



The OUR GLASS



Newsletter of
Our Saviour's
Lutheran Church
Appleton, WI

DECEMBER 2020

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

3009 N Meade St, Appleton 54911
Rev. Kurt Hoffman
Deacon Brett Christensen

Virtual Worship

Sunday: 9am Streaming
on Facebook Live.

Contact

920-734-6396

Kurt@OSLC-Appleton.org
Brett@OSLC-Appleton.org
office@OSLC-Appleton.org



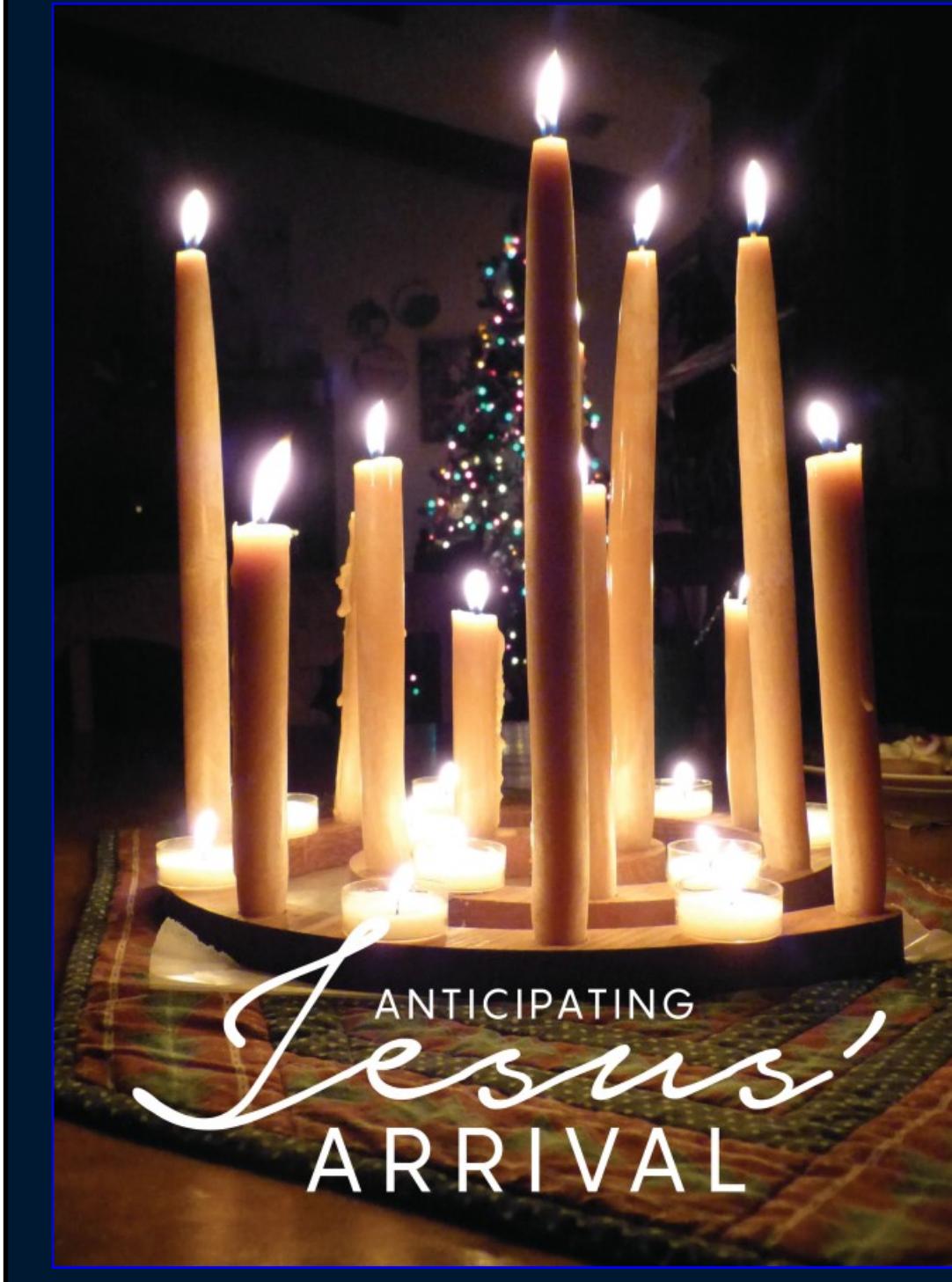
Due to COVID-19, OSLC is suspending ALL Activities, including Worship in person at the church building until further notice.

Visit the OSLC
Website and Facebook
page for updates!

