

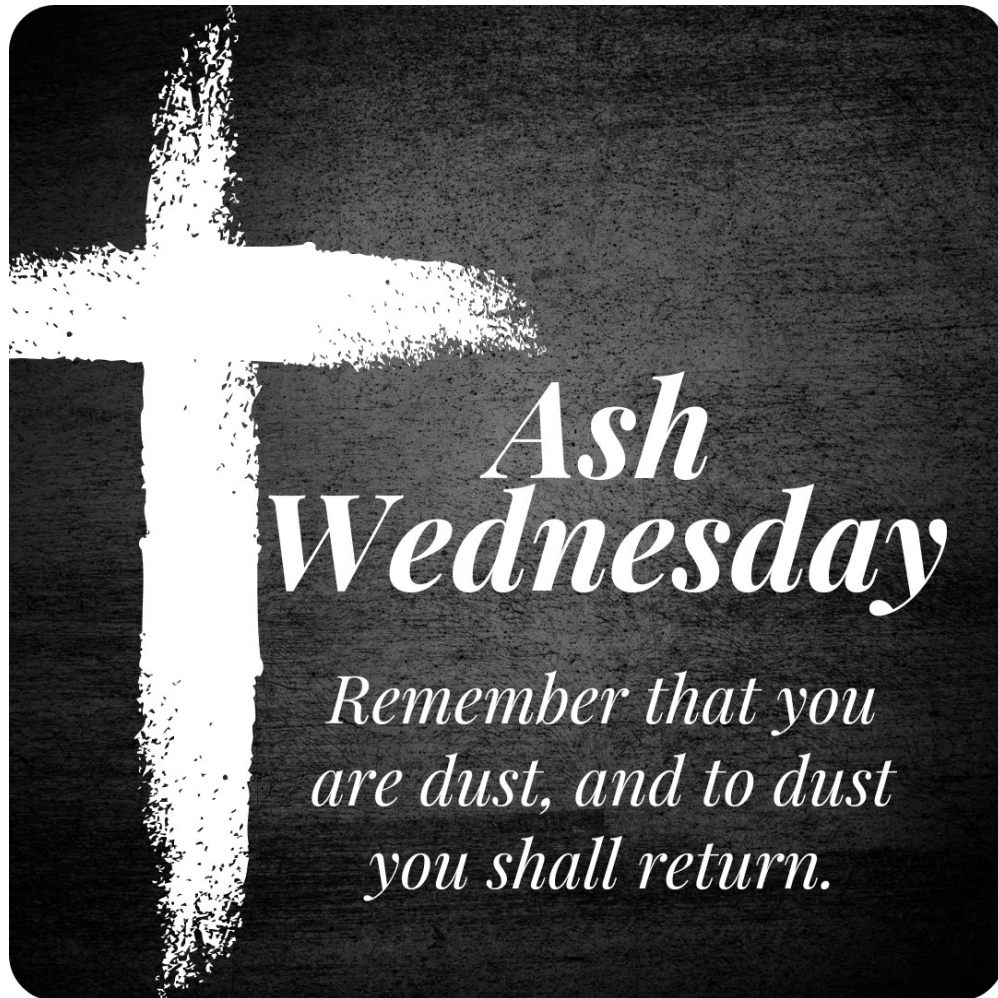


The Crossroads

To Gather | To Send | To Serve

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Sun Prairie WI



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

[From Pastor Hecox](#)

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Pastor's Activity Blurb

For March Newsletter

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

- 1 Wedding (hurray!)
- 2 Funerals/Commendation of the Dying/Funeral Home meetings
- 4 Visits to members at hospitals, homes, and/or assisted living facilities
- 10 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!*



With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to Tim and Lisa Hansen on the

passing of Lisa's mother, Bev Anthony, who passed away on February 6th.

From Pastor Hecox

Lenten Season is Upon Us

Lent is one of my favorite seasons of the year.

Now, don't get me wrong: winter can be tough, and I've had my share of frustration at the gray skies this winter. Aside from the depression or Seasonal Affective Disorder that many experience, winter can be a challenge as cold weather is often accompanied by a cold or flu.

I think that's why Lent feels so appropriate for this time of year. With the short days and long nights, our midweek worship services during Lent happen almost entirely after sundown. The mood can be contemplative, reflective, even somber. Ash Wednesday sets that tone for us each Lenten season, with its stark reminder of our own mortality. Remember: before we get to Easter resurrection, we must first die to ourselves during Lent and Good Friday.

So we enter this special season with ash on our forehead, and we journey through Lent together while engaging in some ancient Christian practices. Some give up a favorite food or drink. Some forego some other creature comfort they'd otherwise normally indulge. Some extend beyond their comfort zone to serve others in ways they haven't before. Some flip the script and indulge in ways they normally wouldn't. All of these are expressions of Christian praxis: in Lent, we do not simply believe, we also do.

