

JANUARY 2024

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

www.oslcvtoria.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)



To the Saints of God at Our Saviour's,

It has been said by someone much smarter, wiser, and older than I that you won't know where you're going, or where you are, if you don't know where you've been (a paraphrase of a quote by an American poet and author, Maya Angelou). As this year, 2023, approached its end, I found myself doing a scan in my mind the past twelve months at OSL. In doing so, I learned and realized several important matters and ministry opportunities that took place that I pray will help us into the New Year, 2024. Since I cannot download unto here all the things of 2023 that touched and impacted this congregation, suffice it to say that it's been a year filled with dichotomies, such as celebrations and sadnesses, hopes and disappointments, clarities and frustrations, and gains and losses.

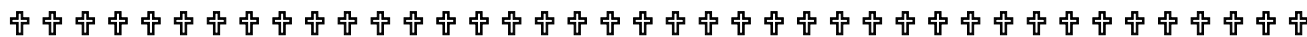
As in past years, the Lord God gave us opportunities in 2023 to worship and praise his holy name together on Sunday mornings. But not only that, we had many opportunities to fellowship, to study, and to do various ministries, week after week in 2023. I truly hope that you got to be a part of all that God allowed to happen through our congregation in the last twelve months. More importantly, I look forward to having you continue to engage and recommit to what Jesus is counting on you to do and to be in 2024.

So, as we start a brand-new year, I am calling and counting on all the Saints at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, in Victoria, TX to daily pray, in the next 365 days, for the Holy Spirit of God to lead and guide this congregation to be what He wills her to be. And in your daily prayer, remember to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you how God would have you do, give, and be this New Year.

Friends and fellow servants in Christ's vineyard, I give thanks and praises to our God for you. So, for all that was in 2023, join me in saying, "thank you, Jesus"! And for all that will be in the Kingdom of God, at OSLC, in 2024, join me with a resounding, "YES!"

Joyful New Year, y'all!

Pastor La



NEW ATTENDANCE CARDS

**New Attendance Cards are in the pews
by the offering envelopes.**

**Please fill out – "one" card per family
and place it in the offering plate when it goes by.**

WELCOME
Attendance Record

☐ MEMBER ☐ VISITOR Date _____
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
PHONE _____ EMAIL _____
Interested in _____
Comments _____



2024 FLOWER CALENDAR - is at the Welcome Desk with spots still available. If you would like to provide flowers for the altar on a Sunday, please sign up and provide us with a good phone number where you can be reached. Thanks!

BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL LED BY PASTOR LA

Every Tuesday at 12:00 pm in the Conference Room.

Class resumes on January 9th.

Reminder the church office will be closed Monday, January 1st for New Year's.



OUR SAVIOUR'S MESSAGE



SECURITY CODE CHANGE

Per council instructions, the security code on the keypad doors will be changed every six months. The new code will take effect on Tuesday, January 2nd. If you would like the new code, please contact the church office.

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OSL UN-DECORATING PARTY - We will get together on Saturday, Jan. 6th beginning at 10:00 am to un-decorate the Sanctuary and Narthex. We need lots of folks to help and ones able to climb ladders. Please mark this date on your calendar and come out to help.

POINSETTIAS – The poinsettias will be moved to the solarium (near the church office). If you haven't picked up your poinsettia, you still can. Please have them picked up by Monday, January 8th. The remaining poinsettias will try to be delivered to the nursing homes and to our shut-ins.



LCMC 11TH ANNUAL THREE DAYS OF PRAYER JANUARY 2ND – 4TH

LCMC's Three Days of Prayer on January 2nd – 4th is an opportunity for us to follow the Lord's example and to come together as one across the association with a shared purpose: to pray. Following are some suggested points of emphasis for each of the three days. These are not the only things to be prayed for, of course, but they can be points of daily emphasis that brings us all together as one in prayer.

Day One: January 2 ~ Pray for our congregations and leaders.

Day Two: January 3 ~ Pray for those who don't yet know Jesus as Savior and Lord, and the prodigals.

Day Three: January 4 ~ Pray for our international partners.



