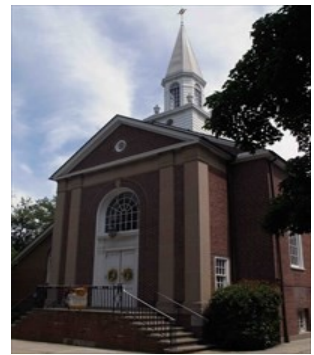




The Parish *Messenger*

APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR
HADDONFIELD, NJ



Holy Week and Easter Worship – Now Live and by Livestream

It is hard to believe it has been a year since many have been inside the sanctuary to worship due to the Coronavirus pandemic, but providing there are no new surges in cases and infection rates, we plan to hold worship services both in person and by livestream this year for Holy Week and Easter. Those attending worship in person need to wear a mask covering nose and mouth and sanitize their hands upon entering the building. There are assigned pews in which to sit and each service will have unique pandemic protocols we will follow in conjunction with the unique features of the service. Here are the details.

Maundy Thursday, April 1 at Noon & 7:30pm: This service has three foci and we encourage you to participate with the following suggestions:

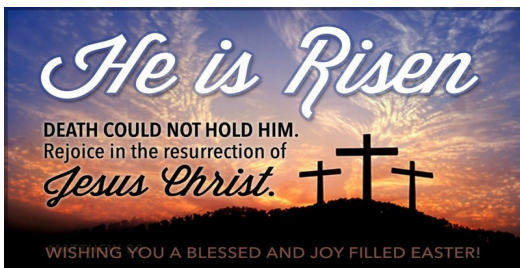
Absolution by Laying on of Hands: Whether you are in the church or at home you are invited at the time of absolution to place your hands on your head, as Pastor Wayne proclaims the absolution in worship. This may seem weird but you are encouraged to imagine you are feeling the hands of Jesus on your head, offering forgiveness.

Foot Washing: For those in the sanctuary this will be more of an observation than participation part of worship. However, for those participating by livestream you might consider placing your feet in a basin of warm water during the foot washing portion of the service. Have a towel handy to dry off as well.

Holy Communion: Individually packaged Holy Communion cups of grape juice with wafers will be located in the reserved pews for participants to take during the Meal portion of the worship. For those participating by livestream we invite you to have some bread and wine/grape juice available to share and eat when Holy Communion is celebrated in worship so you might feel connected to the Lord's Supper being shared by the body of Christ on this day.

Good Friday Tenebrae, April 2 at 7:30pm: We will hold the service of shadows on Good Friday that includes the reading of John's Passion narrative as well as the Bidding Prayer and prayers centered on the seven last words of Christ on the cross. While those in the sanctuary will have kneelers to use we invite livestream participants to create a way for you to kneel during the Bidding Prayer so you might experience the physical penitential aspect of this worship. You may also choose to light some candles in your home and darken the room where you are watching the livestream.

Resurrection of Our Lord, April 4 at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00am: Please refer to the directions below for details on reserving "tickets" for the worship service time you and your family plan to attend. Social distancing protocols and the anticipated larger attendance dictated we utilize a means to assign seating for those attending to maximize each worship attendance. The livestream worship will be at 9:30 for those celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord from home, and you are encouraged to prepare for Holy Communion worship with elements of bread and wine (or grape juice) for the Meal portion of worship.



Easter Sunday Attendance: Reserved Tickets Required

Easter Sunday Services will be held on Sunday, April 4, 2021, at 8:00am; 9:30am; and 11:00am. The livestream service on Facebook will be at the 9:30am service.

Reserved tickets will be required for all services. They can be attained by contacting Sandy in the church office, 856-429-5122, if you do not have internet access. Please leave a message if she does not answer. For those that have internet access please sign up at:

8:00 Sign up- <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/144894763137>

9:30 Sign up- <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/144900638711>

11:00 Sign up - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/144900674819>

We can accommodate 70 to 100 people, depending on social distancing logistics, at each service, so that we can maintain 6ft apart per household in each pew. We will e-mail you your pew assignment.

There will be **assigned seats to maximize attendance**, those 2 and up will be **required to wear a mask** and **sanitize hands**. Sanitization stations will be located at each church entrance. Please enter through the sliding doors. If you intend on using the elevator, there will be sanitizing wipes by the elevator doors. Please wipe down the buttons that you touched inside and outside of the elevator. There will be **no** Nursery available.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord, proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs, and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.



“But We Had Hoped...”

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

As I write this it has been a year since the Coronavirus pandemic forced our world to shut down. It is also a little over a month until our daughter's wedding date. At the time the doctors and scientists said it was doubtful the pandemic would be over by that date, but we had hoped a cure would come more quickly than predicted. The reception hall said it likely would not be able to accommodate our group size and dancing would need to be socially distanced, but we had hoped both the ceremony and reception celebration would be mask-free and jam packed with joyous dancers. Yes, we had hoped. But now, like so many, we will wait until later in the year for such a celebration.

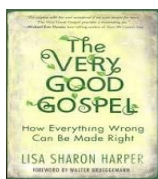
“But we had hoped.” How many people have uttered these words in the last year? But we had hoped the virus would not touch our lives. But we had hoped mom would get off the ventilator. But we had hoped not to lose our job. But we had hoped the kids would be back in the classroom by now. But we had hoped the senior trip would be possible and we could have a prom. But we had hoped to be in church to worship by Easter, by Christmas, by Easter.

