



Pastor's Corner

Epiphany: A Season of Light and Renewal

Dear Beloved in Christ,

The season of Epiphany invites us to marvel at the revelation of Jesus as the Light of the World. Beginning with the Magi's visit to the Christ child (Matthew 2:1-12), this season highlights God's grace made manifest to all people. It is a time of discovery, wonder, and transformation as we follow the light of Christ that guides us into deeper faith and renewed purpose.

As we walk through this season together, we are also embracing a meaningful change in our worship life. Beginning this Epiphany, our liturgy includes a Thanksgiving for Baptism in place of Confession and Forgiveness. This liturgical shift reflects a renewed focus on the gift of baptism as a daily source of grace and identity. Just as the heavens opened at Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River and God declared, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17), so too does God claim each of us in baptism as beloved children, marked with the cross of Christ forever.

This change invites us to remember and celebrate our own baptisms each week, grounding our worship in the promise of God's unwavering love and the call to live as disciples of Jesus. It reminds us that baptism is not merely a past event but an ongoing reality. Through water and the Word, God frees us from sin, joins us to Christ's death and resurrection, and empowers us to share the light of Christ with the world.

In a time when the world can feel divided and uncertain, returning to the waters of baptism is a powerful act of faith. It calls us back to our true identity and renews our sense of purpose. Martin Luther encouraged believers to daily remember their baptisms, saying, "When you wash your face, remember your baptism." In other words, let the promise of baptism shape every moment of our lives.

As we gather for worship this season, I encourage you to reflect on how the gift of baptism informs your daily walk with Christ. How does it strengthen you to be a light in your family, workplace, and community? How does it remind you of God's faithfulness in every season of life?

Let us rejoice together in the light of Epiphany and the renewing waters of baptism! I pray this season deepens our faith, unites us in purpose, and inspires us to share the good news of Jesus Christ with all.

Peace and blessings!
Pastor Bunny



Discover New Ways to Give and Make a Lasting Impact

On Sunday, February 16th, you're invited to stay after worship for a special presentation by Deacon Jodi Schuman from the Southeastern Iowa Synod. Deacon Jodi will guide us through alternate forms of giving, including ROTH IRAs and legacy giving, and share how these tools can support both your financial goals and the mission of the church.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn how thoughtful planning can make a lasting impact for generations to come. Whether you're curious about tax-advantaged giving or looking for ways to leave a meaningful legacy, this session is for you.

Join us in deepening our stewardship and discovering how we can all participate in God's work in the world. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

Phil and Andy's Pantry– Souper Bowl

In celebration of February's Super Bowl, we will be collecting cans of soup for Phil & Andy's Pantry. Our local missions always appreciate our support. Please don't forget to pick up a couple extra cans when you are at the grocery store

SOUPER BOWL



In celebration of the NFL Super Bowl we will be collecting Soup the month of February.

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

Youth News:

Confirmation Dinners

Our confirmation kids meet on Wednesday nights from 5:30 - 7:00. They eat dinner together at 5:30 and they would love for you to cook from them. In years past we have ordered pizza but that gets really old really fast. It can be really simple – macaroni and cheese, sloppy joes, walking tacos, chicken and rice casserole, spaghetti. These kids are not picky – there are 4 students and 2 teachers. Sign-up sheet along with a list of menu suggestions are on the bulletin board outside Therese's office.

Mark your calendars! Chili Cook-Off

The OSLC Annual Chili Cook-Off will be held on Sunday, February 23rd at 11:30! There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board - please sign up if you are planning on bringing a pot of chili to be entered in the contest, otherwise please come and enjoy a bowl of chili and fellowship. Al Runau is the standing champion! There will be a free-will offering to be collected and funds raised will contribute to the youth trip to Minneapolis in 2026! Please reach out to Hannah with any questions!



Weather Cancellations

Just a quick reminder that if there is inclement weather and you are wondering if services and/or activities will be held you can go to our website www.crsaviors.org, our Facebook page and for Sunday services we will have it posted on KCRG. As always, your safety is our first concern so if you do not feel comfortable traveling to church, please stay home. We do not want any accidents or broken bones.

2025 Flower Chart

The 2025 flower chart is hanging on the elevator door and there are 12 spots left. Please sign up for dates you would like to donate flowers to enhance the beauty of our altar. If there is someone you want to honor or show remembrance to – please note that as well so it can add it to the bulletin. 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.

Readers

February 2 – Rachel Sindelar

February 9 – Korver Sindelar

February 16 – Dave Sampson

February 23 – Dale Hovden

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

Acolytes

February 2 – Evy Fiester

February 9 – Parker Zeien

February 16 – Eric Strottman

February 23 – Korver Sindelar

Prayer for Pastor

February 2 – Dave Case

February 9 – Ardy Erickson

February 16 – Derek Sindelar

February 23 – Therese Plummer

Ushers/Greeters

February 2 – Fiester’s

February 9 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson

February 16 – Strottman’s

February 23 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg,
Tom Zuber

Assisting Ministers

February 2 – Karen Janney

February 9 – Hannah Plummer

February 16 – Ann Larson

February 23 – Nancy Greer

Children’s Sermon

February 2 – JoAnn Kohl

February 9 – Hannah Plummer

February 16 – Pastor Bunny

February 23 – JoAnn Kohl

Sunday School Teaching Schedule

February 2 – Natalie Fiester

February 9 – Hannah Plummer

February 16 – Rachel Sindelar

February 23 – 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

AED - Automated External Defibrillator

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. Once you open the lid to the AED, turn it on. The AED will guide you through all the steps you need to take.

