

September 2020

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church



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



In Person Worship Status

Over the summer, our church council provided guidance for re-opening for public worship. The full document can be found on our website at www.coslc.com under the "About Us" tab.

While we miss the opportunity to gather, we also take the call to love our neighbors seriously by avoiding any large public gatherings.



The Building is Closed, the Church is Alive

Over the years, you may have heard me say the church is like a gas station. It is not the destination. No family goes on a road trip, stops at BP or Kwik Trip and says, well kids, here we are! No. It is where we are fueled up for the journey, where we wash in the promise of forgiveness and where our tanks are filled for what lies ahead.

Right now, we are on a journey that none of us chose. Perhaps, without knowing it, this is what we have been fueled up for. I hope the fond memories of gathering with each other, of joining in praise and song, in being fed with God's Word, can sustain us in this time we are apart. Those memories become some of the touchstones for feelings of security and comfort in our lives. In the mean time, we continue to stream worship online on demand and gather for drive in worship services in our parking lot (see fall schedule below).

We know the church is not a building. The church is God's people. Our mission says we are Gathered in Christ, Fed by God's Word and Sent to Serve. This is a time when we need to rely more on the second and third part; Fed by God's Word and Sent to Serve. I am heartened to learn that many of you are already living into that.

Kim recently surveyed parents of our 55 confirmation students. Responses indicated the vast majority were not comfortable with their students gathering at church for confirmation instruction, preferring instead of live in electronic connection for now. Interestingly, many of them responded saying that they would be grateful for the opportunity to learn more about growing deeper in faith, growing in prayer, and more opportunities to serve in meaningful ways separately in a time when gathering is not a safe option. When I heard this, I thought, YES!!! You see how we can adapt to these challenging times and remain faithful to our call to follow Jesus. In a time when we are apart, we continue to grow together and we continue to desire to serve, noting that many people are



facing much greater need in these difficult times. I am proud of you.

We continue our commitment to serve by caring for those in need by bringing in food for our food pantry at SOS, the safe baby program at Hepatha, cereal and so many other things. This is part of our journey right now. This is what we have been fueled up for.

The church is not a building. It's more like a gas station where we are fueled for the journey. We are on a journey we have not chosen. But, we are not simply refugees wandering about, fleeing danger without knowing where to go to find safety. We, God's people, the church, we are the refuge. We are the safety, carrying God's love and grace into the world through acts of love, kindness, generosity and mercy. We are the stability our world needs while we are grounded more deeply in God's Word, as we make more time for prayer and reflection. We are moving together into a new time, a new era. We do not know what it will look like yet, but we do know we will be together. We will have new bonds and a common story from this experience. The building is closed but your church is alive! To God be the glory!

Peace to you!
Pastor Tom

Baptism While We Are Distanced

We are able to celebrate the sacrament of baptism when we gather for drive-in worship. If you would like to schedule a baptism on one of those dates, please get in touch with Sandy in our office at office@coslc.com so she can schedule that for you. If you have not yet attended a pre-baptism seminar, we can arrange to do that separately, so we will need at least 3 weeks notice.



Connecting With a Pastor

If you would like to connect with Pastor Joe or Pastor Tom during this time of separation you can schedule a time to connect by phone, a private zoom chat, with them. Just contact one of them to set it up at pastortom@coslc.com or pastorjoe@coslc.com



September and October Worship Schedule

Drive-In Worship With Holy Communion Sundays, September 13 & 27 and October 11, 18 & 25

Fall is coming when many of us come to worship more often, so we are increasing the number of drive-in worship services. In addition, we will be celebrating the Rite of Confirmation in an abbreviated format for 30 confirmands this fall divided over some of the October drive-in worship services.



Drive-in worship has gotten great reviews. We use an FM transmitter so you can pick up the sound on your car radio. Worship leaders work out of the bed of a pick-up truck parked on our north lawn. While it's not the same as gathering together, it's as close as we can safely get at this point.

We will continue to hold drive-in worship at least twice a month as long as we are able to. We are a hearty people who will sit outside at football games for hours, so we are also able to sit in heated cars for less than an hour for worship.