On the same day as Jesus' resurrection two of his disciples were on the road to Emmaus when the risen Christ joins them on their journey. “What are you talking about?” Jesus asks. They explain the events of the last few days, of Jesus who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God who was handed over by the leaders to be condemned to death and crucified. “But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.” It wasn't just Jesus who died on the cross for these disciples. It was their belief in a Messiah who would redeem Israel from their Roman occupiers. Their hope was in a national messiah, not a Savior who would defeat death itself for the sake of the whole world. Even after Jesus interprets the scriptures to reveal this truth to them it isn't until he breaks bread with them that his identity is disclosed. It is the Lord!

The disciples' definition of the Messiah was short-sighted. Jesus didn't come to save Israel from Roman occupation. Jesus came to save the world from the power of sin and death by dying on the cross and rising from the tomb. And because Jesus died and rose again we need no longer fear death having the last word in our lives. Of all the things we could hope for in our lives is there anything greater than death being defeated so that we no longer fear it?

We have experienced many manifestations of death in our lives over the last year. Half a million dead from Covid-19. Jobs lost. Home evictions or foreclosures. Celebrating holidays, milestone birthdays, graduations, weddings and other major events without the grandness or pomp we had dreamed about. Yet, because Jesus rose from the tomb those “little deaths” do not have the last word when it comes to our work, where we live, family gatherings, and other events of life that have “died” in the last year. We are Easter people who believe and trust in a Savior who saved us from death itself by joining us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in the waters of Baptism. All that for which we “had hoped” pales in comparison to the Easter resurrection hope our risen Jesus offers the world.

We still have a journey to travel of this pandemic. We still may have hopes that may or may not come to fruition. But thanks be to God that when our ultimate hope is in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus, then there is no “death” we experience that God cannot provide new life. I pray you experience this hope in these days of the Easter season and beyond, and may the peace of God comfort and console you when your hearts are heavy with sorrow or despair. For Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia! Amen.



“The Very Good Gospel” – Bible Discussion for Daily Living Continues Through April

“God once declared everything in the world ‘very good.’ Can you imagine it?” That's the question behind Lisa Sharon Harper's book *The Very Good Gospel: How everything wrong can be made right*. “Through careful exploration of the biblical text, particularly the first three chapters of Genesis... Harper shows us what ‘very good’ can look like today – in real time. If you would like to explore how the theme of God's shalom is woven throughout both the Old and New Testaments you are invited to join either the Monday night (7:30-9:00) or Wednesday morning (9:30-11:00) Bible Discussion for Daily Living group for the 8-week study of Harper's book, *The Very Good Gospel*. Each week the group will discuss the content of the chapter(s) assigned as well as share insights discovered in completing the Reflections section located at the end of each chapter. Participants are encouraged to write their responses to the Reflections questions in a journal for easy reference as well as further reflection. The dates for meeting and the assigned readings are as follows:

April 5/7 EASTER BREAK – NO CLASSES

April 12/14 Chapter 8 Shalom for Broken Families

Chapter 9 Shalom and Race

April 26/28 Chapter 12 Shalom and Life...and Death...and Life - Conclusion

April 19/21 Chapter 10 Shalom Between Nations

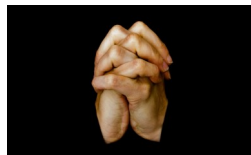
Chapter 11 Shalom and Witnessing Peace

Paperback copies of the book are still available at the church outside the Church Office and can be purchased for \$15/book. It is also available as an e-book if you prefer to read books by electronic readers or tablets. For more information about the discussion please contact Pastor Wayne Zschech. **Join Zoom Meeting-Monday 7:30-9:00 PM**

Meeting ID: 826 2246 3999, Password: 130190 - One tap mobile: +13126266799,,82622463999#,,,0#,,130190# US

Join Zoom Meeting-Wednesday 9:30-11:00 AM

Meeting ID: 144 640 250, Password: 830512 - One tap mobile: +19292056099,,144640250#,,,0#,,830512# US



Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Jim Nelson, Lee Sargent, Mike & Arlene Stolarick, Carolyn Lichter, Walt Haswell, Dick Wilson, Randi Gordon, Shirley Stambaugh, Don & Caryl Wallace, Ethel Boyce, Doris Iarossi, Joyce Odendahl, *Amelia Marchese, Natalie Doherty, Albert Kern, Stephen Dempsey, Anne Hagner, Danny Korhumel, Michelle Mavis, John Rell, Kim, Lynn Hoppe Kaminski, Larry Thatcher, Scott Hansen, Tom Levecchia, Abby Phelps, Bill Getty, Faith Marum DelPercio, Glenn Marshall, Carmela Cranford, Natalie Parker, Kathleen Kelly, Jacob Berard, Keith Maull, Connie Verner, Jeffrey Gross, Judy Yerkes, Daniel Mandel, Susan Maziuka, Saunders Family, Ed Miller, Aasiyah Bey, Barbara Kerrane, Sandy Ferguson, Joanne Horn, Terry Mitchell, Ken Koehler, Rocco D'Alessandro Jr., Bette Roncace, Nicholas Juele, Frank Marche, Beckham Williams, Ed Clark, Col. Fred C. Anderson, Fred Moffitt, Lily Gregorio, Julie Bartlett, Jimmy Lombardo, John Daggan, Betty Schurmann, Elva Mastrando, Ryan Roberts, Ann & Len Jones, Chuck Atkinson, Sophia Campos, William T family, David Wenck*

Easter Lily Delivery Volunteers Needed April 5 at 9:30

Help is needed to deliver Easter lilies to those in our congregation who could use a "touch" of resurrection life and love this spring, especially after such a long year of social distancing. Volunteers need to arrive at church by 9:30 in the morning and gather in the Parish Hall. This is a great family event so parents, consider making this a ministry event for your children as well since they'll be on break. Contact Marianne Aponte: maraponte@verizon.net, 856-429-3789 if you plan to participate in this ministry of care and encouragement.



