

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

June 2023

COS Mission Statement

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

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.
- 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 drafted Christ Our Savior's Ministry Site Profile.
 - * A Town Hall Meeting was held for congregational review of the MSP and prepared for the congregational Town Hall Meeting last December
- **COS IS IN THIS STAGE** > A Call Committee is formed. COS's Call Committee is Aaron Dietz, Edie Schaffner, Angie Lura, Dave Abresch, Mike Singer, and Brynn Haigh (youth rep). *The COS Call Committee has received its orientation and is proceeding with its work. Please hold them in prayer.*
- The Church Council receives the Call Committee's pastoral candidate recommendation.
- The congregation votes on the Church Council's recommended pastoral candidate and a call is issued.

In Christ,
Interim Pastor Michael Anderson

Good Tidings in Times of Transition

1 Corinthians 12:12-18, 27-31

*12*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. *13*For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

*14*Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. *15*If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. *16*And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. *17*If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? *18*But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. *27*Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. *28*And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. *29*Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? *30*Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? *31*But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Some attributes of being the church are always true. It is always gathered by the Holy Spirit. It is the resurrected body of Christ in the world. It is one body with many members. The unique qualities of those members give to the body and to the church its vital, loving, grace-filled, Christ-referencing, God-oriented image in the world. The church as the body of Christ in the world is a dynamic marvel. The church is the repository of the giftedness of its members...and churches need their members to share their giftedness so that the light of Christ that lives within them might be seen.

During seasons of transition or change, the experience of being a church body can bear similarities to those of our own bodies when they undergo periods of stress. Challenging stimuli might cause us to moderate ourselves to manage some of the discomfort we feel. For a body—for example—that's exercising this can be helpful so that we don't "over-do it" and end up injured and exhausted. For a church body it might make similar choices for similar reasons awaiting the arrival of a new pastor.

The synergy of a church body is stoked by the member's ongoing sharing of their giftedness with each other. While transition times are stressful because they underscore the value of pastors for faith communities and the unique role they hold within them, such seasons remind us that it's not pastors who are the church. The people, the members, are the church body and it is your Spirit-led work in your faith community, in the wider community, and in your respective lives that conveys God's mercy for all people. Remembering this truth is a way that faith communities are re-membered, that is, put back together or even held together (perhaps by God's grace?) in transitional seasons.

As Christ Our Savior awaits the calling of its new pastor, the church body needs its members to lend their dynamic light to its shared work. Particularly with an eye toward Sunday morning worship, the church has fallen into a pattern of relying on the same people stepping up in the same roles week after week. While their gifts are valued, a multiplicity of members surely conspire to create the dynamic body which is Christ Our Savior. This summer would be a wonderful time to join your time and love with Christ Our Savior's worship as an acolyte, usher, reader, communion assistant, or member of the altar guild. All the different service opportunities are available for sign-up on the church website at <https://www.coslc.com/sign-up/>.

Thank you all for all the faithful work that you do as a church body. May the reviving breath of God's Holy Spirit fill you and kindle the love you have for one another.

In Christ, Interim Pastor Michael Anderson



Worship Time Change

As our community shifts into spring and summer, we will adjust our worship schedule. Our final 6:00 a.m. Sunday evening worship for the season was held April 30th. On May 28th, we will shift to a single 9:15 a.m. worship service. Moving from the summer into fall, we will announce any subsequent changes to our worship as needed. Join us for worship as God gathers our community into deeper solidarity.

Join us for fellowship time!

On Sunday, May 28th (Memorial Day weekend), we move to one worship service at 9:15 a.m. We will be offering fellowship time 30 minutes before and after the worship service. Come join us for a cup of coffee or a goodie off our fellowship table. It is a wonderful time to slow down and check in with fellow church members to see what's been happening in each other's lives. Hope you will join us for conversation this summer!

If you are interested in bringing a goodie for fellowship time, sign-up [HERE](#). Please have them at church 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.



SOS Food Pantry Summer Bonus Bags

Summer Bonus Bags are lunch sized bags of food that the Food Pantry provides to school aged children over the summer. The Bonus Bags will help fill hungry tummies! We are collecting single serve lunch items beginning in June. Below are some suggested items:



Meal Items: Ravioli, SpaghettiO's, any canned, heat and eat meals, cup of soup/ramen noodles, individual noodle soups, mac & cheese cups, microwave entrees

Drinks: Juice boxes/pouches, individual drinks of Gatorade, Sunny D, etc.

Breakfast Items: Pop Tarts, oatmeal packets, individual cereals, breakfast/cereal bars

Snacks: Granola bars, individual chips, goldfish, cookies, dried fruit, fruit cups, applesauce cups, pudding cups, crackers & cheese/peanut butter, fruit snacks

Pastor Joe's Time Away

Scripture reveals to us the way God's intention for humankind is to have a rhythm of restful seasons followed by fruitful seasons, and then a return to abiding in the restful stillness of God's presence. Our shared time of transition at Christ Our Savior has been a turbulent time as we navigated together the challenges of pandemic and pastoral change. In the fall of 2022, Pr. Joe approached the council about taking a leave of absence to make space for renewal and stillness in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

After prayer and discernment, the council invited Pr. Joe to begin his time away on May 1st in order that he would return by August 16th and share in our congregation's preparations for fall ministry. We invite you to share in a mutual practice of holding Pr. Joe in prayer during his Sabbath time as he also holds the community of Christ Our Savior in continued prayerful reflection.



