

Our Savior's Reaching Out

December 2011

Advent Worship Services

8:30 and 10:30 A.M. Services

1st Sunday in Advent

November 27th

“Into God’s Hands”

Music led by Proclaim!!!

Intern Don Kloster will be preaching

2nd Sunday in Advent

December 4th

“A Love That Saved The World”

Presented by Free Spirit

Narrated by Steve and Donita Delzer

On a still, silent night outside a small desert town, God’s gift of love, His only Son, Jesus Christ, came into the world. Christ’s entrance into this world began in the humble hearts of Mary and Joseph. The child in Mary’s arms was the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy. This story of the stable, and the star, the angels and the shepherds, the young mother laying her infant son on a bed of straw, is the opening chapter of God’s greatest story. It has the power to move us to tears, to amaze us with its mercy, to change our lives forever and in the end, to save us with unspeakable love.

3rd Sunday in Advent

December 11th

“Love Beyond All Loves”

Presented by Our Savior’s Singers

What kind of love would choose to step down from a throne to a lowly stable? Our Savior's Singers are delighted to celebrate Christmas singing of the boundless love of God in sending His Son into our world as a tiny baby. This "Love beyond all loves" brings light and hope to all on that dark and silent night in Bethlehem.

4th Sunday in Advent

December 18th

“Christ-myth Busters”

Presented by Our Sunday/Wednesday School Children

Ethan has a new brother, Michael. Only Michael’s not a cute bundle of joy. He’s a pretty big kid’s adopted’s 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. The other kids start to wonder; Were there more than three Wise Men? Was Jesus really born on December 25th? And what about the angels’s did they sing or not? Through it all, Michael learns that even though some facts about the very first Christmas might not be clear, the truth about why Jesus came is everywhere in Scripture.

Café Midweek December Menu

December 7- Pizza
December 14- Sloppy Joes
December 21 and 28 - No Meals (Holiday Break)

Serving will be from 5:00-6:15pm
Cost is \$3.00/person with a family maximum of \$15.00
Punch cards are now available.
20 punches for \$60.00 (can be used by individual or family)

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

Facts and Figures for October 2011

	(Actual)	(Budget)
Oct. Offering	\$62,545	\$59,500
Oct. Expenses	\$55,705	\$56,810
YTD Offering	\$508,822	\$542,500
YTD Expenses	\$543,055	\$558,099

Offerings in October were \$3045 above budget and October expenses were \$1105 under budget.

Year To Date offerings are \$33,678 below budget and expenses are \$15,043 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). **If you have fallen behind in your pledge please use the last weeks of 2011 to catch up. Thanks for your continued support of the ministry of Our Savior's.**

Fall Stewardship Program Update

As of November 22, **153** Financial Commitment Cards have been returned, totaling **\$324,103.00**. If you have not yet returned your Commitment Card, we invite you to return it by Sunday, December 4. If you have misplaced your Commitment Card please contact the church office at 331-2276 or email geo@oursaviorsfbo.org. Thank you for all you do in support of the ministries of Our Savior's.

2012 Offering Envelopes

will be available in the narthex

December 4th.

**Our Savior's Lutheran
Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 29th
Congregational Meal at 11:45
Annual Meeting at 12:30**

November Baptisms

November 6, 2011

Parker Matthew Muchow

son of

Kristi Smith and Matt Muchow.

November 21, 2011

Eli Michel Danielson

son of

Scot and Amy Danielson.

November 21, 2011

William Dale Silver

son of

Christopher and Sara Silver.

November 27, 2011

Madeline Ryan MacKay

daughter of

Summer Johnson and Keith Vogel.

Welcome to the family little one!

Our Sympathy To:

Greg and Linda Pavek

in the death of Greg's mother,
Gladys Pavek.

Katie and Tom Mann

in the death of Katie's grandmother,
Gladys Pavek.

Irv and Kaye Novak

in the death of Irv's sister,
Phyllis.

Dave and Sarah Stensrud

in the death of Dave's step-father,
Ralph Dwyer.

Jake and Ashley Dwyer

in the death of Jake's grandfather,
Ralph Dwyer.

The family of Ida Cavanaugh

The family of Dale Hundt

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

Lamplighters
Christmas Luncheon
Tuesday, December 6
11:45 a.m

We will be hosting Our Savior's Staff for a catered lunch. A short program will follow the luncheon.