Streaming Worship Sundays on Demand Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

We are adapting our streaming worship due to technology limits. Our internet bandwidth makes the video choppy sometimes, so we are recording worship services in advance and streaming them starting Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. This also is responsive to some who have expressed a desire to connect for worship earlier in the day. The stream will be available all week long, any time you like.

We are not able to stream our drive-in worship due to a myriad of technical requirements, but we will still record and stream our regular worship services on Sundays when there is a drive-in worship service.



Adopt-a-Garden/Yard Care

Thanks for keeping our church property looking great even in these times of social distancing! Keep up the amazing job! Don't forget to check on your garden plot for weeds this fall, too! Soon it will be time to trim the bushes and do some fall winterizing to our church property before the snow hits. If you would like to help with these projects, contact Chris at c.k.stromberg@gmail.com or Amy at amy@coslc.com.



Interested in Membership???

New Member Orientation & Reception

We are welcoming new members this fall, but it will look a little different due to social distancing. Instead of gathering for orientation on a specific date, we'll be meeting with an individual, couple, or family on a one-to-one basis. For the safety of all, we will try to meet outdoors (weather permitting). Otherwise, if meeting indoors, masks will be required. During orientation, we'll provide an overview of Christ Our Savior, introduce you to our various ministries, and explore areas where you fit in. We will receive new members to our congregation at our outdoor drive-in worship services this fall. If you are interested in becoming a member, contact Amy Berken at amy@coslc.com.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

School Supplies - Thank You!!

A super huge thank you for all the school supplies donated to support SOS Operation Backpack and Hephatha School Supply Drive. We collected over 1000 items!!! These items will go to the kids in our community to help them get the school year off to a great start.



Outreach for Hope Bike/Run/Walk

This year, the Outreach for Hope Family Bike Ride is virtual. Enjoy the outdoors safely by riding, running, or walking when and where you like while supporting Outreach for Hope with your donations and fundraising! You can have folks support you in this ride/run/walk by pledging a number of cents per step or dollars per mile.

Register and/or donate to the Outreach for Hope Bike/Run/Walk on their website. Search for our team name Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church. Or, send your donation to church and write Outreach for Hope in the memo line. So far, we have collected \$419 to support the life-giving ministries that serve the people of low-income communities in the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA. Contact Amy Berken at amy@coslc.com with questions or to join the team.



**This fundraiser takes place
through September 30th.**

Serenity Inns

Tuesday, September 15th

While we are unable to stay and eat with the residents at Serenity Inns during this time of social distancing, the men at Serenity Inns have been so appreciative of the meals we've dropped off for them each month. The next meal we serve is on Tuesday, September 15th. If you would like to help with meal preparations, reach out to Hank to coordinate menu plans. Or, if you would like to make some cookies or desserts for the meal, you can drop them off at church inside the east doors (under the canopy) by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Make sure to label items for Serenity Inns. Contact: Hank Wallenkamp 262-525-1211



Clothing Collection:

The men at Serenity Inns are in need of new or gently worn summer and fall clothes such as shorts, shirts, hats, sunglasses, and sweat-shirts. ALL MEN'S SIZES NEEDED...XL-3XL are always in high demand. Donate items in the bin at church inside the east doors (under the canopy).



Milwaukee Rescue Mission

Cereal Drive

The Milwaukee Rescue Mission is collecting emergency supplies for food baskets due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These food baskets are distributed to families in need in the Milwaukee area. One of the items needed for the food basket is cereal. We will continue our "Cereal Drive" during the month of September to help meet this need. Bring in your favorite boxes of cereal and place them in the bin at church inside the east doors under the canopy. Contact: Amy Berken at amy@coslc.com.



Luther Manor - Cookie Drive

During the month of October, Christ Our Savior will be collecting store-bought packaged cookies (NO NUTS) for Luther Manor. These cookies will be distributed to the residents residing in the Heath Care Center and the Courtyards several times a week. If you would like to donate some of your favorite cookies please, drop them off at church inside the east doors (under canopy). Contact: Amy Berken at amy@coslc.com.



SUSPENDED

Bread of Healing Meal

SUSPENDED

Our monthly meal at Bread of Healing is SUSPENDED at this time. Watch for updates when it is safe for us to gather again to feed the hungry at Cross. Contacts: Larry & Edie Schaffner at elschaffner02@live.com or Chuck Liedtke at chuck.liedtke@sodexo.com.

