

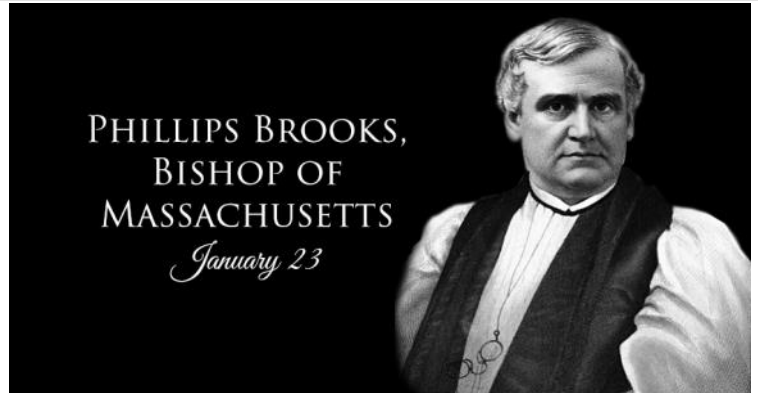


The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

The Communicator—April 2024

From The Desk of Pastor Wilck

One of the greatest preachers of the last century was the reverend Phillips Brooks, Episcopal Bishop of Massachusetts. On July 4th, 1880, he preached a powerful sermon in London's Westminster Abbey. The sermon's theme was built around the candle as a commanding symbol of the Easter life. Human nature, Brooks declared, is like an unlit candle, dim, cold, waxy and rigid. But when the candle is lit, something happens, bringing warmth and light to the darkness around it.



The message of Easter is this: human life is a candle to be lit. Christ, the light of the world, has risen from the dead, and calls all people to the resurrection faith that transforms their lives. The resurrection is like a lighted candle burning brightly with a light that guides and cheers them through the darkness of this world. "The human spirit" said the writer in proverbs, "is the lamp of the Lord." (Proverbs 20:27)

The first witnesses to the resurrection were the women who went to the tomb at early dawn. They were perplexed by what they found, the stone rolled away and the body gone. Their perplexity turned to fright when they met two men in dazzling apparel who asked them the best question in all the gospels: "why do you seek the living among the dead?" (Luke 24:5) Suddenly, the light began to dawn. Jesus had risen, as he had told them.



When the candle of faith is lit, its fire must first warm the rigid, waxy fears that prevent us from believing. Often, this takes time.

The reaction of the women moved from fear to faith, as does ours when the resurrection is announced. We, too, are afraid to believe what goes against the grain of all human logic. It was the same with the other disciples. The text ends on a note that doesn't surprise us, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But faith soon came, the candle was lit, and the light of the resurrection shone brightly, overcoming the darkness around it.

Each day is a resurrection day when we celebrate the light that God kindles in each believer, a candle burning brightly with Christ's glory.

Joachim Wilck

Church & Community

submitted by Ann Seppa, Chairman



Our Peanut Butter & Jelly project for St. Peter's Kitchen continues and is going well. Thank you to Mary Ellen Saur, Gordon Seppa, Ruth Otto, Steve & Pam Brady, Karen Preston and Cheryl Stone for making the 200 sandwiches for March. The next batch of sandwiches will be made on April, 11th at 9:30 am. We are always looking for volunteers, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. It will take about an hour of your time!

On Wednesday, March 20th, Ruth Otto, Steve Brady and myself were invited to an amazing lunch and a tour of St. Peter's Kitchen. They have quite a large operation. The day we were there, they served 365 lunches from noon until 1:00 pm, plus delivered lunches to several homeless shelters. They are so grateful for the 200 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches that we donate monthly and couldn't thank us enough.

Thank you to everyone who donated food for St. Theodore's Food Pantry. My husband Gordon and I delivered the food on Thursday, March 21 and they were very appreciative of this donation. Your donation of food makes it possible to feed so many families from our community that are in need. Thank you!



Thank you to everyone who donated money to the Food Ministry Fund during the month of February. We collected over a \$1,000. This fund will be used for fellowship and outreach that involves food.



