

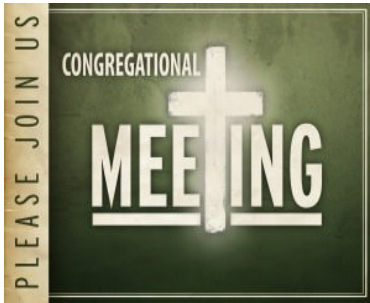


# The Messenger



FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR



## In-Person & Zoom Congregation Annual Meeting and Chili Cook-Off January 28 @ 10:30; Worship Services Are as Usual.

The ability to hold a hybrid annual meeting these last two years has enabled people to attend despite their inability to be physically present (one member joined from his hospital room!) Therefore, the schedule for Annual Meeting Sunday will be as follows.

- 8:00 a.m. – In-Person Worship
- 9:30 a.m. – In-Person/Livestream Sanctuary and Reflections Worship Services:

Use the link on our website homepage to join the livestream or attend in person. Reflections Worship starts in the Parlor and joins the Sanctuary Worship after the Hymn of the Day.

- 10:30 a.m. – **Annual Meeting In-Person & by Zoom in Sanctuary:** We will begin the Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary after dismissing visitors and guests from worship. Those attending by Zoom can use the link that will be provided in the Thursday email that includes the bulletin sent out by Sandy DeDonatis to join the meeting. The meeting has a somewhat light agenda and should conclude by 12:00.
- 12:00 p.m. – **Chili Cook-Off Lunch & Fellowship Event:** Rather than the traditional brunch the Fellowship Together Ministry Team is sponsoring a fun winter fellowship event in the First Annual Chili Cookoff. Check out the article in this issue for details. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/bde2ff9k>

**How will roll call be taken?** Council Secretary Debby Madiraca will have a paper roll sheet for those attending in person to sign. We will be recording the meeting so we will have a record of all who are attending. If you are dialing in by phone instead of using the internet you will be asked your name so we can record your name with your phone number that is on the screen.

**Why is it so important for members to make the effort to participate this year?** In addition to the election of Council and Memorial Gift Board members as well as approving the 2024 Financial Plan for Ministry the Annual Meeting is also a time for reviewing where we have been in the past year and where God is calling us to go in the years to come. We will be formally welcoming Youth Ministry Developer Jess Arnold as she and Pastor Wayne seek to revitalize our youth ministry following the pandemic as well as enhance and expand our ministry with and to children, youth, and families not yet a part of the congregation.

**MARK JAN 28 ON YOUR NEW CALENDARS NOW FOR 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ZOOM ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & CHILI COOK-OFF COMPETITION.**



## Souper Bowl Sunday Feb 11 to Feed Hungry Through "Soup" and Sandwiches

Every year one of the fundraisers Our Savior's Youth Ministry sponsors is the Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday to help feed the hungry and homeless in our community. In comparison to the smorgasbord of food some will have spread out on Super Bowl Sunday there are those in our county who would be thankful for a simple bowl of soup and maybe even a sandwich. Our youth and you can make that a reality in two ways this Super Bowl Sunday.

Two soup kettles will be put out with the emblem of whoever wins the NFC and AFC Championship. Despite the outcome of the game later that day **those in worship can determine who "wins" the Souper Bowl by placing donations for one of the two teams in their respective kettle. The kettle with the most cash is the Souper Bowl winner.** The offerings of the kettles will then be sent to the Peace Center at our mission partner, Bridge of Peace Community Church, to assist in purchasing supplies for those who are food insecure.

Additionally, **youth from sixth grade to seniors in high school are invited to join Youth Group Developer, Jess Arnold, and Pastor Wayne in the Parish Hall and kitchen after the 9:30 worship to make sandwiches for Cathedral Kitchen in Camden.** We hope to make at least 100 sandwiches or more.

Who's playing in Super Bowl LVII doesn't really matter much when you're hungry and on the street. Help those who are hungry this winter with your participation in the youth's version of the Souper Bowl of Caring this year as you leave worship. Show your support for those for whom a bowl of soup means a lot more than a football game. In this bowl "game" the real winners are the hungry who are fed of our land.

*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.*



## “What’s Love Got to Do With Lent”

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

Remember Reese’s commercials where one person’s chocolate accidentally got stuck in another person’s peanut butter after the two people collided together? One would then exclaim, “Hey! You got chocolate in my peanut butter!” To which the other would rebut, “No! You got peanut butter on my chocolate!” But after each tasted the odd combination, they both celebrated, “Mmm! Delicious!!”

This year, Ash Wednesday, the day in which the Church begins its journey of Lent, collides with the secular celebration of Valentine’s Day, a day of romance, flowers, and chocolate. But while there may be no one exclaiming, “You got ashes in roses!” there may be a connection between the two occasions we may not realize at first...one of reflection, renewal, and rejuvenation.

Valentine’s Day for some, especially those married for many years, might be an opportunity to celebrate the holiday as a day to “date” again. What would it be like to go to dinner and reflect on your years together, remembering what brought you together, what kept the attraction, and kept the “fire” of love kindled? Valentine’s Day could be an opportunity to renew not only your love, but commitment to love one another for the whole of your lives. It could also be a way to rejuvenate the practice of dating your spouse that so often married couples forget to do, so caught up in the daily tasks of living life together that your lives are more like roommates than “soulmates” who love and cherish each other even when paying the bills, cooking meals, or cleaning the house.

