



**Please submit a  
photo for our  
member directory.**

Please email a recent picture of yourself or your family to the church office at [church@lwlcmmn.org](mailto:church@lwlcmmn.org). We would like to update our church software with recent photos for each household, and we would like to print an updated Living Waters Lutheran Church photo directory. Thanks!



## Wednesdays of Lent

**5:00 Soup Supper**

**6:00 Service**

**6:30 Youth Education**

**March 12 March 19**

**March 26 April 2**

**April 9 April 16**

## Lenten Movie Series Begins March 9

LWLC is launching a six-week Lenten movie series beginning March 9!

Every Sunday afternoon at 2:00, a Christian-based movie will be shown at the church. Discussion on the movie will take place the following Wednesday evening after the 6:00 Lenten service.

The movies that will be shown are:

**Week 1: 90 Minutes in Heaven**

**Week 2: Ordinary Angels**

**Week 3: The Shack**

**Week 4: Mom's Night Out**

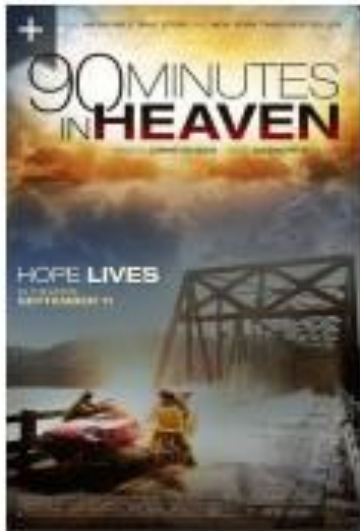
**Week 5: Slum Dog Millionaire**

**Week 6: One Life**

*More information on page 2.*

# Lenten Movie Series Lineup

Showtimes: Sundays at 2:00 pm During Lent



Week 1 - Discussing March 12th



Week 2 - Discussing March 19th



Week 3 - Discussing March 26th



Week 4 - Discussing April 2nd



Week 5 - Discussing April 9th



Week 6 - Discussing April 17th\*

# ANNUAL



# MEETING

**FEBRUARY 2, 2025**

**10:20 a.m.**

**Church Sanctuary**

Did your phone number, email address or mailing address change recently?  
If so, please let us know so we can update it in our member records system.

Call 320-255-1135 or email [church@lwlcmn.org](mailto:church@lwlcmn.org).

## **February Education Schedule**

### **Wednesday Education—2nd-9th Grades**

February 5: Meal at 5:30 pm; Service at 6 pm; Lesson

February 12: Meal at 5:30 pm; Service at 6 pm; Lesson

February 19: Meal at 5:30 pm; Service at 6 pm; Lesson

February 26: Meal at 5:30 pm; Service at 6 pm; Lesson

### **Sunday School PreK-1st grades**

February 2: Class at 10:10 am in Classroom D

February 9: Class at 10:10 am in Classroom D

February 16: Class at 10:10 am in Classroom D

February 23: Class at 10:10 am in Classroom D





Mission: reach out with God's love through word and deed to encourage Christian development.

Mary's Mermaids meets for coffee and conversation from 10 a.m. to noon on the first Wednesday of the month at the church and from 10 a.m. to noon all other Wednesdays at Coborn's Deli in Sauk Rapids. Their fundraisers support youth education at Living Waters.



All are welcome to join Brewery Bunch, a casual adult study group. The group is currently studying "The Chosen," a television series about the life of Jesus Christ and the calling of his initial disciples, with a discussion after each episode. Text Cheri and Tom Satre for location at 320-492-4074.



## February Calendar

- \* **Annual Meeting:** February 2 at 10:20 am
- \* **Sunday Worship:** February 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd at 9 am. All are welcome!
- \* **Living Waters Food Shelf:** February 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th from 10 am to noon
- \* **Mary's Mermaids Meet:** February 5th from 10 am to noon
- \* **Wednesday Education:** February 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th—Meal at 5:30 pm, WOW Worship at 6 pm and Classes/Group Activities at 6:30 pm
- \* **LWLC Council Vision Retreat:** February 8th from noon to 4 pm
- \* **Finance Committee Meeting:** February 18th at 5:30 p.m. in the Room of Hope
- \* **Church Council Meeting:** February 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Room of Hope
- \* **Marriage Group—All Married Couples Welcome:** February 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Room of Hope



### Women at the Well

Women of all ages are welcome to join this new group! Women at the Well will focus on fellowship, creativity, and service. We will meet one evening a month, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., through May in the Life & Learning Center. Text 320-492-4074 to be included on the group text for upcoming meetings and activities.

