

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

July 2022 Newsletter

Call Process & Update

A congregation's Call Process contains several "mile markers" by which the journey is charted:

- A pastor announces that they are leaving the congregation.
- An interim pastor is identified, merges with congregational life, and begins to develop a sense of the congregation and a familiarity with the parishioners.
- **COS is in this stage** -----> A Mission Exploration Team (MET) is formed and works to engage the congregation in the self-learning and investigation that reveals a thorough understanding of the congregation's history and journey, the present reality of the congregation, where the congregation believes God is calling them, and what kind of pastoral leadership might best partner with them in pursuing that mission. *This is the meat and potatoes of the Call Process.*
- A Call Committee is formed and utilizes the work of the MET for assessing pastoral candidates in interviews.
- The Church Council receives the Call Committee's pastoral candidate recommendation...
- ...and at long last...The congregation votes on the Church Council's recommended pastoral candidate and a call is issued.



The MET is formed and has started its work. COS's MET is in the throes of planning the first congregation-wide mission exploration event. July 31, 2022, COS will hold a Congregational History/Timeline Event to chart and document the trajectory of congregational life. What aspects of church life are you grateful for? What are the highlights of your community participation? What ministries have allowed you to express your faith in ways that you perhaps found surprising? Come with your memories and be prepared to share!

Good Tidings in Times of Transition

While a congregational call process most often results in calling a new pastor, it might be reasonable to state that the most important work of a call process is how it invites a congregation to listen for God's voice amid all the seemingly more important demands of running a church. How would you listen for God's voice during your church's transition? What resources would you turn to – not only for support – but for be-

coming attuned to God's voice and maybe even God's invitation to mission for COS? Times of transition, while seemingly tedious, can be gifts of renewal if we allow them to be. They remind us that the work of the church is not the incessant busy-ness of culture at-large, but rather it is simply in being the church (following the manner of Mary in a world of Marthas) and that being the church always begins with being centered around Jesus and remaining committed to breaking bread, prayer, and the good news of scripture.

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Michael

Called For This Moment

Where do you experience God's gift of hope in our faith? Do you take reassurance in the promise that God holds the future and the life to come in their loving and welcoming hands? Are you sustained and encouraged through the relationships within our community? Does the ministry and mission of our congregation stir your imagination for how God is bringing restoration and transformation to our world? How does being a member of Christ Our Savior connect you with God's gift of hope for the world?

It is holy and valuable work to share hope with the world. Anyone who has turned on a news channel, opened a newspaper, or scrolled their newsfeed can tell you about examples of sources grabbing for attention through spreading fear or outrage. And while there are certainly injustices and tragedies taking place in the world that deserve our attention and emotional response, we live in a time when it is easy to become overwhelmed by a wave of headlines. Our tools of communication have been primed to spike our anxiety without offering us a meaningful way to respond or see change.

And yet, as followers of Christ, we proclaim that God is still at work in this world, within and beyond the movements of the church. The witness of our scriptures is that God is faithful even in the most dreadful of times, and that the actions of people trusting in God can bear good fruit beyond their imaginings. Christ has already redeemed the whole of creation – we are called to attend to the needs that are within reach for our community.

God's promise of hope is for us, and for the whole world. This summer, we are reflecting on what mission God has called us to take up for the coming season. Remembering how God has worked through our congregation in the past and assessing what gifts we have to share with the needs of our context, we look forward with anticipation to how God's faithfulness to humankind will be witnessed anew through our care for people in need. May the God of our everlasting hope emboldened you to share where you feel the pull of the Holy Spirit guiding us in this holy moment.

Blessings, Pastor Joe

Family Ministry at the Pool

Sunday, July 10th, 12:00 noon

Come and join us at the Veterans Aquatic Center in Hartford for an afternoon of water and fun in the sun! This event is open to the entire congregation and is a fun way to remember our baptism!

Everyone will be responsible for their own fees to enter the pool. There is a picnic area outside the pool if you would like to bring your own snacks or buy food at the concession stand.

[Family Ministry: Family Ministry at the Pool \(signupgenius.com\)](http://signupgenius.com)



Lunch at Hephatha

Sunday, July 17

We will be serving lunch at Hephatha Lutheran Church on Sunday, July 17 immediately following Hephatha's worship service and education time. This service project is open to all youth grades 6-12.



