

The Announcer
December 1, 2024



Budget and Election Voter's Meeting: The budget and election voter's meeting will be Sunday, December 8th following the worship service (approximately 10:15 am). If you are a confirmed member of this congregation, you are eligible to become a voting member. All you need to do is attend a meeting and request a voting membership. Please plan to join us!

Christmas Poinsettias: If you would like to purchase a Christmas poinsettia (in memory of a loved one or to the Glory of God), please sign-up on the sheet on the guest registry table. The cost is \$25 and you can place the money in the offering plate marked accordingly. You must sign up by next Sunday, December 8th. Sorry for the quick turn-around time, as this snuck up on us very quickly. Thank you for helping to beautify the sanctuary during the Christmas season!



Scrip Cards for Christmas Gifts! If you want to purchase scrip gift cards/certificates for Christmas gifts, please let Sara know exactly which cards and denominations you want. **She will be placing a big order for Christmas on Monday, December 9th.** You can also request cards we don't normally have on hand such as

Ulta Beauty or Bass Pro Shops, etc. Sara can look up any store to see if it is something she can purchase. Most chain stores participate in the scrip program. As always, if you have questions, please reach out to Sara. Thanks!



Christmas Cookie Sale! The Women of Our Savior and the Senior ACTs will be having their annual Christmas Cookie & Treats sale on Saturday, December 7th from 7:30-10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds will benefit both groups. As always, there will be lots of goodies to choose from to eat right away or freeze for a later date. ☺ Thank you for your continued support of the ladies and the youth!

Calling All Bakers! We are looking for donations of delicious homemade goodies for the annual Christmas Cookie & Treats sale! You can leave your treats in the church kitchen any time after 5:00 pm on Friday, December 6th or you can drop them off Saturday morning before 7:00 am. **PLEASE put wax paper between layers** of goodies so they do not stick to each other! If you have any questions, please reach out to Bobbie. Thanks for your support!



What Child Is This?: Children of the Salvation Story - Our Advent midweek services will be December 4th, 11th, and 18th at 6:00 pm. We'll consider how the promise of a child brought hope and life to the parents of Isaac, Samuel, and John the Baptist, as well as seeing how these sons point us to the Son of God and His salvation for us. We'll also have a Christmas hymn sing led by Pr. Armbrrecht starting about 5:50 pm each Wednesday, so come and sing your favorite Christmas hymn with us!

Beautiful Handmade Ornaments: The youth will be selling beautiful handmade ornaments donated by Janet Woellert during the Cookie Sale! The proceeds will benefit the youth group to help pay for their youth gathering.



Church Elections: We will be having our 2-year church elections (2025-2026) for the boards and board directors on December 8th. **A sign-up sheet is now on the bulletin board.** It's not too late to sign up to be on a board or the director of a board. If you have questions on what certain boards do during the year, please reach out to Jim or Sara and they would be happy to get you more information.

Children's Christmas Program: All children ages preschool thru 6th grade are invited to be a part of the children's Christmas program. Practices will be December 1st and December 8th, during the Sunday school timeframe, from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm. The program will be presented to the congregation on **Sunday, December 15th at 9:00 am.** The dress-rehearsal will begin at 8:00 am on Sunday, December 15th. Following the Children's program, there will be refreshments, and then there will be a regular worship service around 10:15 am.



Birthdays this week: December 2: Reese; **December 4:** Dave; **December 7:** Kendalyn.

Wedding anniversaries this week: December 2: Tom & Colleen.

Church Properties Contact Person for December is Michael (319-521-2817). Please contact him with any items that need the attention of the Board.



Youth Group Fundraisers: The youth who are attending the National Youth Gathering in July 2025 have placed envelopes with dollar amounts written on them (\$1-\$100) on the glass wall of the sanctuary. We are asking congregation members to pick envelopes and give donations to the youth group for the amount on the envelope(s). Checks can be made payable to "Senior ACTs". You can leave your donations in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, or you can give them to Sara in the office during the week. Thanks for supporting our youth!

Sarah ~ Stronghold Mission: If you would like to donate to Stronghold or Mission of Christ Network, the information is below. Thank you for your support!

Give to Stronghold online:

<https://missionofchrist.org/give-to-stronghold-cambodia/>

Link for a Stronghold water bottle:

<https://vidllife.com/products/stronghold-cambodia>

Give to Mission of Christ Network online:

<https://missionofchrist.org/give-to-the-general-fund/>

Mail a Gift:

* Checks can be made out to “Mission of Christ Network”

* If the donation is for a specific Mission Partner or Fund, please include this information in the memo line.

