
OUR SAVIOR'S QUARTERLY



SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST TO TRANSFORM LIVES

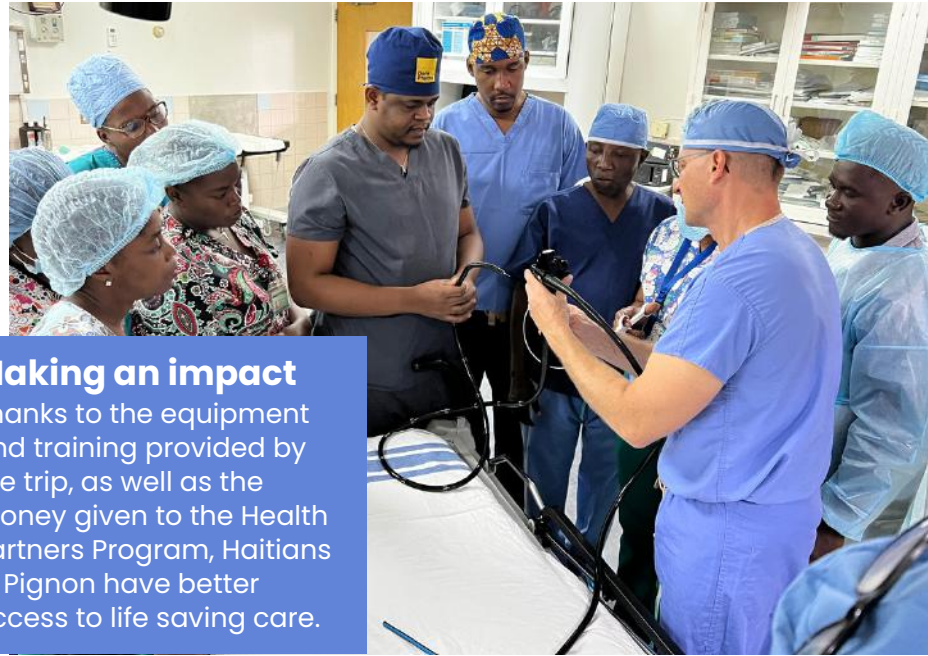
WINTER
2023

Our Savior's visits with...

PROMISE FOR HAITI



Dr. Joel Harris, Arie Harris, Jill Papke, Lydia Stumme-Berg, and Pastor John Berg traveled to Pignon, Haiti as part of a Promise for Haiti team representing Our Savior's at the end of September through early October 2023. The team visited the hospital, schools, families, and local area to bring uplifting connection and support.



Making an impact

Thanks to the equipment and training provided by the trip, as well as the money given to the Health Partners Program, Haitians in Pignon have better access to life saving care.



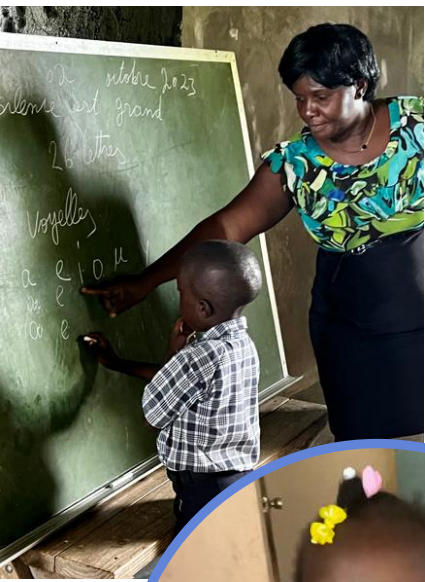
The Health Partners Program

Promise for Haiti supports healthcare in Pignon through the Health Partners Program. First, staff member John Robert identifies families according to financial need. Doctors provide tests, medication, surgeries, and hospitalization as needed for both preventative and urgent healthcare. The invoice is then forwarded to Promise for Haiti and paid out of the Health Partners fund. In partnership, Our Savior's sponsors ten Haitian families. The team received gratitude and thanks from the families when visiting during the trip.



"Without this program, I would not be sitting here. We see others spending a lot of money for healthcare. I would not be able to have the medication I need without this program."





The power of an education

The team witnessed the hard work of students engaging in everything from writing vowels to studying physics. Kids were excited to receive soccer balls as a gift from the team.



PROMISE FOR HAITI

HEALTHCARE, EDUCATION, CLEAN WATER, EVANGELISM & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Want to join the Promise for Haiti OSLC team? Contact Cheri Schleicher at caschleicher@gmail.com.

Donations can be made to the program at any time through online giving at oslc-wi.churchcenter.com/giving. Cash or checks can be given at the OSLC office.

Visit oslc-wi.org/promise-for-haiti to learn more.



CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

LIVING OUT THE BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Confirmation is one of the faith formation milestones designed to walk with middle school students in faith and fulfill the promises made in baptism. Students in 7th and 8th grade engage in learning, serving, and fun together.

