

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD



Let all that you
do be done in *love.*

1 Corinthians 16:14

FEBRUARY 2020



A Letter from Pastor Sander

“... and the glory of the Lord shone round about them.”

Luke 2:9

Dear Friend:

As you are reading this, you see living proof that the glory of the Lord continues to shine “round about” us to this very day. The shepherds were the first to see this glory when the angel of the Lord appeared to them in the middle of the night when Jesus was born. This glory is seen all around us as we share the news that Christ was born.

The church wisely designated these weeks following Christmas and preceding Lent as the season of Epiphany. The word “epiphany” means to show around. The Lord of light shows Himself around when He penetrates the darkness brought about by sin and brings His light and salvation to lives who lived in doubt, in fear, in spiritual darkness.

The Lord comes to us – we do not go to him. The Lord comes to others through us. We live in the spirit of epiphany as we sustain the ministry among us and as we sustain missions outside our congregation. In the year 2020 we will have opportunities never before given us at Blessed Savior. This is because the Lord moved a family from among us to pay off the mortgage. Our weekly budget included some \$1,200.00 for the mortgage payments. Since the mortgage is paid for, we are now able to embrace local and foreign mission projects like never before.

Blessed Savior will make every effort to let the light of the Lord shine round about many people. We are grateful to the Lord of the Church for the privilege to work with him on the salvation of those who have never heard of him. We are also aware that each generation has to be told of the marvelous love of our Savior Jesus Christ! It was precious to hear our missionary Rachel Meyer tells us about the work she does on teaching the Gospel in Uganda. Another missionary, Phillip Magness is on his way to Congo to teach hymns and liturgy to the local churches there.

Our work will never get done. There are 360,000 babies born every day, on average. As you can see, the mission goes on until the Lord Himself grants us rest!

A blessed and busy Epiphany to all!

Pastor Martinho Q. Sander



From DCE, Jaime Greene



“Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool”

Isaiah 1:18b

What a strange winter, isn't it? We spent our Fall Festival with GORGEOUS weather, only to be hit with a huge snow storm a few days later on Halloween. And then...nothing. November and December were mostly snowless, fairly warm, and void of the winter scenes that we love (or hate).

The weather is one of those interesting things. It's a tried and true conversation starter and filler, but at the same time it's something that can be a touchy subject with some people. There are those who can't wait for winter to end, and even some that dread the beginning of summer. I personally love the changeover of each season. When I was living in Texas, I desperately missed the changing of the leaves and being buried in snow. I'm a true Midwest girl who needs to give each season it's due. In fact, when a new season comes along, I declare it as my favorite! There is nothing better than that first warm spring day, where the tulips are poking through after a long winter. And there is nothing better than that first hot day when you can take a dip in a pool to cool off. And honestly, is there anything better than the smell of fall? And of course, there is nothing better than that first snowfall (Although I will admit that by the end of winter, I'm usually singing a different tune!). Towards the end of each season, I'm ready for what the next one has to bring.

Which brings us back to our current season. When you're not driving in it, snow is a beauty to watch-so perfectly white, each snowflake completely differently, and falling so gracefully. It's the perfect blanket to cover up the deadness of winter. Each time it snows, I'm reminded of the verse from Isaiah- "though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow". We all sin, that's no surprise. While God created us perfect, we continually ruin that with our own sinful desires. We have taken that perfect white sheet, and stained it with our own impure thoughts, unkind words, and hurtful deeds. We've stained it to the point where there is not one single thing we can do to make it better. But Christ, in all His mercy and grace, deemed us worthy enough of His love. His love, through the shedding of His blood, makes us perfect in the eyes of Christ. His perfection covers us, so that when God looks at us, He sees beauty. It's exactly like when the snow falls-it covers up those dead branches that have fallen, and the grass that has turned brown, and the flowers that have been trimmed back. You don't see the dead stuff anymore-you see the shimmery, white, beautiful snow.

So today, you won't find me complaining about the snow. Instead, I choose to thank God for covering me with His grace, and for covering our ground with snow.