OSL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR 2024

Stephen Fuhrman
Becky Linville

Glenn Gisler
Kim Neill

Barret Jacob
Janine Rothmann

Sharon Kacir

OSL MINISTRY LEADERS

Caring – Larry Henneke
Digital Media – Diana Pimentel
Hospitality – Hanta Andriamihaja
Welcome – Doris Dold

Children & Youth – Katy Morris
Fellowship – Michael Buchhorn
Prayer –
Worship – Pastor La

Community – Pam Raley
Global Missions – Darryl Kern
Spiritual Formation –

Memo for the Church Council & Ministry Leaders: The 2024 Retreat will be January 13th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at the OSLC in the Chapel. Please inform Pastor La if you are not able to attend.

Installation Service: Church Council & Ministry Leaders will be installed January 7th at both services.

SPRINGFEST - MAY 5, 2024

Our next Springfest meeting will be Monday, January 8th at 5:30 pm in the Conference Room. Anyone interested in helping is encouraged to attend. Please join us!



2024 DAILY TEXTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME DESK – Daily Text is a world-renowned resource for daily devotions that will last you the entire year. Two simple Bible verses for each day provide the Word we need to plant God's Word inside of us. The cost is \$13 per book. Please place payment in the envelope provided in the book and deposit envelope in the wooden book on the Welcome Desk.



Most of us would know what to do if we saw a person having a heart attack – if they weren't breathing we'd start CPR or dial 9-1-1. But too few of us would know how to respond if we saw a person having a panic attack or some other mental health crisis. Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to assist and support others who may be experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge. At the recent talk led by Kim Pickens entitled "Why Are There Homeless People

In Our Backyard?" Mental Health First Aid Training was mentioned. I contacted Gulf Bend and found out that the training is "blended", meaning on-line and in-person. The on-line portion of the training must be completed prior to the in-person training and takes 2 hours. The in-person training is completed on a weekday and is 5 ½ - 6 hours long. There is a \$40 fee per person UNLESS you have an immediate family member who is a veteran, you are a veteran or first responder, or if you have continuous contact with children (that is determined on a case-by-case basis by a Gulf Bend staff member).

To schedule a group training at least six people must sign up. If you are interested in being a part of the group that takes the training, please contact Eden Yaklin at (361) 212-1960.



Dear Children, Youth and Families,

Congratulations on making it through the holidays and Happy New Year! I am so excited to see where this new year is going to take us. Looking back over the last few years that I have been here, I am amazed at what God has allowed us to do; and I am grateful for the ministry He has built. I am certain

that we will continue to do great things with God's blessings and the Holy Spirit guiding our steps. My goal for this year is for our children, youth and family ministry here at OSLC to be more collaborative with our community and with our fellow churches, especially within the LCMC organization. We have many unique gifts and talents within our congregation, and I want us to use them to further the Kingdom of God. We have a big mission ahead of us this year- and we need **ALL HANDS ON DECK** to accomplish it.



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 every 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 could assist with, please contact Mrs. Susan. We would love to help!

CALENDAR DATES:

Wednesday, January 3rd - Lighthouse begins with Oasis dinner at 5:45 pm

Wednesday, January 10th - Dress up and bring a friend. Let's get a groovy start to the New Year by wearing tie-die.

Friday, January 12th - Sunday, January 14th - Discipleship: Missions Retreat in Seguin

Saturday, January 20th - Chili Cookoff in the MPR from 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

PUZZLES & GAMES: Last month's answer can be found in Matthew 10:2-4, Mark 3:16-19, Luke 6:13-16, and Acts 1:13. Congratulations to Alex J and Lane J for being the first two to answer correctly.

The first two students to answer this month's question will receive a \$10 fast food gift card. What was the name of Moses's sister who led the Israelites in worship after the parting of the Red Sea?



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



Chili, Cornbread & Dessert

COOK OFF

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
4102 N. BEN JORDAN
ENTER DOOR B
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

SILENT AUCTION
LIVE MUSIC

All proceeds benefit
Our Saviour's CYF Ministry


\$30 per Entry

For more information:
Contact Susan Woodson at swoodson@oslc victoria.com **\$10 per Person to taste all entries**



