

Our Savior's / Skogdalen Parish
306 S. Main St.
Westby, WI 54667

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Presorted Standard
Westby, WI 54667
Permit #21

608-634-4871

oursav@mwt.net

Greetings Good People of Our Saviors and Skogdalen Lutheran!

I've been with you for a good handful of months now, and thought it would be good to properly introduce ourselves to those who haven't met us yet or might want to know a bit about us!

My name is Pat Kempf and I am originally from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. I was born in Chicago, but moved with my family to the U.P. as a baby and lived most of my life there. Growing up in rural Michigan I gained an appreciation for small town living, the abundance of the natural world, and the bonds formed in close knit community. I attended undergrad at Northern Michigan University where I received my B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Communication. I worked in radio broadcasting and the hospitality and food service industry while attending school while also keeping up a side gig in professional photography. I then made my way to St. Paul to attend Luther Seminary.



While in the Twin Cities, I grew in my love for the bustling life of metropolitan areas. The music, art, food, and diversity of people and experiences brought me alive. I'm thankful to have an appreciation for both small town and big city life. I also found an opportunity to work at Lake Wapogasset Bible Camp in Amery, WI. I had worked at and attended another camp, Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp in Crystal Falls, MI, for most summers of my childhood and college years and wanted one last summer at a different camp. I'm most thankful I did, because it was there I met my wonderful wife, Sarah.

Sarah was born and raised near Stillwater, MN and we love going back to visit that gorgeous river town whenever we can. Sarah worked at St. Andrew Lutheran Church as a youth director and has a strong background in youth ministry. She went to the University of Minnesota where she earned three, yes three, degrees, in Early Childhood Development, Fine Art, and Spanish. After meeting at Camp Wapo, she made the decision to join me at Luther Seminary where she received her Masters in Christian Ministry with a focus on Youth Ministry and Justice & Reconciliation within the Church.

We love exploring in the outdoors, finding new interesting places to eat, painting together, spending time with friends, traveling when we can, and taking in stories whether that be through music, movies, books, or our favorite game, Dungeons & Dragons. We also enjoy just hanging out together, doing whatever, along with our two cats, Burt and Charles.

Someday we hope to run a camp of our own and facilitate for the next generations the learning, growth, faith development, and fun we had the opportunity to experience at camps growing up. For now though, we are so happy to be here serving this community. Everyone has been so warm and welcoming, and seem to share in the enthusiasm we have to join this community of faith, so thank you all.

Here in my first call, I hope to work together with our councils and members to grow our ministries, strengthen our relationships, build new ones, and ensure that our congregations thrive for years to come. Things have already been very promising and I can't wait to see where we go together in the coming years.

May you all be blessed beyond imagining and know the Holy Spirit is alive and at work in your lives!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Pat



Hello Everyone! Happy Easter! Its great to be part of Our Sav-
iors! I'll be brief, but there are a few things I need to mention.

Don't forget to attend the cookout on April 13th. The community
is invited, members and non-members of Our Saviors ,so pass the
word. If you eat food, you are invited!

We still have no staff for a youth program or Sunday school program here at Our Sav-
iors or to help at Coon Prairie. Our neighbors to the south, Coon Prairie, have been a
blessing and we are thankful for their help.

Our long-term debt on the church is coming down slowly, but wouldn't it be great to
have it paid off faster. Please consider a monthly contribution or naming the church as
a beneficiary while doing your legacy planning. We are a strong church, with a long
history.

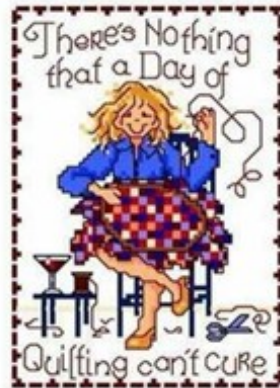
Our church has always done many things in the kitchen and when I think of our kitch-
en it brings back memories of past experiences and people. As our church becomes
stronger and more active, we need to plan for the future. Our kitchen needs attention
in the next few years, so if you would like to be part of the planning process, please
contact the church office. God Bless you all!

Eric Nottestad, President, Our Savior's council

OS's Quilter's



The quilters will be meeting every first
and third Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Every-
one is invited to join them in making quilts
and tie blankets. We have a potluck for
lunch.



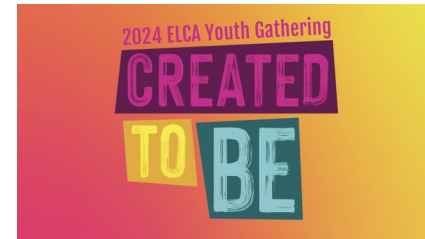
Easter Lilies

Easter lilies will be available this year again.

The cost is \$12, and you may contact Jayne
Anderson at 634-4851, or Dorothy Stoffregen
at 452-2123 to place your order.

Lutefisk Dinner

Thank you to everyone who helped make the lutefisk
dinner such a success. We couldn't have done it with-
out all of you!



