

Our Savior's Reaching Out

February 2011

March Madness: Food Drive Challenge

Last year, Our Saviorø extended an invitation to First English Lutheran to see which congregation could gather the most food for our local food shelf. Food piled high in both of our churches and each week the number of pounds and dollars grew. In a sprint to the finish First English managed to pull out a win being named the Superhero of hunger for 2010. But a new year has arrived and a new challenge. Once again I stopped by First English and threw down the gauntlet asking for a rematch. With a bit of hesitation, Pastor Mike readily agreed that together we would battle it out in an effort to feed the hungry. Beginning March 1st and ending on March 31st we will be collecting food for our Food Drive Challenge. We hope you will join us in this effort! Pastor Joanna

Becoming a Book of Faith Congregation

Our Saviorø has recently become a Book of Faith Congregation. You may be asking yourself, "What does this mean?" In the past few years the ELCA has been making an effort to get Lutherans to read the bible. The Bible is our *Book of Faith*. It is the central story of what God has been doing in the world since the dawning of creation and how God has worked through his people and has saved us through Jesus Christ. In becoming a *Book of Faith Congregation*, we are committing ourselves to dwell in the word of God. If you are looking for something else to aid you in spiritual growth consider reading a daily devotion provided through the Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

<http://semnsynod.org/BOF/devotions.html>

Finally I invite you to share your favorite bible stories with us. You will find in your bulletin an insert that asks you for your favorite bible story. Please tell us the story, where we can read it in our bibles and why it's your favorite.

Here is my favorite bible story: Alright I confess I am not sure I have a favorite bible story. But a story that often speaks to me is the story of Jacob wrestling with God down by the River Jabbok (Genesis 32:22-32). The first time I really paid attention to this story was when I had to write a paper on it for college. I found it intriguing trying to figure out was Jacob wrestling an angel or God. Throughout the years I have continued to reflect on this passage and although it doesn't say precisely who it is- I believe that this wrestling match is one between Jacob and God. Here Jacob stands at a difficult moment in his life. He is about to encounter his betrayed brother and he is running away from his father-in-law. On the banks of the river, Jacob wrestles to find direction for his life. All night he wrestles with God searching for answers till at last he is asked his name. Jacob in this moment confesses the truth of who he is- a person who has lied and cheated. But God sees something more in Jacob, he sees someone with determination, someone who has wrestled with God. God gives him a new name Israel- because he has striven with God and with humans and prevailed.

My faith has always been filled with questions- questions about the dark times in our world and where God's presence is in all of it. Throughout the years I have realized that as I wrestle with these questions that I am not alone, but God is there wrestling too. This indeed is one of the many ways God has blessed me.

Pastor Joanna

CAFÉ MIDWEEK

February Menu

February 2 - Beef and Chicken Tacos
February 9 - Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
February 16 - BBQ Pork Sandwiches
February 23 - Sloppy Joes

Serving is from 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Cost is \$3.00/person with a family maximum of \$15.00.

Join us in the All Purpose Room for great food and fellowship!

Facts and Figures for December 2010

	(Actual)	(Budget)
Dec. Offering	\$91,852	\$66,430
Dec. Expenses	\$54,645	\$57,995
YTD Offering	\$640,376	\$669,430
YTD Expenses	\$651,995	\$669,023

YTD Offerings for 2010 were \$29,053 below budget, and YTD Expenses for 2010 were \$17,027 under budget. Thank you to everyone who helped reduce our 2010 deficit by making an additional contribution by year end. During these difficult economic times we thank everyone for their continued support of the ministries of Our Savior's Lutheran. Thank you to the Staff and Church Council for their careful management of expenses.

Lamplighter's February Meeting
February 1
12:00pm
in the All Purpose Room

The Our Savior's Staff will be treating the Lamplighters to our Annual Valentine Lunch and Program.

The regular business meeting will follow the lunch and program.

Baptisms

January 2, 2011

**Evan Jaxon Halverson
son of
Corrinne and Jeremy Halverson.**

January 9, 2011

**Payton Jessica Wuotila
daughter of
Molly Jo Wuotila and Jessica Sue Mueller.**

Welcome to the family little ones!

Our Sympathy to:

**Dorothy Dejong-Jarvis and Jeff Jarvis
in the death of Dorothy's mother,
Marcine Dejong.**

**Rick and Joyce Elsen
in the death of Rick's mother,
Helen Elsen.**

May the promise of resurrection into eternal life give you much hope and comfort in this time of loss.

