

Program for the Week of January 15 – January 22, 2023

Sunday: *Mite Sunday*

8:00 Worship
9:00 Coffee Time
9:15 Bible Class
9:20 Sunday School
10:30 Worship

Monday:

6:30 Early Bird Bible Study

Tuesday:

10:00 Staff Meeting
7:00 Worship Service on KTV

Wednesday:

2:00 Worship Service on KTV
4:00 Mission Service
5:15 The Joy Switch Class
5:15 Introductory Choir
5:50 Introductory Bells
6:00 Meal
6:45 Devotion
7:00 Jr. Confirmation

7:00 Vocal Choir
7:30 Handbell Choir

Thursday:

9:00 Private Confession
10:00 Bulletin Deadline
6:30 Daring to Hope Class

Friday:

4:00 The Voice Deadline

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

8:00 Worship
9:00 Coffee Time
9:15 Bible Class
9:20 Sunday School
10:30 Worship
11:45 Voters' Meeting
12:45 Chili Cook-off
4:30 Book Club
6:30 TSNT

About the Cover: The popular painting on the cover by Francisco de Zurbarán is named *Agnus Dei* – “The Lamb of God.” The light of Epiphany, illumined by the words of John the Baptist, declares Jesus to be that perfect lamb without blemish. Just as we sing in the liturgy of the same name, our Agnus Dei takes away our sins in God’s merciful Meal.

“**Homecoming Hopes**” is the theme for our Sunday School lesson this today. King Artaxerxes sends Ezra as a priest and scribe to teach and lead the people at the newly repaired temple in Jerusalem. Nehemiah convinces the king to send him to Jerusalem to repair the city wall. Despite opposition from Israel’s neighbors, repairs are completed in record time. Nehemiah, Ezra, and the priests lead the people in a joyous rededication of the wall. Discuss together, “What homecoming can we look forward to as God’s children?”

At the upcoming Congregational Meeting on January 22nd, we will be making nominations for triennial Synodical office elections. Positions that we will make nominations for include the Synod President, First Vice-President, and our Regional Vice-President. These positions must be filled by rostered ministers of religion in the LCMS, and be voting members of a congregation in the synod. If you have a nomination for any of these positions, please contact President Matt Brand or bring their information to the meeting on the 22nd.

Mite Sunday today, thank you for your coins. What a miracle that those small coins can add up to over 2 million dollars in two years for spreading the Gospel. Today we pray for children in Peru and International students. See more at: www.lwml.org/2021-2023-mission-grant-17 Spiritual and Physical Food for Children of Peru La Mision Luterana del Peru - \$56,750. The Minnesota South District focus grant is #6 – International Students, Concordia Seminary \$9,000 – Making Jesus Known throughout the world. Last month your mites contributed \$41.00 toward the goal. Our church also has ISM, an International Student Ministry. The ISM newsletters are in the Mission Center for you to read.

Our congregation has made the exciting decision to request a seminary graduate to serve as a second full-time pastor at our congregation. The call committee, which is made up of the Board of Elders and at least three additional members of the congregation, plays an important role in the call process. Responsibilities of members of the committee include assisting with necessary paperwork, reviewing candidate information, performing candidate interviews, and communicating with the congregation at large. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact President Matt Brand or Judd Schultz, the Chair of the Board of Elders.

Wednesday Night Meals are back to the regular schedule, serving from 6:00 – 6:45pm, with a devotion following. All are welcome to come, eat, and have good fellowship with your church family. We suggest a donation of \$3 per person to cover the cost of the food. If you are willing to prepare a meal, serve, or clean up, please sign up on the sheet in the Fireplace room. All help is greatly appreciated.

Mission Service will meet this Wednesday, January 18th at 4pm in the Fireplace Room. Hope to see you there!

The deadline for the February 2023 issue of The Voice is Friday, January 20th. Please drop off submissions at the church office or e-mail to contact@oslcmankato.org.

Sock Drive: Socks are one of the most requested items at shelters and recovery centers. We will be having a sock drive until February 12th. All socks received will be distributed locally. There is a tub in the Narthex for your donations of new socks. Thank you! – Mission Service

Voters' Meeting on Sunday, January 22nd following the 10:30 service. Join us in the Sanctuary at 11:45am for our regularly scheduled Voters' Meeting. We will hear from the Boards and Treasurer, and get an update on the roofing project. All Confirmed members, age 18 and older, are encouraged to participate.

Chili Cook-Off: Sunday, January 22nd following the Voters' Meeting, join us in the Fellowship Hall for the Annual Chili Cook-off. Cast your vote for the best Traditional and Non-traditional chili. Grilled Cheese and ice cream are provided to cool your pallet. To enter a pot, bring it to the kitchen before or after the 10:30 service. New this year . . . Bible Trivia! Stick around after eating to join in.

In January the Book Club is reading selected short stories by American author Flannery O'Connor. For our January 22nd meeting we will read, *Everything That Rises Must Converge*, *The Partridge Festival*, and *The Barber*. We will meet in the fireplace room and discuss those short stories from 4:30-6pm. If you have any questions, or to pick up copies of those stories please speak with Pastor Matheny.

