

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

November 2022

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.
- Surveys and Focus Groups have been conducted to gather congregational input on perceived needs, values, and mission.
- The MET is nearly finished collecting all needed data for completing COS's ministry site profile. Please stay alert for announcements regarding their work!
- 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.



Good Tidings in Times of Transition

What spiritual practices do you rely on for support throughout life? Are you someone who prays? If so, do you pray alone, or do you call upon fellow believers to pray with? Are you someone who reads scripture or daily devotions? Perhaps weekly worship is your primary spiritual practice – the touchstone that keeps you grounded regardless of the ups and downs of life. Maybe your practices extend beyond "traditional" church forms of spiritual practice. Regardless of your practice, if you have one, I'm happy that you do. Spiritual practices often feel like "practice," which is to say that they're not always exciting and they most often seem packed with meaning or importance only when our life is in crisis. But, when adhered to over time, these things shape us. They shape who we are, how we think, and not

insignificantly, how we show up in the world – how we live. What's shaping you?

We know from scripture that even Jesus kept spiritual practices. Perhaps we assume this wouldn't be necessary for the Son of God. But despite the complexity of his identity, even Jesus needed grounding practices that kept him connected to God the Father and his own inner self. Such grounded-ness and connection is worth pursuing in cultivating our faith, not to assert our will over and against God's, but rather so that we more and more come to trust that even when our strength or faith falters, that God's care for us never does. Our faith tradition is predicated on God's capacity to astonish the world with new life when all appears darkest. May you know the power of the God of resurrection in your life.

In Christ,
Pastor Michael

From the Associate Pastor

Grace and peace to you, people of God! We are approaching the shift from our Mission Exploration process into our Call process for interviewing new Senior Pastor candidates (approaching, not quite there yet). This is an exciting culmination of the work that has been led by the Mission Exploration Team and Pr. Michael.

Over the course of the past year, I have heard more than a few folks wonder about the length of this process of mission exploration and express longing for us to begin the candidate search. It is my hope that this time has been fruitful for us all to reflect on the common mission that unites us as the faith community of Christ Our Savior.

Life is impermanent. Staff come and go, families move into and out of our community, and the world changes around us in ways that we cannot always anticipate. It is grounding ourselves on the firm foundation of God's presence in our midst that allows us to weather the waves of disruption brought by the winds of change.

And when it comes to forming the community of our congregation, we each share in the responsibility of our common ministry. As Luther says, we are part of a 'priesthood of all believers.' If you've been wondering how to help support the congregation, I'd invite you to reframe your thoughts and consider instead how God is calling you to be the leading edge of the unfolding of the gospel in our community. Being the church together isn't about occasionally being asked to assist with something 'the church' is doing – it is about building relationships with one another and sharing together in a common commitment to the ways we experience God inviting us to embody the good news of Christ's love.

May our God, who has called us together for this season, grant you all that you need to act with boldness for the work of the gospel and may the Holy Spirit sustain you in ways beyond belief.

Pastor Joe

COS Cabaret Show

Coming off a successful first ever COS Cabaret Show in May, we're going to do it again on Friday, November 4th at 7:00 p.m.

Bring the entire family, friends and neighbors for an evening of entertainment as past and present COS singers and friends present popular music from today and yesterday!!

Snacks will be available at intermission. Your freewill offerings will be gratefully accepted at the door to support our various outreach missions at COS.



COS Cabaret Show - Bake Sale

We'll be having a bake sale during our COS Cabaret Show. There will be cookies, bars, brownies, cupcakes, etc. If you would like to bake something or donate store purchased goodies for the bake sale,

please drop them off at church by 6:00 p.m. on Friday. Please make sure you label the items. All money donated will support our various outreach ministries. If you have questions, reach out to Tracy Ludorf at

tracyludorf@yahoo.com



Giving Tree

Our Giving Tree in the narthex is up! Please select a gift tag or two and make someone's Christmas a little brighter this year! We will be collecting UNWRAPPED gifts and gift cards through December 11th. If you are interested in helping with the Giving Tree or if have any questions, reach out to Amy at amy@coslc.com



Choir

Choir is singing for Sunday services on November 6, December 11 and for Christmas Eve. We are always looking to add voices to our choir family and would love to have you join us! No experience necessary. If you love to sing, come join us! Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7pm to 8pm in the sanctuary. Contact Linda Brackmann if you have any questions.



