



Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church



Mission Statement
A Community Gathered in
Christ, Fed by God's Word,
Sent to Serve...



August 2018

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1	2 1:00 pm KNOTS	3	4
5 Worship Times 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Hephatha Lunch CHEFs	6	7	8 9:00 am Bread of Healing 5:30 pm AA Meeting Band Practice Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Book Group	9 5:00 pm Comm Banquet	10	11
12 Worship Times 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.	13 5:00 pm COS Food Pantry Shift	14 JOY-Historic Boat Tour & Lunch	15 W.O.W.-Worship on Wednesday and Evening Activities 5:30 pm AA Meeting Band Practice Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm COS Book Club	16 1:00 pm KNOTS	17	18
19 Worship Times 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. 12:00 noon Cross Lutheran Block Party	20	21 Hephatha Meal 6:00 pm Serenity Inn Meal	22 5:30 pm AA Meeting Band Practice Choir Rehearsal	23 5:00 pm Comm Banquet	24	25
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From the Pastors

Best of Intentions

The best of intentions sometimes fail. Ruth and I have grown tired of weeding our rather sizable garden, so for the last few years we have put down a weed barrier; a garden fabric that comes in rolls. It has worked pretty well. This year we did it again except the product we purchased was grey, not black. It never occurred to us that the grey fabric would allow enough light through for weeds to grow. Oh, did they grow. The weeds grew under the weed barrier with enough vigor that they pushed the barrier up 3-5 inches, which it turns out, was just high enough for the wind to get under there and blow the weed barrier off.

We thought we were so smart. Turns out we weren't as clever as we thought.

Sometimes, we think we can keep the weeds of temptation and evil at bay with a simple fix. If only it was that simple. The reality is the weeds of temptation in our lives keep on growing. All they need is just a little bit of room, just a little bit of light and before we know it, the weeds have become a forest.

"God's children will always face temptation. It never goes away."

The good news is we do not face the weeds of temptation by ourselves. Jesus walks with us every step of the way. He knows temptation will always come, that the weeds will always pop up. A seminary professor I had mentioned that those who have the most at stake often face the most temptation. That is, the harder we try to be faithful to God's will and try to follow Jesus well, the greater the temptation we will face.

Temptation often comes in ways that look insignificant. When weeds germinate they are tiny. All it takes is a few days of turning our backs and they shoot up. Sometimes, it's hard to tell the weeds apart from the crops until they are big.

God's children will always face temptation. It never goes away. Neither do weeds. The key is to keep our eyes on Jesus, to call on him to lead us, to help us tell the weeds apart from the crops, to help us when we feel overwhelmed with all the stuff that doesn't belong in our lives. Jesus does not prevent the weeds of temptation from sprouting, but Jesus DOES face temptation with us. The key is not relying on ourselves, or our attempts at a quick fix alone, but letting Jesus lead us, to show us the way, to show us what is worth keeping, and what needs to be pulled out.

May you feel Jesus with you when you face temptation so you can tell the weeds from the crops, and pull them out.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tom

Magic Eye Reflection

Have you ever seen Magic Eye pictures? If you aren't familiar with them, you might think they are just a collection of weird posters with repeating designs. But, the neat part of Magic Eye pictures is that each one has a hidden image in it. There's a bit of a trick to seeing it, but when you get it just right, the image reveals itself to you. Like magic, one might say.

It's fascinating to me that the image is hidden there in the poster the whole time, but if you didn't know it was there to be seen, you could look at the poster a hundred times and never catch it. It seems unlikely one could really see the hidden image if you were just walking past a series of pictures in a hallway; I have always needed to sit with the image and be patient. Also, because it can be so tricky to find the hidden image, even knowing there is a hidden image there, might not be enough to see it yourself. You might need someone who has personally cultivated their ability to see Magic Eye images to help you learn to see them for yourself.

I've been thinking about Magic Eye pictures again because this week I joined a Bible study group. Part of what I love about group study is getting to hear the ways that other folks experience God's word in scripture. I've found that even when we engage passages I have read dozens of times before, there continue to be depths and insights I haven't before noticed. Though sometimes, these revelations come to me because I have a new life experience or am in a new place then when I previously read the text. Oftentimes, my learning is guided by how someone else shares their own experience and relationship to God.