Pantry During Covid-19 Quarantine

Pantry Update: We are continuing the suspension of the Pantry process during the closure of the church. "Depending on the size of the family, we are sending out \$100-\$200 Acme Gift Cards to each of the Pantry Families on a monthly basis. The food items that have been donated are also being distributed."

REMINDER: Altar Guild Checks Now Written to "LCOS"

In keeping with the recommendations made during Our Savior's last audit the Altar Guild closed their bank account and transferred their funds to the Mission Investment Fund Dedicated Account overseen by the Congregation Council. As such, all **altar flower memorials** being paid by check need to be made payable to "LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR" with "ALTAR GUILD" written in the **Memo section** of the check. The Altar Guild leadership will receive weekly updates of any checks received for flower memorials and will continue to oversee the purchase of worship supplies and replacement of ecclesiastical items (communion wafers, candle oil, linens, baptismal candles, etc.)



March Council Actions Synopsis

At the regular Congregation Council meeting in March the following proposals were discussed and actions taken.

- Juhan Runne and John Drozdal will coordinate the updating of our Congregation Constitution and By-laws in accordance with the one adopted by the 2019 Churchwide Assembly.
- The church van will have the power window repaired before making it available for sale.
- The Payroll Protection Program application was accepted by Republic Bank and approval is pending. Since the meeting the full \$43,500 loan has been granted and deposited into the church checking account. The Personnel Committee will meet to discuss the impact to the 2021 Financial Plan as approved at the Annual Meeting.
- Danielle Deery brought forward a proposal for the congregation to honor June Pride Month that would focus on symbols of support, education about the LGBTQIA community, and outreach opportunities. See article on page 8.
- Altar Guild recommended the offerings provided in the HOLY COMMUNION special envelopes be deposited to the newly created Altar Guild line item in the Dedicated Account to facilitate their purchase of worship elements such as wafers and wine. The Council agreed to this change in procedure.



There is a simple, convenient way for you to get preventive health screenings and learn your risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions.

These painless screenings go beyond your regular check-up to identify dangerous plaque buildup or blockage, a major risk factor for stroke and heart disease. The screenings are accurate, affordable and will give you valuable information about your health that you can share with your doctor.

We are pleased to host Life Line Screening, who will be on site on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at Lutheran Church of Our Savior to conduct these valuable screenings.

These 5 vital screenings are offered for only \$149 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. If you register today, you will receive a \$10 discount.

Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441 or text the word "circle" to 797979.



SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School: Since this is another year we are unable to do an Easter Egg Hunt, with the help of the Youth Group, we figured out a new idea to get the Sunday School kids engaged. But this year it is open to all ages, even high school! This is what was sent out to the families.

As most of you all know, I LOVE our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Unfortunately in 2019 we had to cancel because of a storm, 2020 & 2021 did not happen because of Covid. So! I thought of a way (with the help of the Youth Group) to do a "Easter Egg Hunt" this year. Has your family ever played the ABC game while on a road trip? Well it will be kind of like that. You and your child/ren will walk or drive around your town and find signs with the letters of the alphabet on them. For example, S is for Starbucks. When you get your letter, snap a picture and send it to me. All pictures must be in to me by April 2nd at 7:00pm. Every letter is worth a piece of candy. If they get all 26 letters, they will get 26 pieces of candy and a JUMBO bar. You will come to church on April 3rd between 10:00am to 11:30am to pick up a prepackaged bag of candy. Please make sure you wear a mask when you pick up your bag. Please RSVP to me by March 25th.



Thank you to everyone who is helping make The ABC's of Lent a great success! I hope you are all enjoying it! If your child is interested in Virtual Sunday School, it is still not too late!! You can join every once in a while. We meet every Sunday at 9:30 via Zoom and it lasts about 15 minutes. I know that your children are tired of the internet by Sunday morning, so I try to keep it short. But after they are done with the virtual part, they can go have a discussion with their parents to better understand the story they just heard. If you have any questions or if your child wants to join us, please let me know by emailing me at LCOSJaime@gmail.com.

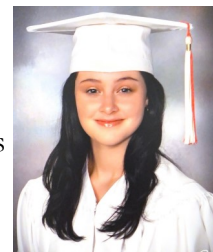


Oasis/Confirmation: Congratulations to Sophia Howard! She has been nominated to be the Youth Representative for the New Jersey Synod at Churchwide Assembly in the Summer of 2022.

Unfortunately we will have to postpone our Annual Youth Sunday this year. Seniors please keep an eye out for information for your Senior Blessing Service.

April Youth Group Schedule:

- 4- No Meeting
- 11- Bible Study
- 18- Catch up
- 25- Game Night



Remember, it is never too late to join Oasis. It is open to all 9th to 12th graders. If your child is interested, please email me at LCOSJaime@Gmail.com.

VBS: We will be having Virtual VBS again this summer. Our theme this year is "On Earth as in Heaven!" It is coming from ELCA's World Hunger. I am excited for this program so the kids can learn a little more about The Lord's Prayer. Please keep an eye out in May's Messenger about dates and more information.



When I started to think about what Bible story to focus on this month, I was torn on the story of "Doubting Thomas" and "The Great Commission". But after praying over it, I decided to focus on "The Great Commission", you can find this in Luke 24:36-53, we will be learning about it in Sunday School on April 18th. When you first read the story you hear Jesus telling his Disciples to go out and tell the world His story. But hearing this story now, is it that easy? Do you sometimes struggle to talk about your faith? If you said yes, **YOU ARE NOT ALONE!** I am sure if you ask any Pastor or worker for the church, they may say they feel uncomfortable talking about their faith at times. I know I have! So what can we do to start to feel more comfortable when talking about our faith and our love for God? We could start by talking about it more in our homes. One big way to start is by saying prayers before bed, or a blessing before a meal. Now you may say, Miss Jaime, we already do that! So, how about you take turns doing your blessings before a meal. Is there a set person in your family that always says the blessing? I know in my family, it is always me. Next meal, have someone else try out praying before your meal. It may feel awkward at first, but be supportive and help them if they want to prepare their prayer beforehand.

