



LET'S MAKE LEFSE!

On Saturday December 17, 9:00am we're going to make some lefse! Lefse is basically a large potato tortilla of Norwegian heritage, which you cook on a very hot

griddle, then top with butter and sugar! Come and be part of the fun! This is an opportunity for us to do something together as a community of faith that *isn't* directly related to worship.

Everyone is invited. If you know how to make it, great! **If you don't know how to make it, but want to learn, great!** If you don't know how and don't want to learn but just want to hang out, great!

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex that lists the ingredients we need donated. Please sign up and bring them to the church by Friday December 16. Hope to see you there!

ADVENT WEDNESDAY SUPPERS

Serving begin at 5:30pm

Dec. 14 - Split Pea and Ham and

Beef Chili served by members of Fair Trade and Memorial ministries

Dec. 21- Bacon Corn Chowder and Chicken Noodle

served by members of Stewardship and Evangelism



8:00am Worship Assistants
 Acolyte: Grant Rosin, Courtney Holm
 Greeters/Offering: Rita Balm, Sue Dunemann
 Communion Assistants: Bruce & Tammy Olson
 Communion Assistants: Rita Balm, Dawn Christenson
 Usher/Offering: Dave & Nancy Wernecke
 Prayer Reader: Betty Peterson
 Coffee Prep: Byron & Darlene Stadvold
 Sound Board: Sherry Rengstorff

10:30am Worship Assistants
 Acolyte: Sayer Flynn, Adrian Fohrman
 Greeters/Offering: Bernie & Bonnie Servais
 Communion Assistants: Wanda Jensen
 Communion Assistants: Tim & Megan Valen
 Usher/Offering: Wayne & Stephanie Douglas
 Prayer Reader: Ted Waldo
 Offering Counters: Glenn Leckband, Chris Sub
 Coffee Clean up: Anne & Arlysse MacGillivray
 Sound Board: Bob Westland
 December Altar Guild: Tammy Olson, Genise Troutman,
 Joanne Heathman, Katie Zahasky
 Organists/Pianists: Ruth Benning, Mandy Lambrecht,
 Bruce Rohde, Jan Matson

Address: **Our Savior's Lutheran Church**
 2124 Viola Rd NE
 Rochester, MN 55906
 Office—289-3021
 Office Hours: M--F, 7:30am—4:00pm
 Website: www.rochesterosl.org
 Pastor Ben Loven—bloven@rochesterosl.org;
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 Joanne Hamilton, Office—office@rochesterosl.org
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ECHOES Weekly-Dec. 11

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

2124 Viola Rd NE

Rochester, MN 55906

WELCOME VISITORS!

"Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, to the glory of God." Romans 15:7

We welcome new visitors and old friends, long-time Lutherans, Christians from every tradition, and people new to faith. To those who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, do not believe, you are welcome here. Regardless of age, color, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, marital status, abilities or challenges, join us, you are welcome here.

You are welcome to worship, to celebrate and sorrow, to rejoice and recover. This is a place where lives are made new.

WANT TO JOIN OSLC? If you are interested in becoming a member, please talk with Pastor Ben or Pastor Fred.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God from Ardis Christen in memory of Dean Christen.

Remember in your Prayers:

Concerns: Paul Lutzke; Dianne Claffy; Betty Andrist; Lois Rink; Emery Bremer; Marsha Dick; Karen Pflibsen

Military Concerns: Margaret & Catherine Maher; Paul Schroeder; Austin Nicklay; Clark Rose; Eric Brown; Scot Heathman, Ryan Nordstrom, Dan & Kelly Pickett, all our service men and women serving in the Military and of our veterans who have served.

Missionary Concerns: Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke in Japan. The Palliative Care Program at Iambi Hospital, Tanzania.

Seminary: Nicholas Rohde

Thank You

THANK YOU to everyone for their prayers and well wishes during my cancer treatment.
Emery Bremer



FAITHFULLY FIT

Faithfully Fit is on Thursdays at 8:30am at OSLC. We meet in the Narthex.