MISSIONS for 2024. During the month of April, we will be collecting for the Community Lutheran Ministry (Maggie's Place). Maggie's Place runs a summer camp with over 100 neighborhood children. She has to pay for the busses and salaries for her staff and provide the children with food/snacks, etc. She also has to pay all ADMISSION fees for the trips the children take,

i.e. Sea Breeze, Darian Lake, Seneca Zoo, etc. The cost for each child is about \$800. We are hoping to sponsor one or two children this summer. If you can contribute a small amount, we can make a real difference for a few lucky campers. Maggie relies on help from many local churches, so together we can do a lot!

This year Maggie has been invited to be the guest speaker at Valparaiso University in Indiana and she will be able to bring some of the children with her. Maggie will be in need of money to help with transportation to and from the University. Details are still in the planning stages with the University. We will provide more information about how we might be able to help as we get it.

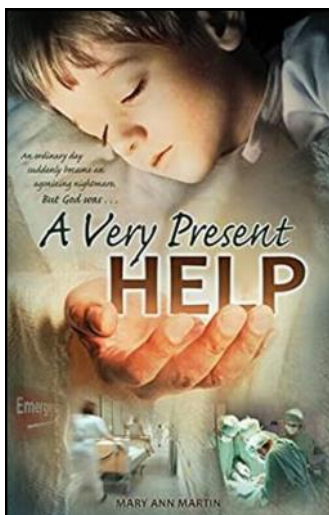
Altar Guild
submitted by Cheryl Stone & Daryl Jarvis



Thank You to everyone who helped clean the Sanctuary in preparation for Holy week. All the wood and the windows were washed, dusting done high and low, vacuuming done. Even the children's quiet room was cleaned. Thank You to all who helped fold the palms into crosses too. Over 100 crosses were formed.

Many hands make light work. Thank You for a job well done.

Christian Book Club
submitted by Pam Spencer



The Christian Book Club will be reading "Very Present Help" by Mary Ann Martin. When Lloyd and Mary Ann Martin's large family gathered for prayer the morning of May 30, 1986, they had no idea what lay in store. It was farm life as usual, and by lunchtime, they were discussing summer vacation plans. Those plans were about to change. Minutes after they left the kitchen, five-year-old Nathan's head was crushed under a tractor tire. The weeks that followed tested his family's faith as nothing else ever had. Told by Nathan's mother this is the story of that trial—a story of grief, guilt, fear, and suffering; joy, forgiveness, hope, and healing—and a testimony to the God who is our refuge and strength a very present help in trouble. We will meet April 9, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. after Bible Study to discuss the book.

Veteran Bricks

submitted by Ed Jarvis



On Sunday, May 26th we will be remembering and dedicating military bricks to honor our military veterans. These new bricks will be installed at the base of our Veteran Memorial Flag. Requests need to be submitted to the church office by May 4th, Contact Ed Jarvis at 233-7867 for additional information.

Loop Ministry Needs You

submitted by Lois Dannenberg

In a recent sermon Pastor Wilck said that our Christian love should be shown by our actions and not just with lip service. Here is an opportunity to do just that. Loop Ministry has been providing food and moral support for hundreds of people in the downtown Rochester area. Food insecurity and child hunger are big problems in our city and our food cupboard helps fill this need. It is a tangible way to show the love of Christ to others. This ministry needs people to help on our Board of Directors. The Board meets once a month, either in person or on Zoom to discuss issues and make decisions regarding this important ministry. We need two volunteers to fill positions on the board as we have some members whose terms are ending. If you are interested, please contact Steve Brady or Wendy Carrier for more information .



Financial Update

submitted by Deb Ciccone

Contributions continue to be strong in 2024 partially due to some pledgers giving their entire annual contribution early in the year.

	February	YTD
Income	\$34,453.90	\$70,938.50
Expense	\$22,494.90	\$43,587.60
Net Income	\$11,959.00	\$27,350.90



Altar Guild

submitted by Ann Seppa

The Women of the ELCA met in March. Thank you to Pastor Wilck for leading us in a Bible Study. At this meeting, we chose Agatina's Restaurant in Gates for our dinner out in June. Details to follow.