"Seeking after God can sometimes be like trying to invite the hidden image of the Magic Eye poster to reveal itself."

This is part of why we are called to be in regular community and faithful conversation with one another. Our God is so awesome, our understandings of who God is, and how God is at work in the world, are enriched by our mutual working towards understanding.

Seeking after God can sometimes be like trying to invite the hidden image of the Magic Eye poster to reveal itself. We believe it to be present, but sometimes it can seem to resist our efforts to experience it. Others may make claims about what they have seen and witnessed, even as the experience escapes us.

I know some people who really struggle to see the images in Magic Eye pictures, and I know that it frustrates them to no end. So too, we may struggle to see where God is present in our lives, or in the middle of tragedies, and other challenging situations. And yet, the image is there in the Magic Eye post-

Memorials

er, just like we affirm that God is present, even when we can't see or feel God's presence.

It makes me doubly grateful God has promised to faithfully meet us in God's word, in the sacraments, and in our community of faith. God assures us of God's holy presence through these means, so that whenever we are finding it difficult to perceive God, we can return to these sources to again be welcomed by the one who has made us, who has claimed us, and who continues to restore us each day.

Blessings, Pastor Joe

Memorial Fund

Christ Our Savior's Memorial Fund is overseen by the lay members of the COS Memorials Team. The Team does not directly handle financial gifts. Financial transactions are handled by the COS treasurer and office staff. The team records notifications of memorials or celebration gift receipt transactions or fund withdrawals.

The Team also reviews grant requests from COS staff for appropriate use of memorial fund resources. Some examples of approved fund grants in recent years include a new computer system, directional signs, and front entrance benches.

Memorial gifts are often received in conjunction with a funeral or memorial service, or at any appropriate time of the year to recognize departed loved ones.

Celebratory gifts honor a significant family event such as a birthday, baptism, anniversary, graduation, confirmation, or similar milestone.

Memorial or celebratory financial gifts may be specified for purposes such as listed below.

Memorial gifts received without specifying a particular purpose are to be invested with the ELCA managed Mission Investment Fund.

Christian Youth Activity Support

In addition to using memorial funds for capital purchases, a popular designation for Memorials is the support of Christian Youth activity. This use is specifically identified as the Sandra Johnson Youth Fund. This fund is a special category within the Memorial Fund record keeping. Annual grants from this fund category are given to support youth participation in Christian youth experiences. In 2017, the Memorial team authorized scholarships from the Sandra Johnson Memorial Youth Fund to assist youth attendance at Lutherdale Bible Camp and the summer mission trips.

Memorials For Immediate Use

Memorials given for specific immediate needs, such as out-

reach or mortgage reduction, are not reviewed by the Memorials Team. These gifts are not transferred to the Memorial Fund account. These gifts are deposited into the COS General Fund for prompt use for these designated purposes.

Memorial Gifts Last Month

None received.

How Do I Submit My Memorial Or Celebratory Gift?

Gifts may be placed in the Sunday service offering plate or handed in to the church office. Please submit in an envelope with a note to identify it as a memorial/celebratory gift, and who is being remembered. Please also indicate if the gift is to be designated for one of the above noted special purposes.

Other Forms Of Memorial Giving

Purchase of worship needs for a specific Sunday. These include such needs as altar flowers or an eternal candle. Sign-up sheets and pre-printed giving envelopes are available for these purposes in the narthex. These memorials are supportive of weekly worship, and will be acknowledged in Sunday bulletins.



JOY (Just Older Youth)

55 & Older Adult Ministry

Tuesday, August 14th

Historic Boat Tour & Lunch

It's only a few weeks away! We are all set to go! All spots have been filled for the boat tour and tickets have been ordered. Let's hope for a beautiful summer day!

On Tuesday, August 14th we'll be meeting at Christ Our Savior at 10:45 a.m. to carpool to Shorehaven in Oconomowoc to take a historic boat tour on Lac La Belle. Before our cruise, around noon, we'll grab a bite to eat at Cafe' La Belle right at Shorehaven. The narrated pontoon boat tour begins at 1:00 p.m. and runs 90 minutes long. Tickets reserved in advance. Lunch at your own expense. If you have any questions about this event please contact one of the JOY Coordinators.