Crossways Bible Study

Continues in February

Study of Section 6 (The New Testament Letters and Revelation) continues in February. The class is led by Pastors Steve Delzer and Joanna Mitchell, and meets on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30pm, in Classroom D-4 (across from the Children's Ministry office).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lesson</u>
Feb. 2	NO CLASS
Feb. 9	NO CLASS
Feb. 16	Unit 58: Hebrews
Feb. 23	Unit 59: 1 & 2 Peter; James; Jude
March 2	Unit 60: Revelation

Celebrating 100 Years of the Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

A group is forming from the congregations of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod to join our partners in the Central Diocese of Tanzania for the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the beginning of the Lutheran Church. Approximate dates of the trip are December 1-16, 2011, pending air travel arrangements. The estimated cost is \$3,000-\$3,500. A \$500 deposit is due by April 30, 2011 to the synod office. Participants will need a current US Passport, entry visa, and medical immunizations prior to the trip. For more information, contact Rev. Craig Breimhorst clc@christonthehill.org or Facebook:search "Craig Breimhorst"

Pre-Marriage Classes

Sunday, February 6 & 13

12:00-1:00pm

All couples who are planning to be married at Our Savior's must attend these classes. We take a look at what the Bible has to say about marriage and relationships. We also read and discuss the book, *Be Good To Each Other*. These classes are led by Pastor Steve Delzer. Please contact the church office to register (331-2276).

Turkey & Greece in 2012:

In Biblical Times, they were known as Asia Minor and Greece; today we know them as Turkey and Greece. They were destinations of the Apostle Paul in the first century of the Christian era. The letters to the Galatians and Ephesians were directed to Christians in Asia Minor. The seven churches named in Chapters 1-2 of the Book of Revelation were in Asia Minor. In Greece, Paul played a significant role in establishing churches in a number of places, including Corinth. In late April 2012, Pastor Steve Delzer and Pastor Craig Breimhort will co-lead a teaching tour to Turkey and Greece. This is a unique opportunity to travel with others from our community to these countries rich in the history of the early Christian church. Contact Pastor Steve Delzer at 507-331-2276 or Pastor Craig Breimhorst at 507-334-882.

What's happening in the Library?

You may be wondering what's going on with the Our Savior's library. There have been book tables out in the Narthex and many of the books from the library have either been placed in the chapel or given away. We are in the midst of a library renovation project. Over the past decade Our Savior's library has had minimal use. Many books have not been checked out at all and so Pastor Steve and I asked a small group to assist us in reorganizing our library. In a few weeks there will be a short survey in our bulletin about our library. We hope you will take time to fill it out. In the meantime, please take a look at all the wonderful books that we are giving away. Go to the chapel with your kids or grandkids and check out some videos and books on faith. Hopefully you will find something that interests you. Also, while we greatly appreciate the book donations that have been given to Our Savior's, because of our current situation we are no longer accepting new or used books for our library. Thank you!

Stephen's Ministry

Last year 4 individuals went through training to be a Stephen's Minister. These individuals are trained with skills in listening and walking with people during difficult times. If you are lonely, grieving, or experiencing a transition in your life please consider having a Stephen's Minister. Please contact Pastor Joanna Mitchell with any questions and more Information.

Passion of Christ:

During Lent this year we will be following the footsteps of Jesus to the cross. Our Wednesday evening church school will include dramas, as well as family discussions on various scenes of the passion. If you are willing to help with acting or leading a small group table discussion, or even constructing a scene please let Pastor Joanna know. We could use your help. Thank you!

Good Earth Village

Summer Camp Opportunity

Join Pastor Joanna for a wonderful week of outdoor ministry. If you have kids who will have completed 3rd-9th grade who are looking for a summer adventure consider sending them to camp at Good Earth Village. July 17th-July 22nd- Pastor Joanna along with leaders from First English Lutheran Church and Christ Lutheran will be teaming up and taking a Faribault Group to Good Earth Village. There are a variety of different camping opportunities.

- 3rd and 4th grades will participate in the Pathfinders program. They will stay at the Hilltop cabins all week and eat meals prepared in the kitchen.
- 5th and 6th graders will participate in the Pioneer Program. This is a more rustic program where kids will stay in Old Town with no electricity they will cook their meals over an open fire.
- 7th-9th Graders will participate in the Explorer Program staying in covered wagons and preparing meals over an open fire.

Each group will participate in hiking, bible study, worship and more. There are brochures outside of Kira Anderson's office. Our congregation is a member of Good Earth Village. You should register through Good Earth Village but please let me know if you are signing up so I will have an idea of how many Our Savior's kids are participating. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Joanna. I'd be happy to talk with you about this great opportunity.

We will still have Day Camp with Good Earth Village for our 1st through 5th graders. Day Camp will be held June 13-16 here at Our Savior's.

Children's Ministry

February - PCF Event

All 3rd-5th graders are invited to a Valentine's Day party on Friday February 11, 2011 from 6:00 - 7:30pm in the All Purpose Room and Chapel. The cost will be \$5.00 per person. We will be having pizza and making a craft and playing BINGO. Please RSVP to Kira Anderson kira@oursaviorsfbo.org by February 2nd so we have enough time to order crafts.