Worship Assistants

We are looking for one or two more people who would like to help with setting up Communion on our Altar Guild team or reading scripture verses on our Lector team at our 8:30am worship service. In addition, we are in need of at least two more individuals willing to make our bread for Communion and join our Bread Baking team. We would be glad to provide you with training. If you are interested in serving in one of these areas, please reach out to Amy at amy@coslc.com



Youth Ministry Update

Here are some highlights from what is happening with our youth ministry at Christ Our Savior.

Sunday school gathers during our fellowship hour Sunday mornings to sing songs, learn about God's love for humankind, and to make crafts as tangible reminders of how our faith connects to our lives. In November, our Sunday School students will begin recording segments for our Digital Christmas Pageant.



Confirmation Class



Confirmation is meeting Sunday evenings at 6:40pm following the 6pm worship service. This year our confirmands are learning about Luther's Small Catechism and its use as a tool for helping us to engage with the gifts of our faith tradition. At our Affirmation of Baptism services this year, we had twelve of our young people confirm their commitment to the mission of the gospel we share at Christ Our Savior.

Fellowship Time - Goodies

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

We've had wonderful goodies for fellowship time on Sunday mornings this fall! Don't forget to sign-up in November to bring something if you haven't had a chance yet to do so. These treats can be homemade or store-purchased, it's up to you. Signup is available on our website under "volunteers", or you can signup on the goodie table to bring 2 dozen of your favorite treats such as muffins, breads, donuts, cupcakes, bars, cookies, brownies, etc. NO NUTS due to allergies! Please have them here on Sunday mornings by 8:30am or drop them off on the table in the entryway on Saturday night. If you have questions, contact Marion Jaskulski at marjask5@wi.rr.com



Community Banquet

Lannon - Lisbon - Menomonee Falls - Sussex

Thursday, November 10th

On Thursday, November 10th, Community Banquet will be held at St. James Catholic Church on Town Line Road in Menomonee Falls. Christ our Savior

does not have a role this evening, but all are welcome to come for a meal and time of fellowship. Also, just a reminder that there will be no meal on Thursday, November 24th due to the Thanksgiving holiday. If you have any questions, email Diane Otto at diane.lee.otto@gmail.com.



Fellowship Meal

Socktober

Thank you to everyone who donated socks during our October sock drive! We collected 433 pairs of socks!!! The socks will be donated to our ministry partners and will warm the feet of many children and adults.



Beautification Teams

Adopt-a-Garden/Yard Care/Lawn Mowers

I would like to lift up our various teams that keep our church property looking well maintained throughout the year. A special thank you goes to our adopt-a-garden, yard care, and lawn mower teams. The flowers by the front entrance are beautiful. The lawn has been mowed each week. The weeds have been pulled in our garden beds. Thank you for all your hard work!

Contacts: Chris at c.k.stromberg@gmail.com, Tom at tedman1720@aol.com, or Amy at amy@coslc.com.

Adopt- A- Garden:

Tom Edman
Hope Ingle
Anita Higgins
Tom & Barb Goble
David & Karen Ludin
Chris & Kasi Stromberg

Lawn Mowing Team:

Tom Edman
Chris, Zach, Bryce Stromberg

Thank You!

Serenity Inns

Tuesday, November 15th

Do you like to bake? It would be fantastic if someone could make a pumpkin or apple pie for our next Serenity Inns Meal on Tuesday, November 15th. There are 11 residents, 1 inn-keeper, and additional staff/volunteers who would love your delicious treat!



Do you like to cook? Meals can be sloppy joes, lasagna, enchiladas, brats, chicken sandwiches, or whatever your favorite meal is that you would like to share. If interested in meal planning, reach out to Hank Wallenkamp at 262-525-1211 or sign up on the outreach ministry board.

Bread of Healing Meal

Wednesday, November 9th

Our next BOH meal is on Wednesday, November 9th. If you missed out helping last month, and would like to help this month, join us in the COS kitchen on Wednesday morning at 9am as we prepare, make, and assemble the to-go meals.

If you would like to become involved in this meal ministry to feed the hungry in Milwaukee, contact Chuck Liedtke at chuck.liedtke@sodexo.com or Larry & Edie Schaffner at elschaffner02@live.com



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