



# The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

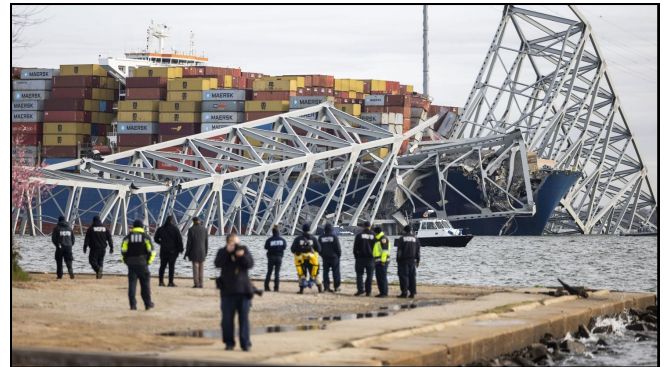
## The Communicator—November 2024

### From The Desk of Pastor Wilck



I share some excerpts from an article by Henry Brinton and Carl Wilton entitled Pillar of Faith. It is a reminder of what should be central in our lives and why that is important.

“It was a video seen around the world: The Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore tumbling into the water on March 26, 2024. The disaster occurred when the massive container ship MV Dali lost power and crashed into one of the bridge’s pillars, sending people and vehicles into the cold, dark Patapsco River in the middle of the night. Six members of a road construction crew were killed in the accident.



The chilling video showed the bridge quickly collapsing moments after the impact. Dali is an enormous ship, 984 feet long, approximately the length of three football fields.

Lights on the ship flashed off and on before the accident, suggesting that an electrical problem caused the crew to lose control of the vessel. The FBI quickly opened an investigation into whether the crew departed from the port knowing that the ship had serious systems problems, and the U.S. attorney for Maryland said, “we will seek accountability for anyone who may be responsible.”

According to CNN, the bridge was 1.6 miles long and a critical link in the Baltimore Beltway, a travel route for 30,000 commuters per day. In addition, it soared over a channel that gave ships access to Baltimore, the ninth largest port in the country for international cargo. The collapse deposited tons of steel and concrete into the water, suspending commercial shipping for weeks.

Without its pillar, the bridge could not stand.

### **The Great Commandment – our pillar**

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might,” says Moses (Deuteronomy 6:5). Jesus later referenced this verse as the first part of his great commandment (Mark 12:29-30). With this commandment comes the challenge of giving priority to God, much in the way that we give priority to the people we love: Spouses, children, relatives, friends, close neighbors. Love is a much stronger bond and obligation than respect, duty or affection.

Love is how we protect the pillar and build our lives around it. It is “the first and greatest commandment,” says Bible professor Elizabeth Achtemeier. “It forms the central requirement given in Deuteronomy’s sermons to the people of God.” If our love for God is undermined, our relationship with God quickly collapses, leaving enormous pain and destruction behind

Moses reminds us that the “LORD is our God, the LORD alone,” and he gives us the challenge to “love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might” (Deuteronomy 6:4-5). If we allow counterfeit gods to take the place of the one LORD God, we will find ourselves without the strong support we need for life. And if we allow ourselves to love anything more than God, we will find ourselves failing in spectacular fashion. We do not want to be like the Dali, a ship with “serious systems problems.”



### How Do We Maintain Our Love for God?



In Deuteronomy, Moses urges the people to keep his words in their hearts, recite them to their children, and talk about them both inside and outside their homes. “Bind them as a sign on your hand,” he says, “fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house” (6:8–9).

With these words, Moses gives the Israelites advice about maintaining the centrality of the commandments, particularly the Ten Commandments. In Jewish tradition, these instructions are taken literally in the wearing of phylacteries, small leather containers that contain biblical texts, and the nailing of a mezuzah to a doorway. By doing this, God’s law is remembered in every aspect of life.

Very few Christians today are going to wear phylacteries or nail mezuzahs to their doorways. But we can follow the instructions of Moses by teaching our children the Ten Commandments, as well as the great commandment of Jesus. This commandment is a set of twin pillars, constructed by Jesus when he quoted Deuteronomy 6 and Leviticus 19. “The first is,” said Jesus, “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:29-31).

