

March/April 2026

Christ Our Savior
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

DISCIPLEGRAM

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO SHARE THE LOVE
OF JESUS CHRIST IN THESE COMMUNITIES
AND WITH PEOPLE EVERYWHERE

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*This Article was Written
by a Human*

At some point in the last few years, we entered the future. I'm not exactly sure when it happened. Was it when ChatGPT granted public access in November 2022? Was it when every tech product launch and media opportunity began mentioning "Artificial Intelligence" features to their products? Was it when these tools became more widely adopted by individuals and businesses? Here, let me ask Claude.ai real quick and see when it thinks we entered the AI future... (for the record, Claude gave a list of potential answers beginning with IBM's Deep Blue beating Kasparov in chess in 1997). One thing is clear, however: there are lots of opinions on the topic of AI.

This is all new, strange, and--frankly--scary. In the great history of technological advancements from printing press to typewriters to radio/TV to computers and internet and to the surprising advancements we see today, it's easy to see an upward trend. Technological advancements had already been happening at a breakneck speeds but they're only accelerating. How will our society keep up? What will happen to job markets and the wider economy? But, more personally, what will happen to me? To my work, my livelihood, and the way I live my life?

It's easy and understandable to be afraid. I know I am. There's not enough space in this Disciplegram to acknowledge every fear, opportunity, and possibility around Artificial Intelligence. But, I want to use this space to communicate three points:

First, God's not scared. He already created authentic intelligence. He already breathed life into the dust and put His image on us humans. He has already righted the wrongs that we caused to all of creation by our sin. He knows how this and every future technological advancement will play out both for our benefit and our detriment. And He's not scared! He's still on His throne, ruling over the world even now. There is no better comfort I could find in

the world of AI than in this sure foundation: Jesus is Lord.

Second, there's no replacing humanity. As bearers of the Image of God, humans have been given something significant. Even with our fleshly bodies, limited attentions, and ultimately fragile health, God accomplishes things with humans that no one can do with machines. Enabled by the Holy Spirit, we continue in the incarnational ministry of Jesus. God did not send Jesus to be born of a computer but to be born of Mary. He sent Jesus into our flesh and continues to pour His Spirit on us today. Whatever use of AI is in our future, it will never be able to outsource the impact of humans being humans. Gathering together, forgiving and receiving forgiveness, providing for the needs of one another. As your pastor, I'll always need you humans and you'll always need me. Just the way God intended!

Third, I want to learn. I'm speaking for myself here; I am curious about what this is that humans have invented. How do LLMs work? What are the strengths and weaknesses of this technology? What are the dangers and what are the opportunities? I don't begin to have the answers, but I am interested in investigating. Scientific discovery and technological advancement can be reasons to praise God! As we sing in the hymn *Earth and All Stars* (LSB 817), "Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom! Sing to the Lord a new song!" (verse 6). Whether this knowledge comes in the form of "loud boiling test tubes" (verse 5 of the hymn) or a computer program that is able to write sentences, where might God be leading us to work within His will? How can we exercise God-given discernment? (AI will never write a sermon!) How can we as all of God's people use technology and use it well?

The answers to all of this will take time--maybe more than a lifetime--to sort out. But, in the mean time, let's rejoice in the people of Christ Our Savior. This Disciplegram in front of you is full of humans doing human things that work for the benefit of the mission of God. Thumb through the pages, read the articles, and rejoice in how you and your brothers and sisters have been given the Image of God to work for His Kingdom!

In Christ,

Pastor Joel Werner
Pastor Joel Werner

Staff

Rev. Dean M. Davenport
Senior Pastor

Rev. Joel A. Werner
Associate Pastor

Fritz Quitmeyer
Vicar

Tom Schroeder
Director of Music Ministry

Josh Kittleman, *Director of Christian Family Life Formation*

Laura Myers, *Director of the Early Childhood Program*

Linda Hollman, *Assistant to the Pastor in Assimilation, Outreach & Women's Ministry*

Karla Schettenhelm, *Assistant to the Pastor in Children's Ministry*

Jill Reinert
Business Manager

Laurie Riegel
Administrative Assistant

Alyssa Knock
Communications Coordinator

Missionaries

Rev. David Erber—*Africa*

Rev. Charles Ferry—*Romania*

Rev. Steven Mahlburg—*Sri Lanka*

Rev. James and Deaconess Christel Neuendorf—*Puerto Rico*

We live by faith, not by sight. Love works.

COS partners with Lutheran Braille Workers!



LBW
LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS



LBW, a nonprofit, LCMS Recognized Service Organization, is the world's largest Christian Ministry distributing FREE Christian materials to blind and visually impaired people globally. LBW is able to complete this wonderful mission by partnering with congregations across the US. With the help of God, COS is partnering with LBW to open a ministry center to produce large print Bibles for distribution globally. If people are asking for the Word of the Lord, how can we possibly say no?

Please join us! Our large print ministry center will be dedicated on Sunday, March 15th with an open house between services demonstrating the production process along with Q&A. We are also

holding training sessions on Saturday, March 14th for anyone interested in volunteering to work in the ministry center. We have a limited number of seats for the Saturday training, but no worries if the sessions fill or if you are not available on March 14th, we will be holding additional training sessions soon. If you are unable to serve in the ministry center, please include our ministry center in your prayers.

For additional information, contact our COS leadership team: Gail Snell; Mary Reske; Eric Candela; Pam Bishop; Mike & Mary Scheidies; Karen Calleja; and Linda Hollman (Outreach Director).

