



---

A publication of

## Our Savior Lutheran Church

6770 Marlette Street ▪ Marlette, Michigan

989-635-7994 ▪ [ChurchOffice@OSLMarlette.com](mailto:ChurchOffice@OSLMarlette.com)

[www.OSLMarlette.com](http://www.OSLMarlette.com) ▪ [www.facebook.com/OSLMarlette](http://www.facebook.com/OSLMarlette)

Rev. Timothy Kern, Pastor ▪ [Timothy.Kern@OSLMarlette.com](mailto:Timothy.Kern@OSLMarlette.com)

Weekly Services: Sunday at 9:00 a.m. ▪ Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.

---

### In this issue —

Pastor's Corner .....	Page 2
Prayer Concerns .....	Page 5
Serving in January .....	Page 6
December in Pictures .....	Pages 7, 8, & 9
Happy News! .....	Page 10
Euchre Night Update .....	Page 11
Staff & Boards .....	Page 12

# January 2025

## THE LOGOS

Ὁ ΛΟΓΟΣ



Pastor's corner

## Rest in the Lord

**D**o you ever have insomnia? Do you ever have nights where you toss and turn in bed, and you are unable to fall asleep? You are so full of worries and anxieties that your mind just won't turn off, your body can't rest, and your heart is unable to find peace. The patriarch, Jacob, had a night like this. Jacob was returning home after years away. He had fled from Esau's wrath because he had tricked his father and stolen from his brother. Jacob had been blessed with wives and children and flocks and herds while he was away, but now he was coming home. Now, he would have to face his brother. Full of fear and anxiety on the night before his face-to-face confrontation with Esau, Jacob left his party because he wanted to spend the entire night alone. I'm sure he expected a night of insomnia, of tossing and turning, of laying down wide-awake, unable to sleep.

But Jacob was not alone. God was with him. And yet, God was not exactly there to comfort him. Genesis 32 describes Jacob's night as an intense wrestling match. That night, Jacob wrestled with an opponent who was strong and untiring. Who knows if this man would overtake Jacob? Who knows if this man wanted to kill Jacob? Eventually, Jacob realized that this Man was God Himself. He demands that the Lord bless him,

and so God said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." The next morning, Israel limped off to meet his brother.

Perhaps you can identify with the patriarch, Jacob. Perhaps, in your tossing and turning at night, in your fears and apprehensions, your worry and your anxiety, perhaps you are wrestling with God. Perhaps you are asking God questions like, "Why did this or that happen to me?" or "Why is my loved one afflicted with such a terrible illness or with this or that situation that is beyond their control?" Sometimes this wrestling match lasts for a few hours. Sometimes, it afflicts us all night long. God often chooses this night time to wrestle with you because during the day your eyes and your mind are busy, and you are distracted from God by the things of the world. At night, God can get your full attention more easily.

Furthermore, if it is God who is the one who afflicts you, it is because He loves you. It is because He desires to discipline you and to

*At night, God can get your full attention more easily.*

strengthen you, to test you and to give you faith. In these situations, give thanks to God for His love for you. Give thanks for sending His Son to die for you. Give thanks for His claiming you in Holy Baptism. Pray to Him about what troubles you, and leave yourself in His keeping.

However, it is possible that the devil may also want to afflict you at night. His desire is to cause despair. He revels in your anxiety, and will use it to lead you away from your fear, love, and trust in God. In those situations, if your sleepless nights are leading you to despair, sit up. Go to your kitchen table or your living room.

---

## Pastor's Corner, continued

Make the sign of the cross, and say, "May God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit watch over me this night." Then, confess the Apostles' Creed, pray the Lord's Prayer, read your Bible, and pray about your fears and anxieties until you are tired. If the devil is going to keep you awake, then do something that he hates. Do something that is beneficial to your faith. Remember that you are a baptized child of God, and cling to the cross of Jesus Christ for your forgiveness and salvation. For, it is in these blessings that God strengthens you, comforts you in the most difficult times and situations, and gives you the victory even in your darkest hours. God bless and keep you all!



---

### Church Council Notes:

- Due to the lack of a quorum, Council did not meet in December. The next meeting is scheduled for January 16th at 7:30.
  - There will be a Voters' Meeting with election of officers on Sunday, January 19th at 10:30 a.m.
-

# Prayer Concerns

## Church Members

John Hollenbeck, Keith Donley, Jeff Eager, Brenda Fifield, Bob Gaiser, Lela Gilroy, Ashton Jones, Carmen Kinney, Bob & Pam Mutschler, Jerry Priebe, Ellen Romosier, Neil Schaudt, Gus Schumacher, Kathy Tallieu, Mike Wettstein, Virginia Woudstra, Mary Lou Champion, and Fran Clemens

## Extended Family and Friends

Jeron Lane—friend of Randy Haas

Abagayle Barnette and newborn daughter Genevieve—granddaughter and great-granddaughter of Judy Fischer

