



EyeOpener



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
302 South 2nd Street East, Aurora, MN 55705

February 2018

"We are our Savior's servants in our church, community and the world"

www.oslcaurora.org

The season of Lent

The season of Lent begins this year on February 14 with Ash Wednesday and ends with the crucifixion on Good Friday (March 30) and resurrection of Christ on Easter (April 1). Overall, this liturgical season lasts for 40 days (Sundays do not count toward that number as there are six Sundays in Lent). Traditionally, Lent is a season of fasting, prayer, repentance, atonement, and preparation. The fasting and preparation stems from the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness, following his baptism, which lasted forty days. Often times, people are encouraged to fast, or give something up, during these forty days. You may see people on social media or hear from others that they are giving something up for Lent such as chocolate, various social media accounts, or will be doing something to resist a particular temptation during Lent. While these may be worthwhile practices, they often miss the mark of what Lent is really all about because they usually do not have much to do with your faith.

So, I would encourage all of us that instead of giving up something that we all add a new spiritual practice or to renew a spiritual practice. I would encourage you to consider some of the following options:

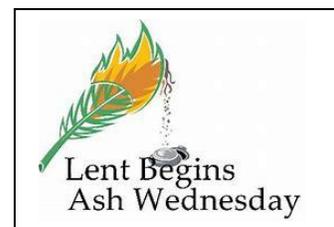
- Select a book, books, or genre in the Bible and read through them on your own or with a spouse, friend, or together as a family. Read a chapter or two a day during Lent and reflect upon it. Perhaps start with the book of Psalms. There are 150 of them and cover a wide range of human emotion.
- Add a devotion that you normally do not do during the rest of the year from a book or the Bible and discuss it with a friend, spouse, or members of your family.
- Take time at the end of each day to pray for those who are in the news: elected leaders, various events throughout the world, etc.
- Take more time for contemplation and prayer during things like exercising. Doing this while taking a walk around town is not only good for your spiritual life but your doctor may be happier the next time you visit too.
- Come to the interchurch Wednesday worship services scheduled on Wednesdays throughout Lent...the schedule can be found within this newsletter and bulletins
- Try something new during worship. Consider stepping outside your comfort zone by receiving the ashes on Ash Wednesday, having your feet washed on Maundy Thursday, reading during worship, marking the sign of the cross with water out of the baptismal font to remember your baptism, speaking out loud a prayer concern during the prayers of the people, serving communion, or singing a little louder and bolder as we process into the sanctuary on Palm Sunday.

There are a multitude of things that you can do during Lent to help deepen your faith as we journey these 40 days. As you do them, please let me know because I would love to share them and help connect others searching for a new or renewed spiritual practice. May you find this time of reflection enriching and renewing as we center ourselves on the cross and the empty tomb. In Christ, Pastor Eric

Lent Fun Facts

- There are pre-Lenten celebrations throughout the world in which large festivals and parties happen. Often, there is an over-indulgence of the luxuries in life prior to the time of the traditional fasting. This usually takes place on Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday. Some of the more famous celebrations are Mardi Gras in New Orleans and Carnival in Rio, Brazil.
- Purple is the color of the season as a marker of repentance of sin and solemnity
- Many things are removed from worship such as any hymn or part of liturgy that uses the word “alleluia.” You may also notice a more contemplative nature to the services.
- Ashes used on Ash Wednesday come from the palm branches used from the previous year’s celebration on Palm Sunday. When the ashes are imposed, a common blessing used is “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” (Genesis 3:19)
- The meaning for “Maundy” Thursday comes from the Latin word “Mandatum” meaning commandment. On this day, we remember the “new commandment” which Jesus gave his disciples in the Gospel of John: “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” (John 13:34).
- In many churches around the world, foot washing takes place on Maundy Thursday. In John 13, Jesus washes his disciples feet as an act of service to his disciples. Jesus then instructs his disciples that since he has washed their feet, the disciples ought to wash one another’s feet. This instruction of Jesus has since carried on as a marker of discipleship and servant leadership.
- Maundy Thursday also marks the day we celebrate the institution of the Last Supper as Jesus and his disciples remember Passover. Today, we celebrate communion and remember the Last Supper by remembering the Last Supper during the Words of Institution as they begin with “In the night in which he was betrayed...”
- Traditionally, services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and either the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening or Easter Sunday are viewed as *one continuous service*. This is why we leave the service on Maundy Thursday, after the stripping of the altar, in silence and darkness. Then arrive and leave Good Friday services in silence and darkness. Then, on Easter Sunday we begin in silence and darkness only to celebrate Christ overcoming death and darkness with singing and light.