-Submitted by Pam Bishop

Growth in Our Congregation

Missional Living Update



Just as winter gives way to the flowering newness of spring, we are experiencing the unfolding of new ministries that are just beginning to take root and bloom here at COS. We're excited to report on the recent progress of some of these ministry initiatives:

- The Comfort Dog ministry, now called "Fur Blessings", has achieved a major milestone: the Parrish's dog "Toffee" has completed training and is ready for active duty as a therapy dog. Stay tuned for more news on

Vacation Bible School

VBS is coming this summer, June 22-26! Participants are ages 3 and potty-trained through those completing 5th grade. VBS will take place from 9m to 12 noon. Registration will open in May; look for the table in the narthex and a link in the COS Update. The program costs \$10 per child, max \$30 per family. Volunteers needed - all ages beginning at those who are completing 6th grade.

Contact our Karla Schettenhelm (734-522-6830, karlas@christoursavior.org) for more information.

Toffee's future ministry engagements. Contacts for this ministry are Natalie Hansen and Elenn' Parrish.

- A new Large Print ministry, which is associated with the Lutheran Braille Workers organization, will be starting at COS very soon. This ministry will be focused on printing large print religious materials that are in great demand. Their kick-off and ministry dedication will be on the weekend of March 13-15. Please contact Pam Bishop or Linda Hollman if you would like more information or if you'd like to get involved.
- The Wellspring Lutheran Services facility located just north of COS on Luther Lane (off Farmington Road) has been recently repurposed and renamed "New Directions" which is now focused on assisting troubled youth. COS hosted a Christmas party for their new teen-aged residents late last year, and several of the young people have been attending services here over the past few weeks. Perhaps you've seen them in the building ... don't hesitate to give them a friendly "hello" and welcome them to our fellowship! God alone knows where this collaboration could lead us in the future.
- Our Pastors have reserved time on their calendars for counseling sessions; not a new activity for them but now with a more purposeful intent and an on-line scheduling system that is easy to use and maintains confidentiality. This promises to be a great blessing to our members in the days ahead and has the potential for outreach to people outside of our immediate fellowship. To find more information and/or to schedule a counseling session go to the "Connect" tab on the COS website main page and select "Talk to Pastor" (www.christoursavior.org/talk-to-pastor).

To see a complete list of the ministry projects being tracked by our Missional Living Planning Team, or to submit an idea for a new ministry, please visit the Missional Living page which can also be located on the "Connect" tab from the COS website main page (www.christoursavior.org/missional-living).

*The Missional Living Planning Team
Pastor Davenport, Pastor Joel, Josh Kittleman,
Linda Hollman, Laura Myers, Mark Anders,
Heather Puterbaugh*

A Campaign to Reconnect, Understand, and Move Forward

Project Shepherding Assistance



Did you know that of the nearly 1,600 members here at Christ Our Savior, about 700 did not attend even one service in 2025? And of these 700, over half have not attended a service in several years? These numbers are discouraging, and typical questions that come up are “What should our church do differently?” ... “Is this a Christ Our Savior problem, or are there other factors going on in these members lives?” To find some answers to these questions, the Board of Elders have initiated a phone call campaign that we’re calling “Project Shepherding Assistance”. During the month of March, we’ve set a goal to reach out to each of the inactive households in our congregation. This campaign is a focused, coordinated effort to contact every member or household that has not attended a service in 2025. The purpose of the campaign is to understand the factors leading to these members’ inactivity, invite their re-engagement in church life, and, where appropriate, move forward with updated membership records.

This is a big undertaking ... there are close to 400 households to contact. The Board of Elders, along with members of the Shepherding Assistants Team, and church staff are joining forces to make these phone calls during the month of March; we’ve also dubbed this campaign our version of “March Madness”! Contacting inactive members is not a new activity for the Elders, but this campaign is designed to breath some new life into the

effort and to get all the Elders focused on the same approach during the same timeframe ... with the help and encouragement from the Shepherding Assistants Team and church staff.

Please pray for this initiative ... our focus is to bring these inactive members back into our fellowship, that by Easter we may, by God’s grace, see them returning to share in the blessings of Word and Sacrament ministry here at Christ Our Savior.

Matt Fremder / Mark Anders on behalf of the COS Board of Elders



This is YOUR Newsletter!

The Disciplegram is published six times a year and welcomes your submissions. If you have a news report, poem, artwork, short story or article that you would like to share, pass it on to our Communications Coordinator, Alyssa Knock (alyssak@christoursavior.org).

We reserve the right to make final decisions on what is published. We try to print articles as submitted, but will edit if necessary. Items will be included as space allows.

This is YOUR newsletter. Feel free to use it!



Growing Together in Faith

Sunday Family Night



So, picture this with me: It's 5:00pm on a Sunday evening. Children are running around in the gym. Adults are catching up with friends. The smell of dinner is wafting through the building - maybe pizza tonight, or perhaps it's Arlo's famous chili. Tables are set up. People are happy to see each other. This is Family Night at Christ Our Savior, and it's become one of the Kittleman family's favorite parts of the week since we joined COS two and a half years ago.

In talking with the other family night leaders, Pastor Joel and Nathan Troike, we realize that not everyone reading this has experienced our Sunday Family Nights. Some of you may have heard about it but haven't quite made it yet. Others could use a refresher on what we're all about. So we wanted to take some time to share what Family Night is, invite you to join us, and highlight one of the special events we recently hosted - our 3rd annual Variety Show.

What is Family Night?

Family Night takes place virtually every Sunday evening between September and the first week of May. It's structured to provide something for everyone while creating opportunities for our church family to grow together in faith.

