



**Our Saviour's
Lutheran Church**

300 Logan Street
Merrill, WI 54452

Office:

715-536-5813
office@osclca.org

Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday -
Friday, 9:00-4:00.
Scrip is available during
these times.

Pastor:

920-535-0014
revpatschutz@gmail.com

Youth & Family:

715-536-5813
YouthandFamily@osclca.org

Staff

Pastor:

Reverend Patricia Schutz

**Director of Youth &
Family Ministry:**

Katy Gattuso

Business Administrator:

Carla Weisenfeld

Custodian:

Cindy Latzig

*Network articles are due
on or before the 20th
of the month*

Musings from the Pastor

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. Luke 4:14-15

Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan where he was revealed as God's beloved Son and anointed by the Holy Spirit. Immediately after, he was driven out into the wilderness by that same Holy Spirit and tempted by the devil to dismiss his identity as God's beloved Son and instead choose worldly power over love's redemptive power. The devil was no match against God's anointed One.

Then Jesus, *filled with the power of the Holy Spirit*, began his public ministry. The sequence is important—baptism, rooted in divine identity, empowered by the Spirit to bring life to God's people.

Dear friends in Christ, we begin 2022 in such a position, as God's baptized people, Spirit filled and Spirit led, given the ministry of bringing joy and life to one another and our neighbors near and far. God has hopes and dreams for us and God will provide the means for them to happen. I believe this strongly and hope you do too. Such possibilities call for us to pay attention, gather together for worship, ministry activities, prayer and discernment, story-telling, conversations and laughter.

Please come to the annual meeting on Sunday, January 30, after morning worship, around 10 a.m. to talk more about our present and our future as OSLC, about hopes and dreams, God's and ours. We'll meet downstairs. Come with encouragement for our leaders; it's been a long couple of years. Come with questions stirred up by the annual report. Come with wonderings about the new year; questions like, "I wonder if we could...." Come, you who come every year, you who have not come for a while, you who have never attended an annual meeting. Come. God has given us to one another to be the body of Christ in this place; every person is valued and needed for the body to be whole, strong, vibrant.

Shalom, Pastor Pat

Annual Meeting

The annual congregational meeting for Our Saviour's Lutheran Church will be **Sunday, January 30**, after morning worship, around 10:00 a.m. We will meet downstairs. Preliminary annual reports will be available for review beginning the weekend of January 15 & 16.

YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

Greetings OSLC Youth and families,

December has been a busy month for the youth and families of OSLC!

Thank you to everyone who helped in the Christmas Program! This was a no practice program during a Sunday morning worship service. We had children and adults of all ages participating in the program! From wearing animal ears, to speaking parts such as the inn-keeper, to being Mary, Joseph, Angels and Shepherds! The program was called "Christmas Interrupted" by Jerusalem Greer. It reminded us to leave room for interruptions just as Mary was interrupted. In other words to allow room for God to work in our lives aside from our day to day schedules we have for ourselves. Afterwards, the congregation enjoyed cookies! Thank you to Carol and Marie for organizing the cookies as well as thank you to all those who baked cookies!

Thank you to Carol and Marie for putting together gifts for the Sunday School aged Children. If you have not yet received your gift and have a child that receives Sunday School Activity Packets, please see Katy to pick up your gift.

We came together to make Chrismons out of beads. These are typically made around Christmas to remember the birth of Jesus. We learned about how Chrismons originated in the Lutheran Church. Chrismons are symbols that represent the Christian faith, such as a shell to remind us of our baptism. This year we made a Jesus Fish! A Jesus Fish is one of the oldest Christian symbols.

The high school youth came together to make gingerbread houses, drink hot chocolate, listen to Christmas music and participate in a White Elephant Christmas Gift Exchange! A white elephant Christmas gift exchange is where everyone brings in a gift and is given a number. Number 1 gets to pick a gift first and so on! Then the gifts can be stolen. After a person has had a gift taken from them 3 times, they can no longer have their gift stolen and they get to keep that gift!

We have exciting events planned for the children, youth and families in January! The exact dates are to be determined. We are hoping to do a children and youth talent show! There is also an intergenerational faith event being planned. We will also be getting together with Grace Lutheran Church Tomahawk for fellowship and to hear more about the Youth Gathering!