This year, the Confirmation classes have spent time focusing on The Good News:

What is it?

How can we, as youth, share and proclaim it?

How can we live it by serving others?



In October, we went on our annual retreat at Bethel Horizons in Dodgeville. We talked about our identity in the world and in Christ. We also had a great time on the low and high ropes courses, team building and testing our bravery!

November 1 was an all service day. We wrote holiday cards for both Shorehaven and Cards for Kids in Hospitals, put together tie blankets for Linus Project, made Birthday Bags for food pantries, and made some new Christmas decorations for OSLC. It was fun to be creative and find ways to serve our neighbors, living out the promise "to serve all people, following the example of Jesus."



BAPTISMAL PROMISES

*TO LIVE AMONG
GOD'S FAITHFUL PEOPLE*

*TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD
AND SHARE IN THE
LORD'S SUPPER*

*TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD
NEWS OF GOD IN CHRIST
THROUGH WORD AND DEED*

*TO SERVE ALL PEOPLE,
FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE
OF JESUS*

*TO STRIVE FOR JUSTICE AND
PEACE IN ALL THE EARTH*

BLESSING

May you know I see the image of God in you.
May you know that you are loved and belong.
May you know that we are with you and God is with you.
May you know that we do life together.
Amen.

CHRISTMAS COOKIES

SCANDINAVIAN COOKIES

BAKING
DECEMBER 9
8 AM - 12 PM

SALE
DECEMBER 10
9:15 - 10:15 AM

The Scandinavian Cookie Bake is a wonderful time to gather together for conversation and, of course, cookies! Whether you grew up making krumkake or have never tried it before, all are invited to partake in the cultural heritage of OLSL. Don your apron and join for prep at 8 AM or baking starting at 8:30 AM. Afterwards, enjoy lunch and fellowship.

Cookies will be sold in between worship services on December 10. Choose from a selection of your favorite Scandinavian treats - including luse!

SIGN UP TO BAKE!

All cookie sales will be supporting the OLSL youth for their trip to the New Orleans 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering from July 16 -20.

YOUTH COOKIE WALK DECEMBER 10 FOLLOWING CONCERT

After the final applause of the Christmas Concert, ready your treat bags and select your favorite cookies to take home. There will be something for everyone, all lovingly baked by the youth group, congregation members, and leaders. There may even be a chance to get the last of the Scandinavian cookies!



MAKE MUSICAL MEMORIES

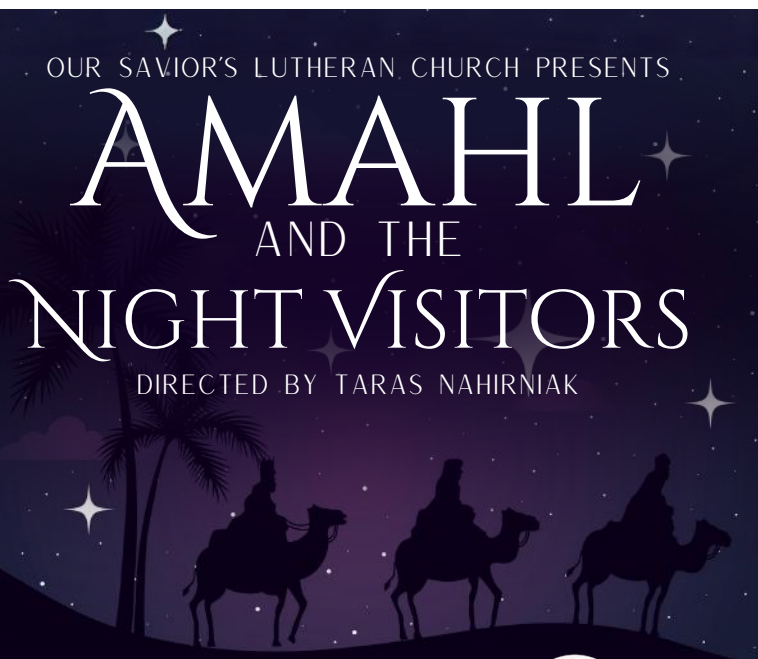
WITH THESE SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES


OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESENTS

AM AHL

AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

DIRECTED BY TARAS NAHIRNIAK



DONATIONS SUPPORTING 

"AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS" MUSICAL

DECEMBER 3

3 PM

Families and guests of all ages are invited to enjoy the enchanting tale of a young child who meets the Magi. Free will donations will be collected to support Family Promise of Waukesha County.

You won't want to miss this exciting Christmas musical experience!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

DECEMBER 10

3 PM

Experience the story of Christmas through the lens of music as the Alleluia Choir, Rhondo Jubilate Bell Choir, Praise Band, and more perform for the annual Christmas Concert. Free will donations will be collected for the music program.

