

October 2025



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - WHITEHALL, WI

The Messenger

Hello everyone,

What is the Church? In a commentary by Mary Fairchild, she states; “The word ‘Church’ is mentioned more than 100 times in the New Testament. It is translated from the Greek term *ekklesia* which is formed from two Greek words meaning ‘an assembly’ and ‘to call out’ or ‘the called out ones’. The New Testament church is a body of believers that has been called out from the world by God to live as His people under the authority of Jesus Christ. This group of believers or ‘the body of Christ’ began in Acts 2 on the Day of Pentecost through the work of the Holy Spirit and will continue to be formed until the day of the rapture of the church.

A person becomes a member of the church simply by exercising faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Go into the Church (our community) and love your neighbor as you love yourself.

God’s People Are the Church: The founder of the home church movement in England, Canon Ernest Southcott, defined the church best: ‘The holiest moment of the church service is the moment when God’s people – strengthened by preaching and sacrament – go out of the church door into the world to be the church. We don’t go to church; we are the church.’

The Purpose of the Church: The purpose of the church is three-fold. The church comes together (assembles) for the purpose of bringing each member into spiritual maturity (Ephesians 4:13). The church reaches out (scatters) to spread the love of Christ and the gospel message to unbelievers in the world (Matthew 28:18-20). This is the Great Commission, to go out into the world and make disciples. So, the purpose of the church is to minister to believers and unbelievers.

The church, both in the universal and local sense, is important because it is the primary vehicle through which God carries out his purposes on earth. The church is the body of Christ – his heart, his mouth, his hands, and feet – reaching out to the world: *Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. (1 Corinthians 12:27, NIV)*

The supreme purpose of the church is to love and worship God through Jesus Christ and make him known throughout the world.”

I thought you may like to hear from an expert for a change and this seemed to be an informative article that helps us to understand that we don’t just go to church, we are the church.

We are also citizens of the world. Daily we hear of horrible things happening to people all over our world. I often find tears in my eyes and a heavy pressure on my heart as I listen to the facts of what men, women, and especially children are going through to just try to live. In many cases, no food, very little safe housing, no potable water to drink and cook with. Some of the helping agencies are doing their best to get the needed supplies to these people. At times they are kept from bringing the aid to the needy families. I pray often, have donated to ELCA World Relief and World Hunger, but it doesn’t seem like enough. I believe many of you have done the same, thank you for your love toward our neighbors. I keep sending my prayers to God, asking for strength, support, love, hope and deeper understanding. I realize He has a plan and that He is in charge. This keeps me more positive in my daily outlook than I can muster on my own. Please keep praying, it is important to our mental health.

God Bless you richly!

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

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

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

MaryJane Hernes

Milestone Senior Care, 5510 Renee Dr # 23, Eau Claire - 54701

Clarice Henrickson

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

Francis Hilgart

Caretta Senior Center-4650 Keystone Crossing-Eau Claire 54701

Ralph Johnson

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Mavis Olson, Mary Lou Beck, Lisa James, Mavis Mitskogen, Norman Nordby, Dennis Dubiel, Francis Hilgart, Eric Jordahl, Roger Oelrich, Leo Bork, Georgia Hughes, Clarice Henrickson, Linda Middleton, Reynolds Tomter, Wally Swenson, Marcus Shepherd, Natalie Everson, Clarice Laehn, and Frank Juresch

In Christian Sympathy

We pray for the family and friends of: Marilyn Speerstra

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

More Church News



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Council Minutes September 2, 2025

Board Members Present: Dave Anderson, Scott Brown, Marnie Anderson, Karen Witte, Kris Dubiel, 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:** Frank Juresh, Jackie (Hauser) James
3. **Communication from Congregation:** There is a light in the basement in need of repair. This will be taken care of.

Communication/Action:

1. **Secretary's Report:** Marnie Anderson made a motion to approve minutes of August 5, 2025, with a second by Kris Dubiel. Motion carried.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** Fund balances as of August 31, 2025, were presented as follows. These balances do not include what was counted on August 31st to be deposited on September 2nd.

General Fund: \$93,064.63

On Going Fund: \$10,229.63

Improvement Fund: \$83,646.01

Karen Witte made a motion to approve the fund balances as presented with a second by Lori Paulson. Motion carried.

3. Ministry Teams Updates:

- a. Life & Growth: Collecting donations for mission kits
- b. WELCA: Mystery meal trip is on Thursday September 4th.

Sharing from Scott Brown (SAM):

1. There will be a pizza party for confirmation class on September 24th.

Celebration/Affirmation: The date of the next council meeting is October 7, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Business Items:

1. Scott will be meeting with constitution committee for the second time on September 3rd. The committee has been working on amending the constitution.
2. Scott will be contacting the Synod for suggestions on companies that deep clean churches.

