



Our Savior

Lutheran Church & School

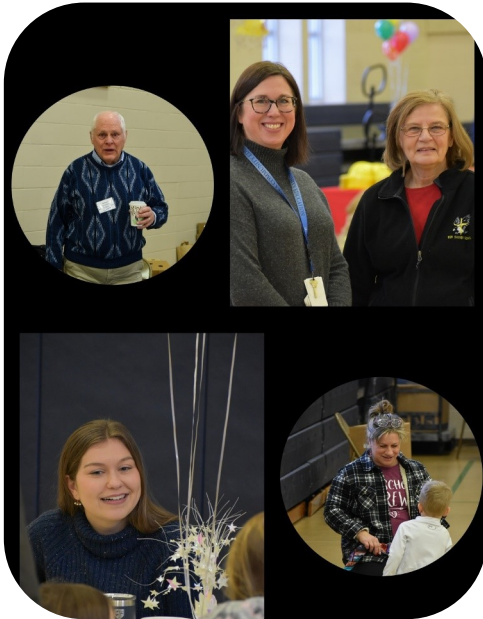
23290 Highway 7 • Excelsior, MN 55331

ph 952-474-5181 • fax 952-470-1985

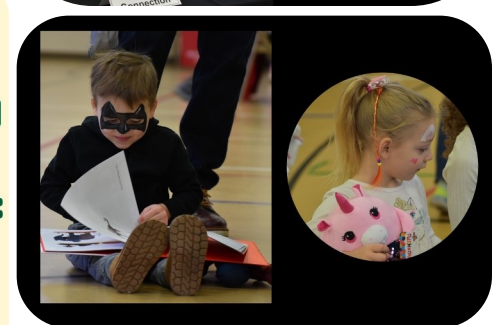
www.oslcs.org

Quarterly Ministry Update

Spring 2023



**Family
Community Fair**
Saturday, January 28
9:30-11:00am



December Services

Advent began with a cantata presented by our Mixed Choir.



The Advent worship series that taught us how God used His angels to communicate the coming of Jesus. As a special feature, we used the Holden Evening Prayer, featuring the beautiful voice of Jason Hernandez at the 4:30pm services.

Fred Limmel

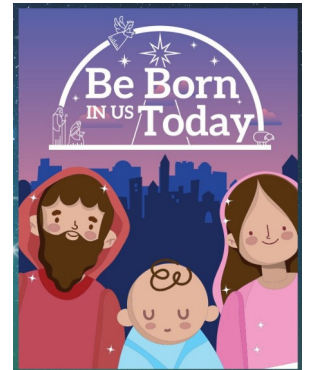
Christmas Tree

The students of Our Savior School decorated this tree at the bottom of the ramp by the Gym with many beautiful ornaments in December. As the month progressed, more ornaments were added! Thank you to the teachers and students.



Christmas Program

On December 18, the Sunday School classes presented their Christmas program to the congregation. They worked very hard during the months of November and December preparing to share the story of the birth of our Savior with family and friends. They did a fantastic job!



Sunday Morning Education

Sunday School transitioned to new lessons starting in January. We are using Answers in Genesis Bible Curriculum and have been focusing on the first of 6 C's - Creation. As we head towards spring, they will be moving into the 2nd C - Corruption and discussing when sin entered the world.

The youth are also using this same curriculum.



On Friday, Feb. 10 the youth hung out with 37 kids while their parents enjoyed a “Parents Night Out.”

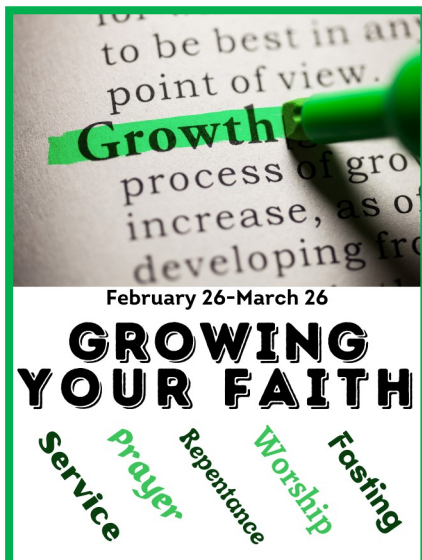


Lenten Services



*The 6:30pm Lenten services will be livestreamed.