Ash Wednesday begins the Christian disciple’s journey of Lent, a time of reflection, renewal, and rejuvenation of the faith in our risen Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. The ashen smudge reminds us we are dust, we are finite, our days are numbered, and to dust we shall return. This life will not last forever. But it is traced over another cross marked long ago – the cross made on our forehead with oil when the pastor proclaimed we are God’s child, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. It is a promise that death does not have the last word but the God who raised Jesus to new life does. We may be dust and to dust we shall return, but that is not the end of our story. We will rise with new immortal and imperishable bodies on the day of Christ’s return. Until then we are called and sent to reveal this good news to a world in need of such a message of hope. That is what our faith calls us to do.

This year in Lent Our Savior will be using the forty days to reflect, renew, and rejuvenate our relationship with God and Christ through a re-examination of Martin Luther’s Small Catechism on Wednesday night’s over the following six weeks after Ash Wednesday. There’s a separate article in this newsletter with more details, but I hope there are many of you who take the time to make a reservation to be a part of the discussions on Wednesday nights. I hope it will be an opportunity for you to reflect on what the core parts of our faith, the Commandments, Creed, Lord’s Prayer, and Sacraments can be like regularly “dating” the God who loves us. And if you are unable to fit the discussions into your schedule I would hope you do at least observe to some degree the disciplines of Lent, prayer, almsgiving, and fasting as a way to reconnect with and renew your faith in a risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

Ash Wednesday and Valentine’s Day may be an awkward combination this February 14, but I hope they are an opportunity for you to reflect, renew, and rejuvenate couple’s relationship with each other and everyone’s relationship with God and Christ. Just be careful to not get ashes on your chocolate after touching your ash smudged forehead. It won’t taste as good as a Reese’s.

### Bible Discussion for Daily Living Study of 1&2 Corinthians

This study examines the correspondence from the apostle Paul to the early church in Corinth. Paul's letters to this church provided guidance - for persons new to faith as well as those growing in faith - about what it means to be a disciple of Christ. This study examines some of the "big questions" the church faced, and that we still face today.

DATE	READ	DISCUSSION FOCUS
Feb 5/7	1 Cor chapters 13-15	What will I be ultimately?
Feb 12/14	2 Cor chapters 1-4	How do I achieve this glory?
Feb 19/21	2 Cor chapters 5-7	What can I do here and now?
Feb 26/28	2 Cor chapters 8-13	What is my response to God’s grace?

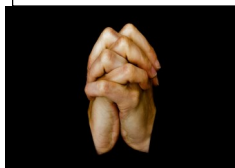


### First Communion Classes for 2nd Graders

All second graders are invited to participate in the next Faith Stepping Stone, which is preparation for First Communion. Older children are also invited to participate if they have not yet taken First Communion. There will be three mandatory classes: Sundays, February 18th, 25th, and March 3 from 10:45 - 11:30 at the church. At least one parent must attend with their child. In addition, all students will be invited to make a chalice at All Fired Up! in Collingswood on Saturday, February 24th at 11:00am as a group (or on your own if you can't make that Saturday time).

First communion will take place on Sunday, March 17, during the 9:30 service. Please email Sabrina LaBelle, Director of Children and Family Ministries, with any questions: [smgvasta@gmail.com](mailto:smgvasta@gmail.com).





### Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Randi Gordon, Eva Shaw, Nancy Frazier, Peaches Larro, Nancy Olsen, Rosemarie Krauss, Bill Wilson, Lynn Block, Noelle Ilves-Corressel, Mae & Jon Batchelor, Peg Riley, Bob Heinze, Gail Hoffman, Jay Wallace, Lee Sargent, Carolyn Malecka, Clive Crosby, Doris Rell, Shirley Stambaugh, *Christy Garner*, *Carla Wright*, *Jimmy Littleton*, *Samantha Sanders*, *Janet & Robert Oberg*, *Daniel Reilly*, *Family of Gil Pineiro*, *Charles Coffey*, *Dottie Kelly*, *Ann (Paulus) Warner*, *baby Mavis*, *Suzanne Tracy*, *Mikael Eliassen*, *Terri Meibling*, *Savannah Martin Fox*, *John Leach*, *Marie Lattanzi Morris*, *Pamela Ilves-Goldberger*, *Shellee Conley*, *Debbie Hodulik*, *Kelly Mosteller*, *Angela Melchiorre*, *Sheamus Joseph Kinnarney*, *Mike DiMartinis*, *Shu-vanon Shabid*, *Eric Kelly*, *Shellee Conley*, *Steven Alutore*, *Brenda Jarger*, *Dale & Maureen Runge*, *Lois Cummins*, *Rich DeBella*, *Ralph Volpe*, *Peggy Miller*, *Rosemary Dougherty*, *Colin Lawlor*, *Amelia Marchese*, *Albert Kern*, *Michelle Mavis*, *John Rell*, *Larry Thatcher*, *Scott Hansen*, *Abby Phelps*, *Carmela Crawford*, *Jacob Berard*, *Keith Maull*, *Connie Verner*, *Daniel Mandel*, *Susan Mazeika*, *Saunders Family*, *Sandy Ferguson*, *Terry Mitchell*, *Bette Roncace*, *Nicholas Juele*, *Beckham Williams*, *Ed Clark*, *Fred Moffitt*, *Lily Gregorio*, *Julie Bartlett*, *Jimmy Lombardo*, *Elva Mastrando*, *Chuck Atkinson*, *Ryan Roberts*, *Ed Miller*

Please keep us updated with the prayer list. If anyone should be removed or added, please let us know. Sandy—[lcossandy@gmail.com](mailto:lcossandy@gmail.com)

### Pantry

- Acme or Shop-Rite Gift Cards
- Monetary Donations
- Canned fruit
- Oatmeal packets
- Cereal
- Paper Towels & TP

**Pantry:** Serving 12 Families: 37 people: 23 Adults, 10 Teens and 4 Children. *Lynn Block*

**Pantry Thank You** :“When I think of you, the definition of empathy always comes to mind (the ability to understand and share the feelings of another). It is so very nice to be kindly understood and remembered each month with an abundance of essential supplies. Thanks for always softening my hard times with your generosity. Thank you so much for the extra help at Christmas. You made me feel like family. I was able to buy much needed warm clothing with the Walmart gift card and produce for soup, etc.” “Just a little note to let all the very nice people at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior know how much I appreciate your kindness and generosity this Christmas and all year round. Wishing everyone a blessed, happy, healthy 2024.”

