

# Our Savior's Lutheran Church - January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tues day	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<i>1</i> Meetings By Appointment	<i>2</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours	<i>3</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours  6:00 PM Confirmation	<i>4</i> 7:15 PM -9:00 PM Office Hours	<i>5</i> Pastor in West Fargo	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i>  9:00 AM Communion  10:15 AM Sunday School Bible Class	<i>8</i> 9:00 AM Pastors' Study Group Milbank  Meetings By Appointment	<i>9</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours  1:00 PM -4:00 PM Fellowship Hall Open to Community	<i>10</i> 7:30 PM Church Council	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
				Pastor Nelson out of town		
<i>14</i>  9:00 AM Worship  10:15 AM Sunday School Bible Class	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours  1:00 PM -4:00 PM Fellowship Hall Open to Community	<i>17</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours  6:00 PM Confirmation Shut in Calls	<i>18</i> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Fellowship Hall Open to Community  7:15 PM -9:00 PM Office Hours	<i>19</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours Shut in Calls	<i>20</i>
Pastor Nelson out of town						
<i>21</i>  9:00 AM Communion  Ladies Aid Voters Meeting	<i>22</i> Meetings By Appointment	<i>23</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours  1:00 PM -4:00 PM Fellowship Hall Open to Community	<i>24</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours  6:00 PM Confirmation Shut in Calls	<i>25</i> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Fellowship Hall Open to Community  7:15 PM -9:00 PM Office Hours	<i>26</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours Shut in Calls	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i>  9:00 AM Worship  10:15 AM Sunday School Bible Class	<i>29</i> Meetings By Appointment	<i>30</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours  1:00 PM -4:00 PM Fellowship Hall Open to Community	<i>31</i> 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Office Hours  6:00 PM Confirmation Shut in Calls			

# Our Savior's Lutheran Church - January 2024 Newsletter

Goodbye to the old year 2023. There are so many things we could reflect on in the year past. Family, school, work, achievements, disappointments.... The list could stretch on for quite a while couldn't it? But on our list of things from 2023, tops would have to be the Lord and what he did for us. All of our sins - forgiven. Walking beside me every step of the way - keeping me safe and supporting me through what I saw as difficulties and what I saw as joy. All of those events, emotions and experiences designed to keep me close to him, to grow my faith, and to show me his care, concern and love for me. Thank you dear God for what you did for me as I lived last year as God's child.

Welcome to the new year - 2024. New Year's resolutions, hopes, dreams and plans. And again at the top of our list of priorities in the New Year is our Lord. This is an excellent time for us to take a breath and revisit our plans for the future. Take a moment, more than a moment and plan out how you will spend your time this year. When will I spend time in prayer? When will we set aside time to teach our children about the Lord who loves them? Will we strive to be a better husband, wife, father, mother, employer, employee. We will - because we live as God's child.

In 2024, set aside Sunday mornings for gathering in the Lord's house. Hear the gracious voice of the one who has made you his child. Be strengthened, strengthen others. Be encouraged, encourage others. Hear that your sins have been forgiven, learn to forgive others. Live as God's child.



1. Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.
2. Before our Father's throne  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.
3. We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.
4. When here our pathways part,  
We suffer bitter pain;  
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,  
We hope to meet again.
5. From sorrow, toil, and pain  
And sin we shall be free  
And perfect love and friendship reign  
Through all eternity.

## Advent/ Christmas



There are so many people to thank for all the time and effort that was done to make the church ready for Advent and for the celebration of our Savior's birth. The decorations were beautiful, the Christmas dinner was delicious - what a good crowd, the children did well at rehearsal - thanks parents, the bags of goodies, the help with all the service folders, wonderful new banners, music - lots of music and so many more details that were taken care of. THANK YOU to all who pitched in and to those who encouraged the workers. And a thank you in advance to those who will put the decorations away until our celebration next year.

## Epiphany

The Christmas services were certainly joyous, weren't they? That joy continues as we move into the season of Epiphany. The twelve days of Christmas culminate at the celebration of the Epiphany of our Lord on January 6th. The season of Epiphany highlights the appearance of the Son of God as the Savior of the whole world—both Jew and Gentile. God revealed the mystery of his person and his mission through the words and works of the Father, through the anointing and empowering of the Spirit, and through the preaching and miracles of Christ.



## Book Fair

The NPH Book fair was a resounding success. Many members were able to advantage of the savings, do some Christmas shopping, and acquire solid biblical resources for themselves and their families and friends. We will have to do this again next year. Perhaps a bit earlier so we have a bit more time to get our shopping in before Christmas.

## Sunday School/Confirmation

After a brief break over Christmas, both Sunday School and Confirmation are back up and running. In confirmation this January we will be reviewing the commandments and studying the Apostles Creed. Our Sunday School continues it's journey through the Old Testament. Don't forget the church library has resources for you also. There is quite an assortment of devotional materials in the church library that you can borrow to help assist you as you teach your children in your homes and reinforce the lessons that they are learning here at church.

### 61st Annual LWMS Convention

2024 Convention  
Registration Opening Soon!  
Visit [61.lwms.org](http://61.lwms.org).



## Bible Study

For the first two Sundays in January we will be going through the first two chapters of Matthew which includes Jesus' genealogy, His birth and the Biblical account of the visit of the Magi. This will be a good transition from Christmas into Epiphany.

Then we are going to start a new Bible Study on January 28<sup>th</sup> to help us focus on what our mission is personally and as a congregation. We will see how each of us, collectively and individually has a part in the ministry of the church. The Bible Study is entitled "Church - Mission - Ministry" Each lesson of the study is a section designed to be covered in one Sunday. That way, if you happen to miss one lesson, you can jump right back in with the next one. There is also a book from our publishing house that you can order which corresponds to the bible study. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the fellowship hall if you want one of the books. Here are the lessons:

Church-Mission-Ministry



The Family of God

Lesson One--There Is One Body

Lesson Two--What Does the Church Look Like?

Lesson Three--Walking in the Truth

Lesson Four--The Mission of the Church: Bear Witness to Christ

Lesson Five--There Will Be One Flock

Lesson Six--You Are a Holy Priesthood

Lesson Seven--The Holy Spirit Has Established the Public Ministry

Lesson Eight--That the Body of Christ May Be Built Up

## Finances

For those of you who asked, our giving came very close to meeting our budgeted projections. More importantly, God's people responded to Jesus' love with an extremely generous sharing of the treasures that he has entrusted to each us. Our expenses were also less than anticipated which let us finish the year in good financial shape. We exceeded our goals for both our Congregational Mission Offerings and our Great Plains High School commitment. Once we get through making sure all the numbers are correct, we will make the final totals available. Our Wisconsin Synod is also on track to make the projected giving goals that were submitted.

To God be the glory for all of this !

Serving you as we all serve Christ



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