So how else can you start talking to friends about God and your faith? You can invite them to join us for worship on Facebook Live. Also, you can ask them to join you for Virtual VBS, they can meet you outside to do the lessons with you every day, and even have a snack while doing it. A super easy way is to ask your parents to share your video of ABCs of Lent. They can see you in a video and read a Bible verse, and pray with you! I cannot wait to hear the ideas you come up with on how you can share your faith and your love of God with others. I know this may be hard to try, but always remember what God says to us in Luke "Go everywhere in the world and teach people about me. And remember, I will always be with you!" I look forward to the Sunday that we can invite your friends to Sunday School with you, in person. But until then you can always invite them to Virtual Sunday School. If your child has never joined us for Sunday School, it is never too late. Please email me at LCOSJaime@gmail.com, for more information!

Miss you all! Miss Jaime



Sounds of Hope

Facebook has a feature called “On This Day” that shows you what you posted 1, 2, 3, etc. years ago on that day. On March 12, 2020 we had posted a picture of the church sign that read “Worship suspended until April 9. Join us on FB Live.” We had no idea what was in store, but in the last couple of weeks many of us have had anniversaries of that moment when you realized life as we knew it was about to change. As we look back on a year full of waiting, disappointment, loneliness, anticipation, and grief, please know that we have held you in our prayers and continue to do so. God was with you in every lonely moment of last year and is with you as we are walking into this new period.

Similar to the flowers raising their little heads through the earth, it seems like there are these little signs of this period of hope and light popping up everywhere. Every day I hear of more friends, colleagues, and parishioners who have been able to get vaccinated. On the anniversary of us shutting down, the choir met in the sanctuary to have a short rehearsal (just about everyone participating is vaccinated, and everyone was distanced and masked) to join our voices in song for the first time in a year. Despite everyone complaining that they were out of shape vocally, it was still some of the most beautiful music I had heard after a year of choral silence in the sanctuary.

So, slowly, the hope is growing. The songs and sounds are coming back. On Monday night, 5-5:45pm, the choir room is filled with the ringing and laughter of our children bell choir, and on Thursday evenings, 7-8pm, our adult bell choir is back to ringing beautiful anthems. The adult choir sings after that. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound.

I hope that you can hear the sounds of hope in the air – the birds singing, the kids out in the streets as they are starting to play outside again, the choir anthems that are offered virtually (but one glorious day will be sung live in the sanctuary), the neighbors offering a hello, a baby giggling. As the hymn goes, “All earth is hopeful.” May you carry this hope forward in you.

Mustard Seed Community Childcare at Our Savior UPDATE

At Our Savior’s Congregational Annual Meeting in January we approved the establishment of a separate 501c3 extended day kindergarten childcare during the school year and a summer childcare for K-Grade 5 children in order to pick up where Haddonfield Child Care had left off when they were forced to close due to the pandemic. Thus the Mustard Seed Community Childcare at Our Savior was sown, and since then it has germinated and growing quite well. The Steering Committee has morphed into the Board of Trustees with the following members:

President: Edythe Austermuhl (LCOS member)

Vice President: Roberta (Robbi) Acampora (former HCC Board President)

Secretary: Judy Caravelli (LCOS member)

Treasurer: Colleen Gross (LCOS member)

Ex Officio Members: Pastor Wayne Zschech, Jaime Frazier (LCOS Dir. of Youth & Family Ministry), and Donna Marie Clancy (former Director of HCC & Director of MSCCOS)

In the last two months the Board has successfully received the Certificate of Incorporation, filed to be included in the ELCA 501c3 Group ruling, opened a bank account at Republic Bank, launched their website (www.mustardseedccos.org), and begun accepting registrations for both the summer camp childcare and fall session for kindergarten extended program childcare. They will be promoting a Dine-and-Donate at Passariello’s on Wednesday’s in the coming weeks so check your emails for the start date.

Want to help get the word out? **We need volunteers to place yard signs on their lawns** promoting the Summer Camp Childcare program for Haddonfield and surrounding boroughs as well as the Kindergarten Extended Day Childcare program for Haddonfield school district students in the fall. Your lawn would be an ideal location if you:

- Live on a well-traveled street with respect to both car and foot traffic.
- Live near a Haddonfield elementary school where parents would likely see the sign when either dropping off or picking up their child from school.

You can either pick up the sign at the church or one of our Board members will drop it off. If you live in Haddonfield you will need the sign that promotes both childcare options. If you live outside of Haddonfield you will need the sign that promotes the Summer Camp option only.

Want to know more about the program itself? See the article on page 9 in this issue about both programs and how to register your child for one or both.

Lutheran Church of Our Savior American Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, April 2nd - 12:00pm-5:00pm

Appointments are preferred.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT ONLINE


sign up at www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: **Lutheran Church of Our Savior**



April 2021 Regular Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
8:00 & 10:30 AM Sanctuary Worship & 10:30 Facebook Live 9:15 Reflection Zoom 6:30 PM Confirmation/Oasis	5:00-5:30 Children Bell Choir 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM Bible Discussion Zoom	10:30 AM Pastors' Pericope-Zoom 2:00 PM Staff Meeting - Zoom	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Bible Study - Zoom	6:45-7:45 PM Adult Bell Choir 8:00 PM – 9:30 PM Adult Vocal Choir - Zoom		

April 2021 Special Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Maundy Thursday 7:30 Maundy Thursday Worship	2 Good Friday 12:00-5:00 Blood Drive 7:30 Good Friday Worship	3
4 Easter  8, 9:30 & 11:00 AM Easter Services No Confirmation/Oasis	5 Office Closed	6 7:00 Social Ministry Mtg.	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 7:00 PM Church Council	14	15 Messenger Deadline	16	17
18 Confirmation Adult Huddle	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 No Confirmation	26	27 Messenger Mailing	28	29	30	

The monthly calendar is subject to change. Please check the weekly calendar posted in the Sunday bulletin.