As we participate in this ancient ritual of the church for 40 days and 40 nights, I will be guiding us through a series of meditations on prayer. How do we pray? Why do we pray? As we explore those facets of the Christian life, we may find that we are not alone when we struggle. That our penitence can bear fruit that otherwise never would've come into existence.

What we pray, sometimes we observe powerful pieces of our inner selves. Our encounters with the divine have the power to shape us in ways much deeper than we often realize. That subtle, slow re-shaping of ourselves reorients our hearts toward God's priorities rather than our own. Lent helps to draw us out of ourselves and closer to each other and to our savior, Jesus. And these practices help us hear that still, small voice that comes to us in the darkness and the stillness and the silence: the Holy Spirit softly whispering, quietly moving in our hearts, reminding us that the winter will pass, and spring will come once again, and we will find ourselves invigorated once more, spurred on to new growth and vitality.

"All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well."

-Julian of Norwich

Peace be with you during this Lenten season,

Pastor Seth

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Lenten Season is upon us!!! Ash Wednesday is March 5th and we will have services at Noon and 6p. Then every Wednesday during Lenten season will have a 30 minute service at 6p starting March 12th and running until April 9th.



Council & Financial News

- † The Annual meeting was a success! Thank you to everyone that came out to the meeting, to those who spoke and to those that voted.
- † Please welcome the newly elected members of the Church Council. The following have been elected for 3 year terms:
 - Kris Koskelin—Vice President
 - Gary Walden—Treasurer
 - Kathy Thorstad—Fellowship
 - Tom Mugan—Property
 - Nathan Smith—Stewardship
- And
 - Shelly Perkolup was elected to Education to finish out the remaining 1 year term.
- † The call committee has been paused at this time

Tim Svendsen
Congregation Council President

There are extra copies of the Annual Report (which contains 2025 budget information) that are still available at the Welcome Desk for those that would like a copy.



Evangelism

Welcome Desk!!

In effort to make our Narthex a more welcoming space, the Evangelism Board is looking to “spruce” up the Welcome Desk. If anyone has any ideas, please leave a suggestion at the Welcome Desk or reach out to any one of the Board members.

We are also looking volunteers to staff the Welcome Desk. We ask that you come 10 minutes before and after service, wear your own name tag so others know who you are when you greet them, be familiar with the current sign-up sheets so you can answer any questions that come your way and of course bring your smile! Look for the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk!

In His Service,

Board Members:
Judy Cook, Jim Jaeck, Gary Dalgaard and Pat Nicholson



Fellowship

Coffee Hour Treats Needed

Do you like to bake? Do you think that you could make a few extra and consider donating the treats for our Sunday Morning Coffee Hour—these can be left in the refrigerator or freezer in the upstairs kitchenette.

Please remember to date them and note if they have nuts and/or are gluten free.



Also—if you'd like to help with setting up/serving/and cleanup for Coffee Hour, there is a sign-up at the Welcome Desk. Help is always appreciated! Thank you!



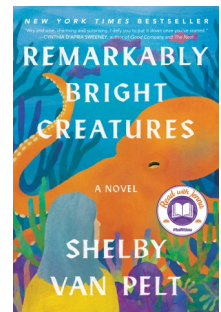
Eat Boldly—Join Us For a Fun Evening of Fellowship, Good Food and Friendly People!

Our March group dinner will be on **Friday, March 7th** at The Black Bear Inn, 320 W Cottage Grove Rd, Cottage Grove WI. Sign up at the Welcome Desk by Wednesday, March 5th. If questions—contact Gary Dalgaard at (608) 215-0583.

Spirited Book Club

The Spirited Book Club will meet on Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30 pm to discuss ***Remarkably Bright Creatures*** by Shelby Van Pelt. It is a readable exploration of friendship, reckoning and hope that traces a widow's unlikely connection with a giant octopus.

The meeting will be held at Gloria Hannon's home (886 Hunters Trail in Sun Prairie.) Please RSVP to Sandy Richardson or Joy Kroeger. You can also sign up at the Welcome Desk.



Soup Suppers are back for Lenten Season!!!

We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 4:45p to 5:45p for food and fellowship each Wednesday during Lenten Season. We will have 3 soups available each week. If you are willing and able to make a soup, please sign-up at the Welcome Desk.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kathy Thorstad at 608-347-8068 or at kaththor2@gmail.com



Worship & Music

Update from Our Savior's Music Department

This month, I would like to highlight another music group at Our Savior's—the Senior Choir.