UPDATE: All spots have been filled for the boat tour and tickets have been ordered. We are all set to go!

Mary Fix at 47mbfix@gmail.com

Pat Sciortino at jptino@wi.rr.com

Amy Berken at amy@coslc.com



Youth & Education

Sunday School for 2018-2019

Sunday School Online Registration is now open! It is not too early to register for Sunday School! Our First Sunday is September 9th. I cannot wait to see you all!



Click [here](#) for on line registration. A paper form is available on the next page of this newsletter.

Hephatha - Special Request

Sunday, August 5th



We have been asked to make and serve lunch next Sunday, August 5th. If you have wanted to be a part of this amazing ministry and have not been able to help because of work, now is the time to join us! Please sign up on line to volunteer your

time or donate food [HERE!](#) Questions, contact Kim at kim@coslc.com

TACOS: Teens at Christ Our Savior

Starting September 19th, we are offering an after school youth gathering, TACOS (TEENS AT CHRIST OUR SAVIOR) on Wednesdays for Middle School and Thursdays for High School. Both days, the event starts at 3:00 p.m. with snacks, followed by music and conversation with Pastor Joe and Kim. We will have small groups for conversation, support, and grow in our faith as we face the pressures and demands on our lives as teens today. We will finish around 4:30 p.m., but adults will be present to chaperone those who are waiting for a pick up ride home. Please contact Kim Lewin (kim@coslc.com) or text her at 262.422.4517.



W.O.W. (Worship On Wednesday) and Evening Activities



Upcoming dates:
Wednesday, August 15th

Join us for our last Worship on Wednesday and Evening Activities this summer on Wednesday, August 15th! You are welcome to come for part or all of the time! Rain or Shine! Hope you will join us!

A typical evening will look like this:

Let's Play (5:00-5:30 p.m.) Bring your little ones to play while connecting with other parents. Friendly kid activities geared for toddlers will be set up outside.



Dinner (5:30-6:30 p.m.) We're having a cookout! Brats & hot dogs will be provided. Sign-up online to bring veggies, fruit, chips, salads, and desserts. In addition, we are looking for two individuals to grill, and a few others to help with set-up & clean-up.

Worship (6:30-7:00 p.m.) Bring your own lawn chair or blanket as we'll be having a causal worship service outside on the north lawn. We'll even be singing fun camp songs to the guitar.



Family/Youth Games & Campfire

(7:00-8:30 p.m.) Stay after worship to join in outdoor family friendly games or kick back and relax at a campfire while enjoying a few roasted marshmallows and sharing in fellowship time with each other.



You are welcome to come for part or all of the time! We hope that you will join us!

Questions?? Feel free to contact: Amy at amy@coslc.com or Kim at kim@coslc.com.





Fall 2018-2019 Sunday School



9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship and Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship and Sunday School

Please indicate the time slot you will attend.

We rely on every student’s parents to participate in their children’s Christian education. There are several opportunities to share the Good News with your children in Sunday school including teaching, music leadership or simply being an adult presence in the classroom.

Our worship times are close enough so that we can serve and learn during one service and worship at another.

- _____ I would like my children to attend the 9:15 a.m. Sunday school
- _____ I have no preference for the time my children attend Sunday school
- _____ I would like my children to attend the 10:30 a.m. Sunday school

Parents’ Names (Mom): _____ (Dad): _____

Address: _____

Parents’ Phone (home): _____

Cell Phone (Mom): _____ Cell Phone (Dad): _____

Email (Mom): _____ Email (Dad): _____

Sunday school begins September 9th for 4 year olds through 6th grade. Children will begin worship with their parents and be dismissed to classes after the children’s message.

Occasionally, photos are taken and displayed in the building, on our website, or online. If you don’t wish to have your child’s photo published, initial here: _____

To cover the cost of supplies and materials, a donation of \$25 per student is suggested. Please place your gift in the offering plate with “Sunday school” written in the memo portion of the check or in an envelope marked ‘Sunday school’.