Stay after the concert for a cookie walk supporting the OSLC youth ministry! Learn more on page 4.

"Our annual traditions center around Christmas time. We start the season off by bringing both grandmas to the Christmas concert and the children's Christmas pageant. We've built our entire Christmas Eve tradition at home around the services by attending church and then driving around looking at Christmas lights before heading home to enjoy a family meal."

- Molly Neumann



SPECIAL SERVICES

BLUE CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 5

6:30 PM

For many, the holidays can be a difficult and lonely time. The Blue Christmas service provides a space for people struggling with health issues, loss of a loved one, loss of a job, or feelings of sadness or depression to come together and find peace. It is a candlelight service with music, scripture, and a comforting message.

You are invited to come be supported and build community as we seek hope and healing together.

"It is a time and a place to acknowledge your true feelings of grief, sadness, and isolation, and to know you are not alone. It's a place for your reality to be honored."

- Blue Christmas attendee

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

DECEMBER 17

10:30 AM

Join us for a delightful performance from kids in Sunday Bible School at the annual Christmas Pageant.

This year's program is "Beneath a Shining Star":

"It's dress rehearsal time for this year's pageant, and the Stage Manager is a taskmaster making sure the cast is in great shape for the performance. They're all here... angels, animals, shepherds, and stars. But the one thing missing is the true meaning of Christmas. Enter stage left: Mary, Joseph, and the Child in the manger for a warm reminder of that first Christmas night."