Love for God. Love for neighbor. According to Jesus, there is no other commandment greater than these.

Although we do not have phylacteries and mezuzahs, we can keep these words in our hearts, share them with our children and put them into action inside and outside our homes. When tempted to make an idol out of power or success, focus on your love for God. When your children become focused on acquiring the latest toy or device, teach them about loving their neighbor.

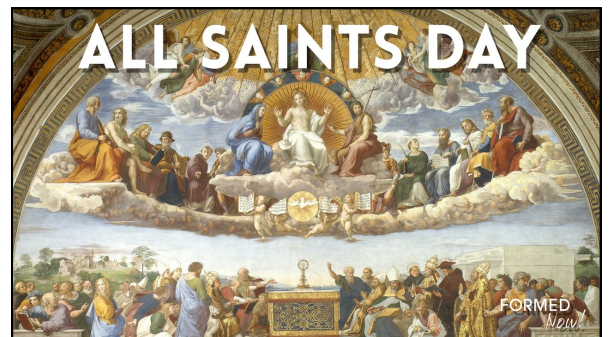
By keeping the pillar strong and protected, you’ll avoid a complete collapse.

*Joachim Wilck*

### A Prayer For All Saints’ Day



It is inevitable that we should be sad when those we love depart from us by dying. Although we know they are not leaving us forever, that they have but gone a little ahead of us, that we who remain will follow them, nevertheless our name shrinks from death, and when it takes a loved one we are filled with sorrow simply because of our love for that person. That is why the apostle did not tell us that we should not be saddened, but that we should not be saddened in the same way as those who have no hope. In the death of those who are close to us we experience both sadness at the necessity of losing them, and hope of getting them back. By the former we are distressed, by the latter consoled; in the one our weakness touches us, in the other faith restores us. In our loss the human condition mourns, but through hope the divine promise heals.



—Sermon 172 Augustine, Bishop of Hippo (354-430)

## WELCA

*submitted by Ann Seppa, Secretary*



A special thank you to our guest speaker Pastor Jonathan Deibler from St. John's Lutheran Church. Pastor Deibler spoke to us on Prison Ministries.

WELCA will be holding our Annual Election Day Soup and Bake Sale on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. We are asking the church members to donate a soup or baked item. This is our only fund raiser for the year. Volunteers are also needed to work the day of the sale. If interested, there will be sign-up sheets on the WELCA table in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact AnnMarie MacBride.



Our Annual Christmas party will be held at the church on Tuesday, December 10 at 11:30 am. Secret Pals will be revealed and new ones chosen. If you plan to attend, there will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Dessert, beverages and lunch will be provided. AnnMarie MacBride will serve as hostess and lead us in devotions. If you have any questions, please contact AnnMarie MacBride.

## Church & Community

*submitted by Ann Seppa, Chairman*



**The PB&J Project:** The PB&J project continues to go well. We supply 200 PB&J sandwiches to St. Peter's Kitchen on Brown Street. We meet at 9:30 am the **SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH**. The next time we meet will be on Thursday, November 14 at 9:30 am. If you are interested in volunteering, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Volunteers are always needed. Any questions, please contact Ann Seppa.

### **Thanksgiving Dinner at Community Lutheran Ministry "Maggie's Place"**

will be held on Saturday, November 23 at 942 Joseph Avenue from noon to 3:00 pm. It is a special time when they give thanks and gather to share their Christian faith with others. It is also an opportunity to bring together neighbors living in a troubled community for fellowship and food. Last year they served many meals and expect to serve even more this year. Jerry Stich will place a sign-up sheet on Sunday, November 3 on the table in the Narthex for specific food donations we will be collecting, this includes drinks, paper products and supplies. Financial donations will also be accepted and may be put in an envelope labeled with this activity. Checks should be made payable to LCOS. We also need volunteers to work the Saturday shifts from 12:00 noon- 3:00 pm for serving the meals and 3:00-6:00 for clean-up. If interested in volunteering or you require additional information, please contact either Jerry Stich or Ann Seppa.