Help Wanted!

Reopening of the sanctuary!

Looking for a way to make a difference?

With the sanctuary open, the Worship and Music Committee is looking for a volunteer to manage the ushers. Please call or email Cathe Bare at 609-238-6527 or baremc@verizon.net.

I look forward to sharing all current information with you!

Congregational Support: January – February 2021

<u>Year</u>	<u>Average YTD Attendance</u>	<u>Total General Fund Offerings</u>
2019	160	\$ 76,581
2020	186	\$ 72,087
2021	184 *	\$ 67,510

* Since church closed in March 2020, weekly attendance is calculated using a formula provided by the ELCA: number of one- minute views on our livestream multiplied by 2 to get the number of people worshipping by livestream. Add the actual number of people joining the Reflections service by Zoom and the actual number of people attending the 8:00 AM service in person to get the total number in attendance for any given week.

Thank You for Being Stewards of God's Love

Thank you to all those who are mailing in their offering envelopes or giving electronically. In these difficult times, Our Savior's faithful givers are sharing their offerings so that others may know God's love. We may be socially distant, but our faith and commitment continue to be at work in the world.



Stewards of God's Love God Comes Down, God's People Look Inward

Well, here we are facing another pandemic spring. It's been a year with lots of time to think about priorities, choices and needs. And while the immediate future looks a little brighter than this time last year, there are still a lot of unknowns and issues to be resolved in our lives. It's still a time when we are forced to think about what we value and where we want to put our time and God-given gifts.

In the religious tradition, we are in a period of discernment. Where is God's Spirit leading each of us?

When we affirm our faith at Confirmation, we answer the question "Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism," by saying "We do, and we ask God to help and guide us." And so begins a daily claiming and re-discovering of the God-given gifts of discipleship. These gifts overlap and are intertwined, as one gift flows into another and into faithful living. Such gifts can be transformative and bring unexpected changes.

That is especially true as we ponder our own personal God-given gifts. How might our lives please God? How can we use our gifts to help God's creation?

At Our Savior we spent last year recognizing that God comes down to us in love, signified when we make the sign of the cross and bring our hands down from our heads to our hearts. This year we're keeping our hands at our hearts and turning inward to God to discern his plan for our lives.

We are mistaken if we think that stewardship of God's gifts is only about money and giving, as important as those are. Stewardship is just as much about what God-given gifts of talent, interests and abilities go into making us who we are—each of us God's unique and special individuals.

This spring season of awakening life and new growth calls us to spend time discerning what special talents, skills, and interests God has given us to do his work. Who would benefit if we share those abilities? How can our gifts make us good disciples? What is God calling us to share?

No matter our age, we are all on this journey of pursuing God's plan for us and can still question what else God has in store. Maybe there's a new adventure in our future!

FINANCIAL STATEMENT SUMMARY: FEBRUARY 2021

	2021	FEBRUARY	YTD	YEAR END	YTD
REVENUE	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>ESTIMATE</u>	<u>VARIANCE</u>
Offerings: Envelopes & Loose	412,300	26,010	67,510	412,300	0
<u>Other Income</u>	<u>14,100</u>	<u>1,010</u>	<u>1,220</u>	<u>14,100</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	426,400	27,020	68,730	426,400	0
EXPENSE					
Staff Salary & Benefits	305,091	24,986	50,035	308,091	3,000
Property Management	45,000	5,363	8,326	43,000	(2,000)
Administration	41,800	3,661	7,873	41,800	0
TOTAL EXPENSE	451,460	38,395	75,269	452,406	1,000
OPERATIONAL SURPLUS/					
DEFICIT	(25,060)	(11,375)	(6,539)	(26,006)	(1,000)



Sisters in Spirit: Taking Care of God's Creatures

The pandemic continues to create need in so many areas of our lives. Even the animals have been impacted, as families realize they cannot care for their pets and are forced to give them up to animal welfare groups. At the same time organizations that rescue and care for animals have been especially hard hit as donations and funding have dropped.

To help meet this need, Sisters in Spirit is collecting pet supplies and donations throughout the month of April for the Animal Welfare Association in Voorhees. Please join us in helping to care for God's creation and show love for our animal friends.

The Animal Welfare Association, a private, non-profit animal welfare organization, operates the oldest and largest low-cost spay/neuter clinic, adoption center and no-kill animal shelter in South Jersey. Through a variety of innovative programs including adoptions, veterinary services, pet therapy, trap-neuter-return and humane education, AWA works to ensure that animal companionship is accessible to all.

AWA's donation wish list includes

Canned Cat Food (without red dye)
 Dry Cat and Kitten Food (without red dye)
 Dry Dog and Puppy Food (without red dye)
 Non-Scoop/Non-Clumping Clay Cat Litter
 Towels, Wash Cloths
 Bedsheets (Non-Fitted Sheets Preferred)
 Bleach, Paper Towels
 Disposable Paper Plates, Bowls, Trays, Spoons/Knives
 (During construction of the new shelter,
 AWA is unable to wash dishes or utensils)
 Peanut Butter (No Xylitol), Kong and Nylabone Toys

AWA CANNOT ACCEPT

Large Blankets/Comforters, Large Pillows/Bedding
 Large Dog Beds
 Carpets/Rug Remnants
 Expired Pet Food
 Soiled Items
 Electronics/Appliances
 Tires/Car Parts
 Human Clothing

Here's a chance to do a little spring cleaning and get rid of gently used sheets, towels and washcloths.