## PARKING

Please be a good neighbor when parking for church on the street by allowing a minimum of ten (10) feet between the bumper of your vehicle and the outside edge of surrounding driveways as specified in the NJ Driver's Manual. Parking closer than ten feet can potentially result in a parking violation if the neighbor chooses to notify the police.



### Vicar Tom Natalini Ordination Set for Feb. 24 @ 11:00 St. Andrew's LC Eagleville, PA

On November 19, 2023, the congregation of St. David's Lutheran Church in northeast

Philadelphia on Academy Road called former Our Savior vicar Tom Natalini to be their pastor. Additionally, Vicar Tom, soon to be Pastor Tom, will also be starting a Mindfulness Plus mission congregation alongside of the existing congregation of St. Davids. His call came almost a year since he left Our Savior as an intern and we wish him well in his first call as pastor.

Tom's Ordination of Minister of Word and Sacrament will be held in his home congregation of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church located at 2725 Egypt Road in Norristown, PA 19403 on February 24 at 11:00. Pastor Wayne is planning to attend and invites the congregation, especially those who served on his Vicar Support Group, to join him in celebrating Tom's ordination as well as his call to St. David's Lutheran Church, a mere half hour away over the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge. If you want to coordinate travel to the ordination, please contact Pastor Wayne for more details.

If you wish to send Tom a card of congratulations it may be sent to Rev. Tom Natalini, St. David's Lutheran Church, 9169 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114.



### BEWARE SCAM ARTISTS POSING AS PASTOR WAYNE!

To any and all who may occasionally receive a text message or an email from what appears to be Pastor

Wayne Zschech that asks you to provide financial assistance to a person in need, **PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO THE EMAIL OR TEXT**. This person is a scam artist trying to fool you into purchasing gift cards or other monetary products that they can steal from you in Pastor Wayne's name.

**PLEASE NOTE: PASTOR WAYNE NEVER MAKES REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF INDIVIDUAL PARISHIONERS FOR THE SAKE OF MINISTRY BY EMAIL OR TEXT**. When Pastor Wayne makes a request for ministry financial support it is always to the entire congregation and is done in worship, by letter, or through The Messenger. Thank you for your generous support through these difficult and challenging times toward the ministry we share and beware the “wolves” who approach you in “sheep” clothing.



## Save The Date – Sunday, January 28, 2024 The New Year Brings A New Twist on LCOS' Congregational Dinner! We're having a Chili Cook Off and So Much More!!!

In trying to find a date for our Chili Cook Off that wouldn't interfere with a football game, it was determined to have the Chili Cook Off following the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>.

We know not everyone likes chili so there will also be crock pots of soup/stew and even casseroles. Fellowship will take care of supplying cornbread, Del Buono dinner rolls and hot and cold beverages.

Sandy has created an on-line sign up to register your food item. <http://tinyurl.com/bde2ff9k> Remember, only chili will be entered in the cook off contest! The top three chili winners will each go home with a very nice prize. The chili can be vegetarian, beef chili or chicken chili. Chili chefs are to pack their own toppings (hot sauce, crushed red pepper, shredded cheese, rice, raw onions, Tostitos, etc.).

If you attend the first or second service, please know Fellowship will assist you with your crock pot or casserole to keep it hot and the toppings will be placed in the refrigerator, if needed.

Following the Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary, Fellowship will have everything set up (except the individualized toppings) on the buffet table in the Parish Hall. Each chili chef will claim their toppings and place them by their chili. In front of each chili will be a brown paper bag. Each adult will receive "a bean" to place in the bag of their favorite chili. There will be an official "Bean Counter" who will announce the top three Chili winners while we are enjoying dessert.

If you sign up to bring a dessert instead of chili, soup/stew or casserole, please know Fellowship will assist you in taking the dessert to the kitchen before either worship service.

Please make a small note that can be placed by your food item on the buffet table noting if it is vegan or gluten-free. It is our desire to have a selection of food items to entice the taste buds while also honoring dietary needs.

Start looking for that favorite recipe then sign-up using the online tool. If you have difficulty signing up, please contact Sandy for assistance. *Ruth Fisher*



### Youth Soup and Service

Calling all home chefs and volunteers! In February LCOS will be doing a Soup and Sandwiches Volunteer event at 10:45 on Sunday Feb 11th following the 9:30 service. If you like to cook and happen to make a fantastic soup and ALSO can assemble sandwiches this event is perfect for you. We will be serving soup for volunteers and making 50-250 sandwiches to donate to **Cathedral Kitchen** in Camden, NJ. We are asking that donations be dropped off Feb 9th through the morning of the 11th.

Not only do we need donations, but we need volunteers.

Donations needed are **bread, turkey and beef bologna only (no pork products), cheese, peanut butter, and jelly.** LCOS members and any volunteers who are interested in serving please contact Jess Arnold, Youth Ministry Developer, by emailing [jessica.arnold.pianist@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.arnold.pianist@gmail.com). Thank you for your donations and for volunteering!