*Blessings to you,
Katy*

December Youth Events

During the month of December, the children, youth and families surprised the congregation with a Christmas Program called "Christmas Interrupted" by Jerusalem Greer during a Sunday Morning Worship service. Pastor Pat, the children and the parents were willing to step in and be any characters that were needed (Angel, Shepherd etc.) Thank you to all the parishioners who helped with the program! Thank you to Marie and Carol for organizing the cookies afterwards as well as all those who helped bake cookies for families to enjoy after the program!

We had a family event to make Chrismons out of beads and learn about what Chrismons are! Here is the Jaeger family (Abby, Aaron, Sam) smiling while holding their Jesus fish Chrismons!





The High School Youth have met on Wednesday evenings and on Thursday when there was a Council Meeting. Their last meeting for the month of December is Wednesday December 22nd. They will be decorating gingerbread houses and exchanging Christmas gifts with one another! Please enjoy this photo of the youth wrapping gifts. One is blind folded, and the other partner has to lead the person blindfolded in wrapping the gift.

The youth and family committee will be meeting in January to solidify events for the month of January!

Scrip Cards

All profits from the scrip program between now and June 2022 benefit our Youth Program! Scrip cards are available for groceries, gas, restaurants, clothing and much more.

We have the following cards available at a discount from the face amount, please make an offer:

- Game Stop \$25
- American Girl \$100
- Hallmark \$25
- Sears \$25
- Kmart \$25

Revisions to Church Constitution and Bylaws

The church council of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church (OSLC) has approved proposed changes to the church constitution and bylaws. These revisions were made in compliance with the Model Constitution of the ELCA. Final approval will be made by OSLC voting members at the annual meeting on Sunday, January 30, 10:00 a.m.

Voting members may now pick up a copy at the church office. Office hours are M-W-F, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Copies are also available before and after worship.

A voting member at OSLC is defined in our constitution as someone who:

- is confirmed
- has communed at least once during the preceding or current year
- has made a financial donation of record during the preceding or current year

In addition, the church council has begun a process to update our membership list. Please fill out a membership form if you haven't already.

Good things are happening at OSLC. God is working in us and through us to make God's love in Christ visible in our congregation, community, and beyond. Church council encourages all who are able to take an active role in the life of the congregation. God makes us more whole together.

Your Church Council

Nominating Committee

If you are interested in being on the nominating committee for Council, give Pr. Pat a call or email and she will let you know how you can help.

Are you interested in serving the congregation as a council member or know someone that you think would be on the council, give Pr. Pat a call or email.

Monday night Bible study

Monday night Bible study begins Monday, January 3, 2022. The topic is "A Study of Luther's small catechism for adults. " From our study book, "A catechism is a guide for people in need of instruction...in the fundamentals of Christian faith." This gives us a chance to review and renew our understanding of our faith from the point of view of our life experiences. All are welcome. Monday, January 3, 2022, 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm, in the Church lounge.

Are you 70.5+ years old and taking withdrawals from your IRA? Would you like to avoid paying taxes on some of that money?

You can make a qualified charitable donation (QCD) to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

A QCD is a **direct transfer** of funds from your IRA, **payable directly** to a qualified charity (Our Saviour's Lutheran Church) as described in the QCD provision in the Internal Revenue Code.

Amounts distributed as a QCD can be counted toward satisfying your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year, up to \$100,000.

The QCD is excluded from your taxable income and therefore is also not deductible if you are itemizing deductions.

This is not the case with a regular withdrawal from an IRA, even if you use the money to make a charitable contribution later on.

As such, the QCD can remain an option for your charitable giving, **even if you claim the standard deduction** in a given year.

This is not tax advice but it is an idea of how you can possibly save from paying taxes on money withdrawn from your IRA. Talk to your tax advisor or IRA advisor to confirm that you qualify and to make sure you follow all the procedures.

We have several members who are already using this contribution method.

Your *FINANCE COMMITTEE*

Financial Report 2021

<u>Month of Nov 2021</u>		<u>TOTAL Jan – Nov 2021</u>	
INCOME	\$ 22,588.81	INCOME	\$ 260,059.01
EXPENSES	<u>\$ 27,725.69</u>	EXPENSES	<u>\$ 211,25.49</u>
Short	(\$ 5,136.88)	NET	\$ 49,033.25

Evening Book Study Group

Pastor Pat is starting a book discussion group that will meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. In January, the book is, *Fire Road; The Napalm Girl's Journey through the Horrors of War to Faith, Forgiveness, and Peace*, by Kim Phuc Phan Thi. We will meet on Tuesdays January 11 and 25, from 6:30-7:45 p.m. and most likely continue the discussion into February. There are videos of

interviews with Kim on YouTube that help put a face and voice to the words in her book. The book is available as a paperback and on Kindle.

