

# Our Savior's Lutheran Church

## The Messenger

Jan 2023

### Worship Services Schedule

9:30 AM – WORSHIP SERVICE  
10:30 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11:30 AM – CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

### Pastor's Message

#### Epiphany – The Revelation of God

**After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi<sup>1</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem<sup>2</sup> and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." (Matthew 2:1-2)**

Advent and Christmas went by at a record pace. I can't believe it's 2023. But more importantly, it is the Liturgical season of Epiphany. This season starts the first Sunday after January 6<sup>th</sup>, the traditional day where it is believed the Magi, the three Gentile Kings, Melchior, Balthazar and Caspar visited the baby Jesus. Their trip covered over 800 – 900 miles. They brought gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to the newborn king, Jesus.

The liturgical season of Epiphany or the season of lights begins with evening prayer on January 5<sup>th</sup> to the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. This season emphasizes Jesus' manifestation (or epiphany from the Greek epiphaneia) as God and man. When these Gentile Magi came to worship Jesus, it showed that everyone, Jew and Gentile, had access to God.

Some scholars think that Jesus may have been as old as two when they arrived in Jerusalem. The reason for that is Herod had all the infants two years old or younger slaughtered so possibly, Jesus may have been around two. However, tradition paints the nativity scene with them in it suggesting they arrived right after he was born.

In an article by Dwight Longenecker in Crossroads.com, he suggests that there are 5 myths surrounding the Wise Men or Magi.

**Myth #1 – There were only three wise men.** We assume there were three because only three gifts were given but there might have been more.

**Myth #2 – The Wise Men rode camels.** This is a common misperception based on what we observe in movies from that area. Camels were pack mules that carried supplies. People of means rode Arabian horses and it's more likely they rode this swifter form of transportation.

**Myth #3 – They followed a miraculous star.** Matthew never says they followed a star. History teaches us this was the Northern Star. These men were astronomers who saw the star and knew it was a prophecy of the arrival of the Jewish king.

**Myth #4 – They were kings.** Magi were an advisory board to kings, but they weren't kings. We see in Daniel that they were consulted by the king and by Pharaoh in the time of Joseph.

**Myth #5 – They came from India, Persia or Africa.** Matthew says they came from the East but more than likely, they came from Arabian kingdom of Sheba. Longenecker contends Arabia had vast amounts of gold as well as the trees from which frankincense and myrrh were derived. Usually, the best commodities from one's country would be given to a neighboring king, so Sheba in Arabia is the best guess for the area they were from.

The question I have for us is how will God manifest himself to us in 2023? Are we looking for him to show up in our lives, in our church in 2023? The Magi were! When they saw indications of where he might be, they travelled 800 to 900 miles to worship him. Are we willing to do whatever we have to follow Him, to worship Him? They were. Are we willing to bring our gifts of our time, talents and treasure to worship Him? They were.

In this season of Epiphany, from January 6<sup>th</sup> to the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, I ask all of us, will we be like the Magi?

Grace and Peace in 2023,  
Pastor Bruce

## **OSLC COUNCIL PRESIDENT: John Deitsch**

I would like to thank everyone for the support they have given me and the rest of the Council over the past year, as well as for your thoughts and prayers. It has been a privilege to serve the congregation and a truly amazing experience to work with the other Council members. What a committed and dedicated team of individuals they have been! For Trent Schmid and Josh Ashcraft, I want to extend a giant THANK YOU for your 3 years of service, devotion, and commitment to the congregation. You not only helped guide the church through the COVID years, but also helped us begin to emerge from those challenging times. You will be missed in your roles as Council Representatives, but time moves on and roles change. I am now excited to begin working with the two new Council members, Adam Nourse and Alan Huss. They will be joining a great team, which includes Dan Kartak, who was also elected to fill an open position, and who will continue in the position he took over when Elton Sutherland resigned.

I have great hope for the year ahead. I believe we made strides forward in faith in 2022, and if we can have open minds and open hearts and stay tuned into what unites us, that we can accomplish great things in 2023. Yes, a congregation as large as ours, and composed of members with varying experiences and at different points on their journey of faith, will always have differing opinions and multiple points of view. However, if we truly listen to and respect one another, and focus on our commonalities, then we can embrace our differences and be the stronger for it.

For those who donated to the Building Fund, letters have been sent out requesting your permission to use your donated funds for Building & Grounds enhancements and improvements. Several release forms have already been returned and the Council has approved looking into renovating the bathrooms in the back of church and acquiring an LED sign to replace the sign out front. Hopefully we'll be able to see some movement on both these items in the very new future, as well as determining what other projects to be planning for. Stay tuned for updates as more information becomes available. I ask for your continued support and prayers for all your Council representatives. GOD IS GOOD! Happy New Year!