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From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Beloved people of God – Our Saviour's Lutheran and friends
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

There's a Christmas song most people like (not love, but like) called the 12 Days of Christmas. The reason I said "like" and not "love" is that everyone starts out singing with gusto, the first 5 verses. After the "5 Golden Rings" part, attention spans wain, interest fads, boredom settles in and the song slowly grinds to a sad ending.

Kind of like Christmas 2020. We start out with gusto and actually many of us are finding this Christmas to actually be a bit sad and not really festive, upbeat, joyful and jolly. I actually think we think it's going to just land with a thud and grind to a sad ending.

Kind of like that first Christmas when there was widespread despair due to being an occupied country, under the control of the Romans, being forced to go to the ancestral home cities for a census – an order in place so as to know how much more in tax revenue could be gotten from the Hebrew people. None of this "Over the River and Through the Woods to Grandmother's House We Go" being sung by anyone.

This much I know – This much I believe – On that holy night,

As a community of believers at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, our vision to "love God. love others."

SERVING OSLC**STAFF**

Rev. Kurt Hoffman, *Pastor*
 Deacon Brett Christensen, *Youth & Young Adult Ministries Coord.*
 Laura Purath, *Office Mgr./Ministries Coord.*
 Karen Stangel, *Worship Accompanist*
 John Stangel, *Worship Tech.*
 Jenn & Ted Tyvol, *Children's Ministries Coords.*

OSLC COUNCIL

Carol Lamp, *President*
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 Lori Knoke, *Council Secretary*
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 Jim Leppla, *Stewardship Comm. Chair*
 Greg McDonald, *Technology Comm. Chair*
 John Stangel, *Worship & Music Comm. Chair*
 Will Hansen, *Youth & Y.A. Ministries Council Liaison*

the God of the universe
 broke into the world with a
 Promise so Big, so Grand,
 so Audacious that no one
 could have guessed, imagined
 or dreamt of.



This much I know – This
 much I believe – This
 Christmas our God still has
 that big Promise for Us. Jesus was born for you and me – Jesus
 was born to overcome all things and bring comfort, challenge, love, mercy, relationships, faith, hope and justice –

FOR US!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
 Even in dark day, Even in fear, Even in frustration, Even in depression and despair.

Christ was born for this – Christ was born for this! Jesus finishes the verses when our voices fail. Jesus finishes the chorus when we're too weary to sing. Jesus *finishes* – period!

I hope and pray that you all have a very Merry Christmas and that we all have a Blessed New Year.

Can I get an AMEN? AMEN!

From the Deacon's Desk . . .

Good Day Friends,

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2.



This verse reminds us that understanding our path in life does not come from our own understanding, but on listening for God's voice and direction. I believe this happens by the Holy Spirit through discernment in prayer, speaking with others and listening for God's call. The easiest thing for someone to do is to ignore God's call and continue a familiar path, without discernment. I am now in my 25th year of ministry with young people and have begun my 4th here at Our Saviour's. God has been calling me and I need to listen.

It is after a strong and lengthy discernment, that I am hereby resigning my call as Deacon to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, effective end of business January 30, 2021.

This decision did not come lightly, as it has been thoroughly thought out for several months. I will be taking a leave from call, which will effectively separate me from the active roster in the ELCA for the foreseeable future.

I am sure my departure will generate more questions than answers. My hope is that at some point down the road, you are able to reflect upon my time at Our Saviour's with good memories of a man who was deeply committed to Jesus and the good people of Our Saviour's. I wish you all the best.

**God's peace,
 Brett**

To Our Fellow Members,

Through this season of Advent, we wait with excited anticipation to celebrate the birth of the Baby Jesus, born all those years ago. While Christmas 2020 will be different from all our normal routines, the message, the meaning, and the reason to celebrate is the same. Perhaps *this* is the year that slows us down from scurrying to finish our “to do” list and to attend our “gatherings” list. Perhaps this is the year that we have time to truly focus on the real reason for the season and celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We all miss being together in-person for Worship and fellowship. The task force continues to meet and plan for the unknown date in the future when we will be able to be together again. Our Saviour’s will be ready to open safely when the time arrives.

While this has been a challenging year, there are blessings too. The OSLC Council counts one of our blessings as YOU! Your faithfulness through Worship, ministries, and gifts of offering have kept our congregation to continue to be a blessing to others in need. Thank you! You have continued to provide for opportunities to Worship, study, learn, feed those in need, comfort & clothe those in need, and provide help to our partners in ministry & families of Lincoln Elementary. Well done, faithful servants!!