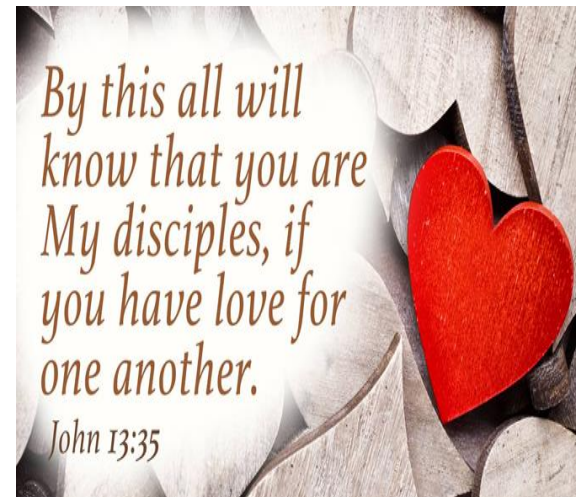
From our Director of Preschool & Children's Ministry, Jennifer Leinss

*"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
John 13:35*



We have reached that point in the church year of Ash Wednesday. We recently celebrated the birth of our Savior, Epiphany, and will soon focus on the Transfiguration of our Lord and Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is the start of a 40 day journey to the cross. It is a time for us to examine and focus on our sins, and the need for forgiveness and a Savior. In some churches, Ash Wednesday includes the placing ashes on a person's forehead. This is a reminder to us that we need to repent and believe. It also reminds us that we are but dust and to dust we shall return. Nothing that we can do will ever save us or forgive us, we need Jesus!

These ashes on Ash Wednesday mark us as a Christian. This is a day when you can see those that attended a worship service. But outside of this day and the marking of ashes, what tells other people that we are Christians? Not only is February a month that holds Ash Wednesday for us, but it also has Valentine's Day. In the above Bible verse, we are told that all men will know we are His disciples, by us loving one another. This is a command given to us in John 15:12, "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." What does this love look like? This love looks like sharing a smile to brighten someone's day, not sharing that tidbit of news that you heard third hand with others. This love looks like giving someone the shirt off of your back because you have dozens more at home. Best of all this love looks like sharing the saving Gospel message with everyone!



Jesus did not tell us that He only wants some of us to repent, be saved, and have eternal life. He wants all to be saved! As His children we are charged with this very important and special task, share His love! Just as you don't keep exciting news to yourself, but rather share it with everyone you know, we need to share that Jesus saves! Jesus loves everyone, forgives those that repent, and wants to spend eternity with us! So, in this life, will others know that you have been charged with this special task? Will others know that you are a Christian, a child of God? Will they look at you and see His love shining through? With the Lord promising to be with you, will you help others, serve others, and share with them the greatest news they could ever receive? We have much to reflect on this Lenten season. While yes, we first look at ourselves as sinners in need of a Savior, we must also look at others and pray for them. Pray that they may also have a relationship with their Father in heaven and come to know Him and all His blessings! The Lord has shown time and time again that He is willing and able to bless and keep blessing. Let's take full advantage of His blessings and then share them with everyone around us! Bless on, my friend!

Preschool News

We had fun celebrating National Lutheran Schools Week. We are grateful for the opportunity to teach, learn, and talk about Jesus every day. We don't have to be ashamed to mention the name of Jesus, pray multiple times, have chapel services together, sing praises to God, and read from the Bible. We had many fun activities to celebrate this week, including special dress days, an ice cream party, family game night, and so much more! Thank you for your support!

Our big focus in February is our Jump Rope for Heart Campaign. We will be giving back to those who suffer or have suffered from heart related issues. This is a community focus for us this month. We will be raising funds for the American Heart Association to raise awareness of heart disease, stroke indications, and so much more! If you would like to help with this campaign, please see Jennifer Leinss to see how you can give! We will also be studying ways that we can take care of our bodies like exercising and healthy eating since our bodies are a gift from God.



Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year has begun! We currently have openings in our 2K, 3K, and 4K classes. If you would like more information or if you would like to register, please see Jennifer Leinss or contact her at (262) 786-6465 ext. 14 or preschool@bslc-wi.org. We hope that you take some time to learn about the Blessed Savior difference and come check out the many opportunities we have to offer! Help us pass on this information; tell others who may be looking for a Christian preschool!

