

Our Savior's Reaching Out

August—September 2011

**New Sunday Schedule
Starting September 11, 2011**

- **8:30 am Traditional Worship**
 - **9:30 am Education Hour**
- **10:30 am Contemporary Worship**
 - **1:00 pm Sudanese Worship**

The Bible God's Story, Our Story

In Worship, Bible Study and in our Children's Ministry program, people of all ages are invited to explore the Biblical Story. Bring your Bible and join us as we see how the great stories of our faith connect with our stories of today.

Themes for September

September 11th : Introduction and Creation
September 18th: Abraham and Sarah
September 25th: Joseph in Egypt

Café Midweek September Menu

September 14 - Sloppy Joes
September 21 - Pizza
September 28 - Beef and Chicken Tacos

Serving will be from 5:00-6:15pm
Cost is \$3.00/person with a family maximum of \$15.00

**Invite your friends and family to join us at Café Midweek
each Wednesday Night for great food and fellowship!**

Financial Report

Facts and Figures for June and July

	(Actual)	(Budget)
June Offering	\$42,867	\$48,000
June Expenses	\$53,399	\$61,127
July Offering	\$56,481	\$49,000
July Expenses	\$57,344	\$52,189
YTD Offering	\$351,671	\$367,500
YTD Expenses	\$381,305	\$390,602

Offerings for June were \$5134 below budget, and June Expenses were \$7,728 below budget.

Offering in July were \$7481 over budget and July expenses were \$5155 over budget.

Year To Date offerings are \$15,829 below budget and expenses are \$9,297 below budget.

Thank you to the Staff and Church Council for their careful management of expenses.

Please remember the importance of your regular contributions. Note that your offering envelopes can also be used to mail in your contributions when you are away. If you are interested in electronic giving please call Georganne in the church office (331-2276).

Weddings

July 9, 2011

Brandon Degen and Kristian Schulz.

July 30,

Taylor Hatfield and Sarah Borka.

Congratulations and God's Blessings as they begin their new life together!

Baptisms

July 3, 2011

Braden James Hale
son of Rebekah Hale.

July 10, 2011

Skylar Lynn and Faith Leigh Miller
daughters of
Michele Kreger and Brian Miller.

July 17, 2011

Violet Ann Butchert
daughter of Amy and Nicholas Butchert.

July 24, 2011

Addison Rose Pakiz
daughter of Kaysie and Todd Pakiz.

Sean Reed Lind

son of Chelsie and Darrin Lind.

July 31, 2011

Kenzie Paige Pasell
daughter of Karlie and Nolan Pasell.

August 14, 2011

Brianna Ray Chavis
daughter of
Krista and Jeremy Chavis.

Welcome to the family little one!

Our Sympathy To:

Marcia Michaelson and Jennifer Kanne
in the death of Gordon Michaelson.

Steve and Cindy Griesert
in the death of Steve's mother,
Dorothy Griesert.

Wal Reat
in the death of his uncle,
Choul Yol.

Pam and Andrew St. Martin
in the death of
Lawrence St. Martin.

Sheryl and Larry Preble
in the death of Sheryl's father,
Willard Schmidt.

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

**We welcome Tim Slinger
to the Our Savior's Staff.**

Tim joined our staff on July 1st as an Intern/Assistant Youth Director. Tim will be working closely with Brad Hutchison in our Youth Ministry program, assisting with ministry to High School, Middle School, and Confirmation students. Tim is presently pursuing the possibility of earning a degree in Youth Ministry. Please extend your personal welcome to Tim and keep him in your prayers as he participates in the Youth Ministry of Our Savior's.

Thank you for your prayers and contributions in support of the Mission Trip to Ethiopia and South Sudan that Wal Reat and I made in June. Although things did not work out as we had planned (we were not able to travel to South Sudan), we were still able to spend time with the six students at the Jak Jordan Bible School in Gambella, Ethiopia. While there we participated in a brief re-celebration of their graduation, spent one day providing them with additional training, and celebrated their Commissioning as Lay Ministers of their churches in South Sudan. All along the way God provided what was needed when it was needed and kept us safe. There are two photos of the students on the kiosk in the Narthex at Church – one from their Graduation and one from their Commissioning. I especially want to thank you for surrounding us with your prayers during this trip. May God bless you as you continue to support the spreading of the Gospel in Faribault and in South Sudan. – Pastor Steve Delzer

Pastor Steve's Run for Ruth's House will be a bit different this year. Pastor Steve will be forming a team of four runners (one of whom is Pastor Steve) who will run a Marathon Relay in Mankato on Saturday, October 22. The total distance is still 26.2 miles. The difference is that each of the team members will run one quarter (about 6.5 miles) of the relay. This change is primarily due to Pastor Steve's discovery that he has arthritis in his left hip and low back, making it difficult (if not impossible) to run a full marathon. He does, however, still want to continue this annual event as a benefit for the ministry of Ruth's House. Pastor Joanna is also planning to form a team of four runners to run the Marathon Relay in Mankato. And there may be others who would be interested in forming a team of four runners. If you are interested in forming a team, please contact Pastor Steve (email: shdelzer@yahoo.com or phone: 331-2276). Maybe we can even have a "friendly competition" among the teams to see who can raise the most money for Ruth's House!

