



EyeOpener

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

302 South 2nd Street East, Aurora MN 55705

218-229-3214 ~ oslc1@frontiernet.net

January 2023

“We are our Savior’s servants in our church, community and the world”

A Note from the President

Wishing our Congregation, a safe and healthy 2023! As we pass through the Christmas season we all need to remember the real reason for the season and the blessed meaning of the birth of Jesus Christ.

The past year at Our Saviors has been a busy year and I am so thankful that we have a good pastor and a wonderful congregation with very ambitious and willing volunteers.

This past year has gone by very quickly for me as President and it has been a learning experience, but enjoyable. We have a good council, Boards and very skilled and talented people who are always willing to step up to the plate. Thanks be to God.

I have a book about church signs, sometimes humorous, often powerful, never short in supply. I found one that I felt was fitting to our church. Just a little humor!

“Try our Sundays, they are better than Dairy Queen’s”

Mary Hess, President



Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Aurora MN

Council Meeting December 20, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm December 20, 2022 by Pres. M Hess
President Hess welcomed all in attendance having no announcements and asked Pastor Greg for devotions. Pastor Greg talked about the Native Americans and how the winter season is looked at as a restful time of year; for most of us the winter season brings the celebration of Jesus birth and being thankful and praising God for his son that gives his faithful followers everlasting life.

Release to Boards 6:45

Council Meeting 7:00

With boards prepared and ready Pres. M Hess resumed with the regular council meeting at 7:00 pm
In attendance: T Salo, M Boback, M Castle, K Fallos, J Salo, J Dickinson, D Shuck, D Barstad, M Mulari, Janet Salo, Deb Maki

Meeting Minutes of Nov 15, 2022 were presented by Council Secretary D Maki

A motion was made by M Boback to approve the minutes, 2nd by J Dickinson. Motion approved.

Treasurers Report was presented by Treas. T Salo, having no questions a motion was made by M Boback to approve the treasurers report, 2nd by D Barstad. Motion approved.

Budget for 2023 was presented by Treas. T Salo, having no changes a motion was made by D Barstad to approve the 2023 Budget, 2nd by M Boback. Motion approved.

Deacons Report J Salo reported for the Bd of Deacons

Deacon for January 2023: Will be D Shuck

Eucharist Ministry for January 2023 will be L Ekman and Y Trowbridge

Pulpit Replacement for January 1, 2023: Mary Hess

Board of Education J Dickinson reported the Christmas Program and Brunch was enjoyed by all, the kids had a great time doing the program and also helped serve the brunch (our future kitchen crew) A huge thank you to our leaders Jill and Jenna who do an outstanding job with our children. The brunch offerings were given to the Aurora Food Shelf who was very excited to receive during this high demand time of year!

Board of Stewardship & Fellowship

Chairman M Castle reported the Stewardship Board continues to encourage coffee and money be given to the Local Food Shelf, the need for feeding the hungry is at a high point in our area. Mary also informed the council the Stewardship Board will be doing their 2nd year of asking for your donations of hats, mittens scarfs and gloves for our Mesabi East School kids "Grab and Go" project, a basket for your donations is located in the Narthex for, we will continue with the project through January. Pres. M Castle reported that in Nov. and Dec. the Stewardship Board has focused on being "Good Stewards" to our church and community, please continue to be diligent about ways we all can be involved being "Good Stewards" of our time, talents and our money.

Chairman M Castle informed the council the Stewardship Board will continue to do many projects in 2023 including:

- Acts of Kindness to members in need will be ongoing throughout the year.
- Lenten Journey to the Cross (soup can coin collection) for Food Shelf.

- Vacation Bible School help in kitchen & Picnic,
- Spring Road-side Pick Up
- Welcome Sunday School back with Ice cream and treats
- Celebrating “Giving Thanks Service” with cake and ice cream
- Assist with Sunday School brunch
- “Grab and Go” A collection of hats and mittens for ME School kids.

Board of Trustees T Salo reported for the Trustee Board

- Thank you to Richard Hess for all his snowplowing the past week with our almost 2’ of heavy wet snow, with running a business and having breakdowns he still got the church open for Sunday Service. HUGE Thank You Richard!!!