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Sunday, January 21, 2018



President M Boback called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. in attendance were 32 members; the meeting was held in the sanctuary following an early scheduled 8:30 worship service that allowed pastor Eric stay for most of the meeting.

A motion was called to accept the minutes for the 2017 Annual Meeting. A motion was made by C Worshek 2nd by K Undeland. Motion approved.

President M Boback called for a motion to approve the following reports as presented, Pastor’s Report, Parochial, President, NLP Financial Report, Deacons, Trustees, Board of Stewardship, Board of Education, Thrivent, Living Memorial, Food Stand, WELCA, WELCA Treasurer Report, Faith Circle, Hope Circle, OSLC Choir, C Worshek gave a verbal report for the youth as the Youth Annual Report was submitted but did not get into the annual report. C Worshek gave us a financial update on their fundraising for the National Youth Gathering in Houston in June; the kids have raised about half the amount needed and have several fundraising events planned in the near future hoping they will meet their goals; Our church will be sending 3 students and C Worshek to the National Youth Gathering. A motion was made by C Worshek to approve the submitted reports 2nd by K Norman. Motion approved.

Pastors Report: Pastor Eric said a big THANK YOU to everyone for the help, support, love & guidance he receives from everyone in the work we all do together. Pastor expressed special thanks for those who have served on boards and to those who have committed themselves to serve for new terms. Pastor gave special thanks to D Boback and all the musicians for all she and they do to make the ministry special. Pastor Eric expressed his gratefulness for those that commit themselves to serve as leaders for confirmation and Sunday school, Pastor Eric saying kids and young adults are phenomenal and give him joy and pride being their pastor. Pastor Eric talked briefly about Pastor Barb's retirement and that our NLP, Synod and our councils continue to look at ways to provide ministry to our Parish. Pastor Eric ended thanking us saying we will have bumps in the road but we will overcome, that WE make our ministry possible through the ways in which God calls us, Pastor Eric looks forward to a great 2018 ministry with us.

Presentation of candidates (Nominating Committee Reports)

President Boback spoke of the open positions that need to be filled and asked for nominations to fill 1 position on the Board of Deacons and 5 positions for the Nominating Committee. C Worshek volunteered to fill the open position for Board of Deacons, J Dickinson, D Maki, J Barstad, J Salo and K Norman volunteer to fill the positions for the Nominating committee. President Boback thanked everyone for stepping up to serve.

Having a full slate of candidates President Boback asked for a motion to waive constitution C11.03 to allow for succession of officers, motion by D Barstad, and 2nd by K Dickinson. Motion Approved.

A motion was made by C Worshek to accept the presented full slate of officers 2nd by J Moore. Motion approved.

Old Business:

New Business:

Approve the Proposed Budget/Treasurers Report: D Barstad gave a summary and answered any questions regarding the treasurer's report; a motion was made by K Dickinson 2nd by B Maki to approve the proposed budget/treasurer's report. Motion approved.

Approve the NLP Proposed Budget: A motion was made by D Barstad 2nd by M Mulari. Motion approved.

Distribution of the Food Stand Money: D Maki gave a brief summary and asked for needs of the church and the youth going to Houston, with some discussion a motion was made by K Undeland to split the food stand profit half going to Youth and half going to the Capital Fund. 2nd by D Barstad. Motion approved.

Under new business D Maki talked about the food stand future and the lack of getting volunteers to work the stand, letting everyone know that the food stand is a lot of work and we have trouble filling the shifts. D Maki stated that if we do not get enough people signed up to work the 4 hour shifts the food stand will not operate, the shifts are fast and furious and can't run without enough help. D Maki reported the food stand over the years has provided a lot of money to our youth and to our church special needs not included in our budget; it is a tradition and an outreach for our church and it is important to continue that outreach and asked people to graciously give a 4 hour shift, invite their company and relatives to join in the fun.

A motion to adjourn was called for by President Boback at 9:35. The motion was moved by J Moore, 2nd by M Mulari. Motion approved.

President Boback thanked everyone!

Respectfully Submitted,

D Maki

Secretary



2018 Lenten Service Schedule

All services at 6:30pm unless otherwise indicated.

Soup begins at 5:30 February 21-March 21.

February 14 (Ash Wednesday)—6:30pm at Faith

February 21: Our Saviors Lutheran

February 28: St. Mark's Lutheran

March 7: Biwabik UCC

March 14: St. John's in Biwabik

March 21: Faith Lutheran

March 29 (Maundy Thursday): Our Saviors

March 30 (Good Friday): Faith at 6:30pm
Aurora Methodist at 1pm



Recipients of offerings for services:

February 21: Food Shelf

February 28: MEMA

March 7, 14, 21: Food Shelf

March 30: MEMA

All checks make payable to Interchurch



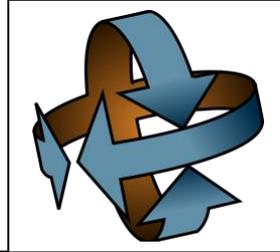
Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of our church, please

Contact Pastor Eric @ 715-295-4366.