Nominations for Voting Members
at the 2012 Synod Assembly

If you or someone you know is interested in serving as a Voting Member at the Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly on May 5-6, 2012 in Rochester, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee: Lori Boyle (Chair), Mitch Anderson, Joyce Elsen, Gail Kaderlik, Dawn Peanasky, Erica Staab, or Pastor Steve Delzer. Deadline for nominations is Sunday, November 27. Voting Members to the Synod Assembly will be elected at the Annual Meeting on January 29, 2012.

Nominations for Church Council

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the Church Council please pick up a copy of the Nomination for Church Council form found at the Welcome Center or in the church office or contact one of the following members of the Nominating Committee: Lori Boyle (Chair), Mitch Anderson, Joyce Elsen, Gail Kaderlik, Dawn Peanasky, Erica Staab, or Pastor Steve Delzer. Deadline for nominations is Sunday, November 27. **There are three open positions on the Council this year:**

One (1) President Elect	3-yr. term (2012-2014)
Two (2) At-Large Members	3-yr. term (2012-2014)

Blue Christmas Service

December 21st is the longest night of the year. For some people this night is a difficult one-not only is the earth dark because of the winter cold, but for some the Holidays are a sad time of year. There are a variety of reasons that this Christmas season may be hard for you, perhaps you are dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after a divorce or separation, loss of job, living with cancer or some other disease, or struggling with depression or painful childhood memories.

On December 21st at 6:30pm we invite you to gather in the chapel for a Blue Christmas Worship Service at Our Savior's. We will join together for healing prayer, scripture, candle lighting and music that remind us that God's Word does come to shine light into our darkness.

Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday, December 24

3:00pm

Family Service

(for families with small children.)

5:00pm

Traditional Service

(Special Music by Our Savior's Singers)

10:00pm

Candlelight Service

with Holy Communion

Christmas Day Worship

9:00 am

Service of Lessons and Carols

If you are interested in providing special music on Christmas Eve on Christmas Day please contact Georganne at geo@oursaviorsfbo.org or 331-2276 ext. 104

Marriage Enrichment Course

Starting in January a marriage enrichment course will be offered during the education hour. Pastor Joanna will be leading a small group (6 couples) in a marriage enrichment course. The course is a DVD series led by Chip Ingram, pastor, author and radio host. We will meet on the following Sunday mornings during the education hour starting January 8th. Please let me know if you need nursery care and it will be provided. Cost for the class is \$25, if cost is an issue please let me know.

Marriage: Built to Last

Research has shown that over 50% of marriages are ending in divorce. That is why we've partnered with Pastor Chip Ingram of Living on the Edge Radio Program, financial guru Dave Ramsey and Super Bowl MVP Kurt Warner to tackle the common issues couples are facing in their marriages today.

Marriage: Built to Last isn't your typical marriage study. Throughout the series, you'll watch 24 real life couples from across the country share candidly about their struggles in communication, finances, sexual intimacy, expectations, and more.

In the study, you will hear the story of Dave Ramsey and his wife Sharon as they recovered from financial stress and hardship. You will hear the story of Kurt Warner and his wife Brenda share candidly about expectations, trust issues, and adjusting to a blended family.

Marriage: Built to Last includes Biblical and practical teaching from Chip Ingram on these six critical topics. Each session will be broken into two week segments. The first week we will watch the video and discuss it and the second week we will examine the biblical principles and how to apply these ideas to our lives and marriage.

- **Adjusting to Expectations** (January 8th, and 15th)
- **Learning to Communicate Clearly** (January 22nd, and 29th)
- **Breaking Down Walls** (February 5th and 12th)
Resolving Conflict (February 26th and March 4th)
- **Restoring Sex and Intimacy** (March 11th and April 1st)
- **Striving for a Christ-Centered Marriage** (April 15th and April 22nd)

Whether you're newly married, remarried, or wanting to improve your relationship, consider this small group option in order to strengthen your relationship and have a marriage built to last.

The class will not meet on days when Sunday School is not scheduled because of school breaks. Also if you are interested and might miss a session or two please still sign up, I'd be happy to loan you the dvds.

