



Dear Friends in Christ,

As I reflect on these first four months as your pastor, my heart is overwhelmed with gratitude and joy. This time has been filled with opportunities to grow together in faith, build meaningful connections, and witness God's presence in our shared ministry. Thank you for the warm welcome you have extended to me, and for the ways you continue to embody Christ's love in our community. I am truly blessed to be part of this congregation.

One of the great joys of this season has been visiting with many of you in your homes. These moments of connection have allowed me to hear your stories, learn about your faith journeys, and deepen my understanding of the history and heart of our congregation. Each visit has been a reminder of how God's love weaves through our lives, drawing us closer to one another in community.

Presiding over communion has also been a sacred privilege. I have especially cherished the practice of serving our friends in the pews first, a powerful reminder of Christ's hospitality and the inclusive nature of the table. These moments of worship are a profound expression of the unity we share as the body of Christ, and they fill me with hope and encouragement.

Leading First Communion classes has been another highlight. The curiosity and insightful questions from our youth have been inspiring. Their eagerness to understand and grow in faith is a testament to the vibrant future of our church. It was a joy to see their excitement as they prepared to partake in this sacred sacrament for the first time, and I am grateful for the opportunity to guide them on this meaningful step in their faith journeys.

I also want to express my gratitude for the incredible staff I have the privilege of working alongside. Their talents, dedication, and passion for ministry are a true blessing. Their commitment ensures that our congregation continues to thrive and serve as a beacon of Christ's love in the world.

As we look ahead to the season of Epiphany, I am filled with joyful anticipation. This year, we will be changing the beginning of our worship services to include a Thanksgiving for Baptism instead of the traditional Confession. This shift is a meaningful way to emphasize the Holy Spirit's movement in and through us during this season as we celebrate the baptism of Jesus Christ and reflect on the waters that claim and renew us. It is a time to remember and rejoice in God's ongoing work in our lives and in the world.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your pastor during this season of new beginnings. I am excited about the journey ahead and all the ways God will continue to work through us as a congregation. I pray we enter this new season with open hearts, ready to embrace the opportunities for growth, service, and celebration that lie before us.

Peace, today and always,
Pastor Bunny



Save the date – OSLC Annual Meeting

The annual meeting has been scheduled for **Sunday, January 19th** immediately following the 10:00 service (with a snow/makeup date of Sunday, January 26th). Please plan to attend.

Phil and Andy's Pantry

In the month of January we are collecting Package Dinners!

This would be things like:

- Rice A Roni
- Mac and Cheese,
- Hamburger Helper and others.



They are not time-consuming meals for Mom and Dad to prepare. They are also easy for the kids to help Mom and Dad make for their family meal.

Invitation for New Members

Are you curious about joining our church family? We'd love to connect with you! On Sunday, January 12th, stay after worship for an informal chat with the pastor. It's a chance to learn more about our community, ask questions, and explore what membership means.



Then, mark your calendars for January 26th when we'll officially welcome new members during worship, followed by a special celebration. Whether you're ready to take the next step or just want to know more, we can't wait to see you there!

Questions? Feel free to reach out to Pastor Bunny, Pastor@CRSaviors.org. We're excited to walk this journey with you!

You're Invited!

Join us as we delve into the Book of Ruth, a timeless story of faith, resilience, and God's providence.

When: Sundays, starting January 5th, at 9:00 AM in the foyer (next to the children's table)
Wednesdays, starting January 8th, at 10:00 AM in the IMC (conference room near the door)

We'll be using the *Book of Faith* series from Augsburg Fortress as our guide. This study promises meaningful discussions and insights into how Ruth's story connects to our lives today.

All are welcome! Bring your Bible, your curiosity, and a friend! Contact Pastor Bunny for questions.

A Grateful Thank You to the Goings Family

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Goings family for their generous gift of the beautiful nativity to Our Savior's. Your thoughtful contribution will serve as a meaningful reminder of God's love and presence, especially during this holy season.

We also feel deeply blessed to have celebrated the baptism of Ingrid with you. What a joy it is to witness God's promises in action and to share in this sacred moment with your family. Thank you for allowing us to be part of this special occasion.



Assisting Ministers Needed!!