HOLIDAY NOTE FROM MAYO CLINIC BLOOD DONOR PROGRAM

The holidays are upon us, and one of the best gifts someone can give and/or receive is the gift of blood. Please consider rolling up your sleeve and giving the gift of life to someone who may be in desperate need. In the U.S., 3% of the population is involved in saving lives. During the holidays—when people are traveling and missing donation appointments—we often see a stronger need for an ongoing blood supply. People fall ill to colds and the influenza, and accidents tend to increase in the winter weather.



One simple blood donation may save the life, or restore the strength, of a child or an adult who is fighting cancer. That same donation may mean the difference between life and death for an accident victim. Mothers giving birth sometimes have complications and need extra pints of blood. There is no substitute for this life-saving gift, so our patients rely upon the caring spirit of blood donors like you.

Please share this idea with friends, coworkers, and family members and encourage them to “join the team” and donate blood today. To make your donation appointment or for more information, call (507) 284-4475, email donateblood@mayo.edu, or visit our blog at <https://connect.mayoclinic.org/page/blood-donor-program>.

ROCHESTER MALE CHORUS

Sunday, December 11, 4:00pm

Guest Emcee: Robin Wolfram

Tickets: \$15 adults / \$5 students 18 and under

Tickets available at all Rochester Hy-Vee Stores, any choir member or by calling 507-990-1597

*OSLC Members in Choir
Ed Heckman & Joel Humke



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Erik & Nichole & Ellery Ramsey
The Ramsey family resides at 3109 Cassidy Dr NE. Erik is a Material Supervisor at McNeilus Truck Manufacturing and

Nichole is a Pharmacist at the Mayo Clinic. Ellery was born May 12, 2016 and will be baptized here at OSLC in January. We welcome you to OSLC.



Fellowship for Men

MEN'S SATURDAY FELLOWSHIP

Men's Fellowship has begun meeting. We meet the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at OSLC through May. We start with breakfast at 7:00am. After breakfast we study the Gospel for the coming Sunday. No preparation is required and we always get a lively discussion going. It's a great way to start your Saturday and get to know men of the congregation.

I'VE “BEN” THINKING...

I've been thinking about Christmas celebrations. Specifically, I've been thinking about one year in college.

I'd come home from school, looking forward to having a few weeks off before heading back for my January-term. I wasn't planning to really *do* anything, just enjoy some family time, celebrate the holy-day, and play with the new stuff I got!

But my dad had other ideas. He informed us that on Christmas Eve we were going to the soup kitchen to serve food.

This did *not* fit into *my* plan of how to celebrate Christmas. *I* wanted to go out to eat supper, then go to worship, **then go home to open presents...like we'd always done!**

But, despite my protestations, on Christmas Eve, before we went to worship we went to the soup kitchen to serve meals to the hungry and homeless.

...and it was one of the best Christmas' I've ever had.

I didn't get any awesome presents that year, I didn't get to go out to eat at our traditional Christmas Eve restaurant, and I even had to go to a different worship service than the one we'd “always” gone to. Instead, I got to serve people, and that made it an incredible Christmas.

Maybe you've been thinking about the ways you celebrate Christmas, too. This year, consider doing an act of service as part of your celebration. Perhaps you already do this, and that's wonderful if you do, but if not, why not try it out? You could volunteer to serve those who are hungry, you could cook a meal for a neighbor who's homebound, you could buy an animal for an impoverished family around the world from the ELCA's Good Gifts Catalog (www.elca.org/goodgifts).

I hope that you have a wonderful holy-day season!

-Pastor Ben



HOLIDAY OFFERINGS

The Thanksgiving offering is divided between Channel One and ELCA World Hunger, addressing the needs of hungry people both locally and globally.

The Advent offerings are divided between Salvation Army and Lutheran Disaster Relief, again addressing needs both locally and globally.