Sunday Sermon Series



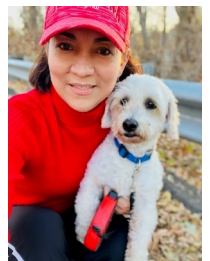
Youth Review

Here is what the Our Savior youth have been doing done in the past three months.

- Sunday Morning Bible Studies.
- Weekly Sunday Night Elevate Youth Group
- 6-12 grade Christmas Party on Dec 18
- Young Adult Christmas Dinner
- 6-8 grade Saturday Morning Youth Group
- Elevate Youth Survivor Lock-in
- Parents Night Out
- Feed My Starving Children

Our Savior School Staff Updates

In January a few of our staff shifted to different class rooms, which left an opening in the kitchen. We were blessed to have Zach Hoernemann here for several weeks serving lunch. And right before he had to return school, we hired Liz Izaguirre to serve in the kitchen. She has been a welcome addition to the Our Savior School staff.



Pickleball

Pickleball has evolved into a fun activity open to men, women 18+ and youth 13+ with their parent(s) on select Saturday mornings from 8:00-11:00am in the Gym. Come and go as you can. Someone will teach you how to play and score if you have not played before. There are paddles available to use. Watch the Church calendar for specific dates.

Our Savior Gala

The Our Savior Gala was held at the end of February and we are excited to find out what our fundraising has brought in and what areas of ministry will be blessed this year. Thank you to all those who attended, donated items and experiences and made the event possible.

We thank God's Guys, Amanda, Fred, Jodi, our youth and countless others who set up, decorated, mc'd, served, helped in the kitchen and gathered donations from area businesses.

Special thanks to the Gala committee this year who did countless hours of work behind the scenes: Laura, Laurie, Joe, Lisa, Janet and Gary—without them, this event wouldn't be possible.

NEW Waffle Breakfast

A Youth Fundraiser

Waffle Breakfast

Sunday, April 2
8:30-12:30pm
Community Center



\$12 adults (10+)
\$6 kids (9 & under)

Fruit & whipped cream,
syrup, sausage and beverages

Our Savior Lutheran Church & School 23290 Highway 7, Excelsior

Scrapbooking Community Event



Our Savior Spring Scrapbooking Retreat

Saturday, April 22, 2023
9am - 9pm

\$65 per table
\$10 early bird discount
before March 1, 2023

Scan the QR code to register

~A youth fundraising event~

Our Savior Lutheran Church
23290 Hwy 7- Excelsior, MN 55331
www.oslcs.org

New Community Easter Event



The Easter Journey & Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8, begins at 9:00am

Come inside and
take a journey with
eggs that tell the
Easter Story.

Finish your
journey with
an outdoor
Egg Hunt.



www.ExcelsiorEggHunt.com
(pre-registration required)

Hosted by Our Savior Lutheran Church & School
23290 Highway 7, Excelsior (Between Hwy 41 and County Rd 19)

After two years of drive thru Easter events, we are excited to tell you about this year's community outreach event. Kids will be coming inside the Community Center/Gym for an Easter Journey

Children will receive a passport that will get stamped through out while they are assembling their own resurrection eggs to take home. As they journey, they will learn about what Jesus went through during Holy week. Their passport will include pictures that can be colored later and scripture references. They will also have some additional things they can do at home.

After they have gotten their passport stamped, they will get in line to go outside to the yard for an outdoor egg hunt. They will be in small groups of mixed ages.

There is more work to be done in preparation for this new event. Watch as volunteer opportunities are communicated. We will need many volunteers the day of (Most of which will be indoor jobs!)

