

July 2025



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - WHITEHALL, WI

The Messenger

GOD BLESS USA



GOD BLESS USA



Happy Pentecost everyone, July 2025

Jesus is in Heaven, the Holy Spirit is now among and in us, and we begin again remembering, (or in some cases learning for the first time), the stories of Jesus' ministry.

July 6 when we worship at the ballpark in Pleasantville we may hear about the "Mission of the Seventy" as Jesus sends out the new disciples He just recruited, to every town he intended to visit in the near future to prepare the people there for Him. They were to go in pairs, carry no wallet, no bag, no sandals, and they were not supposed to talk to anyone on the road. Then as they enter the town, go to a home and offer the owners their "peace" and stay in that home until their visit was done. (Pastor Terry Lorenz will be giving the message that day so what we hear is up to him.)

July 13 we will again hear the Parable of the Good Samaritan. A lawyer gets a lesson from Jesus regarding who is our neighbor? When the young lawyer identifies the Samaritan as the only traveler on the road that day, who showed mercy to the Jewish victim, Jesus tells him to "Go and do likewise." At that time in history citizens who were Jewish did not like Samaritans and vice versa. It was very out of character for a Samaritan to go out of their way to help anyone who was of the Jewish faith. This is a wonderful example of how we are expected by God to treat one another – without prejudice and with mercy.

July 20 we hear the first story of Martha and Mary. Jesus was welcomed into their home by Martha. She did all the preparation for the guests while Mary sat at Jesus feet and listened to what he had to say. Martha was not happy about this and asked Jesus to tell Mary to help her. Jesus has an interesting response. Luke 10:41-42 41"Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; 42there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." Jesus does not explain what the better part is so there is a need to research and hopefully I can provide an explanation in the sermon on the 27 th , stay tuned.

July 27 Jesus disciples did not know how to create and say an official prayer so Jesus was asked to teach them as John had taught his disciples. Luke 11:2-4 2He (Jesus) said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." This is a little different from the prayer we pray often in our lives but it has the essence of what Jesus wants us to say to God and is what Luke remembered.

Luke 11:9-10, Jesus continues to encourage the disciples to "Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 10For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened."

Depending upon who you talk to, some people believe everything we ask for "should" be granted. The granting is totally up to God. He alone knows what is best for us and sometimes we just do not ask for the thing that is going to benefit us the most at the specific time we ask. Sometimes the answer is "yes", sometimes "no", and sometimes "not now." Jesus may also be talking about spiritual things and not material things. Please keep praying, the world needs us to ask God for help.

Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord and one another, thanks be to God.

Scott W. Brown, Synod Authorized Minister



Our Saviour's Members in Nursing Homes



Pigeon Falls Nursing Care Center-P.O. Box 310-Pigeon Falls, WI 54760
Deloris Coburn, Jeanette Gilbertson, Marian Miller,
Richard Eide and Ann Toraason

Assisted Living- Pigeon Falls - P.O. Box 310-Pigeon Falls, WI 54760

Sunrise Manor - 36024 Park Street - Whitehall - 54773
Clinton Larson, Shirley Wozney

Trempealeau County Health Care Center-W20410 WI-#121Whitehall- 54773
James Windjue

Grandview Nursing Home - 620 Grandview Avenue - Blair - 54616
Marilyn Speerstra, Mavis Mitskogen, Donna Oates,
Olin and Jan Fimreit, Norman Norby

Meadowbrook Care Center-1311 Tyler Street-Black River Falls - 54615

Dove Healthcare-51019 Ridge View Road-Osseo-54758
Ralph Johnson, MaryJane Hernes

Oak Gardens Place-342 Twin Oak Dr-Altoona-54720
Clarice Henrickson

Veterans Affairs Medical Center-500 E Veterans St-Tomah 54660
Francis Hilgart

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Mavis Olson, Mary Lou Beck, Lisa James, Mavis Mitskogen, Norman Nordby,
Jane Holen, Dennis Dubiel, Francis Hilgart, Eric Jordahl, Roger Oelrich, Leo
Bork, Georgia Hughes, and Clarice Henrickson

If you would like **special prayers** said for yourself or loved one, please contact
the church office at osluthwh@gmail.com

July Birthdays



- 1 - Elizabeth Hauser
- 3 - Kade Foss
- 4 - Cheryl Brekke
- 5 - Hadley Dittman, Thomas Kopp
- 7 - David Schaefer, Norah Youngbauer
- 9 - Susie Jordahl
- 10 - Wendy Schaefer-Miles, Madison Staff
- 12 - Lori Berg, Viola Jacobson
- 14 - Adam Semb
- 15 - Caynen Halama, Scott Stendahl
- 16 - Sharon Foss, Troy Peters
- 18 - Kristen Matchey
- 19 - Brittany Carlson, Kari Kelsey, Eli Moats, Mary Pat Speerstra
- 20 - Todd Densmore, Dawn Peterson
- 21 - Paul Coburn, Katherine Laehn, Ivan Semb, Taylor Smith, Beckett Vitse
- 22 - Molly Toraason
- 23 - Jeanne Semb
- 24 - Riley Herman, Ashley Moats
- 25 - Wayne Lee, Steven Stendahl, Julie Webster
- 26 - Jennifer Herried, Daniel Keenan
- 28 - John Waldera
- 29 - Alexis Kurth
- 30 - Duane Johnson, Camille Miles, Anna Sylla
- 31 - Ann Johnson



Church News



NOISY OFFERING

June's Noisy Offering was designated to Relay for Life-American Cancer Society. For the first four Sundays, Our Saviour's collected \$428.36. An anonymous donor connected with the Relay, matched funds up to \$5,000. Our final total will be available after the last Sunday's donations are included.