### Marriage Ministry Group

4th Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Next Gathering: February 22nd in the Room of Hope.

# Merciful and Kind



Pastor Jake Dyrhaug

*"I was a stranger and you welcomed me..."*  
Matthew 25:35

In light of recent events, I have been thinking of friends from other countries in years past who came to study and to work in the U.S. I've also thought about a friend whose son has been a border patrol agent in both Montana and Texas. If I were asked to speak for a public national event, I probably would not be as direct as some. But it would strike me as shallow and not honest if I didn't make a plea to be merciful to people who are feeling afraid right now—afraid of deportation or afraid of losing basic rights.

I think back to a time when I was an English tutor for foreign students at college, helping them write their papers and making them feel at home. One man was from the country of Ghana, and out of the blue one day, he asked me to help him write a letter to American authorities pleading to extend his temporary visa. He had been active as a politician in Ghana, and he had been forced off the road on his motorcycle once by someone sent to harm him—likely sent by a political opponent. He had gasoline poured on his back and was lit on fire and left for dead. He showed me his scars from the horrendous burns, and I believe everything he was telling me was completely true. I still have no doubt. I'll never forget the realization that the difference between us was that he could have been put on a plane and sent immediately back to a country where people wanted to kill him. But I had the

privilege of citizenship, so they couldn't just put me on a plane. He was granted more time to stay as a student after this, but I lost contact with him over time. But whenever I hear about people fearing deportation, I remember my good friend, Godfrey from Ghana. And I pray for mercy and patience in our world.

On another occasion, when I served as a pastor in Little Falls, MN, I was asked to be on a committee to help migrant workers get an interpreter if they were stopped on the highway for something. What was happening is that they were being stopped, and if they did not have the proper papers, they were being deported immediately to Mexico or other countries. The Sisters of St. Francis there in Little Falls headed up the effort to at least try and get them an interpreter, first. It wasn't about defying laws. It was about having mercy—trying, at least, to help people get a fair representation. There were farmers attending the meetings, who didn't want to lose some of their best workers they came to care about. There were highway patrolmen and a sheriff attending the meetings, too, and we all agreed there was some bad stuff out there, and they, too, had an obligation to protect citizens if they felt that they needed to arrest someone who was not here legally. But they had a soft spot in their hearts for "the nuns", as they referred to them (the sisters). And they listened. And I've never forgotten the sisters' appeal to people to be merciful and kind.

I'm thinking a lot about those words of Jesus these days, "... I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

In Christ,

Pastor Jake Dyrhaug

## President's Update



Just a final quick note to say, "Thank you" to the members of Living Waters Lutheran Church for the opportunity to serve you as Council President this past year!"

What a year it has been—it has been my pleasure to serve the congregation and lead this great team of council members! I appreciate your patience and understanding as I have tried to introduce new things and tweaked some old things and worked hard to leave it all a little better than I found it. It takes a village, and it has been a great experience collaborating and working with so many amazing people here at LWLC! You always have big shoes to fill coming into roles of Leadership, and I am so grateful for those I stood side by side with this year and those who have paved the way for many years before me. Each year, we evolve and get better and better working together with God's help and guidance.

In 2023, we were "Engaged." The 2024 Year of Connect was really successful with all the small groups forming and has really gained some momentum! Now that the mortgage is burned and we can move forward, we will continue to "Connect" but we are ready to look forward to "Inspire" in 2025!

At the present time, we are trying to get the photo directory together—another opportunity to Connect! Please make sure to get your photo to the office!

Please thank the council members, committee members and the staff members for all the work they do behind the scenes. It was an unprecedented year with the challenges we faced, but we have turned the corner and are ready to move forward with God's help!

On February 8th we will have a Council Retreat, where we will welcome the new council members and embark on our goals for the Year of Inspire! Thank you for your service to those who are leaving council/roles – Leann Giese, Brian Ulrich, and Mary Soroko. Thank you for taking the time to serve and share your time and talents!

What will you be "Inspired" to do at church this year?