JANUARY 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <i>New Year's Day</i> OFFICE CLOSED	2 <i>Day 1 of Prayer</i> 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 9:30 am - Tabitha Sewing Circle 5:30 pm - Ministry Leaders Meeting	3 <i>Day 2 of Prayer</i> 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	4 <i>Day 3 of Prayer</i> 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Homeschool Group 6:30 pm - New Member Orientation	5 OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Hospice Crochet Group	6 <i>Epiphany</i> 10:00 am - Undecorate Christmas Christian Ed Building Rented
7 <i>Baptism of Our Lord</i> 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION HELPING HANDS Installation of Council & Ministry Leaders at both services 9:15 am - Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School	8 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep 5:00 pm - Executive Council Meeting 5:30 pm - Springfest Mtg.	9 9:30 am - Tabitha Sewing Circle 12:00 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor La 4:00 pm - Pantry 6:30 pm - Worship Committee Chapel Rented	10 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	11 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Homeschool Group	12 OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Hospice Crochet Group Youth Retreat	13 9:00 am - Council & Ministry Leaders Retreat 10:00 am - Life After Loss Support Group MPR Rented Youth Retreat
14 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School Youth Retreat	15 <i>Martin Luther King Day</i> 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 6:00 pm - Women of the Word in the MPR	16 9:30 am - Tabitha Sewing Circle 12:00 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor La 6:30 pm - Council Meeting	17 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	18 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Homeschool Group	19 OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Hospice Crochet Group	20 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm CYF Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser
21 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 am - Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School	22 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep	23 9:30 am - Tabitha Sewing Circle 12:00 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor La 4:00 pm - Pantry 6:00 pm - Bibles & Brews	24 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	25 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Homeschool Group	26 OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Hospice Crochet Group	27
28 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School	29 9:00 am - Staff Meeting	30 9:30 am - Tabitha Sewing Circle 12:00 pm - Bible Study led by Pastor La	31 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	<div> PLEASE NOTE</div> CHURCH EVENTS, DATES AND DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		





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	WELCOMER DESK	CHURCH SAFETY TEAM	LEADER IN CHARGE
Jan. 7 th 8:00 am	Dale Hoffmann Shirley Hoffmann Bobby Jacob	Libby Stirneman Bob Stirneman Jean Huber	Cole Neill	Kim Neill	Kathleen Reimann Jan Jacob	Joyce Cardinell	Linda Mueller	Randy Clark Carol Buchhorn Michael Buchhorn	January 7 th Katy Morris January 14 th
10:30 am	Tom Willis Sharon Kacir Marilyn Young Billy Blanchard	Brett Ckudre Michael Buchhorn Dena Buchhorn Patty McGehee Doris Dold	Conleigh Whitley		Michael Buchhorn Dena Buchhorn	Doris Dold	EJ Raley	Stephen Fuhrman Linda Sonntag Manuel Mendez	January 21 st January 28 th
Jan. 14 th 8:00 am	Gerald Merks Glenn Gisler Laura Johnston		Alex Johnston	Lauren Jackson	Janet Merks	Brandi Gayle	Jean Huber	Dale Hoffmann Mitchell Thurman Linda Mueller	ALTAR GUILD Norma Lawrence Nell Bush
10:30 am	Randy Clark Patty McGehee Gary Mueller Sharon Kacir		Hannah Morriss		Eden Yaklin Haley Morris	Kathleen Morris	Norma Lawrence	Bruce Jank Lewis Keith EJ Raley	Elaine Thurman Doris Weischwill
Jan. 21 st 8:00 am	Steve Fiedler Mitchell Thurman Mel Bontrager	Glenn Gisler Jean Gisler Joyce Cardinell	Jason Loper	Diane Dabney	Dale Hoffmann Shirley Hoffman	Joyce Cardinell	Linda Mueller	Gerald Merks Richard Ross Luke Hersey	ALTAR FLOWERS January 7 th
10:30 am	Doris Dold Debbie Krueger Kurtis Krueger Jason Eliot	Pam Raley EJ Raley Marilyn Young Pat DeDear Carol Buchhorn	Arun Pickens		Patty McGehee Lisa Price	Pam Raley	EJ Raley	Ronnie Wolter Brett Ckudre Manuel Mendez	January 14 th January 21 st January 28 th Kim Pickens
Jan. 28 th 8:00 am	Dan Briggs Lynna Briggs Royce Krueger		Cole Neill	Jean Gisler	Kathleen Reimann Terry Krueger	Brandi Gayle	Jean Huber	Steve Fielder Randy McGehee Mel Bontrager	PRAYERS January 7 th Sharon Kacir January 14 th Pat DeDear January 21 st Ryan Price January 28 th Marilyn Young
10:30 am	Hanta Andriamihaja Dena Buchhorn Michael Buchhorn Darryl Kern		Hunter Jacob		Diana Pimentel Doris Dold	Laura Wright	Norma Lawrence	Buck Dabney Raymundo Moreno Diane Dabney	

