NOVEMBER 2023

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 4102 N. BEN JORDAN, VICTORIA, TX 77901 PHONE (361) 575-4305 FAX (361) 575-8679



www.oslcvictoria.com

Sunday worship 8:00 & 10:30 am Sunday School for ALL 9:15 am Office Hours: 9am - 4pm Monday - Thursday (Closed 12pm-1pm for lunch)



A WORD FROM THE Dear siblings of Our Saviour's,

Back in March of this year, Hanta and I bought a 4 ft. tall Canadian Red Maple tree from one of our local nurseries. We purchased it in the hope that it would change foliage colors every fall, just like the one we had in our former state, Minnesota. More importantly, we decided to buy it because our current front yard lacked some shade producing trees, which we could have used this summer. Today, the little Red Maple

tree stands proudly in our front yard – just a wee bit taller than when we first planted it in the ground. As for its leaves changing colors, it did not disappoint. It turned from green to sickly-beige, and finally into brown and on to the ground. Every morning, I pick up the handful of fallen leaves around it and give thanks to God for all things great and small in my life this year.

Last month, something amazing happened. I was truly touched by this congregation's love for Hanta and me at the WOW's (Women of the Word) Pastor's Appreciation reception, on Sunday, October 8th. I felt truly blessed and wholly appreciated. Even more, I am thankful that my wife, Hanta, was included in your appreciation, for as often is the case in most congregations, the Pastor's spouse is often unrecognized nor thanked for all the behind-the-scenes details they do in their congregational ministry. So, I want to sincerely express my gratitude, thankfulness, and appreciation for the greeting cards and well wishes from various members, for the gifts, and for the wonderful reception that was had between our worship services. Your love and appreciation only fuel and propel us forward to be better, and to do more, for the glory of our Father in heaven.

Speaking of giving thanks, on Thursday, November 23rd, most of us will pause – as a nation – to gather with families and friends, just as we've done for many years in the past. We are to pause and give thanks to our gracious God for the innumerable and countless blessings that he has bestowed and entrusted into our lives. As you do so this year, I encourage you to be in prayer for the thousands upon thousands of Christian believers in Palestine whose lives have been up ended and destroyed by the war between Israel and Hamas. Pray for God's immediate and lasting peace to reign in that region so that His people may live to praise, to witness, and to worship His holy name for generations to come.

Lastly, OSL will once again provide a Community Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday, November 18th. I'd like to thank in advance all those who'll work hard to make this happen this year. And if you're not able to help this year, I strongly encourage and invite you to come and join our neighbors and community members at the Thanksgiving Tables and break bread together that afternoon. The dinner is for EVERYONE – not just the poor and homeless in our community. There will be plenty for everyone, so come Our Saviour's people, and let's be thankful together with all those that the Holy Spirit will lead through our doors.

Have a happy, safe, and thankful Thanksgiving, y'all! Pastor La

New Membership Class/Orientation - For those who are interested in being a member or for those who are curious as to what being a member at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is all about, you are invited to join Pastor La Thursday, November 2nd at 6:30 pm in the Conference Room. The class is FREE, but registration (sign-up) is expected, please contact Doris Dold at 361-574-8585 or ddold42@gmail.com to sign-up.



SAVIOUR'S



REMINDER: DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS AT 2:00 AM SUNDAY, NOV. 5TH Remember to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.

OUR SAVIOUR'S WOMEN OF THE WORD BUNCO PARTY!

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Women of the Word will host a Bunco Party for men and women on Sunday, November 5th. Registration at 1:00 pm. Bunco begins at 1:30 pm with refreshments to follow. Please RSVP to Ann Gaskamp 361-550-2861, Susie Breeden 361-573-6637 or the church office 361-575-4305 by October 29th. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk for areas where help is needed. If you would like to help in any of these areas, please sign-up on the Bunco sheet. Thanks for your



BUDGET

Preview the 2024 Budget: The congregation will be asked to vote on the 2024 budget proposal at the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, November 12, 2023. Sally Hersey, OSL Financial Administrator, will offer two more budget informational presentations in the Conference Room located in the Youth & Children's wing, before the annual congregational meeting. The presentation will be held on Wednesday, November 1st at 6:30 pm and Sunday, November 5th at 9:15 am. The budget presentations are expected to last about 45 minutes, depending on questions.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12th

(following 2nd service) in OSL Multi-Purpose Room. Join us for a catered lunch. The purpose of the meeting is to submit the 2024 budget for approval, and elect new council members.