LCOS Music Presents

# Songs and Sweets

An Informal Dessert Theater Concert

February 10th at 3pm  
Lutheran Church of Our Savior  
Parish Hall

**JOIN US FOR DELICIOUS SWEETS AND DELIGHTFUL SONGS FROM YOUR FAVORITE FILMS & SHOWS**

- Sound of Music
- Grease
- Wizard of Oz
- ...and many more!

**COST**  
Free!

**Lutheran Church of Our Savior**  
204 Wayne Avenue  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033  
All are welcome. You are welcome.

### "Songs and Sweets" Returns February 10th

After a great turnout at the first "Songs and Sweets" last February, we immediately decided to make it an annual occurrence, so you are once again cordially invited to an informal and fun dessert theater experience! On February 10th at 3pm, our choirs will be serenading you with music from everyone's favorite musicals while you get to enjoy some delicious desserts – what's not to love? Think of it as a musical Pre-Valentine's Day (and before the Superbowl) treat! We will be singing some old school favorites like Grease, Sound of Music, and many others. If you have a song you love to sing (it can be a duet or trio with a partner, friend, or family), let Pauline know by January 30th and we could include you in the program! Instead of a musical contribution, you can also bring a dessert – or simply yourself (and a friend or two)!

*Pauline Worusski*





## Justice & Peace: Lutheran Advocacy Makes a Difference in Trenton

When we advocate for social justice, it's easy to become so overwhelmed at the uphill battle that we lose sight of the progress we've made. Here's a summary prepared by Pastor Sara Lilja, who leads the NJ Synod's Lutherans Engaging in Advocacy Ministry (LEAM), of the good things that happened in Trenton in 2023. LEAM works with a coalition of religious and nonprofit organizations to keep the needs of the powerless before the movers and shakers in the state capital.

- In 2023 LEAMNJ launched our **Justice Group** program — our seven groups focused on Environmental Justice, Food Security Justice, Health Care & Mental Health Justice, Housing Justice, LGBTQIA Justice, Migration Justice, and Racial Justice.
- We helped get the **SNAP Minimum Benefits Bill (S3491/A5086)** passed! This bill increased the minimum SNAP benefit in New Jersey to \$95 from \$50.
- The **Temp Workers Bill of Rights**, which guarantees the over 130,000 temp workers in the state basic protections and fair treatment, passed the State Senate with cheers and celebration from supporters. This was a huge victory for workers and advocates who had been working towards this for months.
- We wrote a newsletter on the subject of **period poverty**, and in August Gov. Murphy signed a bill (**S1221/A1349**) requiring school districts to provide menstrual products free of charge in every public school teaching students in one or more of grades six through 12.
- After months and months of sustained effort, we finally succeeded in getting the **Prescription Drug Affordability Council!** This was an enormous success — check out this article from [New Jersey Policy Perspective](#) on how the council will affect New Jersey healthcare.
- The New Jersey Synod passed a measure this year to become [Stigma Free](#) churches. This is an essential effort to help those suffering from **mental health challenges**.
- In November, New Jersey's State Board of Education reaffirmed new equality rules in public schools to **protect LGBT rights**, despite facing harsh opposition.

These successes are a result of the collaborative efforts of LEAMNJ, our coalition partners, and our many advocate members. Although there are many bills and policies that we worked on that did not succeed, it is essential to remind ourselves of the real difference that our work is making in New Jersey!

**To which we here at Our Savior in Haddonfield can only say,  
“Thank you and keep up the good work!”**

*Justice & Peace Committee*



## Senior Game Day

We gather again for Senior Game Day on Tuesday, January 23 at noon for another enjoyable lunch and afternoon of cards, Mexican Train, many other games and fellowship. Each month we will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday unless as indicated\*. Invite your friends of all ages to join us, the more the merrier!

- The schedule for 2024: Jan. 23, Feb. 27, March 26, Apr. 23, **May 21\***, June 25.

A one-time per new season of \$30 for LCOS members and \$40 for non-members is requested to help defray the cost of the lunch. You may also pay as you go: \$5.00 per week. Checks may be made out to “LCOS”. If the cost is a burden please talk to me.

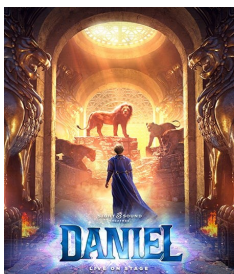
It would be helpful for me if you would RSVP a week before the scheduled date so that there will be enough food and drinks for everyone. **Please RSVP to :** Judy Caravelli Text/Call: 609 471-5830 Email: [2006jac@comcast.net](mailto:2006jac@comcast.net)



## Tuesday, March 19 2023—Bus Trip to the Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster to See Daniel. Great Gift For Mom & Dad For Mother's & Father's Day! How About That Birthday Gift You Need to Find.

The Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life in this brand-new original stage production from Sight & Sound Theatres®.on. Now this faithful servant must navigate his new life inside a palace filled with golden statues and shifting empires. As royal pressures mount, Daniel is faced with a dangerous choice. Will his trust in the one true God remain steadfast through every test of faith? From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, DANIEL is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family.

