

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume XXXX, Issue		<p><i>Our Savior Lutheran Church</i> 1105 W. Fern Ave. McAllen, TX 78501</p> <p><i>Worship with us every Sunday.</i></p> <p>We are starting indoor services Sunday, November 29th at 9am and 11am.</p> <p>We invite everyone to worship with us online. You can watch Sunday's service on our Facebook page (Our Savior McAllen—ELCA), and on our YouTube page. (You can find us by searching for 'Our Savior Lutheran Church').</p> <p>Please stay tuned for further updates.</p>	Our Savior Lutheran Staff:	
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Pastor's Notes

Going back indoors for worship

During this up and down of the coronavirus, we have chosen to remain online and outdoors for our worship experiences. Now, as we prepare to go back inside, we remain vigilant and flexible, We may need to shut back down again if the virus cases spike in our area. Hopefully, we can at least keep the outdoor services going if that transpires. But let us pray for the best at this point. We will continue to tape the services, but likely will only tape on Sunday morning now, rather than Thursday afternoons. The disadvantage of that is that we may not have that service up then before Sunday afternoon/evening, unless we can get a live broadcast figured out. For those who want to watch it on Sunday morning only, that may mean watching the service from the week before.

The church council has approved returning to indoor worship on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, Nov. 25th at 6pm. The following Sunday, the 29th, we will have traditional service indoors at 9am, with a speaker set up outside in the courtyard for those who would still prefer to participate in the open air. Between 10 and 11am, the sanctuary would be cleaned

and disinfected for the 11am Blended Service. Not knowing the number of Winter Texans returning and attending, we are leaving the 11am service blended for the possible overflow at the 9am service time. Blended means music selections both from the ELW hymnbook/traditional and contemporary songs.

In between services, preparation would include uncovering the unused pews from first service and covering the used pews from first service. That way, each pew will only be sat in one time each Sunday. Just as importantly, we would use a spray disinfectant to be sprayed over the entire area of the sanctuary. It is recommended to wait between 15 and 30 minutes before entering again following the spraying. The hour unternal should give ustime to get out and back in again for the 11am service. The sanctuary will be disinfected again after the last service. All doors will be left open into the building and inside into the sanctuary to keep you from touching the door handles. Bathroom usage will have to be figured out with caution. Hence, use your own at the last minute before coming if possible.

We will need your full cooperation in making this happen safely. As always, if you choose to come, make sure you have none of the normal symptoms associated with the virus or not feeling good in general. Like outside worship, we will expect you to wear your masks

at all times during the service, Extra masks till be available if you forget yours. If we reach our recommended capacity, including the overflow room/fellowship hall, we will ask you to sit outside. So, it might be a good idea to bring your lawn chair just in case. As you enter either of the side doors to the building, you will obtain your communion kit and be able to place your offering in the plate or box there. We will not pass plates during the service. At this point, everything will be on the overhead screens in order to avoid the handing out of bulletins. Hand sanitizers will also be at the entrances. Immediately entering, you will turn inward at the first doors to the inside of the sanctuary and be ushered down to the front pews to be seated—front to back. This is very important for safety reasons to not be crossing over one another coming in and out. So please do not sit in any pew as you come in. We know many of you prefer to sit in the back. Please make this sacrifice for order and others sake. People can sit side by side if from the same family or couples. Others will separate by 3 seats from one another. We will also skip row by row, marked off by tape. During the worship, we will have music, but ask you to only sing softly into your masks. Whatever singer or speaker up front will remove their masks for that happening. At the end of worship, you will be ushered out from the back to the front, going out the center aisle and straight out the double doors in the center of the narthex. Do not linger on the sidewalks to the parking lots. Use good judgement on social distancing, etc.

As you might guess, this will take a good number of volunteers to pull off— ushers, freeters, those to set up tables and outdoor speaker beforehand, people to help with changing pews between services, and one person to operate the spray machine. If you are interested and willing to serve in any of these ways, please contact the church office or speak to someone on a Sunday.

We ask for your patience and consideration in all of this. It is a time of flexibility and 'going with the flow,' May God give us the gifts and attitude for a time such as this.

Pastor Steve

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES.