New Fall Sunday Morning Schedule Begins on Sunday, September 11

8:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship

9:30 a.m.- Education Hour for all ages

10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship

There will not be Sunday School during the early (8:30) Traditional Worship Service. Instead, Sunday School will be during the Education Hour from 9:30-10:30. During the Education Hour there will also be Education classes and Fellowship time for both teens and adults. The late (10:30) Contemporary Worship Service will begin 15 minutes earlier than in past years. These changes come as the result of extensive discussions with several members of the congregation, the staff, and the Church Council. The goal of these changes is to provide the opportunity for families to worship together on Sunday mornings and also participate in Christian Education. It is our hope that all members will commit to two hours on Sunday mornings for Worship and Education/Fellowship.

Sermon Series on the Biblical Narrative

Year after year we hear many of the same stories in church. Most of these stories tell of Jesus' time on earth, his teachings and the story of his death and resurrection. Jesus' story is called the Gospel- it is the good news of God's mercy and love. It is the most important story in our life and faith. There is a lot that happened since the creation of the world and the time when Jesus story. The Bible tells the story of God's relationship with humanity. This contains many joys and sorrows. There are moments of great faith like when Abraham left his home to follow God, and also moments of great disappointment like when the people of Israel failed to listen to God in the desert and had to wander for 40 years. We hope that you will join with us as we examine God's great story this fall as we study and preach our way through the Bible. Bring your Bible to church and read along with us.

Pre-Marriage Classes

Sunday, September 11 & 18

12:00-1:00pm

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

A Journey to Greece and Turkey with Rev. Steve Delzer and Rev. Craig Breimhorst

April 14-25, 2012

There will be an educational meeting on Monday, September 12, at 6:30pm, at Our Savior's. Registration is now open. You are encouraged to register for the trip as soon as possible since there are only 36 spaces available. To register complete the registration from inside the brochure available from Pastor Delzer or Pastor Breimhorst. Mail the registration form along with a \$500 per person deposit to CrossingBorders by September 19. Cost is \$4399 per person.

The Savior's Singers

With the start of the school year, activities at Our Savior's kick in as well. The Savior's Singers are ALWAYS looking for folks to join us in providing music during the year for the 8:30 service. Practice begins on August 31st at 7:30 in the Sanctuary. We would encourage you to join us in rehearsal and on Sunday Mornings. Singing adds much to the service and you can be a wonderful part of the festivities with your voice. Come and Sing!!

Education Hour

I am very excited about our Education Hour this year and believe it will give us a great opportunity to unite people in growing in faith through a variety of studies. During the education hour a number of things will be offered:

- **Sunday School for pre-school through 5th Grade-** (led by Children's Ministry Director Kira Anderson)
- **Class for teens** (led by youth director Brad Hutchison)
- **Women's Bible Study- *A Heart Like His*** (ongoing led by Kristen Koch and Lori Nelson). See more information in the right column.
- **The Greatest Story Bible Study:** Introduction to the Bible (led by Intern Don Kloster, Pastor Steve and Pastor Joanna starting September 11th) In this class participants will get an overview of the entire Bible. We will examine the whole story examining the biblical story and spending time discussing how this story relates to our own. We hope that you will consider joining this class. Please sign up by indicating on the yellow cards in worship or by calling the church office. This class will also follow along with our sermon series in worship.
- **Stepping Stone Classes**
 - September 18th- Kids in Worship
 - September 25th- Welcome to Church School and New Bible Class for 3 year olds
 - October 2nd, 9th, and 16th- 3rd Grade Bible
 - October 30th- Kids and Money (1st graders)
- November 6th- Play and Pray (4 year old)
- **New Member Classes** (6 week series led by Pastor Steve starting September 18th, see registration form included in the newsletter)
- **Marriage Classes** (starting in January 2012- 8 week series led by Pastor Joanna)

We also hope that if you don't join in a class that you will stick around and enjoy a time of fellowship with other people of the church.

If you have an idea for a class that is not being offered please let me know and I can help get something started.

Thank you!