## **MINISTRY & TEAM REPORTS**

**MUSIC AND WORSHIP Ministry: Mark Nourse (Chairman) Trent Schmid (Counsel Liaison)**

Happy New Year.

**GROW Ministry: Justine Ashcraft (Chairman) - Josh Ashcraft (Council Liaison)**

Thank you to our cute children for participating in the Christmas program and especially Thank You to Liz Boll for organizing it all! I hope you all had a magical Christmas with your loved ones.

In Sunday school, which starts back up on January 8th, we will continue on with our family-focused curriculum where the kids are memorizing bible verses and learning about different families in the bible. Thank you for sharing your sweet kids with me each week and have a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

With love,  
Justine

**Connect Ministry: Renae & Terry Schmid (Chairman) - Annie Baugh (Council Liaison)**

**WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES:** Soup with your soul sisters will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2022 at 1 PM in the fellowship hall. The menu will include soups, appetizers, sandwiches, desserts, and drinks. The 2022 secret sisters will be revealed, and a chance to sign up for 2023 will be available at the lunch. You do not need to be a secret sister to attend the luncheon. We will have a short program in addition to the reveal. Sign-up sheets to RSVP and for food are in the narthex or text Vicki Ramirez at 801-643-3695 if you plan to come. Hope to see you there! --

**Vicki Ramirez**

**MEN'S ACTIVITIES:** Men's Prayer Breakfast will be on January 7th, to be held in the Fellowship Hall at 8:00 AM. The Prayer Breakfast is open to all men, young and old, members and friends of OSLC. Come one, come all! Great food, a devotional, and good Christian discussion (and usually some fun bantering back and forth) can be expected by all who attend. Terry Schmid and Al Heiskanen will host this month.

**Dan Kartak.**

**HOSPITALITY TEAMS: ALPHA FOOD DRIVE.** We had 10 families/entities recommended to be recipients of all the food we collected for the Alpha Food Drive this year. The generosity of our church family never ceases to amaze me! God is so Good! Thank you to all 12 of our Monthly Hospitality team leaders who called with gentle reminders of food items to bring. Thank you to Kathy Guenther, Katherine Redwine and Terry Schmid, who took time on Saturday to sort and box food and to those of you who saw a need and stepped up to fill it and deliver boxes of food and personal care items. Everyone who received boxes was soooo Grateful. Our Perishable money donated, purchased Spiral hams for each family and with the help of a Thrivent Action Team Card, purchased other perishable needs of fruit, milk, butter, rolls, bread, cheese, and eggs!

Thank you to Lisa Schmid and Gail Campbell and their Nov and Dec. Hospitality teams, who provided meals/support for the families of Sharon Moore and Christine VanLeuwen and their celebration of life services. This service is always greatly appreciated.

**WITH MIXED EMOTION:** Terry and I, will be resigning from the Leadership positions of Connect Ministry effective December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. We both enjoy events that “connect” us to our church family, so this has been a blessing! We are grateful for the opportunity to have served on Connect Ministry and will look forward to pursuing other areas of service that give us joy within the church. We would encourage some of you to perhaps step up to lead this ministry and reap it’s many rewarding benefits. Please contact, Annie Baugh, Council Liaison or John Deitsch or Gail Gildemeister to make your wishes known. Sincere Thank you to all those who comprised the Connect Ministry.

In Peace and Love,  
**Renaë and Terry Schmid**

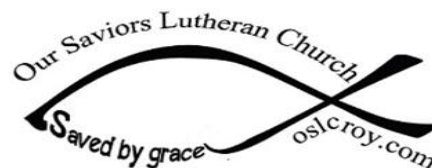
**Service & Outreach Ministry: Ashley Kaiser (Chairman) – Leo Seeber (Council Liaison)**

Happy New Year! I have enjoyed leading the Mission and Service Ministry over the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2022. I have so many blessings in my life, and it brings me joy to be able to serve others. Thank you for your support.

In November we ended filling and donating 21 boxes to Operation Christmas Child. The cookies for our homebound members were also a huge success. I couldn’t believe how many cookies you all made and donated. They were greatly appreciated by all. A big thank you to Renaë Schmid, Catherine Redwine, Mary Leschke, and Pastor Bruce for helping with the delivery.

We will be adding a new 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday offering for January, Journey Clinic in Roy. Journey Clinic is a faith based non-profit organization that specializes in helping women and their partners as they navigate the sometimes overwhelming experience of early pregnancy.

I look forward to 2023 and what this year will bring. I would love to hear any other suggestions or feedback you may have.