The Christmas offerings are divided between IHN and Habitat for Humanity, addressing the needs of people needing shelter.

HOW WE ARE DOING FINANCIALLY

YTD Actual Income \$ 400,101.14
YTD Budgeted Income \$ 438,895.38
YTD Actual Expenses \$ 411,316.51



CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Help fill the Christmas Baskets between worships today. Come to the kitchen if you would like to help.

THANK YOU to everyone that helped decorate the church for the Christmas season. Your help was great appreciated and will be enjoyed by all.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Dec 11 practice in sanctuary 9:15-9:35 am
Dec 18 practice in sanctuary 9:15-9:35 am
put on costumes 10-10:15 am
Christmas program 10:30



High School Youth

THANK YOU VERY MUCH for your generous support of the Youth Bake Sale! The Youth raised 643.50! This a great amount as we start the planning for our trip to Chicago next summer.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 11, Breakfast Club
Every Sunday, Sunday School

THE 2017 MISSION trip HAS been decided. This trip is open to **this year's youth in grades 9-12.** We will be heading to Chicago through "Serve Boldly"!! (This is the same group as last year.) We will be going about July 16-21. Cost will be about \$250. \$100 will be due on December 18th. If you have any questions or concerns-financial or otherwise, please talk to Cassie ASAP!!

This Week at OSLC

*Calendar Correction: Faithfully Fit will NOT meet Dec. 22, 29.
*Please note Circle Times.

Sunday, Dec. 11
Advent 3
Bell Choir Sunday
8:00am Worship
9:15am Education Hour
Coffee Fellowship
Coffee Fellowship today is in celebration of Mary Ann Smith's 75th birthday.
Fill Friendship Baskets
10:30am Worship
4:00pm Grace Bells @ The Waters

Monday, Dec. 12
P.B off
9:00am Naomi Circle

Tuesday, Dec. 13
11:30am Staff Meeting
3:00pm P.F @ Dunn Bros. N.
6:00pm HS Ministry
6:30pm Business/Finance
6:45pm Evangelism

Wednesday, Dec. 14
10:00am Martha Circle
11:00am Priscilla Circle
12:00pm Weekly Deadline
5:00pm Living Praise

5:30pm Meal
6:00pm MS Ministry
6:30pm Advent Worship

Thursday, Dec. 15
P.F off
6:00pm Promise Keepers
8:30am Faithfully Fit
4:00pm Dorothy Day Meal

Friday, Dec. 16
P.F off
9:00am Weekly Prep
7:00pm Lefse Prepping

Saturday, Dec. 17
P.F off
9:00am Lefse Event

Sunday, Dec. 18
8:00am Worship
9:15am Education Hour
Coffee Fellowship
10:30am Worship
S.S. Christmas Program



Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and rules with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

8:00/10:30am Worship
Kindermesse

A children's service based on the first letter of John, by John Ylvisaker

PRELUDE *"In the Bleak Midwinter"*
Grace Bells

OPENING SONG
"The Bells of Christmas" ELW 298

SONG OF PRAISE
"You Alone, Our Heav'nly King" screen

ANTHEM
Grace Bells,
directed by Bev Gronvold

"Beautiful Star of Bethlehem"
(This piece is dedicated to Jane Gronvold)

Violin—Evan Wright
Sax—Pam Shulze
Piano—Ruth Benning
Vocalists—Ed Heckman, Bob Westland,
Renee Thoreson, Bev Gronvold

GOSPEL READING Matthew 1:18-25

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOOD NEWS
Pastor Fred Rengstorf

SONG OF THE DAY
"Your Little Ones..." ELW 286

OFFERING *"Silent Night"* Grace Bells

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" ELW 276

"Let All Together..." ELW 287

THANKSGIVING SONG
"He Came Down" ELW 253
vs. 1-3

CLOSING SONG
"Away in a Manger" ELW 277