**Cornucopia/Thanksgiving Food Baskets:** Due to food restrictions, this year we will not be collecting food donations for the Thanksgiving baskets. However, the recipients will receive a gift card to Walmart from the Women of the ELCA.

**Angel Tree:** Jerry Stich will put the Christmas Tree up on Sunday, November 17. We will be providing gifts for children from LCOS and the Coldwater House for Mothers and Children (Open Door Mission).

**Thrivent Members,**  
*submitted by Ed Jarvis & Wendy Carrier*



Looking for all Thrivent Members!!! If you have a Thrivent Product, you are a Thrivent Member!!! Ed Jarvis and Wendy Carrier would like to talk with you about some benefits that Thrivent offers its members, which can help our church ministries. Each Thrivent Action Team offers \$250 toward fundraisers, educational events, and service activities. They are already helping with our PB&J Ministry, the Loop Food Cupboard, and Ed Jarvis is sponsoring an Action Team for WELCA's Annual Soup/Baked Goods event on Election Day!!! Every Thrivent Member can sponsor 2 Action Teams every year – that's \$500 that we can use toward activities at Our Saviour! Ed and Wendy are willing to help with the application – a simple application with great rewards! Please let Ed or Wendy know if you are a Thrivent Member and we will help identify eligible programs, and we will even help to complete the Thrivent Action Team Application!

Please see them after church or contact them via email at:

Ed at enjarvis38@gmail.com or Wendy at wcarrier@frontiernet.net.

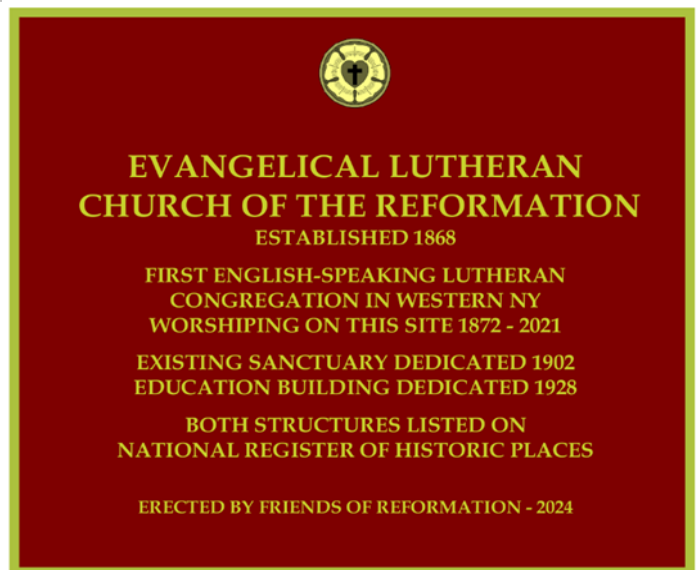
**Remembering Reformation Fund Update**

*submitted by Arnold Boldt*



Over the summer the, "Remembering Reformation," team has been busy planning for an historical marker recognizing the 153-year history of Reformation Lutheran Church. Team members include former Reformation members Charlyne Hickey, Sharon & Larry Nazarian, and Gail & Arnie Boldt.

The bronze plaque will be installed on Reformation's former building on North Chestnut Street in the City of Rochester. Thanks to the generosity of numerous friends of Reformation, we have reached our fundraising goal! The order has been placed with the foundry in Pennsylvania that is manufacturing the plaque. Delivery and installation of the plaque are anticipated later this fall. A dedication ceremony will be planned once a delivery/installation date has been determined.



**Operation Christmas Child Update**

*submitted by Lois Dannenberg*



Exciting news, LCOS has been designated a drop-off location for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. I need some volunteers to help me receive, count and pack the boxes into crates for shipping. This will be happening Nov 18-Nov 25.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, if you can help please sign your name and when you would be available. This is a great opportunity to help with this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Lois Dannenberg.

## Financial Report

*submitted by Deb Ciccone*



Below is a financial update as of the end of September which was 75% of the way through the year. As you can see our income year to date (YTD) continues to be ahead of budget, while our expenses are slightly lower than our forecasted budget. We are starting the budgeting process for 2025. Providing pledge cards for 2025 really helps the finance team and council prepare the budget for next year.