Blessings,
Pastor Joanna

Epiphany Party/Winter Game Night January 14th from 5-7pm

In the deep midwinter, it's nice to get out of the house and have some fun. Join us for an evening of food, fun and games. We will gather for soup and bread, and some goodies too. Spend time doing crafts and playing games. Bring your favorite games from home to share. We hope that you can join us as we celebrate the season of Epiphany. If you would like to help organize the party, please email or talk with Pastor Joanna at revjoannamitchell@hotmail.com

Women's Retreat

I'd like to lead another Women's Retreat this winter or early spring. We would go up to Mount Olivet Retreat Center on Friday evening and begin with dinner and a time of fellowship and finish around 4pm on Saturday. I'd love to hear from you if you are interested. Tentative date for February 24th and 25th. Pastor Joanna.

Hearts At Home

A couple of weeks ago I attended the Hearts At Home conference in Rochester, Minnesota. This was the first time I had ever gone and let me tell you, every mother should be attending this conference!!! It was so fun to connect with other women. This conference is for every mother; the mother-to-be, to the empty nest mothers. There is something for everyone! We started Friday evening with a comedian, Chonda Pierce, a mother/grandmother that had everyone rolling with laughter. A group of us spent the night together in Rochester just connecting and having a fun Ladies Night Out. Just think, a night out with the girls! Then Saturday we heard Julia Rothschild and how she had been coping with drastic changes in her life and how she truly walks by faith. The rest of the day we were in break out sessions. Some of the topics were: Mosaic; the Art of a Blended Family, Read the Bible Backwards, Strong Willed Children; Focus on the Solution, Get Real in Your Marriage, Lifegiving Hospitality - Start Simply but Simply Start, Ten Stress Strategies Every Mom Needs. The sessions were so inspiring for me, it was nice to feel validated in what I am doing in my family and also tips on how I can improve myself within my family. Hearts at Home is truly the go-to place for all moms.

They said it would help me:

1. Feel refreshed and ready to embrace the challenges of motherhood.
2. Remove the guilt of not being a perfect mom.
3. Create the vision to successfully usher my children into adulthood.

This conference surpassed all of my expectations! So mark your calendars and gather your girlfriends for next year; November 9-10, 2012 in Rochester, Minnesota. You can check out the Hearts At Home website to learn more www.hearts-at-home.org. Watch for sign-ups starting this summer!

Kira Anderson

Handel's Messiah with the Minnesota Orchestra:

Join the Minnesota Orchestra for good tidings of this beloved classic, which will lift you high above the holiday rush. Wed, Dec. 7th at 7:30 pm, Sat. Dec. 10th at 8:00 pm, and Sun. Dec. 11 at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$22 - \$60 or Groups: \$20 - \$55. Orchestra Hall at minnesotaorchestra.org/holiday, 612-371-5656.

Thank You!

Wow! What a concert! People are talking about the Marilyn Sellers concert. I have received so many comments on what a wonderful and refreshing event it was. Thank you for sponsoring the event. There were many partners involved in this event and Ruth's House is truly grateful to all who were willing to help! The event reached its goal of over \$5,000!!!

It has truly been a blessing working with you and truly a blessing to those who reside at Ruth's House. Miracles happen every day at Ruth's House and we just witnessed one, God's hand at work through you. Thank you again!

With faith and gratitude,
Ruth Hickey

Thank you!

On Saturday November 12th Brad and I took two groups of children, youth and adults to Northfield to participate in 5th Bridges Feed My Starving Children event. The 35 of us packaged food for 3 hours we were able to pack 9,720 meals for people that otherwise might not get a meal. The packaged meal is called MannaPack Rice+. It consists of; Rice, Soy, Vitamins and minerals, and Dehydrated vegetables. Thank you for taking time out of your weekend to help someone else in need! It was so nice to see families, teenagers and adults working together for a great cause! We also wanted to thank those of you that gave a cash donation to help support Feed My Starving Children, the money was much appreciated by the organization.

Kira Anderson & Brad Hutchison

Children's Ministry

Children's Christmas Program

Our Children's Christmas program Chris-Myth Busters+is fast approaching. If you have children in the Sunday or Wednesday School Program please keep in mind two dates.

Saturday, December 17th
9:00-10:00am;
Dress Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Sunday December 18th
8:30 & 10:30am;
Christmas Program
presented during worship.