At 5:00pm, we gather for dinner together. Various people take turns preparing the meal - we've enjoyed everything from pizza and soup to spaghetti, chili, chicken sandwiches, "breakfast for dinner," hot dogs, and more. A couple times a year we even have extra special meals. While we take a free will donation to help cover costs, we don't charge specifically for the meal. We want everyone to feel welcome, regardless of their financial situation.

At 5:45pm, we transition into a brief opening activity. Usually these involve PowerPoint trivia games that get us thinking and talking at individual tables. It's a fun way to shift gears from dinner conversation into our evening together.

At 6:00pm, we begin our studies and programming. The one constant is Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders. With the exception of occasional special events,

Confirmation takes place every week in Rooms 5 & 6 and is led by Pastor Joel and a group of awesome volunteer confirmation mentors. For the other age groups, we mix things up throughout the year. During some stretches, we offer age-specific studies for children, high schoolers, and adults. During other stretches, we offer intergenerational studies where people of all ages get together to learn about God's Word through activities that try to get everyone involved in learning and growing. We've found that both our age-specific studies and our intergenerational studies are enjoyable and help us to have fun as we grow in God's Word!

At 7:10pm, we gather together for our "Closing" in the sanctuary. This lasts about 20 minutes. This year, Mark Ingersoll and others have led us in singing great songs that direct our hearts to Jesus. This is a special time together. Then we close in prayer, filled up for the week ahead.

Some Other Things to Know About Family Night

Sometimes people confuse the title "Family Night" and think it's just for parents with children. But when we say "Family Night," we're welcoming the whole family of faith to join us, young and old alike. Singles, couples, empty nesters, families with young children, families with teenagers - everyone is welcome. We truly mean it when we say this is for our entire church family.

While we think the whole evening is special, people can come and leave when they need to. Maybe you can only join us for dinner. Maybe you need to arrive later for the Bible study portion. Come for what works for your schedule. We're just glad to have you with us.

Next, we want you to come as you are. We're a pretty welcoming bunch. No need to dress up or feel like you need to have it all together. Sunday evenings at Family Night have a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere.

Finally, we understand that not everyone is able to make it on a Sunday evening. Work schedules, family commitments, and other responsibilities can make Sunday evenings difficult. There's never guilt if this is just something you can't participate in. The reality is that Family Night is simply one of many opportunities that COS provides to encourage community and spiritual growth. However, we have found that our regular Family Night participants really appreciate how Family Night adds to their Sunday Sabbath rest. There's something special about ending the Lord's Day gathered together as God's people, growing in faith, and being filled up for the week ahead.

Special Events: More Than Just Bible Study

A few times each year, we do something different for Family Night. Instead of our regular programming, we host special activities that everyone can participate in together. We've done scavenger hunts, Christmas parties, Super Bowl parties, trivia nights, Seder meals, and more. These special events provide opportunities for intergenerational connection and fun while still being rooted in our life together as the family of God.

Most recently, on February 1st, we hosted our 3rd annual Variety Show, and it was incredibly special. I mean it when I say it was a true variety show! We had 12 different acts that ranged from joke telling and story telling to singing, dancing, tap dancing, gymnastics, magic tricks, a skit, a game show, poetry reading, an aerial hoop act, and much more. Over 100 people attended to witness our performers sharing their gifts.

What struck me most about the evening was how supportive everyone was. When someone got up to perform - whether they were 8 years old or 93(!), whether they were a seasoned performer or trying something new for the first time - the audience was encouraging and enthusiastic. There was genuine joy in watching members of our church family share their talents and gifts. There seemed to be a universal consensus that it was a good time!

Events like the Variety Show remind us that being the family of God isn't just about studying Scripture together (though that's essential). It's also about knowing one another, celebrating one another, and creating space for people of all ages to participate and contribute. It's about building the kinds of relationships where we can encourage one another, support one another, and genuinely enjoy being together.

An Invitation

So, If you've never been to Family Night, or if you used to come but have gotten out of the habit, I'd love for you to join us. We have regular programming continuing through the first week of May. Family Night isn't perfect - sometimes the meal might not be your favorite, sometimes the activities work better than other times - but we keep showing up because being together as the family of God is worth it. Whether you can make it every week or just once in a while, whether you come for the whole evening or just part of it, we'd love to see you. Come as you are. Bring your family, bring a friend, or come on your own. Let's grow together in faith!

If you have any questions about Family Night, please don't hesitate to reach out to me - Josh (586-453-9399). I'm always happy to talk about what we're doing and how you might get involved.

Memorials

Given in memory of:

Brian Barnier

Intended for:

General Fund

Given by:

Anonymous, Dorothy Barnier, the Brichford Family, David & Janeen Crittenden, Janet Sutherland, Mark & Marjorie Wojcik

Jubellation Handbells

Lois Drake

Bill Reynolds

Food Pantry

Philip & Jennifer Krauss



Caregiving & Fellowship in Action

Christian Family Life Formation



Undoubtedly there are many questions that run around in someone's head the first time they step into a new church. But I'm fairly certain that one of the most important questions they have may also be one they aren't even consciously aware of. It's a question that is incredibly deep - *"Will we actually belong here?"*.

It's not always spoken out loud. But it's there. They may wonder if they will find real connections, whether the congregation will genuinely welcome them, whether they'll be more than just faces in a pew — this question can carry a lot of weight.

Let me be honest with you: even as a church worker, I wondered the same thing when my family arrived at Christ Our Savior. You may assume that someone in my role gets automatic acceptance into a congregation. But belonging isn't given with a job title. It's built.. one smile, one conversation, one invitation at a time.

And in the last 2 ½ years, I've been blown away by what I've witnessed at COS. Let me share a bit of my family's experience.