Timothy & Lois Thomas 12/01
Vern & Joan Einhorn 12/09
Stan & Veretta Johannsen 12/09
Darrel & Jayne Schnell 12/11
Gene & Della Twait 12/23
Dick & Sue Rohloff 12/26
Burdell & Margaret Hammel 12/28
Waldo & Marion Platte 12/30
Donald Sletner & Kathleen Brookover 12/30



First Communion Class

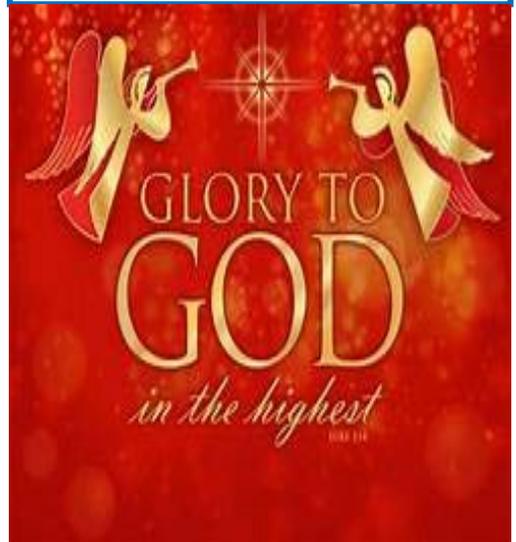
We are beginning this class for 2nd to 4th graders who haven't had their first Communion yet. It will be a six week session starting on Wednesday, December 2nd, at 6pm. And lasting 45 minutes. If you are interested or know of someone who is, contact Pastor Steve (who is facilitating the class) or call the church office.

SCRIP INFO

Scrip orders will be placed on 11/29/20 for delivery on 12/6/20. Also on December 13th to be delivered on the 20th. You can stop by the office during the week to place your orders or contact Vicki Drews if you have any questions. If you plan to stop by the office, please don't forget to wear a mask. ☺

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Natalie Honi	12/2
Margaret Mueske	12/2
Marguerite Baumann	12/6
Joshua Burnham	12/6
Dayle Haaland	12/6
Bob Bauer	12/7
Yolanda Riesterer	12/7
Samantha Burks	12/8
Ian Eason	12/8
Lorraine Tonn	12/8
Sally Askins	12/9
Donald Miller	12/9
Babara Lundgren	12/11
Mary Curil	12/12
Joann Goede	12/12
Cheryl Hawkins	12/14
Edith Engel	12/15
Madalynn Schlaefer	12/18
Willard Herke	12/19
Shirley Theil	12/19
Travis Fowler	12/21
Barbara Ayers	12/22
Jeanne Fuentes	12/23
Pam Von Rosenberg	12/26
Loren Maahs	12/27
Angelo Ranaudo	12/30
Rose Schmidt	12/31



FINANCIAL SUMMARY OCTOBER 2020

Income for October was \$17,951 and was more than planned for by \$2,199. Year to date Income was \$204,627 and was less than the planned income by -11,745. Expenses for October were \$19,784 and were less than the planned expenses by \$-1,180 YTD Expenses were \$208,402 and were less than the planned expenses by -\$20,610. October income of \$17,951 less October expenses of \$19,784 means we took in less money than we spent by -\$1,833. YTD income of \$204,627 less YTD expenses of \$208,402 leaves us with a negative balance of -\$3,775. Hopefully November and December will be better months. All in all, we are hanging in there. Thank you all for mailing in or dropping off your donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Gifts

During the holiday season, gifts are given in remembrance of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He is the best gift we have ever received.

In addition to Jesus, God has given us spiritual gifts as well. In 1 Corinthians 12:4 it states "there are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit." Also 1 Corinthians 7-11 names those gifts. Whatever gifts He has given us, we need to use or share with others. His plan is that we use our lives for Him for the good of all. Romans 12:6-12 tells us that "we have different gifts, according to the grace given us." The person who has hospitality makes others feel welcomed and comfortable. Some have the gift of speech and can deliver important messages or words of comfort to others. Yet, others can be leaders who can guide and be there when needed. We can use these gifts, which we have been given, to benefit others.

Sometimes we receive gifts from people which we already have or cannot use. It is not uncommon for many to re-gift those items to someone who would appreciate them. We need to share Jesus in the same way. It is important that we tell of the sacrifice Jesus made for us. Re-gift Jesus by telling those who do not know Him, that Jesus has given us eternal life and we wish to share Him.

—Marsha Erps



*Where God is seen,
Love is felt,
Lives are changed.*

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