You are cared for and so important to the ministries of this church and communities—far and near. We excitedly await the day to resume gathering in person for all the activities possible. In the meantime, we wish you a peaceful Advent, filled with hope, much joy, and the knowledge that you are loved. Merry Christmas!

Your OSLC Council



Christmas Eve

Virtual Worship and Virtual Communion

December 24, 2020

Watch it streaming at 10am
on Facebook Live, OR watch it
anytime as it will also be
recorded!

*Gather your wine & bread
and a candle also.*



DECEMBER CONFIRMATION CALENDAR

Wed. Dec 2	6:30PM	7 th Grade Large Group Zoom
Sun. Dec 6	9AM	Virtual Worship FB Live
Mon. Dec 7		Home Video/Q's on Website
Wed. Dec 9	6:30PM	8 th Grade Large Group Zoom
Sun. Dec 13	9AM	Virtual Worship FB Live
Wed. Dec 16	6:30PM	9 th Grade Large Group Zoom
Sun. Dec 20	9AM	Virtual Worship FB Live
Thur. Dec 24	TBD	Virtual Christmas Eve Worship FB Live
Sun. Dec 27	9AM	Virtual Worship FB Live
Sun. Dec 30		Monthly Questions Due

*Monthly Video & Questions found on website under the confirmation button: www.oslc-appleton.org

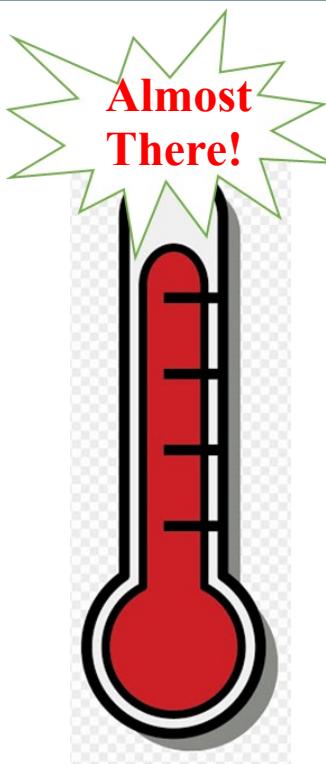
*Monthly Questions can be turned in by emailing them to Brett At: brett@oslc-appleton.org



*Second Semester Calendars should have been emailed to all students. If you did not get one you can visit our website: www.oslc-appleton.org and click on the confirmation button to see the updates and find the calendar.

Kwik
Trip
Gas
Cards
still available-
Contact Brett@OSLC-Appleton.org

With the holidays coming up, gift cards are a great idea!!! You can still purchase Kwik Trip Gas cards from the youth, during this time when we are not together. If you would like to purchase cards, simply email Deacon Brett with your order and he will try and make them available within 2 days. He will make arrangements with you to pick them up at the church. Thanks for your continued support of our youth.



We are very close to making our goal in supporting Crossways Camping Ministry's Capital Campaign. Our original 3 year pledge was \$10,000! We are excited to report that we are just 1,753 away from meeting our goal! Thank you for your support thus far. Please consider

helping us make our goal, which will help with upgrades at all 3 sites at our camps. If you would like to give, simply write out a check to Crossways and mail it to the church. We will count it, then forward it on to them. We have a rich history of sending our young people to camp here, while our Adult Mission Trip folks have worked hard over the last few years, performing light construction at Pine Lake.

If you want more information on how Construction Updates are proceeding at the camps, (YES, remodeling has begun) visit the Crossways Camps Facebook page.



Our prayers & sympathies remain with the families & friends of:

Vern Wiese
who entered eternal life on
November 6, 2020

Evelyn Guttenberg
who was born to eternal life on
November 21, 2020

*Prayers of sympathy and healing
for all who are mourning
the loss of a loved one.*



Memorial monies and gifts were received by Our Saviour's in memory of . . .

Lisa McRann

Carol Acker

Carol Acker

By Eileen Landmann

Virtual Sunday School

Sunday School at OSLC began its time of faith and fellowship virtually this year, and we are so blessed to be able to continue to share with you and your family this year. As a reminder, each week Sunday School videos are posted (on our OSLC FaceBook page and on the OSLC website) with videos involving Bible lessons/reading, Bible games, arts and crafts, cooking, STEM projects, music, and creative arts/puppetry. Additionally, there are young children's board book readings, as well. These videos can be viewed at any time, as they are posted throughout the week, and they can be easily located on our FaceBook page in the Sunday School playlist section under the "video" button.