A FEW EXAMPLES OF CAREGIVING AND FELLOWSHIP

Before my family attended a single service after I accepted the call to Christ Our Savior, someone from COS reached out to my wife Sarah to personally invite her to the Women's Ministry Event. We hadn't set foot in the building yet, and already someone was saying:

"We know you're coming. We're glad you're coming. You're already one of us." That's not an accident. That's what Caregiving and Fellowship actually looks like — not waiting for people to find their way in, but reaching out before they even arrive.

Since then, there have been many more moments like that one. Here are just a few more examples:

- Shortly after a family from our congregation invited us into their home — not for an event, not for a ministry activity, just to get to know each other. Around their table, we talked and laughed and got to know each other in a way that only really happens when someone opens their front door to you.
- A gentleman in our congregation approached me and asked — through me, respectfully, as a parent — whether my oldest son might be interested in joining the ushering team. That conversation modeled exactly the kind of intergenerational engagement that I believe COS is built for: appropriate, parent-centered, and genuinely inviting. My son got the chance to serve, and he has yet another adult in his corner.
- Various adults at COS approach my kids with high fives and jokes. They remember their names. They ask how school is going. These small things make an ENORMOUS difference to a young person trying to figure out if they belong somewhere.
- Even though I helped to get Open Pickleball going on Saturday mornings this year, I confess that I really haven't played much. Other members of the congregation who have come on Saturdays have patiently worked with me and my 6th grader through a game neither of us have experience with. There's something about patiently being taught something new by others than you that does something for the soul.

I could share at least 15 more examples. But

these are a few specific moments where my family has received care and love.

IMPERFECT PEOPLE LOVED BY A PERFECT GOD

Being upfront with you, as someone on staff at COS, it probably seems natural that people here know me and my family. And yes, I have no doubt that helps. But believe me, I've seen this same culture of care extended to families throughout our congregation who don't work here. It is not a perk that's exclusive to my role here. I believe it is the culture of this place.

I also want to be honest about something else. Being a family of faith like we are at COS comes with some of the same challenges that our own families bring. Feelings can get hurt. Moments can get awkward. We can do better at making others feel included. Sometimes we misjudge what someone needs, or we overstep without meaning to. That's not a sign that community has failed — it's a sign that something real.. something authentic.. is happening.

In those moments, we lean on what holds us together in the first place: the grace and forgiveness that we have in Jesus. "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32). I believe the "friction" of real community, prayerfully navigated with grace, is what truly transforms a group of people into a family of faith.

SOME WAYS TO START (OR CONTINUE!):

Our 2026 focus at COS is on exactly this: Caregiving and Fellowship. Not as a program. As a way of being together. So how do any of us begin — or continue in this work? A few simple ideas:

When in doubt, reach out. The most powerful thing you can do is introduce yourself to someone you don't know yet — especially a family that seems new or uncertain. A simple conversation can change someone's whole experience of this place.

Use what's already here. Sunday Morning Bible Studies. Men's and Women's Bible Studies. Family Night. Quilting Groups. Bible Journaling Group. Open pickleball on Saturday mornings. All the various things you see in the Church Update. These aren't just programs — they're on-ramps to real relationship. Show up and let something unexpected happen.

Open your home. You don't need a spotless house (is that possible?) or a gourmet meal. A pizza on the table and a genuine invitation communicates something no church event can fully replicate. I'm not sure if my family has a natural gift for hospitality, but we're trying to take some steps out of our comfort zone to open up our home more often.

Pray for one family by name. Ask God this week to show you one person or family who needs to know they belong here — and then go tell them. Maybe the only name you know is the person in the pew behind you who greeted you. GREAT! That's a start! Pray for them!

A TRUE FAMILY OF FAITH:

When my family arrived at Christ Our Savior, I quietly hoped we would find a community that would make room for us. I didn't know how generous that welcome would be. To everyone who has reached out, shown up, shared a laugh, offered a high five, invited us to your table, or have been patient as we learn how to play pickleball — thank you. You have answered the question every new family asks in the most beautiful way.

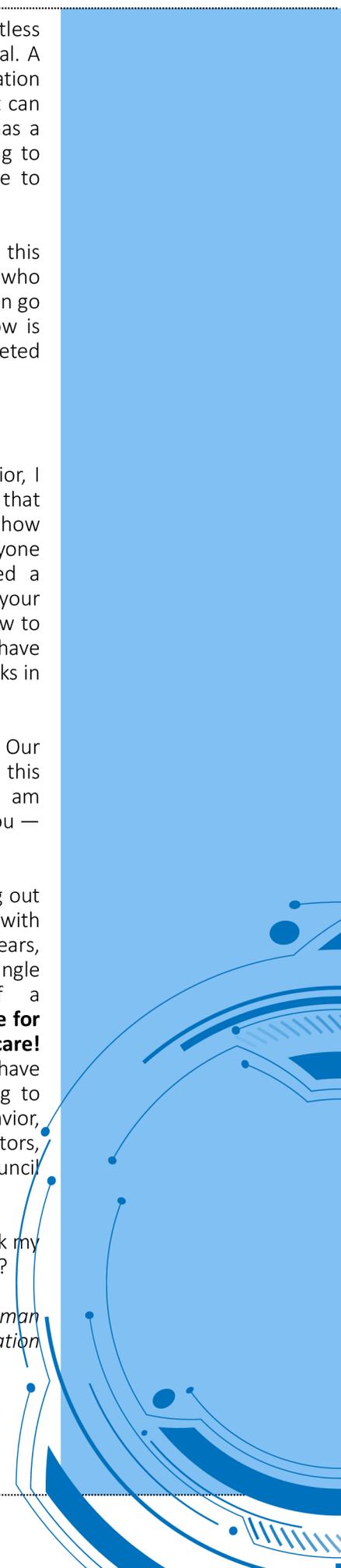
What my family has experienced at Christ Our Savior is not unique to us. It is the culture this congregation has been building, and I am incredibly confident that it is available to you — whatever your family looks like right now.

