

**Lent 2012**  
**Where Is God (in the midst of my suffering)?**  
**Or**  
**Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?**

One of the big questions in life throughout the centuries has been, "Where is God in the midst of my suffering?" or "Why do bad things happen to good people?" In theological terms this question is referred to as "Theodicy" or "the justice of God." To put our times of suffering in everyday terms the question might look something like this: "What did I do to deserve this?" or "Why did God let this happen to me?" or "Is this really fair?" The Bible offers at least four different views in response to these questions. During this Lenten season we will look at each of those four views.

**Plan now to join us on Wednesday evenings beginning February 22 for:**  
**Lenten Soup Suppers at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Lenten Worship Services at 6:30 p.m.**

**February 22 Ash Wednesday ó Matthew 6:1-21**

What does it mean to sacrifice? Is it to give up something? Is it to take on something?  
Is it both?

**February 29 ó A Confirmation Group will lead worship and introduce the theme:**

"Where is God (in the midst of my suffering)?" or "Why do bad things happen to good people?"

**March 7 ó Deuteronomy 28:1-46 (or read the whole book of Deuteronomy)**

The view in Deuteronomy: If you are obedient and do good you will be blessed, but if your disobedient and do evil you will be cursed.

**March 14 ó Ecclesiastes 8:14 – 9:12 (or read the whole book of Ecclesiastes)**

The view in Ecclesiastes: It really doesn't make any difference what you do since we all end up in Sheol (the place of the dead) anyway; so just enjoy and give thanks for all the good things God gives you while you are alive.

**March 21 ó Job 38:1 – 42:6 (or read the whole book of Job)**

The view in Job: The entire book of Job wrestles with this question of where is God in the suffering. God answers Job's question by explaining, "No one can understand my ways; you just have to trust me ó trust that I know what I am doing and that it is in your best interest."

**March 28 ó Psalm 23; Isaiah 43:1-5; Matthew 1:23; 28:20; Luke 23:33-43; and John 19:25b-27**

The view through the cross of Jesus: God is with us in the midst of our suffering; in fact, God suffers with us.

**CAFÉ MIDWEEK  
February Menu**

**February 1 - Beef and Chicken Tacos  
February 8 - Chicken and Rice Casserole  
February 15 - Pizza**

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

**SOUP SUPPER - February Menu**

Serving is from 5:00-6:15 p.m.  
February 22 - Chili and Chicken Wild Rice  
February 29 - Chili and Baked Potato Chowder

Cost: Adults \$5.00 Children (under10) \$2.00  
Children (under 3) Free Family Maximum: \$15.00

**Soup Suppers are served by the youth participating  
in this summers mission trips.**

**Facts and Figures for December 2011**

	(Actual)	(Budget)
Dec. Offering	\$89,149	\$72,125
Dec. Expenses	\$55,715	\$58,489
YTD Offering	\$653,035	\$670,125
YTD Expenses	\$649,890	\$670,048

**A Note from Pastor Steve:**

Well done, good and faithful servants! Once again you have provided what is necessary to support the ministries of Our Savior's. At the end of November we had a deficit of \$30,288.21. You contributed nearly \$90,000.00 in December. Your gifts together with over \$20,000.00 of reductions in annual spending, enabled us to end the year with a surplus of \$3,145.18. Thank you for all you do in support of the ministries of Our Savior's.

**Lamplighter's February Meeting  
February 7, 2012  
noon**

**Our Savior's Staff will be providing  
the meal and program.  
Visitors are always welcome.**

# January Baptisms

January 8, 2012

**Lahna Rose Murphy**

daughter of Mary and Christopher Murphy.

