



The Eternal Light

Eternal Savior Lutheran Church
2688 North Park Drive
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February 2024

WORD IS . . .

Volume 1/Issue 2 February

LEV. 26.12

**I WILL
WALK
AMONG
YOU AND
WILL BE
YOUR GOD,
AND YOU
SHALL BE
MY PEOPLE**

A WORD FROM PASTOR THORSON

Love is in the Air

With Valentine's Day right around the corner, love is in the air. Red hearts and beautiful bouquets of roses adorn the shelves in all kinds of stores. Candies and stuffed animals twinkle in the eyes of people hoping that their Valentine will get them something as sweet. But, along with all these sweet little trinkets and treats comes a lot of pressure. Pressure to find or have someone to love. Pressure to get the perfect gift for that person. Pressure to get better gifts for your loved one than the gifts that all your family and friends got their loved ones. Pressure to be the perfect boyfriend, girlfriend, husband or wife.

In the middle of all of the pressure and hype, some people get left out. Some people have no one to give them a Valentine or the love that it represents. And, at one point or another even people who have loved ones can feel unloved and left out. To this God speaks, in Leviticus of all places: "I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people." (Lev. 26:12) He originally spoke these words to Israel to encourage them to continue in his statutes and his way and to remind them that he had delivered them from their slavery in Egypt. But, his words are no less true for you and me today, because he sent his Son - because he LOVED the world so much - to walk among us and free us from our captivity to sin and death. That kind of love will never leave or forsake you, in any circumstance.

So, this Valentine's Day, whether you are alone or spend it with a special someone, remember that God has promised you through Jesus Christ that his love for you will never fade nor does it pressure you or require anything of you. Christ came to forgive, to relieve the pressure of the Law to be perfect, and to be with you always. He already did the work in Christ. He only wants to be your God and you to be his people this Valentine's Day and always.

In Christ,

Pastor Paul D. Johnson

Upcoming Events

Saturday February 10 – 5:30p.m. Please join us for a congregational dinner. We will be having a Chili Cook-Off, so look for your best chili recipe to dazzle the judges and tempt the palate. The Board of Deacon's will be providing side dishes, dessert and drinks. Please sign up on the bulletin board to either cook or be a judge. It will be a great night of fun and fellowship.



Wednesday, February 14 – 7:00p.m. We will be having our Ash Wednesday service.

Wednesday February 21 and 28 – We will be having Lenten potlucks before service. The potluck begins at 5:30 and service begins at 6:30p.m. There will be sign-ups on the bulletin board for the potlucks.



OFFERING REPORT

Offerings for the month of January were:

January 7	\$33,001
January 14	\$2,429
January 21	\$2,887
January 28	\$1,323
Online Offerings	\$10,691



This weekly average (\$ 10,066) compares to our 2024 weekly budget needs of **\$4,674.**

COUNTER SCHEDULE

If you have a conflict on a day you are scheduled, please arrange with another counter to cover that day.

Feb. 4 – Cindy Stahly and Katherine Crane
Feb. 11 – Sam and Lynn Kelley
Feb. 18 – Sam and Lynn Kelley
Feb. 25 – Mark and Mary Bunge

March 3 – Mark and Mary Bunge
March 10 – Marc and Jan Ertle
March 17 – Marc and Jan Ertle
March 24 – Sam and Lynn Kelley
March 31 – Sam and Lynn Kelley



**** We have a handful of members successfully using both of our electronic giving options. If you are interested in trying it out but need a refresher please let Mary know and she will have someone get in contact with you.

Note from our Treasurer!

Members of Eternal Savior.

In the interest of transparency, I want to let you all know what our End of Year financial status is.

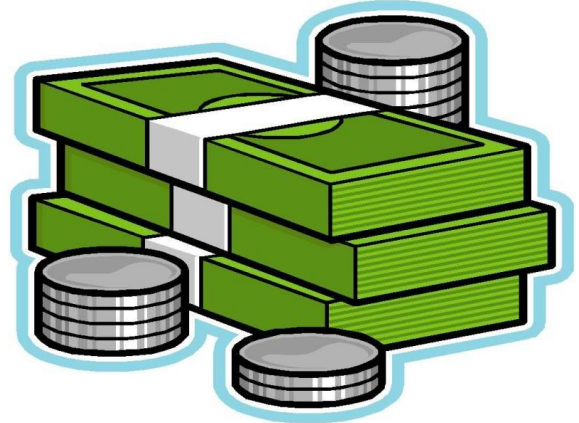
In the past we have had some years where we had excess funds left over. We then have had a discussion about the use of these excess funds. It does not appear that will be the case in 2023. However, we also paid all of our bills on time. In fact, we will wind up with a balance in the General Fund that will be within a few hundred dollars of where we started the year.

As we look back, we can give thanks to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that our accounts have remained stable. We had many large expenses to include; parking lot repair, high property insurance, alarm system, HVAC repair, and stucco to name a few. We also completed our Reredos and landscaping projects.

Again, with a few 2023 items not finalized I am confident that the above information is reasonably accurate.

Thank you for all your support and keep the financial status of ESLC in your thoughts and prayers

Mark Bunge
Treasurer.



Family Game Night!