Old Business

- Nominating Committee completed its work finding new board members with a few exceptions that will be filled at the annual meeting on January 22, 2023.

New Business

- Pastor Greg had a call and request from Pastor Barnes asking us if we would be interested in participating in Lenten Soup Suppers and Services, at this time we do not know what churches would be involved and are waiting to hear how the Inter Church Committee is feeling on the matter; our Women’s group sounds favorable to being involved.
- The Annual meeting date will be held Sunday, January 22, 2023 immediately following the worship service in the fellowship hall! Please everyone make plans to attend.
- Reminder to everyone December 31st is the due date for all boards/committees to have their Annual Reports into Kelly in the office. Please be diligent in doing this! Thank you!

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn by D Barstad 2nd by Tim S. Motion approved.

Adjourned with the Lord Prayer at 7:30.

The Annual Meeting will be January 22, 2023 immediately following worship service all members and friends of the congregation are welcome to attend. You are our church and your input is valuable.

Respectfully submitted,
Council Secretary, D Maki

The council asks for your prayers, guidance and support, that by our faithful service we will see faith abounds and God’s kingdom increase. The council invites all members and friends to attend council meetings.

“You are our Church and your input is valuable”.



ANNUAL MEETING

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Aurora, MN**

January 22, 2023

Following our 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

HAPPY
New Year

Women of the ELCA January 2023 News

The Christmas dinner and silent auction was a wonder event. Vaughn's catered a delicious dinner; and beautiful Christmas music was provided by Diane Boback playing the organ and Beth Getham on the violin. We are so fortunate to have their professional talents in our congregation.

The silent auction, handled by Mary Mulari, brought in over \$1,650; which half was sent to the local food shelf and half to Mesabi East Kids' Closet. Many thanks to all who donated items for the auction, and also to the generous bidders. We couldn't do this without you. It was a great evening. Both charities were very grateful to receive these donations.

Also, I want to especially thank the ladies who serve on the WELCA Board: Pam Peterson, Lorna Kallio, Mary Hess, Deb Maki, Janet Salo and Lorraine Ekman. These ladies are dedicated and work hard on our projects and events throughout the year; along with other members who participate in mission work. We appreciate the support from all our members who always answer our calls when needed. Please refer to the annual report for a summary of our activities throughout the year.

Wishing you all a wonderful New Year from the ladies at Our Savior's.
Kate Undeland, WELCA President



“We are our Savior’s servants in our church, community and the world”



Please take time to examine ways we all can be aware of being good stewards in our lives, community and our church, and using our time, our talents and our money.

“You are our church and your time, talents and generosity are valuable”.



IN OUR



Thoughts and Prayers

Joy Norman, Charlotte and Ken Carlson, Louise Ellingson,
Glorene Clark, Bill Utley

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Monthly Volunteers

January Ushers

- 1 Dave & Paula Skelton
- 8 Lorraine Ekman & Sue Sowers
- 15 Pam & DuWayne Peterson
- 22 Mary Hess & Doug Shuck
- 29 Jack Jeffery & Mark Boback

January Readers

- 1 Dave Skelton
- 8 Mark Boback
- 15 Mary Hess
- 22 Mary Mulari
- 29 Janet Salo



January Deacon ~ Doug Shuck

January Altar Guild ~ Unknown

January Trustee ~ John Baxter

Bulletin and Newsletter Deadlines

- The deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 24th of each month.
- The deadline for weekly bulletin announcements is Wednesday of each week.

*Submissions may be emailed to Kelly at the church office oslc1@frontiernet.net

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

Pastor Greg Anderson

Cell phone # 218-234-7217

gsanderso@msn.com

Kelly West ~ Secretary

Monday & Tuesday 7:00am – Noon

Wednesday & Thursday 7:00 am – 11:00 am



If any of your contact information has changed, please call the church office and update your contact information. If you wish to receive church correspondence, it is your responsibility to contact the church with any changes or updates. Thank you 😊

It is important we have your current

- Home phone #'s
- Cell Phone #'s
- Email Addresses
- Home Address

CALL THE OFFICE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE 218-229-3214 OR SEND AN EMAIL oslc1@frontiernet.net



In Memory of Tom Lehtinen and Jan Kaster, gifts were given to the Living Memorial Fund by Janet Salo.