Look for the box labeled AWA Donations on the Parish Hall stage to leave your gifts.

Shopping for animal supplies not your thing? Want to make a monetary tax-deductible gift to a non-profit? AWA welcomes checks and gift cards of any kind. They may be sent to: Animal Welfare Association, 509 Centennial Blvd, Voorhees, NJ 08043. Thanks for your help!

Join a Committee to Plan Celebrations for Pride Month

Many of you may be familiar with June as Pride Month, a celebration of and show of support for the LGBTIA community. Some of you may have attended gay pride parades in Philly or NYC or even marched in them yourselves. And if you are not familiar with Pride month, that is ok too! I am proposing that this year of 2021 be the first annual celebration of Pride Month at LCOS and I hope that you will join me. Along my journey as an ally (supporter of the gay community), I have learned a lot about the LGBTIA community. Growing up in the Midwest in the 90s, I did not know anyone who was openly gay with one exception. There was not a Pride group at my high school and I went on to a college with few openly gay students as well. In other words, my personal experiences of getting to know those in the gay community was limited throughout much of my early life. It was not until well into adulthood that I knew of and got to know openly gay individuals.

While my journey has evolved, so has our country. There are movies and shows on TV about gay characters, both scripted and reality, (Queer Eye and Schitt's Creek are favorites of mine), along with more vocal support and changing laws (marriage equality in 2005). And you may be just starting on your journey, which is great! We can all go together, at our own pace, as we do this work.

It is important to note that I am in no way an expert or have all of the answers. I am still learning and growing in my understanding, but I want to take some steps to be supportive in a more public way this year in our church community. I recently brought this idea to council for their approval and received their support.

Though our church should always be a welcoming place for all, we as Lutherans have been a leader on this issue in particular. While many churches continue to openly denigrate the gay community, the ELCA released a statement in support of the gay community in 2009. (If you want to read the ELCA statement on human sexuality, please go here: [ADD LINK!](#)) Our church welcomes gay clergy and officiates at gay weddings because this is what Jesus calls us to do as his followers: Love your neighbor.

My proposal to council included three areas for activities: symbols, education and outreach. While I do not think that we can, or should, accomplish everything on my list this year, I would like to continue to build on these themes as we continue our work together in coming years. For example, one of my ideas for this year for symbols would be to fly the rainbow flag outside of the church during June. If you would like to join this effort, please reach out to me by email:

danielledeery@gmail.com or contact Pastor Wayne. Thank you! Danielle Deery



Mustard Seed Community Childcare at Our Savior KED – Kindergarten Extended Day Program

Knowing your child has a nurturing environment to grow and explore is not only a concern for parents of Haddonfield but to the staff of Mustard Seed Community Child Care at Our Savior. Our KED Program will support and enhance your child's learning experience for their Kindergarten year. Depending on your child's Kindergarten session at their school they will attend our KED program either prior to their going to school or after their day at school. We provide transportation from their school to the Lutheran Church for the morning Kindergarten attendees or transportation from the KED Program to their school for afternoon Kindergarten attendees. We also offer before care for those children who will be coming to KED in the morning and after care for those children who are in our afternoon KED Program. You may choose how many days a week you want your child to attend.

KED Monthly Tuition Rates

5 Days a Week - \$604
4 Days a Week - \$513
3 Days a Week - \$422
2 Days a Week - \$302
1 Day a Week - \$182

Before Care Monthly Tuition Rates

5 Days a Week - \$125
4 Days a Week - \$107
3 Days a Week - \$88
2 Days a Week - \$63
1 Day a Week - \$38

After Care Monthly Tuition Rates 3:00 – 5:00pm

5 Days a Week - \$206
4 Days a Week - \$175
3 Days a Week - \$144
2 Days a Week - \$103
1 Day a Week - \$62

After Care Monthly Tuition Rates 3:00 – 6:00pm

5 Days a Week - \$293
4 Days a Week - \$249
3 Days a Week - \$205
2 Days a Week - \$148
1 Day a Week - \$88

There is a \$100 non –refundable registration fee per family

For more information visit www.mustardseedccos.org or contact Donna Marie Clancy at director@mustardseedccos.org

Mustard Seed Community Childcare

KINDERGARTEN EXT DAY: Fall

SUMMER CAMP: June – August

MustardSeedCCOS.org

Mustard Seed Community Childcare at Our Savior Introduces Summer Day Camp!

Do you need something for your children to do this summer? Looking for an environment that is safe, fun, and enriching for your children? Our new childcare ministry has an answer for you. Mustard Seed CCOS is offering a Summer Day Camp right at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior. Camp operates Monday through Friday June 21 to August 27, 2021. Camp hours are 9:00am to 5:00pm with extended care being offered in both the morning (7:30 -9:00am) and the evening (5:00 – 6:00pm). Campers will explore clubs, games, STEAM programming, arts & crafts and more.

Camp Weekly Tuition Rates

5 Days a Week - \$250
4 Days a Week - \$200
3 Days a Week - \$180
2 Days a Week - \$120
1 Day a Week - \$60

After Care Weekly Tuition Rates

5 Days a Week - \$125
4 Days a Week - \$107
3 Days a Week - \$88
2 Days a Week - \$63
1 Day a Week - \$38

Before Care Weekly Tuition Rates

5 Days a Week - \$130
4 Days a Week - \$112
3 Days a Week - \$93
2 Days a Week - \$68
1 Day a Week - \$43

Mustard Seed Community Childcare

SUMMER CAMP

June – August

MustardSeedCCOS.org

There is a \$100 non –refundable registration fee per family

For more information visit www.mustardseedccos.org or contact Donna Marie Clancy at director@mustardseedccos.org.