We had a great group of people at our Family Game Night. Come join us for the next one! It is a great time for fun and fellowship.



Baptism of Micah Munro

Please welcome Micah Munro to Christ's family. He was baptized on January 15th.



Appreciation Reception

After many, many, many years Linda Thompson is stepping down from playing the organ. We had an appreciation reception to thank her for her many years of dedication in playing the organ for our services.



REMINDERS

The Deacon's Fund supports Emergency Family Assistance, ULC, and other charities as well. All of these funds will be used to alleviate the needs of people who are in very vulnerable circumstances. The agencies have expressed great gratitude. We are only able to do this because of the generous and faithful contributions of you, our dear members, to the Deacon's Fund! Please consider contributing via your offering envelopes or in the Deacons' Fund collector in the Narthex! Thanks!!!

Please be responsible!!! For everyone who has access to the church building, it is your responsibility when you leave to make sure that all lights are off, the heat/air-conditioning/fans are turned back or off and all of the **doors are locked and secure!!** Please do double checks before you leave.

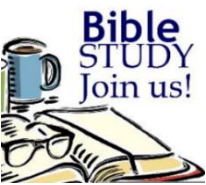
We ask that all members of the congregation please be conscious of protecting their valuables while at church. Many times, the doors are left unlocked, and people are downstairs. This gives easy access to someone who may not be a member. We will try to remember to lock the doors after service.

Sign Up to Receive Text Messages - Eternal Savior is building a text message list for urgent communications. i.e., Service is cancelled due to a blizzard. If you would like to receive notifications like that via text message, please text **ETERNALSAVIOR** (one word, no space) to 84576. Contact Laura Raben if you need help signing up.

The **2024 Flower Chart** is now available on the bulletin board. Please look to see if there is a service you would like to provide flowers. Also include if the flowers are for a special occasion.

Parking spaces in front of the church should be reserved for those members and visitors that need to park close to the building due to health concerns or weather. Please be considerate and leave these spaces to those who need them most.

Large print worship service folders and assisted listening devices are available. Please ask an usher if needed.



Sunday Morning Bible Study – Please join us after service downstairs for Sunday morning Bible Study.

Sunday School! We are studying the “Enduring Faith” curriculum, Unit 8. Sunday School opening is at 10:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. All children are encouraged to join us!

Wednesday Night Bible Study - Please join us each Wednesday at 7:00p.m. where we are studying the Book of Amos.

Thursday Morning Bible Study - Our Wednesday morning Bible Study has been moved to Thursday mornings at 10:30a.m. Please join Pastor Thorson in studying the Book of Amos.

SERVING IN FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 4

Organist/Pianist	Linda Innes
Acolyte	Lydia Hurst
Usher(s)	Marc Ertle, Camden Jundt
Greeter(s)	Bob and Brenda Vieyra
Counter(s)	Cindy Stahly and Katherine Moore
Elder(s)	Kirk Anderson, Jeff Reuer
Altar	Polly Cowley
A/V Booth	Larissa and Katie Reuer
Snow	Kirk Anderson
Flowers	OPEN

Sunday, February 11

Organist/Pianist	Connie Howes
Cantor	Tom Stahly
Acolyte	Luke Hinrichs
Usher(s)	Marc Ertle, Camden Jundt
Greeter(s)	Keith and Polly Cowley
Counter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Elder(s)	Kirk Anderson (r), Ryan Lambrecht
Altar	Polly Cowley
A/V Booth	Laura Raben
Snow	Kirk Anderson
Flowers	OPEN

Wednesday, February 14 – Ash Wednesday

Organist/Pianist	Pam Mayer
Acolyte	Anna Lambrecht
Usher(s)	Roger Landowski, Marc Ertle
Elder(s)	Keith Cowley

Sunday, February 18

Organist/Pianist	Conne Howes
Acolyte	Katie Reuer
Usher(s)	Keith Cowley, Tom Stahly
Greeter(s)	Kirk and Melisa Anderson
Counter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Elder(s)	Dave Sherrets, Wayne Thomas
Altar	Polly Cowley
A/V Booth	Tom Stahly
Snow	Nick Mayer
Flowers	OPEN

Wednesday, February 21 – Lenten Service

Organist/Pianist	Pam Mayer
Acolyte	Katie Reuer
Usher(s)	
Elder(s)	Jeff Reuer

Sunday, February 25

Organist/Pianist	Linda Innes
Cantor	Mark Bunge
Acolyte	Anna Lambrecht
Usher(s)	Keith Cowley and Tom Stahly
Greeter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Counter(s)	Mark and Mary Bunge
Elder(s)	Ryan Lambrecht (r), Kirk Anderson
Altar	Polly Cowley
A/V Booth	
Snow	Tom Stahly
Flowers	Andersons

Wednesday, February 28 – Lenten Service

Organist/Pianist	Pam Mayer
Acolyte	Luke Hinrichs
Elder(s)	Keith Cowley

We have many ways in which our members can share their gifts with others each Sunday. Some of those are Greeters, Offering Counters, Ushers, Livestream and Audio Engineers, Lawn Mowing/Snow Removal. These are all listed on the Servant Calendar on our web site. Please reach out to Mary at the church office if you can serve. We so appreciate and thank God for your service!