When anyone is in need of prayer for special needs, concerns or support, please call Pastor Greg, or anyone on the list of the prayer chain. All requests and prayers are kept confidential. Members: Lorraine Ekman 229-3328, Janet Salo 229-2332 or 404-3358, Yvonne Trowbridge 229-2463, Linda Loeffler 229-0130, Jan Moore 229-3466, Kate Undeland 780-2436, Debbie Maki 290-1471. 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



January Birthdays

- Jan 1 Michael Lesar
- Jan 2 Colt Long
- Jan 4 Jenna Dickinson
- Jan 5 Greyson Fallos
- Jan 8 Lori Berrigan
- Jan 12 Leah Undeland
- Jan 15 Benjamin Shain
- Jan 17 Mitchell Hanson
- Jan 21 John Samuelson
- Jan 26 Susan Hanson

Jan 27 Jacob Baxter
Jan 28 Olivia Prazak

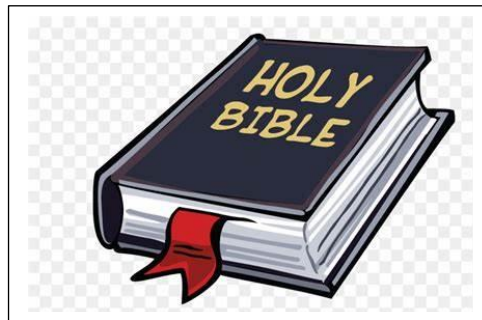
May God bless you today on your birthday and every day after. May you be comforted by His presence in your life, and always follow His guiding light.

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.

Scripture Readings for the Month of January 2023

Readings for January 1, 2023

Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23



Readings for January 8, 2023

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

Readings for January 15, 2023

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Readings for January 22, 2023

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Readings for January 29, 2023

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

2023 Snow Shoveling List

The list will be published in the monthly Newsletter, posted on the bulletin board, as well as reminders sent to each person prior to their assigned week. If you are unable to shovel on your assigned week, please find your replacement, per Don Barstad. Just a reminder ~ please shovel out the mailbox as well. The post office will not deliver mail if not kept up.

Thank you to all who shovel, you all are very much appreciated!!

12/30 – 1/5	Duane Undeland
1/6 – 1/12	Charles Olson
1/13 – 1/19	Kent Dickinson
1/20 – 1/26	Chad Skelton
1/27 – 2/2	Mark Boback
2/3 – 2/9	Kim Norman
2/10 – 2/16	Tim Salo
2/17 – 2/23	Doug Shuck
3/3 – 3/9	Jeff Weddell
3/10 – 3/16	Steve Ekman
3/17 – 3/23	Don Barstad
3/24 – 3/30	Jack Jeffrey

South side of church sidewalks – front door, Sunday School door, and kitchen door.

East side sidewalks – clean east entrance, and the Choir door should have a path away from building (fire exit).

Ice melt is available at both sides. – More in basement.

Don Barstad

Stewardship 2023 ~ Your year for generosity

“You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity!” -2 Corinthians 9:11

As you make resolutions and set goals for the New Year, be sure to include this one: “I will be more generous in 2023.” It will bless you – and your community and neighbor!

The Bible makes clear that generosity leads to a more abundant life. Generous people experience one of those paradoxes of the Kingdom of God, where the last are first, the greatest is servant to all, and whoever loses her life for Christ will gain it.

The paradox? Generous people get back far more they give.

First, a clarification: The paradox is NOT a financial strategy to maximize return on investment. That would be missing the point. Besides, there are more important things to give than money, such as time, service, kindness, forgiveness, compassion, love, and joy. And what we get back may not be quantifiable. How do you measure wellbeing and happiness?

Generosity’s real “payback” is what and who we become when we cultivate a habit of giving. Giving transforms us into generous-hearted people, and generous-hearted people tend to experience a real abundance of joy, peace, love, and security.

The old saying is most certainly true: The open palm holds more than the closed fist.

For 2023, set a goal to be more generous. Start by increasing your charitable giving above last year’s offering, but also aim to give away your time, to serve your neighbor, to be lavish in compassion, extravagant in love.

Pray that God will guide you and help you experience the paradox: Givers get back more than they give away.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2022, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com.