Memorial Gifts Fund Corner

We will be using this spot in the monthly newsletter to help keep the congregation abreast of the mission support being funded to various ministry areas by your memorial gifts.

Memorial Gift Fund is made up of many sub-funds and congregation members can make contributions or memorial gifts into any of its sub-funds. Gifts can be as simple as a check donation or as complex as a donation of stocks that have increased in value.

This month's focus is on the sub-fund called Patterson-Plotzke Scholarship Fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide scholarships to promising high school graduates from the City of Camden. For the 2020-2021 school year the fund has awarded \$13,000 in scholarships while supporting the Lucy Scholar-

ship and Urban Promise organizations who manage the selection criteria and qualifications of students who receive these scholarships. In the past, we have had some scholarship recipients visit us during service or have been featured in the monthly newsletter to have a more personal relationship with the recipients of these scholarships. We will continue that practice in 2021.

If you would like more information about the Patterson-Plotzke Scholarship Fund- please contact any member of the Memorial Gift Board.

Brandon Rivera, 03/15/2021, AOH FollowUp

My name is Brandon Rivera and I am currently going to Rutgers-New Brunswick. I am finishing my last semester of senior year becoming a 2021 graduate in biomedical engineering. Unfortunately my last semester of Undergraduate will be at home due to the pandemic. Classes are all online, the fall semester (first full semester during Covid) was met with a lot of resistance. Many instructors were not fully prepared for the transition to online-only, especially for degree specific course work. Improvements were made for the spring semester. Interestingly my time in New-Brunswick was not great to start off. When I transferred from Rutgers-Camden to Rutgers-New Brunswick my performance in many classes was subpar. But the more acquainted myself with the higher set of expectations, with every semester I consistently improved my grades. With last semester becoming my best yet. I am excited to finally be graduating but I will miss the experience of connecting with new people of different interests and the people I met through my courses. My plans after graduating is to become full time at the internship I have been working at every summer and winter break. There I helped work on orthotic braces for patients. I hope to eventually begin working on prosthetic limbs in the future. Thank you the Church of Our Savior for your prayers and making me a recipient of the AOH Scholarship.

Dear Church of Our Savior and Ambassador of Hope Scholarship Board,

I am writing this letter to show my gratitude as a 2020 recipient of the AOH scholarship. Thanks to the scholarship, I was able to continue my education throughout the hardship that my family faced during the pandemic. I am currently a junior majoring in business management at the Rutgers Business School in New Brunswick. The spring 2020 semester was quite an adjustment for everyone but having teachers who were understanding made it a lot better. Now I am in my spring semester of my Junior year, having to be remote for three (3) semesters in total, and I find it can be a struggle to stay motivated and seek help with learning during these times. I honestly think this is the hardest semester I have ever been in because it seems like everything is self-taught.

One thing I am looking forward to is hearing that my classes will be back on campus in the Fall of 2021 because as these classes get more difficult, I will struggle even more so I feel a traditional learning setting will help me a lot. Although I will say my Fall 2020 semester was not that bad because I finished on Dean's List, I still miss being on campus. With all that being said, I hope that everyone continues to keep me in their prayers and I am grateful for all your help. Thank you, Church of Our Savior for providing the funds for the scholarship. Sincerely, **Bryanna Graham, 2020 recipient**

Dear Church of Our Savior,

It gives me great pride and sense of accomplishment to be able to write that I have successfully obtained my Bachelors of Science degree. Majoring in history and business management, I completed my final semester at Albright this past December, graduating with the class of 2020. It was a challenging four years but with the support of people like yourselves and the UrbanPromise family I was able to prevail and become the first in my family to graduate from college. Now I am shadowing businessmen and networking with influential men and women in my field with the hopes of starting my own business.

My most recent semester was not quite how most seniors imagine their final semester before graduation. Due to the pandemic I was sent home abruptly during my second to last semester exactly one year ago. My professor's method of teaching and the entire curriculum changed drastically. It was not an easy transition switching to a completely remote collegiate experience. With hard work and the patience of my professors i managed to graduate with a 3.0 gpa. I have reached the summit of this educational journey I've embarked on. I am truly thankful for the consistent support of the church over these past four years. I am blessed to be a recipient of the church's support while I pursued my education. The church's contribution to my education has allowed me to achieve my goal of obtaining my degree and has truly changed my life. Thank you very much for believing in me and sticking it out with me during this journey, God bless.

Sincerely, **Pierre Joseph**

Environmental Challenge



For God's People and God's Planet and God's Animals

Earth Day – April 22nd -- Restore Our Earth

Plastic pollution is one of the most damaging environmental problems that we face today !!
Most people by now know that single-use plastic grocery bags are going the way of the dinosaurs.

Although they are “convenience,” they are extremely inconvenient for the health of all God's People, Animals, and His Planet.

Just keep some reusable bags in your trunk for your “convenience” when you stop to shop.

Oh, by the way ... planting a tree is fun and truly helpful to our environment too.