	<u>September Actual</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD as a % of Annual Budget</u>
Income	\$20,542.62	\$198,735.14	85.8%
Expense	\$17,411.83	\$192,052.55	70.5%
Net Income	\$ 3,130.79	\$6,682.59	

If you have any questions, please contact me at (585)749-7733.

## Pictures from WELCA with Jonathan Deibler

*submitted by Ann Seppa*



## Some Thoughts on Giving from the Financial Committee

Maintaining and increasing contributions is necessary for Our Saviour to continue to operate. Over 80 % of our expenses are, "fixed expenses," such as salaries, insurances, cleaning services, utility bills, office equipment, etc. In addition, it is critical we maintain our beautiful church building and grounds, support missions, and financially support all the other church activities throughout the year. As you know the price of goods and services has dramatically increased over the last few years and the church is not immune to these increases.



So what can you do to help out?

- Pledge – commit to giving a certain amount to Our Saviour each year and do your very best to meet your commitment. This year our stewardship drive is asking each member to increase their giving by ½ of 1 percent of their household income. For a family whose income is \$50,000 per year, that would be an **increase** of \$250 per year on top of whatever you pledged last year.

To figure out the amount you need to add to what you pledged this year follow this example:

Let's say your household income is \$50,000 per year.

And you pledged \$5000 for this year.

To figure out what to add to that this year follow this formula:

**yearly household income x .005 = what you need to add to your upcoming year pledge**

**\$50,000 x .005 = \$250**

**So you would pledge \$5,250 for 2025.**

We ask you to prayerfully consider this increase.

- Keep your contributions as current as possible as it helps us pay our bills on time.
- Consider donating electronically through our very secure VANCO system. Not only is it convenient, but the entire system is overseen by the government ensuring safety and security. You have the option of choosing either monthly or weekly contributions to be sent to the church's account from your savings account, checking account or a credit card. The paperwork is easy to complete. Please ask Rod Potter if you have any interest in signing up with Vanco.

We are truly thankful for the generous contributions each and every year and ask you consider this increase for 2025.



# Jubilees Christmas Luncheon

December 17, 2024

Hastings Room - Brook Lea

Gather 11:45 am



Total cost (meal and tip,  
coffee, tea, soft drinks) \$25.00

## Meal Options-

French Dip Sandwich w/Fries

Cobb Salad w/ chicken, bacon  
& Roll

Turkey Club Sandwich & Chips

Vegatarian salad available

For dessert: Christmas Cake

Seat yourself upon arrival

Christmas music provided

by Bob Newbury

Come sing Christmas Carols  
and enjoy Fellowship

Merry Christmas

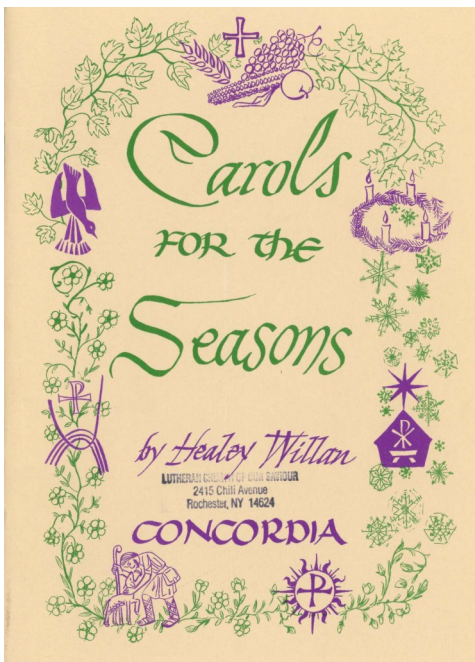


**Sunday School Office Cleaned Out**  
*pictures by Jerry Stich*



*Thanks to Jerry Stich and Yvonne Dougherty for their hard work!*

**Save The Date: Sunday December 8th at 4:00 p.m.**  
*submitted by Jonathan Howell*



Please mark the date in your calendars. The Choir of Our Saviour and Pastor Wilck will present a service of lessons and carols written by Healey Willan, known as the, “dean of Canadian Composers.”