Witness one of the Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life in this brand-new original stage production from Sight & Sound Theatres®. All are welcome! Presented by the Fellowship Committee in conjunction with Senior game Day. Tickets are \$189 which includes, bus, lunch and show tickets. Bus leaves at 10:00 AM and returns at 8:30 PM. Bus will be leaving from 537 W Nicholson Rd, Audubon, NJ 08106 (SCUCS parking lot). **Payments and sign-ups are now being taken. There are a limited amount of tickets. See Sandy or e-mail: [lcossandy@gmail.com](mailto:lcossandy@gmail.com)**





## Social Ministry

Several members of the LCOS congregation expressed interest in continuing to provide meals for Tuesday meetings at My Father's House. To support this initiative, this sign-up genius will track meals to be provided on a volunteer basis. Any and all support is welcome by MFH and we thank you for your service! Two changes: 1. You will need to prepare and deliver the meal directly to MFH by 3:00 on your day. 2. Meals should feed about 12 people. Feel free to reach out with any questions at [mrsbee8123@outlook.com](mailto:mrsbee8123@outlook.com) or by phone at 267-516-6644. If you are in need of a delivery driver, please let me know. Thank you to all who support MFH and the important work they do!!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BA9AE2EA3F8C34-45345354-lcos>

## My Father's House

### Outreach

#### Live Stream Worship Assistants

Do you regularly or occasionally attend LCOS's 9:30 AM Worship Service online? Do you enjoy chatting with everyone who is participating online as well? After all, greeting people with a friendly introduction of "Hello" and "Welcome" or saying "I will be praying for you" can make all the difference in the world to online worship attendees who may feel a disconnect because they are not sitting in the pews. **We are the Church** and although not everyone can worship together in the physical church building, we want to make sure everyone – fellow members and visitors attending the worship service online – feels included and an active member of the worship service. The Outreach



Committee is looking for members to be **Live Stream Worship Assistants** during the service. Chatting with and greeting **everyone** during the online service! Please contact Kristine Monsen cell # (856) 669-7160 or [kemlmm@aol.com](mailto:kemlmm@aol.com) if you are interested.

#### •Greeters:

As members of the church, isn't it nice to be greeted by a warm "Hello, Good Morning!" and a big smile from a fellow member each week when you arrive at church? This is especially true for first-time visitors who arrive not knowing anyone and / or their way around the church building. Wouldn't a friendly greeting and directions on which way to proceed to the sanctuary be helpful? Directions to: Elevator for those who need assistance, Nursery for those with infants, Fellowship Hall to hang up coats, Restrooms when needed.

We tend to take everything for granted, but we shouldn't. Just arriving a few extra minutes before the church service to be a **Greeter** can brighten every arriving worshipper's day! The Outreach Committee is looking to resume having a **Greeter** at the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Main Entrance. Please contact Kristine Monsen cell # (856) 669-7160 or [kemlmm@aol.com](mailto:kemlmm@aol.com) if you are interested.



## 10 Stewardship Principles

### Principle #1: Respond Gratefully

### Principle #2: Give Responsibly

When we talk about Stewardship, we usually hear that we are to give in response to the many blessings God has given us. This becomes a reactive relationship—God gives, we respond gratefully (Stewardship Principle #1).

However, Stewardship Principle #2 calls us to look at things differently and give responsibly. We become the main actors in our relationship with money. When we give responsibly, we declare our faith in God's word and His promises. We act proactively by putting our resources on the line for the sake of the Gospel. We take responsibility for building up the body of Christ. We no longer see only those who are employed by the church as the ones responsible for running the church and for declaring God's word. We, too, take responsibility for how effectively our congregation does God's work. **Pledging is giving responsibly.** As of this writing in mid-January, the stewardship response for 2024, while strong, is approximately \$13,000 less than last year's final pledge total. Although not huge, this number still will have an impact on what programs can be offered and what outreach can be undertaken. A few more responsible givers could turn this situation around. It's not too late to pledge for 2024. Pledge cards are at the ushers stations and in the church office. Return them in the offering plate, by mail to the church office, or email to the LCOS Financial Secretary, Shannon Foskett ([sgfoskett@yahoo.com](mailto:sgfoskett@yahoo.com)).

...you must give as you have made up your mind,  
not reluctantly or under compulsion,  
for God loves a cheerful giver.  
2 Corinthians 9:7



**Ash Wednesday Worship Feb 14 at 7:00 PM.**

**Ash & Dash 7:00-8:30AM at Westmont PATCO Station**

Ash Wednesday has long heralded the beginning of Lent, which begins on Valentine's



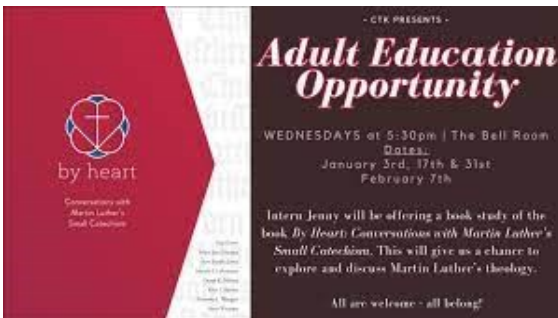
Day this year. In these days we need a reminder of hope as we rush from one place to the next. So, **Pastor Wayne Zschech and any who choose to join him will be offering the imposition of ashes at the Westmont PATCO station for an "Ash & Dash Experience" from 7:00-8:30 am on February 14.** Contact Pastor Wayne if you want to join him on Ash Wednesday at the station.

Then at 7:00PM The Lutheran Church of Our Savior will hold this worship service of confession, reflection, and the imposition of ashes to begin the Lenten journey toward Holy Week and Easter. The service will also be available by livestream. Click on the SPECIAL SERVICE link from our website homepage.

**THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ASH WEDNESDAY:** This ancient ritual is filled with spiritual significance for Christians. Here are the main ones. "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." These are the words spoken by the pastor as an ashen cross is smudged on one's brow. Like the words spoken at a funeral committal, ashes are a reminder of our mortality and finitude. They remind us we cannot escape death, no matter how hard we may try to keep it at arm's length or deny its reality in our lives.

