

March, 2024

The FRIEND

Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church

135 Years in Ministry

1889-2023

Serving God, God's People, and Our Community



Our Savior's Evangelical
Lutheran Church
4831 Grand Avenue
Duluth, MN 55807
218-624-3648
www.oursaviorsduluth.org
The Reverend Liz Davis



Blessings to you from our creator God!

I ordered my first plants for spring planting today. Not that it's been the worst winter, but there is something powerful about the hope a seed catalog brings in the depth of winter. It won't be long until green returns, buds form, birds sing, and new life is all around us.

Easter coincides with this season, aligning our sacred story of Jesus' death and resurrection with the rebirth of the landscape. Every year, the spring blooms

help us remember Jesus, about whom the angels at the tomb spoke: "why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen" (Luke 24:5). Jesus rose from the dead as a promise of what he will do for us. Even though we die, God will raise us to new life in Jesus.

I buy seeds and plants in the middle of the winter trusting in the warmth of summer. Nothing outside my window promises anything other than ice and snow. But I have within my heart the knowledge that it will not last, and the growing season will come.

We're invited to live every day like that: trusting that new life and healing will come, even if nothing around us gives any evidence towards that future. When the news brings us the heart-wrenching stories of war, the screams of people experiencing violence abroad and in our own country, when we are confronted with the horrible happenstances of life, sudden tragedies and broken dreams, it can be really hard to trust in anything better.

Jesus promises a better future. In this season, we remember that Jesus came to be among us, fully experiencing the worst of human experience. Because of Jesus' incarnation, ministry to the outcast, suffering, and death, we can trust that God is with us and with all who suffer. We will also celebrate the surprising joy of Easter morning. Because of Jesus' resurrection, we know the impossible can happen: peace will triumph over violence, healing and reconciliation will restore all, and life will prove stronger than death.

Hold tight to your seed catalog- your Bible, your participation in worship, your faith community- and all this remind you that we have reason to hope, even when winter seems it will never end. Trust in Jesus, and plant the seeds of healing, peace, and new life that God will nourish into fullness.

God is with you!

Peace, Pastor Liz



SUNDAY WORSHIP
11:00 am

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP
Noon

Live streamed on YouTube:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Duluth

Office

Telephone: 218-624-3648
Tues & Thurs: 9:00-2:00
secretary@oursaviorsduluth.org

Sexton

Mon., Wed. & Fri. 9:00-2:00

Please submit news articles for
the April Friend by
March **21:**

secretary@oursaviorsduluth.org

Daylight Savings Time

begins at 2 am on Sunday, March 10

Remember to "Spring Ahead" 1 hour

Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Serving God, God's people, and our community

Church Vision Statement

Our Savior's is living out the gospel by working to alleviate poverty

Pastor Liz Davis: March Drop In Hours at Our Savior's

Mondays 9-11 am March 4, 11, and 25

By appointment (1-218-461-0933)

Email: pastorliz@oursaviorsduluth.org

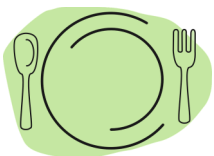


March Friend Sponsors:

Roxanne Bijold & Joann Ahlgren: In Memory of Ray Ahlgren who would have been 91 years old on March 12

Bill Fraundorf: In Honor of my beautiful, loving spouse, Anita, on her birthday

Please consider sponsoring the newsletter In Honor of or In Memory of a loved one or friend. Donation is \$20.00



Dinner Club

Monday, March 25, 6:00 pm at Red Lobster (301 S. Lake Ave)

Call Karl to RSVP or to arrange for a ride: 1-651-955-9299



Palm Sunday, March 24

Communion Worship, 11 am

Maundy Thursday: 7 pm at United

Good Friday: 6 pm at Elim Lutheran

6101 Cody Street

Easter, March 31: Worship 11 am



March

Tuesday, March 5: Women's Circle, 1 pm in the library.

Wednesday, March 6: 6:15 pm Simple Supper, 7 pm Service at Our Savior's

Thursday, March 7: Bible Study, 1 pm at United (701 3rd Ave, Proctor).
Everyone is welcome!

Sunday, March 10: Annual Meeting following the worship service.
Potato Bar sponsored by the bell choir.

Wednesday, March 13: 6:15 pm Simple Supper, 7 pm Service at United Lutheran

Sunday, March 17: Sunday School, 11 am in the Martin Luther Room

Wednesday, March 20: Simple Supper 6:15 pm and Service 7 pm at Our Savior's.