Lawn Mowers Sign-up Now Available

We have a small group of lawn mowers this year. Two of them are new and just received training. A special thanks to Dave Abresch and Neil Zimmerman who joined the team and responded to the need to keep our property looking well maintained. It would be wonderful to add one or two more people to the lawn mowing team. The lawn is divided into two parts (north and south). It takes about 1 ½ hours to cut the lawn with one of our riding lawn mowers. If you would like to join the team to mow the church property, sign-up [HERE](#) on SignUpGenius to select dates. Contact Chris Stromberg at c.k.stromberg@gmail.com for training or questions.



Bread of Healing Meal Wednesday, June 14th

Come join us in the COS kitchen on Wednesday, June 14th at 9am as we make sandwiches and assemble to-go bags. If you haven't helped in the past, we welcome you to come. No experience necessary! Just willing hearts and open hands is all you need! If you would like to become involved in feeding the hungry in Milwaukee, contact Chuck Liedtke at chuck.liedtke@sodexo.com and Larry & Edie Schaffner at elschaffner02@live.com



Adopt-a-Garden

If you haven't already selected your garden plot for the summer, now is the time to do so. We have 12 garden and flower beds around our church that need occasional weeding and care throughout the summer months and into early fall. Each area is small, so commitment is only 1-2 hours per month. We hope that you and your family will adopt a garden to help keep our property looking well maintained. Adopt your garden plot on SignUpGenius under volunteers on our website [HERE](#) or in the nar-thex on the bulletin board. If you have questions, contact Amy at amy@coslc.com.



SUMMER Invitation to Serve during Worship!

Our worship assistant SignUpGenius is now available for you to select your dates over the summer. We will be having one worship service beginning Sunday, May 28th (Memorial Day weekend) at 9:15 a.m. Signups are available for Altar Guild, Bread Bakers, Communion Assistants, Lectors, Offering Counters, Hosts, 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](#). Contact Amy Berken for more information at amy@coslc.com.



Community Banquet Thursday, June 22nd

In June, COS is serving in two roles due to a necessary swap earlier in the year. On Thursday, June 22nd, we will be responsible for set-up and cooking. Also needed are desserts for the meal. We are planning on having pulled pork sandwiches with additional sides. Those interested in helping should meet at St James by 4:30 p.m. to set up and for cooking preparations. The meal is served at 5:30pm. and everyone in the community is welcome to come for the meal and conversation. If you would like to help with the June meal, reach out to Diane Otto at dotto@wi.rr.com or 262-691-3778.

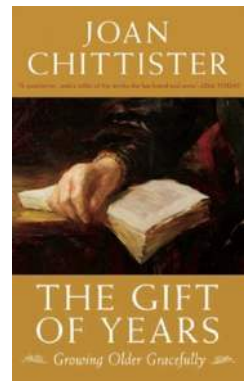


Fellowship Meal

Women's Inspirational Book Group

Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

Over the summer, we will continue discussing the book, *The Gift of Years: Growing Older Gracefully* by Joan Chittister. We will be meeting on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the lounge. If you have any questions, please reach out to Toni Snyder at tonisnyder37@gmail.com.



Serenity Inns Tuesday, June 20th

Our next meal at Serenity Inns is on Tuesday, June 20th. If you haven't served before, we invite you to reach out to Hank and offer your help in preparing a meal for the residents (about 15 men) at Serenity Inns. It can be any of your favorites: spaghetti, sloppy joes, tacos, burgers, etc. You are also welcome to eat dinner with the residents. In addition, we are always looking for desserts. Thank you to those who have made cupcakes, bars, and cookies, etc. in the past. Keep on baking! The men at Serenity Inns love them! Any extra food or dessert are used for lunches during the week. If you would like more information or would like to help, reach out to Hank Wallenkamp at 262-525-1211 or signup on the outreach ministry board. Please have all items at church by noon on Tuesday.



Spring/Summer Collection: As you are cleaning out your closets for spring, consider donating gently used shorts, shirts, hats, sunglasses, and light-weight jackets to Serenity Inns. Donations can be placed in the bin in the east entryway.

COS Quilters – Sheets Needed

Our dedicated group of quilters will be meeting over the summer on Thursday mornings from 9:00-11:00 a.m. They are in need of bed sheets for the back of these life saving quilts. These quilts are sent all over the world through Lutheran World Relief. If you have any sheets that you are able to donate (flat or fitted), please drop them off in the entryway bin. For questions, contact Sam Mayek at amayak2@wi.rr.com

Garden Share Time!

It's time to start sharing what you are growing in your gardens! Bring your garden produce to church and place it on the garden share table. Those who would like a veggie or two can grab them and leave a donation. All proceeds will benefit the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

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