New Member Class

There will be a new member class on **Saturday, April 29 from 8:30-12:30pm**. If you have been attending and would be interested in becoming a member, contact sandy.blumeschein@oslcs.org.

Ways you can SERVE

VBS & Day Camp Volunteers Needed

We are looking for many volunteers this summer for our summer programming!

- ♦ Day Camp hosted by Camp Omega will be June 12-16 for elementary aged kids. We need a minimum of five adult volunteers each day (M-Th, 9:00-3:00pm and F, 9:00-12:30pm). We have broken up the shifts to allow for more flexibility. Anyone who can help for even a day or two would be appreciated. We currently have a WAITLIST for more students to attend this camp! We would love to add these kids, but we can only do that if we get more volunteers. We also need families to host/feed the Camp Omega counselors.
- ♦ Vacation Bible School is July 17-20 (M-Th, 9:00-11:30am) and we will need many volunteers in a variety of different areas to support this week of fun for our preschool/elementary aged kids!

If you can help, contact Laura.Kimber@oslcs.org ASAP so more kids can participate in the fun!

LWML Salad Supper May 9

Save the date or another fun LWML Salad Supper that will also include a special musical performance. We hope to see all the ladies on Tuesday **May 9 at 6:00pm**. Be watching for more details!

Adult Bible Study Opportunities

SUN: Revelation—Adult Bible Study, Sunday, 9:45-10:30am, Fellowship Hall with Pastor Adam

MON: The Messiah: Revealing Jesus in the Old Testament—Monday, 3:30pm, Conference Room

TUES: Women's Bible Study—Tuesdays 1:00pm, Fellowship Hall

WED: The Lord's Prayer—Zoom Study, Wednesday, 10:00am with Vicar Fred

THURS: Online Bible Study—Facebook, Thursday, 9:00-9:30pm with Pastor Adam

FRI: Hosea—Men's Study, Friday, 6:15am, Perkins in Chaska with Pastor Holz (Stay for breakfast)

SAT: 30 Virtues that Built a Man—Men's Breakfast Bible Study, select Saturdays from 8:00-9:30am in the Fellowship Hall (March 25, May 20)

Care Ministry

Pastor Adam, the Elders and Fred continue to visit, support, pray with and serve the many members of our congregation who are experiencing long term illness, changes in life and those recovering from illness or loss.

We have had a few special care situations come up this winter, some involving snow removal. We praise God for those brothers who have answered the call to serve our members in need.

Growth Groups

Our discipleship or growth in our Christian faith continues into the new year, especially through our Growth Group Ministry. These groups serve, pray and care for each other. There are over 100 participants (and their children) that meet to study God's Word together.

If you would like to participate in a Growth Group, please contact fred.limmel@oslcs.org. We have others who are seeking a group as well, just waiting for more participation.

Holy Week



2023

Maundy Thursday

*6:30pm—Holy Communion

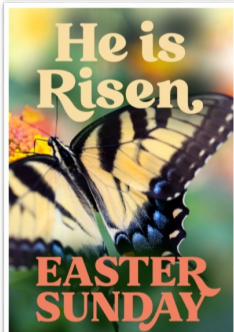


Good Friday

12:00pm—Readings & Prayers

*7:30pm—Tenebrae Service

Please note the Tenebrae worship [time](#)



EASTER

Please note the special Easter worship [times](#)

6:00am—Sunrise Service

*8:00am—Classic Traditions

9:30am—Blended

*11:00am—New Song

*Livestreamed

Gen Z and Gen Alpha

Generation Z was born between 1997 – 2010 (ages 13 – 26) and is the first fully digital generation. These teens and young adults do not know a world without instant access to the internet with its goodness and terrors.

BeReal was the top downloaded social networking app in 2022 on the Apple App Store. Never heard of it? You're not alone. BeReal was launched in 2020 but has recently become popular with Gen Z. However, these are still the top three social platforms among members of Gen Z, YouTube (95%), TikTok (67%), and Instagram (62%).