The Senior Choir at Our Savior's Lutheran is open to anyone, high school and older that enjoys singing. We meet Wednesday nights from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm and sing in services on the first and third Sundays of each month. Our group is full of dedicated singers that are eager to enhance Our Savior's services through the joy of music. New Members are ALWAYS welcome. Come sing along. For more information, you contact the group's director, Rick LaFleur at 920-254-8300 or at Mr.rlafleur@gmail.com.



**In Christ,
Bekah Morano**

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.



Let's Think Spring and Help us Decorate the Altar for Easter!!

Please order for your Mixed Garden Bulb Basket today!!!!

The cost for these baskets are \$19. You can purchase these in memory of a love ones, in honor of a love ones or Thanks be to God.

After the last Easter service, you can take the beautiful flowers that you purchased home with you to decorate your home for the spring season.

The order forms are at the end of the pews or at the Welcome Desk. Orders and payment are due back to the church no later than April 1st.

Thank you for helping to decorate the Altar for the Easter Season!



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. **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!

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!

NAME TAGS



The next sign-up for church nametags will come out in late March/Early April. In the meantime, OSLC members and visitors who would like a nametag can visit the small table by the middle entrance to the sanctuary to make a stick-on name badge.

Church in Society ... continued

Sunshine Supper!

With the help of 21 volunteers, we prepared 400 meals for the Sun Prairie community on February 17th.

It was a frigid night so the numbers were somewhat lower than what we have done in the past few suppers. Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped that night and to everyone who made donations to help fund this outreach program.

The next Sunshine Supper is May 19th, 2025.



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

The JAM group is continuing to look at how the prison system perpetuates structural racism. In the month of March we will welcome three speakers who will enlighten us with an outside perspective on the prison system.

March 2—Class on wrongful convictions and disproportionate sentencing

March 9—Nick Thout from the Wisconsin Innocence Project at UW will speak to us about their organization and the ways they help people like our author, Jarrett Adams, prove their innocence after being wrongfully convicted.

March 16—Class on the hardships of post-incarceration

March 23—Sedrick Bates from the Black Men Coalition, a non-profit group in Madison engaged in mentoring and supporting black men including those being released from prison.

March 23— 4:30p Wrap-up on our prison study. We will have a pizza party and will show the movie, *Daughters*, a 2024 film directed by Natalie Roe and Angela Patton. It follows four girls and their father as they prepare to reunite at a special dance at a DC jail and is a moving documentary about the healing power of love. Discussion will follow.



March 30—We will sponsor a bonus speaker, Mark Rice. Mark will speak to us with a faith based lens on his personal journey in the prison system and his advocacy work with the Wisconsin Wisdom group.

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

Youth and Family

Shrove Tuesday is March 4th! This will be here before you know it! The Youth of the Church will be hosting the Pancake Dinner. There will be Free-Will offering and all proceeds will be going to them to help fund their activities throughout the year (Haunted Maze/Houses, Concerts, Plays, Camps, National Youth Gathering—2028, etc).



There is a sign-up sheet for items that they are needing for the dinner if you can help. The following are items that they are needing: Apple Juice, Lemonade, Orange Juice, Grapes, Sliced Strawberries, Sliced Oranges/Cuties, Pans of Desserts. Please have them to the church no later than 4p on Tuesday. Thank you for supporting your Youth!

Youth and Family continued....

Disruptive Disciples Corner:

The high school youth continue to meet in Ben's Underground each Sunday for hangout, breakfast and discussion. This is open to all High Schoolers in 9th through 12th grade! All are welcome to come and invite a friend or 2 to join you!!! Below is the schedule for March.



March 2nd—Regular Meeting

March 2nd—Setting up for Shrove Tuesday after the Bishop's Committee Meeting around 4:30p

March 4th—Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper helping serve, clean up and eat of course!

March 9th—Regular Meeting

March 16th—Regular Meeting

March 19th—The 10th-12th graders will be going to confirmation to talk about the group to the 8th graders

March 23rd and 30th—No Meeting because of Spring Break for the school district



March 9th our Early Communion Class will be having their First Communion at the 10:30a. Please welcome them as they share this meal with us.

Over the past 2 weekends they made their own chalice and made bread for this service.

Please welcome Fabrice Coy-Tchouani, Adeline Koehler, Bridget Meyer, Owen Meyer, Hugo Nieft, Camden and Ava Taritas.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church is recruiting a Youth and Family Director.

The candidate should be an energetic person dedicated to coordinating our youth programs to ensure that youth (grades PreK–early college-age) are fully integrated into the gathering, growing, and giving of the congregation. The position requires enthusiasm, excitement, and a high level of energy. The Youth and Family Director will lead by presence in worship, church programs, and community involvement.

Full-time position including availability on Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings, and the occasional weekend, as well as for other community and church events.