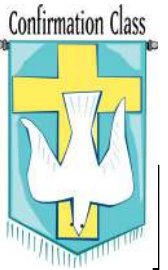
Name	Grade in Fall 2018	Birth Date	Baptized Yes/No	Child has received 1st Comm. Instruction Yes/No
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Health concerns/allergies: _____

I would like to help as:
_____ Sunday School Leader _____ Music and/or Christmas Program

Please contact me at: _____

Confirmation Registration is Now Open



Confirmation is for youth entering 7th and 8th grade. Please register on line by clicking [here](#) or use the paper form below. We will start in September. Cost is \$30. For questions please contact Kim at kim@coslc.com.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION 2018 - 2019

Student's name: _____ Grade in September 2018 _____
Address: _____
Home phone: _____ (city) _____ (state) _____ (zip code)
Student cell # _____ email: _____
Mom's name: _____ primary contact _____ no _____ yes
cell # _____ email: _____
Dad's name: _____ primary contact _____ no _____ yes
cell # _____ email: _____

Occasionally, the staff has some "food for thought" to share with the students mid-week and are happy to text or e-mail these to the students.

_____ I would like my student to receive occasional communication directly from the ministry staff.

_____ I prefer all communication with my student come directly through me.

Parents' names: _____ Parent signature: _____

Allergies/health concerns: _____

Student has been baptized _____ no _____ yes

Student has taken 1st Communion Class _____ no _____ yes (if yes, where?) _____

_____ I have enclosed my child's \$ 30.00 registration fee.

Hephatha Meal Ministry

Hephatha Lutheran Church Dinner Ministry

Tuesday, August 28th

The 4th Tuesday of every month, we make and take dinner to Hephatha Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. We provide dinner and a small activity for the younger children. The youth at Hephatha join our youth in leading the activity and serving dinner. If you have never served with this ministry, you really should try it. You will come home blessed and forever changed!

2:30 p.m.	Meet at COS for dinner Preparation
3:45 p.m.	Drive to Hephatha
4:30-6:00 p.m.	Setup, Activity, Serve and eat dinner, Clean up
6:00 p.m.	Drive back to COS
6:30 p.m.	Pick up at COS



August Menu

TBA

Cookies

Kim will be on vacation for this date so adults and drivers will be needed as well.

Questions, contact Kim at kim@coslc.com

Signup here: [Signup Here](#)

Sunday Worship Option

Sunday Evening Worship With Sunday School & Confirmation

Begins Sunday, September 9th

Since many families face increasing scheduling conflicts for kids sports and club events, we are starting a Sunday evening worship service starting Sept 9th. You should have received a survey to help us define the best timing options.



The worship service will run about 35 minutes with Holy Communion each week. Following worship, we are also holding **Sunday School and Confirmation** for about 40 minutes each Sunday. In addition, we will offer a place for adults to hang out with access to our free WIFI, as well as options for Adult Learning. If there is interest, a simple healthy meal will be provided at cost prior to worship. Look for more information on our website (www.coslc.com), in the September Newsletter, bulletins and Constant Contact.

This does NOT replace our Sunday Morning worship and Sunday School Schedule. It is in addition to what we offer Sunday Morning.

Yard Care

We are looking for a handful of people (about 4-5) who would be willing to help out with yard care at church. These tasks require a little more muscle. Tasks would include trimming bushes, spreading mulch, pulling weeds, and possibly splitting/planting flowers a couple of times a year. Bring your own gloves and tools, or we can provide them for you. If you are interested, please sign up in the Narthex on the bulletin board.

Contact: Chris at c.k.stromberg@gmail.com or Amy at amy@coslc.com.



Adopt-a-Garden

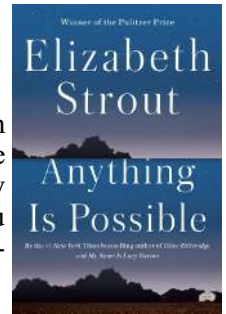
A huge thank you to all of you who adopted a garden plot! Your willingness to get a little dirty and pull weeds helps keep our church property looking well-maintained. If you are interested in helping, contact Chris at c.k.stromberg@gmail.com or Amy at amy@coslc.com.