January Birthdays

1/1 – Darryl Schuenemann	1/2 – Janet Merks	1/4 – Rosalee Mueller	1/8 – JR Christian	1/9 – Carolyn Young
1/10 – Lynna Briggs	1/12 – Sue Schomburg	1/12 – Henry Neill	1/13 – Jim Carter	1/13 – Michael Kresta
1/14 – Richard Ross	1/14 – Tim Hunter	1/17 – Doris Schmidt	1/21 – Malorey Garcia	1/24 – Reece Franklin
1/26 – William Pickens	1/28 – Gina Eliot	1/31 – Irene Hahn	1/31 – Brayden Hanson	

Card Ministry ~ If 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 anniversaries 50th & up.

WOMEN OF THE WORD



W.O.W. – will have their next monthly meeting on Monday, January 15th at 6:00 pm in the MPR. All ladies of OSL are welcome to attend. This is a great way to start the new year. There is always a time of great fellowship, meaningful devotion and these meeting are always purposeful. The WOW group would like to wish everyone a blessed new year!

BIBLES & BREWS MEN'S GROUP
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23RD AT 6:30 PM
All men are invited to join. Happy New Year!



OSL MINISTRY LEADERS MEETING ON THE 1ST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
Tuesday, January 2nd at 5:30 pm in the Conference Room



HELPING HANDS OFFERING SUNDAY – January 7TH

The purpose of this fund is for individuals or families in the congregation who may at one time or another need a little help. Please use the envelopes in the pew racks for your contribution.

BAPTISM AT OUR SAVIOUR'S - Baptism is the first of the two sacraments. There is a list of guidelines to follow. If you desire more information about baptism here at Our Saviour's, please contact the church office at 575-4305.



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, January 13th 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.



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



2024...Call to Prayer: For more than a decade, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) has invited members of congregations to engage in an intentional period of prayer at the beginning of each year. Known as "Three Days of Prayer", former LCMC Service Coordinator Mark Vander Tuig established this annual practice to draw our collective attention back to the throne of grace. He boldly shared his conviction that "the church of Jesus Christ will never rise up until it first falls on its knees."

Once again, the call goes out to you and to me. On January 2-4, 2024, we are invited as the body of Christ to follow our Lord Jesus' example to pray, pray, and pray some more! And if you are reading this message after those specific dates, please set aside your own three days of prayer. There's nothing special about the particular days themselves, other than it is an annual reminder to set aside an intentional time for focused prayer.

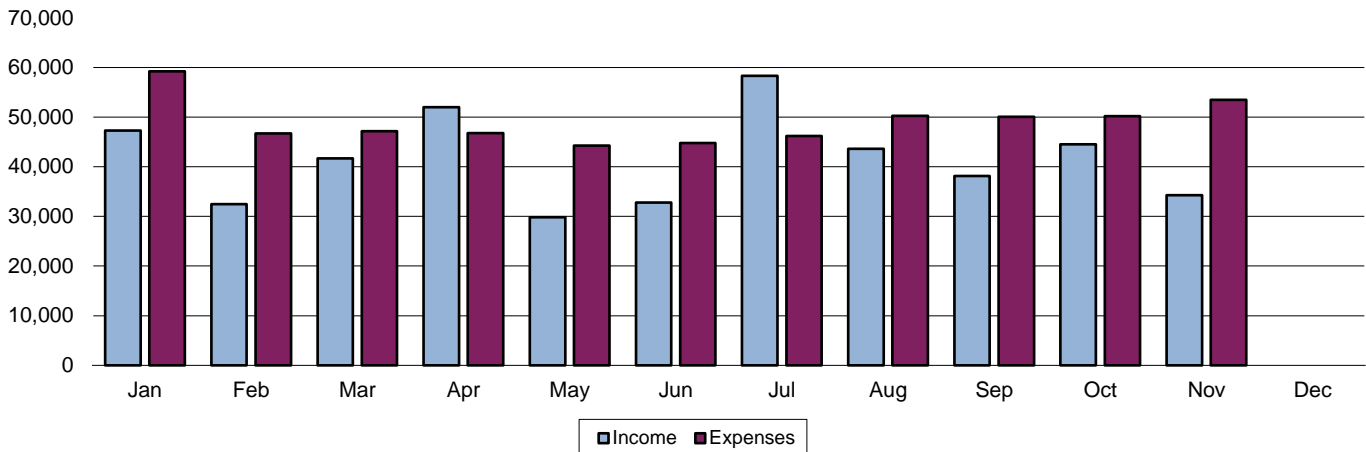
While we do not need set formulas or pre-written prayers to direct us as we pray, some may find it helpful to prepare prayer guides to focus their time. Consider organizing your thoughts with a list of prayer topics. I would encourage you to set aside specific times of day in which you pause, center yourself before God, and offer your prayers in Jesus' name. For some, the historic practice of pausing for prayer every third hour is a helpful pattern. For others, a morning and evening routine of extended prayer time is more fitting. Still others will gather in groups with their church for a time of corporate prayer on each of the three days. Another idea is to organize a round-the-clock prayer vigil for 72 hours of continuous prayer.