Have you ever thought about being an Assisting Minister but didn't think it was possible because you didn't (or couldn't) sing the liturgy?? There are other options. . . the liturgy does NOT have to be sung – it can be read!! Parish & Staff is looking for volunteers to join the Assisting Minister Ministry. Thank you to those who have already volunteered to be an assisting minister but we could still use a couple more! If you have any interest at all – do not be shy!! You can contact any of our current assisting ministers - Hannah or Nancy, they would be happy to give you any details or feel free to talk to Marcia Adix or Ann Larson from Parish & Staff. Thank you!

Fellowship Hour after Sunday Service

The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board across from Therese's office. Pat and Diane have graciously agreed to continue to make coffee so all that needs to be provided is treats. Our Fellowship hour is a very special time where we can catch up with our Christian family and is enjoyed by so many. Please don't forget to sign up.

2025 Flower Chart

The 2025 Flower Chart is up and posted on the elevator door. Please sign up for the weeks you would like to enhance the beauty of the alter and donate flowers. If you could please sign up as soon as possible so I can get the information to Pierson's – that would be awesome! If you have any questions – please let Therese know. Thank you!

Additional Wheelchair Spaces

In order provide a more welcoming environment for those using wheelchairs in our congregation, the Property Board is looking into providing additional wheelchair spaces at the ends of shortened pews, like what we already have. This would involve shortening two existing pews.

While these additional spaces may not be used very frequently, it would allow more spaces for those in wheelchairs. We would like input from the members of the congregation, especially those in wheelchairs, as to whether you think we should proceed with the work needed to get this done, and if doing this would allow you to attend church by providing a more inclusive worship experience.

Godspeed to Jeremiah

There was a special send-off for Jeremiah Miller on Sunday December 1st at the end of our service. Jeremiah has joined the Marines and is heading off to San Diego, CA on Monday December 2nd. Initially he was scheduled to graduate from basic training at the end of February, be home for 10 days and then leave again to where he will be stationed. Unfortunately, he contracted pneumonia and had to be hospitalized so his graduation date has been moved to sometime in March and home after that. We will keep everyone informed as we get more information.



Youth News:

Reminder! Sunday School is every Sunday at 9 AM. All are welcome!!

Youth Cookie Baking - Our Youth met on Saturday, November 30th at 9:00 AM to bake cookies and other goodies that went out with Homebound Communion Bags. Cookies were baked and decorated and fun was had by all!!



Readers

January 5 – Catherine Burroughs

January 12 – Arnold or Laurie Strottman

January 19 – Arnold or Laurie Strottman

January 26 – Arnold or Laurie Strottman

****Readers can pick up their reading in the “Reader” mailbox located between the offices in the back hallway**

Acolytes

January 5 – Evy Fiester

January 12 – Parker Zeien

January 19 – Eric Strottman

January 26 – Korver Sindelar

February 2 – Evy Fiester

Prayer for Pastor

January 5 – Ann Larson

January 12 – Nancy Greer

January 19 – Laurene Case

January 26 – Nancy Trout

February 2 – Dave Case

Ushers/Greeters

January 5 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson

January 12 – Strottman’s

Jan. 19 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg, Tom Zuber

Jan. 26 – Mark & Suzanne Schmitt, Ann Larson

Assisting Ministers

January 5 – Nancy Greer

January 12 – Ann Larson

January 19 – Karen Janney

January 26 – Hannah Plummer

Children’s Sermon

January 5 – Pastor Bunny

January 12 – JoAnn Kohl

January 19 – Hannah Plummer

January 26 – Pastor Bunny

Sunday School Teaching Schedule

January 5 – Rachel Sindelar

January 12 – Hannah Plummer

January 19 – Natalie Fiester

January 26 – Rachel Sindelar

February 2 – Natalie Fiester

Serving Our Congregation

Bunny Dillard – Head Pastor

Sue Clapp– Congregation President

David Sampson – Treasurer

Therese Plummer – Parish/Financial Secretary

Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth
Ministries Director

Forrest Green – Music Director

Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director

OSLC Christmas Party

The OSLC annual Christmas Party was held on December 8th and was a huge success. Appetizers were served at 5:30pm. Dinner followed at 6pm. The meal was provided by Dostal Catering. Dessert came from Kathy’s Pies and musical entertainment was provided by The Unstrung Heroes.

