

# Our Savior's Reaching Out

November 2011

## 2011 Fall Stewardship Let Us Walk in the Light of the Lord Isaiah 2:5

Members and friends of Our Saviorø have consistently stated how much they value the ministries of Our Saviorø including: sharing Holy Communion, the sermons, the variety of Worship styles, our ministry with children and youth, and our ministry to the community outside of our congregation, both locally and around the world. The ministries provided by Our Saviorø do make a difference, both to us who are members, and to those outside our membership whose lives are touched by our ministries. How do I know this?

Here are some quotes from some of our newer members:

*"Our Savior's has been a Godsend to our family. They have offered the exact type of support we needed at this point in our lives."*

*"My family has been enjoying Our Savior's . . . The whole church family has been really receptive.*

*My children have enjoyed it very much and that is huge!"*

*"Our Savior's is a warm and welcoming community that provides a learning environment to build my faith."*

*"Instead of just going to church once a week, I feel like I belong to a church."*

*"Our Savior's has brought us closer together as a 'family of God.'"*

The ministries provided by Our Saviorø do make a difference, both to us who are members, and to those outside our membership whose lives are touched by our ministries. And I sincerely believe that we want these ministries to continue to impact the lives of people. Under the theme of **Let Us Walk In the Light of the Lord** the enclosed **2012 Program Budget** shows how we are doing just that, how we are planning to continue to fulfill the **"Mission of Our Savior's to REACH out to people in the name of Jesus, and help them GROW into joyful disciples of Jesus!"**

This Program Budget seeks to interpret the ministry of Our Saviorø in seven categories: Beyond Our Walls, Worship, Education, Inreach, Outreach, Service, and Support. Each of these categories represents one of the significant areas of ministry of the congregation. Each category includes a portion of the expenses for office staff, and building and maintenance costs, and also shows how the pastors and other staff people apportion their time. (A detailed line-item budget is available in the church office or at the welcome center for any who wish to review it.)

In early November you will receive a mailing that will include a 2012 Financial Commitment Card. On Sunday, November 20, at both the 8:30 and 10:30 Worship Services, each of us will be invited to bring forward our 2012 Financial Commitment Card in support of the vital, life-changing ministries of Our Saviorø. If you are not able to be present in the Worship services on that day you may mail your Financial Commitment Card or drop it off at the Church Office.

Let Us Walk in the Light of the Lord  
Pastor Steve Delzer

# Café Midweek November Menu

**November 2 - Pizza**  
**November 9 - Rice and Chicken Casserole**  
**November 16 - Beef and Chicken Tacos**  
**November 23 - No Meal (Thanksgiving Break)**  
**November 30 - BBQ Pork Sandwiches**

**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!**

## Financial Report for September 2011

	(Actual)	(Budget)
Sept. Offering	\$54,337	\$56,000
Sept. Expenses	\$51,273	\$57,247
YTD Offering	\$446,278	\$483,000
YTD Expenses	\$487,350	\$501,289

Offerings in September were \$1663.00 under budget and September expenses were \$5974.00 under budget. Year To Date offerings are \$36,722 below budget and expenses are \$13,939 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 2 months of 2011 to catch up. Thanks for your continued support of the ministry of Our Savior's.**

## Lamplighters

**Tuesday, November 1**  
**1:00 p.m**

Joyce Atchison from Christ Through Hands Ministry will be the guest speaker.

We will also be electing 2012 officers during the business portion of the meeting.

Visitors are always welcome!

# October Baptisms

October 9

**Seth Alan Dobson**

son of Teresa and Alan Dobson

October 16

**Evelyn Rose Tune**

daughter of Kerri Tune and Matt Perry.

**Welcome to the family little one!**

# October Wedding

**Congratulations and God's Blessings to  
Cassie Stevens and Francis McWilliams  
who were married on  
October 4, 2011.**

## **Our Sympathy To:**

**George and Shirley Galvin**

in the death of George's mother,  
Mary Galvin.

**Jim and Susie Marquardt**

in the death of Jim's brother.

**Don and Lisa Benson**

in the death of Lisa's mother,  
Marilyn Botker.

**Pat and Richard Swenson**

in the death of Pat's brother,  
Richard Long.