**Welcome to the family!**

**Our Sympathy to:**

**Dean, Cody and Brooke Hetletvedt,**  
in the death of Marcia Hetletvedt.

**Jeff Jarvis and Dorothy DeJong**  
in the death of Jeff's mother,  
Rita Jarvis.

**Tom and Amy Stadler family,**  
in the death of Amy's father,  
Gordon Jandro.

**Julie and Jason Anderson family,**  
in the death of Julie's father,  
Gordon Jandro.

**Breana Erickson,**  
in the death of her grandmother,  
Lillian Erickson

**Mardy Saufferer**  
in the death of her daughter,  
Nancy Quinnell.

**Kari and Scott Boldt family,**  
in the death of Kari's sister,  
Nancy Quinnell.

**Lori and Barry Davies,**  
in the death of Lori's niece,  
Shannon O'Hara.

**Royal and Luann Ross family,**  
in the death of Royal's mother,  
Phyllis Ross.

**Sheila Roehrick**  
in the death of her Sister-in-Law,  
Denise Stenbakken.

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

**Pre-Marriage Classes:  
Sundays, February 5 and 12  
12:00 noon - 1:00 pm.**

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.

**New Member Orientation  
Sunday Mornings at 9:30  
February 5 - March 11**

During the seven week sessions you will have the opportunity to:

- \* Meet members of the Staff
- \* Meet some members of the congregation
- \* Meet others who are interested in membership at Our Savior's.
- \* Learn more about the ministry opportunities at Our Savior's.

We will be reading and discussing the book by Rick Warren, "The Purpose Driven Life" which you will receive at the first session on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Through our reading and discussion we will discover the five purposes that God has for his people:

- \* To show love for God through Worship
- \* To show our love for others through Service
- \* To share God's message through Witness.
- \* To identify with God's family through Fellowship in church.
- \* To become more like Christ through Discipleship.

You may register by calling the church office at 331-2276.

**Book Club selections for  
February and March:**

On February 27<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the youth room we will be meeting to discuss *Love Wins: A book about heaven, hell and the fate of every person who ever lived*, by Rob Bell.

Book synopsis:Millions of Christians have struggled with how to reconcile God's love and God's judgment: Has God created billions of people over thousands of years only to select a few to go to heaven and everyone else to suffer forever in hell? Is this acceptable to God? How is this "good news?"

Troubling questions--so troubling that many have lost their faith because of them. Others only whisper the questions to themselves, fearing or being taught that they might lose their faith and their church if they ask them out loud.

But what if these questions trouble us for good reason? What if the story of heaven and hell we have been taught is not, in fact, what the Bible teaches? What if what Jesus meant by "heaven," "hell," and salvation" are very different from how we have come to understand them?

What if it is God who wants us to face these questions?

Taken from Amazon.com

On March 26<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the youth room of Our Savior's we will be discussing *Children and Fire* by Ursula Hegi.

Book synopsis:It's 1934, and the burning of the Reichstag the year before still haunts many minds, particularly those of the boys in Thekla's fourth grade class. Convinced that Hitler cannot last forever as leader of Germany and believing the path of least resistance to be the surest way of protecting her boys from harm, Thekla accedes to the government's increasing interference in daily life, such as the banning of certain books and interrupting class time for the Führer's radio speeches. But the encircling political danger and her own moral compromises are not her only worries, as a secret from Thekla's past may jeopardize everything she has worked to preserve...

Review taken from amazon.com

## **March Madness: Food Challenge**

Starting on March 1<sup>st</sup> we will begin our annual food challenge to raise needed food and money for the local food shelf.

New this year we will have a coin challenge between the Sunday School classes and the Wednesday School classes AND the 8:30am and 10:30am worship services. Pennies will count in favor and all other coins will count as reductions. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. More details will follow in the March newsletter.

## **Women's Retreat**

On February 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm women of Our Savior's are invited to gather for an evening meal and a time for fellowship and spiritual growth. All are welcome to come as we get to know one another and unite in growing our faith. Please contact Pastor Joanna Mitchell with any questions or to sign up.

## **From Nile Our Savior's Lutheran Chapel in Faribault**

To Whom it may concern,

The Nile Our Savior's Lutheran Chapel is writing this thank you note to the family who gave a gift of five hundred dollars and food to five Sudanese families as a Christmas gift. We are very glad for what that family did for our Sudanese members. Our whole congregation is now very happy for that gift. One of our women group leaders said that, we are not able to do anything for you, but for our happiness God will pay back this gift as a blessing to you and your family. Our Sudanese lay Minister, Wal Reat also said that, you the family who gave this gift fulfills the mission of Christ Jesus. For God commanded us to help the poor and help meet people's needs.