Visitation Team: If you are currently visiting members of Our Savior's (or would like to), there will be a BRIEF meeting after the 8am service on January 29th. Please meet in the back of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please call Rhonda, 389-9726, Marcella, 317-4127 or Judy, 387-4908.

The 2023 LWML Convention in Milwaukee is June 22 – 25, 2023. All the information and registration is now in the *Quarterly*, page A, and it's time to register at a lower cost. The WOM has the bus information from the Minnesota South District. www.lwml.org/2023-convention.

Anyone interested in placing flowers for our worship services in January, please contact Gretchen Zellmer, 507-317-2904.

Our Savior's Worship Service is livestreamed on our website www.oslcmankato.org or from our YouTube channel also named oslcmankato. The weekly Sunday service is broadcast on the local Public Access channel, KTV (Spectrum Cable channel 181, Consolidated Communications channel 7), on Tuesday at 7pm and Wednesday at 2pm.

Mission Center and Narthex have new materials. Added this week: e-news from LWML and Minnesota South, Rich and Charlie, and more.

From the Stewardship Committee: John 1:29 – “The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’” The Israelites of old offered a lamb to God at Passover so that death might pass over them and do no harm. Over those long centuries of sacrifice, did they understand that this was actually God's gift? That God would be the true Giver of the true Lamb? Truly, we can never out-give God, for all that we have is His.

GOSPELADVENTURES.ORG brings you Celebrate India this month.

Hear The Lutheran Hour every Sunday on radio station WCCO (830) at 6:00 a.m., KDHL (920) at 6 p.m., or KJLY (107.1) at 6 p.m. You can also listen any time on your computer at www.lhm.org. Click on “Hear This Week's Sermon”.

Lutherans for Life event on Saturday, January 21st, 9:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church, Waconia, MN. The District President, Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford is presenting the topic, “Wonderfully Made: The Devine Value of Being Human”. Contact Corinne Allen at narrfarm@aol.com or 612-599-0021 for more information. Are you planning to attend? Can we car pool? Sign up in the narthex or call 507-327-7082.

Listen to KFUE.ORG, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. All programs are archived at www.KFUE.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This week study John 2-4 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8am), continue studying the book of Exodus on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11am), and study the 7th petition and conclusion of the Lord's Prayer on Concord Matters (January 21 at 10am).

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2. This week's *This is the Life* episode, "The Deadly Pen" features a businessman struggling with the guilt of another man's death. The worship service begins at 9:30am with Rev. Frank Milo from Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Backus, who will present a message titled "The Way Out of Darkness", based on Matthew 4:12-25. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.

The Life Chapel Service begins at 12 noon on Sunday, January 22nd at CSP Graebner Chapel. The MCCL March for Life begins at 2pm at the Capital. A brief program will be on the Capital steps at 2:30pm. See more at: <https://www.mccl.org/march> and <https://www.mnsdistrict.org/events/2023/1/22/march-for-life-events>

Essay contest for students in grades 6 – 12 on Ephesian 2:10 with submission by April 1st. Just As I Am. All information is on the bulletin board. Copies can be made.

Everyone is welcome to attend a Historical Experience on **Korea: The Forgotten War** by historian Arn Kind at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School on Tuesday, January 24th. The free presentations are at 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. for students in grades 5-8 and Noon to 2:15 p.m. for grade 9-12. Adults are welcome either time. The event is provided courtesy of the Martin Luther Parent/Teacher League. Snow date is Tuesday, January 31st.

Willow Creek Youth Burger Bash - The Youth will host a Burger Bash at St John's Willow Creek on Sunday, January 22, from 4-7. The menu includes burgers, baked beans, chips, and a desert. A free will offering will be collected.

Art After Dark: Art From a Christian Perspective: Learn about the use of art throughout history and within the church from traveled art historian, practicing artist, and professor emeritus Bill Bukowski. Thursday January 19th, February 2nd, and 9th from 8-9PM. Hosted at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Mankato, 1123 Marsh Street. Free and open to the public.

Welcome to Our Savior's Lutheran Church! We are Christians gathered around the unchanging Word and Gifts of Jesus Christ which give forgiveness and salvation now and forever. Our Savior has more than enough blessings for everyone and promises that He will turn no one away. Please let us know who you are and how we can serve you by completing a registration card found in the seat backs and placing it in the offering plate at the entrances to the sanctuary.

At Our Savior Lutheran Church we live to make Christ known.

Monthly Memory Verse:

The fear of the LORD prolongs life, but the years of the wicked will be short.
Proverbs 10:27

Weekly Discussion Question:

At times, it may seem like the wicked are getting away with things.
How does knowing the end put things in perspective?

Holy Communion: Our Lord's first miracle was water made into wine at Cana. One of His last miracles before He was crucified was wine made into His blood that yet remained wine in the upper room. By His promise, we do, in reality, receive His body and blood in Holy Communion. Those who understand the meaning of communion and wish to receive it today are asked to review the statement on the back of the registration card.

Serving today:

Liturgist & Preacher Rev. Adam M. Matheny
Organist Barb Anderson
Elder of the Day [8:00] Gene Mensing; [10:30] Mike Blomquist
A/V Tech Matt Brand