Community Banquet

SUSPENDED

Our meal ministry at Community Banquet is SUSPENDED through 2020. We will be in touch with you when the meal resumes and we are scheduled to serve again. Contact: Diane Otto at dotto@wi.rr.com.

SOS Food Pantry- Monday Shift

SUSPENDED

Our Monday Shift from 5-7 p.m. at the SOS Food Pantry is SUSPENDED. Due to social distancing regulations, SOS will continue their no contact drive-thru food pantry operations at this time. SOS will contact us when they are able to resume in-person volunteers. Contact: Brian Kusserow at brian.kusserow@QG.com

SOS Food Pantry- Garden Share

Do you have tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, or other veggies from your garden you would like to share with others? Our SOS Food Pantry is now accepting fresh produce donations. **Drop off your garden produce at SOS Food Pantry between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. Monday through Friday.** Please do NOT bring them to church as we cannot guarantee freshness for delivery. Thanks for helping provide our neighbors with healthy food choices.



Friends of Luther Manor

Our yearly support to Luther Manor in the form of monetary donations will contribute toward finishing the Faith & Education Center Renovation Project, which is 90% completed. Donations, as small as \$5, can be mailed or dropped off at the church office through September. Please write checks to Christ Our Savior and in the memo section write Luther Manor. Thank you for participating and showing a little kindness!



Confirmation Celebration

October 18th or 25th

God's Blessings to the Confirmation Class of 2020.
Now go and serve God and others. Let your light shine!

Alexander Augustyn
Katie Bianchi
Molly Boerst
Ramsey Botsford
Gavin Damato
Mia D'Amato
Joel DeLonge
Lacey Dercola
Jenna Fure
Jake Fillinger
Nicholas Ingle
Kylie Krueger
Ella Krueger
Shannon Kurtz
Isabella Lederer

Lennon Lura
Rylinn Madden
Tyler McCoy
Brayden Mikelonis
Nathan Minerath
Elizabeth Osttick
Liam Schiller
Ella Schumacher
Tyler Seils
Zach Stromberg
Kendall Syslack
Noelle Urban
Margaret Watson
Lucas Wozniak



7th and 8th Grade Confirmation

We will begin classes via Zoom On Sunday, September 20th at 6:30 pm All confirmation students must register including all 8th graders! Please register by September 6th.
<https://www.coslc.com/confirmation-registration/>

Sunday School

This year, Sunday School will be beginning on Sunday, September 13th via zoom at 10:45 am each Sunday. On the first weekend of each month you can stop by the east entrance between the glass doors to pick up your activity and craft bags. Please register your children Grades 4-K-6th grade at <https://www.coslc.com/sunday-school-registration/>



Aluminum Cans

Thank you to everyone who has contributed by dropping off your aluminum cans!

Just a few reminders:

Cans must be in sealed trash bags (tied).

All trash bags must be placed in garbage cans.

**ABSOLUTELY NO SCRAP ALUMINUM OR OTHER
SCRAP METALS - cans only please.**



Hephatha Needs

Starting October 4th, we will be collecting new and gently used winter gear for children of all ages including hats, mittens, boots, snow pants and jackets. For questions, please contact Kim Lewin at kim@coslc.com.



First Communion

In keeping with their baptismal vows, these young people will be receiving their First Communion at the Drive-In services in August and September.

Jaco Bartz
Jack Boerst
Cami D'Amato
Allison Gordon
Tristan Haigh
Noah Ingle
Clara Johnston
Makena Lura

Mallory McCoy
Joe Oberlin
Aubrie Peterson
Aubrianna Spiering
Kylie Stieglitz
Emerson Strobusch
David Thon
Sylvia Wargolet



Guest House Sandwich Making

Jesus said, "Where two or more are gathered, there I am also!" The first two weeks of August, kids and their parents 6th-12th grades signed up for shifts to help make lunches for the Guest House homeless shelter. In a two week period, we made more than 350 lunches and more than 700 sandwiches!



Thrivent Action Teams

During this time of social distancing, our Thrivent Action Teams still have been hard at work helping provide seed money for our COS Quilters, Baby Sanctuary Drive, COVID-19 Food Drive, SOS Operation Backpack, Hephatha-School Supply Drive, Serenity Inns Meals and Clothing Drive, Guest House Sandwich Making, TACOS Sunday School Care Packages, and Milwaukee Rescue Mission-Cereal Drive.