The point is this: *how* we pray is not nearly as important as it is *that* we pray. The same can be said regarding what we pray for. First and foremost, give to God in prayer all that is on your heart and mind. Ask for God to guide you as you pray through the power of the Holy Spirit to bring to mind what to pray for. We trust as the Apostle Paul teaches in Romans 8 that the Holy Spirit will indeed intercede for us when our own words run out.

Our LCMC staff has developed a helpful prayer guide filled with ideas and resources. You can find it at www.lcmc.net/three-days-of-prayer. This year, we are invited to pray for our congregations and leaders, for those who do not yet know Jesus, and for the church around the world, especially our international mission partners. I would also ask that we remember to pray for the raising up and sending out of future ministry leaders. In Matthew 9, Jesus says, "The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send workers out into his harvest." We have so much for which to pray. As we begin a new year, I pray that we may see God move in and through his church. Let it start with you and me on our knees.

CHURCH FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund 2023 Income vs. Expenses



CHURCH ATTENDANCE

December Attendance

Our average weekly attendance
for December 154.

December 3 rd	142
December 10 th	156
December 17 th	164



Dear OSL, as an office staff, we wanted to say thank you to all of you who gave so generously this Christmas season. We appreciate all the goodies, the visits, the monetary gifts and the encouraging words you express. It is indeed an honor to serve our Lord through Our Saviour's. May you all have a blessed and prosperous New Year!

Thank you for giving so generously to the Lutheran Disaster Response. Your support helps our church continue its effective and efficient response to disasters.

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 your generous donation to VCAM. We appreciate your support of our ministry. We are truly grateful.

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

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.

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

The Genie Fuhrman Legacy Music Scholarship Committee would like to thank OSLC for their support in contributing to our "Thanksgiving Pie" fundraiser. Our OSL bakers baked 54 delicious pies and raised over \$2000.00 which included additional monetary donations. We look forward to gifting several music scholarships in Spring 2024. Thank you again for helping the educational needs of future musicians in our Victoria area. Lauren Jackson

AROUND THE CHURCH FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND PRAYERS

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



**Thanks be to God these folks have
returned home from the hospital:**
Janice Hill Carolyn Franz



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



Change of Address: Maria Boehm
908 N. Wheeler Victoria, Tx 77901



We extend our deepest sympathy to...
...Michelle Samford on the loss of her father

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

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OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Victoria, TX 77901
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FYI - CHURCH CONTACTS

Pastor – Lalahery “La” Andriamihaja
Music Director – David Means
Music Director – Amanda Christian
CYF Director – Susan Woodson
Financial Administrator – Sally Hersey
Office Administrator – Gina Elliot
Maintenance Custodian – Ruben Garcia
Housekeeping Custodian – Sue Boldt

575-4305
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2024 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President – Stephen Fuhrman
Vice President – Janine Rothmann
Secretary – Sharon Kacir
Treasurer – Lynna Briggs

361-894-1441
361-571-0593
361-575-8719
361-550-4477

