



To Gather | To Send | To Serve

The Crossroads

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Sun Prairie WI



Greetings, family of Our Savior's! Here is the January 2025 edition of *The Crossroads* newsletter. Attached below are links to these sections of the newsletter:

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Pastor's Activity Blurp

For January Newsletter

Over the last several weeks, I've engaged in the following activities outside the church walls:

- 4 Funerals/Commendation of the Dying/Funeral Home meetings
- 8 Visits to members at hospitals, homes, and/or assisted living facilities
- 14 One-on-one meetings with members and/or prospective new members
- 6 Group/board/committee meetings
- 3 Meetings with community partners in ministry
- Weekly text study on Tuesdays with other pastors

**If you're ever curious about a pastor's day-to-day or week-to-week activities, feel free to reach out and ask!*

Pastoral Acts:

Funerals

Hank Rollette—December 12, 2024



With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Judy

Saganski who passed away on December 12. A funeral is tentatively planned for January 30. Watch the weekly email for updated information.

From Pastor Hecox

New Year, New Era at Our Savior's

As we enter another year together here at Our Savior's, we do so in transition. All sorts of things are changing, so we pause for a moment to take a look around and acknowledge what's happening around us. We say goodbye to some people and times, while simultaneously looking with expectation to what God has in store for us as a people of faith.

Last Sunday, we said farewell to our longtime organist and music director John Krueger. He did a fabulous job for 28 years here in our midst. He is responsible for procuring the beautiful pipe organ which graces our sanctuary. He played at countless worship services and funerals. He organized food pantry concerts and facilitated music events of all kinds. He was adaptable, as he worked with different pastors, pulled off different styles of music, and accommodated vocalists and instrumental soloists from a wide variety of styles. John, we thank you and want you to know you always have a home here with us.

This next Sunday, we will have another ending as we say farewell to Pastor Peter Bredlau. As his six-month interim contract draws to a close, we recognize his work here among us. Peter, thank you for facilitating conversations, for preaching and teaching, and for serving God's people faithfully here at Our Savior's these past several months. May God continue to lead you into opportunities to build up the kingdom and may you find ways to use your gifts to the edification of the body of Christ for years to come.

Of course, it's not all goodbyes. We welcome Bekah Morano into a larger role. You may be familiar with her, especially if you worship at the 10:30 service. She's been playing with the worship band for a couple years and has been leading it for the last several months. In addition to singing, playing guitar and piano well, Bekah also plays the organ very well! So we are blessed to have a depth of musical gifts in the congregation so that there's no gap in organ playing at Our Savior's as we go through this particular transition.

Aside from staff transitions, we also acknowledge the political transitions about to take place in our country. It gives us reason to love and comfort each other like never before. Additionally, the new year is upon us, and it reminds us once again that our lives are never in a static, fixed state. We are, all of us, dynamic creatures. We experience change with every breath we take and are constantly in transition. This is true of us as individuals, and it's true of us collectively as a church body. While our individual minds and hearts grow and adapt, so does our collective conscience and experience as a people. Through all of it, we give thanks that we are not alone: we have each other to laugh and cry with, to lean on for support, and take care of each other as the ups and downs of life come our way.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for another wonderful year as we worshiped, served, learned, and grew together. As we change, and as we watch the world around us change, I thank God every day

From Pastor Hecox—continued

for the blessing of this congregation and the ways in which we help each other navigate each transition. My life and the lives of my wife Chelsea and our sons Elijah and Adlai have all been enriched by you and your involvement in our lives.

May God continue to grant you courage as you experience changes, and may we help each other through each transition for years to come. Amen!

Pastor Seth

Council & Financial News

† Council has selected the members who will make up the Call Committee. They are: Grace Flood, Phil Frei, Allyson Martin, Richard Schmeling, Barbara Schnell, Judy Singletary, Rebekah Sweeney, Paul Thurston, Hal Sommer, and Ben Crittenden (as the youth representative non voting member).

† We are still looking for members to replace exiting council members for the next term.

† Pastor Peter's last day is January 7.

Tim Svendsen
Congregation Council President

Financial Progress Report for November 2024

1) General Fund:	2) Building Fund:
Giving: \$49,059.46	Giving: \$12,697.12
Expenses: \$53,536.84	Expenses: \$7,103.00
Net Cash Flow: \$<4,477.38>	Net Cash Flow: \$5,594.12
YTD Cash Flow: \$<44,283.82>	YTD Cash Flow: \$2,444.31

A Note from OSLC's Treasurer:

The 2024 Giving Budget is \$668,500 and as of November 80% has been raised. The 2024 Expenditure Budget is \$729,300 and as of November 87% has been spent.