The National Youth
Gathering is July 16-20th. We have 19 kids and
adults attending this year. The group has a few fund-
raisers that is going on right now.

On Wednesday, the Daily Brew is offering for every
burger sold, \$2.00 will go to our youth for the trip.

Also, the Valley Fudge & Candy Shop in Coon Valley is selling fudge with some of
the proceeds going to the OS's Youth attending the convention. The group would
really appreciate your support at these businesses. If you have any questions, please
contact Janessa Peterson at 608-632-4804 or Marlene Olson at 608-606-3687.

The Our Savior's Cemetery Association will be holding
their annual meeting at Borgen's in Westby on Saturday,
April 6, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Any questions, call Donna Leum at 608.632.0773.



OS's Financial Review from Jayne Anderson, Treasurer

- Thank you all for your support during 2023. This has definitely been a pivotal year for us with more good things to come. You have supported the church in so many ways with your time, talents and treasures as we transitioned to in person Lutefisk dinner and Syttende Mai dinner and resumed Come for Supper, to name a few, and most exciting of all was calling Pastor Pat Kempf and his lovely wife, Sarah, to serve our congregation. Your support has been so valued and appreciated.
- - Everyone's continued contributions are greatly appreciated and make us rich as a church family.

We are current on all bills due in 2023.

We received a generous legacy gift from the Catherine Schlicht Estate for \$95,200.

We committed to a new sound/video/production system.

The continued use of the Simply Giving Program provided a consistent flow of funds during the year, in addition to everyone continuing with their faithful giving. If you are interested in signing up for automatic giving, please pick up an authorization form in the back of the church or contact the church office.

Simply Giving Program-If you are a member of Thrivent, you have an option to designate funds to Our Savior's.

2023 - \$57,115 General Offering, \$12,435 Capital Campaign, \$300 Bldg/Maintenance, \$3,100 Skogdalen

2022 - \$68,926 General Offering, \$14,900 Capital Campaign, \$300 Bldg/Maintenance, \$4746 Skogdalen

2021 - \$66,677 General Offering, \$13,225 Capital Campaign, \$300 Bldg/Maintenance, \$5492 Skogdalen

2020 - \$63,341 General Offering, \$12,230 Capital Campaign, \$300 Bldg/Maintenance, \$5481 Skogdalen

Current Building Project Loan Summary:

MIF Loan Amount: **\$700,000**

Principal Balance: **\$348,026.99 on 12/31/23** (Paid Down Principal \$91,044.37 in 2023)

Monthly Payment: **\$4,196**

Current Building Campaign Fund Savings Balance: **\$9,151.44**

Your continued support of our Building Campaign is necessary and appreciated to help reduce this debt.

Skogdalen Council Members

President: John Opsahl

Vice-President: Richard Mellen

Treasurer: Lisa Mellen

Secretary: Shirley Herricks

Terry Gilbeck

Heather Euler

Rhonda Berg

Nancy Graw



OS's Council Members

President: Eric Nottestad

Vice-President: Tucker Anderson

Secretary: Barb Christenson

Treasurer: Jayne Anderson

Bookkeeper: Shelly Holen

Tony Myhre
Lori Johnson
Karen Traastad
Kathy Volden
Ed Pedretti



OS's council meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm and members are welcome to attend any time..



Spring Community Cookout

On April 13th

at

Our Savior's in Westby

from 11:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00, 6 & under free

OS's is having a Cookout on Saturday, April 13th from 11:00 to 4:00 p.m. We are looking for donations of baskets for the Silent auction or even items that can be put into baskets. We are also having a Bake Sale. Tickets are available at the church office. If interested in helping with this event, please contact Barb Christenson 608-632-0993 or Eric Nottestad 608-632-3452

Skogdalen Project Updates:

Flooring - We have reached our goal in raising money for new carpet in the sanctuary and new flooring in the entry. We have narrowed the carpet selection down to two and will be voting on which one to order on Sunday, April 14th. A huge thank you to all the donations and to everyone who served coffee and treats after services each Sunday for freewill offering going toward the flooring fund.

Screens - All the screens in the windows in the dining room, kitchen and hallway need to be replaced. We will be getting this project done in April and we already have people in the congregation that have volunteered to pay for them.

Oven/cooktop - The oven/cooktop is no longer working and new parts are not available. To get the type of oven/cooktop that will work in that space, it will cost approximately an additional \$1,200. We will wait until this money is raised to order a new one. To reach this goal, we will continue to serve coffee and treats after church services each Sunday for a freewill offering. There is a sign-up sheet in the dining room. We also welcome any donations for this project which can be mailed to Our Savior's Church to Rhonda's attention. Please make out checks to Skogdalen Church with "oven" in the memo.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

10:30 a.m.

&

Skogdalen Lutheran Church

9:00 a.m.

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday at 6:00

Good Friday Service at 1:15 p.m. at WCP

Easter Morning

OS's at 10:30 and Skogdalen at 9:00 a.m.