Reminder that **WE DO NOT MEET IN APRIL.**
 Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at **6:30 pm.** PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE
 Gary Larder, Chairman of the Red Wings will be our guest speaker. Everyone is invited to attend. Debbie Frey will be our hostess for this meeting.
 We look forward to seeing everyone !



First Annual Palm Sunday Continental Breakfast

submitted by Ann Seppa

Thank you to everyone who helped set up, clean up and donate a food item to make our First Annual Palm Sunday Continental Breakfast a success and thank you to everyone who attended this breakfast.



Congregational Meeting
submitted by Steve Brady, Council President

Mark your calendars! We are requesting your attendance at a Congregation meeting on Sunday, April 28 immediately following the worship service. The following items of business will be discussed and voted upon:

- Vote on a motion which would extend the terms of the current Council officers and Council members by one year;
- Vote on a new proposed bylaw which describes the process Council and the congregation would use in modifying an existing restricted fund(s);
- Vote on the modification or dissolution of four former Reformation restricted funds to make them available for Lutheran Church of Our Saviour ministry needs.

No proxy voting is allowed. You must be present to vote on these matters.

There will be background material and the actual proposals available for your review beginning on April 14. These materials will be found on the table in the narthex. Please take the material home and review it so that you are informed on these matters prior to the meeting.

We hope to see all of you at worship on April 28 and then afterwards for the Congregation meeting.

Zoom
submitted by Steve Brady & Charlyne Hickey

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/96348140580>

Meeting ID: 963 4814 0580

One tap Mobile

+9292056099,,96348140580# US (NY)

Dial in +1 929-205-6099 US (NY)

Meeting ID: 963 4814 0580

Find your local number:

<https://zpoom.us/u/aQEhdZQe2>

On the phone you can unmute yourself by pressing

Zoom Worship Sundays at 10:00 a.m.



(Coming soon: Streaming Video!)

Jubilees Save the Date
submitted by Deb Ciccone

Our Annual Summer Picnic Lunch will be held on **June 20th** at 12:00 p.m. at the Memorial Park Lodge in Gates. This event will be catered by Wilshire Catering. Additional information pertaining to cost and sign up will be available in May.

Organ Committee

submitted by Jonathan Howell



When the church was first built it was designed to hold a small pipe organ. The closets in the loft were built to house the chests where the pipes were to go. But due to cost overruns a small pipe organ was not put in. The church made do with a piano for a while, followed by a small house organ donated by a member of the church. In the early 80's monies were raised to purchase a slightly used Allen Electric Organ which came off the assembly line in 1979. This is the organ which currently serves Our Saviour Church.

Over the last several years it has started to deteriorate., some of the hard wired batteries inside the organ fried and needed to be replaced, as well as some other assorted parts. When our previous short-time organist Nicholas Cantello arrived he notice issues with the organ and brought them to our attention. There were various hums and rattling noises and some of the electronic stops were stuck on a volume and couldn't be adjusted with the swell peddle. And in general the overall quality of sound was poor.

Gary Shipe a technician and salesperson from Allen Organ Buffalo was called in to take a look. His recommendation was that we consider a replacement. He did the best he could to fix a few of the items, but informed us that the speakers were in a state of decay, and that the power supplies could go at any time. He advised that although we could swap out fried parts as they become unusable, the expense would not be cost effective. "It's like a car that reaches that point where everything starts to go."

For it's time, that organ was a wonder. And although true organ lovers found it inferior to a real pipe organ in quality and authenticity of sound it has served this church well. Since the late 1970's however technology has changed drastically. A small keyboard you can purchase for a child at Walmart has more sophisticated hardware than our current organ.

Over the last 2 years we have had to do several searches for organists. One of the first people we spoke to was Allesio Giacobone, the organist who played for our summer services. He is an internationally recognized composer and organist. When approached about an organist job here his comment was, "I think you will have a hard time attracting organists because of the instrument."