Be sure to check your e-mail or our FaceBook postings for Sunday School LIVE events as well! We have held three events in the first 7 weeks, and we look forward to seeing everyone virtually again! We have come together for relationship-building times with Bible-based BINGO, Bible-based/fun trivia, and scavenger hunts too! Children are always welcome to attend! (At our last event, we had children in an age range from 3-12!)

If you have any questions or you or someone would like to be added to our update e-mail list, please contact us at JennAndTed@OSLC-Appleton.org. We would love for you to join us this year!



*Our Saviour's
Lutheran An-
niversaries of
Church
Membership:*

Nov: 51 yrs—Ilene Palmer
Dec: 58 yrs—John Kafura
Dec: 54 yrs—Rose Piette

*Anniversaries of membership are printed
beginning with 20 yrs and then every fifth
year; yearly beyond 50 yrs.*



**NOW a link on
the OSLC
website under
Learning/Togetherness!**

**Use the OSLC on-line directory for contact
information.**

- ◆ Send an email to Laura@OSLC-Appleton.org if you cannot get into the directory at www.IconCMO.com. A link and username will be emailed to

you.

- ◆ If you need help updating your information in the church records or want to submit a new picture, email Laura@OSLC-Appleton.org

Help to fight the isolation felt during this time. Use the OSLC directory to send a card or note in the mail.

Sunday School Teaching Time: Our Teachers can do "Virtually" Anything!

A very huge THANK YOU goes out to our dedicated Sunday School teaching team this year! Though times are unprecedented, these leaders have continually been able to support our Sunday School youth and families virtually with their time and talents! Without them, Sunday School would not be the same! When you see them again in the future, please give them a huge smile for their fantastic job well done! We are so blessed to have you working beside us to make an impact on the youth at OSLC.

Many thanks to the following teachers for their commitments:

Marsha Olson (Bible readings)
Mady Olson (Enrichment videos, Live events)
Brecken Olson (Young children books/prayers)
Stacey Wagner (Bible readings, Enrichment videos)
Hallie Wagner (Bible Readings, Enrichment videos)
Jeanne Krauss (Creative arts, cooking, STEAM)
Elaina Krauss (Enrichment videos)
Jennifer Linn (Bible readings, Enrichment videos)
Samantha Linn (Enrichment videos)
Will Hansen (Tween devotionals)
Heather Louden (Technology)

Sunday School Collaboration with Confirmation Students

We would like to take a moment to welcome aboard the Confirmation students who elected to volunteer for Sunday School this year to complete their service component for class. We have had 25 Bible Adventure readers commit to working for Sunday School by engaging youth and families through their storybook Bible-led stories. Thank you for all you do! We enjoy having you on our team, and we welcome you back any-time in the future.

Adopt-a-Friend

OSLC is helping those in need this year again: Christmas Gifts for Students and their siblings from Lincoln Elementary.

You can choose a "tag" virtually by visiting:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E44A9AF2EABF85-christmas>



FACEMASK MINISTRY

If you, or someone you know, is willing to help with the mask ministry, please contact Winnie at (920)428-2487 or

winnie.mcpeake@gmail.com to see how you might be able to help. There is a need for adult size and child size masks.

Knitters are making the strings for fasteners, while sewers are sewing masks in sizes for children or adults. Some of the masks are being placed in the Little Free Pantry on our property along Meade St. to help our neighbors.

Perhaps you have cotton material to donate, or could cut some fabric, or help with delivery, or donate 1/4" elastic you have on hand, etc.

Quilting Ministry

The quilt group is not currently meeting; however, anyone who would like to make quilts for LWR please call me, Linda Stroma, at 920-739-0455 for quilting supplies or instructions on making quilts at home. We now have a new supply of batting available for quilt filler.



NEIGHBORHOOD PRESCHOOL

Where **FUN** and **LEARNING** go hand in hand

3009 North Meade Street
Appleton, WI

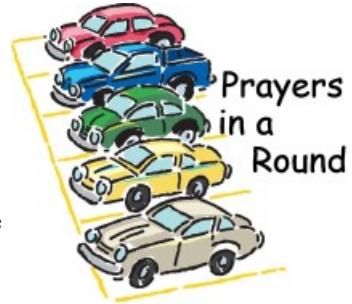
Come join the fun! Neighborhood Preschool is accepting registrations now for the 2020/2021 school year.

Call Sheri at 920-858-6879. www.Neighborhoodpreschool.org

Prayers in a Round

What does that mean? Well, people of God I'm inviting us all into a time of prayerful intentionality. Not the "I'm praying for you" at home type of prayer, but actually get out of your house, in your vehicle and drive to the local hospitals, government building, schools, fire stations and drive around them, circling them with your prayers. You don't get out of your vehicle, you obey all traffic laws while circling these places and surrounding them with prayer.

