

Our Times Are in His Hands

The Church and the world are awake, but for very different reasons. The world counts down to midnight; the Church watches eagerly for her Master who is "coming at an hour" we "do not expect" (Luke 12:40). For many, the changing year brings regrets, fears and desperate wishes for improvement. The world delights in smooth talk and illusions of prosperity at any cost (Is. 30:9–10). It has already forgotten "the Holy One of Israel" born six days earlier (Is. 30:11). The Church ends the calendar year differently. "In returning and rest ... in quietness and in trust," that is, in repentance and faith, for the Holy One saves us, and He is our strength (Is. 30:15). Our times are in His hands (Ps. 31:15), the hands of Mary's Son — God not only with us, but for us (Matt. 1:23). So, who could be against us? If God has given His Son, "how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?" (Rom. 8:31–32). The Church dresses for action not in fear, but in hope; Christ is coming to serve her with His gifts (Luke 12:37). Who is there to condemn us for the passing year? Christ has died, is raised and intercedes for us! What distress will the new year bring? Nothing "can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 8:34–39)!

WORSHIP SERVICE AND BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Children ages 3 - 8th grade-Sundays at 9:15. There is no Sunday School on January 1.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Starting on Sunday, January 8, at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Noah and the flood. Join us as we explore this Old Testament event and the implications it has for our lives today. Led by Pastor Stanton

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: The Gospel of John-Tuesdays at 6:30am.

TUESDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY: A Study on Advent-Tuesdays at 9:00am.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: The Good Shepherd-Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Beginning January 11th, we will be studying the book of Hebrews and how, through Jesus, we are made capable of enduring and overcoming the struggles of life. Please contact Duane Graf or Jaime Greene in the church office if you plan to attend, so we can have enough study guides for the test.

WOMEN'S HOME BIBLE STUDY: LWML on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30pm.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Study and discussions are beginning on the Gospel of Mark at 9:30 am. All are welcome!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Quiet Strength by Tony Dungy- 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 8:30am.

CHARITABLE INFORMATION

FIRST QUARTER SPECIAL MISSIONS: For the first quarter of 2023, our Special Mission Offering will support Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW). LBW works to ensure that all people throughout the world who are blind or visually impaired will have access to the Good News of salvation, by providing Bibles, pamphlets, and other materials in Braille, Specialized Large Print, and Audio Christian materials. To sponsor Special Missions, please sign up on the bulletin board.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING: Second quarter Sunday school offerings will be going to India - Gospel Adventures through Lutheran World Relief. Offerings will support youth clubs in India and ensure the continuation of the spreading of the Gospel!

The Staff of Blessed Savior would like to wish each and every one of you a very happy and blessed New Year! May our Savior fill each of you with hope, peace, joy and love!

CHURCH INFORMATION

POINSETTIA PLANTS: Thank you to everyone who purchased poinsettias for the Lord's Altar! If you would like to take your plant home, you may do so at your earliest convenience.

ALTAR FLOWERS, BULLETINS, AND SPECIAL MISSIONS: If you are interested in sponsoring Altar Flowers, Bulletins and/or Special Missions, please see the Bulletin Board for the 2023 sign-up sheet.

RAISE RIGHT: Thank you to everyone who purchased RaiseRight gift cards throughout 2022! Because of you, we sold over \$46,000 worth of cards and raised \$1,500 for education programs at Blessed Savior! This is an ongoing program for us, and you can continue to purchase gift cards at the table in the hallway, or by using the Order Form, which is available by the bulletin boards on the west side of the hallway.

CHILDCARE TEACHERS NEEDED: Blessed Savior Lutheran ECC is looking for loving, energetic, qualified team players to serve as teachers/aides in our childcare room. This is an immediate need we have to fill so please spread the word! Early childhood courses and experience is preferred. Hours are flexible, wage is based on experience! Contact Director Jennifer Leinss to learn more about becoming a part of this great team! 262-786-6465 or jleinss82@gmail.com.

WINTER PICNIC: January 8, after the 2nd service, we are having an Epiphany extravaganza. Please see the sign-up sheet in the bulletin board. The meat and buns will be provided.

ROLL CALL: We are so glad to have you joining us in Worship. If you could be so kind and fill out a blue attendance card and hand it to an Usher or place it in the offering plate, we would be grateful.

YOUNG AT HEART: Kick off the new year with Young at Heart! On Thursday, January 5th, we will meet at 11am to watch the movie "Out to Sea". Following the movie, we'll have lunch at Point Burger Bar. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES: New offering envelopes for 2023 have been placed in your mailbox. Families with 3 or more, your boxes will be on the ledge of the mailbox unit. Take them home today! Please be sure to only use your 2022 envelopes throughout the month of December and begin using the new envelopes in January.

OFFICE CLOSURE FOR HOLIDAYS: Our staff is very much looking forward to spending the Christmas and New Year's holidays with their families! Please note that the office will be closed on Monday, January 2nd. In case of emergency, please contact Pastor Stanton at 414-327-1239.

PORTALS OF PRAYER: The next quarter of Portals of Prayer devotionals are now available for you in the Church Narthex. Please take one for you and one to share!

PARTNERS IN PRAYER: Please note that January's Partners in Prayer will not be held on January 2nd, but will instead be on January 9th at 9am. Please join us as we cover our students and schools in prayer!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES RESUME: After a brief hiatus for the Advent and Christmas season, Confirmation classes will be resuming on Wednesday, January 4th at 7pm. We look forward to seeing all 6th-8th graders there!

CRAFT NIGHT: Grab the crafts you're currently working on and join us on Friday, January 6th from 6-11pm. Bring a snack to share and stay as long as you'd like!

DECORATION TAKEDOWN: On Sunday, January 15th following the late service, we will be taking down the Christmas decorations. Please plan to stick around and lend a hand!

YOUTH GROUP: All 6th -12th graders are invited to join us for Youth Group on Sunday, January 15th, from 6-8pm. Please watch for more information in next week's bulletin, and in your emails.

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS FAIR: We are excited to celebrate Lutheran Schools later this month! Stop in the Fellowship Hall during the Education Hour on Sunday, January 29th to visit with our area Lutheran Schools to see what exciting things they are up to in their ministry, and to listen to our church members share what they love about their school.

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT: Preschool will start open enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year on Monday, January 23rd. If you have or know of anyone looking for 2K, 3K, 4K, or childcare and would like more information or to register please contact Jennifer Leinss 262-786-6465 or jleinss82@gmail.com.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSIONS

We pray for our members:

Judy Karen Nancy Alice Bettylynn Joanne Ron Marc
Linda Norma Grace

We also remember in our prayers these friends and relatives of our members:

Geraldine Frank Curtis Anita Lynn

We pray the Lord to watch over those who are serving in the military:

Garrett Corwyn Erika Carlos Mary Darren

Altar Flowers are sponsored by

Bulletins are sponsored by

Special Missions are sponsored by

WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 31st - JANUARY 8th

SAT 8:30am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm New Year's Eve Worship	THURS 9:30am Bible Study 11:00am Young at Heart 7:00pm Worship and Communion
SUN 10:00am New Year's Day Worship	FRI 6:00pm Craft Night
MON Office Closed	SAT 9:00am Handbell Rehearsal
TUES 6:30am Bible Study 9:00am Ladies Bible Study	SUN 8:00am Worship and Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship and Communion 11:30am Epiphany Extravaganza
WED 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-4:00pm
Fridays 9:00am-1:00pm

PASTOR STANTON'S OFFICE HOURS:
By Appointment Only

Attendance: 294 Offerings: \$24,642.00 Needed Weekly: \$11,760