Pastor Rotation

February 4 Barb Hegfors
February 11 Barb Hegfors
February 18 Eric Thiele
February 25 Eric Thiele



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Our Savior's has a prayer shawl ministry through WELCA. Shawls are available for anyone who is in need of a shawl as a sign of our support & concern during a crisis they may be facing. Please contact Eleonora Lesar 225-6197 or Lorraine Ekman 229-3328 for a shawl. If you would like to crochet or knit a shawl, please contact Eleonora for direction & supplies.

Pastor Eric's office hours are 8:30am ~ 4:30pm

Monday @ Faith Lutheran Church

****Tuesday @ Our Savior's Lutheran Church****

Wednesday @ St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Thursday ~ around town or by appointment His telephone number is 715-295-4366 and his email is ericthiele58@gmail.com



Church Office ~ Our Savior's Lutheran Church

302 South 2nd Street East

Aurora, MN 55705

Telephone # 218-229-3214

oslc1@frontiernet.net

www.oslcaurora.org

Kelly West ~ Secretary

Telephone # 218-750-4195

Monday 6am-noon

Thursday 6am-noon

Pastor Barb Hegfors

Telephone # 218-969-0135 bjturtle@frontiernet.net

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Monthly EyeOpener & Weekly Bulletin Deadlines

The deadline for the Monthly EyeOpener is the 24th of each month. Submissions may be emailed to Kelly at the church office oslc1@frontiernet.net . That’s oslc (lower case)....the number 1.....@.....frontiernet.net (all lower case)

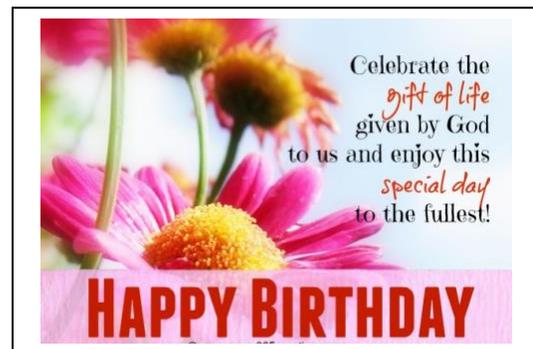


Schedule for February 2018

February 4 Siiri Hakala
February 11 Colt Long
February 18 Stevie Hakala
February 25 Patrick douglas

February Birthdays

Feb 2 Yvonne Trowbridge
Feb 3 John Nelson
Feb 4 Leonard Herrmann
Feb 5 James Fisher
Feb 6 Irene Undeland
Feb 8 Jason Lee
Feb 10 Beau Halttunen
Feb 17 Elenora Lesar
Feb 28 Erika Ekman
Cynthia Shain



Happy Birthday Everyone!

May God bless you on this special day and for many days & years to come.

If we have inadvertently omitted

anyone, or have an incorrect date, please contact the church office at 229-3214 so we may update our records.





When anyone is in need of prayer for special needs, concerns or support, please call Pastor, Kelly or anyone on the list of the prayer chain. All requests and prayers are kept confidential. Members: Lorraine Ekman, Janet Salo, Yvonne Trowbridge, Joanne Barstad, Debbie Maki, Linda Loeffler, Jan Kaster and Judy Marn.

If anyone else would like to take part in this ministry, please let a member know. We welcome anyone else who would like to share in supporting others in prayer.

Our members who are homebound, in nursing homes, and in assisted living

Irene Undeland ~ 741-5598

Edgewood Vista, Apt. # 240
705 17th Street North
Virginia, MN 55792

Christine Caldwell

522 Aspen Groves
Chisholm, MN 55746
219-263-7330

Leonard Pylka ~ 218-722-1866

Edgewood Vista
4195 Westberg Road # 429
Hermantown, MN 55811

Louise Ellingson (Aurora Carefree Living)