COS Book Club

Wednesday, August 15th

The COS Book Club will meet on Wednesday, August 15 at 7PM. We will be discussing Anything Is Possible by Elizabeth Strout. All are welcome. If you have any questions, contact Carolyn Casper at (262) 246-4041.



Women's Inspirational Book Group

Who: Have you ever wanted to know the characters and stories of the Bible better, but find reading the Bible difficult, challenging, intimidating and even isolating? What if you could read the Bible like a novel understanding the who, where, what and discuss it with others who are learning and growing in faith like you. If this sounds interesting to you, consider joining the Women's Inspirational Book Group this fall. If you are unable to make all the meetings, no problem, just keep reading and join us for the next meeting! Friends are welcome too!

What: We will be reading the book "The Story: The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and His People" by Max Lucado & Randy Frazee (Purchase books from Amazon or other book store)

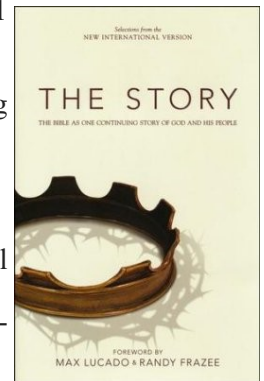
Where: The Lounge at Christ Our Savior.

When: On Mondays from 6:00pm-8:00pm twice a month. Our first meeting is on Monday, September 24th!!! We will discuss two assigned chapters at each meeting. At our first meeting, we will be discussing chapters 1 & 2.

Chapter 1- Creation: The Beginning of Life as We Know it
Chapter 2: God Builds a Nation

Book Group Organization:

6:00-6:15pm Welcome/Social Time
6:15-7:45pm DVD/Book Discussion
7:45-8:00pm Wrap up/Closing



Book Discussion:

Each person will get a chance to share their experience from reading the chapters. Everyone should bring three points to share with the group to help facilitate discussion. We also will be using the DVD & Study Guide. You do not need to purchase the study guide.

RSVP: Please RSVP if interested to Amy at [414-975-1228](tel:414-975-1228) or email amy@coslc.com.

Outreach

Garden Share Time!

It's time to start sharing what you are growing in your gardens! Lettuce, early tomatoes, cukes, etc – whatever you have that you can spare. Bring it to church and place it on the garden share table. Those who want it can take what they want and leave a donation. All proceeds will help support the Running Strong Youth program at Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.



Pine Ridge Reservation

WHR Build Trip 2018 August 13-18

For the 5th year, we will be traveling to Wanblee, South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to help the community with housing repairs. Many families live with conditions that continue to threaten their lives during the severe weather conditions in South Dakota. This year we are planning to help four families with their home repairs.



They are as follows:

- Ernest Red Elk needs new windows, storm doors, kitchen plumbing repair, and electrical repairs.
- Herman & Bob Wesley need new windows, storm door, deck repair, and roof leak repair.
- Russchelle Quiver needs new windows, storm doors, and electrical repairs.
- Ronald (Beef) Randall needs new windows and electrical repairs.

The trip is scheduled for August 13-18, 2018. Dave and I will be leaving on August 9, 2018 to receive materials and distribute to the work sites. Team member cost will be \$200 per volunteer which includes cost for food and lodging for the entire time of the build project trip. Each volunteer will be responsible for their travel arrangements and cost to Wanblee, SD on the Pine Ridge Reservation. If you are interested in the trip, please contact:

Brian Lubnow 630-391-3818 email: blubnow@gmail.com
Dave Piper 262-389-7289 email: davepiper77@yahoo.com

Serenity Inn

Tuesday, August 21st

On the 3rd Tuesday of each month, we serve a dinner meal at Serenity Inn at 6:00 p.m. We serve approximately 15 residents along with the volunteers who bring down the meal and eat with them. The residents are very appreciative of the meal that we bring and for the encouraging words and prayers that we share with them.

We serve our next meal on Tuesday, August 21st. The main course is covered, but we need a few sides including dessert, fruit, and a salad. All items need to be at the church kitchen by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Also, needed are 2-3 people to serve the meal and eat with the residents. We leave COS at 5pm and return by 7:30 p.m.