Please make every effort to attend this important meeting. Watch your mailbox for the official agenda and all handouts needed for this meeting.

Thanksgiving Outreach Dinner November 18th

support! Come out and enjoy an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

OSL will be hosting a Community Thanksgiving feast on Saturday, November 18th from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. We are in need of volunteers and monetary donations. Donations can be put in an envelope from the pew and earmarked for "Thanksgiving Feast" and put in the offering plate or wooden box on the Welcome Desk. For more information, please contact Pat 361-676-5087.





COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE - St. Peter's Baptist Church will be the host of the Community Thanksgiving Service this year. We will join along with them and some of our sister churches to give thanks for our many blessings and offer prayers for our community, nation and world. This service will be held on Sunday, November 19th at 6:30 pm at St. Peter's Baptist Church – 2708 S. Laurent St.



 $\mathcal{HOLIDAYS}$ - A reminder, the church office will be closed November 22nd & 23rd in observance of Thanksgiving. We give thanks to God for his many blessings and the privilege of serving him through Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

OSL FAMILY DECORATING EVENT - We will get together on Wednesday, November 29th beginning at 6:30 pm to decorate the Sanctuary and Narthex for Christmas. We need lots of hands to help and folks able to climb tall ladders. Please mark this date on your calendar and come out to help.





POINSETTIAS – Arrangements have been made to get Christmas Poinsettias from a local florist. The cost of each plant will be \$10.00. If you want a poinsettia in the church for Christmas, you must fill in the order form enclosed or pick one up from the Welcome Desk. Please fill in a form for each poinsettia, include payment with your order and turn into the office or place in the box at the Welcome Desk. Deadline is Monday, November 27th.



Join us as we Celebrate the Glory of Christmas with the music ministry of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Sunday, December 10th at 6:00 pm

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TUESDAY NOON BIBLE STUDY LED BY PASTOR LA

Meets every Tuesday at 12:00 pm in the Conference Room to study 1 Corinthians.

All are encouraged to attend, bring your lunch and Bible.

Dear Children, Youth and Families.



Happy fall y'all! With the holiday season right around the corner and hunting season underway, I know things are going to start getting a little chaotic. I know, many of you are probably thinking "When are things NOT chaotic?" I

would like to take this time to remind you all that we are "too blessed to be stressed." Considering what's going on in other parts of the world, we should

remain humble and grateful for all that we have to worry about (what to cook for dinner, what to wear to school, etc.) as well as the things we DON'T have to worry about. In times when I feel overwhelmed by the seemingly never-ending to-do lists, I try to make a list of the things that I am thankful for. This ministry and this congregation is always at the top of my list. I pray that each of you know that I continuously praise God for you all in my life. I continuously praise God for all that He has used me for within this congregation and within this community. In the spirit of gratitude, I would like to challenge you all to share with those in your life how thankful you are for their presence. Pick one person each week to send them daily reminders of how grateful

- but we often overlook them. I hope that this challenge will be a reminder of all the wonderful gifts and amazing people that God has put in our lives.

you are to have them in your life. God has filled our lives with many blessings

Many Blessings! Susan Woodson



MONTHLY OUTREACH: The children, youth and family ministry aims to do at least one outreach/service project each month. The third Wednesday of each month is dedicated to doing something that spreads the love of Christ by helping our church/community. If you know of any people or organizations that our Lighthouse students and parents can assist with, please contact Mrs. Susan. We would love to help!

We need students to help with our Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 18th from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm. The CYF ministry will be responsible for cleaning/resetting tables and trash duty. Please sign up at the welcome desk.

PANCAKES: We want to say THANK YOU! The CYF ministry team will be hosting a pancake appreciation breakfast on November 19th between services. This is to show our appreciation for all the love and support that you all have given us in 2023. Please show up hungry!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- Wednesday, November 8th- Dress up and bring a friend. Jesus will catch me when I "fall". Wear your favorite fall colors (Orange, red or brown).
- Monday, November 13th Pork Chop Dinner Fundraiser sponsored by Atzenhoffer Chevrolet (rescheduled from October 28th)
- Wednesday, November 15th- Lighthouse Outreach Day
- Saturday, November 18th Community Thanksqiving Meal 4:00 pm 6:00 pm
- Sunday, November 19th- Pancake Appreciation Breakfast 9:15 am 10:15 am
- NO WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES NOVEMBER 22ND



PUZZLES AND GAMES:

Last month's answer: The Old Testament was mostly written in ANCIENT HEBREW and the New Testament was mostly written in GREEK.