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer:

Karen Witte 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

Area Activities

Drive-Through Meatball Harvest Dinner

Peace Lutheran of Pigeon Falls is hosting a Drive-Through Meatball Harvest Dinner on Wednesday, October 15th from 4:30 pm until gone. Menu: Meatballs, Homemade Lefse, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Rutabagas, Corn, Coleslaw, Cranberries and Pumpkin Pie. Cost: \$15 each. All proceeds go to benefit Local and Global ministries.

Food Pantry Needs

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

***Cereal**

***Baked Beans**

***Any item of your choice**

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

Our Saviour's *faith and* finances

DISBURSEMENT & GIVING RECEIPTS August 1 -August 31				
Disbursements:				
Administration	\$127.00			
Physical Plant	\$4,046.72			
Salaries & Benefits	\$4,278.15			
Benevolence	\$0.00			
Parish Expense	\$0.00			
Dues and Fees	\$0.00			
Holiday Raffle Exp.	\$0.00			
Total Disbursements = \$8,451.87				
Giving Receipts				
Simply Giving Total =	\$3,768.00		General Fund Total =	\$4,934.40
On-Going Total =	\$1,246.10		Improvement Fund - Total =	\$205.00
July 2025 Giving Grand Total = \$10,153.50				

More Church News

October Birthdays



1 - Thomas Richter	16 - Skylar Ehrat
3 - Nathan Larson	17 - Stanley Johnson
4 - Linda Schaefer	18 - Dawn Hegge
6 - Jeffrey Radke, Michael Sylla	19 - Douglas Oates
7 - Gregory Webster	21 - Kayley Blaha, Leslie Foss
8 - Quinn Holtan	22 - Taylor Sylla
9 - Cassidy LaBar, Kevin Miles	23 - Rita Hegge
10 - Jennie Everson,	26 - Avvia Herman, Peter Koxlien, Dagny Lund
12 - Donna Oates	27 - David Loga, Wanda Peters
13 - Carsten Peterson	28 - Benjamin Webster
14 - Stephanie Kopp	30 - Clarice Laehn, Sharon Lamberson
15 - Shirley Mathson	

WELCA CORNER

The September "Mystery Meal" gathering was led by the ladies of Grace of Pleasantville. Our surprise destination was the Café in Downtown Blair. We had a good time and a great meal. **The October 2 meeting** and Bible study using the Gather Magazine will be at Our Saviour's at 1:30. Followed with Coffee and treats. you will have a chance to join us when we do the final packing of Mission Kits. They are now completed and ready to be blessed and boxed for shipping. Final packing will be done on Friday Oct.10 and they will be delivered to the collection site in Eau Claire on Saturday 11th. We are still accepting donations for shipping.

Christmas donation boxes will be in the church narthex starting **Oct. 1 through November for Pajamma Gramma & TCHCC**. Those groups need the donations by the beginning of December so they know what they still need to purchase so no one is forgotten this holiday season. There will be donation boxes at Ritter's Hardware also.

Gift ideas include playing cards, crossword & word find book, socks, sugar free candy, winter hats, gloves, scarves, calendars, adult coloring books, boxes of crayons, colored pencils & etc.

Other ideas are posted by the box in the narthex.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness & generosity.



More Church News

Sunday School

Sunday School-The first class will be on October 12th at 10:30am.

Confirmation

The first day of confirmation class will be held on Wednesday, October 1 at 3:30pm.

Noisy Offering

September's Noisy Offering went towards the shipping expense of approximately 100 Mission Kits prepared by Our Saviour's WELCA. A total of \$ 340.80 was collected. Your generosity will make it possible for many in need to receive these life giving supplies. Thank you.

The Noisy Offering for October will be designated for a Discretionary Fund for Our Saviour's. Throughout the year, various people stop in at Our Saviour's in need of food, gas, or money for an emergency. WELCA has made gas cards available, and the Food Pantry is also accessed, but sometimes additional funds are needed. Your donation will give Scott Brown the ability to give out funds at his discretion to help those in need during difficult times.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

You are invited to help celebrate Gary and Anita Semb's 55th Wedding Anniversary. The celebration will be held at the Legion Post 191, Whitehall WI (Old City Café) on Sunday October 19th from 1pm-5pm. Cake, Coffee and punch will be served. No gifts please, your presence is the greatest gift.



October 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<u>1</u> 9:30am Bible Study Church office open 1-5pm Confirmation Class at 3:30pm	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>5</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> Church office open 8am-12pm Quilters 8:30 am	<u>8</u> 9:30am Bible Study Church office open 1-5pm Confirmation Class at 3:30pm	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>12</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> Church office open 8am-12pm	<u>15</u> 9:30am Bible Study Church office open 1-5pm Confirmation Class at 3:30pm	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>19</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am NO Sunday School	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> Church office open 8am-12pm Quilters 8:30 am	<u>22</u> 9:30am Bible Study Church office open 1-5pm Food Pantry 11am- 1pm Confirmation Class at 3:30pm	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>26</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> Church office open 8am-12pm	<u>29</u> 9:30am Bible Study Church office open 1-5pm Confirmation Class at 3:30pm	<u>30</u>	<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: oslwhitehall.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](#).

