

Lutheran Church
OUR SAVIOURS



MAY 2026 SHINE



Monet, Claude. Impression, Sunrise (Impression, soleil levant). 1872. Musée Marmottan Monet, Paris.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

June, July, and August

Church Anniversaries over 40 years:

Anniversaries 40 years +

Judy & Nick Beskid, Jonathan & Anne Bobb, Barbara Borghoff, Roger Cantlin, Dan & Debbie Collander, David Gervase, Mike & Nancy Gervase, Scott & Alison Gray, Tom & Lisa Griffin, Karen Hawes, Brad Hayes, Donna Hayes, Scott & Cynthia Henderson, Don & Sheryl Hower, Diana Lass Virginia Matson, Jeffrey & Kelli Nothacker, Kathy Nothacker, Kristin Petras, Jeff & Kristine Ploense
Dianne Rogness, John Schillerstrom, Debbie Stamm, Lance Stephens,
Donald & Barbara Swanson, Jack & Barbara Weisensee, Tracy White, Jean Zagers
Korina Hilding Bross, Deborah Huether, Dianne Rogness, Jim & Char Bala, Lisa Bala
David & Beth Ellis, Julie Ellis, Scott & Cynthia Henderson, James & Kimberly Sentman,
Dick & Barb Untch

Birthdays 80 years ±

Dale Bakken, John Beed, Dianne Borg, Susan Borghesi, Sherry Bryant, John Burke
Roger Cantlin, Nancy Carlmark, Darlene Chuckray, Pat Deitrich, Ruth Deprin, Donna Doonan

Bob Dunford, Donna Hayes, Adele Jensen, Sherry Jensen, Linda Kamp, Geri Kirchner, Raymond Kirkpatrick, Dave Koch, Ken Koepke, Scott Kozlowski, Jeanne Kraemer, Roger Kraemer, Shari Kragh, Thomas Kudelka, Rod Landorf, Tony Meydrech, Rosie Milne, Kay Nelson, Kathy Nothacker, Gail Olley, Marilyn Ott, Beverly Rathjen, Joyce Shredl, Eudean Sovereign, Ray Tutton, Jack Weisensee, Lorraine Yuccas

Welcome New Members



Chris and Susan Marshall are long-time Naperville residents (over 40 years) who have recently joined Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Chris was raised in the Methodist church, and Susan in the Catholic church, and they have been seeking a welcoming, inclusive, and engaged community to worship, learn, and contribute together. Chris is a research chemist, retired from Argonne National Lab, and Susan is a retired librarian who spent most of her career at the American Academy of Pediatrics. They have two grown daughters and a granddaughter who live in the Chicago area.

Susan is active in the League of Women Voters of Naperville and the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Naperville Area and volunteers at the Morton Arboretum. Chris has continued consulting in retirement and remains active in the Fox Valley Genealogical Society. They enjoy college sports and cheering for Michigan State University teams. They actually met in the chemistry library at MSU in 1976.

Chris and Susan are looking forward to learning more about Our Saviour's and joining in their work for equity, justice, and love!

Caring for Creation

Why Native Plants?

Contributed by: Sandy Martinich

Wednesday was warm and dry. The nights would be well above freezing. It was time to clean up the stems of the native plants left to overwinter in the garden. Years before the plight of the monarch butterfly caught my attention. When planting this garden, it would be

filled with plants native to northern Illinois, including three kinds of milkweed, asters, and goldenrod to attract monarchs.

These and other natives would attract beneficial insects, pollinators, songbirds, and hummingbirds. All creatures I love and would support the food web necessary to sustain and increase their populations. No need for herbicides and pesticides. Low water requirements after being established. Perennials.

My purple coneflowers attracted swallowtail butterflies. Sunflowers fed goldfinches. And masses of black-eyed Susans were just beautiful and had long-lasting summer blooms. The Conservation Foundation in Naperville is a source of advice on transitioning from non-native and invasive species to trees, shrubs, ground covers, and flowers better suited to our climate and fauna.

Online and in print, author Doug Tallamy, an entomologist, is a champion for biodiversity, urging homeowners to plant their own homegrown national park. His research shows that a native oak tree can support over 500 caterpillar species, making them a kind of super bird feeder. His book, *Nature's Best Hope*, explains how an individual yard can become part of a patchwork of vibrant havens for both wild and human life.

This year I will try to find and plant wild geranium, rattlesnake master, swamp milkweed and blue mist flower to replace non-native.

SOURCES

YouTube, Conservation Foundation's Small-Scale Native Landscape Design Video Page, Homegrownnationalpark.org, Nativeplantfinder.nwf.org, Theconservationfoundation.org

Caring for Our Community

Contributed by:

Barb Kraeger Hailey, *Sr. Director Communications & Advancement LSSI*

"Children in foster care are worthy of our investment because they are our future, just the same as any other child." Lindsey Clark, Foster and Adoptive Parent

When Our Saviour's Lutheran Church included the Aurora Foster Care program at Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), as a Season of Sharing recipient, the congregation brought joy—and a signal of support—to 287 children last Christmas.

This strong congregational support is a hallmark of LSSI's history, dating back to 1867 when Lutheran neighbors founded an orphanage for children whose parents died in a Cholera epidemic. LSSI still serves children and families through foster care, intact family services, and community support services that provide resource referrals to help remedy minor to moderate challenges that may place children at risk.

Neighbors and congregations have been mainstays throughout LSSI's history as the organization expanded beyond child welfare. This includes 10 group homes for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, with two in nearby Aurora. LSSI also has 20 affordable senior apartment buildings across Illinois, three of which are in Aurora and Batavia.