Generation Alpha includes all children born after 2010—the same year the iPad was born. Most of this demographic is under 12, but the oldest are becoming teens in 2023. This generation is growing up with personal devices. Even though they are too young to use them, they are already active on social media. According to a survey of parents, 54% use Snapchat, 44% use TikTok, and 23% use Instagram.

With these personal devices, these generations spend an average of 8 hours online each day and have access to materials we don't want them to have. Simply put, they are growing up more quickly than we (their parents) did.

The good news is that these generations are the most willing to listen to both sides of an argument before deciding on a topic. They are the most likely to accept others for who they are. They are also more willing to work to make a difference.

Can I encourage you to put a few rules into play for your family?

- Don't allow your teen to sleep with their phone. Have them shut off and stored in a different room so they can sleep better.
- Keep all computers and phone usage in public areas in your home.
- Don't allow phones at family meals.
- Allow them to use social media after the proper age and then follow your teens on their social media apps.

I share this information with you because ... knowledge is power.

Joe Aurich

Harvest Pack

We had over 70 people attend the Harvest pack event. They packed 15,360 meals that went to the ICA and Bountiful Baskets Foodshelves. They will be able to share these meals with those in our Community. Thank you to those who helped!

Blood Drive

Our Savior will host a Blood Drive on **Saturday, March 25 from 10:00-4:00pm**. www.Redcrossblood.org and search for OurSaviorExc to schedule an appointment to donate blood.

Our Savior School

Early Childhood Center 68 students (51 families)

- ◇ Koala/Infants: 6 (2 more to start soon)
- ◇ Ducky/Toddlers: 13
- ◇ Lambs/3 yr olds: 22
- ◇ Whales/4 year olds: 19
- ◇ Kindergarten: 8

This summer we are almost full with a number of families on a waitlist for our Toddler room. Moving forward, we are looking at potentially splitting our toddler room into two classrooms on the 1st floor. Some minor changes would need to be made to allow the Lamb Room to move to the 2nd floor. This could be the vision for the 2024-25 school year.

The lead teachers will be going to an Early Childhood conference March 3-4 at Concordia University, St. Paul. We are looking forward to bringing back valuable knowledge to help make OSS an even greater place to be.

Community Fair

We had the first Family Community Fair at the end of National Lutheran Schools week with about 55 + in attendance and 12 vendors from the community. (Pictures on the front page.) Those that participated felt it was a wonderful opportunity and would be willing to participate again.

As an Early Childhood Center, we collected over 540 lbs. of food and \$37 for Bountiful Baskets in Chaska! Praise God for that!

Church & School Staff	
firstname.lastname@oslcs.org	952-474-5181
Rev. Adam Hengst—Senior Pastor (x225)	
Vicar Fred Limmel—Worship, Care & Discipleship (x226)	
Joe Aurich—Youth & Missions (x234)	
Laura Kimber—Family & Children's Ministry	
Jeff Machemehl—Building Operations (x216)	
Sandy Blumenschein—Membership Secretary (x242)	
Laurie Bromenshenkel—Administrative Director (x210)	
Lisa Johnson—Early Childhood Center Director (x222)	
Renae Hoernemann—School Secretary (x218)	
Joe Aurich—Extended Care Director (x234)	

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have been blessed beyond measure to be called the children of God, for that is what we are. We are also so blessed to be called to live life together as brothers and sisters in Christ here in this congregation. Over the course of the last few months we have seen how God has been working through our love for him and our love for each other, as we grow in faith, love and service to one another. As we continue forward in ministry with one another we ask for His guidance, His power, and His presence in our lives through His church at OSLCS.