304 East 3rd Avenue South apt # 26
Aurora, MN 55705

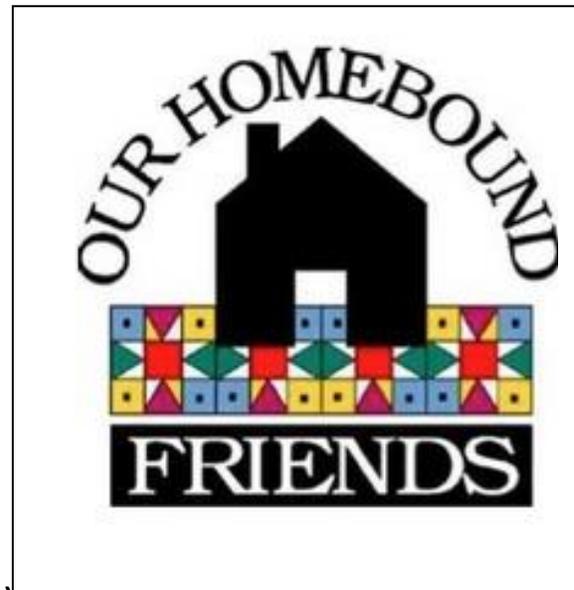
Ruby & Clayton Okstad (New Address/No Phone # yet)

Essensia Health VCC

901 North 9th Street
Virginia, MN 55792-2325

Herb Moore (Aurora Carefree Living)

304 East 3rd Avenue South apt. # 33
Aurora, MN 55705



Snow Shoveling List 2017-2018

Jan 27-Feb 2	Craig Douglas
Feb 3-9	Jack Jeffery
Feb 10-16	Steve Ekman
Feb 17-23	Mark Boback
Feb 24-Mar 2	Robbie Peterson
Mar 3-9	Keith Shatava
Mar 10-16	Don Barstad
Mar 17-23	Nate Skelton
Mar 24-30	Barrett Honkola
Mar 30-Apr 6	Kim Norman
Apr 7-13	Rich Jackson
Apr 14-20	John Long
Apr 21-27	Doug Shuck
Apr 27-May 4	John Nelson



Monthly Volunteers

February Ushers

4
11
18
25

February Readers

4
11
18
25

February Musicians

4 Diane Boback



11 Diane Boback
18 Diane Boback
25 Diane Boback

February Deacon ~

February Altar Guild ~ Paula, Kate, Joanne, Sue

February Trustees ~ Rod Salo & Don Barstad

ROAD TRIP TO DULUTH

Wednesday, January 17, 2018 found the quilters and other church members on the road to visit the LSS Center for changing lives in Duluth. Eleven church members were treated to a very informative tour of the brand new facility. The building houses many programs, some residential and many outreach.

The third floor houses the Renaissance Traditional Living Program which provides stable housing, support, help with education and employment goals and life skills for youth experiencing homelessness. They cook their own meals in a shared kitchen and clean their own rooms and the shared living spaces. They may stay there until they have a job and have found a place to live.

The second floor houses apartments for single people needing affordable housing. They may stay as long as they like, and are given supportive services. These apartments are managed by a leasing company.

The first floor houses offices, the Oh No! Eighteen Program, a Teen Health Center, and many other programs. It is a very wonderful, well-planned facility with a lot of security.

We delivered 10 quilts, small size toiletries, and a bag of hats and mittens knitted by Marin Lundquist. The staff was delighted and very happy to receive these items.

We ended our day with a very nice lunch at Blackwoods. Many thanks to our chauffeurs – Lorna Kallio, Kate Undeland, and Don Barstad. Thanks, Lorna for planning a very fun trip!





**HELP SUPPORT THE YOUTH GOING ON MISSION TRIP TO
TEXAS**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018

4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

AURORA AMERICAN LEGION

\$8.00

TAKES OUTS WELCOME

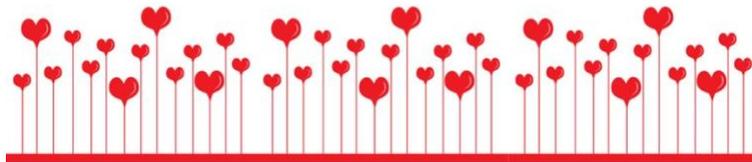
NEWS FROM INTERCHURCH - JANUARY 24, 2018

Food Shelf Report – The food shelf is in need of community help. They are not getting two of the grants that they usually get that total about \$ 5,000. They also need volunteers who have a pick-up or van and can lift 25 pounds. They would meet at the food shelf on Friday morning at 11:15 A.M. to go to Walmart to pick up fresh meats and produce at 11:45. They would be done unloading by 1:00 P.M.

Food Shelf Fundraiser – Instead of a Spring Concert, we are planning a Mexican themed dinner scheduled at the time for May 1, 2018.

The Lenten Soup Supers will begin on February 21 with Our Savior's Aurora hosting the first one.

Next meeting – February 27, 2018 – Aurora United Methodist at 2:00 P.M.



A few copies of Pastor Barb's article regarding "The State of the Aurora Methodist Church" are available in the narthex. If you are interested, please take a copy.

