

DECEMBER 2020

# The Voice

OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH  
120 S HENRY  
GREEN BAY WI 54302

## *Christmas is Now*

PASTOR DAVID H. HATCH



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Usher Schedule  
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Christmas in October

**And so much more!**



Thanksgiving is now past.

Christmas decorations are up.

The needles are still fresh on the tree!

Eggnog is good!

The belt is about to surrender another notch for our comfort. Stretch pants are appreciated. We'll have our fill of fruit cake. Cookies, we are never tired of those!

Now what? What is there to look forward to? The depth of what the Incarnation [Read, "Christmas"] means is barely comprehensible for us. When we pray, we are talking to a God we cannot see, but who came among us to be seen. To believe that our God hears all the prayers from around the world at the same time is faith. The same faith that those who saw Jesus' face and interacted with Him had. He is here, now, listening, just as He was then, but invisible to our eyes until He comes again.

Because He came and walked among us, we can get a glimpse of His mercy and compassion for the world, for ourselves.

One of my favorite stories is about that man on Christmas Eve who did not believe God became a baby, so he stayed home from church while his family went to worship. Remember the story?



He heard some thuds against the front window of the house. Thinking someone was tossing snowballs at his house, he went outside to catch them. No one was there.

Just as he was about to go back in the house, his eye caught some movement under the bushes beneath the front window of the house. There were little birds, injured, stunned from hitting the glass. "It was not snowballs hitting my window, but these birds!"

He felt bad for them. It was a cold night and getting colder, with snow predicted. Try as he might to pick up the birds, he could not. They scurried away from him. They were afraid of him.

Finally, the thought came to him, "If only I were a bird just like them and could talk to them, then they would not be afraid of me. I could save them then!"

At that moment he heard the church bell ring in the distance, and a light came on in his heart,

"That is why God became a baby, so we would not be afraid of Him, so He could talk to us, so He could save us!"

May that Light keep coming on and stay on in our hearts, too! When you see those many winter birds, recall that special story. It will bring you back to Christmas again!



Christmas has infusing Spiritual implications that influence our hope and bring freshness for every breath of our days. Christmas is now. Christmas is about the reality that God became a baby and dwells among us, providing for us, lifting us up out of the mire of our troubles and brokenness.

Pastor  
Dave

# Christmas in October

Not knowing what our ability would be to gather in December to celebrate the birth of Jesus, a special outdoor service was planned for 6pm on Sunday, October 25. But not everything went as planned...or did it?

Do you watch Hallmark channel? They air Christmas movies almost year-round. One thing you can count on in those movies is that it will snow for Christmas, even if the grass is green when morning dawns.

Predicting the future is not within the talents of our pastors at OSLC. Real life is not scripted; planning for this event started in September. Who would have thought we would see snow in the forecast in October, much less precisely on the evening of Sunday, October 25?

More than 100 souls braved the cold and snow to enjoy this special celebration, complete with a lighted Christmas tree, manger scene and cozy fires set up to provide some warmth. Our Board of Fellowship provided hot apple juice, cookies and treat bags for the kids.

Please enjoy the pictures below, submitted by those that attended for you to enjoy.



## January 2021 Usher Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Team</i>
03 Jan	Sun	7:45 AM	Ralph Hoerchler	Matt Norem; Gerald Kirchman
03 Jan	Sun	10:45 AM	Royal Bruhn	Sue Bruhn; Carson Falck
07 Jan	Thu	6:30 PM	Harvey Boeder	† UN; † UN
10 Jan	Sun	7:45 AM	Allen Knaus	Jerry VanKauwenberg; Nathan Knaus
10 Jan	Sun	9:15 AM	Pending	Pending
10 Jan	Sun	10:45 AM	Gerald Buechner	Rich Spangenberg
14 Jan	Thu	6:30 PM	Tiffany Duff	Brain Duff; † UN
17 Jan	Sun	7:45 AM	Greg Jones	Kathy Jones
17 Jan	Sun	9:15 AM	Pending	Pending
17 Jan	Sun	10:45 AM	Mike Charles	Sandy Groth
21 Jan	Thu	6:30 PM	David Haase	Bobby Haase; Rich Spangenberg
24 Jan	Sun	7:45 AM	† UN	Al Brietlow; † UN
24 Jan	Sun	9:15 AM	Pending	Pending
24 Jan	Sun	10:45 AM	Royal Bruhn	Sue Bruhn; Carson Falck
28 Jan	Thu	6:30 PM	Harvey Boeder	† UN; † UN
31 Jan	Sun	7:45 AM	Ralph Hoerchler	Matt Norem; Gerald Kirchman
31 Jan	Sun	9:15 AM	Pending	Pending
31 Jan	Sun	10:45 AM	Gerald Buechner	Rich Spangenberg

***†UN-Usher Needed: If you'd like to volunteer as an usher, please contact the Lead usher of the group you'd like to join or contact Rich Spangenberg at (920) 857-3014 or [spangenr.ret@uwgb.edu](mailto:spangenr.ret@uwgb.edu)***

Discussions are happening about the possible start of holding the 9:15am worship service in house. When an actual start date is determined (on or after January 10), usher teams will be contacted to fill in those dates.