* Checks can be mailed to: PO Box 533, Concordia, MO, 64020

Give by Phone:

To make a credit card payment by phone, please call MCN at (888) 495-9005 ext. 706

For other charitable giving options, including IRA contributions, stock gifts, and Thrivent Choice Dollars,

email: donatestronghold@gmail.com

This Week at Our Savior Lutheran Church

TODAY, December 1:	9:00 am	Worship/Communion
	10:15 am	Adult Bible Class
	10:15-11:45 am	Children’s Christmas Program Practice
TUESDAY, December 3:	5:00 pm	Women of Our Savior Cookie Sale work night
WEDNESDAY, December 4:	6:00 pm	Advent Worship Service (hymn sing at 5:50 pm)
	7:00 pm	Lay Ministry Board
THURSDAY, December 5:	9:00-10:00 am	Bible Study, St. Paul’s, Delaware
	5:30-7:00 pm	SONshine Center reserved
SATURDAY, December 7:	7:30-10:30 am	Christmas Cookie & Treats Sale, Fellowship Hall
NEXT SUNDAY, December 8:	9:00 am	Worship/Communion
	10:15 am	Voter’s Meeting – Budget and Election
	10:15-11:45 am	Children’s Christmas Program Practice

The Lutheran Hour: "Completely Ordinary Human" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Everyone has a story to tell and yours can be one through which Jesus is working to make the world new again. (Malachi 3:7). Listen to “The Lutheran Hour” next Sunday morning at 9:00 on radio station KMCH 94.7 FM.

Generosity Moment: Matthew 21:3 – “If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” – Consider the faithfulness of that man who owned the donkey and colt. All he needed to hear was, “The Lord has need of it,” and he willingly gave. The Lord has given each of us various callings in life (in our homes, in the church and in the communities we live in). In each calling we have good work to do which comes from the Lord’s hand. The Lord has need of us in each calling. How is He calling you to generous giving in each of your vocations?

Mission News: The LCMS has 38 partner churches around the world. A partner church is a church body with which the LCMS has full altar and pulpit fellowship. Many LCMS partner churches also are members of the International Lutheran Council, a worldwide association of confessional Lutheran church bodies. Some LCMS partner churches came into existence through LCMS-supported mission efforts, while others have historic roots that pre-date the LCMS or that are sourced in the mission efforts of other Lutheran church bodies. *Remember that the Church waits for the Second Coming in repentance, hope, and faith. For the following, we pray “Lord, have mercy,” as we pray for hearts that imitate the generosity and graciousness of Jesus. Pray that God’s people would be eager to show forth the love of God through their good works for their neighbor.*

Life Quote: “Do you ever doubt the love of God? Perhaps you are just ‘looking for love in all the wrong places,’ if you’ll pardon the expression. Don’t look to your own feelings and emotions which can change with the wind, but look to Bethlehem and the manger. See God’s love in this that His only begotten Son was sent to be humbled and to die for you. Understand that at Christmas ‘God so loved the world that He gave ...’” *Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan ~ A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts in the Church Year: Advent I – “The Lord is our righteousness” (Jeremiah 23:6b). What comforting truth for hearts troubled with sin’s guilt that keeps resurfacing. Sometimes a past sin can be so haunting that we do not always feel forgiven, or we cannot forgive ourselves. The sin of abortion is a prime example. But our righteousness does not depend upon us or our feelings. Our righteousness is Christ! *Prayer: O Lord our Righteousness, may my comfort and hope be anchored in You and not my feelings. Amen.*

Building Healthy Families: Parents, grandparents and pew buddies—the season of Advent is a time of waiting and wonder, giving us a space to slow down in an otherwise busy stretch. While most places outside of the church are eager to jump straight to Christmas and keep you hopping from one activity to the next, make time to rest in God’s Word and embrace the slower pace found in weekend and midweek services. Encourage children to take note of the new things they see in church (like the different candles, Chrismons, parament colors, banners, printed and digital art), and discuss how they point us to Jesus and his coming to earth! **Lutheran Family Service**, 2550 Middle Road, Suite 602, Bettendorf, Iowa 52722. Phone: 563.359.0696 or www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Scrip Gift Cards & Increments

(** local cards)

~ All proceeds benefit the youth group! ~

Retail/Grocery/Fuel:

Amazon: \$25, \$50, \$100
American Eagle: \$25
Barnes & Noble: \$10 and \$25
Bath & Body Works: \$10
Best Buy: \$25
Buckle: \$25
Cabelas: \$25
** Casey's: \$25 and \$100
** Castle Theater: \$5
Claire's: \$10
Dick's Sporting Goods: \$25
** **Fareway: \$25, \$50, \$100**
I-Tunes: \$15 and \$25
JC Penney: \$25
Kohl's: \$25 and \$100
** Kwik Star: \$25, \$50, \$100
Menards: \$25
Old Navy/Gap: \$25
Scheels: \$25
Target: \$25, \$50, \$100
** **Walmart: \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100**

Restaurants:

Applebees: \$25
Buffalo Wild Wings: \$25
** Burger King: \$10
Caribou Coffee: \$10
Chili's: \$25
Chipotle: \$10
** Chuong Garden: \$10
Cold Stone Creamery: \$10
Cracker Barrel: \$25
** Dairy Queen: \$5 and \$10
** **Dolce Vita: \$10 and \$20**
Dunkin' Donuts: \$10
** Hardee's: \$10
McDonald's: \$10
Noodles and Company: \$10
Olive Garden/Cheddar's: \$25
Outback Steakhouse: \$25
Panera Bread: \$10
** Pizza Ranch: \$5
Red Lobster: \$25
Red Robin: \$25
Starbucks \$10
** Subway: \$10
Texas Roadhouse: \$25

If you are looking for a gift card not on this list, please contact Sara and she can find out if it is a card we can order.

***** Cards to most restaurants and clothing stores typically offer the highest percentage back.**

***** Check out the new scrip gift certificates to Dolce Vita! We also offer \$100 Fareway cards and \$10 Walmart cards! Perfect for Christmas or birthday gifts!**