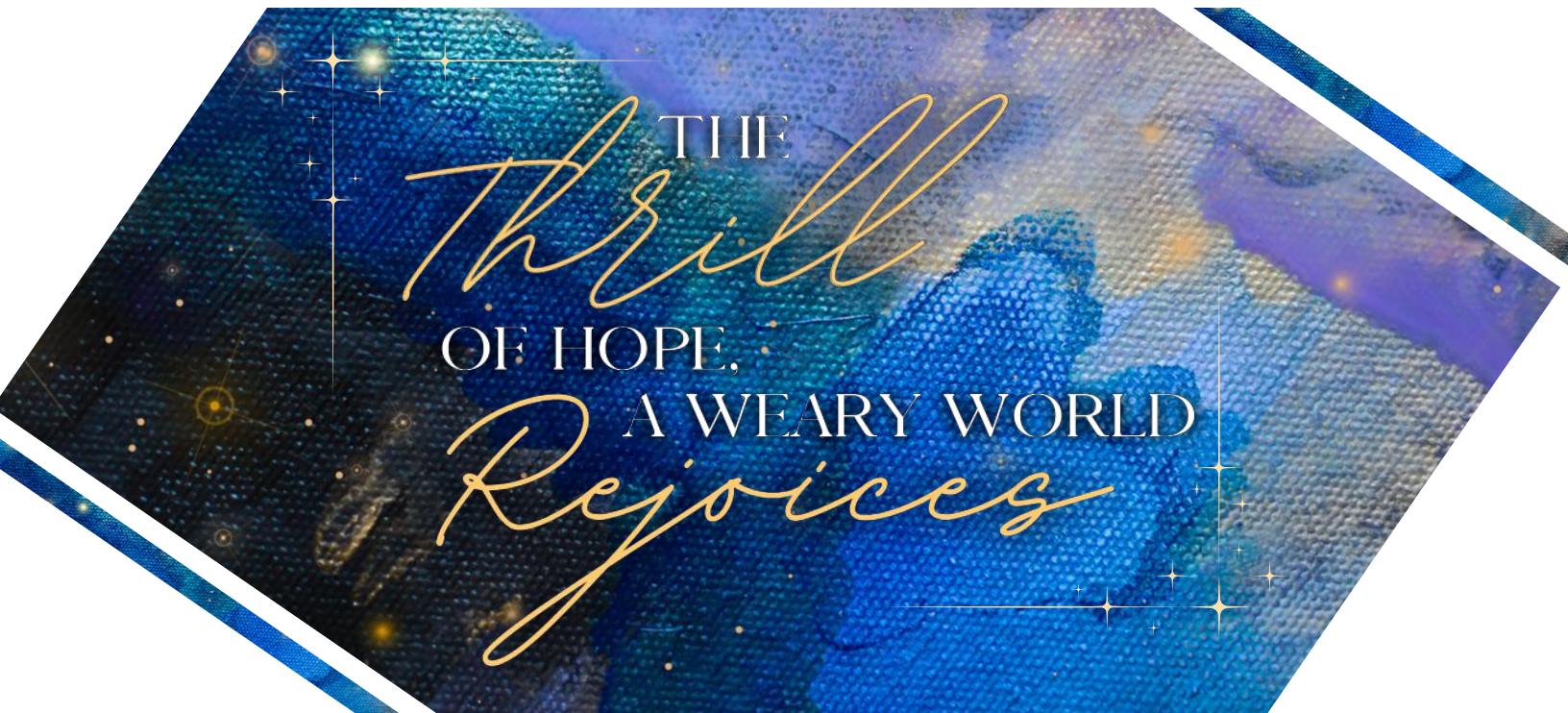


Mission Possible

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE

On October 8, 2023, Mission Possible welcomed Aaric Guerriero, a transgender Latinx man and advocate for LGBTQ+ inclusion, to present an educational talk on how we can love the LGBTQ+ community here at Our Savior's. We learned some of the terms and identities within the community and heard Aaric's story of life and faith. If you would like to hear the message or get involved in the work of Mission Possible, reach out to Cherri Schleicher at caschleicher@gmail.com.

"One of my favorite Christmas carols is "O Holy Night." I love that song so much because there's that line in it, 'in His name all oppression shall cease' ... The work that you all are doing here at Our Savior's really helps enforce that, and it really helps show what it means truly to be a Christian, which to me means **love unconditionally, to withhold judgment, to connect, and see the value of humanity in every single person.** That's truly what I believe my faith has led me to do and what working with you all has confirmed for me."
- Aaric Guerriero



ADVENT

AT OSLC

All are invited to await the coming of Christ this Advent with the worship series, "The Thrill of Hope, A Weary World Rejoices." We will explore hope, peace, joy, and love through the lens of the beloved hymn, "O Holy Night."

Join us starting on November 26 for Advent worship at 8 & 10:30 AM.

Light OF THE World

CHRISTMAS AT OUR SAVIOR'S

Christmas is truly a season of light. Along with light shows, tree decorations, and twinkling city lights, the richness of the season brings a time of giving and receiving, a time of hope, and a time of joy.

Come celebrate at Our Savior's with special Christmas services that include candlelight, your favorite hymns, and the gift of light coming down from heaven in Jesus.

Gather for Lessons & Carols on Christmas Eve morning at 9 AM. Families will enjoy the 3 & 5 PM services with a special message for kids and your favorite Christmas carols led by the Praise Band. At 8 PM, we will hear beautiful performances from the Alleluia Choir as we head into the night. The next morning, join us at 9 AM to celebrate Christmas Day.

DECEMBER 24 | 9 AM • 3 PM • 5 PM • 8 PM
DECEMBER 25 | 9 AM

**ENJOY CANDELIGHT
AT EVERY
CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICE**



In this season, consider inviting those around you who might be alone or looking for a place to worship to come and experience the holidays with our faith community.

If you are traveling, we wish you well and Godspeed as you gather with God's people wherever you may be.

CHRISTMAS GIVING

Share the joy of Christmas

Christmas is a season of giving. We give and receive gifts from friends and family: the people we love. This season, let's grow our circle of loved ones and give to people experiencing need.

An offering envelope is enclosed to further the the mission and ministry of Our Savior's, including support of partnership ministries locally and globally. Together, we share the love of Christ to transform lives.



REFORMATION GIFT DRIVE

NOV. 16 - DEC. 10

Every year, Reformation Lutheran Church invites parents to come to Reformation and pick out toys and other gifts for their children, ages infant to teenagers. Here at OSLC, we collect gifts to contribute.

[GIFT WISHLIST](#)



MT. MERU COFFEE

As you begin your Christmas shopping, consider the gift of Mt. Meru Coffee. When you purchase this delicious coffee, you give Tanzanian coffee farmers the resources to support their families and grow their potential. Visit Holy Grounds to purchase from Our Savior's Mt. Meru selection or to place an order.

[ORDER FORM](#)



POINSETTIAS FOR THE PARTNERSHIP

NOV. 26 - DEC. 10

Spread holiday cheer with a beautiful poinsettia! Choose from a variety of poinsettias to give as a gift or to decorate the church for Christmas. All proceeds will be given to the Kikatiti and Kitefu parishes.



BIG FIVE TANZANIA SILENT AUCTION

NOV. 29 - DEC. 10

New this year, the Gallery has been filled with stunning artwork and photography up for auction. Sales will support scholarships for students at Kikatiti Secondary School through Big Five Tanzania. Walk through the display and place your bids!

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GET IN TOUCH WITH THE OFFICE
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WORSHIP WITH US

Sundays

8 AM Traditional

9:15 AM Kids

10:30 AM Praise

Wednesdays

6:30 PM Youth

Saturdays

5 PM Traditional

**Services subject to change during Advent.*

CONNECT ONLINE



church center



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Our Savior's Lutheran
Church Oconomowoc



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

145 E Lisbon Rd
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Christmas is a time to celebrate, gather together, and of course, bake Scandinavian cookies! Check out everything happening at OSLC this Christmas season inside.