

Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News



For December 29, 2024

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 12/29/24—1/4/25

SUNDAY John 1:1-18
MONDAY Luke 2:21-52
TUESDAY John 1:19-34
WEDNESDAY Philippians 1:1-30
THURSDAY Philippians 2:1-30
FRIDAY Philippians 3:1-21
SATURDAY Philippians 4:1-23

OSLC Address: 401 2nd Street SE, PO Box 195, Sebeka MN 56477

Balsamlund Lutheran Church Address: 19550 490th St, Aldrich MN 56434

OSLC Email: oslcelca@wcta.net

OSLC Office: 218-837-5831

Janet Eckman SAM Email: jre227@yahoo.com

OSLC Website: www.oslcsebeka.org

OSLC WEEKLY CALENDAR

12/29/24 First Sunday After Christmas

9am Fellowship

No Sunday School

10am Worship

1/1/25 Wednesday New Years Day

-Office closed-

All meetings are rescheduled.

1/5/25 Second Sunday of Christmas

9am Fellowship

9am Sunday School

10am Worship / Holy Communion



BALSAMLUND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If you know of someone who would like a visitation, please let the office or Janet Eckman SAM know and we will accommodate the request in the best possible way.

Confirmation Class is every 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm-7:30pm in the church basement.

OSLC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fellowship Hall Reservations: Every first Sunday of the month, at 4pm, is reserved for the 4H; December 14, 10:45am for Sunday School Program Practice; December 28, 8am-4pm for a private family function; Jan 26, 2025, 12:30pm-4pm for 4H.

Stress-free giving is here! VANCO! It is an electronic automatic online offering method available to all who have a bank account. Simply fill out a form (ask Rita) along with a voided check and return it to the office to get processed. No cost to sign-up & forms are free. It's simple and efficient.

Please have all reports for the February 9th annual meeting into the office by January 24th.

Sign-up calendar for January 2025 coffee servers and ushers is on the table in the fellowship hall.

For any changes to service times or activities due to inclement weather or last minute changes, please watch our Facebook page and we will also update the church answering machine.

Lyrics to "Mary Did You Know?"

*Mary did you know that your baby boy will some day walk on water?
Mary did you know that your baby boy will save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver you.
Mary did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?
And when your kiss your little baby, you have kissed the face of God.
Oh, Mary did you know?
The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak, the praises of the lamb.
Mary did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?
This sleeping child you're holding is the great I am.
Mary did you know*

"Mary Did You Know" is one of the few Christmas classics that was written in the last few decades. Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene wrote the popular Christmas song in 1984. Lowry wrote the lyrics and Greene the music. The song's lyrics wonder if Jesus' mother could grasp the incredible power that was held in her tiny newborn.

"But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.' ... The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God'" ([Luke 1:30-33](#), 35).

In the words of the author, Mark Lowry, "As my mind went back to the manger scene, I began to think about the power, authority and majesty she cradled in her arms. Those little lips were the same lips that had spoken worlds into existence. All of those things were contained in the young child lying quietly on her bosom. Even now, he was the very one who had given life to his mother, Mary. Extraordinary!"

The above is taken from excerpts of an article written by [Kristi Walker](#).

I believe Mary did know so some of the answers to these rhetorical questions are "yes". However Mary was human as such probably questioned many of the things asked of her but was still willing to follow her calling by God.

Merry Christmas

In Faith,
Janet Eckman
Synod Authorized Minister