



St. Olaf Evangelical Lutheran Church

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PASTORS: Greg Kiel Patti Sherk

What's Happening at St. Olaf?

People at Risk (Home Less) – Pastor Greg

I am excited to share that I have been working with the Swift Current and Area Ministerial Association on a strategy for people at risk in our community. Our council approved the motion that St. Olaf would handle the financial end of the initiative. This will be cost neutral to us. We can support the initiative if we want, but what this means is we will be accepting donations from the community toward the project and we will be the ones to distribute funds and issue tax receipts for donations.

The Ministerial committee for People at Risk (PAR) is working on a few strategies. One is asking the downtown churches if they would be interested in opening their doors at nights for those who would need a place to stay warm. Another idea is the warming bus, but we have put this idea on the back burner for now. We have been looking at possible store front locations downtown, that might serve the purpose of a type of shelter. We are also thinking of simply putting people up in hotels and supplying food etc. as needed. We are exploring the idea of having a common day of offering across the city churches to cover the cost of the project. To date we have received \$4000.00 from Bumper to Bumper for this initiative. Please contact me, Pastor Greg, if you have any questions or ideas.

Saved by Grace! – Pastor Greg

Our band continues to play at the Senior Homes in Town. We usually play for about an hour on Thursdays of the week. We play a mix of Gospel and old-time country. I always say that if we make mistakes, you won't hear them because we are "Saved by Grace!"

The first Thursday of the month, we play at The Willow Creek Manor.

The second Thursday of the month, we play at The Meadows.

The third Thursday of the month, we practice even if we are "Saved by Grace!"

The fourth Thursday of the month, we play at Cypress House.

All the events are at 2:00 pm. This is a great opportunity for you to come and bring out your loved one for a little fun and interaction with our congregation! We are always needing people to help porter people because not everyone can make it on their own. This is a great opportunity to get involved with the people in our Senior homes and have a little fun at the same time.



Up and Coming Church Services

One and only Ministerial Advent service is Thursday, December 7th , at noon at St. Olaf. There will be lunch provided by another congregation.

Blue Christmas Service is Thursday, December 21, at Eastside Church of God.

4th Sunday of Advent Sunday December 24, 10:30 am -St. Olaf

Christmas Eve Sunday December 24, 7:00 pm -St. Olaf

Dec. 25, Christmas morning service, at 10:30 am – St. Olaf

New Year's Eve is Sunday Dec. 31st 10:30 am – St. Olaf





Birthday Potluck every month!

All are welcome to potluck lunch with birthday cake and ice cream, on the last Sunday of every month. Gluten-free cake is available, and there is always plenty of food. Even if you aren't bringing anything – come anyway for fun and fellowship...and cake!

Confirmation – Pastor Patti

Confirmation classes continue with six participants this year. We will see four of them complete the two-year program and be confirmed on Pentecost next May.

CLAY – Pastor Patti

The first CLAY fundraiser is coming up! Youth will be selling soup mix again this year. The jars will be available for \$10 before and after Sunday services beginning November 26th and also at the Cookie Walk on December 2nd.

Sunday School Age Advent Event – Pastor Patti

We will be offering an intergenerational Advent event on December 3rd, the first Sunday of Advent, at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. We will offer singing, snacks, crafts and activities. Any adults willing to help, please let Pastor Patti know.



In the Community

There are many people in Swift Current and surrounding areas that have been struggling financially. The people of St. Olaf have been EXTREMELY generous with their gifts of time and money. We have an “Angel Fund” that people can donate to, and in turn, the Pastors have used this money to help a weary traveler that might need a hotel for the night, or occasionally they have helped people with a meal. Most recently, we have used this money to help a few people that have fallen behind on their rent or their utility bills in order to prevent them from being evicted. This is the best way to prevent people from being homeless, and helping people stay in their home is the most effective way to support them.

We have also been supporting the Salvation Army Hot Meal program. We have committed to financially supporting the meal 4 times a year, and so far we have also been able to provide enough help to prepare and serve the meal. This is a wonderful service for the community and all of the patrons are so grateful. If you are interested in helping serve at the Salvation Army next time, please let us know. In the theme of feeding people, we also have a crew of volunteers that deliver meals on wheels, for 2 weeks in June and again for 2 weeks in October.



At Christmas time, we always support the Salvation Army adopt-a-family program, as well as “Toasty Toes”, which is a collection of socks for homeless or underhoused people. It is such a sad reality that the need for these programs is required at all, but the worst of it is that the need is higher every year. Our members continue to share their gifts and give endlessly to the community in all of these ways!

Fall Supper, Cookie Walk, Lefse and Perogies.

We have a group of volunteers that are making calls and organizing our **Fall Supper, Saturday November 4**, There are 2 settings 4:30 and 6:00 and tickets are \$20 for Adults are children 6-12 are \$10.each. There are still some spaces available to help out as well so if our committee has missed you, you can reach out!



Cookie Walk is Saturday December 2 at 9 am. Come and get your Christmas Baking done all at once. **Lefse and Perogies** are available this day as well! A lovely soup lunch will also be served.

If you would like to be a part of any of these events, whether it be by buying a ticket and attending, donating financially or with your time or talents, we'd love to have you. Contact us!