## Make Someone's Christmas Special

The deadline for donations to the local Toys for Teens program is coming fast. Toys for Tots are also accepted at Our Saviour. Gifts may be dropped off during regular office hours (Monday thru Friday, 8am-noon and 12:30-4:30pm); just call the office for 'curb side pickup'. Please have all unwrapped gifts to church no later than Sunday, December 6. The Salvation Army will gather these gifts from OSLC and other drop off locations between December 7 and December 10 and we don't want anything to be missing when they do.

Wrapped and labeled gifts for residents of Bornemann Senior Communities will be accepted until Sunday, December 13. Although they are unable to gather together for a Christmas party, wrapped gifts will be distributed to the nursing home residents with Christmas cheer provided by their dedicated workers.

# Versatile Blue Bin

If you have been attending worship, you have seen the 'blue bin' by the overhang entrance. If you have not been attending worship, you need to know the purpose of that versatile container!

The original purpose of the blue bin was to welcome donations of non-perishable food for the Manna for Life food pantry. This was set up so that those not attending worship could continue to help others in need. The bin was mentioned in some of the announcements and it has worked well for that purpose.

When folks began to ask about dropping off other items, the purpose for that versatile blue bin was expanded. All items being collected can be deposited in the blue bin...at any time. There is no longer a need to wait for Michelle to be in the office.

Please place loose items (such as coupons, Coke caps/codes, postage stamps and Box Tops for Education), in ziplock-type bags. Plastic or paper bags should be used for empty ink cartridges, non-perishable food and knit winter items for the Chicks with Stix collection. When using the bin, please close it tightly to protect everything inside from the Wisconsin weather.

Please do NOT use this bin for offerings, Mite Box donations, or SCRIP orders. Those can be brought to the church and given to Michelle in a non-contact manner. Come to the South entrance and use the call button; we can use the mailbox as a quick drop off area. Feel free to ask about using a cell phone to call upon arrival if you are unable to exit your vehicle.

## All Are Welcome

A new class will be held on Wednesdays in January/February from 6-8pm. Beginnings - Basic Beliefs for Adult Lutheran Christians can be used as a refresher or, for those not currently members of OSLC, an avenue to membership at Our Saviour.

The five-week class focuses upon the gracious gifts God has given to us through the work of His Son, Jesus Christ: forgiveness, life, and salvation. This course is also designed to offer the learner an understanding of what we do at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, why we do what we do, and how a person can choose to be involved in the Lord's ministry within our setting.

Join us for this 5-night series on Wednesdays (January 13, 20, 28 and February 3 and 10). A make-up class is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16. The Adult Confirmation/Profession of Faith service, for those new folks wanting to become members of OSLC, will be held in our 7:45am worship service on Sunday, March 28, 2021.

Members and visitors alike, please call Michelle in the church office at (920) 468-4065 or email her at [info@oslc-gb.org](mailto:info@oslc-gb.org) to RSVP for the class.

# **\*Shop\*Give\*Shop\*Give\***

When you shop online at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1026893>, Amazon donates a percentage of your purchase to Our Saviour Lutheran Church (this is the direct link from Amazon for Our Saviour Lutheran Church donations). Shop through this link or the smile.amazon.com website (and select OSLC as your charity of choice) and a percentage of each purchase will be given to Our Saviour. In 2020, we received \$84.83 from this Amazon program!

Double dipping is allowed! For your Amazon shopping, buy Amazon SCRIP! Amazon cards can be given as gifts or added to your Amazon.com account and applied to your order at checkout. No need to expose your credit card number online!

Speaking of SCRIP, we have many cards on-hand, but we can run short with high demand so please plan ahead. SCRIP that is not on-hand needs to be special ordered by Friday and usually comes in by the following Wednesday. Use SCRIP at the grocery or department store, gas station, restaurants and more; most local chain stores and some local stores offer SCRIP. Kohl's cards purchased from SCRIP can be used to pay your Kohl's charge bill - get all their special credit card discounts and then help the church when you pay the bill!

If you have questions, please call Michelle in the church office at (920) 468-4065. SCRIP orders require ordering ahead and pick up during office hours (Monday thru Friday between 8am and noon or 12:30pm and 4:15pm). Payment must be exact by check or cash.

## **Support us when you shop this holiday season**

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials  
at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).  
You shop. Amazon donates.