The first two students to answer this month's question will receive a \$10 fast food gift card. How many sons did Jacob have? (Hint: it's the same number as the tribes of Israel).





SATURDAY	4	11 Veteran's Day 10:00 am - Life After Loss Support Group Chapel & MPR Rented	4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Meal	25	
FRIDAY	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED Kitchen & MPR Unavailable	OFFICE CLOSED	
THURSDAY	2 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Christian Ed Building Unavailable 6:30 pm - New Member Orientation	9 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Christian Ed Building Unavailable	16 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Christian Ed Building Unavailable	OFFICE CLOSED Happy Happy	30 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Christian Ed Building Unavailable
WEDNESDAY	5:00 pm - Confirmation Class 5:30 pm - Prayer in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Sr. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm - Budget Presentation	8 5:00 pm - Confirmation Class 5:30 pm - Prayer in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Sr. Choir Rehearsal	5:00 pm - Confirmation Class 5:30 pm - Prayer in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Sr. Choir Rehearsal	OFFICE CLOSED There will be no Wednesday night activities the week of Thanksgiving	29 5:00 pm - Confirmation Class 5:30 pm - Prayer in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Sr. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm - Church Christmas Decorating
TUESDAY	CHURCH EVENTS, DATES AND DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE	7 9:30 am - Tabitha Sewing Circle 12:00 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor La 5:30 pm - Ministry Leaders/Team Meeting	14 9:30 am - Tabitha Sewing Circle 12:00 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor La 4:00 pm - Pantry 6:30 pm - Worship Meeting Chapel Rented	21 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 6:30 pm - Council Meeting BBQ Pits Unavailable	28 9:30 am - Tabitha Sewing Circle 12:00 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor La 4:00 pm - Pantry 6:30 pm - Bibles & Brews
MONDAY	CHURCH EVENTS, ARE SUBJE	6 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 6:00 pm - Springfest Mtg.	13 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep 5:00 pm - Executive Council Meeting CYF Pork Chop Fundraiser	20 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 6:00 pm - Women of the Word at Froggies	9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep
SUNDAY	Grateful Thankful Blessed	5 Day Light Savings Time Ends 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION HELPING HANDS 9:15 am - Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Budget Presentation Bunco 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	12 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School 11:45 am - Congregational Meeting	8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 am - Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - CYF Pancake Appreciation Breakfast 6:30 pm - Community Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's Baptist Church	26 Christ The King 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



Below is the schedule of worship assistants for this month. We will provide training and instruction to those who have not already received this information. **NOTE:** If you are not able to serve as scheduled, please try to find a replacement, or call the church office at 361-575-4305

*									*
****	USHER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	LECTOR	GREETER	WELCOMER	WELCOME DESK	CHURCH SAFETY TEAM	LEADER IN CHARGE
* Nov. 5 th	Dale Hoffmann	Royce Krueger	Jason	Lauren	Kathleen Reimann	Jan Jacob	Jean Huber	Gerald Merks	November 5th
* 8:00 am	Shirley Hoffmann	Terry Krueger	Loper	Jackson	Terry Krueger			Mitchell Thurman	Glenn Gisler
**	Bobby Jacob	Steve Fiedler						Luke Hersey	November 12th
* 10:30 am	Randy Clark	Pam Raley	Conleigh		Patty McGehee	Brandi Gayle	EJ Raley	Bruce Jank	Larry Henneke
**	Jason Eliot	Kathy Ozuna	Whitley		Lisa Price			Raymundo Moreno	November 19th **
**	Marilyn Young	Lisa Price						Michael Buchhorn	Darryl Kern **
***	Konor Eliot	Patty McGehee							November 26th
k ak a		Janine Rothmann							Gerald Merks
* Nov.12th	Gerald Merks		Alex	Jerri	Janet Merks	Joyce Cardinell	Linda	Steve Fiedler	ALTAR GUILD *
** 8:00 am	Glenn Gisler		Johnston	Brown			Mueller	Royce Krueger	Jeanette Turek
**	Laura Johnston							John Hersey	Patty McGehee
🛊 10:30 am	Doris Dold		Hannah		Diana Pimentel	Kathleen	Norma	Stphen Fuhrman	ALTAR FLOWERS
***	Debbie Krueger		Morris		Haley Morris	Morris	Lawrence	Linda Sontag	November 5th
**	Kurtis Krueger							Mel Bontrager	Kathleen Reimann **
***	Jason Eliot								November 12th
** Nov. 19th	Bobby Jacob	Libby Stirneman	Cole Neill	Libby	Kathleen Reimann	Jan Jacob	Jean Huber	Dale Hoffmann	Elaine Smith
* 8:00 am	Mitchell Thurman	Bobby Stirneman		Stirneman	Terry Krueger			Carol Buchhorn	November 19th
**	Mel Bontrager	Jean Huber						Manuel Mendez	***
* 10:30 am	Hanta Andriamihaja	Pam Raley	Arun		Eden Yaklin	Pam Raley	EJ Raley	Randy Clark	November 26th **
**	Dena Buchhorn	EJ Raley	Pickens		Patty McGehee			Brett Ckodre	***
**	Michael Buchhorn	Doris Dold						Diane Dabney	PRAYERS **
***	Darryl Kern	Pat DeDear							November 5 th **
***	7	Cal OI DUCIIIIOIII	V						
** Nov. 26 th	Koyce Krueger		Alex	Diane	Dale Hoffmann	Joyce	Linda	Konnie Wolter	November 12 ^m **
** 8:00 am	Terry Krueger		Johnston	Dabney	Shirley Hoffmann	Cardinell	Mueller	Richard Ross	Pam Raley
**	Steve Fiedler							Milton Slughter	November 19th
* 10:30 am	Randy Clark		Hunter		Haley Morris	Laura Wright	Norma	Buck Dabney	Marilyn Young
**	Patty McGehee		Jacob		Billy Blanchard		Lawrence	Lewis Keith	November 26th **
***	Marilyn Young							EJ Raley	Pat DeDear
**	car y macinal								**