**Our Mission: "That all would know they are loved by God and are inspired to follow Jesus!"**  
Engage, Connect & Inspire!

Peace & Blessings,  
**DeNetta Wolbeck**  
2024 Council President

### Worship Assistant Sign-Up



Ushers, Greeters, Communion Assistants, etc. needed for Sunday and Wednesday services. Visit [www.lwlcmmn.org](http://www.lwlcmmn.org) and click "Sign Ups" at the top of the page, or scan the QR codes. Scan the QR code on the left to sign up for a Sunday service and the code on the right for a Wednesday service.





## CHRIST IN OUR HOME DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE

*Christ in Our Home* books are available at LWLC! *Christ in Our Home* is a quarterly devotional resource that encourages readers to live out their faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary. The books are available at the Welcome Center, while supplies last. Limit 1 per family.



## THANK YOU

For your ongoing financial support.



### Reminder:

**This is a Nut-Aware & Latex-Free Complex. Thank you in advance for your efforts to ensure the safety of those with sensitivities.**



**By Recycling, you can support Living Waters Lutheran Church! Place aluminum cans in the Cans for a Cause trailer at LWLC. No other recyclables are accepted.**

**Thanks for your support!**

- **Set up BILL PAY through your bank or credit union. It is free. Contributions will be sent to the church on YOUR schedule.**
- **Send money through PAYPAL. To avoid paying a fee, make sure to select that you are sending money to a friend. Send to [church@lwlcmmn.org](mailto:church@lwlcmmn.org).**
- **Send contributions the old-fashioned way. MAIL checks via USPS to:  
Living Waters Lutheran Church  
1911 4th Ave. N.  
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379**

Please remember to specify on your check or envelope what your contribution will be used for (e.g. mortgage, general fund, food shelf).

## 2024-2025 Servant Team Schedule

Team	Team Leader(s)	Last Name Starts With	Servant Months
Team 1	Tom & Cheri Satre	A through Cr	April 2024 and November 2024
Team 2	Teresa Szymanski	Cu through Gunderson, D	May 2024 and December 2024
Team 3	Jen Kiewel	Gunderson, J through Koskinen, D	June 2024 and January 2025
Team 4	Tim Wright	Koskinen, S through Moon	July 2024 and February 2025
Team 5	Bonnie Raduns	Moor through Rock, J	August 2024 and March 2025
Team 6	Terry Sylvester	Rock, K through Sz	September 2024 and April 2025
Team 7	Darryl Torrin	T through Z	October 2024 and May 2025

## Council Meeting Minutes Attached

The December Church Council meeting minutes are emailed with the newsletter for your convenience. See attachments to your email for detailed minutes, or pick up a copy at the church.

## Living Waters Lutheran Church Council

**John Fuls** – Property team

jctmfuls@msn.com

**Leann Giese** – Outreach

craftinggiese@gmail.com

**Todd Muehlbauer** – Personnel

toddmuehlbauer@gmail.com

**Carolyn Neubauer** – Inreach, Care Core, Secretary

cneub61126@hotmail.com

**Dan Pederson** – Vice President

djp2880@gmail.com

**Kelli Pederson** - Congregational life

kellilynnpederson@gmail.com

**Josh Rock**

jerock96@gmail.com

**Kirsten Stiegel** – Education

kstiegel@icloud.com

**Brian Ulrich**

briantulrich@gmail.com

**AJ Wolbeck** – Youth Rep.

ajwolbeck@yahoo.com

**DeNetta Wolbeck** - President, Music and worship liaison

nedswolbeck@gmail.com

**Next Council Meeting:**

Tuesday, January 21 at 6:30 pm



# Worship at LWLC

**Sunday Service — 9:00 am**

**Watch the Livestream on Facebook at Living Waters Lutheran Church SR**

**Wednesday Service — 6 pm during Youth Education.**

## FOOD SHELF HOURS

**TUESDAYS  
10AM - NOON**



## Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Monday

Closed



## Contact

Church Office Phone: 320-255-1135

Church Office Email: church@lwlcmn.org

Pastor Jake's Cell Phone: 320-733-0257

Pastor Jake's Email: pastorjake@lwlcmn.org

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LUTHERAN CHURCH**



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## Living Waters Nursery

The Nursery is open during worship, but it is not staffed.

Please stay with your child.