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

## **June Mission Trip Presentation**

**Sunday, November 13**

**9:30 a.m.**

On Sunday, November 13, at 9:30 a.m. Pastor Steve will provide a presentation of highlights from the June Mission Trip to Africa. Pastor Steve and Wal Reat traveled to Ethiopia to celebrate the Graduation and Commissioning of the six students Our Savior's has been supporting during the past two years as they have been preparing to serve as pastors of churches in South Sudan. The trip had some highlight experiences and some unexpected challenges. Plan now to come to the presentation. It will take place in the Chapel during the Education Hour (9:30-10:20 a.m.).

### **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)

## **Welcome to Our Church Family**

**On Sunday, October 30th we will receive these new members during worship. Please find time to welcome them to our church family.**

**Glenn and Rachel Gregerson**

**Logan, Noah, Landon, Jude, Slade and Liam.**

**Troy and Carol Caron**

**Bryn and Carlie.**

**Carl and Cindy Malecha**

**Thomas and Clara**

## ***Thanksgiving Eve Worship***

***Wednesday, November 23***

***7:00pm.***

***In the Chapel.***

## **Blue Christmas Worship Service**

December 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm we invite you to gather for a Blue Christmas Worship Service at Our Saviors. 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.

## **Advent/Christmas Decorating**

**Tuesday, November 22**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Contact Karen Larson or Georganne Danielson if you would like to help.**

## **Advent Worship Services**

This Advent we will continue the tradition by offering special services on Sunday Morning during the Advent

Season at the 8:30 and 10:30 worship hours.

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**

**November 27**

**8:30 and 10:30 worship**

**“Into God’s Hands”**

**Don Kloster will be preaching.**

**Proclaim!!! will provide music leadership.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

**December**

**8:30 and 10:30 worship**

**“A Love That Saved The World”**

**presented by Free Spirit**

**Narrators: Steve and Donita Delzer**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

**December 11**

**8:30 and 10:30 worship**

**“Love Beyond All Loves”**

**presented by**

**Our Savior’s Singers.**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

**December 18**

**8:30 and 10:30 worship**

**“Chris-myth Busters”**

**presented by**

**Sunday/Wednesday School Children**



### **A Summary of Churchwide Assembly by Erica Staab**

I have been writing and rewriting a summary of Churchwide Assembly since I returned. It was truly a life changing experience. But as with all things it wasn't the things that I expected that changed me, it was the moments found in-between that shifted things, the unexpected that were blessings, that were the incredible part of the trip.

For those of you who weren't aware every two years (soon to be three) the ELCA church gathers with about 1,000 people who are elected in their synods to come to a central location and spend a week together in worship, prayer, study, sharing, decision-making, voting and learning. Approximately 60% of the attendees are laity, and 40% are rostered leaders.

The days are long and full, with a lot of information, sharing and worship. It is an interesting place to be to say the least. There are the political pieces, to learn and understand on a more intimate level the inner workings of the church, there are the Bible Study and reflection, time spent learning about the work of the ELCA in the world, meeting people from across the country and so much more.

Before the Sexuality Statement, in spite of being a lifelong Lutheran I didn't know a whole lot about Social Statements, nor did I know about Churchwide Assembly, which Synod we belonged to or the inner workings of the church beyond our congregational doors. It has been fun to learn more about how the church functions at different levels, understanding more about the Synod structure and how we here at Our Savior's fit into that.

I want to share with you two pieces, one is the nuts and bolts of the Assembly, and the second is my response, my faith journey and how it has enhanced my return to Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

#### **First, the nuts and bolts:**

Much of the assembly was devoted to defining who we are as Lutherans and as we all know the past few years have been cause for much division, much pain as well as much growth and grace.

We came away knowing that ~~W~~**We** are a church that declares a living, daring confidence in God's Grace.+

There were two themes that we as a church body kept coming back to, Being Freed in Christ to Serve and God's work, our hands. It was apparent that there was a commitment on the part of everyone there to help move forward, to continue to choose to be loving and to live in grace.

You can find out more about the individual actions that were taken, the votes, more on the Genetic Social Statement which passed 942-34 and more about the LIFT Task Force- Living into the Future Together on [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org) or [www.livinglutheran.com](http://www.livinglutheran.com).