Ashes remind us how at one time they were rubbed on one's skin to eliminate hard to remove dirt. Lent is also a time of cleansing and renewal. We pray along with the psalmist to "create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me", and are reminded of God's cleansing Spirit of renewal in our lives.

Finally, because the smudged cross is made with ashes mixed with oil, we are reminded of the mark with oil placed on our brow at baptism. We remember the promise we were given, "Child of God, you have been sealed with the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever." In the waters of baptism, we have been joined to both the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And while the ashes remind us of our eventual death, the smudged cross reminds us death does not have the last word. As people "of the smudge" we are people who trust in the resurrection to new life it offers through faith in the risen Christ. In Lent we journey both toward the cross and the empty tomb. And this gives us hope.



### ***By Heart: Conversations with Luther's Small Catechism*** **Topic of Lenten Midweek Discussions from 7:00-8:30 Every Wednesday in Lent**

Lent has traditionally been a time for catechesis, the study of our Christian faith's core beliefs, by those seeking to be baptized and a member of Christ's body, the Church. This Lent, Our Savior invites cradle Christians raised in the church as well as those questioning their faith to engage in this practice of catechesis this Lent on **Wednesday nights in the 2nd floor Parlor from 7:00-8:30** using *By Heart: Conversations with Luther's Small Catechism* as our resource in our Lenten journey.

It is a course that aims to create faith. It is for adults who have never encountered the Small Catechism, and it is for adults who studied and memorized it as adolescents or teens...It is for those who find scripture to be an inaccessible forest of words, the Creed and Lord's Prayer to be rote exercise, the sacraments to be obscure rituals, and Martin Luther and his innovations to be largely irrelevant.

Each participant will receive a *By Heart* book that will be available by Ash Wednesday in order to provide a week to read the chapter in advance and in preparation for the discussion on Wednesday nights. If you wish to contribute to defray the cost of the materials a donation of \$20 is suggested. The format of each week's discussion will follow this pattern:

RECITE together the relevant section of the Small Catechism being discussed that night.

WATCH the video related to the discussion topic.

ENGAGE in discussion facilitated by Pastor Wayne

RECITE next session's section of the Small Catechism as a group.

The dates and topics of discussion are as follows:

- Feb 21 The Story of the Small Catechism
- Feb 28 The Ten Commandments
- Mar 6 The Apostle's Creed
- Mar 13 The Lord's Prayer
- Mar 20 The Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Confession
- Mar 27 The Sacrament of the Altar

We hope this midweek Lenten discussion will be an opportunity for you to create and/or reignite your faith in the God who saves us from the fear of death by the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ. All are welcome. Join us! **You must RSVP by February 4 in order to receive a book. Extra copies will not be available due to the cost.**



## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR: YEAR END 2023

### 2023 YEAR END NARRATIVE

2023 was very challenging as we end the year with a \$15,341 Net Loss. Revenue was \$13,457 below Plan as a result of weak Total Envelope Offering in the fourth quarter. Expenses were near Plan as higher than anticipated Property Expenses, as a result of storm damage and support of the exterior church painting, were offset by lower Salary & Benefit Expenses due to the change in the Director of Youth & Family Ministry position.

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	2022	2023	YEAR END	2024	YE 2023 VS 2024 BUDG- ET
	<u>YEAR END</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ET</u>
<u>REVENUE</u>					
Total Envelopes	429,766	456,250	440,729	440,729	0
Other Income	<u>59,633</u>	<u>59,700</u>	<u>61,764</u>	<u>62,808</u>	<u>1,044</u>
Total Revenue	489,399	515,950	502,493	503,537	1,044
<u>EXPENSE</u>					
Salary & Benefits	313,702	343,515	331,956	327,216	(4,740)
Property	55,172	66,625	78,413	67,985	(10,428)
Administration	45,056	48,297	50,971	50,900	(71)
Program Ministries	<u>75,469</u>	<u>57,513</u>	<u>56,494</u>	<u>57,436</u>	<u>942</u>
Total Expense	489,399	515,950	517,834	503,537	(14,297)
NET LOSS	0	0	(15,341)	0	15,341

### **Congregational Support: January – December 2023**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Average YTD Attendance*</u>	<u>Total General Fund Offerings</u>
2021	168	\$410,352
2022	170	\$429,766
2023	168	\$440,729

\* Since March 2021, when church reopened, the in-person attendance at all services is added to the livestream FaceBook numbers to get the total number in attendance for any given week. Livestream attendance is calculated using a formula provided by the ELCA: number of one-minute views on livestream multiplied by 2 to get the number of people worshipping by livestream.



#### **Thank You for Your Faithfulness in Being Stewards of God's Love**

Thank you to all who put their offering envelopes into the plate in person, mail them to the church office, or give electronically. Thanks very much for sharing your blessings so that others may know God's love.

#### **Thank You to All Who Helped Undeck the Church**

Stacey Shaw, Pauline Worusski, Dave Wyche, Gabby and Angel Berrios, Jeanne Coleman-Jones, Danny Jones, Dave Danton, Nancy Dempsey, Linda Doherty, Paula Horner, Jeanette Jelonek, Karen Knauer, Betsy Kuehn, Linda Powell, and Pastor Wayne, who organized everything back into the under the stairs closet.