The Cash Flow was a negative \$4,477 at the end of November and Year-to-date was a negative \$44,283.

Mortgage payment this month included \$2,218.69 in interest and \$4,884.31 in principal.

Evangelism

New Member Classes in January—If you are interested in becoming a member of Our Savior's Lutheran (OSLC), you are invited to attend our New Member Classes. You are asked to attend two classes; Sunday, January 19 and 26 at 9:15 am in the Upper Room/Quilter's Room. ***Please email Nicole Crittenden or give the church office a call if interested in attending these classes.*** We look forward to having you join us on our Faith Journey at OSLC.

Nicole Crittenden, New Member and Volunteer Coordinator:
Nicole.crittenden72@gmail.com



Fellowship



Cake Reception on Sunday, January 5th for Pastor Peter

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting a Cake Reception for Pastor Peter on Sunday, January 5 between services to thank him for his service to OSLC during our transition time. Stop by and thank Pastor Peter for all he has done for us.

Eat Boldly—Join Us For a Fun Evening of Fellowship, Good Food and Friendly People!

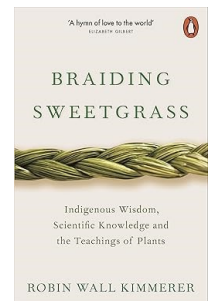
Our February group dinner will be on **Friday, February 7th** at The Nitty Gritty, 315 East Linnerud Drive, in Sun Prairie. Sign up at the Welcome Desk by Wednesday, February 5th. If questions—contact Gary Dalgaard at (608) 215-0583.



Spirited Book Club

The Spirited Book Club will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30pm to discuss ***Braiding Sweetgrass*** by Robin Wall Limmerer. The meeting will be held at Gloria Hannon's home (886 Hunters Trail in Sun Prairie). The book takes us on a journey that is both mystical and scientific, as sacred as it is historical, as clever as it is wise.

Please RSVP to Sandy Richardson or Joy Kroeger. You can also sign up at the Welcome Desk at church.



Women's Ministry

WAG (Women's Adventure Group)—Saturday, January 11th (6 pm to 8 pm) @ Warner Park, 2930 North Sherman Avenue, Madison

Adventurous OSLC women (and for this month only, men!) are invited to join us for a candlelight snowshoe hike at Warner Park, 2930 North Sherman Avenue.

See the park by candlelight and warm up by the fire. Limited snowshoes will be available to borrow during the event, or bring your own or wear appropriate winter footwear. No registration is needed. This event will take place with or without snow cover but may be canceled if conditions are icy or otherwise unsafe.

Please sign up at the Welcome Desk in January, and indicate if you will meet at Warner Park rainbow shelter or would like to carpool from OSLC @ 5:30PM.



Restrooms available onsite in the shelter, and there will be Travelin' Tom's Coffee Truck.

Welcome to Our Savior's—November 3, 2024

MJ and Taylor Delmore Rory (21 months)

MJ is originally from Wis. Dells and Taylor is from southwest Minnesota. They met at SMSU and moved here after college. They welcomed their daughter Rory in February 2023. MJ currently works as a renewable energy analyst for Faith Technologies Inc. and Taylor is the Director of Operations at Explore Children's Museum in Sun Prairie. They are expecting baby #2 in April of next year! MJ and Taylor were invited to OSLC by their close friends—Becky and Adam Kaeser!



John and Corky Motl

John grew up in Sun Prairie and Corky grew up in Wausau. They lived in Wausau for 45 years and were members of an ELCA congregation there. John retired from the Wausau Water Utility and Corky retired from FISERV. They have 3 children—Brad, Missy, and Jeff. In May they moved to Sun Prairie to live closer to their children and grandchildren. They wanted to be part of an ELCA congregation and found OSLC to be just what they were looking for. They are both joining the OSLC Senior Choir!

Richard and Gayle Schmeling

Dick is a retired ELCA pastor, having served congregations in Brookfield, Sturgeon Bay, and Green Bay. Gayle is a retired endocrinologist, having practiced for 35 years. They moved to Sun Prairie to be closer to their son Pete and grandchildren Hailey and Ethan who are OSLC members. Dick plays drums and also enjoys fishing and golf. Gayle enjoys daily walks with their dog Snoop. Dick and Gayle both enjoy camping, canoeing, and have been to the Boundary Waters several times.



