

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

October 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 gathered congregational input on perceived needs, values, and mission.
 - The MET drafts Christ Our Savior's Ministry Site Profile.
 - A Town Hall Meeting his held for congregational review of the MSP and preparing for the congregational Town Hall Meeting December
- **COS is in this stage** > A Call Committee is formed. COS's Call Committee is Aaron Dietz, Edie Schafner, Angie Lura, Dave Abresch, Mike Singer, and Brynn Haigh (youth rep). ***The COS Call Committee is ready to interview call candidates and awaiting names. 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.

Good Tidings in Times of Transition

*As the eyes of servants
look to the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid
to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to the LORD our God,
until he has mercy upon us.*

Psalm 123:2

"Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day."

John 6:35-40

Close your eyes.

Breathe in, breathe out.

Breathe in, breathe out.

Breathe in, breathe out.

Each moment of every day, with every respiration, God's love sustains you and fills you. God's mercy covers you and you are graced into a new day and into new life. In our relationship with God, resting in this truth helps us remain grounded in the humbling reality that God does not avoid our frailty. The story of God is always the story of awakening to the perspective-shifting scandal of what it means that God is here, in this world, permeating, enlivening, sustaining, renewing all life. The presence of God fills you, right now, as you read this.

From moment to moment, such truth is hard to keep front of mind as we encounter the intense demands of the day. And as real as our life commitments are there must be time and space to reckon with how these things have no existential or eternal power over us. These commitments and responsibilities, while real, do not have the power to name our identity. These commitments and responsibilities, while real, have no power over your soul. Nothing has the power to name you except the love of God.

On some level we might know that and even consider it such a common truth that it hardly bears mentioning. But in reality, it is everything. The world conspires to come between you and God – between you and the true source of your life, and love, and self, and soul. And the calamity

...continues on page 2

Good Tidings in Times of Transition continued...

these intervening attractions can cause is disturbing. But when held to account by the Eternal One who is eternally loving you, they are less than dust. The Lord does look on us with mercy. You have been given to Jesus by God, and Jesus will never lose what God has given him.

Breathe in, breath out.
Breathe in, breath out.
Breathe in, breath out.

In Christ,
Interim Pastor Michael Anderson

Be Involved! Join a Worship Team!

There are opportunities for you to be involved and serve this fall by joining a worship team.

- Altar Guild
- Communion Assistants
- Bread Bakers
- Offering Counters
- Lectors
- Hosts
- Greeters
- Ushers
- Acolytes

All adults, high school youth, confirmation students, and children (with their parents) are encouraged to participate. If you would like to serve, but are new to the role, we will provide you with training. You can find the sign-ups on our website under “volunteers.” Contact Amy at amy@coslc.com with questions.

Bread Bakers Needed

Calling all bakers! We need your help in baking Communion bread for our worship service. It is an easy recipe! Take a copy of the recipe home with you and give it a try.

We currently have three dedicated bread bakers: Sam Mayek, Kathy Michalek, and JoAnn Leary. If you have questions about how to make the bread, feel free to reach out to one of them.

If you are interested in becoming a bread baker or would like to join the team, reach out to Amy at amy@coslc.com.

Sunday Morning Fellowship Time

“Wraps” around Worship

You are invited to gather with others in COS’ Fellowship Hall for Sunday morning Fellowship time, when it works best for you!

8:45am until service... WORSHIP... until 10:45am
or so after service... Any or ALL of the above?!?

Stop in anytime, for a cup of coffee, tea, water, special treat PLUS great conversation and time to be together at COS!

New or visiting COS, or wanting to get more acquainted? Catch a friendly and uplifting connection here! Or, if you prefer, simply take a few minutes to relax. Ask your family and friends to join you, too!

Interested in serving at COS to help with Fellowship time?

Contribute goodies, set up, clean up, during Fellowship time (visit and listen for ideas or others willing to help, brew another pot of coffee, replenish goodies, encourage signup to bring goodies), decorations, etc. Have an idea? We’d love to chat!

Contact Amy Berken (amy@coslc.com) or Marion Jaskulski (MarJask5@wi.rr.com) and let us know you’re interested or what information we can share. Helping with Fellowship time can be very flexible, including timing!

Fall Stewardship Emphasis:

Received in Love

Christ Our Savior has a mission to witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ in Sussex and the surrounding community. Even amid Christ our Savior’s generational change, God’s love is forever, Christ’s power for healing is real, and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit energizes our hearts and service. In the life we share as a church, we are God-given gifts to one another that convey and amplify the love of God for the sake of the world; and for us, it is our deepest joy to know what we have *Received in Love* by the work of the Holy Spirit, so that we would turn what we receive toward the world in love.

What do you receive in love that you can share in love? Stay on the lookout for more invitations to consider the goodness you’ve received from God in life at Christ Our Savior and how you might be called to share that love.

SOS Toilet Paper Drive

Thank you to everyone who donated toilet paper during the month of September!!! It is an item in great demand at the SOS Food Pantry. It is a blessing that we can give and meet the needs of others in the community.



Socketober

We will be collecting new socks during the month of October. We need socks of all types, sizes, and colors. Boys, girls, men, women, even infant/baby socks can be donated. Solid colors, white, and fun socks are welcome and

encouraged too! Socks collected will be donated to our outreach partners.

SOS - Coat Drive

Coats, Snowpants & Boots Needed

Deadline: October 6th

SOS is collecting New or Gently Used winter gear in adult, children, and plus sizes. Help keep our neighbors warm!