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# Giving Looks Different in 2021

Online giving is more popular than ever. Checks can be sent directly from your bank with a few keystrokes. And gifts to Our Saviour can be recorded without an assigned envelope number.

With our new FellowshipOne database, gifts can be recorded as long as we have a name and address. In past years, only those who were assigned an envelope number had that done for them. For members, a record of your giving that can be privately seen or printed by you at any time. Donations are recorded the same week as they are counted (currently done every other week). If you are unable to access this information online, feel free to contact the office to receive a statement or a verbal confirmation of your giving this year.

Statements showing your 2020 offerings will be printed as usual. One change, due to COVID, is that statements will not be available for pick up; all will be mailed. If you do not want your statement printed and mailed, please notify the church office no later than January 10, 2021. Statements can be sent by email upon request and verification of all contact information in the database.

## LWML: Young Woman Representative (YWR)

Our local LWML is taking applications for YWR. If you are interested in being a YWR, review the information below and contact Sandy Groth or Debbi Young for details.

The YWR should:

- Have a strong relationship with her Lord. Her faith will encourage her as she participates in the convention and carries out her YWR duties and responsibilities.
- Have some knowledge of the LWML. She will gain much from her national convention experience if she understands the basics of the organization. Each district should make an effort to provide education and information for the YWR prior to the convention.
- Know what is expected of her on the district level after the national convention, whether that is speaking engagements, attendance at district events, or YWR committee work.
- Be willing to participate in the following areas after convention: speaking, leading, recruiting, or encouraging. She is expected to impact others with her convention experience; skills in these areas are helpful.
- Have a desire to make a difference, be willing to assume the responsibilities given her by the district and serve in a sincere and dedicated manner. Enthusiasm to learn and be involved is a must!

What is expected of a Young Woman Representative?

- A YWR will attend all sessions of the convention, sitting with her district delegation, though she will not be eligible to vote.
- A YWR will be asked to report on her convention experience either orally or in written form to the district, zone, or society that nominated her.
- A YWR will commit to being involved in her local LWML as well as encourage other young women to be active in the LWML.

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"Our Saviour's Voice" is published monthly by Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Green Bay, Wisconsin. Editor, Jenni Harris. Please feel free to contact the church office with constructive suggestions and/or comments at [info@oslc-gb.org](mailto:info@oslc-gb.org). Thanks to those who have already commented! We are always seeking more congregational input and submissions.

#### **OUR SAVIOUR STAFF**

Senior Pastor – David H. Hatch (920) 609-0248 [dave@oslc-gb.org](mailto:dave@oslc-gb.org)  
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Church Office – Michelle Burhite (920) 468-4065 [info@oslc-gb.org](mailto:info@oslc-gb.org)  
Preschool Director – Joanne Prindle (920) 468-3596 [joanne@oslc-gb.org](mailto:joanne@oslc-gb.org)



# December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 10am Staff Meeting 5-15pm Board of Fellowship 6pm Confirmation	3 12-15pm Divine Worship 6:30pm Divine Worship	4	5
6 7:45am Divine Worship 8am Live Stream Bible Study 9-15am Live Stream Divine Worship 10:45am Divine Worship	7 6:30pm Board of Elders	8	9 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Preschool Christmas Program	10 12-15pm Divine Worship 6:30pm Divine Worship	11 Christmas Poinsettia Plant Sign Up Deadline – Call the Office	12
13 Mite Box Sunday 7:45am Divine Worship 8am Live Stream Bible Study 9-15am Live Stream Divine Worship 10:45am Divine Worship	14	15	16 10am Staff Meeting	17 12-15pm Divine Worship 6:30pm Divine Worship	18	19
	Preschool Christmas Break	Preschool Christmas Break	Preschool Christmas Break	Preschool Christmas Break	Preschool Christmas Break	
20 7:45am Divine Worship 8am Live Stream Bible Study 9-15am Live Stream Divine Worship 10:45am Divine Worship	21	22	23 10am Staff Meeting	24 Christmas Eve 1-3:0pm Divine Worship 3:30pm Divine Worship 5:30pm Divine Worship 7:30pm Divine Worship	25 Christmas Day 9-15am Divine Worship	26
	Preschool Christmas Break	Preschool Christmas Break	Preschool and Trinity Christmas Break	Preschool and Trinity Christmas Break	Preschool and Trinity Christmas Break Office Closed	
27 7:45am Divine Worship 9-15am Live Stream Divine Worship 10:45am Divine Worship	28 4pm Ruby's Pantry, Redeemer, Oneida Street Preschool and Trinity Christmas Break	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 6:30pm Divine Worship	Jan 1 New Year's Day	Jan 2
	Michelle Vacation–NO SCRIP	Michelle Vacation–NO SCRIP	Michelle Vacation–NO SCRIP	Michelle Vacation–NO SCRIP	Office Closed	