

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Crookston, MN **First English Church, Eldred, MN**

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Steven Bohler, Pastor

From the Pastor-March 2024

...but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.
(1 Corinthians 1:23-25)

This month features some of the most important of all days for a Christian. The season of Lent winds down, moving ever faster to its climax at the cross. Palm Sunday, with its festive and joyous atmosphere, when the crowds welcomed their coming and conquering King. Maundy Thursday, when our Lord instituted the Sacrament of His Body and Blood at the Last Supper. Then, later that same night, as He prayed so fervently in the Garden of Gethsemane that great drops of bloody sweat fell from His face. Followed by Judas' betrayal. Peter's denial. The flight by all the rest of the apostles. The trials before Caiaphas, Pilate, and Herod. Those same crowds turning on Jesus and now calling for His execution. The sentence of death by crucifixion. The carrying of the cross through the city streets, reversing the path Christ had taken just a few days before on Palm Sunday — this time to the jeers of the mob rather than their cries of "Hosanna!" The mocking, the spitting, the scourging. The crown of thorns. The sour wine mixed with gall. The murderous thieves nailed to crosses on either side of Jesus. The sound of pounding, as spikes go into His hands and feet. The weeping women. The agonized cries to His Father from the pit of hell as Jesus suffers OUR hell. The blackened skies. The death of the only Innocent One. In our place. The three long days in the cold tomb.

And then — miracle of miracles! — the triumphant shout of Easter morning. The head of Satan crushed. The power of sin and death destroyed. The joy of the resurrection. "He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!" The wonder of Mary and the other women at seeing Him. The doubt of ALL the apostles (not just Thomas) when they first hear the news. The Emmaus disciples. Easter night when the apostles finally see and believe.

March this year is jam-packed, all right. And we have many opportunities to be in our Lord's house to hear all about it — and what it means for US. So, please, be here. Watch your Savior suffer and die. Rejoice at His resurrection. Be part of the story. Because He did it all for YOU.

Pastor Bohler

Baptisms:
New Members:
Funerals:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Confirmation Students: All students in 7th and 8th grade this year are invited to join confirmation. This month the confirmands will continue learning about the creed. There will be a test on the Creed on March 20th.

March Acolytes:

8 AM Services: Eva Gosse
11 AM Services: Elsie Volker
Lenten Services: Caden Perry
Maundy Thursday/Good Friday: Eva Gosse

Choir: Choir rehearsals resume this month. We will meet every Monday at 5:30 PM. We will be preparing for Lenten services and Easter.

Lenten Suppers & Services:

March 6- Sunday School (Spaghetti)
March 13- Youth Group (Tacos)
March 20- Day School (Sloppy Joes)
Easter Sunday- 7 AM Sunrise service; breakfast served after service by youth group

Sunday School students will sing during early service on Palm Sunday (March 24th). More information will come home during Sunday School.

Home Delivered Meals: Members of Our Savior's will have the opportunity to sign up to delivered home meals during Holy Week (March 25th-29th). You can find a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Thrivent Choice Dollars: Thrivent members can contribute to organizations and causes that they care about through Thrivent Choice dollars every quarter. Both Our Savior's Lutheran Church and Our Savior's Lutheran School can be recipients of these Choice Dollars!

You can designate your Choice dollars to three special projects within our Church. If you are interested in donating to the projects below, you must reach out to Katie in the office to indicate your intentions and the amount that you have to designate.

- Special Church projects to designate your dollars to:
- YOUTH GATHERING TRIP in 2025
 - NEW CHURCH DISHWASHER
 - NEW CARPET IN 1st/2nd GRADE ROOM

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:

MISSION OF THE MONTH:

Undie Sundays:

We will be collecting new socks and underwear (youth or adult). We will also collect tshirts for children. Items gathered will go to the Orphan Grain Train. If you would like to leave a cash donation, members of church can shop for supplies.

BINS IN NARTHEX

ONGOING MISSION PROJECTS:

-Candles & Wax: partially used items are appreciated for making fire starters at the DAC.

-Glasses: used glasses that are no longer needed will be donated to those in need.

-Soap: new bath sized bars will go to the Orphan Grain Train.

-Mite Box: the mite box is in the Narthex on the last Sunday of every month.

LEAVE IN SEWING ROOM

-Sheets: cotton or cotton-blend for bandages (will take any color and printed sheets).

-T-Shirts: cotton (at least 50%) large t-shirts or bigger (any color). NO side seams.

-Blankets & Mattress Pads: any color can be used for backs or fillers in quilts.