Keep Your Information Current

Please let the office know if you are changing your phone number or are moving so our records can be updated. We want to be sure you are receiving the church mailings. If you do not want the paper mailing, please let the office know your email and we can take you off the paper mailing list.

Offering Envelopes

The contribution numbers will not be changing this year. We are in the process of updating our membership list and will be keeping the giving the same as it has been in the past. If you need more envelopes, they are on the table by the lounge, or you can ask Carla in the office, and she can give you some.

Good Gifts - Family Farm

We Bought 2 Farms

Hurray! Hurray! Your good and generous gifts to the ELCA GOOD GIFTS project enabled Our Saviour's to purchase a farmyard full of animals...and more! As of December 27, 2021, \$1733.53 has been donated. Wow! An entire farm (a cow, a couple goats, a dozen chicks, two pigs, farming tools seeds and agricultural training) costs \$715, which means we can buy 2 farms and additional animals! Recipients are families in countries where the level of poverty is nearly impossible for Americans to imagine.



The campaign concluded at Christmas, but the Outreach Team will keep you posted as to the final amount donated. A thousand thank you's to you! You did good...very, very good!

Thank you

Dear Body of Christ,

Thank you for the Christmas greetings and blessings you shared with me. I so appreciate each and every one of you.

Pastor Pat

Dear Members of OSLC,

Thank you for the prayers, food, gifts, and all the kindness shown to me and my family as I recover from Covid. We appreciate you very much.

Becky, Mary Andrew & Tommy Koss

St. Vincent's Donation

MANY bags and boxes of Christmas decorations were given to St. Vincent's from the church. A group of women sis some heavy-duty cleaning and organizing! St Vincent's was SO appreciative! They were in great need of such items. One gal even said that now she could decorate the store windows for Christmas!!

Thanks to all who helped!

