2020, primarily driven by increased expenses for online worship, the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and insurance benefits. This was offset by lower building and HVAC costs driven by the replacement of old equipment. Overall costs remain lower than pre-pandemic years due to the continued reduced programs and building costs. Thank you for continuing to support Our Saviour's in these uncertain times.

Even though giving and spending were well below our budget for the year (\$1,208,500), we were still able to fund our mission commitments and support community programs such as Food4Kids, Lewis House, Hastings Family Service, Ally Services, Camp Wapogasset and more. Through the creativity of the staff and our volunteers, we were able to adapt and find new ways to provide ministry and support to the community. We are still looking for opportunities and focusing on what we CAN do in spite of the pandemic and looking ahead to a post-Covid world.

January didn't start out as we had hoped, with giving down about \$20,000 (-17%) and expenses up \$19,000 (+29%). Increased expenses include online worship and special music, snow removal, utilities and staff compensation. We added the Parish Nurse position in 2021 which is making a huge difference to many of our congregation members. We hope to fill the open position of Associate Director of Children & Youth Ministry soon. This is not a new position, but has been open since Theresa Chatelle took on the role of Community Outreach & Events Coordinator in 2020. With this position filled, we will be able to expand our children and youth programming.

	2022	2021	Difference
January Giving	\$100,278	\$120,251	- \$19,973
January Expenses	<u>\$ 85,436</u>	<u>\$ 66,300</u>	<u>+\$19,136</u>
Net	\$ 14,842	\$ 53,951	- \$39,109

Thank you for your partnership in ministry and for your continued financial support of the work we do together as we seek to live the mission statement of Our Saviour's, "Living as the hands, feet and heart of Christ."



## Elected Leadership Recognition

With genuine appreciation, we recognize and thank our Church Council members:

### Newly Elected Council Members (Jan. 30, 2022)

**Amy Buechler**  
**Rob Judge**

### Returning Council Members

**Tricia Agen**  
**Heidi Lund**  
**Ellen McCullough**  
**Lori Mikel**  
**Rod Risch**  
**Shelly Rohr**  
**Mark Sanstead**

### Officers

**Lori Mikel** - President  
**Shelly Rohr** - Vice President  
**Rob Judge** - Treasurer  
**Rod Risch** - Secretary

### Thank You to...

**Cathy Shores** - served 6 years on the Council  
**Jean Lodermeier** - served 2 years on the Council



**osel.org**

What's New

GIVE Sign Ups

Upcoming Events

Recent Services

Photo Gallery and more



by Thomas Walt  
Tom.Walt@osel.org

## Dream of Green

I was looking through the cupboards for some brown sugar when I saw two boxes of Jell-O on the top shelf: a Red raspberry and an Edible Grass lime. With a glance at the snow-white backyard through the frosty window, I surmised we were going green. Perhaps I should go old school and shred some carrots into it.

Yep, eat green jello now while we long for the green grass, and red jello in a few months when we'll be amid a sea of growing green—but I still don't plan to eat the grass then. I wonder how many like carrots in their jello. What's that even called?

As we're going green beyond LED lighting, bring your bottles to fill up in the new hallway drinking fountain. Compare it with your tap water. Compare it with other filtered waters and tell me what you think. There's a National Science Foundation (NSF) certified filter underneath to bring you cool, cleaner water. It also tracks # of plastic bottles not used.

Yet remember, drinking water only temporarily quenches our physical thirst. As Jesus says, "whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never thirst again" (John 4:13-14).

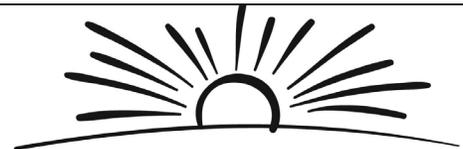
Nothing on this earth—no matter how enticing it may be—will be enough. Not even new furniture. Though according to a furniture store advertisement I heard, they said that just about everyone has a smile getting new furniture. Of course you smile. If you think you need or want something, you're supposed to be fulfilled once you get it. It's this world's mantra. Yet like our bodies get thirsty again, so too is our thirst for the next "thing."