Many thanks to all who helped. Pat Ask and Diane Pierson helped with decorating, serving and clean up. Bob Sindelar assisted in the kitchen during the meal. Mark Schmitt provided elevator service. Laurie Strottman read a Christmas story to the children. Suzanne Schmitt helped with cleanup. John Fiester and Mark Schmitt returned the couches to youth director room.

AED - Automated External Defibrillator

Did you know that Our Savior's was gifted an AED from the Unity Point Foundation? An AED is a lifesaving device and stands for Automated External Defibrillator and is used in the event of a cardiac arrest emergency. In the event that you are present during a cardiac arrest, there are a few steps to follow...

1. Stay calm - this is obviously a very stressful situation but remaining calm is of utmost importance.
2. Check for a pulse. This is done by placing 2 fingers, usually the pointer and middle finger over the carotid artery on either side of the victim's neck.
3. If the victim does not have a pulse, initiate CPR or cardiopulmonary resuscitation. This is done by interlacing your fingers with both palms facing down. Place your hands in the middle of the victim's chest and push down hard and fast. The goal is to perform 100-120 compressions per minute. If you are alone, start CPR first! Bystander CPR has proven vital in the survival of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest victims. If there are more than one "rescuers" present - one of the other rescuers will go get the AED and call 911 as soon as possible.

4. Get the AED. Our Savior's AED is in the back hallway right outside of Pastor Bunny's office. Open the door to the white cabinet to remove the AED front- be prepared that an alarm will sound, this will alert others that the AED is being used- take the AED to the victim immediately.

5. Once you open the lid to the AED, turn it on. The AED will guide you through all the steps you need to take. Start by placing the pads on the victim. There is a diagram on the defibrillator pads that will show the placement of the pads.

These are essentially large stickers. If the victim has excessive chest hair, use the razor found on the AED cabinet to remove some of the hair. CPR should be continued throughout this process. Once the pads are placed on the victim, it will begin analyzing the victim's heart rhythm, the AED may tell you to hold CPR while it analyzes the rhythm. At this point, the AED will either advise a shock in which case you as the rescuer needs to be completely clear from the victim, or will instruct you to resume CPR.

6. Continue following the instructions given to you by the AED until paramedics arrive.

We also have 3 people that have gone through AED training – Lori Hayes, Natalie Fiester and Jannah Plummer.



Click here for [Demonstration video](#).

Images from Christmas Dinner 12-8-2024







Special Bell Choir Music on 12-29-2024



[Click here for *O' Come Emmanuel* by Bell Choir](#)

[Click here for full service with Bell Choir accompaniment](#)



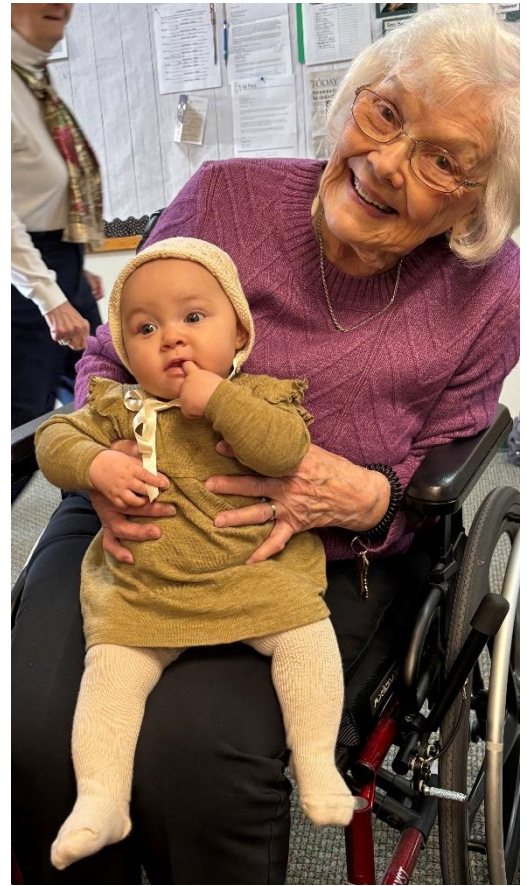
[Click for video of *Jolly Old Saint Nicholas* by the OS LC Children's Bell Choir #1](#)



[Click for video of *Away in a Manager* by the OSLC Children's Bell Choir #2](#)

Images from the Baptism of Ingrid Stella Goings on 12-22-24





4 Generations