November Birthdays

11/1 – Katelyn Mendez 11/5 – Cary Voss 11/10 – Dorothy Waltersdorff 11/10 – Rimberly Neill 11/14 – Rodney Pustejovsky 11/14 – Rodney Pustejovsky

11/3 – Victor Spacek 11/7 – Mike Samford 11/12 – Elaine Smith 11/18 – Virginia King

11/4 – Arliss Sievers 11/8 – Linda Sonntag 11/14 – Cathleen Schroeter 11/27 – Carolyn Webb

11/4 – Tristan Hanson 11/8 – Steve Fiedler 11/14 – Donnie Kurtz 11/30 – Art Schomburg CARD MINISTRY \sim 1f you know of someone who could use a get well or sympathy card, please contact Doris Dold at 361-574-8585 or dedold42@gmail.com. We have recently added cards for milestone birthdays and wedding anniversaries $50^{
m th}$ B up.

SPRINGFEST 2024 PLANNING MEETING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH AT 6:00 PM IN THE CONFERNCE ROOM





W.O.W. – Will eat out at Froggy's (2902 N Navarro St) on Monday, November 20th at 6:00 pm. All ladies of Our Saviour's are invited to attend.

BIBLES & BREWS - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH AT 6:30 PM

Calling all **Men** to join together for fellowship, worship and discipleship once a month. Bring your Bible, favorite Brew (coffee, tea or beer) and meet in the MPR.



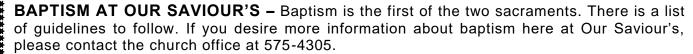
OSL MINISTRY LEADERS/TEAM MEETINGS ON THE 1ST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Tuesday, November 7th at 5:30 pm in the Conference Room.



HELPING HANDS OFFERING SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 5TH

The purpose of this fund is for individuals or families in the congregation who may at one time or another need a little help.







OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH TABITHA QUILTING MINISTRY

Meets every Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Christian Ed Building
For more information about Tabitha Quilting Ministry contact Dorothy Waltersdorff at 576-1465
or Jean Gisler at 676-0484 or jeangislernp@gmail.com.

Life After Loss Support Group - Meets on the second Saturday of each month in the Christian Education wing of Our Saviour's. This month they will meet on Saturday, November 11th at 10:00 am. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to Stephen Fuhrman.





PRAYER MEETING - Every Wednesday evening at 5:30 pm in the Chapel. Join us as we pray for our church, community, and world.

PRAYER CHAIN — If you need to add someone to the prayer chain, please contact Pat DeDear at 361-676-5087 or the church office at 361-575-4305. Pat will then communicate the request by telephone to the prayer chain. Pat will also contact Debbie Krueger, who will then distribute the request electronically through email.