# Worship Assistants

Date	Time	Acolytes Sheila Courtney 385 626-8291	Greeters Gail Gildemeister 801 564-2357	Ushers Pat Simonson 801 721-7678	Projectionist Antonio Ramirez 801 573-2559	Camera Barb McFarland 801 668-9709	Altar Guild Sandee Isaacson 801 388-6694	Communion Assistant
1 Jan	11:30							
8 Jan	9:30		Ashley Kaiser	Sheila Courtney	Jack Baldor			
8 Jan	11:30		Pat Simonson	Mary Leschke				
15 Jan	9:30		April Barrett	Patrick Barrett				
15 Jan	11:30		Mary Leschke					
22 Jan	9:30		Karen Seeber	Leo Seeber				
22 Jan	11:30							
29 Jan	9:30		Barb McFarland	Don McFarland				
29 Jan	11:30							

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**3 Jan Ryan Kaiser**  
**3 Jan Chloe Colvell**  
**5 Jan Kim Sparkman**  
**8 Jan Gail Gildemeister**  
**9 Jan Teri McCloy**  
**10 Jan Bob Tyler**  
**19 Jan Gram Faris**  
**25 Jan Joy Kern**  
**29 Jan Dema Jo Call**

## JAN HOSPITALITY TEAM

**Tedi & Steve Morlan – Coordinator**  
**Shirley Cooper & Gene Aguilar**  
**Sam & Jen Harris**  
**Jessica Bennington**  
**Dave Engen**  
**Cat Smith**

## CONGRATULATIONS, BLESSING & THANK YOUS

**It can't be said enough. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations and help with the Alpha Food drive. With your help we were able to reach out to so many people.**

**Thank you to our council for another year of service. Your dedication keeps things moving.**

**These last few snow storms are a blessing for our drought conditions. BUT thank you John Crossfield and those other angels who come and scrape/salt the sidewalks before events.**

**The staff of Our Saviors want to thank you all for your generosity, thoughts and prayers.**

**Big shout out to our youth and their leaders. The Christmas program was wonderful.**

## January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>  11:30a Contemporary Worship	<b>2</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY OBSERVED 5:30p Girl Scout Troop #773	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 12:00p Bible Study 5:30p Girl Scout Troop #970	<b>5</b> 6:00p Girl Scout Troop #807 6:00p Band Practice	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00a Praise Band Practice 1:00p Secret Sister Luncheon
<b>8</b> 8:00a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service 10:30a Sunday School 11:30a Contemporary Worship (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Offering)	<b>9</b> 5:30p Suncrest Service Unit Meeting (GSA)	<b>10</b> 6:00p Girl Scout Troop #111	<b>11</b> 12:00p Bible Study 5:30p Girl Scout Troop #970	<b>12</b> 5:00p Girls Advisory Board (GSA) 6:00p Girl Scout Troop #578 6:00p Band Practice 6:30p Church Council	<b>13</b> 6:00p Girl Scout Troop #1710	<b>14</b> 9:00a Open Hands Food Pantry 9:00a Praise Band Practice
<b>15</b> 8:00a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service 10:30a Sunday School 11:30a Contemporary Worship	<b>16</b>  5:30p Girl Scout Troop #773	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:00a Quilters 12:00p Bible Study 5:30p Girl Scout Troop #970	<b>19</b> 9:00a Quilters 6:00p Girl Scout Troop #807 6:00p Band Practice	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00a Praise Band Practice 4:00p GSA Babysitting project Troop #773
<b>22</b> 8:00a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service 10:30a Sunday School 11:30a Contemporary Worship	<b>23</b> 5:30p Girl Scout Troop #773	<b>24</b> 6:00p Girl Scout Troop #111	<b>25</b> 12:00p Bible Study 5:30p Girl Scout Troop #970	<b>26</b> 5:00p Girls Advisory Board (GSA) 6:00p Girl Scout Troop #578 6:00p Band Practice	<b>27</b> 6:00p Girl Scout Troop #1710	<b>28</b> 9:00a Open Hands Food Pantry 9:00a Praise Band Practice
<b>29</b> 8:00a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service 10:30a Sunday School 11:30a Contemporary Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

***Time Sensitive Material***

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**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

**Return Service Requested.**

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Web Site: oslcroy.com

**Jan Lectionary**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>2nd Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
1 Jan	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas	Isaiah 63:7-14	Psalm 111	Galatians 4:4-7	Matthew 2:13-23
6 Jan	Feast of the Epiphany	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-11 (12-15)	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
8 Jan	Baptism of Our Lord	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalm 29	Romans 6:1-11	Matthew 3:13-17
15 Jan	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 40:1-11	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42a
22 Jan	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalm 27:1-9 (10-14)	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-25
29 Jan	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany	Micah 6:1-8	Psalm 15	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12