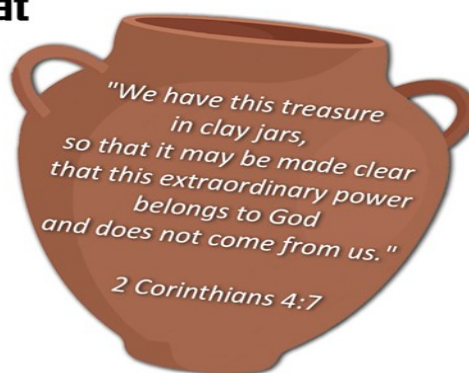
I send thanks to everyone for their time and effort for finishing in less than an hour!

Many hands made light work! *Cathe Bare*





# Lutheran Women's One-Day Retreat Treasure in Clay Jars: A Lenten Retreat



## Facilitator

### Pastor Dale Selover

Director of the House Next Door,  
a spiritual direction and retreat center,  
Princeton Junction, NJ,  
Dale is inspired by her own hunger for a  
deeper relationship with God.



## Sisters in Spirit Collecting Food for Church Food Pantries



The demand never stops at the food pantries at Our Savior and at Bridge of Peace Community Church. To help keep their pantry shelves full, Sisters in Spirit is once again sponsoring a February food drive to benefit both churches.

Food donations for LCOS pantry families may be placed in the supermarket cart just inside the church lower-level sliding doors. Donations for Bridge of Peace go in the pantry bins outside of Parish Hall. You also may drop off or mail check donations for LCOS to the church office. Checks for the Peace Center of Bridge of Peace Church can be mailed to 2755 Tuckahoe Road, Camden, NJ 08104.

### Especially needed by Bridge of Peace

Shelf-stable milk (available at Dollar Tree)  
Canned pasta (Spaghettios, etc.)  
Canned soup  
Canned fruit  
Canned vegetables  
Canned tuna and chicken  
Laundry & cleaning supplies  
Toilet paper, paper towels, tissues  
Feminine hygiene products

### Especially needed by LCOS pantry families

Packages of mac & cheese  
Canned meat  
Meals in a can  
Canned tuna  
Canned fruit  
Cereal  
Individual rice packets  
Toothpaste & toothbrushes  
Soap  
Toilet paper, paper towels

**THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!** *Sisters in Spirit*

## February 2024 Regular Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
<b>8:00 AM Sanctuary Worship, 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship &amp; Facebook Live, 9:00-9:20 AM Reflections in Parlor</b>  <b>9:00 AM Coffee Time</b>  <b>10:40-11:00 AM Cherub Choir</b>	10-2 & 1-3 Art Class  <b>4:45-5:45 PM Tween Choirs</b>  5:30-8:30 ChildrenSong – Choir Room  6:30-8:30 PM Possibility Players - PH  <b>7:00 PM – 8:30 PM Bible Discussion Zoom &amp; in-person</b>	9:30-11:15 AM Mommy & Me Music  10:30 AM Pastors' Pericope  <b>2:00 PM Staff Meeting</b>	<b>9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Bible Discussion Zoom &amp; in-person</b>  9:30-11:15 AM Mommy & Me Music  3:00-4:00 PM Tai Chi  <b>4:45-5:45 PM Tween Choir</b>	11-1 & 7-9 Art Class  6:30-9:15 PM Tai Chi  <b>7:00 PM Bell Choir</b>  <b>8:00 PM Adult Choir</b>		

## February 2024 Special Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
.				<b>1</b> <b>9:30 AM Mission Quilts</b>  Sandy Vacation	<b>2</b> <i>Groundhog Day</i> <b>9:00 AM Fix-It Team</b>  <b>9:30 AM Mission Quilts</b>	<b>3</b> 8:00-11:00 AM ChildrenSong
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Diamond Baptism</b>  <b>10:45 W&amp;M Mtg</b>  <b>6:30 PM Confirmation</b>		<b>7:00 PM Church Council</b>  7:00 PM Toastmasters	5:30-8:45 PM ChildrenSong-Parlor	<b>Messenger Deadline</b>  <b>9:30 AM Mission Quilts</b>  <b>Flyers Game</b>		3:00 Songs & Sweets
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>Berrigan Baptism</b>  <b>Souper Bowl &amp; Sandwiches</b>  <b>10:45 AM Fellowship Mtg.</b>	<b>Lincoln's Birthday</b>	Fastnacht Donuts  7:00 PM MGB  7:00 PM Toastmasters	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>  <i>Valentine's Day</i>  <b>7:00-9:00 AM Ash &amp; Dash</b>  10:00 AM Singing Angels  <b>7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship</b>  <b>8:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal</b>	<b>Messenger Mailing</b>  <b>9:00 AM Fix-It Team</b>  12:45-3:15 PM SJ Singers  <b>No Choirs</b>		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>10:45 AM J &amp; P Mtg.</b>  <b>10:45-11:30 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Class</b>  <b>No Confirmation</b>	<b>President's Day</b> <b>Washington's Birthday</b>  <b>Office Closed</b>  No Possibility Players	<b>7:00 Social Ministry Mtg.</b>	<b>6:30-7:30 PM Lenten Discussion</b>			<b>8:00-9:30 AM ChildrenSong</b>  <b>11:00 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Chalice Making -All Fired Up</b>
Sandy	Vacation	2-19 – 2-24			Lutheran Heritage	Retreat-Confirmation
25	26	27	28	29		
<b>10:45 AM Outreach Mtg.</b>  <b>10:45-11:30 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Class</b>	<b>6:00 Congregation Resources Mtg.</b>	<b>12:00 noon Senior Game Day</b>	<b>6:30-7:30 PM Lenten Discussion</b>			