Thursday, March 21: Bible Study, 1 pm at United (701 3rd Ave, Proctor). Everyone welcome!

Saturday, March 23: Community Breakfast, 9:00-10:30 in the Fellowship Hall



Free Breakfast

Free Community Breakfast, Saturday, March 23, 9:00-10:30 am

The Community Breakfast is open to all people without cost. We serve a consistent menu of gluten free egg bake, pancakes, sausage, juice, coffee, and milk.

Asbury United Methodist partners with Our Savior's to provide this meal for the benefit of the whole community. Our goal is to foster relationships and welcome, feeding physically, relationally, and spiritually.



From Scott Van Daele, Director of Distributive Services:
“Greetings friends! I hope this finds you well!

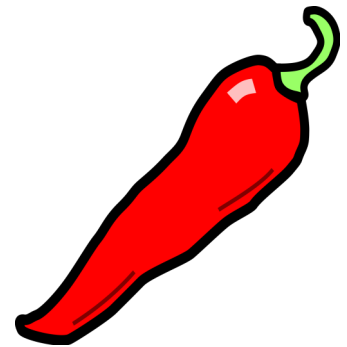
The Chum Food Shelf is gearing up for the Annual MN FoodShare March Campaign, and we are really trying to make a big push this year so we can create a large back stock of food to help us get the summer months started on the right foot. This year we have a goal of \$100,000 dollars and 50,000 pounds of food, and need all the support you can give. The first \$50,000 goes directly back to local farms to help us support our fresh food movement and to create a sustainable system for local food production and consumption.”

How you can help: Write a check to Chum Food Shelf and mail it directly to: Chum, 102 W. 2nd St, Duluth, MN 55802 **OR** you can write a check to the church with “Food Shelf” on the memo line and put it in the offering plate (cash can be accepted if put in an envelope indicating it is a donation to Chum Food Shelf) **OR** you can donate online: chum@chumduluth.org. By giving monetary donations, Chum can get \$3 worth of food for every \$1 donated.

Chili Cook-Off Wrap Up:

The 12th Annual Chili Cook-Off was held on Thursday, February 22. Contest contestants included Larry & Alice Sommer, Roger Lofald, Keely Upton, Dave Thornton, Karl Isakson, John Jacobson, Robert Jenko, Pastor Liz Davis, 2 entries from Chum staff, and a neighborhood couple.

The event raised \$650.00 for the Chum Food Shelf West which will hopefully receive matching funds during the month of March.



Congratulations to the Winners!



Pictured here:
Chili Cook-Off Coordinator, Robert Jenko
1st place winner John Jacobson
2nd place winner Dave Thornton
3rd place winner Karl Isakson

January, 2024

*Attendance

Jan 7: 31
 Jan 14: 36
 Jan 21: 43
 Jan 28: 39
 *Plus online

January Deposit Date:

Jan 2: \$2288.00
 Jan 9: \$6339.54
 Jan 16: \$1227.00
 Jan 24: \$3011.60

TOTAL \$12,866.14
 (Online) \$100.00
 (Direct Deposit) \$1085.00
Income \$14,051.14
Expenses* \$20,288.14

*Quarterly benevolences, quarterly property insurance, annual mileage reimbursement, several annual fees



Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as ever you can.
 ~~John Wesley

Weekly Calendar

March Birthdays:

- 3 Sandy Andler
- 3 Ing Stockland
- 5 OSL established 1889
- 8 Sandy Zapp
- 10 Michael Bail
- 13 Logan Burham
- 15 Anita Fraundorf
- 16 Jackson Carlson
- 17 Amanda Carlson
- 17 Patricia Lehr
- 18 Pat Nilsen
- 23 Shirley Muscatello
- 23 Amy Pozniak
- 25 Dean Herold
- 31 Madelyn Lilliberg
- Addition: Feb 3 Alice Sommer



March Anniversaries:

- 15 Jeremy & Amanda Carlson

Please let the office know if we have missed a birthday or anniversary: 218-624-3648

Sundays:

- Communion Worship, 11 am (sanctuary)
- Coffee Fellowship, Noon (Fellowship Hall)
- Mar 10: Annual Meeting & Potato Bar, noon (Fellowship Hall)
- Mar 17: Sunday School, 11 am (Martin Luther Room)
- Mar 24: Palm Sunday, 11 am worship
- Mar 31: Easter, 11 am worship

Mondays:

- Pastor Liz Office Hours 9-11 am (Mar 5, 11, 25)
- Food Shelf Distribution, 10 am (coffee at 9:30)
- Coffee & Chat, 10:30 am (library)
- Mar 11: Finnish Heritage group, 5:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)
- Mar 25: Dinner Club: Red Lobster, 6:00 pm

Tuesdays:

- Office open 9-2
- Women's AA Group: 10:30 am (library)
- Evening AA Group: 6:30 pm (library)
- Mar 5: Women's Circle meeting, 1 pm (library)
- Mar 5: PPC Meeting, 6:30 pm (nursery)

Wednesdays:

- Coffee & Chat, 10:30 am (library)
- Mar 6: Supper & Service, 6:15 pm (Fellowship Hall)
- Mar 13: Alzheimer's Support Group, 1 pm (library)
- Mar 13: Young Women's Initiative, 4 pm (library)
- Mar 13: Supper & Service, 6:15 (at United)
- Mar 20: Supper & Service, 6:15 pm (Fellowship Hall)
- Mar 27: Young Women's Initiative, 4 pm (library)

Thursdays:

- Office open 9-2
- Mar 7 & 21: Bible Study, 1 pm at United
- Mar 28: Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm (at United)

Fridays:

- Coffee & Chat: 10:30 am (library)
- Mar 29: Good Friday Service, 6 pm at Elim Lutheran

Saturdays:

- OA Meeting, 9:00 am (library)
- Mar 23: Free Breakfast & BP checks, 9 -10:30 (Fellowship Hall)

Prayer Requests



Members: Ken & Harriet Miller- health concerns

Friends and Family:

Ashley Carlson (friend of the Benson family)- health concerns

Brian Olcott, Ashley and Acelyn

Jack Berndt (staff member) - health concerns

Prayers for our Shut-ins

Edgewood Vista: Betty Craven, Barb Mathson, Ken & Harriet Miller, Corrine Weiss

At Home: Rich Smith

Interfaith Care Center: Isabel Vatne

Augustana Care Center: Thurley Ling



With Sympathy: We extend our deepest sympathy

...to the Family and Friends of Ron Beverage

...to the Family and Friends of Lori Southworth (Sandy Zapp's sister)

Sunday, March 10 is the Annual Meeting

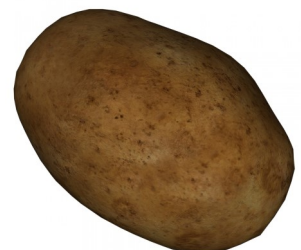
at Noon in the Fellowship Hall

**If you are not able to access the report online,
pick one up at church or contact the office to
have a copy mailed to you.**

RETURN OF THE POTATO BAR!

After a 4 year absence, the bell choir is sponsoring a potato bar with all the "fixings" on Sunday, March 10 at noon. It is a fundraiser for the bell choir and the cost is \$8.00.

Toppings include: chili, broccoli, cheese, salsa, onions, bacon bits, butter, sour cream and top the tater. To-go containers are available. For dessert: A 135th Anniversary Cake commemorating the founding of the church on March 5, 1889.





NEW YORK, NEW YORK

High Tea, Saturday, May 4, 2024, 1 pm

A Benefit Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Chum with all proceeds of the event going to Chum

Advanced Sales ONLY: \$25 per person

Call to reserve your tickets:

Beth at (218) 624-7007 Kris at (218) 590-3256

Before we know it...it will be Tea Time! May 4 is coming soon! We need your help! We are asking for volunteers to:

Put baskets together for the silent auction and help set up the silent auction and raffle tables

Decorate the Fellowship Hall and stage (April 30-May1)

Set tables (May 2)

Prepare sandwiches (May 3)

Butlers to serve tables during the Tea (May 4)

Kitchen Prep volunteers (May 4)

Clean up after the Tea (May 4)

Contact Kris or Beth if you are able to volunteer.

We are also asking for your help by making a donation for the Silent Auction and Raffle. This year we are encouraging you to support our local community by purchasing gift cards, tickets, passes, etc from our local shops, restaurants, craft breweries, arts and crafts vendors, entertainment and sporting venues for your donation. We will gladly accept donations from crafters and artisans, and local businesses. You are welcome to create your own basket. Please let us know you are planning to do that, and what your basket theme is so we don't duplicate it.