If you have not yet been to Serenity Inn and would be interested in going along or would like more information, please contact Mark Stieglitz marks.dtp@gmail.com or Kris Pena kkjpena20688@gmail.com.



Cross Lutheran Annual Block Party

Sunday, August 19th 12:00 noon-3:00 p.m.

Cross Lutheran in Milwaukee is holding their Annual Block Party on Sunday, August 19th from Noon-3pm. The event is held right outside of Cross Lutheran Church. There will be free food, information, entertainment and a chance to socialize with the church, neighbors, partners, and more!

This year, COS is providing a few sides such as watermelon and veggies for the party. We need 3-5 people to help with food prep: cutting watermelon and setting up trays in the morning on Sunday, August 19th at church. We also need a few people to help with serving food at the block party. If you are interested in helping serve with others from COS, sign-up on the outreach bulletin board.

If you have questions, contact
Mary Klemme at maryklemme@gmail.com
Amy at amy@coslc.com.

There is always room for you if you want to participate in any of these ministries.

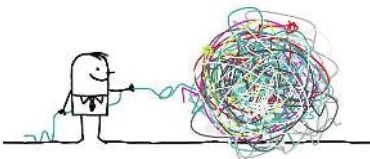
Adult Opportunities

KNOTS

Thursdays, August 2nd & 16th

We'll be meeting on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. (every other week) in the fellowship hall over the summer. Bring a project you are working on or come learn how to knit or crochet! We have supplies for you to give it a try. Come make knots with us this summer!

For more information contact: Lisa Riemer at 414-510-1862 or lisariemer@yahoo.com.



CHEFs (Cooking Healthy Easy Food)

Sunday, August 5th

Our CHEFs group is going to meet in the kitchen after the last service on Sunday, August 5th. We typically prepare 4-6 freezer meals each time we get together. If you are interested in making meals get in touch with Sandi Blackwell so she can make the necessary arrangements to secure a space for you and get you the menu and grocery list.



If you would like more information or you would like to participate in CHEFs, contact Sandi Blackwell at sbselzhomz@aol.com

Outreach for Hope Family Bike Ride

Saturday, September 8th

Our synod's annual Outreach for Hope Family Bike Ride is being held Saturday, September 8th in Dousman, WI. There are options from short family rides on a flat state bike trail, to a 20, 30 or 50 mile road ride through the southern Kettle Moraine area.



You can register for this year's ride at ofhbikeride.com. We are also posting a sign up sheet at church in July so you can see who else is going. If you register online, please also sign up at church so we know who is going, can arrange ride sharing, etc.

Outreach for Hope provides funding to support 19 vital ministries among the deeply economically disadvantaged in our synod (SE WI) including our partners at Cross and Hephatha.

Registration is \$35 per rider OR \$70 per family. However, the registration fee itself only covers the event costs. Riders are encouraged to gather sponsors for their ride. There are two options. You can either create a personal website through the ofhbikeride.com website so donors can support you online, or you can use one of the sponsor sheets provided at church. Let's make this the best ride ever!

Worship Assistant Volunteers

Fall SignUpGenius is now available!

Sign up for the dates you would like to serve on-line using SignUpGenius. You can find the on-line signups on our website at www.coslc.com under volunteer (on the top right). Dates are available October through January 2019.

Worship team coordinators will be reaching out to their teams the beginning of September for fall scheduling. If you prefer not to use SignUpGenius, please check your availability and let your worship team coordinator know when you would like to serve.



Worship Team

New Worship Assistant Members

Would you like to serve a host/hostess, usher, communion assistant, bread baker, altar guild, lector or offering counter? Not sure what to do? That's okay! We will provide instruction and guide you as you learn the new role. We would love to have you as a part of the worship team! For more information contact Amy at amy@coslc.com.

Facebook

Like us on Facebook to keep updated on what's happening at Christ Our Savior. See the latest posts with pictures and receive reminders of events that you don't want to miss. It's a great way to stay connected!



Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

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Pastor Tom cell 414-531-8006

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Kim Lewin, Dir. of Education & Youth Ministries

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Twitter - www.twitter.com/cossussex