Whether you're a young family still figuring out how to get a moment to breathe, a family with teenagers navigating the chaos of those years, a couple whose kids are grown, or a single adult who wants to be part of a multigenerational family — **there is a place for you to both receive and give this kind of care!**

However, as I've said before, we always have room to grow at COS. If you're struggling to find that community here at Christ Our Savior, please don't hesitate to talk with our pastors, myself, or any staff, elders or church council members here at COS.

And now I get to ask all of you, even as I ask my own family- "Who are we welcoming next"?

*Josh Kittleman
Director of Christian Family Life Formation*



Welcome Our New Members

Received on February 1, 2026

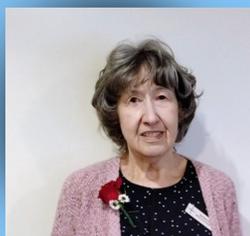
This past February we welcomed new members and printed here are short biographies from each household to help you get acquainted. If you see any of these faces in the hallway or around church, make sure to say hello and introduce yourself!



My name is **Derek Bonner**, I'm 23 years old and I've been attending Christ Our Savior for two and a half years, three in October, and I've loved every second of it. What led me here was the need for tradition and to grow closer to Christ which I wasn't going to do at my last church so I jumped around and found COS and discovered a great community that is biblical, has tradition, and historical. I love watching sports especially football. The Seattle Seahawks are my favorite team and Michigan is my favorite college team, I also enjoy watching the Tigers and Redwings too. I currently attend Lawrence Tech University and I'm studying architecture towards a Masters to become a licensed architect.

married for 33 years. We moved back to Michigan 21 years ago. We have 7 children, some through marriage but they are ours, and 1 grandchild. They are our joys! We love weekends away at our camper, Sunday Fun Days with our family, and just spending time together. Dale is an avid hunter and sports fan and I enjoy read and quilting. We are both getting into Bible study and reading the Bible daily. (Who would have known how uplifting it is!?!)

Both Dale and I are so happy to have joined the COS family and can't wait to immerse ourselves in the many activities. Thank you for welcoming us with open arms.

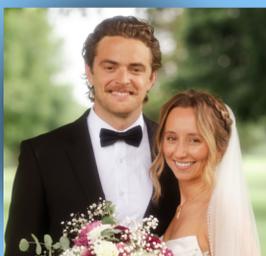


Barbara Brzuchanski – I belonged to Hosanna Tabor Lutheran Church since I was baptized and confirmed which was about 68 years ago. I also went to Hosanna Tabor Lutheran School. In 7th & 8th grade years I was in the choir for some years. I helped in the Sunday School. I am happy to join Christ Our Savior Lutheran as a new member.



My name is **Victoria Hahn**, and I am originally from Stratford, Ontario, Canada, where most of my family resides. I grew up on a farm, spending much of my time riding horses

with my three younger sisters, which is the part of my hometown I miss most aside from my family. I recently graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a Bachelor of Science. During my time at university, I met my boyfriend, Grant Ingersoll, who was already a member of COS. We met as fellow student athletes; I played hockey, and he played baseball. I have been attending services at COS for just over two years and truly value the worship and sense of community the church provides. Currently, I work as a Registered Behavioral Technician at an autism clinic in Livonia, and the work is incredibly rewarding. Looking ahead, I plan to pursue a graduate program in Speech Language Pathology or Occupational Therapy with a strong interest in pediatric care.



Our names are **Jacob** and **Erika Davenport** and we're happy to officially both be members at COS! Jacob is currently in certified registered nurse anesthetist school and Erika is working as a Nurse in an EP (electrophysiology) lab at Beaumont Royal Oak. We've got two lab pups at home who keep us busy. We love the outdoors, running, and spending time with our families. We're looking forward to continuing our faith journey and learning more about Christ alongside all of you!



We are **Dale & Michelle Doumont**. Dale is from Pennsylvania and I am from just down the road in Dearborn Heights. We met almost 34 years ago in North Dakota while serving in the Air Force and have been



Robin Harper: I recently retired in August 2025 from Corewell Health where I worked as a surgery scheduler and am embracing this new chapter of life surrounded by my family—my

four children, their wonderful spouses, and my five beautiful grandchildren. I grew up in Livonia, Michigan, and those roots continue to shape who I am today. In this season, I'm excited to deepen my understanding of God, Jesus, and the Bible as I grow in faith. I also enjoy spending time thrifting and collecting vintage glass, finding joy in discovering unique pieces with a story behind them.

We are **Haley, Georgia** and **Louie Hickman**. Georgia is 3 years old and Louie is 1.5 years old. I am a radiology resident at Corewell Royal Oak. Our favorite things to do are listening to music and doing arts and crafts. My parents, Tim and Kim Beaudoin, introduced us to Christ Our Savior - we are so happy to be here!



Sharon and **Richard Millgard** have been married for 58 years and have four daughters and 12 grandchildren and have lived in Northville for over 50 of those years. Prior to this time we were members of Grace Lutheran Church in Redford. We look forward to enjoying our time with you and Christ Our Savior



My name is **Judy Ramsier**. I moved from Akron, Ohio to Farmington Hills in November 2025. I have three daughters (in Ohio, Atlanta, and Farmington Hills) and three grandchildren. I enjoy reading, pickleball, walking, biking, and outdoor activities.