"Our greatest goal is for the residents to have the best possible quality of life through our homes," said Jackie Baker, Program Director, LSSI's Fox Trail and Fox Hill Group Homes in Aurora. "We want them to feel part of their community."

Responding to the Gospel, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois brings healing, justice, and wholeness to people and communities. This is LSSI's mission. Both nearby and statewide, LSSI served over 62,000 people last year—one in every 203 people in Illinois. Our Saviour's Lutheran Church helps LSSI live out its mission for these people and their communities.

Learn more about programs and opportunities at LSSI.org.

Photo Caption: A resident of LSSI's Fox Hill Home, Aurora, proudly shows off her room. The home supports adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Hidden Figures



Contributed by: Laurie May

Did you ever want to peek behind the curtain? I recently talked to Deb Collander and Kathie Howe about what it takes to set up the altar each week. Deb has served on Our Saviour's Altar Guild for 20 years, succeeding Roz Swanstrom. This quiet, behind-the-scenes ministry is so seamless we are barely aware of all that goes into it: coordinating volunteers, buying bread and wine, laundering and repairing linens, and anticipating the correct amount of supplies.

At Celebration since its opening, Kathie has had the challenge of setting up and tearing down in a multi-use space every Sunday. Kathie and the Altar Guild team work with Hospitality to set up all tables, chairs, and platforms, as well as Communion supplies. The Altar Guild works closely with the pastors to address evolving needs. Recently, they moved to using gluten-free bread and divided communion cups to provide discreet options for communicants. Deb and Kathie both praised their teams of dedicated volunteers...and would love to have you join them!

A few interesting facts:

- We use Costco gluten-free bread
- Fairbanks, California Port Wine
- Leftover wine is returned to the earth
- Altar linens cannot be thrown away; they must be burned or buried.



Caring for the Spaces that Support Our Mission

Contributed by: Jim Harms

Sometimes it helps to think about our buildings and properties the same way we think about our bodies and spirits. As we age, our bodies need maintenance and support, such as glasses, dental care, and exercise, to support our physical and mental well-being. Other times, something breaks or fails and simply needs repair.

The same is true for our church facilities.

The mission of the Property Committee is to help keep our buildings and grounds safe, functional, attractive, and supportive of the many ministries and missions of Our Saviour's. We are called to do this using the talents, experience, and resources God has provided.

Our team is a little different from many other church committees. We have no term limits. Members serve because they have volunteered or have been invited based on their experience, expertise, and desire to help sustain and care for our facilities.

Some recent and ongoing projects include:

- Replacing seven obsolete HVAC units on the roof at Celebration Campus

- Installing a sidewalk from the Sanctuary emergency exit to the existing walkway
- Planning new landscaping along the east front of the Sanctuary
- Assisting the music ministry in creating an improved music storage area
- Replacing the Sanctuary roof and preserving the roof support beam ends
- Repairing the Celebration Memorial Wall

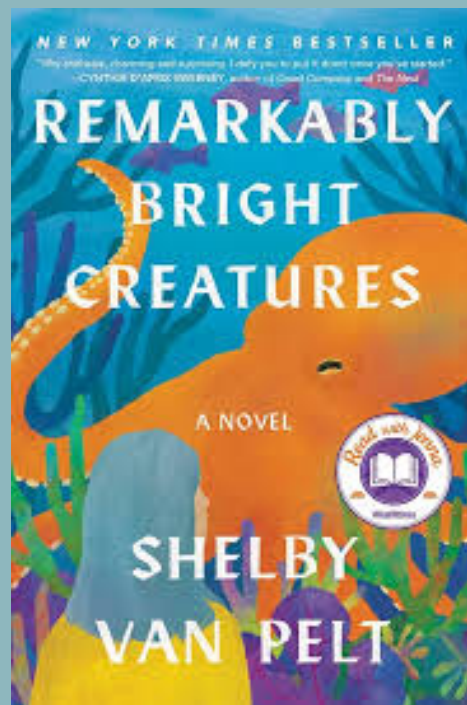
Property Committee Members

Jim Harms (Chair), Greg Norgaard (Co-Chair), Todd Freitag, Jacob Himmelman, Jim Hiner, Jean Jepson, Greg Nasman, Dave Mevis (Church Council Liaison), Dave Musial, Jeff Travis, Laura Weren, and Mark Witt.

Please feel free to contact us with any comments or questions.

Remarkably Bright Books

"Wait, we have *THAT* in the library?"



If you haven't wandered into the church library lately, you may be picturing a few dusty theology books, an old Bible dictionary, and maybe some *Veggie Tales* on VHS. (Anyone else singing the theme song now? You're welcome.)

But surprise! Our library is much more than that.

Yes, you'll find inspiring Christian books, Bible studies, devotionals, and spiritual resources, but tucked among the shelves are mysteries, biographies, history, parenting books, fiction, cookbooks, children's stories, travel, grief support resources, and plenty of titles that might just surprise and delight you.

Whether you're looking for a summer read, encouragement during a difficult time, something fun for the kids, or simply a quiet excuse to browse for a while, there's probably something waiting for you.

And don't forget this *remarkably bright* resource...our online card catalog available on the church [website](#)! You can browse titles from home, search by topic or author, and see just how extensive the collection really is, without even needing to squint at tiny shelf labels.

So next time you're at church, stop by the library. You may come in looking for one book and leave with three! Which, according to lifelong library tradition, means the visit was a complete success!

A Psalm for May

You visit the earth and water it;
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.
You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.
You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
the hills gird themselves with joy;
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
the valleys deck themselves with grain;
they shout and sing together for joy.

Psalm 65



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