I do this every Friday and have been doing it for months now. I'd love for those working in those places could look out at any time and see people praying for them. Wouldn't that be a great sight?!?!?!



If you'd like to do this, are blessed by it, tell others and perhaps it'll be a thing!

Connecting . . . Be a Phone Buddy



Are you interested in connecting with some of OSLC's older members?

Phone Buddy

If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please contact the office

by calling 920-734-6396 and leave a message or email office@OSLC-Appleton.org

Looking to connect with even more folks? . . .

TeleMatch increases social connections for older adults

Many adults age 60 and older who live alone in their home are particularly at risk for social isolation during this pandemic. Feeling lonely and isolated can lead to chronic health conditions. St. Paul Elder Services and Volunteer Fox Cities are partners in TeleMatch, a program that pairs screened volunteers with older adults who live in their own home in Outagamie County and desire greater social connections. The goal is to assist older adults to remain healthy, safe and independent in their own home. When our vetted volunteers are matched with an older adult, they place a friendly phone call to them. Both can decide the frequency of the calls. Do you have a neighbor or family member who lives alone in their own home or apartment who may benefit from a friendly phone call? Contact Jan at 920-832-9360.



DEVOTIONS

- Pastor Kurt has a daily devotion called "Bread for the Journey", streaming on Facebook live at 9am M-F.
- Deacon Brett has a daily devotion called "A Minute At A Time" on Facebook M-F.

- View Worship or Devotions any time as they are also recorded.

www.OSLC-Appleton.org

<https://www.facebook.com/OSLC-Our-Saviours-Lutheran-Church-Appleton-WI-181313441890433/?ref=bookmarks>



Virtual Bible Study led by Pastor Kurt (aka Men's Bible Study and BB&B)

will take place virtually on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday from 6-7pm. Via ZOOM.*

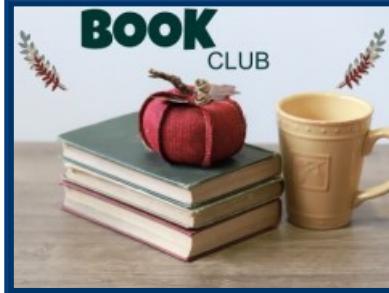
Women of Wisdom Virtual Bible Study led by Deacon Brett on Monday afternoons from 1:30 to 3pm. Currently, we are studying the first in a series by Sarah Young, Jesus Calling-Experiencing God's Presence. If you would like to participate, please contact Brett@OSLC-Appleton.org.



Advent 2020 November 29, December 6, 13, 20

Theme: "The Hope of the Messiah"
God sent prophets to the peoples of Israel and Judah, often bringing words of warning and condemnation for idolatry and injustice, calling the people back on the

right path. However, in times of suffering, the prophets gave God's people words of hope – that God would rescue them from their troubles. God delivered Daniel from the lions' den. Joel spoke of a hope that comes out of repentance, and Isaiah prophesied of the hope that comes through the Messiah – the one who will deliver humanity from suffering and oppression. Finally, the Messiah's birth is foretold to his mother by an angel and confirmed by her cousin Elizabeth.



OSLC VIRTUAL Book Club—

Read a good book lately? Want to share the book title with others? Want to find out what good books others have read?

Email CarolLamp44@gmail.com to participate on **Wednesday, December 23rd at 11:30am**. We meet online virtually. All you need is internet access, and a device with a camera and microphone.

Family at Home Advent Candle Lighting

Advent 1 – November 29

+ Scripture: "Stir up your might, and come to save us. Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved" (Psalm 80:2b-3).

+ Reader: Light one candle; see it glow; Brightly, so that all may know; How one candle shows the way; Making our darkness bright as God's day.

+ Prayer: Dear God, on this first Sunday in Advent, let this light shine brightly as the days grow shorter, so that we will be ready for your face to shine upon us at Christmas. In the Savior's name we pray. Amen.

+ The first candle is lit.

Advent 2 – December 6

+ Scripture: "Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky" (Psalm 85:10-11).

+ Reader: Light two candles; see them glow; Brightly, so that all may know How two candles show the way; Making our darkness bright as God's day.

+ Prayer: Dear God, we have much to do and we are not sure we will be ready for the day of your coming. In Advent's light, help us to see what is important: to be who you want us to be, and to do what you would have us do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

+ The first two candles are lit.

Advent 3 – December 13

+ Scripture: "May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves" (Psalm 126:5-6).

+ Reader: Light three candles, see them glow Brightly, so that all may know; How three candles show the way; Making our darkness bright as God's day.