Barb Peterson



Jan 2022 – Birthday

Angela Bailey	Jan 1	Charlotte Peters	Jan 4	Julie Johnas	Jan 15	John Baumann	Jan 26
Amanda Fabbri	Jan 1	Trey Stevenson	Jan 4	Debra Wagner	Jan 15	Amanda Van Heuklom	Jan 26
Brian Freund	Jan 1	Todd Annis	Jan 5	Steven Miller	Jan 16	Carson Woellner	Jan 27
Ward Gremler	Jan 1	Savanna Harmon	Jan 5	Leesa Roth	Jan 16	Deidre Lemke	Jan 28
Faye Maschke	Jan 1	Tom Knospe	Jan 5	Micheal Schmidt	Jan 16	Jamie Slott	Jan 28
Devin Schuchart	Jan 1	Dustin Oslage	Jan 5	Jeff Benedict	Jan 17	Jim Wolff	Jan 28
Brenda Stine	Jan 1	Kendyl Pettit	Jan 5	Elvera Detert	Jan 17	Mykayla Kuhn	Jan 29
Gale Verpoorten	Jan 1	Morgan Pettit	Jan 5	Kurt Eggersgluess	Jan 17	Lois Patton	Jan 29
Jay Block	Jan 2	Tanner Pettit	Jan 5	Gregory Jaeger	Jan 17	Dirk Peterson	Jan 29
Joan Brandner	Jan 2	Richard Rogers	Jan 5	Cindy Leskey	Jan 17	Judy Elliott	Jan 30
Jose Countryman	Jan 2	Donna Baumgart	Jan 6	Lucas Olson	Jan 17	Benjamin Osness	Jan 30
Amy Frazier	Jan 2	Ted Ley	Jan 6	Lloyd Bagley	Jan 19	Keagan Schoone	Jan 30
Dakota Krzanowski	Jan 2	Keith Meyer	Jan 6	Amanda Cipra	Jan 19	Gloria Bondioli	Jan 31
Ellie Stockowitz	Jan 2	Betty Latzig	Jan 8	Kristin Wimmer	Jan 19	John Erickson	Jan 31
Santana Strand	Jan 2	Abby Frazier	Jan 9	Kariann Hanneman	Jan 20	Zachary Kubichek	Jan 31
Hollie Thompson	Jan 2	Alexis Kielman	Jan 9	Ross Heller	Jan 20		
Kristin Van Der Geest	Jan 2	Skyler Schotz	Jan 9	Michael Hill	Jan 20		
Parker Welch	Jan 2	Joyce Hommerding	Jan 10	Kelsey Pintens	Jan 20		
Dave Welk	Jan 2	Will Opsahl	Jan 10	Ryan Teske	Jan 20	Gene and Karleen Bebel	Jan 4
Timothy Woller	Jan 2	Dusty Rampart	Jan 10	Alyssa Yorde	Jan 20	Jerry and Ana Fiene	Jan 9
Karleen Bebel	Jan 3	Kerri Wolff	Jan 10	Kailey Bender	Jan 21	Dave and Roxanne Johnson	Jan 17
Kirby Peterson	Jan 3	Sebastian Boyd	Jan 11	Jessica Cortright	Jan 21	Timothy and Kathe Handlin	Jan 19
Phyllis Rahlf	Jan 3	Logan Knospe	Jan 11	Kristina Mueller	Jan 21	Joe and Faye Maschke	Jan 20
Debbie Schleif	Jan 3	Emmanuel Ollmann	Jan 11	Marjorie English	Jan 22	Jeff and Robin Halbach	Jan 21
Jennifer Sommer	Jan 3	Elias Hebert	Jan 12	Seeley Peterson	Jan 22	Kelby and Nicole Krause	Jan 25
Amy Sowinski	Jan 3	Shauna Pasholk	Jan 12	Laurie Smith	Jan 22		
Lillian Strand	Jan 3	Matthew Torkelson	Jan 12	Latrell Cooper	Jan 23		
Kim Woellner	Jan 3	Joshua Berton	Jan 13	Marcie Jannusch	Jan 23		
Alyssa Buyatt	Jan 4	Patty Thwaites	Jan 13	Brendon Kufahl	Jan 23		
William Dinges	Jan 4	Brook Van Vuren	Jan 13	Ruth Benson	Jan 24		
Jason Hanneman	Jan 4	Kristine Woellner	Jan 13	Nathan Pehlke	Jan 24		
Toni Moldenhauer	Jan 4	Anakin Brooner	Jan 14	Natalie Barnett	Jan 25		
		Judy Evans	Jan 14	Austin Jaeger	Jan 25		
		Shirley Henkelman	Jan 14	Benjamin Lee	Jan 25		
		Patrick O'Malley	Jan 14	Russ Mungor	Jan 25		

Jan 2021 – Anniversary

Gene and Karleen Bebel	Jan 4
Jerry and Ana Fiene	Jan 9
Dave and Roxanne Johnson	Jan 17
Timothy and Kathe Handlin	Jan 19
Joe and Faye Maschke	Jan 20
Jeff and Robin Halbach	Jan 21
Kelby and Nicole Krause	Jan 25

the names or dates are incorrect, or if we are missing information let the office know.