This past December we hired Lucas Myers. Lucas is a wonderfully gifted pianist who majored in piano performance and minored in organ. , he has been accompanying our services on a very nice upright piano that was built to be used in someone's living room, not to be the primary instrument in a church space. The baby grand piano brought over from Reformation church is lovely, but according to our piano technician Bill Verity, needs about \$1800 of work to have the hammers re-felted, shaped, and adjusted.

So, that brings us to the question of what to do next? If we want to continue to grow our music program and provide high quality accompaniments we have reached a point where the church needs to consider making an investment in it.

The technology of the new Allen Electric Organs is amazing. You can not tell the difference between it and a pipe organ except that it is more versatile. They are not only capable of mimicking famous organs from a variety of countries and time periods, but also orchestral instrument sounds. They contain pre-programmed hymn accompaniments, and even preludes and postludes.

The organ that I personally would love to see the church invest in is currently in a church in Amherst NY. We have been invited to take a field trip to hear it and attend a demonstration. We would like to form a committee to start exploring all of this. We need your help. Please consider being a part of this exploratory committee. Please speak to Jonathan Howell or Pastor Wilck if you can help on that committee.

Happening in April

April 1st—Monday

All Day.....Office Closed

April 5th—Friday

5:30 p.m.German School Class

April 7th—Sunday

(vocal choir and bell choir are off this Sunday)

9:00 a.m.....Sunday School

10:00 a.m.Worship Service

April 9th—Tuesday

10:00 a.m.Bible Study with Pam Spencer

11:00 a.m.Christian Book Club

6:30 p.m.Properties Committee

April 11th—Thursday

9:30 a.m.....Peanut Butter and Jelly Club

11:00 a.m.Worship Committee

April 12th—Friday

5:30 p.m.German School

April 13th—Saturday

9:00 a.m.....German School

April 14th—Sunday

9:00 a.m.....Sunday School

9:00 a.m.....Chancel Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m.Communion Service

11:00 a.m.Bell Choir Rehearsal

11:15 a.m.CLC Committee

April 15th—Monday

6:30 p.m.Scouts, BSA

6:30 p.m.Council Meeting

April 16th—Tuesday

10:00 a.m.Bible Study with Pam Spencer

April 17—Wednesday

7:00 p.m.Loop Ministry Board Meeting

April 19—Friday

5:30 p.m.German School

April 20—Saturday

9:00 a.m.....German School

April 21—Sunday

9:00 a.m.....Sunday School

9:00 a.m.....Chancel Choir Practice

10:00 a.m.Worship Service

11:00 a.m.Bell Choir Rehearsal

Happening in April

April 22nd—Monday

6:30 a.m. Scouts, BSA

April 23rd—Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Pam Spencer

April 26th—Friday

5:30 p.m. German School

April 27th—Saturday

9:00 a.m. German School

April 28th—Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Communion Service

11:00 a.m. **Congregational**

April 29th—Monday

6:30 p.m. Scouts, BSA

April 30th—Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Pam Spencer

Pastor's Upcoming Surgery *submitted by Jonathan Howell*



(Estimated jumping ability following recovery)

Pastor Wilck will be having surgery on April 11th. Please keep him in prayer this month and particularly on that day. His recovery is estimated to take 3 weeks so he plans to return to the pulpit the first Sunday in May. Rev. Craig Swanson will be on call for pastoral emergencies. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time period, please contact the office and we will contact Pastor Craig for you. Pastor Wilck is working on coverage for the Sundays that he will be out, but already has secured Rev. Macholz to be with us on April 28th. We wish him a speedy and painless recovery.

