

# 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><b>Worship with us every Sunday.</b></p> <p>Worship on Sundays at 9am indoor/or outdoors. Worship at 11am indoors. If you go at 9am outdoors please bring your lawn chair. We also 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>	<b>Our Savior Lutheran Staff:</b>	
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		Vice President	Bill Mauck	
		Treasurer	Dawn Garcia	
		Secretary	Paula Cheever	
		Fellowship	Alie Hiles	
		Evangelism	Jason Milligan	
		Learning & Youth	Norm Frey	
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Stewardship				
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Social Concerns				

## Pastor's Notes

*All the Lord's blessing and mercy on you this new month. This month, we finish our Epiphany Season and transition into the Season of Lent. We come down from the Mount of Transfiguration on Sunday the 14th and begin the journey to Jerusalem and the Cross on Wednesday the 17th with two services of Ashes at 12 noon and 6pm. All are invited to begin this 40 day walk through repentance to Crucifixion. We will follow Jesus and his events back then, as well as Jesus and his present activity today. He has come to save and redeem. It is the gift that keeps giving. We will have Midweek services at 4pm on Wednesday afternoons starting on the 24th through March 24th. Due to the continuing virus issues, we will not be having the meal fellowship before services as in years past. Lent means 'springtime' and renewal. Let's continue that theme as a congregation, individuals, communities, nations, and world.*

*We did reach our quorum for the Annual Meeting on Jan. 17th. Annual Reports are still available on the back table in the narthex. A reduced budget was voted on due to the decreased numbers of participants and income. We encourage you to keep up your financial giving as this new season has not eradicated the virus in our midst, as well as its consequences. Stay safe. Take precautions. Get vaccinated. Also, on the 17th, we welcomed five new members— -Angelo Ranaudo, Ken & Dorothy Anderson, Judy & Zane Juncker. Angelo and Zane, along with Van Slusser and Michael Minor were elected to the church council which begins its work on Feb. 12th and 13th with the annual council retreat. (Continued )*

It has been a difficult past 11 months. If you remember, we stopped public worship on March 22nd of last year. We began an outdoor service in October. Then, we moved indoors again on Thanksgiving Eve. We go forward as a people of faith. Our faith in God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has seen us through in the past and will see us through in the future. We give thanks to God. Pastor Steve

### **SAINTS**

The pandemic has brought the best out in some people. I have had no incidents with this disease, but I have other problems. Once again my heart and lungs quit working. My husband brought me back after eight minutes of rescue breathing. He knows CPR and the rescue breathing. I have no indication when my body stops. I just go limp and don't breathe or have a heart beat. My husband is a saint. He has saved me twice with the help of the Lord. I am very fortunate to have him in my life.

Of course, the ambulance took me to the hospital for a five day stay. All the nurses, doctors and CNAs (certified nurse assistants) took excellent care of me. These medical personnel are working tirelessly for all of us. To me these are saints. These are the people in the front lines taking care of the ill and injured. Then we have another hospital where nurses have been contracted to work with the Covid patients. Russ has talked with some of them and this is a very difficult job they are doing. We need to remember them all in our prayers. Medical personnel from the paramedics to the doctors, nurses, and Physician assistants have worked hard even before the pandemic. My family doctor is the best in the sense he cares so much. If I have a problem, he will fix it. We need to pray for these wonderful people.

Psalm 121 is a prayer I pray for everyone. I lift my eyes to the hills, where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip, he who watches will not slumber. I will praise the Lord for all he has done and for the people he has put in my life. I have found that the medical community puts themselves last. We their patients are very fortunate to have them. God bless the doctors, nurses, Physician assistants, and first responders. May God bless them all richly. Thank you to them and to my God. Marsha Erps

**Vi Greenwald's New Address**

**The Hearth & Juday Creek**

**6330 N. Fir Road, Apt. 211**

**Granger, Indiana 46530**

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES.

<b>Roger &amp; jani Burnham</b>	<b>2/14</b>
<b>Larry &amp; Shari Chisholm</b>	<b>2/14</b>
<b>Frank &amp; Janice Zezulka</b>	<b>2/15</b>
<b>Bud &amp; Donna Klemmond</b>	<b>2/19</b>
<b>Hal &amp; Dorothy Case</b>	<b>2/24</b>
<b>Ronald &amp; Cheryl Hawkins</b>	<b>2/24</b>
<b>Delroy &amp; Annette Neubauer</b>	<b>2/28</b>

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Wendy Blomberg Wraith, Wilemon	2/1 2/1
Leland Crawford	2/2
Jani Burnham	2/8
Joseph Knollmaier	2/10
Sarah Rivas	2/12
Jessica Long	2/13
Barb Rush	2/16
Savannah Schlaefer	2/18
Robert Hadan	2/19
Fern Kreidler	2/19
Darlene Groskreutz	2/20
Bev Stier	2/22
Annette Neubauer	2/23
Gordon Treptow	2/23
Vern Einhorn	2/25
Robert Olson	2/25
Hope Young	2/25
Ernie Nelson	2/27
Kurt Von Rosenberg	2/27
Warren Leith	2/28

Happy  
Valentines  
Day



**SCRIP INFO**

Scrip orders will be placed on 2/21/21 for delivery on 2/28/21. 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. ☺

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY DECEMBER 2020**

Income for November was \$22,133 and was higher than planned for by \$959. Year to date Income was \$226,760 and was less than the planned income by -10,786. Expenses for November were \$19,622 and were more than the planned expenses by \$319. YTD Expenses were \$228,025 and were less than the planned expenses by -\$20,291. November income of \$22,133 less November expenses of \$19,622 means we took in more money than we spent by \$2,510. YTD income of \$226,760 less YTD expenses of \$228,025 leaves us with a negative balance of -\$1,265. All in all, we are hanging in there. Thank you all for mailing in or dropping off your donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

## STEWARDING YOUR BEST YEAR EVER ..

“Stewardship is not only a matter of faithful giving but of faithful living. In response to the Gospel, we submit our lives to the rule of God, to the lordship of Christ, and to the direction of the Holy Spirit, so that we may be the people God wants us to be and have the lives God wants us to have.” - Mark Allan Powell, author of Giving to God.

Yikes! It’s January 2, and the bathroom scale shows that, once again, I’ve gained a few pounds in the five-week blitz-feast of Thanksgiving-Christmas-New Year. Clearly, I need to steward my health better in 2021.

Though it’s not the most common use of the word, steward is also a verb, an action word. We steward all that God has entrusted to us, making choices that, as Mark Allan Powell says, help us “be the people God wants us to be and have the lives God wants us to have.”

We steward our lives through our decisions and choices—the food we eat, the people we call friends, how we spend our money, the entertainment we select, the hobbies we enjoy, the many ways we spend our time, and so on.

To steward faithfully, we have to live in prayerful awareness and make conscious, thoughtful decisions that will advance us in Godly directions.

As 2021 begins, prayerfully consider the most important areas of your life, such as your physical, mental and spiritual health, as well as your relationships and time, and ask God to help you steward them in ways that will help you to be the person God wants you to be and have the life God wants you to have.

As for me, it will not only help me lose those extra holiday pounds, but also give me my best year ever.

Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2020, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA, and works as content editor for [www.stewardshipoflife.org](http://www.stewardshipoflife.org). He blogs at [www.thestewardshipquay.com](http://www.thestewardshipquay.com)

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

Office on December 23, 2020  
This newsletter was taken to the Post

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Our Savior Lutheran Church  
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