If you have a Thrivent account and would like to fill out an online application for a ministry this fall, please contact Amy Berken at amy@coslc.com. She would be happy to walk you through the process. It takes about 15 minutes of your time. Every application receives a \$250 gift card that allows the church to cover some of the startup costs of projects, events, or ministries at Christ Our Savior. It's a great way to support your church!



Worship Assistants

In-Person Volunteers - On HOLD

As we look ahead to fall, we will continue our online worship services, as well as our drive-in parking lot worship services (weather permitting). Due to COVID-19, we will NOT be having in-person indoor sanctuary worship services until further notice. Therefore, our worship assistant roles are on HOLD until further notice with the exception of our virtual lectors.



Fall Virtual Lector Sign-Up

Now Available!

Current Lectors, fall signup is now available on SignUpGenius through the end of 2020. Please sign up 1x/month to fill the open spots. Signup on our website under volunteers.



Join our Virtual Lector Team!

Would you like to be a virtual reader during our online worship services? We provide you with the scripture verse and recording instruction in advance. You make the recording at home when it is convenient for you. For more information, contact Amy Berken at amy@coslc.com.



Women's Inspirational Book Group

New Study Begins Monday, October 5th

Come join us as we begin a new study, *Goliath Must Fall: Winning the Battle Against Your Giants* By: Louie Giglio

"Many of us have giants in our lives--hang-ups and habits, fears and insecurities that keep us from reaching our full potential. Frozen, we lose sight of the promise God has for our lives and settle for far less than best. But there is a better way forward. In *Goliath Must Fall*, Louie Giglio offers powerful insights from the Biblical story of David that will help you overcome your giants once and for all by fixing your eyes on the size of your God, not the size of your giant."



Our first meeting will be on Monday, October 5th. We'll meet for 6 sessions, every other Monday, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. We will be watching the corresponding DVD and using the Participant's Study Guide for our discussions. No reading required. For a more in-depth study read the book along with the DVD study. In-person or Zoom format is yet to be determined. If you are interested in joining this study contact Amy Berken at amy@coslc.com or 414-975-1228.

COS Quilters- Making Masks

Our COS Quilters have been hard at work not only making quilts, but making masks! They ordered a box with materials from *Just One More Ministry* who is supporting the local firm *Rebel Converting* in its efforts to produce millions of volunteer-made masks. In total, our quilters have assembled 4,200 masks! That's fantastic!!! In addition, they made over 100 homemade masks that were donated to hospitals and long-term care facilities in our area. Thanks, ladies, for helping make masks to keep us safe!



COS Quilters

Material & Sheets Needed

Our COS quilters are in need of material and sheets to continue to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. If you have gently used sheets (fitted or flat), or cotton/ cotton-blend material (minimum size 6 1/2" square) please consider donating them. There is a collection bin between the east doors at church.



Following God's Path

As I've grown in my faith over the last few years, I've experienced a stronger sense of call into ministry. I am excited to share with you that I have been accepted into the Master of Divinity - Distributed Learning (MDiv-DL) program at Luther Seminary. Beginning this fall, I will be taking a few online classes as I work toward this degree in word and sacrament. During this time, I will continue to be here as your Director of Adult Discipleship and Outreach. The MDiv-DL program is intended for those who currently have careers and families, like me, who would like to pursue a seminary education. I appreciate your prayers and support as I embark on this new journey.



Blessings,
Amy Berken
Director of Adult Discipleship and Outreach

COVID-19 Response and Fall Programming

Although we would love to be able to get back in the swing of hosting our regular weekly after-school and evening TACOS activities for middle and high schoolers, we cannot yet safely do so due to COVID-19. We understand that it may be frustrating to not be able to return to some sense of normalcy for the fall, and that not everyone may view this as putting our best foot forward, but we ask that you respect our decision. As always, this decision was made with guidance from the church council and staff of COS. We understand the pandemic response is an ever-changing climate, and we fully expect to be in constant review of our program's decisions.