The LIFT task force has been meeting for the past several years and the majority of that time has been spent looking at two questions-

**What is God calling us to be and do in the future?**

**What changes are in order to accomplish these tasks more faithfully?**

They were good questions for the task force, good questions for the church as a whole, but good questions for us personally as well.

I would like to share with you two things that struck me personally

At the beginning of the week I was a bit lost. From the time you get off the plane you are herded from place to place, you are there with a sea of over a thousand others, but as I looked around I saw the faces of kind Lutherans (mostly from the Midwest) and I started to notice that you couldn't drop your bulletin without three people bending down to get it, you couldn't go through a door without someone trying to hold it for you, you couldn't sit down without someone at the table inviting you into conversation. And by the end of the week you couldn't sit down at a table without finding someone that you had shared a moment of grace with. I would walk down the hallway and hear echoes of "Hey Erica, come sit over here," "Hey Erica, do you want to join us for lunch?" It was a bit of a letdown to go back to the airport and find ourselves in the midst of life as I knew it but yet I was changed having lived for a week in the love of over 1,000 Lutherans.

The second piece was one of the many moments that caught me off guard. Moments where I could see God's spirit moving each day there was worship. It was a time full of amazing sermons, moving music, a thousand voices lifted in praise, powerful presentations and communion each day. There was one communion in particular that struck me with incredible force. That day the sermon was delivered by a pastor from Haiti. He had talked about how Haiti had responded to the earthquake, about how Haitians do not want to be known as a people in rubble, they want to be known as a people who rise from the rubble, people who live in the love of God each day.

After this phenomenal sermon there was communion. There were five stations there to accommodate everyone and it was a beautiful thing to watch this happen a thousand people singing, lifting their voices to celebrate and be touched by grace. The pastor was at the station right across the aisle from me and instead of singing the songs I simply watched him as he offered communion because I was so struck by his presence his smile lit up the room, and as each person approached him he would offer them the bread, he would look at them with such love and he would place his hand on their shoulder and say with such sincerity "This is the body" it was love in motion. With that simple touch people melted, you could see their shoulders soften and their face light up, you could see how hungry they were for those

words, and they would just stand there for a moment and soak it in I was struck by his intention, his sincerity, the beautiful light that was within him. It was the most beautiful communion that I have ever witnessed.

In that moment I was reminded, this is something I want to be a part of, this is something meaningful, this is something powerful we are a powerful church, committed to love, committed to using our hands to do God's work.

I came back committed to do something that matters. I came back fired up in faith and even more thankful that I was a part of something amazing. I remember coming back from Confirmation Camp wanting to live differently, committed to living out my faith in a new way and that is how I returned from Florida.

I invite you to look at the questions of LIFT, to see how God is moving in your life, to sign up on Facebook to learn more about the work of the ELCA, the Synod and Our Savior's and to share with one another your joy, your struggle, to share how you are doing God's work with your hands.

It was a joyful experience, one of amazing conversation and connection. It was a powerful time of prayer and I am grateful for the opportunity to share that with you.

# Children's Ministry

## Children's Christmas Program

We are continuing to practice music for the Children's Christmas program on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. All of the children participating in the Sunday and Wednesday School are invited to sing in the Program. I understand that 40 minutes might be a long time for the 3 and 4 year old kids, so if you do not want your child to participate in the actual program please let me know, however we do encourage all of the kids to join us. Please plan on attending both services on the 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be a light snack provided in between services for the children that participate so we ask that all children stay with the group in between services.

We will have a dress rehearsal on Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 10:30am (we are not planning on having a snow storm the week of our program this year). The rehearsal time will be used to have the kids practice going on and off the risers, their songs and also hearing the narrations in between songs. It is important for all children that are going to be in the program to be at the rehearsal. Please see Kira if there is a conflict with this time.

### **4 year old Stepping Stone**

The 4 year old Stepping Stone class will be held on Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:45-10:20am. The children will start out their class in their classroom working on a small project then move into the Nursery to start their Stepping Stones class. Parents please plan on attending the class with your child starting at 9:45 in the Nursery. The Stepping Stone will be recognized at both services 8:30am and 10:30am.

## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love.