Lily Saynisch

Lily came to OSLC through her good friend, Melanie Jorgenson.

Welcome Lily to our OSLC church family!

Worship & Music

A New Year for Music-Making!

I want to take the opportunity to thank John Krueger for his 28 years of faithful, dedicated music-making at Our Savior's. What a gift and legacy for our church! As I step into the role of music director, I ask you all to pray for me to best serve our community in God's glory.

In each of the coming months, I will highlight a music group at Our Savior's. In January, we are highlighting the Cherub Choir!

The Cherub Choir is for 4-K, kindergarten, and first grade children. They meet on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:00 PM in the Chapel, behind the library. Rehearsals include singing, movement activities, instrument play, and more! Please consider having your child sing in this special group! The group strives to sing once a month in church. For more information, you can contact the group's director, Diane Padrutt, at (608) 655-4671, or padruttjde@outlook.com



**In Christ,
Bekah Morano**

Cards for John Krueger

John Krueger retired on Sunday, December 29th after 28 years of service to Our Savior's as organist and music director. If you were not able to attend our special recognition services and cake reception for John on December 29th and would like to send him a retirement card, these can be mailed to the church office address and we will see that he receives your cards:

**John Krueger
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
550 Lincoln Drive
Sun Prairie, WI 53590**

Worship & Arts

Altar Flowers Chart for 2025

Would you like to donate a floral arrangement for the altar to honor a family member or to give in memory of loved ones or to celebrate a past or present occasion or celebration? The Altar Flower Board for 2025 is located in the Narthex on the bulletin board just outside the entrance to the Sanctuary. There are two slots listed for each Sunday, and the price per bouquet is \$25.

If you would like to order flowers...please remember to: Sign up on the 2025 Altar Flower Board, fill out an Altar Flower Order Form, and include payment when signing up for your flowers. (Please place your payment in the white box by the bulletin board—or mail it to the church office.)

PLEASE NOTE—Altar Flowers can also be ordered and paid for online through Shelby at the same location as Shelby Giving. If you have any questions about this, call the church office.



Taking Down the Christmas Decorations at OSLC (Undecorating after Christmas)—Sunday, January 5th—We will be taking down the Christmas trees and holiday decorations on Sunday, January 5th after the second service. Helpers would be greatly appreciated! If questions, contact Gail Rockeman.



Worship & Arts

Thank you to the following who donated poinsettias for decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas this year:



- * ***Craig and Karen Bareis—in honor of our daughters***
- * ***Ollie Berge—in memory of Jeanne Berge***
- * ***Tom and Debbie Coy—in memory of Robert Skoien, Theron & Mary Coy, and Bob Roth***
- * ***Helen Feaster—in thanks to God for my children and grandchildren***
- * ***Jim and Jeanie Jaeck—in memory of our parents***
- * ***John & Karla Kvalheim—in memory of our parents, Sherwood “Bud” & Lorraine Pfeil, Harry & Ann Kvalheim***
- * ***The McNeary Family—in memory of James & Melva McNeary***
- * ***Josh & Bekah Morano—in memory of Steve Evans and Susie Rodriguez***
- * ***Gail Niesl—in thanks to God for the blessings given to our families***
- * ***Ed Nowicki—in thanks to God for Pastor Peter***
- * ***Laurie Popp—in honor of Pastors Peter and Seth. In thanks to God for Jenny, Danielle, Josh, Reya, and Leah***
- * ***Bill & Gail Rockeman—in thanks to God for our family, especially grandchildren Grace, Lola, Isabella, and Anthony***
- * ***Tim & Rachel Svendsen—in thanks to God for our family***
- * ***Jerry (Geraldine) Wagner—in memory of my parents, Adolph & Margaret Loftus***
- * ***Nancy and Gary Walden—in memory of loved ones***
- * ***Yvonne Wilhelmi—in thanks to God for my family***
- * ***Ron & Becky Wornson—in thanks to God for Pastor Seth, Pastor Peter, and the dedicated musicians of OSLC***

Youth and Family

6th-8th Grade Lock-In – Friday, January 17th -Saturday, January 18th!