Kimber Haynes and son, **Paul** transferred from St. Matthew Lutheran in Westland.

Membership Updates

As of February 9, 2026

To keep the congregation informed about the membership of our church, the Board of Elders includes this update report in each Disciplegram. Every two months, this report is published of gains and losses and the reason for each change.

Elders have not been able to reach. They request your help with these members. If you have any information about them or possible ways to contact them, please share with the chairman of the Board of Elders, Mark Anders (ElderMarkAnders@christoursavior.org) or the church office (734-522-6830).

Included in this report are members that the

Received by Confirmation

- Derek Bonner on Feb 1
- Erika Davenport on Feb 1
- Dale Doumont Jr. on Feb 1
- Michelle Doumont on Feb 1
- Victoria Hahn on Feb 1
- Robin Harper on Feb 1
- Haley Hickman on Feb 1

Received by Baptism

- Carl Brandt on Jan 18

Removed by Transfer to Other LCMS

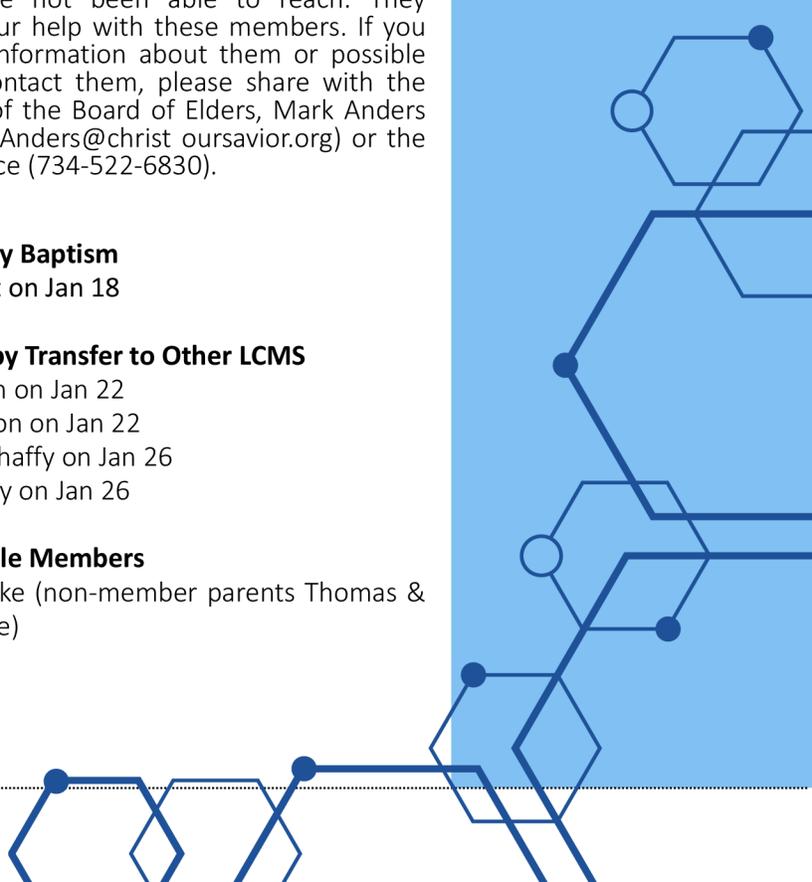
- Allen Simon on Jan 22
- Cheryl Simon on Jan 22
- Dianne Mahaffy on Jan 26
- Kitt Mahaffy on Jan 26

Received by Transfer from other LCMS

- Barbara Brzuchanski on Feb 1
- Kimber Haynes on Feb 1
- Paul Haynes on Feb 1
- Richard Millgard on Feb 1
- Sharon Millgard on Feb 1
- Judy Ramsier on Feb 1

Unreachable Members

- Joseph Burke (non-member parents Thomas & Susan Burke)



Get Involved in Ministry!

Women's Ministry News & Updates



LWML
Lutheran Women in Mission

*Casting all your
anxieties on Him,
because He cares
for you.*

1 Peter 5:7

Mission as Spotlighthed by LWML MI District

NEW SHEPHERDS FOR SOUTH SUDAN
(Lutheran Heritage Foundation)

The people of South Sudan are in need of the Gospel, living in extreme poverty, civil war, famine, and disease, with average life expectancy of only 56 years. The evangelical Lutheran Church in South Sudan (ELCSS) has more than 200 congregations, but fewer than 80 pastors to serve them. Need for new pastors is great, as each pastor is responsible for preaching God's Word to at least three congregations, often long distances apart. Lutheran Heritage Foundation in Macomb, MI, has partnered with ELCSS to establish a seminary, The Concordia Lutheran Institute for the Holy Ministry (CLIHM) to provide theological education for new pastors. These CLIHM seminarians come from extreme poverty and do not have funds to cover educational costs. This grant has supported five South Sudan seminarians for one year, providing tuition, supplies, room, and board! Mite grant \$18,000.00.

Please continue to help support mission grants by placing your mites in the Mite Box located in the Narthex.

LWML MI DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Michigan District LWML convention will be held June 26 – 28, 2026 in East Lansing at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. The Scripture Theme is 2 Corinthians 4:6: For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Our local LWML zone has been on the committee organizing this convention.

Tom Schroeder will direct the choir at opening service on Friday evening. Our Brass ensemble

will also be a part of the opening service. Pastor Werner who is our Wayne Oak Hills Zone Counselor will also be participating. Watch for updates up until convention time. If you have any questions contact Dianne Sherman - 734-812-5172.