For those who sing but are not currently serving in the choir, we invite you to join us for this work. Rehearsal times can be arranged for those wishing to “just sit in,” on this one.



# Trunk or Treat a Huge Success!

*Pictures by Brian Spencer*



# Happening in November



## Friday, November 1—All Saints’ Day

6:30 p.m. .... A Service for the Dearly Departed

## Sunday, November 3, All Saints Sunday (Special Activities Day for Sunday School)

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

9:15 a.m. .... Sunday School

10:00 a.m. .... Communion Service

## Monday, November 4

9:30 a.m. .... Solutions One Fire Inspection

5:30 p.m. .... Communications Committee

6:30 p.m. .... Scouts, BSA

## Tuesday, November 5

10:00 a.m. .... Bible Study

## Thursday, November 7

6:30 p.m. .... Bell Choir Practice

## Sunday, November 10

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

9:15 a.m. .... Sunday School

10:00 a.m. .... Communion Service

11:15 a.m. .... CLC Meeting

## Monday, November 11—Veterans Day

ALL DAY..... Office Closed

## Tuesday, November 12

10:00 a.m. .... Bible Study

6:30 p.m. .... Properties Committee Meeting

## Thursday, November 14

9:30 a.m. .... PB & J Making in Augsburg Room

10:30 a.m. .... Worship Committee

6:30 p.m. .... Bell Choir Practice

## Sunday, November 17 (Shoe Boxes Due)

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

9:15 a.m. .... Sunday School

10:00 a.m. .... Communion Service

## Monday, November 18

6:30 p.m. .... Council Meeting

6:30 p.m. .... Scouts, BSA

## Tuesday, November 19

10:00 a.m. .... Bible Study

## Thursday, November 21

6:30 p.m. .... Bell Choir Practice

## Saturday, November 23

12:00 p.m. .... MAGGIE’s PLACE Thanksgiving Dinner

## Happening in November, cont.



### Sunday, November 24

9:00 a.m. .... Choir Practice  
9:15 a.m. .... Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. .... Communion Service

### Monday, November 25

6:30 p.m. .... Scouts, BSA

### Tuesday, November 26

10:00 a.m. .... Bible Study

### Wednesday, November 27

6:30 p.m. .... Thanksgiving Eve Service

### Thursday, November 28—Thanksgiving Day

ALL Day ..... Office Closed

### Friday, November 29

All Day ..... Office Closed



Mike Otto, Vera Scuderi, Vernon Squire, Miles Sovereign, Carolyn Hane

# November Service Schedule



Altar Guild: Debbie Frey

Day & TIME	SERVICE LEADER	USHER	LECTOR	GREETER	Communion Assistant	Cross Bearer
Friday November 1	Pam Brady	Steve Brady	Andy Eichner	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Sunday November 3	Brian Spencer	Deb Yackel	Drew Emerson	Ann Seppa	Deb Yackel Pam Specner	<i>n/a</i>
Sunday November 10	Ed Jarvis	Peg Hamblin	Wendy Forrest	Lois Dannenberg	Wendy Forrest Peg Hamblin	John Macksamie
Sunday November 17	Frank Johnson	Deb & Mike Frey	Mike Frey	Carol Werth	Deb Macksamie Deb Frey	<i>n/a</i>
Wednesday November 24	Carol Werth	Cindy Borzilleri	Carol Ransom	Richard & Ruth Pearce	Cindy Borzilleri Ed Jarvis	Lois Dannenberg
Sunday November 27	Ann Seppa	No Ushers	Alice Newbury	Alice Newbury	Deb Frey	

## Anniversaries in November



Nov 10—Steven & Jennifer Large (28 years)

Nov 19—Brian & Tamara Mochrie (41 years)

Nov 24—Reinhold & Helga Freimuth (59 years)

Nov 24—Ronald & Barb King (62 years)

Nov 24—Brian & Pam Spencer (52 years)

Nov 29—Gordon & Ann Seppa (39 years)