Pastor Joanna

New Women's Bible Study:

A Heart like His:

Seek the Heart of God through a Study of David

by Beth Moore

Starting Fall 2011 during our Sunday Education Hour 9:30 am

Ladies, I hope you will consider being a part of a small group Bible Study on Sunday mornings. *A Heart Like His* has been a beloved Bible Study for women for a long time now. In it you will explore the story of King David and the relationship God shares with humanity. This bible study takes the participant through virtually every twist and turn of David's life as a shepherd, a refugee, and a king (introduction to the series).

Please sign up today! Contact Pastor Joanna Mitchell for more details.

Children's Ministry

Sunday and Wednesday School

There are families that have not turned in their registrations for Sunday or Wednesday school (3-year olds-5th grade) for the 2011-2012 school year, registration for students was due by August 15th, 2011.

If you have not returned a registration packet, you may do so in one of three ways.

- You may go to the church website (www.oursaviorsfbo.org) and fill in the form and email it to kira@oursaviorsfbo.org. Please drop off the \$5 fee (\$10 family max) at the church office.
- If you cannot email the form, you may print it off from your computer, fill it out and mail it in or drop it off at the church.
- If you cannot print, please stop by the church office for a pre-printed copy.

Please register your children as soon as possible to help those of us who plan for these programs to be ready for your child on the first day of class. If you are not attending, please let us know that as well so that we have accurate records for your family.

Volunteers

Volunteers are what make our Children's programs work here at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. We are still in need of nursery volunteers and teachers for our Wednesday and Sunday school program. Please contact Kira Anderson if you would like to volunteer for the 2011-2012 school year. My goal will be to have one adult in every classroom and a helper there to assist with everything that you do. If you would like to team teach with another adult and come up with your own volunteer schedule that would be great! Just let me know and I will still try to find a helper for the classroom.

Teacher and Volunteer Training

Training for all volunteers working with children this fall will be a little different this year. We will take time out of the first Sunday or Wednesday School classes and the teachers will go with Pastor Joanna to learn more about what you will be teaching this year. I think it is very important for the teachers to know exactly what will be going on throughout the year, so plan on coming the first day of class and we will go from there.

Fall Schedule for Church School

Sunday School

Each Sunday the kids (3 years through 5th Grade) will come together and meet in the Fire Works room. We will start our worship off at 9:30am with everyone singing songs together. Then we will break into age appropriate groups. (3 year olds through Kindergarten and 1st-5th). The kids will start by learning their Bible Story for the day through activity (if it is nice out, some of the kids might even head outside). Then re-group for the actual Bible Story. It will be told differently each week, either through volunteers acting, puppets, kids volunteering to act, or Big Book reading. Each week will be exciting and new, plus interactive! Then we will break into groups by age and do two more activities or crafts. You may pick your children up at 10:25am so you have time to get to the 10:30am service if you choose. Watch for your postcard in the mail to tell you what classroom your child will be in each week and who their teachers will be. This year the Sunday School kids will have the opportunity to sing in church about once a month. Watch for letters home with more information. Your child is not required to participate in singing at church, but the more kids we have the more fun everyone will have doing it!

Wednesday School

Each Wednesday the 1st-5th Graders will meet in the Fire Works room at 6:15pm. We will start each Worship together singing songs then break into age levels for a starter game/activity. This will get the energy going so the kids start learning their biblical lesson from the start. Then we will re-group to learn the Bible story for the evening. Most of the lessons will be the same as the Sunday lesson which will also be told through volunteers acting, puppets, kids volunteering to act, or Big Book reading. Then the kids will break up again into their age group for activities and more games that go along with the lesson for the day.

Christmas Program!!!!

This year the children's Christmas program will be "Chris-myth Busters" on December 18th at both services 8:30 & 10:30. In the Program Ethan has a new brother, Michael. Only Michael's not a cute bundle of joy. He's a pretty big kid, adopted, and a bit of an annoying Trivia buff. When Michael starts busting some myths about Christmas to Ethan's friends, it causes quite a stir. I am looking for kids in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade to play the parts of Ethan, Lily, Abby, Michael, & Mrs. Edwards. TRYOUTS- will be on September 21st at 5pm in the Fire Works room. Practices will be on Wednesday nights this year from 5pm-6pm. Their first rehearsal will be September 28th and be every week until the Program (December 18th). The kids will have time to eat dinner at Café Midweek or one brought from home before Wednesday School. There is one solo in the program, so if you think your child would be interested please let me know! There will be a dress rehearsal on Saturday December 17th at 9:00am in the Sanctuary.

Youth Blast

I will be taking a group of students in grades 3-6 to attend a 24-hour retreat at Good Earth Village. Students spend their time learning about God, playing games, going on hikes and having tons of fun! The retreat runs from 7 PM on Friday, October 7th to 4:30 PM on Saturday, October 8th in Spring Valley, MN. Cost is \$40 per student. Adult chaperones are FREE. Registration due by September 16th. Please contact Kira Anderson if you are interested.