That's right! We're throwing it back to the old school youth group lock-in! All 6th -8th graders are invited to join us for a crazy all-nighter at the church including awesome games, pizza, music, hangout time in Ben's Underground, and (maybe) a little sleep! The festivities begin on Friday, January 17th at 6:30pm and end on Saturday, January 18th at 9am. Sign-up and grab a permission slip at the Welcome Desk at church or email matt@oslc-elca.org to sign-up and have a permission slip emailed to you. Cost for the event is \$25/person and includes late night pizza, snacks, and breakfast (please eat dinner before coming to church on 1/17).

We will also need a few brave parents to take shifts throughout the night to help chaperone. If you are willing and able to help, please sign-up at the Welcome Desk or contact matt@oslc-elca.org.



Church in Society

Gather in Prayer

You are invited to join us as we Gather in Prayer on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. We meet from 9:30-10:30 am in the Conference Room at church. We raise our voices in praise and offer our thanks and prayers to God. We include requests for all areas related to Our Savior's, moving on to include our family and friends, topics of impact for our community, state, country, and the world.

Please consider joining us for a quiet time of reflection and prayer. Feel free to join us any time it may work into your schedule. Given the New Year's holiday on January 1st, January's schedule will switch to January 8th and the 22nd. February will return to the first and third Wednesday of the month.

Contact Diane Padrutt with questions.

Rebecca Circle is collecting donations for PorchLight in Madison:

Here is the *Winter Request* for PorchLight:

Ponchos/tarps
Hats
Mittens
Gloves
Scarves
Socks
New underwear
Toiletries
Belts
Sunglasses
Bandanas



Please Note: PorchLight is no longer accepting clothing donations at this time.

Please place your donations for Porch Light in the white wicker basket or the red and white container in the Narthex.

Thank you to the OSLC congregation for all your donations throughout the year!

Church in Society



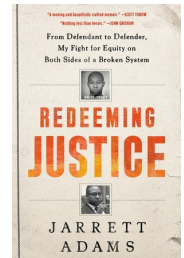
A Call to Justice and Mercy (JAM)

*What does God require of you but to do justice,
love mercy and walk humbly with your God.*

Micah 6:8

We will continue to pursue our studies in systemic racism in our society by looking at the prison system in Wisconsin. This will be a 9 week series beginning with a launch on January 19th. Classes will continue on January 26th, February 2, 16 and 23rd and March 2, 9, 16 and 23. We will not have class on February 9 to allow everyone to attend the annual meeting.

Please join us January 19th for the launch. If you would like a copy of the book, **Redeeming Justice** by Jarrett Adams, but can't attend classes, feel free to come by the chapel and we will give you one. We are accepting a freewill offering if you would like to help offset the cost of the books. This will be the background material for the classes. We can also add you to the email list if you would like to receive the Google slides for the classes with the video's attached.



Just Bakery will be selling their delicious bakery items between services on January 19th.

From the JAM Team: Sue Lux, Linda Frautschy, Diane Padrutt, Peggy Schaub, and Judy Singletary

Thank You from the Madison Area Jail Ministry

A very big thank you to everyone at Our Savior's Lutheran Church for their generosity and sharing God's love this fall by responding to the request from the Dane County Jail reentry coordinator for the need for winter jackets and clothing for those being released from the Dane County Jail during the late fall and winter weather. Your gift of winter clothing makes it possible to change the life of the individual who is frequently overlooked or forgotten. Because of your gift, individuals being released from the Dane County jail and who are in need now will have a warm coat and clothing this winter. YOU make this possible. Thank you.

From all of us at the Madison Area Jail Ministry who are collecting this apparel for delivery to the Jail re-entry coordinator and from THOSE RECEIVING and who will be wearing this apparel. THANK YOU. You are changing lives.

Paul L Hundt
Friends Committee Chair
Madison Area Jail Ministry



Sunshine Food Pantry Assistance

You're invited to bring in these especially needed items for the Food Pantry:

- **ketchup**
- **mustard**
- **mayonnaise**
- **barbeque sauce**
- **pickles**



Please place your donations on the Food Pantry donations table in the Narthex. Thank you for making a difference for Sun Prairie families!