Noisy Offering for July will go towards a New Ambulance for Gundersen Tri-County Hospital

If there comes a time when we have a medical emergency, our area and surrounding communities are fortunate to be able to have our local hospital respond with an ambulance. Tri-County Hospital has three ambulances in their fleet, and one is over 14 years old. The expense to replace it is \$350,000. Up to \$100,000 will be donated by Tri-County Memorial Foundation, with another \$200,000 coming from the Bellin and Gundersen Health System (Emplify). That leaves about \$50,000 to be raised through the Foundation and surrounding communities. The new ambulance will be in service sometime in 2026. Let's add Our Saviour's to the list of donors for this very worthy cause!

Pancake breakfast

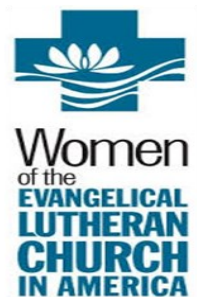
Grace Lutheran Church, Pleasantville, will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast on **Saturday, July 5th from 8-11am**. The menu will include pancakes, French toast, sausage, cheese curds, fruit and drinks. Dairy product donated by the Trempealeau County Dairy Promotion committee. Free will offering.

On **Sunday, July 6th the Church Service** will be in Pleasantville at the Park with a **10am music prelude and 10:30am service**. Food will be available to purchase after the service with pie and ice cream being serviced at the Hale Town Hall.

W-ELCA NEWS

Our Saviour's ladies of WELCA will host Grace for the July meeting on **Thursday, July 3rd at 1:30 pm** in the church fellowship hall. Mr. Scott Brown will help lead us in Bible Study followed by a brief meeting, ending with coffee and dessert.

Please begin shopping for personal care items for our Mission Kits. The bath towel can be the cheapest brand as fast drying towels are wanted. Fingernail clippers, 4 ounce bath soap bars, tooth brushes & wide toothed combs are needed. Thanks in advance for any donations.



More Church News



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Council Minutes June 3, 2025

Board Members Present: Dave Anderson, Scott Brown, Marnie Anderson, Ellen Hauser, Karen Witte, Kris Dubiel, Jacob Paulson and Lori Paulson.

Dave Anderson, council president, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Preparation:

1. **Opening Devotions:** Devotions by Scott Brown
2. **Prayer Requests/Homebound:** Family of Betsy Clatt
3. **Communication from Congregation:** none

Communication/Action:

1. **Secretary's Report:** Karen Witte made a motion to approve minutes of May 6, 2025, with a second by Kris Dubiel. Motion carried.

2. **Treasurer's Report:** Fund balances as of May 31, 2025, were presented as follows:

General Fund: \$96,034.42 **OnGoing Fund:** \$10,300.66 **Improvement Fund:** \$74,976.30

Marnie Anderson made a motion to approve the fund balances as presented with a second by Ellen Hauser. Motion carried.

3. Ministry Teams Updates:

a) Music & Worship:

1. Noisy Offering of \$330.68 for May went to the Discretionary Fund.
2. The clavinova (programmable keyboard) has been used a little during services.

b) WELCA: Bakeless Bakesale letters have been sent out.

c) Men's Brotherhood: No new reports.

d) Life & Growth: Diaper drive is pretty much done.

Sharing from Scott Brown (SAM):

1. The elevator inspector was in the area so he stopped in for an inspection while Scott was there. There is a water leak that should be checked out.
2. Scott will be doing services at Grandview on the 1st and 3rd Mondays.
3. The confirmands donated the quilt they made to a 6th grader at Whitehall School.
4. The church service on July 6th will be in Pleasantville at 10:30 a.m.
5. Scott received an email from our bishop regarding an article in the Milwaukee Sentinel about the misconduct of a pastor in the Northwest Synod. The bishop asked for prayers for victims of the pastor's misconduct and addressed misinformation contained in the article.

Celebration/Affirmation: The date of the next council meeting is July 1, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Business Items:

1. Dave will contact congregation members directly for participation in creating a proposal to combine committees and amend the constitution.