Take note that zombie-swiping through Facebook or any 'social' app typically makes us less happy with our stuff as we compare it to someone else's stuff. It's one of the reasons why I'm not on Facebook.

Maybe I'll talk toilet water next time instead. Sound fetching?

By the way, when using green materials how can you tell if your bamboo is left-handed or right?

You can't. It's bamboo-dexterous.



# SUNRISE SURPRISE

The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

## What you need:

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

## What you do:

1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center — just like Jesus' empty tomb!



Our prayer chain is composed of church members who pray daily for those requesting prayers for themselves and others. Prayer requests can be for anyone, not just members of our church or community. Requests are kept confidential unless otherwise specified and may be submitted to the Prayer Chain: [OSELPrayerChain@gmail.com](mailto:OSELPrayerChain@gmail.com) or to the Prayer Chain Anchor, Rosanne Otto by phone or text at 651-226-8299 (voicemail is available if no one answers). You may also call the church office, 651-437-9052.

**Our sincere Christian sympathy is extended to:**

Ann Traeder - death of sister  
Family of Grayden Johnson  
Family of Dorothy Lang



Please remember these and others you may know of in your prayers.



We are grateful to receive the following memorials and gifts given by family and friends in memory of those listed for Christ's work through our congregation:

*Dona Nicklay*

**Funeral/Memorial Service Luncheons**

Since we are having more luncheons following these type of services, we find we need more volunteers to help serve the families. If you would be willing to help with setup, serving and cleanup for these receptions please leave your name with the church office to be placed on a list of volunteers.

**Volunteer Needs**

Signup sheets are available in the Gathering Area for:

**Wednesday Suppers & Desserts**

**Sunday Greeters**

**Coffee Fellowship Servers**

or call the church office for more info



**Baptized  
at  
Our Saviour's**

**Emma Sophia Bohlken**

Born: November 20, 2021

Baptized: February 20, 2022

Parents: Jacob & Elizabeth Bohlken

Sponsors: Jessica Bohlken, Jared Bohlken  
Sarah Hardy

If you wish to be baptized or have a child baptized, you must first attend a seminar. Please call Ann Traeder at 651.437.9052, x10 for more information.

Baptized children receive their very own Spark Story Bible. This bible brings God's Word to life through colorful art and rich retelling of 150 of the most popular bible stories. The first three years of life are a most remarkable opportunity to introduce children to the amazing love of God through stories, songs, parental support, fellowship, artwork, rituals, prayers, and other means of faith formation!

**Hastings Community  
Blood Drive**

*Hosted by Regina Medical Center Auxiliary*

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church**

**Monday, March 7**

**12 NOON to 6:00 PM**

**Monday, April 18**

**11:30 AM to 5:30 PM**

**Tuesday, April 19**

**1:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

For more information or to make an appointment, please call Gail at 651-248-1173 or 1-800-RED CROSS

visit: [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

Enter Sponsor code: Our Saviours

**Personal and Family Devotionals and Care Notes**

Provided by the Pastoral Care Team are available for free and found in the rack outside the church office. Stop by M-F, 9-4:30 or pick them up when you come to worship.



400 West Ninth Street  
Hastings, Minnesota 55033-2025  
(651) 437-9052  
www.OSEL.org

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Hastings, MN

## ***Our Saviour's Easter Garden***



Each year our Easter Garden enhances our Easter worship services. If you would like to give a gift toward the purchase of an Easter plant in memory or in honor of a loved one, please complete this form and bring or mail your donation to the church office no later than Sunday, April 3. Flowers may be taken home **after the last Easter worship service on April 17** or during office hours beginning April 19.

Plants not picked up soon after the 19<sup>th</sup> will be enjoyed for subsequent days and weeks in worship.

**2022 Easter Garden**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward a fund to purchase plants.  
You may also donate online at [osel.org/give](http://osel.org/give).

**Return completed form to: Our Saviour's Ev. Lutheran Church,  
400 Ninth Street West, Hastings, MN 55033.**