-Yarn: used for quilt ties and Orphan Grain Train.

-Mittens, Hats, & Scarves: you can bring these in any season.

-Shoes: If you have shoes that you don't use, we can donate to Lutheran Island Camp. They take used dress shoes, tennis shoes, work boots, etc. in any conditions.

-Used Jeans: Items must be clean, but can be used (holes are okay).

March 2024

Serving Joyfully

We live in a very self-centered society. As a result, it seems that there is a lot of emphasis in making sure that people get all out of life they can, and especially what they feel they deserve. It seems that we live in a culture of entitlement.

This can be a challenge for Christian parents who want to raise their children to put God and their faith first, and service to others ahead of themselves. It's very hard for children (who are naturally self-centered) to learn and apply that doing something for someone else ought to occur before you do something for yourself. Children desire to satisfy themselves first, and often have little regard for others.

It takes time for children to grow and mature to become less self-serving, and thus more mindful of others. It is a challenge for today's parents to create a mindset of service for their children. There are so many things competing for the attention of families — starting from the time they are babies, all the way up to adulthood. But it can be done! Consider the following areas that parents can focus on as they raise their children, which just might shape them to grow up to become joyful servants to others.

EDUCATION - Intentional instruction from parents and other key adults in their life that highlights the value of serving others. Words of reinforcement and support when a child serves another in a selfless and intentional manner. Reading of Bible stories to children that reinforce the idea of serving others.

EXAMPLES - Show children living examples of joyful service within the family, the neighborhood, your church and the community. Expose them to individuals who have a giving spirit and willingness to serve others. Encourage the establishment of long-term connections and ongoing relationships with loving and generous individuals who are service minded.

EXPERIENCE - Give children hands-on activities that are service oriented. Let them participate in serving at soup kitchens, taking meals and gifts to homebound individuals, and picking up litter with others in a community service project. Design special family service projects based out of your home, and take time to talk about these service experiences after they have concluded.

While service is not always a natural response for us due to our sinful nature and naturally inward focus, it can become nurtured in children, starting at an early age. As they grow older, it will become a natural part of their daily walk of faith.

—LCMS School Ministry



Important Dates:

March 2: Bible Bowl in Walker for grades 4-6

March 5: Staff Hotdish Competition Fundraiser, 5-6:30pm

March 7 & 8: Swimming for Phy.Ed., grades K-6

March 18: No school

March 20: PTL Lenten Supper, 6pm

March 25-27: Iowa Basics Testing

March 28: Pre-6th Easter Party

March 28: 2hr early release, WITH afternoon bus

March 29: No school

Check us out on [Facebook](#) for reminders and fun pictures!

We also have an account through [Amazon Smile](#)—so every time you make a purchase at Amazon, our school gets a donation!

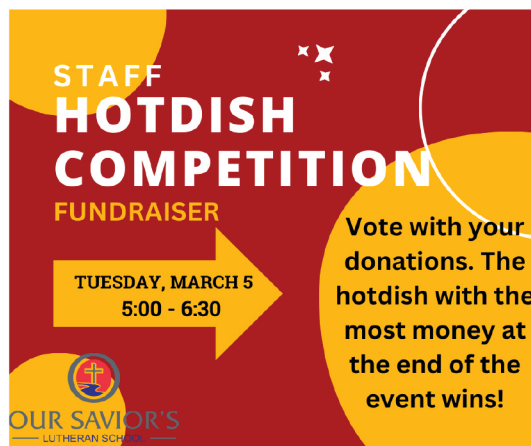
Check it out at

www.amazon Smile.com

Please support our school by purchasing [SCRIP](#) gift cards. We have local and national gift cards available—you pay the face-value of the card, and the school gets a percentage of each sale. Order forms and a retailers list are on the school secretary's door.

Mission Statement

Our Savior's Lutheran School effectively educates, trains, and equips students of our church and community to achieve their God-given potential by providing a Christ-centered education.





The preschoolers used cornstarch and water to make some goo. It was fun to watch the mixture change back and forth between solid to liquid.



The kindergarteners recently finished learning about addition. In this picture the children use pretzels and fruit snacks to make number sentences that equal 10.



Camdyn, June and Emmalynn concentrate as they count out 100 M & Ms to sort and graph on our 100th Day of School. We celebrated on February 12th!



The third and fourth graders had a special kindness project for Valentine's Day. They made a bunch of hearts with special messages and then quietly taped them onto classroom and office doors to give loving and kind heart attacks. It was great to see their joy!

PRO Winner!