## Birthdays in November



Carol Werth—November 4

Angelica Hickey—November 6

Linda Gatto—November 10

Rod Potter—November 12

Carla Ruoff—November 12

Marielies Renke—November 13

David Evert—November 14

Donna Zacharko—November 14

Connor Large—November 17

Norma Snyder—November 17

Margaret Witt—November 17

Virginia Squire—November 23

Marjorie Kowalski—November 24

Ryan Shannon—November 24

Deb Macksamie—November 25

Jacqueline Potter—November 28

David Hickey—November 29

## Prayer Concerns

### Members In Need of Prayer

Barb Collins, Alice Crawford, Elaine DeVantier, Jack Erbeling, Bev Evans, Jim Flick, Debbie Frey, Meredith Fries, Gerry Haak, Merlyn Hann, Bonnie Hartfiel, Daryl Jarvis, Lynn Johnston, Barb King, Greg Lombard, Jean Lombard, John Macksamie, Elly Mahler, Sharon Nazarian, Linda Palmer, Jackie Potter, Marilies Renke, Edith Russell, Joe Scuderi, Bob Snyder, Janine Westa, Charlyne Hickey, Meredith Fries, Don Jermyn

### 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, Dillon Griffin, *Army*

### Family & Friends In Need of Payer

John Aune, *brother of Ann Marie MacBride*. Sam Bagdan, *nephew of Ray McQueen*.

The Baird and Balmer Family, *family of Valerie Baird*.

Dan Burrell and family, *friends of John and Debi Macksamie*. Rick Conley, *friend of Jean Lombard*.

Annette and Casey Corbridge and family, *family of Debi and John Macksamie*.

Marlene Denz, *mother of Paul Denz*. Rich Doehl, *friend of Debi Macksamie*.

Krystle Earle, *daughter of Debbie Frey*. Terry Faircloth, *daughter of Ed & Daryl Jarvis*,

Valerie Gingello, *sister of April O'Connor*. Barbara Haefele, *aunt of Steven Fries*.

Roy & Ann Hamblin, *parents of Paul Hamblin*. Stacy Harris, *friend of Wendy Forrest*.

Steven Gear, *Father of the Gear Children*. Kyle Hopkins, *son of Larry & Janie Hopkins*.

Sean Hopkins, *son of Larry & Janie Hopkins*. Family or Rick Horn, *cousin of Wendy Forrest*.

Cathy Lee Johnson, *niece of Ann Seppa*. Marlene Kallstrand, *friends of Dick & Carol Ransom*.

Nancy Lenox, *mother in law of Steve Fries*.

Greg Lombard, *son of Jean Lombard*. Scott Lynaugh, *nephew of Alice Crawford*.

Zoe and John Marshall, *friends of Debi Macksamie*. JohnAnthony Neri, *nephew of Alice Crawford*.

Rich Petronio, *friend of Stephanie Karcher*. Scott Preston, *son of Karen Preston*.

Marianna Reed, *friend of Debi Macksamie*. Martha Richenberg, *sister of David Nowatka*.

Lois Russell, *friend of our WELCA*. Mary Anne Schnabel, *friend of Bill Vogel*.

Matt Seger, *family friend of Valerie Baird*. Avrie Sinesiou, *friend of Keely Lyons*.

Denton Sutphen, *brother of Debi Macksamie*.

Glena Sutphen, *sister-in-law of John and Debi Macksamie*.

Kerri Wallenhorst and family, *friends of Jenny (Stich) Guiles*. Judy Whitney, *cousin of Ric Seiling*.

Clarence Wingate, *nephew-in-law of Jack Erbeling*. Sammy Zaffuto, *friend of Alice Crawford*

Sharon Zappone, *friend of Valarie Baird*

REQUESTED  
CHANGE OF SERVICE

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

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## The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour— Communicator



*The Lutheran Church  
of Our Saviour*

(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*

**Live Stream!!!!**

Sunday's at 10:00 a.m.



**Live Streaming**

Go to our website and click the link.

**[Www.oursaviourrochester.org](http://www.oursaviourrochester.org)**

Or copy or type this into your browser:

**[https://www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCZ97KCbyuuanQXPLPt53UOw/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZ97KCbyuuanQXPLPt53UOw/live)**