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

Welcome New Members!!

On Sunday, January 26th we welcomed three new members to Our Savior's Lutheran Church Christian family.

- Karen Janney
- Pastor Catherine Burroughs
- Shawn Boss

We are so happy you are with us!!!



ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES

January 19, 2025

11:15 am meeting

The church constitution requires 25 voting members present to proceed with the meeting. Quorum was met.

The meeting was called to order at 11:18 am by Sue Clapp, OSLC Council President.

Devotions were given by Pastor Bunny Dilliard. *Please see below for a copy of the devotions.*

Secretary's Report from the June 23, 2024 semi-annual meeting - The report was included in the meeting packet distributed to the congregation. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes. Al Johnson moved to accept the Secretary's report. Therese Plummer seconded. All in favor. Carried. The report of the July 14, 2024 special meeting of the congregation was included in the annual report packet. The purpose of this meeting was to hold a congregational vote on the call of Pastor Bunny. Laurie Strottman moved to approved the report. Ron Barth seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Treasurer's report - Dave Sampson reporting. Total contributions for 2024 were \$183,932 and total expenses were \$189,338. The year ended short \$5,406. General expense and general giving numbers will be reported monthly in the bulletin. The year ended with \$87,952 in the general account and \$92,411 total of all designated accounts. Total of all is \$180,363. Marv Houg moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Laurene Case seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Property Board Report- Rick Rogness reporting. Thanks to all the board members for help throughout the year. In March/April a new air conditioning unit was installed in the office area. The fence surrounding the garbage and recycle dumpsters was fixed. Power was restored to the church yard sign. The sign now has LED lighting and a timer. A robot vacuum/floor cleaner was purchased for use in the fellowship hall. A second unit was purchased to be used on the main level of the church. General maintenance was completed. The church passed all inspections (fire, elevator, boiler) throughout the year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Comments from Ministry Teams- None

Other Old Business- None

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of 2025 Budget- Dave Sampson reporting. The budgeted 2025 income is \$201,000. Total budgeted expense for 2025 is \$211,000. The hope is total expense will be less and income will meet the budget. Al Johnson moved to approve. Hannah Plummer seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Synod Assembly Representative Selection – May 17, 2025 in Des Moines- Three members of the congregation to be sent to assembly. Pastor Bunny will attend. Pastor Catherine Burroughs and Al Johnson volunteered to attend. Sue Clapp volunteered to be the alternate attendee if needed. Ardy Erickson moved to approve the attendees. Christopher Miessler seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Nominating Committee Selection- Six people are needed on the committee. The committee should include two members of council at the end of their term. The two leaving council and serving on the committee are Arnold Strottman and Marcia Adix. Four others volunteered to serve: Cindy Fiester, Rachel Sindelar, Ardy Erickson and Marv Houg. The nominating committee was approved unanimously by the congregation.

Audit Committee Selection- Nancy Trout reported Reena Winkowski will once again be doing our audit this year. Work will begin sometime in February. The following have agreed to be on the audit committee; Betty Goehring, Laurene Case, and Al Johnson. Per the constitution, the council will approve this committee.

Other New Business- None

Hannah Plummer's Youth Report- In addition to Hannah's submitted report, she mentioned things are going well with the youth. Confirmation and first communion classes have returned. There are many plans for 2025.

Pastor Bunny's Report- In addition to Pastor Bunny's submitted report, she mentioned she is very glad to be with us and looks forward to building on relationships with all members.

Laurie Strottman moved to adjourn the meeting. Christine Miessler seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Submitted by:

Nancy Trout
OSLC Council Co-Secretary

*Note: if you notice any corrections needed to the minutes above,
please let Therese or any other council member know about it.*

Opening Devotion for Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

January 19, 2024

Scripture Reading: Philippians 1:3-6

“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

As we gather for this semi-annual meeting, Paul’s words to the Philippians feel especially fitting. He writes with gratitude, joy, and confidence in God’s work within the church. Tonight, I feel the same about this congregation. Over the past year, we have seen God’s faithfulness in countless ways—through worship, service, fellowship, and care for one another. You are a congregation full of gifts and heart, and I give thanks for the ways God is at work among us.

This meeting isn’t just a time for reports and plans; it’s an opportunity to celebrate what God has done and to discern where God is calling us next. It’s a time to reflect on our shared purpose as the body of Christ, to remember that we are not working alone, but as partners in the Gospel. Each one of us has a role in this ministry, and together, we form a living, breathing expression of Christ’s love.

As we look ahead, we may feel a mix of emotions—gratitude for what’s been accomplished, excitement for the future, and perhaps some uncertainty about challenges we face. But as Paul reminds us, we can be confident in this: the God who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. God is faithful. God’s Spirit is with us, guiding and sustaining us every step of the way.

Let’s approach this meeting with a sense of hope and purpose. Let’s give thanks for the ways God has been present in our life together and trust that God will continue to lead us into a future filled with promise. We are here not just as individuals, but as a community called to live out God’s mission in the world.

Let us pray:

Gracious and faithful God,

We give thanks for this congregation and for the ways You have worked through us over the past year. Thank you for each person gathered here and for the gifts and stories they bring. As we reflect on the past and plan for the future, remind us that this is Your church, and we are Your people. Fill us with hope and joy, guide our conversations with wisdom and grace, and strengthen us to continue Your work in the year ahead. May all we do bring glory to You and share Your love with the world.

In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Pastor Bunny Dillard