Saturday, December 17th; Everyone that is participating in the Christmas Program (*3 years old through 5th grade*) should be in the sanctuary at 9:00am. Sit with your grade level. We will practice walking in and singing our songs. Your child will also have a chance to watch the actors practice their parts during this time. *If for some reason your child cannot attend this dress rehearsal please let me know.*

Sunday, December 18th; This is the day your children have been practicing for during the last couple of months. Please have your child here by 8:10am in the Fire Works Room. This will give the kids a chance to find their teachers and line up to walk in for the program. The first service begins at 8:30am and the second at 10:30am. We will be serving the kids a light snack in between services. We will also be showing a little Christmas DVD in the Chapel to entertain them. Parents are welcome to meet their children in the Chapel in between services. During this time please feel free to take your children to the Sanctuary for pictures. Please make sure that their teacher knows you have them and when they will be returning. After the 10:30 service you will meet your child in the Chapel, please sign them out before leaving.

Thank you for your Operation Christmas Child gifts!

A huge thank-you to all who prepared and donated shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. **A grand total of 60 boxes** were donated from the Our Saviors community! The children who will receive these boxes are very blessed to receive your gifts. Thank you!

Class Schedule for December and January

**There will be no classes
on the following dates:**

Wednesdays, December 21st and 28th

Sundays, December 25th and January 1st.

Community Cathedral Café

The Community Cathedral Café (CCC) is coming up to the 2nd Anniversary in January 2012. Every Tuesday evening we feed an average of 200 people. We have four teams of volunteers supplied by people of the Faribault Community. There are eleven different churches working together, who almost never argue about theology as they provide a good wholesome meal. Our goals for 2012 will continue to be:

- 1. To feed the hungry.**
- 2. To provide companionship for the lonely during mealtime.**
- 3. To provide networking for the poor.**
- 4. To learn to work together no matter what faith someone may possess.**

December Volunteers

Ushers

Team 4

8:30

Steve Bongers ©
Larry Hafemeyer
Wade Karli
Ginger Myers
Roger Erickson
Diana & Dave Hering
Martin Ahlmann

10:30

Dwight Elthon ©
Roger & Tammy Meyer
Fred Grote
Mark & Jodi Miller
Dennis & Rita Wunderlich

Welcome Center Greeters

8:30

December 4

Nikki Lemke

December 11

Martin Ahlman

December 18

Bob Hetzler

(9:00 only)

December 25

None Needed

10:30

Ron & Barb Brown
Deb & Andy Broughton
Jane Hale

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 Saviors 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

December 4 & 18

8:30

**Comm. Prep
Servers**

Irv & Kaye Novak
Larry & Linda Buhr
Ray & Linda Wood
Ellen Bisping
Barb Karli

10:30

Ted & Corinne Thompson
Joyce Elsen
Dorothy & Sam Sampson
Beth Moore
Fred & Barb Grote (4)
Troy & Tara Dunn (18)

Sound & Tech Team

Sound/Media Shout & Lights

8:30

December 4

Dick Johnson / Ken Butzow

December 11

Dick Johnson / Linda Mueller

December 18

Curt Danielson / Georganne Danielson

(9:00 only)

December 25

Volunteer Needed

Sound/Media Shout & Lights

10:30

Jeff Mitchell / Ken Butzow

Dick Johnson / Linda Mueller

Curt Danielson / Georganne Danielson

Cantor

December 4

Free Spirit

December 11

Our Saviors Singers

December 18

Sunday/Wednesday School Children

December 25

None Needed

Brew Master Ministry

Set Up

December 4

Ruth & Lyle Olson

December 11

Ray & Linda Wood

December 18

Jon & Karla Weng

(9:00 only)

December 25

Volunteer Needed

Clean Up

Georganne Danielson

Volunteer Needed

Dan & Karen Rasmussen

Volunteer Needed

Nursery

8:30

December 4

Anderson Family

December 11

Eric & Lisa Bauer

December 18

Penny Bauer & Rachelle Caldwell

(9:00 only)

December 25

Nursery Closed

10:30

Grinde Family

Hedenstrom Family

Osborne Family



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1207 Prairie Ave. South
Faribault, Mn 55021

Change Servi