Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Stanwood, Washington

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October 21, 2021 – Congregational Letter #29 Dear Friends and Members of Our Saviour's;

A thought for the day:

Some potential super-charged storms are headed our way this weekend. We are also losing 2 minutes of daylight every day. I'm sure you can feel it! But, I also hope you are noticing the incredible colors of fall surrounding us. The brilliant red, orange, and yellow leaves changing colors are amazing. So also, our sunrises lately have been breathtaking to behold. This morning, God's masterpiece, stroked across the sky was one in a million. The light broke through the clouds and illuminated the sky with the same brilliant reds, oranges, and yellows. While we will never see this masterpiece again, by God's endless grace, more beautiful morning sunrises await us. Even as the darkness grows, and the winds blow, and yes, we will watch all those beautiful leaves fall to the ground, the words of the Apostle John, will remain and will never fall away.

"The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not (nor shall ever) overcome it." (John 1:5)

Other newsy items for the day:

This Sunday, October 24^{th} , 6:00-8:00 pm. – "Men's Ministry GetTogether"

All the men of Our Saviour's are invited to come to church Sunday for

1. **Dinner**, 2. **Conversation about Future Plans and Events**, and 3. An amazing **message by Louie Giglio**.

We are going to talk about having some men's events that will include all our men - both working men and retired men – young and old – inside and outside our church. We will also be talking about events in which we can invite our

community. Join us Sunday night – it will be a great time to connect with other guys in the church.

Sunday, October 31st, "Reformation and Confirmation Day".

At both services, we will be celebrating Martin Luther's effect upon the church, centering upon Jesus Christ and God's grace bestowed upon us through Him. At the 10:30 a.m. service – we will be celebrating three youth publicly professing their faith in Jesus Christ. Join us for this great celebration!

Sunday, November 7th, "All Saints Day"

Over the years, we have shared pictures of friends and loved ones who have passed away, during the worship services on All Saint's Sunday. If you have anyone you would like to remember on that day, please contact the office, and/or send their picture with their information. Typically, we focus upon those who have passed away in the last year. But since we were unable to do this last year – we'd like to remember anyone who died in the last 2 plus years.

Sunday, November 14th, 9:30 a.m. - "2022 Annual Church Budget Forum/Discussion"

Between services, at 9:30 a.m., we will gather in the Fellowship Hall to pass out the proposed 2022 Annual Budget and have time to address questions, thoughts and comments.

Sunday, November 21st, 9:30 a.m. – "Congregational Annual Meeting – Part 1"

Between services, at 9:30 a.m. – we will gather for the first of two congregational meetings. We will vote on the 2022 Church Budget, elect New Council Members, and address any other church business, information and/or questions. We hope that all our members will attend as we look to the future, beyond the pandemic, and prayerfully, point to the mission God has called us to. This is a very exciting time in the life of Our Saviour's. Worship is growing. New visitors are joining. Ministry is spreading. If you are not feeling it – draw near – and we will all draw near to you and all of us to the Lord.

Wednesday, November 24th, 7:00 p.m. - "Thanksgiving Eve Service/Pie Social"

Yes, we will worship this year on Thanksgiving Eve and yes, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall after the service for our "pie social". Yes, it is a beautiful time to pause and give God thanks for all our blessings. We will share Holy Communion together. I hope you will join us.

If you are able to bring a pie to share, please bring it to the kitchen before the service.

Let's end where we began. A thought for EVERY DAY:

As the darkness moves over us for a time, keep your eyes upon the LIGHT! JESUS ALWAYS APPEARS and IS WITH US TO CONQUER EVERY DARK STORM!

IN HIS LIVING COLOR, Pastor Mark