Compensation and benefits:

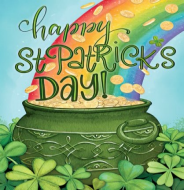
- Competitive salary
- Health insurance
- Retirement

Candidate should send cover letter and resume to:

Herb.Held@oslc-elca.org



~ March 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Until 12p Boy Scouts Lock-in 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19) 12:00p Private Event
2 8:00a Worship 9:00a Coffee Hour 9:15a Sunday School 9:15a JAM Adult Ed (Chapel), 9:15a High School Youth Group (Ben's Underground), 9:15a Early Communion Class (FH) 10:30a Worship 12:00p PP Rehearsal (FH) 12:00p OSLC Worship Svc. on KSUN 3:30p Congregation Meeting with the Bishop Committee 4:30p High School Youth setting up for Shrove Tuesday	3 9:30a SPASD Job Training Students 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747 (Chapel) 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747 Meeting (Conf. Room)	4 Shrove Tuesday 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p JAM Team Mtg. 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 5:00p Shove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30p PP Rehearsal 6:45p Chancel Ringers (Balcony) 7:00p Property Committee Mtg.	5 Ash Wednesday 9:00a Quilters 9:30a Gather in Prayer (Conference Rm.) 12:00p Worship (Chapel) 5:30p Cherub Choir (Chapel) 6:00p Worship 7:00p Senior Choir	6 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students	7 7:00p Eat Boldly (The Black Bear Inn)	8 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19)
9 Day Light Savings 8:00a Worship 9:00a Coffee Hour 9:15a Sunday School 9:15a Jam Adult Ed (Chapel) 9:15a High School Youth Group (Ben's Underground) 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/First Communion 12:00p PP Rehearsal (FH) 12:00p OSLC Worship Svc. on KSUN	10 9:30a SPASD Job Training Students 6:30p Fellowship Committee (Chapel) 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747	11 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:30a SPAM here 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p JAM Team Mtg. 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 1:00p Pastors Text Study Group 6:00p Chancel Ringers (Balcony) 6:30p Spirited Book Club	12 9:00a Quilters 4:45p Soup Supper 5:30p Cherub Choir (Chapel) 6:00p Worship 6:30p Confirmation 7:00p Senior Choir 7:45p CHAOS	13 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 1:30p Rebecca Circle 7:00p Bd. Of Finance (Conf. Rm)	14	15 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19)
16 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 Sunday School 10:30a Worship 12:00p PP Rehearsal (FH) 12:00p OSLC Worship Svc. on KSUN	17 9:30a SPASD Job Training Students 6:30p Elizabeth Circle 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747 	18 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:30p JAM Team Mtg. 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 6:00p Stamping Group 6:45p Chancel Ringers (Balcony) 7:00p Squirrel (Men's Bible Study)	19 9:00a Quilters 9:30a Gather in Prayer (Conf. Rm.) 4:45p Soup Supper 5:30p Cherub Choir (Chapel) 6:00p Worship 6:30p Confirmation 7:00p Senior Choir 7:45p CHAOS	20 10:00a SPASD Playgroup 11:45a SPASD Playgroup 12:00p Bible Study 12:30p SPASD Job Training Students 6:00p Executive Committee 6:30p Congregation Council	21	22 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19)
23 8:00a Worship 9:00a Coffee Hour NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15a JAM Adult Ed. (Chapel) 10:30a Worship 12:00p PP Rehearsal (FH) 12:00p OSLC Worship Svc. on KSUN	24 6:30p Fellowship Committee (Chapel) 7:00p Scouts BSA Troops 47 & 747 Deadline for the Newsletter Articles	25 6:00p Scouts Meeting 6:30p Martha Circle 6:45p Chancel Ringers (Balcony)	26 9:00a Quilters 4:00p Staff Meeting 4:45p Soup Supper 5:30p Cherub Choir (Chapel) 6:00p Worship 7:00p Senior Choir	27	28	29 10:00a AA Group Meeting (Room 19)



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

Pastor

Seth Hecox
seth@oslc-elca.org

Temp. Office Administrator

Dawn Bradley
communications@oslc-elca.org

Financial Secretary

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

Volunteer Coordinator

Nicole Crittenden
nicole@oslc-elca.org

Dir. of Youth & Family Ministry**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

www.oslc-elca.org

Congregational Council

President: Tim Svendsen

Vice President: Kris Koskelin

Secretary: Julie Schlinder

Treasurer: Gary Walden

Church in Society: Peggy Schaub

Education: Shelly Pekolup

Evangelism: Pat Nicholson

Fellowship: Kathy Thorstad

Finance: Emily LaFleur

Property: Tom Mugan

Public Relations: Ken Sodemann

Stewardship: Nathan Smith

Worship & Arts: Gail Rockeman

Youth & Family: Steve Kupcho



The Crossroads

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

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offering online!

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church Sun Prairie WI

The Crossroads

March 2025



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