

# OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH – LCMS

## **January Newsletter 2018**

### The GOOD NEWS

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#### **Our Savior Lutheran Church – LCMS**

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## HOME VISITS AND THE GOSPEL

*Thou hast granted me life and favour, and thy visitation hath preserved my spirit. (Job 10:12 KJV)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in our Savior Jesus Christ,

There is an old saying, “A home going pastor makes a church going people.” It’s a good saying; most of the time. What is a home visit?

It is not a social visit. We can spend afternoon or evening visiting without mentioning Jesus.

It is not an investigation. It is not a time for anyone to look for hidden, suspect sins to address. No wonder children run and hide when a pastor arrives and quiet parents are glad when the pastor leaves.

It is not an official appointment. There is no requirement to visit you once a year or once a decade.

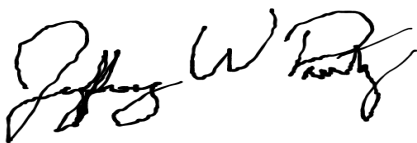
So, what is a home visit? The Sunday Service is the pattern for a home visit. It is a visit so that you may receive care for your soul in Jesus. First, however, it is a time for you to talk more than listen - if you want - and for me to listen more than talk. Second it is a time for you to receive the benefit of God’s Word. That benefit might be a Bible passage, a prayer, an absolution, a blessing, communion, or all of the above. It is designed for your individual circumstances.

It should not take much time. The Sunday Service gives all the gifts in about seventy-five minutes. There is no reason to have a three hour visit. Sure, sometimes there are special occasions. More time is o.k. in those circumstances. All things being equal, short and frequent is better than long and infrequent.

This year, I will work to increase home visits. A phone call. A letter. An email. A personal visit in your home for up to thirty minutes. Also, I have Office Hours posted on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

A Blessed New Year to you all!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey W. Pautz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Jeffrey W. Pautz  
Pastor

## **CONGREGATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**2018 ELDER GROUPS** Each one of us has an Elder assigned to us. Even I (Pastor) have an elder! Who is your Elder in 2018? It may not be the same as last year. Look for a letter in your mailbox to find out who is your elder in 2018. If you have questions or concerns, please ask Pastor or any Elder.

**TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS** Your assistance is needed to take down the Christmas Decorations on Wednesday, January 3rd at 10:30am after the Women's Bible study.

**THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD** is observed Sunday, January 7th at 9:00am

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM VIDEO** is available on the church's website at <https://www.oursaviormuscatine.org/sermons/2017-childrens-christmas-program>. Click the link and enjoy! Thank you again to the Board of Education, Hirschfelds, parents, and children involved. Pastor

**NEW MEMBER CLASS** Pastor Pautz is organizing another new member class. This class is for anyone who has questions or wants to review the most important teachings of Jesus Christ. You are especially encouraged to sit in on this class if you wish to become a communicant member or have recently transferred to Our Savior Lutheran from another congregation. The class will begin Sunday, January 14th at 4:00pm.

**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS** will take place on the January 14th during the Sunday morning service. We will give thanks for those who are completing their terms of service and install new and continuing elected congregational leaders.

**LIFE SUNDAY** will be observed on Sunday, January 28th and Monday, January 29th during the regularly scheduled services.

**MEMBER DIRECTORY**: Please check your personal information in the 2017 DIRECTORY and send updates to [oslep@machlink.com](mailto:oslep@machlink.com). Pastor Pautz

**WEEKLY UPDATES** by email is available. If you would like your name added or removed, please contact Pastor Pautz and let him know. Also, updates are available by Following and Liking this congregation on **FACEBOOK** at: <https://www.facebook.com/oursaviorlutheranmuscatine/>

**CONGREGATION ANNOUNCEMENTS** continued

**2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are in the narthex. Please pick up at your earliest convenience. If we have missed you, please let us know. We will be happy to provide them for you. The Finance Committee - Mary Francis, Rex Krueger, and Sandy Throm.

**MISSION OUTREACH SUGGESTIONS** An envelope with paper beside it for your mission outreach suggestions from the proceeds of our Apple Pie Mission Project this fall have been placed on the easel. Please put your suggestions of ways to reach out in the envelope by the end of December. We will vote at our January LWML meeting who we will support! Thank you!


**FINALLY**, thank you for all your **OFFERINGS** and PRAYERS in 2017 to support the mission and ministry here at Our Savior Lutheran Church. You are a generous congregation. God bless you all in the New Year! Pastor Pautz

“Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ! Drop your ugly accusation, I am not so soon enticed. Now that to the font I’ve traveled, all your might has come unraveled, and, against your tyranny, God my Lord, unites with me!”

**LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK 594:3**

**CONGREGATION ANNOUNCEMENTS** continued

**IDE 2018 MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT**



Iowa District East 2018  
**middle school retreat**  
Jan 26-27 / camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

**He Richly & Daily Provides Me With All I Need: A Look At Providence**

*Pastor Travis Berg*

We learn from the Bible that God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh. What is God doing now? Is God a distant clockmaker, or is He near us? What makes the world work: the laws of nature or God? Where is God when bad things happen? Is luck real? These are just a few of the questions that we will be answering during our time together. By answering these questions, we will better understand the explanation to the First Article of the Creed.

**Details**

Dates: January 26-27, 2018

Location: Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Cost: \$45 per student

**Register** online through EventBrite or mail a Paper Form with a check for \$45 to the district office.

# JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins Service</b> 09:30 Women's Group <b>10:30 Take Down Christmas Decorations</b> 04:00 Office Hours 06:15 Catechism Class	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 08:00 Absolution <b>09:00 Divine Service</b> 10:30 Bible Study 11:15 Elders Meeting	<b>8</b> 01:00 Sunnybrook Bible study 04:00 Office Hours <b>06:00 Divine Service</b>	<b>9</b> 09:00 Circuit Meeting	<b>10</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins Service</b> 09:30 Women's Group  04:00 Office Hours 06:15 Catechism Class	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 08:00 Absolution <b>09:00 Divine Service with installation of Officers and Boards</b> 10:30 Bible Study	<b>15</b> 01:00 Sunnybrook Bible study 04:00 Office Hours <b>06:00 Divine Service</b> 07:00 Council Meeting	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins Service</b> 09:30 Women's Group  04:00 Office Hours 06:15 Catechism Class	<b>18</b>  07:00 LWML	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 08:00 Absolution <b>09:00 Divine Service</b> 10:30 Bible Study	<b>22</b> 01:00 Sunnybrook Bible study 04:00 Office Hours <b>06:00 Divine Service</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins Service</b> 09:30 Women's Group  04:00 Office Hours 06:15 Catechism Class	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 08:00 Absolution <b>09:00 Divine Service</b> 10:30 Bible Study	<b>29</b> 01:00 Sunnybrook Bible study 04:00 Office Hours <b>06:00 Divine Service</b> 07:00 Voters' Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins Service</b> 09:30 Women's Group  04:00 Office Hours 06:15 Catechism Class			