# Children's Ministry

## February - Rainbow Connection Event

All Kindergarten . 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders are invited to a Valentine's Day party on Friday February 10, 2012 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, making a craft and playing BINGO. Please RSVP to Kira Anderson [kanderson@oursaviorsfbo.org](mailto:kanderson@oursaviorsfbo.org) by February 2<sup>nd</sup> so we have enough time to order crafts.

## March- PCF Event

All 3<sup>rd</sup> . 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students are invited to join Kira Anderson for a St. Patrick's Day Party on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 PM. Cost is \$5 per son. We will be having pizza, making a craft and playing a game. Please sign-up via a phone call or email Kira at [kira@oursaviorsfbo.org](mailto:kira@oursaviorsfbo.org) by March 1<sup>st</sup> so we have time to order the craft.

## Stepping Stone: 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Our Second graders will have their Stepping Stones class during their regular Sunday or Wednesday School classes on February 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The presentation of their Stepping Stone will be at both services on Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup> (8:30 or 10:30). Please watch for a letter from Pastor Joanna with more details.

## Lent

This year we are encouraging all of our Wednesday School kids and their parents (and Sunday School kids) to participate in the Wednesday Lenten Services. There will not be regular scheduled classes for the kids starting February 22<sup>nd</sup> through April 4<sup>th</sup>. However, I will be attending all of the Lenten Services and encourage everyone to join me. If you (as a parent) cannot attend the service, please bring your child(ren) to the Sanctuary for the 6:30 service and they can sit with me. Please plan to pick up your children no later than 7:15 . I will be waiting with them in the Fire Works room. I do have a special project for the children to do that represents the Easter Story, which will be given at a later date.

# February Volunteers

## Ushers

### Team 5

**8:30**

Scott Finstuen ©  
Jarid Finstuen  
Al Matzke  
Loren Balken  
Ken Hubert  
Cheryl Sterling

**10:30**

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

## Welcome Center Greeters

February 5	8:30 Jerry & Karen Sherwood	10:30 Jane Hale
February 12	Andy & Viv Anderson	Jena & Brad Lombard
February 19	Ray Wood	Lori Davies
February 26	Bernie & Diane Feidt	Ron & Barb Brown

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's 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 5 & 19

<b>Comm. Prep Servers</b>	8:30	10:30
	Arvid & Pat Mensing	Mary L. Osborne
	John & Shirley Currie	Ron & Barb Brown
	Keith & Karen Larson	Harry & Sharon Dell
	Martin Ahlman	Troy & Tara Dunn
	Betty Lou Ahlman	

## Sound & Tech Team

Sound / Media Shout & Lights

	8:30	10:30
<b>February 5</b>	Dick Johnson / Bruce Schreckenber	Dick Johnson / Ken Butzow
<b>February 12</b>	Dick Johnson / Carl Malecha	Roger Meyer / Dick Lawson
<b>February 19</b>	Curt Danielson / Georganne Danielson	Dick Johnson / Ken Butzow
<b>February 26</b>	Dick Johnson / Carl Malecha	Roger Meyer / Dick Lawson

## Cantor

February 5	Brad Haugen
February 12	None Needed
February 19	Our Savior's Singers
February 26	None Needed

## Brew Master Ministry

	Set Up	Clean Up
February 5	Dennis & Rita Wunderlich	Bruce Schreckenber
February 12	Ruth & Lyle Olson	Georganne Danielson
February 19	Jill Finstuen	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
February 26	Jon & Karla Weng	Dan & Karen Rasmussen

## Nursery

	8:30	10:30
February 5	The Pientka Family	The Jensen Family
February 12	Hannah Bokelmann & Morgan Hanegraaf	Ryan Borka & Becki Bender
February 19	Pat & Farryl Kluis	Pakiz Family
February 26	Anderson Family	Grinde Family