2024 Convention Banner Finds a Home

On August 21, Linda Murdock, Vice President of Organizational Resources, presented the 2024 LWML Michigan District convention banner to Pastors Nick Gapski and Alex Ogden, who are Associate Pastors at Family of God in Christ (FOG) Lutheran Church in Detroit. FOG has a meal ministry that provides a hot meal to the surrounding community six days a week.

Valentines for First Responders

Thanks you who contributed the sweets we delivered to the Police and Fire Stations with a card thanking them for their service. The treats were received with surprise and thanks.

WOMEN'S RETREAT 2026

SAVE THE DATE Women's Retreat – Saturday
APRIL 25 – What Time Is It?

Christ Our Savior Women's retreat will take place on Saturday, April 25th from 9am to 3pm.

What Time is it? A walk through Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. We will talk about time in the Bible and times currently in your life. The Speaker is Kaye Dumas Wolff, a retired information and technology professional, who has dedicated much of her tremendous volunteer service to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) ministries and initiatives that serve minority groups. She is a member of the Synod-wide recruitment initiative Set Apart to Serve (SAS) to identify, encourage, and support church workers.

Active in the LWML most of her life, Kaye has served in local, district and national roles within the organization. During her term as LWML vice president of special focus ministries (2015-19), Kaye started the Deaf Ministry Outreach Program to encourage hearing women to learn

basic American Sign Language (ASL) so they can welcome deaf women into active participation in LWML groups. She currently serves the LWML Michigan District as the Deaf Ministry Advocate.

Registration forms and a sign-up sheet are available at the Welcome Desk. Registration is \$25 and the in-gathering will be a monetary donation for the Deaf Ministry Outreach Program. Hope to see all women there.

Questions? Contact Dianne Sherman at 735-812-5172.

GAME NIGHT FOR THE GROWN UPS

WOW would like to have you join us for GAME NIGHTS slated for Friday, March 27th and Friday April 17th - FROM 6:30PM-9PM. A night of fellowship, comradery, a little competition, fun and

laughter. What game(s) you ask? A little euchre, board games, Uno, dominoes, Yahtzee, five crowns, whatever you choose Bring a game or two that you enjoy playing. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk.

March

- March 9th – Quilt/Sew
- March 14th – Quilt/Sew
- March 23rd- Quilt/Sew
- March 27th – Game Night
- March 29th- Bake Sale

April

- April 17th – Game Night
- April 11th– Quilt/Sew
- April 13th – Quilt/Sew
- April 27th – Quilt/Sew

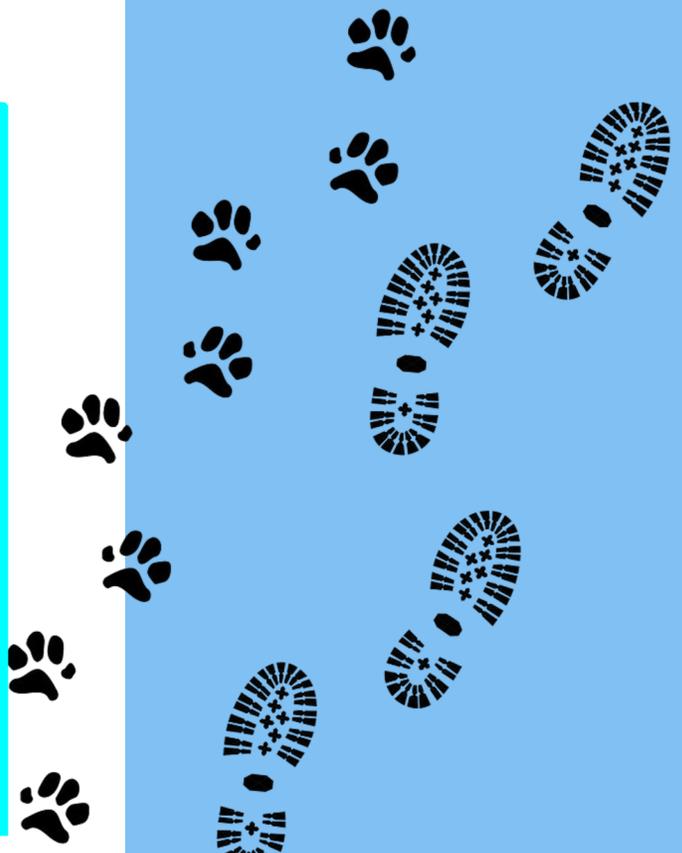
GRACIOUS FATHER, YOU SACRIFICED
 YOUR SON TO RESCUE US FROM SIN
 AND SATAN, SHOWING THAT YOUR
 LOVE AND CARE HAVE NO BOUNDS.
 COMFORT US WITH YOUR PRESENCE
 DURING THE TRIALS OF THIS LIFE.
 LET YOUR PEACE FILL OUR HEARTS
 AS WE TRUST IN YOUR PROMISE TO
 TAKE US TO YOUR ETERNAL
 KINGDOM. IN CHRIST'S NAME.

AMEN.

.....

Tail wags? Unlimited. Free therapy? Comes with fur. Be on the lookout for the launch of Christ Our Savior's NEWEST Ministry, Spring 2026...

- COMING SOON -



Continued Development

Early Childhood Program Update



each week has been a wonderful gift, and we continue to see it deepen both the children's faith and the connections between our ECP families and our congregation.