Childcare continues to look for fun, energetic, team players! If you or anyone you know is looking for an early childhood position, please pass this information along! We have all hours available and wage is based on experience. Early childhood courses and experience is preferred, but not necessary. For more information contact Director Jennifer Leinss at preschool@bslc-wi.org.

Children's Ministry

Our offerings for the second trimester of Sunday school will be going to Mongolia! Lutheran Hour Ministries has a program called Gospel Adventures. Each January they sponsor an online mission trip. Kids from all over the world can participate in this free program. Kids will get to meet Mongolian children and see what a typical day looks like in their life. Our offerings will be going to Lutheran Hour Ministries to support this wonderful outreach. Offerings collected will be used to host vacation Bible school programs, youth gatherings and workshops, provide outreach opportunities for those that don't yet know Christ, and offer a variety of age-appropriate resources that teach about Jesus! Offerings collected in December, January, and February will be given to this wonderful program as we share the love of Jesus in Mongolia!



Vacation Bible School is still several months away, but planning has begun. VBS is a fun week that is not possible without the help of you! Please watch the children's ministry bulletin board for details coming soon concerning this wonderful week of praising Jesus and witness! Get ready to lace up those sneakers and participate in some fun Olympic games with a Bible twist as we get "Ready, Set, Gold!"

Sunday School Bells:

Our Sunday school students will have the opportunity to play handbells in church on Sunday, February 23. We will be playing at both services during the offering. We are blessed to have this special opportunity and look forward to our kids praising their Father in heaven!

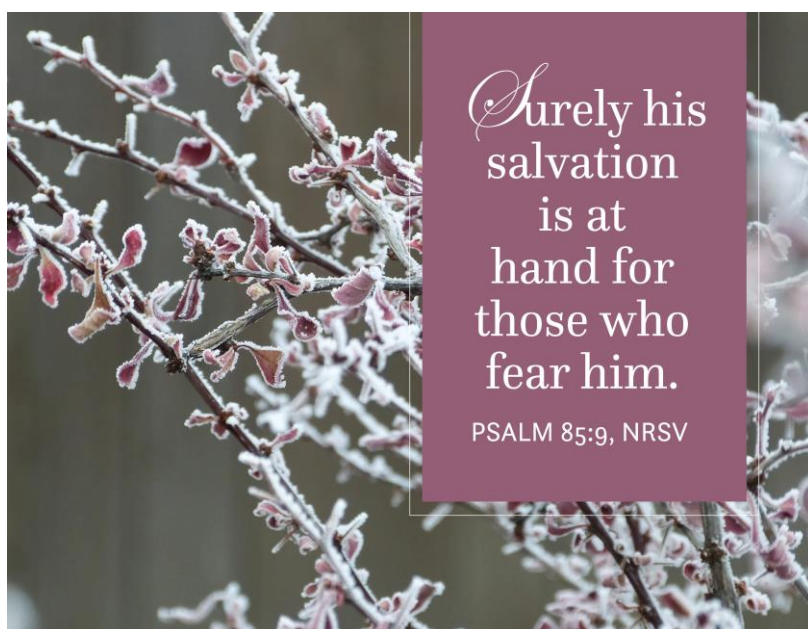


Military

Thanks to all of you for your removing of stamps from your mail. In December we were able to send out a 13+ pound box of cancelled stamps to the Lions Club for help with all their veteran projects. We received a nice thank you from the Lions Club for our donation. Another box has been started, so please keep those stamps coming in!

We continue to send care packages to the USO in Afghanistan (suggested items listed at the collection site in the fellowship hall), clip and mail coupons to be used at an air base in England, accept handmade helmet liners that go in the care packages to Afghanistan (yarn is available for this project), and keep in touch with our military families on active duty.

Without your help, none of these projects would be possible. Thank you all so very much!



LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 26- 11:00am & 7:00pm

Midweek Lent Services

Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18 & 25 and
April 1

11:00am & 6:30pm

(Lunch at 11:30am, Dinner at 5:30pm)

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 5 – 8:00am & 10:30am

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 9 - 11:00am & 7:00pm

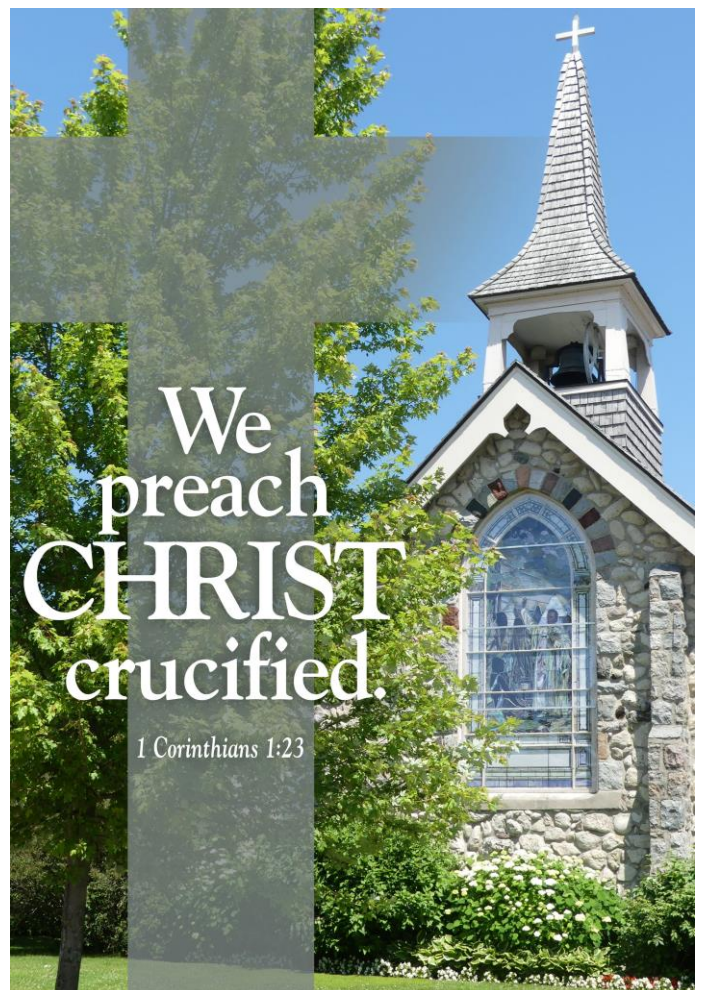
Good Friday

Friday, April 10 - 1:00pm & 7:00pm

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, April 12 - 6:00, 8:00, & 10:30am
(Breakfast at 7:00am)

Return
to the
LORD
your God.
Joel 2:13




“... Share your Bread

WITH THE HUNGRY AND BRING THE
HOMELESS POOR INTO YOUR HOUSE ...”

ISAIAH 58:7

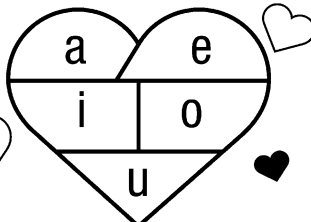




A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.

Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.



“Y _ _ r _ my fr _ _ nds _ f
y _ _ d _ wh _ t _ c _ mm _ nd. ...
Th _ s _ s my c _ mm _ nd:
L _ v _ _ _ ch _ th _ r.”

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV

Answer: “You are my friends if you do what I command. ... This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:14, 17, NIV

WALK BY
Faith.
NOT BY
sight.

GOD IS MY SALVATION

ISAIAH 12:2

Puzzle!

First, write the opposite of each listed word.
Then transfer letters to the correct numbered blanks to discover Jesus’ messages about love.

cool	1	2	3	4	soft	20	21	22	23		
under	5	6	7	8	old	24	25	26	27	28	
out	9	10			after	29	30	31	32	33	34
large	11	12	13	14	false	35	36	37	38		
quiet	16	17	18	19							

“
14 5 6 7 35 20 7 15 17 36 23 24 5 18 8 28 17 23
1 9 35 20 2 16 14 24 5 18 3 20 7 13 8 35 2 10 23
1 9 35 20 13 14 16 24 17 37 36 11 5 18 14 2 27 19
1 9 35 20 21 15 16 24 17 18 36 11 35 3 30 10 28 35 20
2 10 23 1 9 35 20 21 14 16 24 5 37 8 4 9 10 23
21 27 23 16 32 6 7 24 5 18 22 10 34 9 28 20 29 17 33
“
13 11 24 25 26 22 11 7 14 31
”