Youth Ministry

Thanks for supporting our summer trips! Thank you to everyone for your continued support for the summer youth events. Your prayers and financial support have given the youth and a large number of leaders the opportunity to see and experience God at work in a number of ways. As we've done every year soon after school is out, we began the summer with a camping trip for Confirmation-age students. While some go for the first time with fear or reservations, many end up calling it the highlight of their summer. This is also true for the leaders who go. There is something about leaving cell phones and showers behind for a week that allows for God to move in some great ways. Even experiences like chasing a raccoon out of one of the tents can be something that builds relationships and makes us depend on one another.

In July and August we had two weeklong mission trips. The Middle School group went to Rapid City, SD. We served the area mostly through direct ministry to people who are different from us in some way. We visited the elderly in nursing homes and other adult care facilities, worked with mentally and physically handicapped adults, and also helped out with some programs for younger students.

The High School group took a l-o-n-g drive down to the Gulf Coast of Alabama. This week was split for everyone between helping run a Kidø Club and helping with building repair. Most came away from the week deciding it was easier working outside in the high heat and humidity doing home repair than it was working with the young kids. With the kids, many of us were stretched in knowing how to deal with those who simply refused to listen. Maybe some have come home with a new respect for their parents and teachers.

These trips are always a time of rejuvenation for me. It is a wonderful experience to see God working in the lives of so many youth and their leaders ó in spite of all of our own failures and inadequacies. We go on these mission trips with the intent of serving others, but I always return amazed at how God has worked to change and energize those of us who go, encouraging us in our following Jesus Christ. Thanks again for the opportunity to share these great experiences with your children and those of others in the congregation.

Brad Hutchison, Director of Youth Ministries

New Mentor Program for Confirmation Students

Rather than meeting in small groups this year for Confirmation we are starting a new mentoring program. All Confirmation students will be matched up one-on-one with an adult or older High School student. We kick off the program on Wednesday, September 14th at 6:15 with all students and their mentors meeting in the Chapel.

Parents are encouraged to participate, however we also believe that getting students connected with another person who can be a friend and a positive Christian influence is a great benefit. We are encouraging parents and students to choose this mentor themselves, but we also have volunteers available who are willing to invest their time into the life of one of these young students.

If you would like to volunteer and be paired up with one Middle School student for the year, please contact Brad Hutchison. Mentors will meet on Wednesday nights alongside the students for roughly half of the weeks that we get together ó including the first six weeks of the year.

Other Plans For The Fall

After the Confirmation and Children's Ministry programs end on Wednesday nights, we jump right into the WoW! (Worship on Wednesday) service at 7:30 in the Chapel. This is a celebration/worship time geared towards Middle School and High School students. The music tends to be a little loud and energetic, but I think God is calling many of us to be a bit louder and more energetic in how we live and share our faith. It is open to students and adults of all ages, and I hope everyone takes the opportunity to join us at some time.

We have multiple opportunities for High School students to stay involved, beginning with the WoW! service and our regular Youth Group time at 8PM on Wednesday nights in the Youth Room. We will be pushing High School students to commit to meeting together regularly, and if a group would prefer to do that at 6AM on a Monday morning or 9PM on a Friday night we will do what we can to help make that happen.

All Middle School and High School students are welcome to get together at the following times, and if you'd like to try meeting at any other time let Brad or Timmy know.

- The Sunday morning education hour between services ó we are not sure what this will look like right now. If you want to be involved or you have ideas for what we should do let us know.
- After the services (for lunch and maybe some football viewing) ó Come hang out after church with some food, or a little later to cheer on the Vikings or your fantasy football picks.

Meet Tim Slinger, Intern/Assistant Youth Director.

Fall is quickly approaching us and I would like to take this time to introduce myself before things get underway. My name is Tim Slinger I will be working with Brad this year and the youth program here at Our Savior's. My main focus will be running the high school youth group. I have been involved with the Our Savior's youth program for many years both as a student and now as an adult leader. I have a great passion for this program and am excited for this year. Here are some quick facts about who I am. I am the son of Randy and Jody Slinger. I have two brothers Matt and Bryan. I am currently in my fourth year in college and transferred to Crown College pursuing Christian Ministry. I have attended two previous institutions before Crown College; they are Central Lakes College and Mankato State University. I have explored many paths since high school with what I may want to do for a career. I felt like there was something more that I should be doing and I would always be drawn back to youth ministry. I have been blessed with this opportunity here at Our Savior's I truly believe this is what God may be calling me to pursue with my life. I am excited to continue growing in my faith and relationship with God while having the opportunity to share that with the youth. If you have any questions regarding my position or the path that I am taking the high school youth program do not hesitate to get in contact with me.

God Bless, Tim Slinger