+ Prayer: Dear God, we carry many burdens and worry over many things. Help us to hear your promise in this Advent season, that in hearing, we may receive the Spirit's gift of joy. And may our spirits be kept sound at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

+ The first three candles are lit.

Advent 4 – December 20

+ Scripture: "With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens" (Psalm 89:1b-2).

+ Reader: Light four candles, see them glow; Brightly, so that all may know; How four candles show the way; Making our darkness bright as God's day.

+ Prayer: Dear God, your faithfulness has been great, leading us to this day of anticipation and celebration. May the glorious light of your steadfast love shine brightly in us and through us, that all may give you praise and glory. In the Savior's name we pray. Amen.

+ All four Advent candles are lit.

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sa.
		1 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 6:00pm Bible Study-Pr Kurt	2 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 1:00pm Staff meeting 6:30pm Confirmation-Gr. 7 ZOOM gathering	3 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett	4 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett	5
6 <i>Second Sunday in Advent</i> <i>Check for Sunday School material at:</i> www.OSLC-Appleton.org 9:00am Worship-streaming on Facebook Live (recorded for later viewing)	7 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 1:30pm Women of Wisdom Bible Study – Jesus Calling	8 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 6:30pm Council Mtg-ZOOM	9 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 1:00pm Staff meeting 6:30pm Confirmation-Gr. 8 ZOOM gathering	10 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett	11 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett	12
13 <i>Third Sunday in Advent</i> <i>Check for Sunday School material at:</i> www.OSLC-Appleton.org 9:00am Worship-streaming on Facebook Live (recorded for later viewing)	14 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 1:30pm Women of Wisdom Bible Study – Jesus Calling	15 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 6:30pm Bible Study-Pr Kurt	16 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 1:00pm Staff meeting 6:30pm Confirmation-Gr. 9 ZOOM gathering	17 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 1:00pm Staff meeting 6:30pm Confirmation-Gr. 9 ZOOM gathering	18 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett	19
20 <i>Fourth Sunday in Advent</i> <i>Check for Sunday School material at:</i> www.OSLC-Appleton.org Children's Christmas Program-virtual 9:00am Worship-streaming on Facebook Live (recorded for later viewing)	21 <i>Articles due-January 2021 newsletter</i> <i>Check for Sunday School material at:</i> www.OSLC-Appleton.org 9:00am Worship-streaming on Facebook Live (recorded for later viewing)	22 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 1:30pm Women of Wisdom Bible Study – Jesus Calling	23 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 11:30am Book Club 1:00pm Staff meeting	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:00am Devotional: A Minute at a Time by Dea Brett 10:00am Worship-streaming on Facebook Live (recorded for later viewing)	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Staff off-Holiday	26
27 <i>Check for Sunday School material at:</i> www.OSLC-Appleton.org 9:00am Worship-streaming on Facebook Live (recorded for later viewing)	28 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:30am Staff meeting	29 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 9:30am Staff meeting	30 9:00am Devotional: Bread for the Journey by Pr Kurt 1:00am Staff meeting	31 <i>New Years Eve</i> Staff off at Noon-Holiday		

Fox Valley Lutheran Homes

Apartment Opening

WE ANTICIPATE A VACANCY of a one bedroom apartment beginning January 1. This apartment faces east and overlooks Linwood Park. Are you interested in living at Linwood Place? Please contact us for information and to schedule a tour by calling 920-734-7225 or

by emailing our Executive Director Lynn Ann Clausing Rusch at lynann.fvlhomes@gmail.com. Linwood Place is an independent living community for persons 62 and over in a faith based community. We serve persons wishing to partake in community living and maintain independence without the work of home maintenance.



Dear Crossways Camp People,

A global pandemic is a challenging time to have a mission statement begin with the words, "Bringing people together..." The hardest thing about this time, for so many of us, has been the grief and anxiety from staying distant from those we love. We miss you at camp too, and we long to gather together.

Even in the midst of continued uncertainty, we are making plans to open registration for Summer Camp 2021. It will look different than it has in the past. All of these plans are tentative and may change based on state/federal mandates, input from our health officials, and best practices emerging from the American Camp Association. We will communicate any updates as they happen.

Timeline

We are planning to open registration on Monday, January 4. This is quite a bit later than usual, which we hope gives us the time to get better information to you. We would rather delay registration than have to make mass changes or cancellations like last year.