April Service Schedule

Altar Guild: Ann Seppa

Day & TIME	SERVICE LEADER	USHER	LECTOR	GREETER	Communion Assistant	Cross Bearer
Sunday April 7th	Carol Werth	Peggy Hamblin	Donna Zacharko	Ann Marie MacBride	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Sunday April 14th	Frank Johnson	Alice Newbury	Carol Werth	Carol Werth	Alice Newbury	John Macksamie
Sunday April 21	Mary Ellen Saur	Ann Morningstar	Alice Newbury	Jason Stone	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Sunday April 28	Carol Werth	Deb Frey	Mike Frey	Paul Hamblin	Deb Frey	Mary Ellen Saur

Anniversaries in April

Hans & Margaret Witt	April 3, 31 Years
Larry & Janie Hopkins	April 12, 49 Years
Nick & Linda Gatto	April 13, 28 Years
John & Sally Shannon	April 13, 51 Years
Richard & Ruth Pearce	April 18, 54 Years
Brad & Ann Morningstar	April 24, 31 Years

Birthdays in April

Daniel Kuter—April 1	John Coval—April 2	Mary Ellen Saur—April 3
Shelby Gear—April 5	Christopher Albano—April 7	Nedra Keller—April 7
Benjamin Yackel—April 7	David Oliver—April 8	Tanner Brightman—April 9
David Cuff—April 9	Nikole Nash—April 10	Elton Schulz—April 10
Anton Suk—April 15	Linda Richards—April 16	Debbie Wilck—April 17
Elizabeth Specht—April 18	Joseph Scuderi—April 19	James Yackel—April 19
Evelyn Lance—April 21	John Macksamie—April 21	Adam Pehur—April 21
Avery Pharmakis—April 21	Stephan Brady—April 22	Margaret Meli—April 24
Pail Pehur—April 24	Julianna Gatto—April 26	Madilynn Walberger—April 26
Jacob Foltz—April 28	Reinhold Freimuth—April 28	

Prayer Concerns

Members in Need of Prayer

Barb Collins, Jack Erbelding, Bev Evans, Jim Flick, Meredith Fries, Gerry Haak, Carolyn Hane, Merlyn Hann, Bonnie Hartfiel, Lynn Johnston, Greg Lombard, Jean Lombard, Elly Mahler, Linda Palmer, Jackie Potter, Joe Scuderi, Bob Snyder, Pastor Joachim Wilck, Janine Westa, Marilies Renke, Irma Sieg, John Macksamie, David Stone, Alice Crawford, Sharon Nazarian

Extended Family in Need of Prayer

John Aune, Sam Bagdan, Danny Baird, Michael Baird, Jr., Jeremy Balmer, Shannon Balmer, Dan Burrell & family, Anthony Caratello, Rick Conley, Annette & Casey Corbridge and family, Marilyn Dawe, Marlene Denz, Family of Cliff Dilg, Rich Doehl, Krystle Earle, Valerie Gingello, Gary Gubiatti, Barbara Haeefe, Roy & Ann Hamblin, Stacy Harris, Kyle Hopkins, Sean Hopkins, Family of Rick Horn, Nancy Lenox, Greg Lombard, Scott Lynaugh, Zoe & John Marshall, JohnAnthony Neri, Lucy Pilaroscia, Scott Preston, Marianna Reed, Martha Richenberg, Lois Russell, Mary Anne Schnabel, Joseph Seiler, Avrie Sinesiou, Mark Spencer, Denton Sutphen, Glenna Sutphen, Kerri Wallenhorst and family, Judy Whitney, Clarence Wingate, Sammy Zaffuto

Members & Friends Serving Our Country

Alexander McDonough, USCG
Dave Oliver, Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard

Others Serving

LTC Paul Graf, Captain Matthew Wormuth
Major Scott Moncrief, Captain Chris Stevenson
Steve Kim, Major Joshua Davis



Prayer List



If you put someone on the prayer list in the last year please take a moment to review our list and let us know of any status changes. If you would like to add a name to our prayer list please fill out one of the prayer cards located in the pews, or from a service leader or usher. Additionally, you may call in or email your prayer request to the office and we will add it to our list. Thank you!

REQUESTED
CHANGE OF SERVICE

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
2415 Chili Avenue
Rochester, NY 14624

The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour— Communicator



(585) 247-7824

office@oursaviourrochester.org

Website: www.OurSaviourRochester.org

The Reverend Joachim Wilck, Pastor

*A member congregation of the Upstate
New York Synod Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*



Invite a friend to chrch.

What is missing?

U R!