Answer: warm, over, in, small, loud, hard, young, before, true; “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind” and “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Luke 10:27, NIV

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Bernice Bartelt Elyssa Kingstad Jennifer Romans Lori Rydlewicz Adam Wrycha	3 Dan Wendorf	4 Andrew Adams Phyllis Dobke Betty Voss	5	6 Timothy Scherer	7 Daniel Sutton	8 Kristy Eutsler Charles Jagielski
9	10 Marlene Ackerman Nathaniel Kutcher Kathryn Steib	11 Kimberly Burow	12 Zachary Stoltenburg	13	14 Phillip Cataldo James Radcliffe Robert & Marlene Ackerman 30 years	15 Carl Senek Tyler Stoltenburg
16 Elizabeth Hamann	17	18 Diane Scherer Henley Schnell Jacob Wetjen	19 Gretchen Gutenberger	20 Gary Dwyer Everett Fox Scott Hippler	21 Shari Schulz Tami Schwarz	22 Dominic Sellito Marian Welter
23	24 Peter Gutenberger Wanda & John Kluessendorf 52 years	25 Cameron Herried	26 Cathy Roloff	27 Keith Kamperschroer	28 Lauren Accola Ella Berger	29

Bible Class Schedule

Sunday

9:15AM - Adult Bible Study
Led by Pastor Sander in Fellowship Hall
1 Kings

Tuesday

6:30AM - Adult Bible Study
Led by Pastor Sander in Fellowship Hall
The Gospel of Luke

9:15AM - Ladies' Bible Study
Led by Jaime Greene in Fellowship Hall
Joy: A Study of Philippians

7:00PM - Ladies' Bible Study
Led by Jaime Greene in Fellowship Hall
Joy: A Study of Philippians

Wednesday

7:00PM - Adult Bible Study
Led by Duane Graf in Fellowship Hall
2 Corinthians

Thursday

9:30AM - Morning Bible Study
Led by Pastor Sander in Fellowship Hall
Gospel of Matthew

Saturday

2nd & 4th Saturdays at 8:00AM – Men's Bible Study
Led by Tom Wartick in Fellowship Hall



Membership Updates

Baptisms:

Seth Carey
Evan Carey

New Member:

Susan Psaris

Membership Loss Due to Death:

Raymond Schmid

Total Membership

at the End of January: 589

Average Weekly

January Attendance: 239



Financial Report

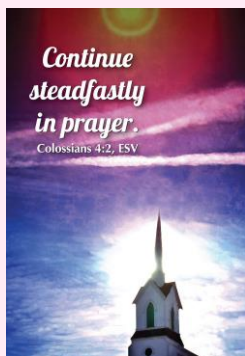
YTD Offerings as of 12/31/2019

General Offerings: \$557,387.50
General Expenses: \$(649,235.50)
\$(91,848.00)

Preschool Income: \$276,136.58
Preschool Expenses: \$(173,816.59)
\$102,319.99

Other Offerings: \$420,262.73
Other Expenses: \$(456,785.46)
\$(36,522.73)

Total Offerings Less Expenses
\$(26,050.74)



CHURCH OFFICERS

- ***Chairman** Bob Kunz
- ***Vice Chairman** Tim Scherer
- ***Council Secretary** Laurie Cataldo
- ***Treasurer** Mark Filter

BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Altar Guild** Janet Steinhaus
- ***Board of Elders** Rick Krause
- ***Board of Evangelism & Missions** Karen Naumann
- ***Board of Parish Education** Kristy Eutsler
- ***Board of Stewardship** Pat Hurlbut
- ***Board of Trustees** Wayne Boulton
- Extended Ministry Endowment Committee**
Jason Herried
- Greeter Coordinator** Kevin Ganey
- Lay Reader Coordinator** Carla Herried
- Nursery Roll Coordinator** Jaime Greene
- Personnel Committee** Tim Scherer
- Women's Ministries** Melanie Heimer

* Church Council Member

CHURCH STAFF

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Mike Malone

Blair Kasfeldt
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The Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod



Worship Services

Sunday Mornings

8:00AM & 10:30AM

Thursday Evenings

7:00PM

Holy Communion

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays at 8:00AM
2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays at 10:30AM
1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays at 7:00PM