Youth Camp

We are planning to open youth camp with a 50% capacity. If Covid conditions across the state warrant it, we may be able to raise that threshold. We are encouraged by the emerging reports from schools and summer camps that have been success-

Christmas Stars 2020

Christmas Stars 2020, will be presented in a one-hour "TV Christmas Special" format, professionally produced by Champion Video. You will be able to watch it from the comfort and safety of your home through your computer or smart TV. Our patrons can expect the usual fun and inspiration with an added dose of "TV magic. So gather the family (we suggest adding a big bowl of popcorn and some hot chocolate) and enjoy a new version of this favorite

Christmas tradition!

The streaming performances will run every day from December 11-25 at 3:00 & 7:00 pm. Additional 1:00 pm performances are available on select days.

Tickets for each performance are \$13. Get tickets and a complete schedule of performances at www.christmasstars.org or call the box office, 920-733-8840. Please note: the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre box office is closed to all visitors at this time, but is open for phone orders Monday & Wednesday from noon until 3:00 pm.

ful in mitigating the risk of the virus.

Family Camp

We will continue the practice of assigning housing by family. We may need to limit capacity based on the staffing we are able to provide.

Confirmation Camp

Confirmation Camp will open with a 50% capacity. We are meeting with individual Confirmation Leaders from across the Synod to help us think through the ways we can keep our campers safe.

Day Camp

In order to focus on health and safety during Covid, with new ways of doing programming at camp, we will NOT be scheduling Day Camp experiences for summer 2021.

It is our highest priority to care for the health and safety of our staff, our campers, and the families they return home to. As I write this letter, Covid-19 cases in Wisconsin are Very High and rising. We hope to see that trending downward by the time registration opens. We invite you to join us in prayer and in actions that help to make Wisconsin healthier.

Grace Abounds,
Rev. Sharon L. S. Cook,
Executive Director

Council Corner:

November Council Meeting Highlights

1. The Council wishes to thank Deacon Brett for his years of service to both the youth and to all of the members of our congregation. We wish him well in all of his future endeavors and will miss him!
2. We will once again be adopting families from Lincoln Elementary Schools for Christmas. We will be setting up an online sign up to choose gifts. There will be a drop off at OSLC and the families

will be picking the items up at church by appointment. Watch for more information!

3. The council has voted to use part of the Memorial funds given by Hazel Norman to purchase technology equipment to enhance our Virtual Worship.
4. Our congregation has donated \$100 to Crossways Camps in honor of Bishop Mansholt's ministry among us and wishes him well.



How are we doing? Financially?

	Oct 2020	Previous 12 months (Nov2019-Oct2020)
Actual Expenses	\$38,251	415,637
Actual Giving*	<u>27,379</u>	<u>440,122</u>
Difference	(10,873)	24,485

*Mission & Ministry General Fund

Est. expenses:** Nov2020: \$40,429 Dec2020: \$40,345

**Based on the 2020 Budget.

For additional information, request full financial reports from the Financial Secretary or office.

Worship Attendance

VIRTUAL WORSHIP: Facebook live 9am on Sundays

	peak live views	total views
Oct 25:	60	445 Confirmation Sunday
Oct 18:	52	209
Oct 11:	58	378
Oct 4:	52	236

Devotions have received approximately 100-300 views.

As of October 31, 2020: Liquid Assets

Checking	\$88,422*
Designated monies	49,161
Undesignated memorials	14,105
PPP Loan funds avail. (in Sav.)	0

*\$60,000 of PPP loan monies are included in checking balance.

Outstanding Loans

Line of Credit	\$0 (pd in full 8/23/2020 \$28,970)
PPP Loan	60,000**

Investment

Endowment Fund	\$121,849
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**The PPP loan funds were available due to the pandemic. Some portion of the loan may be forgivable. OSLC was approved to borrow \$60,000 to pay payroll expenses and utilities. Once the "audit" of the use of the loan proceeds is complete, we will know how much of the \$60,000 has been forgiven. It is estimated this process could take 5 mo.

OSLC's Read & Feed Ministry

THANK YOU ALL so much for your continued support of OSLC's newest ministry, "Read & Feed" books for kids and food for all in need. It is getting emptied almost every other day.

A couple of things:

Please DO NOT put fresh meat, eggs, or any other perishables in the Pantry. We cannot give them out and they end up being thrown away. Canned and boxed items only.

If you'd prefer to donate money our grocery store gift cards instead of actual groceries, that's great. Just make the check out to OSLC and in the memo line write Food Pantry.

THANK YOU

Thank you for supporting our two Little Free Libraries and the Little Free Pantry too!