March- Rainbow Connection Event

All kindergarten through 2nd grade students are invited to join Kira Anderson for bowling at the Bowling Center/Bashers on Sunday, March 13th from 1:00 to 2:00 PM. Please sign-up via a phone call or email Kira at kira@oursaviorsfbo.org so that we know how many lanes to reserve. Cost is \$5 per student which will cover bowling shoes and 1 game. If your child would like to eat food please send money with him/her.

Mark your calendars:

4th Grade

1st Communion Dates

Our 4th grade students will be receiving 1st Holy Communion on Sunday, February 20th at the 10:45am service. Mandatory instruction classes will be held on January 26th, February 9th and 16th at 6:15 PM.

Detailed information has been

emailed to all of the families. Please contact Kira Anderson or Pastor Joanna Mitchell with any additional questions.

Stepping Stone:

2nd Grade Pretzels and Prayer

In early March our 2nd graders and their parents are invited to participate in our prayer stepping stone. During our regular Christian education time, 2nd graders and their parents will gather in the all-purpose room to explore many different aspects of prayer. We will also make pretzels together (the pretzel are made in the shape of a prayer position). Classes will be on March 2nd from 6:15-7:30pm for Wednesday school students and on Sunday March 6th from 8:30 until 9:30 am.

Lent

We will not be having a spring program this year. In place of the program Pastor Joanna is going to lead 1st-8th grade in the story of the Passion covering; The Lord's Supper, The Garden of Gethsemane, The Denial, The Arrest and Trial, and the Crucifixion. The sessions will begin March 9th and continue through April 17th. We invite all parents to come each Wednesday evening (6:15-7:15pm) to learn alongside their children. We encourage our Sunday School families to attend on Wednesday so they get the full effect of the story with the larger group.

February Volunteers

Ushers

Team 5

8:30

Scott Finstuen ©
Colin Johnson
Al & Vicki Matzke
Loren & Marlene Balken
Ken Hubert
Cheryl Sterling
Gary Peterson

10:45

Don Ward ©
Paul Quandt
Stephen & Desta Ecker
Harry & Sharon Dell
Dan & Karen Rasmussen

Readers

February 6
February 13
February 20
February 27

8:30

Martin Ahlman
Pat Otis
John Currie
Shirley Currie

10:45

Julie Nordmeier
Peggy Paulson
Lisa Quimby
Rick Bartness

Brew Master Ministry

February 6
February 13
February 20
February 27

Ron & Mariann Goettsch
Rita & Dennis Wunderlich
Ellen Bisping
Ray & Linda Wood

Nursery

February 6
February 13
February 20
February 27

8:30

Pat & Farryl Kluis
Penny Bauer & Rachelle Caldwell
Hannah Bokelman &
Morgan Hanegraaf
Greg Boyd & Anne Pientka

10:45

Osborne Family
Melissa Zellmer & Ryan Borka
Hedenstrom Family
Becki Bender & Lab Leng

Welcome Center Greeters

February 6	8:30 Buzz & Nancy Kornmann	10:45 Pat Otis
February 13	Kandi & Mark Lindenberg	Ron & Barb Brown
February 20	Lyle & Ruth Olson	Jane Hale
February 27	Andy & Viv Anderson	Deb & Andy Broughton

Attention Welcome Center Greeters: We would like to place the greeters in the new narthex behind or by the Welcome Counter. This will give the greeters a central place for new people to find them for information and to welcome them to Our Savior $\text{\textcircled{c}}$ as they enter the church building. Please be at the Welcome Counter 15 min. before service and right after service for about 15 min. Thank you.

Communion February 6 & 20

Comm. Prep Servers	8:30 Arvid & Pat Mensing Marv & Mary Tatge John & Shirley Currie Betty Lou Ahlman Martin Ahlman Ellen Bisping	10:45 Ted & Corinne Thompson Ron & Barb Brown (20) Dave Borka Linda Mueller Joyce Elsen Dorothy Sampson Jan & Shirley Luikens (6)
---------------------------	--	---

Cantor

February 6	Brad Haugen
February 13	None Needed
February 20	Our Savior $\text{\textcircled{c}}$ Singers
February 27	None Needed

Tech & Sound Team

Sound & Lights / Media Shout

Sound & Lights / Media Shout

February 6	8:30 Dick Johnson / Dick Lawson	10:45 Jeff Mitchell / Dick Lawson
February 13	Roger Meyer / Dick Lawson	Roger Meyer / Dick Lawson
February 20	Dick Johnson / Ken Butzow	Dick Johnson / Ken Butzow
February 27	Steve Jameson / Dick Lawson	Steve Jameson / Dick Lawson