**Coffee Time at LCOS** (8:30 am - 9:30 am) is supported by Fellowship Ministry and LCOS' committees. LCOS leadership, committee chairs and committee members have been assigned a Sunday to bring treats to the church kitchen by 8:15 a.m. on Sunday or the Saturday before. The Fellowship Committee takes care of set-up and clean-up. Please take a moment to stop by Coffee Hour for coffee, tea, juice, fruit, cheese, bagels and some really tempting desserts! Best of all, come for the Fellowship! *Ruth Fisher*

### **February Coffee Time Schedule**

**Feb. 4—Altar Guild (A-K)**

**Feb. 11—Altar Guild (L-Z)**

**Feb. 18—Memorial Gift Board**

**Feb. 25—Sisters~In~Spirit**

## **The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior**

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

**Worship 8:00 AM Traditional in Sanctuary, 9:30 AM in Sanctuary + Facebook Live**

**Interactive Reflections Worship 9:30 AM in Parlor + Zoom**

### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

<b>Ann Querns</b>	Vice President/Personnel	ahodulik@gmail.com	856-905-5115
<b>Paul Knauer</b>	Treasurer	prknauer@gmail.com	856-427-6595
<b>Shannon Foskett</b>	Financial Secretary	sgfoskett@yahoo.com	856-904-1828
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<b>Millie King</b>	Congregation Resources	mmking0105@gmail.com	856-669-7794
<b>Ruth Fisher</b>	Fellowship Together	rfisher11253@gmail.com	484-366-6771
<b>Lynn Block</b>	Justice & Peace	blockstar59@hotmail.com	609-238-7419
<b>Kristine Monsen</b>	Outreach	kemlmm@aol.com	856-858-0502
<b>Cathe Bare</b>	Worship & Music	b45away@gmail.com	609-238-6527

### **MEMORIAL GIFTS BOARD**

<b>Nancy Gulick</b>	Chair	nvgulick@gmail.com	609-238-0184
<b>Karin LaBarge</b>	Financial Secretary	klabarge160@gmail.com	856-428-4709
<b>Jeanette Jones</b>	Secretary	gljjones@comcast.net	856-795-5294
<b>Danielle Deery</b>		danielledeery@gmail.com	317-414-7906
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<b>Paul Knauer</b>	Ex-officio	paul_knauer@pmagroup.com	856-427-6595
<b>Ann Querns</b>	Vice President/Personnel	ahodulik@gmail.com	856-905-5115
<b>Pastor Wayne Zschech</b>	Advisory member	wzschech@yahoo.com	856-429-7851

### **STAFF AND VOLUNTEER LEADERS**

<b>The Rev. Wayne Zschech, D. Min</b>	Pastor	wzschech@yahoo.com	856-429-7851
<b>Sandy DeDonatis</b>	Parish Administrator	lcossandy@gmail.com	856-429-5122
<b>Pauline Worusski</b>	Director of Music	pworusski@gmail.com	404-931-2317
<b>Sabrina LaBelle</b>	Director of Children & Family	smgvasta@gmail.com	609-560-0003
<b>Jess Arnold</b>	Youth Ministry Developer	jessica.arnold.pianist@gmail.com	862-268-1363
<b>Bob Dempsey</b>	Bookkeeper	lcosbookkeeper@gmail.com	856-246-8543
<b>Pat Reiter</b>	Interim Communications Tech.	raphaellakninja@gmail.com	856-616-8169
<b>Shirley Clinkscales</b>	Nursery Attendant		856-365-5392
<b>Don Richards</b>	Custodian/Sexton	dlrich1@msn.com	856-577-1149
<b>Eva Shaw</b>	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**

***February 2024 Messenger***

***Time Sensitive Material Enclosed Mailed January 18, 2024***

***Address Service Requested***



Feb 1	Rita Lattanzi	Feb 12	Elizabeth Palmadessa	Feb 21	William Wilson
Feb 2	Mary Pat Reiter	Feb 12	Ed Smith	Feb 22	Caryl Wallace
Feb 3	Curt Bogina	Feb 13	Luca Amato	Feb 22	Mila Parvati Williams
Feb 3	Paula Horner	Feb 13	Margaret Gensel	Feb 22	Rebecca Windle
Feb 4	Allison Baxter	Feb 13	Deborah Roncace	Feb 23	Caryn Lynch
Feb 5	Jeanne Coleman-Jones	Feb 15	Kris Pensabene	Feb 23	Margaret Riley
Feb 5	Amal Spence	Feb 15	Christine Shah	Feb 24	Sarah Lafleur
Feb 6	Donna Pfeffer	Feb 16	Samantha Atkinson	Feb 24	Paul Querns
Feb 8	Marianne Aponte	Feb 16	Abigail Leverick	Feb 25	Karan Kredatus
Feb 8	James Evans	Feb 16	Lynnea Martinsen	Feb 26	Alison McCartney
Feb 8	Austin Hammond	Feb 16	Tanner Roncace	Feb 26	Sebastian Miller
Feb 9	Dorothy Berrigan	Feb 17	Susan Ainsworth	Feb 27	Carrie Greene
Feb 9	Sherry Chmielinski	Feb 17	Fay Marciano	Feb 27	Helen Waldner
Feb 9	Gabrielle McKeever	Feb 18	Paul Gronau	Feb 28	Alison Bogina
Feb 9	Ava Poliafico	Feb 18	Gail Hoffman	Feb 28	Allison Gensel
Feb 10	Daniel Parker	Feb 19	Mary Welker	Feb 28	John McKeever
Feb 11	Joseph Ray	Feb 20	Tobitha Speas	Feb 28	Michael Miano
Feb 11	Charlotte Severino	Feb 21	Brian Poliafico	Feb 29	Kathleen Ellis