**Congratulations to Emmalynn,
recipient of February's
"People Respecting Others" award!**



Shenanigans and fun were had by all during the fifth and sixth grade Valentine's Party.

OUR SAVIOR'S YOUTH GROUP

In February, we played some scooter games—relay races and human shuffleboard.



We also played indoor “bocce ball” around the building—our target was a toy tiger, and we had to see who could land their washer the closest.



We hosted the Ash Wednesday Lenten Supper with a variety of hotdishes. Thank you for your donations!



Upcoming youth group events & times:

March 13th: We are hosting another Lenten Supper—tacos! A Thrivent Action Grant will pay for the meat, chips and soft taco shells. Youth should bring a condiment/side and be here by 5:00pm to help set up.

March 27th: 6:30-8pm, Stuffing easter eggs for our Egg My Yard fundraiser, plus games

Saturday, March 30th: 3pm, Easter breakfast preparations in the church kitchen, followed by dinner together, then delivering eggs for our Egg My Yard Fundraiser.

All 7th-12th grade youth are invited!

**THE YOUTH GROUP WILL BE RUNNING A NEW
“EGG MY YARD” FUNDRAISER FOR EASTER
THIS YEAR—MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!**





Our Savior's and First English Lutheran Women's Missionary League March 2024

Mission Statement: As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

In the Word:

When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory (Colossians 3:4).

Of the Word:

We live in a disposable society — disposable plates and cups, disposable wipes, disposable diapers, disposable syringes. What then is permanent? What is lasting?

Someone once said, "Nothing's sure but death and taxes." Wryly, we may smile at the thought, but our hearts know better. Hearts blessed with faith know that God is permanent and lasting, the one sure thing in a transient, disposable society. He assures us, I the Lord do not change (Malachi 3:6a). Neither does His plan for us change. Jesus says, For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life (John 6:40a).

Each one of us is part of God's will and plan. Eternal life is ours through His gift of faith in Christ Jesus. Daily burdens and challenges come and go, but our eternal destiny is certain because of God's promises to us.

Walking with the Lord:

Dear Father, thank You for being a permanent force in my life. Thank You for sending Jesus to be my Savior, and thank You for the gift of faith. Help me to face each day with the assurance that You are always with me, leading me to glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Looking ahead:

Sewing: Anyone interested in sewing can meet in the sewing room on Tuesdays 1-6 PM.

Evening Guild Meeting: The Evening Guild will not meet in March. Please look for ways to serve our Lord with your prayers. Laurain will send cards and prepare treats for our confirmands and staff.

Home Delivered Meals: Our Savior's members are encouraged to sign up to deliver meals from March 25-29th (Holy Week). We will need 4 drivers or 4 pairs of people to help out. If you are willing to help with this project, see the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

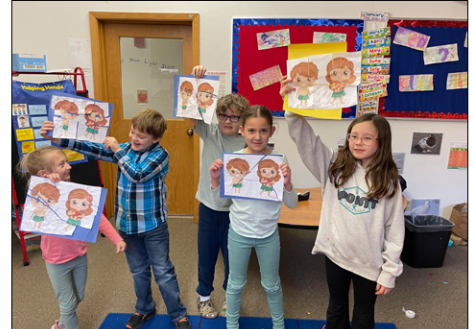
Mite Box: The Mite Box is in Our Savior's narthex the last Sunday of every month. If you wish to support the missions of the LWML, you can leave donations in the box!

Crookston Zone Spring Rally: Saturday, April 20 at 10 Am at St. John's in Ada, MN. The speaker will be Julie Bonham on domestic violence. The ingathering will be "Purses with Purpose."