~ January 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day 8:00a Office Closed	2	3 7:00p Eat Boldly	4 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19)
5 8:00a Worship 9:00a Cake Reception for Pastor Peter 9:15a High School Youth Group (Ben's Underground) 10:30a Worship 11:30a Undecorating the church 12:00p OSLC Worship Svc. on KSUN	6 9:30a SPASD Job Training Students 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747	7 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p JAM Team Mtg. 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 6:45p Chancel Ringers (Balcony) 7:00p Property Committee Mtg.	8 9:00a Quilters 9:00a Staff Meeting 9:30a Gather in Prayer (Conference Rm.) 7:00p Senior Choir	9 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 1:30p Rebecca Circle (Chapel) 7:00p Bd. of Finance (Conference Rm.)	10	11 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19) 6:00p WAG Outing (carpool @ 5:30p to Warner Park)
12 8:00a Worship 9:00a Coffee Hour 9:15a High School Youth Group (Ben's Underground) 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 12:00p OSLC Worship Svc. on KSUN	13 9:30a SPASD Job Training Students 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747	14 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p JAM Team Mtg. 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 1:00p Pastors Text Study Group 6:30p Spirited Book Club (@ G. Hannon's) 6:45p Chancel Ringers (Balcony)	15 9:00a Quilters 9:00a Staff Meeting 5:30p Cherub Choir (Chapel) 7:00p Senior Choir	16 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 6:00p Executive Committee 6:30p Congregation Council	17 6:30p CHAOS Lock-In	18 12:00a CHAOS Lock-In 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19)
19 8:00a Worship 8:45a Just Bakery here 9:00a Coffee Hour 9:15a High School Youth Group (Ben's Underground) 9:15a JAM Adult Ed. (Chapel) 9:15a New Member Class (Upper Room/ Quilter's Room) 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 12:00p OSLC Worship Svc. on KSUN	20 Inauguration Day/ Martin Luther King 6:30p Elizabeth Circle 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747	21 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 6:00p Stamping Group 6:45p Chancel Ringers (Balcony) 7:00p Squirrel (Men's Bible Study)	22 9:00a Quilters 9:00a Staff Meeting 9:30a Gather in Prayer (Conf. Rm.) 5:30p Cherub Choir (Chapel) 6:30p Confirmation 7:00p Senior Choir 7:45p CHAOS	23 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students	24	25 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19)
26 8:00a Worship 9:00a Coffee Hour 9:15a High School Youth Group (Ben's Underground) 9:15a JAM Adult Ed. (Chapel) 9:15a New Member Class (Upper Room/ Quilter's Room) 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship 12:00p OSLC Worship Svc. on KSUN 12:00p Penguin Project Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)	27 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747	28 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 5:30p Penguin Project Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 6:30p Martha Circle 6:45p Chancel Ringers (Balcony)	29 9:00a Quilters 9:00a Staff Meeting 5:30p Cherub Choir (Chapel) 6:30p Confirmation 7:00p Senior Choir 7:45p CHAOS	30 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students	31	Notes:



Come Grow With Us

Interested in becoming a member of
OSLC? Email the church office at
office@oslc-elca.org or call 608-837-3111

Staff at Our Savior's

Interim Pastor

Rev. Peter Bredlau
pbredlau@outlook.com

Office Administrator

Darlene Thorstad
darlene@oslc-elca.org

Financial Secretary

Bonnie Shema (Mon. & Wed.)
bonnie@oslc-elca.org

Volunteer Coordinator

Nicole Crittenden
nicole@oslc-elca.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Seth Hecox
seth@oslc-elca.org

Dir. of Youth & Family Ministry

Matt Weber
matt@oslc-elca.org

**Director of Music, Organist,
& Director of Praise Band**

Bekah Morano
bekah@oslc-elca.org

Director of Senior Choir

Rick LaFleur

Director of Chancel Ringers

Josh Morano

Director of Youth Choir

Breta Saganski

Director of Cherub Choir

Diane Padrutt

Accompanist

Diane Padrutt

Temporary Custodian

Chelsea Hecox

Church Office Phone

(608) 837-3111

Congregational Council

President: Tim Svendsen

Vice President: Jen Spredemann

Secretary: Julie Schlinder

Treasurer: Debi Peters

Church in Society: Peggy Schaub

Education:

Evangelism: Pat Nicholson

Fellowship: Ed Nowicki

Finance: Emily LaFleur

Property: Adam Bayliss

Public Relations: Ken Sodemann

Stewardship: Bryan Loney

Worship & Arts: Gail Rockeman

Youth & Family: Steve Kupcho



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Our Savior's Lutheran Church

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smartphone for
instructions to give your
offering online!

OSLC Offerings Online

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Sanctuary worship—Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am
Video worship services on our YouTube channel & KSTUN on Sundays

Worship

Office Hours
Monday–Friday 9–4

550 Lincoln Drive, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590-1399
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Sun Prairie WI

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January 2025



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