New York New York Tea Silent Auction and Raffle donations needed:

gift cards, tickets, passes (see above)...hand crafted or English scented soap bars...hand or body lotion.... bath salts, bubble bath....assorted specialty teas....scone or biscuit mixes....lemon curd, jams, jellies....shortbread cookies, biscotti....chocolates and other candies....wine, liquor, cordials, dessert wine.... chess set, other games....gardening tools, gloves, books seed packets, decor items....kitchen and baking utensils.... Cookbooks....baskets medium and large size....2" wide ribbon, bows.... decorative shredded paper.

All donations must be in by April 12th. Donations may be brought to the church office (open Tuesday & Thursdays) or contact Kris or Beth for further information. Thank you!



Family Album



An early morning in Lent



Easter gift bags for Renaissance House



Celebrating Sandy Andler's birthday 3/3



Northern Bell Chimes, handbell ensemble



Bill & Anita volunteering at the DECC



To Theresa Jacobson on her 2nd Place finish in the Duluth Playhouse "Singing With the Stars" event on March 1.

We do not have the ability to order Easter plants as we have in the past but we have 3 options available and will include an acknowledgement page in the Easter bulletin on March 31.

1. You may bring a plant to the church on Tuesday, March 26 or Wednesday, March 27. Take the plant home after the Easter service (make certain your name is on the plant).

2. You may donate money to the church's general fund.

3. You may donate money for Laundry Love (providing free laundry services to low/no income folks)

Please indicate your choice and acknowledgement below. Return this form with the information / donation through the offering plate or mail no later than **Mon, March 25.**

1. _____ I will bring a plant (type, if known _____)

2. _____ I am donating money to the church's general fund.

3. _____ I am donating money for Laundry Love.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

Donation amount: \$ _____

Looking Ahead:

Bell Choir Rummage Sale: is being planned for April 11-13, 2024. If you are cleaning or downsizing, keep us in mind. You may bring items to the church and leave them in the sub-basement on the benches. Contact the office if you need assistance (218) 624-3648. PLEASE: no electronics. All other items should be clean & in good repair.

High Tea: Saturday, May 4.

Chum Volunteer Recognition Lunch or Dinner: Monday, May 6.

Softball Team: is in the process of organizing for the 2024 Summer Season. Contact the office if you are interested in participating.

Proposal for Experimental Leadership Re-Organization

One of the unique gifts of Our Savior's is a strong tradition of lay leadership. Congregational members guide our many ministries, developing plans, projects, and ministries to carry out our work. Our current congregational leadership structure of Ministry Teams with chairs who serve as members of the Parish Planning Committee was developed to foster this diversity of leadership. However, the structure has become unwieldy, with some teams juggling too many responsibilities, people unable to take on such a large leadership task given their other life callings, and team members uninterested in meetings that don't directly pertain to the ministry they are most passionate about. To address the changing needs of our congregation and tap into the leadership potential already among us, the PPC is proposing an experimental leadership re-organization.

This re-organized structure would include an executive team of president, president elect, secretary, and treasurer, as well as a property team for continuity of campus care. At the annual meeting in May, the congregation would name ministries and projects that are most important to fulfilling our ministry. Members would volunteer to be the point of contact or members of an organizing team for each ministry/ project. By the choice of member commitment, we will determine which ministries and projects matter to the congregation.

The Point of Contact and Planning Team will develop the steps for the ministry to occur, but will not be the only people involved. A planning form will be provided for each ministry/ project which will set out a timeline and help streamline planning meetings so that the focus centers on accomplishing the goal. Every project will need to articulate how it propels forward our congregational mission and vision. Frequent communication with the executive team will ensure progress, calendar cohesion, and provide support. Planning teams will invite the whole congregation to participate in carrying out the ministry/ project. The goal is to welcome more people into participation in all ministries/ projects, rather than only the planners.

This structure is designed to allow for more members to engage in targeted leadership, with leaders focused in on the projects they care the most about for the limited time it takes to plan and implement the project. Teams of people interested in seeing the project succeed join in to plan, and invite the whole congregation to participate as the event approaches.

Our Savior's continues to have members passionate and gifted for leadership. We want to raise up new leaders by offering more manageable leadership opportunities. It's our hope that congregational investment grows through this re-imagined structure.

At our March annual meeting, there will be a presentation about this proposed structure with time for questions. If the congregation is willing, we would temporarily suspend our constitution/ bylaws pertaining to PPC/ committee structure in order to experiment with this restructure for two years. As the experiment occurs, we would assess and adapt. Please feel free to reach out to Pr. Liz, Roxanne, and the PPC with questions.