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer:

Marnie Anderson made a motion to adjourn with a second by Lori Paulson. Motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Paulson, Council Secretary

Our Saviour's *faith and* finances

DISBURSEMENT & GIVING RECEIPTS May 1-May 31, 2025				
Disbursements:				
Administration	\$361.28			
Physical Plant	\$5,043.89			
Salaries & Benefits	\$3,845.32			
Benevolence	\$0.00			
Parish Expense	\$0.00			
Dues and Fees	\$0.00			
Holiday Raffle Exp.	\$0.00			
Total Disbursements = \$9,250.49				
Giving Receipts				
Simply Giving Total =	\$2,090.00		General Fund Total =	\$2,817.00
On-Going Total =	\$660.68		Improvement Fund - Total =	\$200.00
May 2025 Giving Grand Total = \$5,767.68				

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The Whitehall Food Pantry is seeing a rise in families in need and is short on the following food items:

- * Baked Beans (unable to purchase from Feed People recently)
- * Bottled water considering the heat

Donations can be left in the narthex of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church or dropped off at the church office Tuesday mornings or Wednesday afternoon. Any and all donations are very appreciated by all those in need in our community. Thank you for your generosity and God Bless!

How To Avoid a Scam



Four Signs That It's a Scam

1 Scammers PRETEND to be from an organization you know.

Scammers often pretend to be contacting you on behalf of the government. They might use a real name, like the FTC, Social Security Administration, IRS, or Medicare, or make up a name that sounds official. Some pretend to be from a business you know, like a utility company, a tech company, or even a charity asking for donations.



They use technology to change the phone number that appears on your caller ID. So the name and number you see might not be real.

2 Scammers say there's a PROBLEM or a PRIZE.

They might say you're in trouble with the government. Or you owe money. Or someone in your family had an

emergency. Or that there's a virus on your computer.

Some scammers say there's a problem with one of your accounts and that you need to verify some information.



Others will lie and say you won money in a lottery or sweepstakes but have to pay a fee to get it.

3 Scammers PRESSURE you to act immediately.

Scammers want you to act before you have time to think. If you're on the phone, they might tell you not to hang up so you can't check out their story.



They might threaten to arrest you, sue you, take away your driver's or business license, or deport you. They might say your computer is about to be corrupted.

4 Scammers tell you to PAY in a specific way.

They often insist that you can only pay by using cryptocurrency, wiring money through a company like MoneyGram or Western Union, using a payment app, or putting money on a gift card and then giving them the numbers on the back of the card.



Some will send you a check (that will later turn out to be fake), then tell you to deposit it and send them money.

Honest organizations won't call, email, or text to ask for your personal information, like your Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers.

If you get an email or text message from a company you do business with and you think it's real, it's still best not to click on any links. Instead, contact them using a website you know is trustworthy. Or look up their phone number. Don't call a number they gave you or the number from your caller ID.

► Resist the pressure to act immediately.

Honest businesses will give you time to make a decision. Anyone who pressures you to pay or give them your personal information is a scammer.

► Know how scammers tell you to pay.

Never pay someone who insists that you can only pay with cryptocurrency, a wire transfer service like Western Union or MoneyGram, a payment app, or a gift card. And never deposit a check and send money back to someone.

► Stop and talk to someone you trust.

Before you do anything else, tell someone — a friend, a family member, a neighbor — what happened. Talking about it could help you realize it's a scam.

Report Scams to the FTC

If you were scammed or think you saw a scam, tell the FTC at

[ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/report-fraud)

How To Avoid a Scam

► Block unwanted calls and text messages.

Take steps to block unwanted calls and to filter unwanted text messages.

► Don't give your personal or financial information in response to a request that you didn't expect.



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

July 2023



July



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		<u>1</u> Office Hours 8am-12pm Council Meeting 6:30pm	<u>2</u> Bible study 9:30am Office Hours 1-5pm	<u>3</u> WELCA Meeting 1:30pm at OSL	<u>4</u> 	<u>5</u> 8-11am Pancake Breakfast at Grace Lutheran
<u>6</u> Church Service at Pleasantville Park 10am Music Prelude 10:30 Church Service	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u> Office Hours 8am-12pm	<u>9</u> Bible study 9:30am Office Hours 1-5pm	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>13</u> Sunday Worship— 9:30 am.	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> Office Hours 8am-12pm	<u>16</u> Bible study 9:30am Office closed	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>20</u> Sunday Worship— 9:30 am.	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u> Office Hours 8am-12pm	<u>23</u> Bible study 9:30am Food Pantry 11:00 to 1:00 pm Office Hours 1-5pm	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>27</u> Sunday Worship— 9:30 am.	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u> Office Hours 8am-12pm	<u>30</u> Bible study 9:30am Office Hours 1-5pm	<u>31</u>		

***"Sharing God's Love With
All"***

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
36197 Main Street
P.O. Box 455
Whitehall, WI 54773

SAM: Scott Brown
Cell Phone: 715-538-3048
Email: pastoroslc@gmail.com

Office Hours:
Tuesday 8am-12pm
Wednesday 1-5pm

Church Secretary: Cheryl Daffinson
Church Office: 715-538-4334
Church E-mail: osluthwh@gmail.com
Church Website: oslcwhitehall.org

Check us out on Facebook at: [Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Whitehall, WI](#) and
[United in Faith Parish](#) and [OS Sunday-School](#) and [OSLC Youth](#).