BE THE CHANGE GOD'S WORLD NEEDS

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior

204 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033 (856)429-5122 (voice) (856)429-7245(fax) www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org

Worship 9:15 AM Zoom Reflections, & 10:30 AM Facebook Live

CHURCH COUNCIL

John Drozdal	Vice President/Personnel	john.drozdal@gmail.com	612-804-7324
Paul Knauer	Treasurer	prknauer@gmail.com	856-427-6595
Shannon Foskett	Financial Secretary	sgfoskett@yahoo.com	856-904-1828
Ann Querns	Secretary	ahodulik@gmail.com	856-905-5115
Rich Morris	Christian Education	richardmorris2073@gmail.com	856-429-1175
Barbara Standke	Communications	barjon302@gmail.com	267-474-3566
Laurie Eason	Seniors	laurielovesquilting@gmail.com	609-238-3155
Scott Goldthorp	Church Property	goldthorp@gmail.com	267-218-4683
Lourdes Starr-Demers	Social Ministry	lourdes.starr.demers@gmail.com	215-219-4444
Jean Bridges	Outreach	ijeanieb@yahoo.com	609-634-0993
Millie King	Congregation Resources	mmking0105@gmail.com	856-669-7794
Samantha Wentz	Fellowship Together	sam.wentz@gmail.com	609-922-4973
Cathe Bare	Worship & Music	b45away@gmail.com	609-238-6527
Rachael Simpkins	Youth Representative	rachaelsimpkins1924@gmail.com	856-287-0525

MEMORIAL GIFTS BOARD

Nancy Gulick	President	nvgulick@gmail.com	609-238-0184
Karin LaBarge	Financial Secretary	klabarge160@gmail.com	856-428-4709
Jeanette Jones	Secretary	gljjones@comcast.net	317-414-7906
Danielle Deery		danielledeery@gmail.com	317-414-7906
Gary Visconti		volsconti@yahoo.com	856-419-8235
Jack Berrigan		jberrigan@comcast.net	609-471-0069
Bobbi Newsham		bcn71@aol.com	609-828-5244
Rich Windle		r.windle@southwarkmetal.com	215-416-7417

STAFF AND VOLUNTEER LEADERS

The Rev. Wayne Zschech, D. Min	Pastor	wzschech@yahoo.com	856-429-7851
Sandy DeDonatis	Parish Administrator	lcossandy@gmail.com	856-429-5122
Jaime Frazier	Director of Youth & Family Ministry	lcosjaime@gmail.com	856-429-5122
Pauline Worusski	Director of Music	pworusski@gmail.com	404-931-2317
Bob Dempsey	Bookkeeper	robertdemp@verizon.net	856-246-8543
Nick Heinze	Communications Tech.	nicholasheinze1@outlook.com	856-616-0052
Shirley Clinkscales	Nursery Attendant		856-365-5392
Don Richards	Custodian/Sexton	dlrich1@msn.com	856-577-1149
Eva Shaw	Altar Guild	eslohboy@verizon.net	856-428-9434

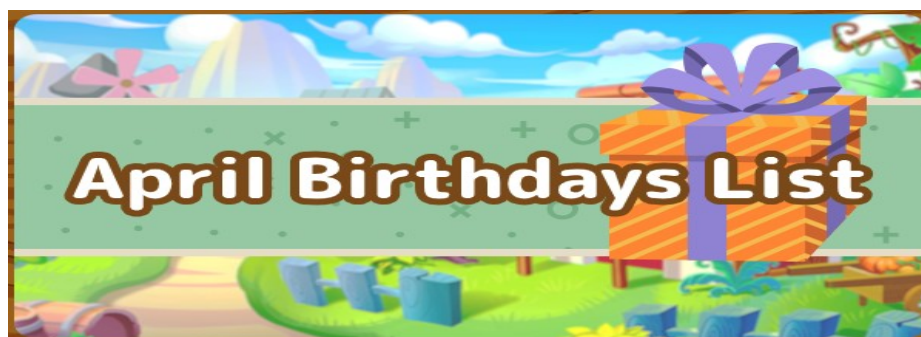
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior
204 Wayne Avenue
Corner of Wood Lane and Wayne Avenue
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Cherry Hill, NJ
Permit No. 164

April 2021 Messenger

Time Sensitive Material Enclosed Mailed March 23, 2021

Address Service Requested



Apr 2	Jane Harris	Apr 10	Rich Windle	Apr 21	Jodilyn Turner
Apr 2	Brett Hintz	Apr 11	Amelia Wright	Apr 21	Scott Vaughn
Apr 3	Clive Crosbie	Apr 13	Molly Mills	Apr 23	Joyce Fetter
Apr 4	Annabelle Donegan	Apr 13	Wyatt Needham	Apr 23	Kathryn Rivera
Apr 4	Liam Matula	Apr 13	Matthew Vitale	Apr 23	Matt Wolf
Apr 4	Dylan Melcher	Apr 13	Maryann Wallace	Apr 25	Rich Morris
Apr 4	Peyton Rhodes	Apr 14	Stephanie Hintz	Apr 26	Marie Santore
Apr 5	Collin Duckett	Apr 14	Matthew Morris	Apr 27	Brian Gensel
Apr 6	Mary Kay DeBerardinis	Apr 15	Justin DeBerardinis	Apr 27	Frank Marciano
Apr 6	Gabriella Pietrangelo	Apr 15	Rick DeMichele	Apr 27	Nina Pettersen-Smith
Apr 7	Heather Baxter	Apr 15	Spencer Fallon	Apr 28	Carter Adams
Apr 7	Nicholas Heinze	Apr 16	Patricia Gruber	Apr 29	Arlene Cooper
Apr 7	Jenn Jones	Apr 16	Solveig Lawyer	Apr 29	Erin Mills
Apr 8	Steve Cain	Apr 17	Robert Pineiro	Apr 29	Jeffrey Picker
Apr 8	Henry Dickerson	Apr 19	Linda Harrington	Apr 29	Kristina Thompson
Apr 8	Bob Jelonek	Apr 19	Jean Schroeder	Apr 29	Jay Wallace
Apr 9	Alexander Pietrangelo	Apr 20	Harvey Shaw	Apr 30	Joanna Knauer
Apr 9	Madison Schemeley	Apr 21	Thomas Gonzalez	Apr 30	Emma Morris