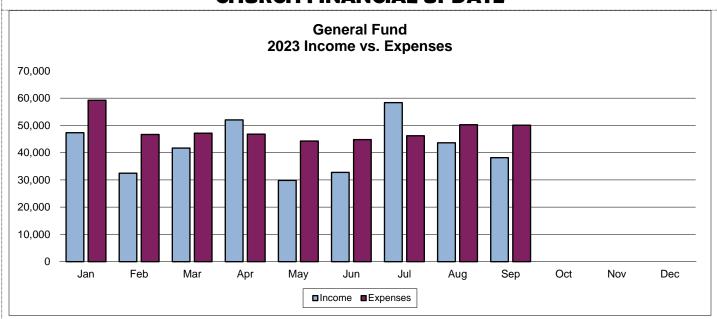
All Hands on Deck: Training Church Leaders - I recently returned from LCMC's Annual Gathering in Missouri. It was a great Gathering, as always. This year's theme was "All Hands on Deck" and reflected our present need for the whole church to offer ourselves, and all our gifts and abilities, to Christ and his Kingdom-building ministry in the world. Our association (along with many other denominations) is facing a leadership crisis. As pastors retire or leave full-time vocational ministry, not

enough new people are entering to keep pace. Simply put, we no longer have enough active pastors for established congregations, never mind planting new ones! The reality is that the old models that previously sustained leadership development for the American church for over a century have been in trouble for a generation or more. While some sounded the alarm 25 years ago, it has only been in the past few years that the issue has become front and center. At this year's Gathering, our association had the courage to address this directly. Hundreds of pastors and other congregational representatives met in focus groups to share ideas, listen to concerns, and pray for God to raise up future leaders to lead our congregations in mission for Christ.

One idea to address our leadership challenge is to help equip church members to step-up to greater leadership roles and responsibilities in specific ministry areas. More congregations are looking beyond traditional models of a full-time professional pastor towards developing teams of ministry specialists (part-time paid staff or volunteer) to share the load. These specialists may already be church members who can be trained and equipped to be a care minister, youth minister, children's minister, Bible study leader, worship leader, church administrator, volunteer coordinator, or even the Sunday morning preacher. These part-time ministers may be retired or have other full or part-time work to sustain them.

Here's the good news: We now have a pathway for better equipping anyone whom God may be calling to step into a greater leadership role in the church! Harvest Workers recently launched a new CHURCH LEADER TRACK that is specifically designed for equipping leaders for specialized ministry roles. Students receive essential ministry training in biblical studies, theological foundations, leadership, discipleship and one area of specialized ministry to which he or she feels called. Similar to our Pastoral Ministry Essentials Track, the Church Leader Track is fully online and on-demand, making it both very flexible to accommodate any schedule as well as affordable. The Church Leader Track can be completed in just 12 months and costs \$165 a month. If you or someone you know is sensing God's nudge to greater leadership in ministry, check-out www.harvestworkers.net to learn more about the Church Leader Track. There's no doubt in my mind that the challenges we face today indeed call for all hands on deck!

CHURCH FINANCIAL UPDATE



CHURCH ATTENDANCE



October Attendance				
Our average weekly attendance				
for October 158.				
October 1 st 148				
October 8 th	155			

October 15th





On behalf of the staff of Lutheran World Relief, our partners, and the communities we serve with your support, thank you for your gift and may God continue to bless you.

Thank you for giving so generously to the Lutheran Disaster Response.

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Thank you so much for your very generous donation to VCAM.

Thank you for your donation to Christ's Kitchen it will help us to continue serving a hot meal at no charge to people in need.

On behalf of Promise Pointe, thank you so much for your kind donation. Our promise to you is to use it wisely to help as many people as we possibly can. Sister Rebecca Janacek

On behalf of Hope Lutheran School, I would like to express our deep appreciation and sincere thankfulness for your great gesture of support for the school. We wish all God's blessings to follow your generous church throughout the new year. Dr. Peri Rasolondraibe

Thank you for your partnership with Global Health Ministries. Your support has made it possible to ship life changing equipment and supplies around the globe.

Thank you to everyone who worked, donated, or attended our Fall Festival it was a huge success. We look forward to doing it again next year, bigger and better.

AROUND THE CHURCH FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND PRAYERS

If you have any information for AROUND THE CHURCH please call the church office.



We extend our deepest sympathy to...

- ...the family of Marilyn Kabela
- ...Joe Woodson & family on the loss of his brother-in-law



Special Concerns:

All those we hold dear in our hearts that are facing a battle for good health, mind and spirit.

Prayer is a strong wall and fortress of the church; it is a goodly Christian weapon. ~ Martin Luther

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