

The *intercom* In Church and Community



From the Senior Pastor Kicking Off a New Year



The time has come—we've kicked off a new program year here at Our Savior's as of Kick-Off Weekend, September 10–11. With this new year came a new worship schedule: Saturday Festive Worship, 5:00 P.M.; Sunday Celebrate Worship, 8:45 and 11:00 A.M.; Sunday Festive Worship, 11:00 A.M. Many wore their

favorite team's jersey to worship, the kids enjoyed bouncy houses on the lawn, and The Gathering Place was full of folks enjoying a free breakfast compliments of the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Foundation. It was a great start to what should be a great year of ministry!

Speaking of the OSLC Foundation, be sure to check out the inside of this edition of *The Intercom* to learn more about the great ministry the foundation is making possible and the ways you can support the foundation through your donations and your estate planning.

While we are anticipating another great year of ministry at Our Savior's, it's not without some concern. At the mid-year congregational meeting, the Governing Board presented an annual ministry plan (budget) that detailed our vision for ministry in the coming year. With the near-unanimous adoption of the ministry plan, it is clear that we collectively sense

a call to continue this transformational work we believe God has given us to do—proclaiming Christ and nurturing faith that connects to everyday life.

At the same time, it is not clear how this ministry will be funded based on the information received during our stewardship appeal this past spring. While it's true that we never know the extent to how our ministry plan will be funded—it's always a "leap of faith"—what we do know is that fewer households returned Estimate of Giving cards this year compared to last year and the total amount pledged is also less than the total pledged last year.

While the board is addressing this reality on a number of different levels of fiscal prudence, it is also imperative that we continue to grow and develop our base of mission investors (donors) so that we can achieve everything our ministry plan sets forth for the year ahead. Specifically, our plan includes investing in our ministry with children, youth, and families by filling the open Pastor of Youth and Family position. It includes investments in our broadcast ministry, which has proven to be an invaluable outreach tool during this time of pandemic, as well as support for our more than twenty ministry partners, who extend our ministry in ways we couldn't accomplish on our own. All that the ministry plan contains is

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Ministry Spotlight

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Foundation

There's always a lot of excitement surrounding Kick-Off Weekend at OSL, not the least because it marks the return of the ever-popular Sunday breakfast! This year's breakfast was sponsored by the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Foundation (OSLCF), to thank generous members of the congregation for their continued support of the foundation's work to serve OSL's ministry and mission, and to let people know more about the foundation and its function. About 230 people



enjoyed the foundation-served breakfast—and why not? There was bacon!

Begun in 1978, the foundation has three distinct functions: gathering assets, managing assets, and making distributions to serve OSL. The foundation board works diligently to establish policies and procedures about investment management and then monitors the progress and adherence to established guidelines.



The value of the OSLCF has grown to \$3.2 million due to generous contributions by many people. Contributions in 2022 alone total over \$110,000. While the value of the foundation has decreased in 2022 due to market fluctuations, it's understood that investments experience decreases in value from time to time. The overall trend of the investment portfolio has been positive since its beginning.

Over the past five years, the foundation has provided \$575,000 to support OSL's ministry needs, such as facility repairs and support for the congregation's mission plan (budget). See the list on the next page for some details. The gift for this year is expected to be approximately \$130,000.

Although the foundation gathers and grows assets in numerous ways, in the end the key to long-term success is the generosity of members and friends of OSL—that is, *you*. Some gifts to the foundation come in the form of memorials and some in the form of donations, but most of the growth of the foundation's assets has come through legacy gifts.



Legacy gifts involve a process in which members consider a series of questions to determine the ultimate purpose of their financial plan.

To learn more about the foundation and how you may make a lasting impact on the mission of your church home, contact any foundation board member:

- ♦ Dennis Hanneman, 605-838-6597
- ♦ Joan Fink, 605-351-7139
- ♦ Jerry Franken, 605-366-8472
- ♦ Susan Hauff, 605-376-2451

- ♦ Curt Olson, 605-271-5359
- ♦ Betsy Sittig, 605-351-0676
- ♦ Dean Mertz, 605-321-6704
- ♦ Conley Ruud, 605-359-6335
- ♦ Jaysen Stevenson, 605-695-9108
- ♦ Pr. Randy Gehring, 605-336-2942

Thank you for your generosity! ♦

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Foundation Grants to Support Ministry, 2017–2022

Property

- Bell Tower repair – 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021
- Friendship Room updates – 2020
- Upgrade heating/ventilation – 2017, 2018, 2020
- Keyless security system – 2019
- Server hardware – 2020
- Carpet in selected rooms – 2020
- Celebrate Center lighting upgrade – 2020
- Computers and monitors – 2020
- Fellowship Hall flooring – 2017
- Office folding machine – 2017
- Office computers – 2017
- Plants stands – 2017
- Labyrinth Room paint, carpet – 2018
- Youth Room furniture – 2017

Mission & Outreach

- Missionary support – 2019, 2020
- Caring Ministries furniture – 2017

Worship & Arts

- Sanctuary video screens – 2018
- Celebrate Center camera – 2020
- Celebrate Center video – 2017, 2018, 2020
- Wireless microphones – 2018

General

- Budget support – 2021

A total of \$704,875 in grants was made over the past six years, including an estimated \$130,000 in 2022.



Foundation breakfast photos by Joan Fink

From the Senior Pastor, *continued*

what we have discerned to be our God-given work for the year ahead.

How will you be part of the story we tell a year from now about how we banded together to meet the challenge of fully funding our ministry this year?

Will you consider increasing your pledge? If you have not returned an Estimate of Giving card this year, will you consider doing so to give your leaders a better idea of the resources we will have to work with? If you do not give an offering, will you consider becoming a supporting member by setting up an automated donation through our First Fruits program? When special giving opportunities come around, will you respond joyfully and generously knowing that your contributions will be stewarded wisely in support of the mission we share?

However you will answer this call, thank you for your partnership. Together we are Our Savior's, so continue to hold this church in your prayers as we begin a new year and conduct the search for our next Pastor of Youth and Family. What's more, join me in asking God to bless Our Savior's in the year ahead and all who are touched by the ministry we share.

Serving together with you,

Randy

Pr. Randy Gehring



Visit oslchurch.com/giving, or scan this QR Code, to learn more!



OUR SAVIOR'S
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Worship Services

Saturday Evening – 5:00 P.M., Sanctuary
Sunday Morning
Celebrate Worship – 8:45 and 11:00 A.M., Celebrate Center
Festive Worship – 11:00 A.M., Sanctuary

Television and Internet

Celebrate: 9:00 A.M., KTTW (cable channel 9; channel 7.1)
Festive: 1:00 P.M., KSCB (cable channel 30; channel 53),
Facebook Live: 8:45 and 11:00 A.M.
Website: oslchurch.com

Social Media

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*Your Offering
Makes a Difference!*

Your support of OSL's mission to proclaim Christ and nurture faith that connects to everyday life is life-changing, both for you and for those whom our ministry reaches. Thank you for your generosity!

Ways to Give

First Fruits Giving –
electronic contributions
Text Giving – text *sharing* to
73256 and follow the link
My OSL – keep current, and
quickly set up scheduled and
one-time giving

Learn more at oslchurch.com/giving