

# 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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		President		
		Vice President	Jason Milligan	
		Treasurer	Bill Mauck	
		Secretary	Dawn Garcia	
		Fellowship	Paula Cheever	
		Evangelism	Alie Hiles	
		Learning & Youth	Jason Milligan	
		Property	Norm Frey	
Stewardship				
Worship & Music				
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 6pm 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 10 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 DATES TO REMEMBER

**FEB 4TH 10 AM Adult Bible Study (Zoom)**

**6 PM Educ/Youth Meeting**

**FEB 12 6:30 PM Council Meeting**

**FEB 13 9:00 AM Council Retreat**

**FEB 17 NOON Ash Wed. Service**

**6:00 pm Ash Wed Service**

**FEB 21 Noon LOST Event**

**FEB 24 6 PM Lent Service (NO MEAL)**

**FEB 7 9 AM & 11 AM Council Installation**

## 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
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 December was \$22,416 and was less than planned for by -\$8,094. Year to date Income was \$249,176 and was less than the planned income by -18,880. Expenses for December were \$20,313 and were more than the planned expenses by \$573. YTD Expenses were \$248,338 and were less than the planned expenses by -\$19,718. December income of \$22,416 less December expenses of \$20,313 means we took in more money than we spent by \$2,103. YTD income of \$249,176 less YTD expenses of \$248,338 leaves us with a positive balance of \$838. So we finished the year in the black! Thank you all for mailing in or dropping off your donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

†

## STEWARDSHIP OF LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

Jesus said, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." - Mark 12::31b

Jesus said, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5:43b

Red hearts, roses and chocolates are everywhere, so it must be February—the month of love! There's certainly nothing wrong with celebrating romance between you and a special someone, or love among family members, or best friends who are who are always there for one another.

But our inner-circle folks represent only a sliver of the people Jesus calls us to love. And let's face it: they're the easy ones to love. Jesus calls us to a higher plane of love; to love everyone. This means not just the people about whom we are ambivalent, but our actual enemies and those who persecute us.

Such love is a tall order, especially today, when hatred and demonization is rampant. Our political, media and social cultures encourage us to demean everybody with whom we disagree or who is different from us. Though it may be impossible to reach Jesus' ideal, as stewards and disciples of Jesus, we can do better.

Turn from hate. It may be too much to love our enemies, but we can start by turning from hatred. When negative feelings arise, refuse to marinate in them. Pray for guidance and strength.

Remember that loving your enemy doesn't mean approving of who they are, what they do, or letting them escape responsibility for their actions. It also does not mean you cannot protect yourself or others from harm.

Imagine them as a broken, imperfect child of God (just like you!), who needs God's love and mercy.

Pray for them. Ask God to lead them, guide them, fill their lives with healing. Ask God to give them the kind of loving heart that you are hoping to develop in yourself.

If you do these things consistently, with God's help you will have transformed your heart, your life and our world,  
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.thestewardshipguy.com](http://www.thestewardshipguy.com)

*Lives are changed.*

*Love is felt,*

*Where God is seen,*

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www.oursaviorormcallen.org

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FEBRUARY 2021

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1105 W. Fern Ave.  
McAllen, TX 78501