Below are some of the ways that God has been working in the church over the last few months:

- Since December we have averaged over 200 people on a Sunday (with the exception of New Year's Day where we had just under a 100 people) This is a blessing as we are getting back in the habit of worshipping together on Sunday mornings.
- We have seen an increase in bible study attendance in almost all of the studies we offer.
- We have begun a new confirmation program, in which we are equipping the youth of our congregation from 1st grade-8th grade in the teaching of the Bible through the Lutheran lens.
- We have continued to give to external missions furthering the growth of the kingdom of God.
- We have continued to serve in our own community through projects such as Operation Christmas Child, Feed My Starving Children and other food serving ministries.

As we continue in our life together we have many other growth opportunities as a church, including:

- Lenten Worship
- Service Projects
- Continued Bible Studies
- Service Opportunities to one another in the church
- 100 Year Anniversary Celebration

We thank and praise God for all he has done and all he continues to do through his church in this place.

In Christ, Pastor Adam

Sunday Worship

8:15am—Classic Traditions ✠ 10:45am—New Song
9:15am—Fellowship

Sunday School & Youth Bible Study

Sundays—9:30-10:30am (Sept-May)

Confirmation for 7th-8th graders

Wednesdays—6:30-8:00pm (Sept-May)

Adult Bible Study

Sundays—9:30-10:30am
Other studies available during the week

Our Savior School

Childcare and Preschool (6+ weeks),
Kindergarten and Extended Care (before/after school)
www.oursaviorschool.org

Prayer Requests

952-479-7872—Prayers@oslcs.org

Worship Videos

<https://www.oslcs.org/resources/video-ministry/>
Broadcast on Mediacom Ch. 21
Saturday & Sunday 7:00pm



A Rainbow of color for National Lutheran Schools Week!



Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS



March	
1	Lenten Worship 4:30pm and 6:30pm Lenten Dinner 5:15pm (Host: AHG)
4	Pickleball 8:00am Church & 6th-8th at Feed My Starving Children 11:30am
8	Lenten Worship 4:30pm and 6:30pm Lenten Dinner 5:15pm (Host: God's Guys)
11	Pickleball 8:00am
13	Cribbage Challenge 7:00pm
15	Lent Worship 4:30pm and 6:30pm Lenten Dinner 5:15pm (Host: LWML)
18	Pickleball 8:00am Prayer Vigil 9:00-10:00am
22	Lent Worship 4:30pm and 6:30pm Lenten Dinner 5:15pm (Host: Bloom GG)
25	Men's Breakfast Bible Study 8:00am Blood Drive 10:00-4:00pm
29	Lent Worship 4:30pm and 6:30pm Lenten Dinner 5:15pm (Host: Jamaica Mission Trip)

April	
1	Pickleball 8:00am
2	Waffle Breakfast
6	Maundy Thursday Worship 6:30pm
7	Good Friday Reading & Prayer 12:00pm Good Friday Tenebrae 7:30pm
8	The Easter Journey & Egg Hunt 9:00
9	Easter Services 6:00, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am
10	Cribbage Challenge
15	Pickleball 8:00am Prayer Vigil 9:00-10:00am LWML Spring Celebration at Redeemer in Wayzata 9:00am
19	8th Grade Confirmation Meeting
22	Community Scrapbooking Retreat Fundraiser
29	New Member Class 8:30-12:30pm
30	LWML handmade Card Sale

May	
4	National Day of Prayer
6	Pickleball 8:00am
8	Cribbage Challenge 7:00pm
9	LWML Salad Supper & Musical Entertainment
13	Pickleball 8:00am 6th-8th Grade Special Event
14	Mother's Day
20	Men's Breakfast Bible Study 8:00am Prayer Vigil 9:00am
21	Single Outdoor Worship Service 10:00am Followed by a potluck Congregational Meeting 12:00pm
24	Early Childhood Center Spring Program and Graduation
28	Single Worship Service 10:00am

June	
4	Confirmation Sunday
12-16	Day Camp Hosted by Camp Omega
22-25	LWML National Convention in Milwaukee, WI

July	
1-9	Youth Mission Trip to Loveland, CO
17-20	Vacation Bible School