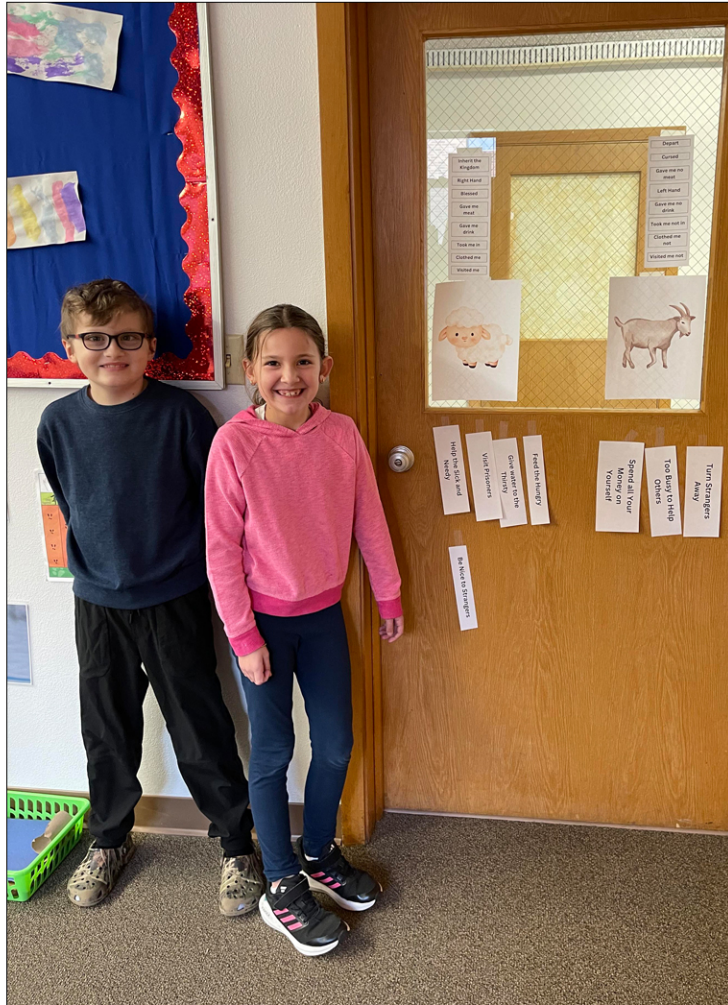
LWML Zone Board & Planning Meeting: The LWML Zone Board & Planning Meeting will be on Saturday, July 17th at 10 AM at our church. Save the date!

LWML MN North District 2024 Convention: The theme is "Walking in the Light." This will be held June 3rd-5th at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd, MN. More information will be available soon.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



SUNDAY SCHOOL



March 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
8:00 & 11 AM-Our Savior's Worship Service 9:30 AM First English Worship Service 9:30 AM- Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	5:30 PM- Choir Practice	8 AM-Bible Breakfast 1:00-6 PM-Sewing 5-6:30 PM- Staff Hotdish Competition	8:30 AM- Day School Chapel 4:00 PM- Confirmation 6-6:45 PM- Lenten Supper hosted by Sunday School 7:00 PM- Lent Service at Our Savior's			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:00 & 11 AM-Our Savior's Worship Service 9:30 AM First English Worship Service 9:30 AM- Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	5:30 PM- Choir Practice	8 AM- Bible Breakfast 1:00-6 PM- Sewing	8:30 AM- Day School Chapel 4:00 PM- Confirmation 6-6:45 PM- Lenten Supper hosted by Day School 7:00 PM- Lent Service at Our Savior's			
17	No School 18	19	20	21	22	23
8:00 & 11 AM-Our Savior's Worship Service 9:30 AM- Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM First English Worship Service EASTER SUNDAY: 7 AM service and 8 AM Breakfast	5:30 PM- Choir Practice	8 AM- Bible Breakfast 1:00-6 PM- Sewing	8:30 AM- Day School Chapel NO Confirmation 6:30-8 PM- Youth Group	7:00 PM- Maundy Thursday Service at Our Savior's	9:30 AM-Good Friday Service at First English 7:00 PM- Good Friday Service at Our Savior's	
24/31	Newsletter Deadline 25	26	27	28 2 hour early release	No School 29	30

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
First English Lutheran Church
217 South Broadway
Crookston, MN 56716



THEY SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY...

March Birthdays

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|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Mary Gosse | 7. Andrea Ness | 22. Brittny Thompson |
| Janet Laughery | 8. Elizabeth Nalipinski | 23. Nicholas Deschene |
| Robin Reitmeier | 10. Carol Hunt | Seth Perry |
| 2. Gina Dewey | 11. Sophia Dans | 25. Mary Nell DeBoer |
| Jon Perry | Addison Fee | Kathleen Erdmann |
| Darcee Whitehead | Derrick Vilven | 27. Jordan DeBoer |
| 3. Rodney Erdmann | 12. Jaret Mattson | 28. Dante Nelson |
| Mary Jo Halos | David Volker | Piper Oliver |
| Marlys Perry | 13. Trevor Hassel | 29. Patricia Bratrud |
| Landen Rudnik | 14. Kensley Hanshaw | |
| 4. Kathryn Wagner | Adam Olmstead | |
| 5. Jasmine Haglund | 17. Ty Larson | |
| Wayne Wagner | Timothy Oliver | |
| 6. Richard Laughery | Nicholas Trevino | |
| Elores Swift | 18. Hadley Dans | |
| 7. Dylan Hanshaw | 21. Josie Johnson | |