Collection bins are located at Sussex Outreach Services, Civic Center, and Metro Market. You can also drop off items at church in the entryway bin labeled SOS and we will take them to SOS for you. Bring in your items by October 6th.

Giving Tree

We are looking for a handful of people who would be willing to help with our Giving Tree ministry. We need help with setting up the tree, preparing the gift tags, sorting gifts, and delivering the gifts in December. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, contact Amy at amy@coslc.com.

Adopt-a-Garden & Yard Care

Now that the growing season is coming to an end, please take a moment to prepare your garden area for winter. In addition, we are looking for a few folks to help trim the bushes and do some fall winterizing to our church property before the snow hits. If you would like to help with winterizing, contact Chris at c.k.stromberg@gmail.com.

Community Banquet

Thursday, October 12th & 26th

Our next Community Banquet is on Thursday, October 12th at 5:30pm at St. James. We do not have a role, but all are welcome to come for a wonderful meal and a time of fellowship.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry or have any questions, reach out to Diane Otto at dotto@wi.rr.com or 262-691-3778.

Bread of Healing Meal

Wednesday, October 11th at 9am

The Bread of Healing team will be putting bag lunches together for Cross Lutheran volunteers and food pantry participants. We will assemble them in the COS kitchen to be delivered to Cross that morning. This month we will again begin our fall menu with Chili, Corn Bread and a cookie.

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.

Serenity Inns

Tuesday, October 17th

Do you like to bake? It would be fantastic if someone could make 24 Halloween Cookies or Monster Bars for our next Serenity Inns Meal on Tuesday, October 17th. There are 11 residents, 1 innkeeper, 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 signup on the outreach ministry board. All items for Serenity Inns need to be at church by Tuesday at Noon.

Fall & Winter Clothing Needed: We will be collecting warm fall and winter clothing for the residents at Serenity Inns. If you have fall clothes or winter coats (XL-3X), hats, mittens, or boots that you would like to donate, drop them off in the entryway and we'll get them to the men at Serenity Inns.

Sunday School

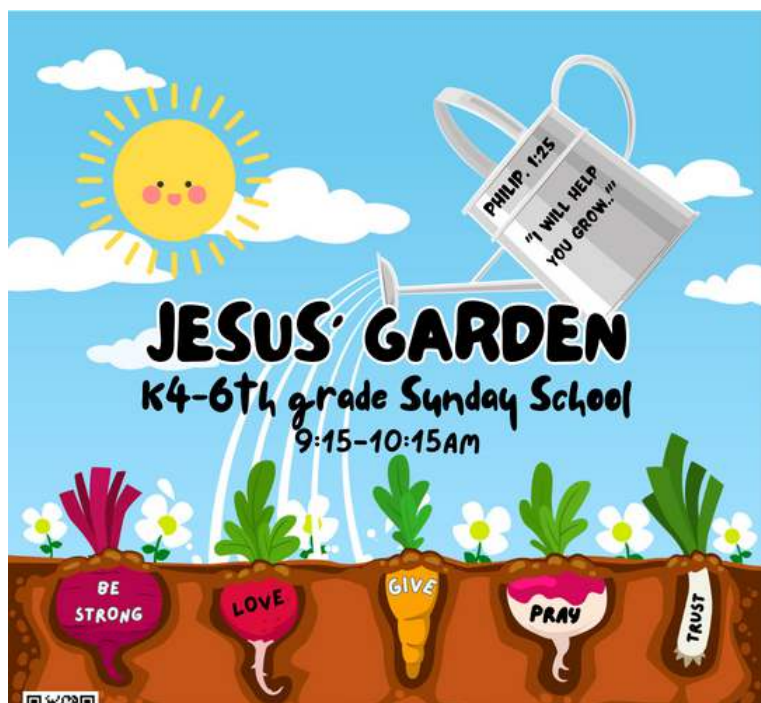
The Sunday school year is underway! All children, grades K4-6th, are welcome.

We begin in worship at 9:15am, children are then dismissed to the classroom following the children's message until 10:15am. Each week we learn about Jesus through stories, games, activities, and play.



You may register for Sunday school at any time of the year. To register scan the QR code or visit coslc.com.

Please contact Carol Rabideau (carol@coslc.com) with any questions you may have.



To Register: Scan Qr code or go online to coslc.com.
Click "Learn & Grow," then choose Sunday school.

Fall-o-Ween Jesus, Family Fall Fun



GLOW WITH GOD

All are invited to gather on **Sunday, October 15th** following worship for Fall-o-Ween Jesus.

Have fun playing pumpkin themed games, enjoy sweet treats, go on a candy scavenger hunt, and pick out a pumpkin from the pumpkin patch.

Grateful for any volunteers willing to help ([click here to sign-up](#)). If you would like to help purchase pumpkins for Fall-o-ween Jesus, donations can be placed in the offering plate or dropped off in the church office. Please indicate "Fall Fun" on the envelope.

Contact Carol (carol@coslc.com) with any questions you may have.

Reformation Evening Prayer & Fire

Pit Fellowship

Sunday, October 29th at 5pm | COS Fire Pit

Grab a lawn chair (and maybe a blanket!) and come and enjoy an early fall evening on Reformation Sunday for outdoor Evening Prayer and fellowship around the fire pit.

Bring your favorite fall dish to pass as we gather for a community hangout in a beautiful season in the upper Midwest. The event is kid friendly with planned activities; all ages are welcome.

If you plan to bring a dish to share, please call or email the church office to coordinate.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

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Pastor Joe Wilkinson - pastorjoe@coslc.com

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Danny Ellis,

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Amy Berken,

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Council - council@coslc.com

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