Aiden Newland—son of Donovan & Tori Newland—friends of the Haas family

Deborah Durham—Chris' step-mother

Rev. Martin Hagenow—retired Thumb Area pastor

Scott & Carol McCready—friends of the McGarvie family

Angie Robison—Mother of Pastor Kern's sister-in-law

Mary Kay Bell —relative of Judy Fischer

Dennis Ondrajka—Adam's father

Donna Ferguson—Adam Ondrajka's grandmother

Mary Mitchell—sister of Lela Gilroy

LaVerne Heath—Godmother of Chris Durham

Linda Fraley—Lela Gilroy's daughter

Gary Engel—friend of Aaron Fischer

Meredith Stewart—cousin of Chris McGarvie

Glen Phillips—former employer of Adam Ondrajka

Heather Stolis—friend of Earl & Gwen Hulett

Ruth Balzer—friend of the LWML

Danica Willis —a friend of Mary Brief

Joan Kuhne—Mary Brief's mother

Don Johnson—Adam Ondrajka's friend and coworker

Cathy Khoury—Bob Mutschler's sister

Cathy Mutschler—Bob's brother and sister-in-law

Doris Ann Brief—Mary's mother-in-law

Randy Kasdorf—Shauna Lester's Baptismal Sponsor

Ken and Pam Wood—parents of Kelly Ondrajka

Harvey Kaltz—Debie's husband

Family & Friends of Virginia Woudstra: Heather Sunday & Ivy,

Kimberly Randall, Dennis Davis, Jeanette Lasko, Raymond Randall,

Quinn Adamczyk, Robbie Kuechenmeister, Valerie Martin, Eugene Rushlow,

David Glover, Russel & Terri Strauchman;

Stephanie, Zachary, & Dahlia Adamczyk, Faith Martin

*Please help us keep this list up to date. If you have a family member or friend listed here who is no longer in need of prayer, please call the church office and let us know.*

*Give thanks too, to the Lord who answers prayer!*

# Serving the Lord in Gladness



## January Elders

*Unassigned*

## Altar Guild

Kathy Rachow

## Service Music

1/5, 1/12, and 1/26—Caleb Storm  
1/19—Renea Lambert



## Sunday Morning Greeters

1/5 Craig & Bridget Storm  
1/12 John & Janet Hollenbeck  
1/19 Don & Hannah Schank  
1/26 Adam & Kelly Ondrajka

## Acolytes

Carter and Jayson Schank



# December 2024 in P-I-C-T-U-R-E-S

## **SOUPer Pies & Cookies Monday, December 9th**

This was an event sponsored by The Barnabas Club.

Thanks to all of you, there were over 20 pies up for bid, along with dozens of Christmas Cookies to buy.

We were also blessed with the services of volunteer Auctioneer John Tomlinson. He makes it so much fun!



The Barnabas Club is pleased to report that \$1740 was raised that night which will be going to help send our Youth to the Higher Things Conference this summer. Higher Things is an excellent experience for our young people!

Here we see Sam and Carter (two of our Youth who will attend Higher Things) making their cookie selections. The Youth also helped with some of the set up and clean up at SOUPer Pies & Cookies.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped make this event successful!

# December in P-I-C-T-U-R-E-S



## Sunday School & Youth Christmas Program

On Sunday, December 22nd at 10:30 a.m., our Sunday School children and members of the Youth Group presented their Christmas Pageant to the congregation. It was a sweet little program, complete with angels, shepherds, and of course Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. Well done boys and girls! Thank you!



# December in P-I-C-T-U-R-E-S



Christmas Eve Procession of Baby Jesus to the manger

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Our Christmas Eve Service was beautiful. We give thanks that the Lord has blessed our congregation in so many ways.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*



Passing the light of the Christ Candle to all



A sweet smile



The Christmas Blessing from Pastor

# Happy News!



## They're Engaged!

What a nice couple! Ian Conley and Olivia Storm have made it official—they plan to be married in the not-too-distant future. Although a date hasn't been set yet, we've been told to expect wedding bells to ring sometime in 2025.

May the Lord richly bless Ian and Olivia with a lifetime of love, faithfulness, and great happiness!

# Euchre Night

Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 PM

Euchre Nights are open to everyone. Come and join the fun! Whether you have a team of four or want to come “solo”, you’re welcome. Bringing a snack is optional — but always appreciated!



Euchre Nights are planned for the  
second Friday of each month.



# Staff Directory and Board Members



Church Office: 989-635-7994  
Rev. Timothy Kern, Pastor  
Timothy.Kern@OSLMarlette.com  
Kelsey Justin, Secretary  
ChurchOffice@OSLMarlette.com

## CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

Adam Ondrajka, President  
Christopher Durham, Vice-President  
Karen Forys, Treasurer  
Renea Lambert, Secretary  
Bridget Storm, Financial Secretary

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Randy Haas, Chairman  
Chris Durham, Secretary  
Caleb Storm  
Ryan McGarvie  
Renea Lambert

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Karrie Forys, Head Trustee  
Kathy Tallieu, Secretary  
Chris Durham  
Randy Haas  
Katie Laur

## SCHOOL BOARD

*(Not currently meeting regularly)*

Randy Haas, Chairman  
Chris Durham  
Adam Ondrajka  
Kelly Ondrajka  
Randy Wansadel  
Gail Denton, Barnabas Representative

## BOARD OF ELDERS

Chris McGarvie  
Marty Brandt  
John Hollenbeck  
Jerry Priebe  
Bob Stoick  
Gus Schumacher  
Craig Storm  
Don Schank  
Chris Durham

## SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP

Hanna Kern, Superintendent & Music  
Nursery—Grade 1, Hanna Kern  
Grades 2-6, Debie Kaltz  
Youth Leader, Hannah Schank