We are collecting:

- Gently used or new books for all ages (especially need children's books)
- Non-perishable canned and boxed food (that has not expired)
- Face masks



How you can help:

- When grocery shopping, consider picking up a non-perishable item or two to donate to the Little Free Pantry at OSLC. Donations can be placed directly into the pantry by you, or you can place items in the top blue tote or cardboard box by the front doors at church. Please send an email to Kurt@OSLC-Appleton.org to coordinate donating a larger amount.
- Send a check to OSLC with a note to designate the money be used for the Little Free Pantry.
- Sew masks.
- Donate fabric or 1/4" elastic.

Thank you, people of OSLC, for helping to reach out to our community!



MEETING MINUTES

OSLC Council Meeting: October 13, 2020
(Zoom Meeting)

*Mission Statement: Gather, Grow, Go
Vision: Love God, Love Others*

Present: Pastor Kurt, Brett Christensen, Carol Lamp, Susan Kulkarni, Joan Allen, Steve Bartell, Brian Krauss, Jeff Furgens, Jim Leppla, Greg McDonald, Lori Knoke, Larry Williams, John Stangel, Larry Williams, Lorna Wulterkens, Steve Alstad

Excused: Will Hansen

The ZOOM Meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Carol Lamp. Pastor Kurt gave the devotion.

The Meeting Agenda was approved

September 8th minutes were approved.

Monthly Reports:

Pastor Kurt's written report was submitted.

Financial Reports were submitted.

Christian Education written report was submitted

Deacon Brett's written report was submitted, discussion of Youth Survey and plans for Youth Activities going forward

Office Manager written report was submitted

Old Business:

The Return to Worship Task force is continuing to meet and discuss the tasks that will need to be completed before re-opening. We are starting to discuss what Christmas may look like if we are unable to meet in person.

There will not be an official Stewardship Drive this year. We simply want to thank everyone for continuing to support our congregation and mission during 2020.

The 2020 Confirmation class will be confirmed on Oct 25, in a parking lot service. All families will remain their vehicles during the service and then will come forward for the Confirming of their student.

Sunday School has started and is going well. We are very thankful for the wonderful and talented volunteers that are imagining this new platform.

There will be an Executive Board meeting on Tuesday, Oct 20th to discuss Council Member term limits. Currently too many of the positions end during the same year, making it difficult to find new members and retain members with Council experience.

New Business:

Pastor Kurt will start performing private baptism services for families. The services will be safely conducted with social distancing, limited guests and masks.

Our Thanksgiving Service this year will be in conjunction with the area ELCA churches. A virtual service is being planned to bring congregations together virtually. Details to follow.

Per recommendations from the Bishop's office our 2021 budget will mirror our 2020 budget, except for Pastor Dee's salary and benefits will be eliminated.

Annual Meeting should be held in January. We are trying to figure out what this will look like and how to vote on various items.

There will be four council vacancies going into 2021, Property, BASICS, Stewardship and Technology. Please contact any council member if you are interested.

BASICS will be contacting Lincoln Elementary School, who we have partnered with the last few years, to determine what kind of needs the families have and if there is a safe way provide Thanksgiving and Christmas support this year.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer. We adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori Knoke, Council Secretary

**Next Virtual
Council Meeting:
Tues., Dec. 8, 2020
At 6:30pm**

See page 10 for financial report.

Please Consider Serving on Council



Are you open to being a leader of OSLC, shaping the future of the church, and serving as a Member of Council? There are several positions that will become available as other Council Members terms are complete. Please contact Larry Williams if you have questions or are interested. 920-470-8123 or larrywilliams7149@gmail.com



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

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ADVENT & CHRISTMAS



During the Advent season we often talk a lot about the Holy Land of the past without talking much about the Holy Land of the present. What is going on in Bethlehem today? How are we called to accompany our Palestinian siblings in love, joy, hope, peace, and justice? What does this mean for our own advent journey?

Join ELCA Young Adults and ELCA Peace Not Walls starting Nov 30 for an Advent Pilgrimage in Palestine.

Over the course of the 4 weeks of Advent young adults from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land will lead us on this pilgrimage through story, education, and theological reflection.

Every Monday of Advent we will share a video reflection and every Wednesday of Advent we will share a written blog post, accompanied by discussion questions and actionable items you can use with small groups.

[Register here](#) to receive Advent Pilgrimage in Palestine resources by email and/or to register for our opening educational webinar on Monday, November 30 8:30-9:30pm EST.

Follow at [#AdventInPalestine](#)

Christmas Eve
Virtual Worship and Virtual Communion

December 24, 2020

Watch it streaming at 10am
on Facebook Live, OR watch it
anytime as it will also be
recorded!

*Gather your wine & bread
and a candle also.*