We have put much thought into how we should best approach the fall and how we are best able to serve the youth of this community. We hold the safety of everyone in the highest regard, and feel that in order to maintain this approach, continued virtual programming is the best direction to take moving forward. We feel that in order to have a successful program this fall we need to stop dwelling on what was our normal and look to the new normal and how we can best use our resources to safely maintain relationships with our community's youth.

Over the past few weeks, we have collected survey responses from both parents and youth of the TACOS program. These surveys have allowed us to evaluate the effectiveness of the TACOS Virtual Mode and how well it allows us to connect with our youth, as well as to gauge what parents and youth would like to see for our fall programming and beyond. Our fall virtual programming will include some of the same elements from this past spring and summer, but also some new elements to encourage our youth and walk alongside them through this unprecedented school year. You can find all you need to know and more about what we have planned for fall on our website, tacosoutreach.com.

Continued Outreach Response

We understand that with a virtual approach, it limits our ability to continue service and outreach opportunities. And during the summer months, it was challenging to plan these opportunities due to everyone's fluid schedules and COVID-19 concerns.

However, we were still able to maintain some outreach opportunities, specifically with Hephatha Lutheran Church, this summer. In June, we collected food items for families who needed extra food assistance and fed over 20+ families and 50+ children! And coming into September, we are currently putting together care packages for the Hephatha Sunday School program. Items in these care packages include toothbrushes, toothpaste, body wash, hand sanitizer, chapstick, etc. These items will help the 50+ youth in their Sunday School program and send some love to our friends who we have missed so much!

Now, moving into the fall, we will hopefully be able to safely organize more opportunities for our youth to serve in this community. Service projects are an integral element in our program and we will look to serve where we can help in this world that is in need of some love! Please stay connected with us on our website, tacosoutreach.com, our Facebook page, or by email for opportunities this fall.

A Special Note from Wade

I just wanted everyone to know that I have sincerely missed my time with the youth in this community. As someone who thrives on human interaction and connection, this pandemic has certainly brought on its challenges for not only the TACOS program, but also myself.

I know that a simple motivational post or a bible study video cannot and will not replace the time that we could have together growing in friendship and faith, but it certainly seems to be the safest way to maintain connection with you for now during this time of change. As always, please send me your thoughts, concerns, and feedback on how we can make the program better and more engaging for everyone especially during the pandemic.

Lastly, I would like you to know that I am always open and available for a conversation. If you have anything on your mind and need someone to talk to, please do not hesitate to reach out! I look forward to the day we can meet in person again!

Cordially,

Wade Crevier
Director of TACOS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

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Sussex, Wisconsin 53089

Telephone: 262-246-6537

Pastor Tom Kent - PastorTom@coslc.com

Pastor Tom cell 414-531-8006

Pastor Joe Wilkinson - PastorJoe@coslc.com

Pastor Joe cell 262-372-1048

Kim Lewin, Dir. of Education & Youth Ministries

Kim@coslc.com

Amy Berken, Dir. Adult Discipleship & Outreach

Amy@coslc.com

Sandy Hollnagel/Office Manager - office@coslc.com

Direct Deposit - office@coslc.com

Church Telephone: 262-246-6537

Wifi SSID: COS password: Gath3redF3dS3nt

Website - www.coslc.com

Facebook - www.facebook.com/cosussex

The Lord's Prayer



After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

At the bottom of the page is a list of words. These words are hidden in the puzzle. The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, and diagonally. When you find a word, draw a circle around it.

Y X B O E L R K A Q B P P L S
L F Y E W H Q O D N D M V C E
S W M Z T T Z M E A H V G C N
Q Q M R J H L V I P I N H B O
P F A C W K A R H U O L S B R
H E Z O O E E L A R H P Y E C
D W E D H V I S L K N G H D E
V B N M I V T Q L L U T X K F
O W Q L E B X B O B A R J L O
J Q E Y E U Q R W F P D S M R
K D K D W L F E E R R P W S G
K I N G D O M A D F A O Z N I
E G L O R Y P D Q O Y W U R V
H T E M P T A T I O N E S S E
L F V N T Y E P F J E R Y V A

EARTH

FATHER

DEBTS

BREAD

POWER

GLORY

FORGIVE

EVIL

KINGDOM

DELIVER

TEMPTATION

HEAVEN

PRAY

HALLOWED

DAILY