Our Saviour`s Lutheran Church

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Year's Day 9:00a AA Meeting
2 9:00a Worship (HC) 10:45a First Presbyterian Worship	3 8:00a TOPs 1:00p Miriam Circle 6:00p Busy Bees 4-H 6:00p Property & Maintenance 7:15p Bible Study	4 3:00p Undecorating Church 5:30p Yoga 6:00p Worship & Music	5 3:30p Confirmation 6-8 Grade	6 Epiphany 8:30a Mission Sewing 10:30a Ministerium 6:00p Youth Group 6:30p NA Meeting	7	8 9:00a AA Meeting 4:30p Worship (HC)
9 9:00a Worship (HC) - Family Worship 10:45a First Presbyterian Worship 2:00p Pinecrest Worship	10 8:00a TOPs 10:15a Esther Circle 6:00p Youth & Family 7:15p Bible Study	11 5:30p Yoga 6:30p Evening Book Study Group	12 3:30p Confirmation 6-8 Grade 6:00p Finance 6:00p Youth Group w/ Grace Lutheran	13 8:30a Mission Sewing 1:00p Ruth Circle 6:30p Christian Ed 6:30p NA Meeting	14 11:00a Bell Tower Worship	15 9:00a AA Meeting 4:30p Worship (HC)
16 9:00a Worship (HC) 10:00a Sunday School Craft Event 10:45a First Presbyterian Worship	17 MLK Jr. B-day 8:00a TOPs 5:00p Outreach 7:15p Bible Study	18 5:30p Yoga	19 3:30p Confirmation 6-8 Grade 6:00p Council	20 6:00p Youth Group 6:30p NA Meeting	21 9:30a Meditation - Yoga	22 4:30p Worship (HC)
23 9:00a Worship (HC) 9:00a AA Meeting 10:45a First Presbyterian Worship 6:00p Intergenerational Faith Panel	24 8:00a TOPs 7:15p Bible Study	25 5:30p Yoga 6:30p Evening Book Study Group	26 3:30p Confirmation 6-8 Grade 6:00p Youth Group	27 6:30p NA Meeting	28	29 4:30p Worship (HC) 6:00p Talent Show
30 9:00a Worship (HC) 10:00a Annual Meeting 10:45a First Presbyterian Worship	31 8:00a TOPs 7:15p Bible Study					

Our Saviour's Scrip Order Form

Name _____

Date _____

ON HAND

Qty Total

GROCERIES

County Market - 3%	\$25		
County Market - 3%	\$50		
County Market - 3%	\$100		

RESTAURANTS

Arby's - 8%	\$10		
Chips - 10%	\$5		
Clark's Cup N Cone- 10%	\$10		
Culver's - 5%	\$10		
Dairy Queen - 10%	\$10		
Dairy Queen - 10%	\$20		
1st St. Coffee - 5%	\$5		
Friendship House - 10%	\$10		
Los Mezcales - 15%	\$10		
McDonald's - 5%	\$5		
McDonald's - 5%	\$10		
Pizza Hut - 8%	\$10		
Taco Bell - 5%	\$10		

FUEL

Kwik Trip - 4%	\$25		
Kwik Trip - 4%	\$50		
Kwik Trip - 4%	\$100		

MISCELLANEOUS

Cosmo Child/Sr- 10%	\$5		
Cosmo Adult - 10%	\$8		
Fleet Farm – 3.5%	\$25		
Menard's - 3%	\$25		
Hallmark - 4%	\$25		
Kohl's - 4%	\$25		
Walgreens - 5%	\$25		
Walmart - 2.5%	\$25		
Walmart - 2.5%	\$50		
Walmart - 2.5%	\$100		

SPECIAL ORDER LIST \$ Amt Qty Total

**Other stores also be available - ask seller for details*

Most popular special orders - many others also

RESTAURANTS

Chipotle - 10%	\$10		
Tex Roadhouse - 8%	\$25		

CLOTHING

Am. Eagle - 9%	\$25		
Gap/Old Navy - 14%	\$25		
Macy's - 10%	\$25		
TJ Maxx - 7%	\$25		

Miscellaneous

Barnes & Noble - 8%	\$10/25		
Bath N' Body Works- 12%	\$25		
Bed/Bath/Beyond - 7%	\$25		
Best Buy - 4%	\$25/100		
Menard's - 3%	\$25/100		
Michael's - 4%	\$25		
Office Max - 5%	\$25		
Target - 2.5%	\$25		

The following stores offer a check to Our Saviour's:

Courtside Furniture - 4% (No Credit Card Purchases)

Miller Furniture - 4% (No Credit Card Purchases)

Central Carpet - 5% up to \$2000 (No installation or other discounts)

Hargrave Appliances - 3% (No Credit Card Purchases)

VIP & Merrill Radio Shack - 3% (No Credit Card Purchase)

Check # _____

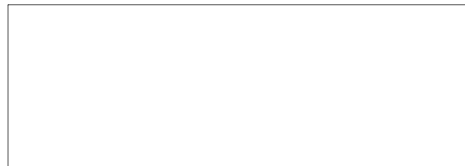
Check Amount _____

Cash Amount _____

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
300 Logan Street
Merrill, WI 54452

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Merrill, WI
Permit No. 33

Return Service Requested



East Central Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

300 Logan Street · Merrill, WI 54452

715-536-5813

www.oslcelca.org

Network

Newsletter

January 2022