### **It's simple to pack a shoe box.**

- 1) Use an empty shoe box (standard size, please) or a small plastic container. You can wrap the box (lid separately), but wrapping is not required. Most important, pray for the child who will receive your gift.
- 2) Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Use the appropriate boy/girl label found in the church narthex by the Christmas tree. Mark the correct age category on the label, and tape the label to the top of your box.
- 3) Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child.
- 4) Please donate \$7 or more for each shoe box you prepare to help cover shipping and other project costs.
- 5) Place a rubber band around each closed shoe box and drop them off in the church Narthex under the Christmas tree.

**All boxes must be received no later than Sunday, November 13th.**

**There will not be classes on**

**Wednesday, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**or Sunday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Nursery During Education Hour**

Starting this fall we offered Nursery care during the Education Hour for families so parents with small children could still attend Bible Studies, Classes or Volunteer Teaching. There will no longer be a volunteer in the Nursery during this hour because it was not being used. Please know that you are still welcome to bring your child into the nursery to play during this hour but you will need to stay in there with them. If there is a need for a volunteer in the nursery during the Education Hour we will re-staff it at that time. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks!

### **Feed My Starving Children**

At church school this year we have been talking about how important it is to be a Christian to others and to show others God's love. We have the opportunity for 16 people (hopefully families) to attend the Feed My Starving Children event on November 12<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm. in Northfield. We will leave the church parking lot at 12pm and get back to church around 4pm. The mission of Feed My Starving Children is to "Feed God's Starving Children Hungry in Body and Spirit." We will pack as many meals in two hours as possible to send them off to children in another country. We are lucky to have this opportunity to lead by example for our children, to show them how important it is to give back. If you would like to make a cash donation you may make your checks payable to "Feed My Starving Children" and place them in the offering plate on Sunday mornings or mail into the church office. If you would like to sign up, please let Kira Anderson know by Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> by email at [kira@oursaviorsfbo.org](mailto:kira@oursaviorsfbo.org).

# November Volunteers

## Ushers

### Team 3

**8:30**

Larry Churchill ©  
Karen Churchill  
Marvin & Mary Tatge  
Lyle & Ruth Olson  
John & Shirley Currie

**10:30**

Pete Roberts ©  
Ron Brown  
Ted Thompson  
Steve Thompson  
Steve & Cindy Griesert  
Alan & Becki Bender  
Joyce Elsen

## Welcome Center Greeters

8:30

November 6 Sheila Rozhriek  
November 13 Jerry & Karen Sherwood  
November 20 Arvid & Pat Mensing  
November 27 Betty Lou Ahlman

10:30

Deb & Andy Broughton  
Jane Hale  
Jena & Brad Lombard  
Lori & Barry Davies

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 November 6 & 20

8:30

### Comm. Prep Servers

Ruth & Lyle Olson  
Marv & Mary Tatge  
Dick & Phyllis Berge  
Jim & Thelma Nelson

10:30

Dave & Sarah Stensrud  
Dave Borka  
Todd Markman  
Linda Mueller  
Troy & Tara Dunn  
Pam Salvesson

## Sound & Tech Team

Sound / Media Show & Lights

8:30

November 6 Bruce Schreckenberg / Linda Mueller Jeff Mitchell / Linda Mueller  
November 13 Dick Johnson / Ken Butzow Roger Meyer / Dick Lawson  
November 20 Dick Johnson / Bruce Schreckenberg Jeff Mitchell / Bruce Schreckenberg  
November 27 Roger Meyer / Dick Lawson Roger Meyer / Dick Lawson

10:30

## Cantor

**November 6**  
**November 13**  
**November 20**  
**November 27**

Brad Haugen  
Kris Hoysler  
None Needed  
Proclaim!!!

# Brew Master Ministry

## Set Up

November 6 Bonnie Bongers  
November 13 Jill Finstuen  
November 20 Ron & Mariann Goettsch  
November 27 Dennis & Rita Wunderlich

## Clean Up

Ginger Myers  
Ellen Bisping  
Georganne Danielson  
Bruce Schreckenberg

# Nursery

## 8:30

**November 6** Penny Bauer & Rachelle Caldwell  
**November 13** The Pientka Family  
**November 20** Hannah Bokelmann & Morgan Hanegraaf  
**November 27** Pat & Farryl Kluis

## 10:30

The Osborne Family  
The Jensen Family  
Ryan Borka & Becki Bender  
The Pakiz Family











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

**Change Servi**