These moments remind us of why Lutheran early childhood ministry matters so much. According to LuthEd, Lutheran schools are widely considered the most effective outreach agencies in congregational evangelism—and 85% of the fastest-growing LCMS congregations operate a school. That's no coincidence. As LuthEd describes, Lutheran schools strengthen the partnership between home, school, and church by educating the whole child and preparing them "for a life of Christian citizenship and discipleship." We saw this beautifully illustrated last year when several children from non-member ECP families were baptized—a testament to the Kingdom impact of this ministry.

We have much to be grateful for as we move into spring! This school year has brought some exciting new developments to our Early Childhood Program. For the first time, our ECP participated in Lutheran Schools Week—a week filled with fun, faith-centered activities celebrating the special calling of Lutheran education. It was a fantastic experience, and we look forward to making it a tradition!

We are also continuing to enjoy the blessing of twice-weekly chapel services on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Having our pastors and staff share God's Word with the children twice

Thank you, COS family, for your continued prayers, encouragement, and willingness to show up for our ECP children and families. Please continue to pray for our staff, children, and families as we finish out this school year strong. We are grateful for your partnership in this important work!

—Josh Kittleman



Easter Lily Orders

The celebration of Easter brings special thoughts to all—what better way to announce these thoughts than by purchasing an Easter Lily plant(s) to decorate our altar.

The price will be \$7.65 for a single stem plant. Easter plant Order Envelopes are at the Welcome Desk.

Make checks payable to: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church. **Place completed envelopes in Cheryl Moldenhauer's mailbox no later than Sunday, March 22nd.** You can pick your plant up after the 11:00 am service on April 5th or beautify the church by leaving the plant on the altar.

Ministry Focus:



a fellowship group of seniors and 'not so senior'

Christ Our Savior's FOREVER YOUNG ministry informally came together in 2018, with a vision of gathering together the senior and 'not so senior' congregational members, their friends, family and our fellow Lutheran area-congregations. We 'hit the ground running', tapping into a common interest group – our first event, as I recall, was an excellent presentation on Dietrich Bonhoeffer by our Family of God pastors (Pastor Hill and Vicar [now, Reverend] Tyler Cronkite). Afterwards, a German meal buffet fed the crowd of more than 60 people! With Spirit-led direction, Pastor Davenport's encouragement and many helping hands, Barb Karowich, Linda Waara and Bill Musick set off on a 'meal & event' style of ministry for seniors! A pathway of opportunity was provided for a senior's group to bond together in friendship, fellowship and faith. As we meet together, our spiritual and familial ties (brothers and sisters in Christ in the family of believers) deepen and grow. We make new friends, we share encouragement, comfort, joy together along our lives' pathways.

With ALL THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE TO GOD, Forever Young ministry has grown, developed and evolved into a working committee now! There are commonly 20, 30, 40, or more participants per month in the scheduled activities, so our committee was formed to share and accomplish the tasks of visioning, planning, executing these Forever Young events. Having this committee format has reinvigorated Forever Young – there is eagerness, fun and excitement at our monthly meetings!

Our committee members are Linda Waara (chair), David Crittenden (secretary/treasurer), Barb Karowich (consultant), Linda Lupescu, Bill Musick, Jill Olasz and Josh Kittleman, as our staff advisor. We encourage your ideas, comments, suggestions – to assist us in identifying interests, our budgeting, and event planning. We want your input!

—Submitted by Linda Waara

Upcoming Events

Thursday, March 26 - a RESCHEDULED Zekelman Holocaust Museum Tour

-If you need a ride, meet at COS for ride sharing,
LEAVING AT 11:30 AM!
-12:00 lunch at Prince of



Peace Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills (maps are available)
-1:00-approx. 3:30- GUIDED MUSEUM TOUR
-Museum only- \$6.00 (Meet us there by 1:00 at latest, maps available)
-Lunch at Prince of Peace & Museum Tour- \$28.00
-Not too late to sign up at welcome center table – JOIN US!
-Sign-up & payment due by Sunday, March 22
-Check made out to: Christ Our Savior, Forever Young on notation line, please use Forever Young envelopes at welcome table and place in Linda Waara mailbox

Thursday, April 16 - Detroit Institute of Arts (a docent-led tour)



-THIS IS A FREE EVENT!!
-1:00 Bus pick-up at COS, return around 3:00 PM
-Early bird special at COS: 11:30-BYO lunch and listen to a short Renaissance religious art history lesson



Friday, May 29 - Detroit Symphony Orchestra

CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY – A PATRIOTIC CONCERT

-Bus pick-up at COS 9:00 AM, return by 2:00 PM
-Bring your own donuts, coffee provided by DSO!
-Cost: \$72.00 per person

Classifieds



Tutoring

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(math through grade 5)
\$20 half hour; \$35 hour
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Send a business card-sized (3.5" x 2") ad for your business, product or service to alyssak@christoursavior.org to be included in the Disciplegram. There is no fee for advertising—our goal to increase the connections in our congregation. Ads will be included as space allows; our staff reserves the right to make final decisions on what is included.

Food for Thought

GREAT GRACE
AND SMALL GIFTS
ARE BETTER
THAN GREAT
GIFTS AND NO
GRACE.

John Bunyan

The works of that eminent servant of Christ, John Bunyan: minister of the gospel and formerly Pastor of a Congregation at Bedford, p.82 (1831)

LENT & HOLY WEEK 2026

MIDWEEK WORSHIP February 25, March 4, March 11,
March 18, March 25

PRINCE OF PEACE SERVICES AT 12PM
CHRIST OUR SAVIOR SERVICES AT 7PM



PALM SUNDAY	March 29	8:30, 11AM
MAUNDY THURSDAY	April 2	7PM
GOOD FRIDAY	April 3	12:30, 7PM
EASTER SUNDAY	April 5	6:30, 8:30, 11AM