We will meet at COSLC at 8:30 a.m. to prep and prepare our meal, then travel down to Hephatha and attend worship with them. We will finish preparing our lunch and serve it. If you have questions, please contact Kim at kim@coslc.com

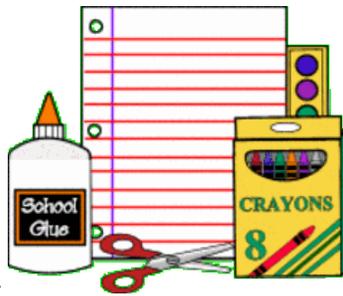
Operation Backpack

Deadline - Sunday July 31st

Members of the Cooperating Churches of Sussex are sponsoring "Operation Backpack". This is a way to ensure that every child in the Sussex area receives some of the necessary school supplies to get the school year off to a great start. You can help by donating needed school supplies. Items can be placed at the Donation Station through Sunday, July 31st. Sussex Outreach Services (SOS) will also accept gift cards and cash donations. Please write "Operation Backpack" in the memo portion of your check.

Supplies needed include:

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Backpacks | Child-size scissors |
| Wide-ruled notebooks | School glue & glue sticks |
| Wide-ruled loose leaf paper | 24-count crayons |
| Folders | Calculators (basic 4-function) |
| Highlighters | Pens, #2 pencils |
| Rulers, protractors | Erasers (pencil cap & regular) |
| compasses | Markers (fine & broad tip) |
| Water color paints | Permanent markers |



Invitation to Serve During Worship!

Our worship assistant SignUpGenius is available for you to select your dates over the summer. Signups are available for Altar Guild, Bread Bakers, Communion Assistants, Lectors, Offering Counters, and Ushers. All adults, high school youth, and confirmation students are encouraged to participate. If you would like to serve, but are new to the role, we will provide you with training. Serving during worship is a rewarding experience, so we hope that you will consider this opportunity. You can find the sign-up on our website under volunteers or click [HERE](#).



Fellowship Time - Goodies

Sundays 9:00-11:30 a.m.

We need goodies for Sunday mornings. If you haven't had the opportunity to bring a treat yet, we invite you to do so. These treats can be homemade or store-purchased, it's up to you. Bring your favorite treats such as muffins, breads, donuts, cupcakes, bars, cookies, brownies, etc. **NO NUTS** due to allergies!



We ask that you bring 2 dozen/per person and have them here in time for our Sunday fellowship time, which begins at 8:30 a.m. You can also drop them off early on the table in our entryway Saturday night. Signup [HERE](#) to donate items or volunteer to help with fellowship time. If you have questions, contact Marion Jaskulski at mar-jask5@wi.rr.com.

Adopt-a-Garden

We invite you and your family to adopt a garden to help keep our property looking top-notch! 5 of the 12 garden/flower beds around our church still need occasional weeding and care throughout the summer and into early fall. Each area is small in size, so commitment is only 1-2 hours per month. Adopt your garden plot [HERE](#). If you would like more information, contact Tom Edman at tedman1720@aol.com.



Bread of Healing Meal

Wednesday, July 13th

Our next Bread of Healing meal is on Wednesday, July 13th. Take a moment this summer to be a part of our Bread of Healing team as we help feed the hungry in Milwaukee. Join us in the COS kitchen on Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m. as we prepare, make, and assemble the to-go meals. If you would like more information, contact Larry & Edie Schaffner at elschaffner02@live.com or Chuck Liedtke at chuck.liedtke@sodexo.com.



Serenity Inns

Tuesday, July 19th

Our next meal at Serenity Inns is on Tuesday, July 19th. We are looking for a few people to help with making the meal and/or dessert. If you would like to help with the meal, please contact Hank Wallenkamp at 262-525-1211 or sign up on the outreach ministry board. Please label items for Serenity Inns and drop them off by NOON on Tuesday in the east entryway.



Summer Collection

We are collecting gently used shorts, shirts, hats, sunglasses, and light-weight jackets for Serenity Inns. Donations can be placed in the bin in the east entryway.

Electronic Giving

Sunday morning church attendance isn't the primary way we live out our Christian faith. Direct deposit is one means of financial stewardship that ensures no matter what your schedule looks like, you are consistently supporting the ministries of our faith community. If your household is interested in signing up for direct deposit, fill out a form on the welcome table.

How To Increase DD Contributions?

Simple, just email Sandy in the office at office@coslc.com and let her know what you would like changed.



Community Banquet

Thursday, July 14th & 28th

In July, Community Banquet will be on Thursday, July 14th and Thursday, July 28th. COS is responsible for cooking on Thursday, July 14th. Please reach out to Diane Otto at dotto@wi.rr.com or 262-691-3778 if you would like to help with the meal or if you have any questions.



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