



# OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

*A member congregation of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LC—MS)*



## PASTOR'S 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

The year 2011 was the 56<sup>th</sup> year that our God has faithfully fed and nourished, sustained and blessed, a Lutheran parish in the City of Pipestone.

The month of January was relatively quiet. The congregation held the Annual Potluck & Voters' Assembly. The Ladies Guild graciously gave the congregation money from the 2010 Fall Soup Supper for heating expenses. Our Saviour's Youth Group held a meeting to plan for 2011.

In February a Congregational potluck was held. Following dinner, the Youth Group had a Sweet Walk. Money received went to plan future youth activities in 2011. The Ladies Guild graciously assisted Emily Olson financially to attend the Pastor's Wives Retreat in Norfolk, Nebraska.

March found us observing Lent, meditating upon our Lord's passion and rejoicing in His unspeakable grace. A Lenten Series on Luther's Small Catechism: The Apostles' Creed: the Second Chief Part entitled "God Gives Himself Entirely FOR YOU and FOR ME" began on Ash Wednesday. Each Wednesday evening service in Lent then was followed by coffee & bars. LC-MS World Relief and Human Care asked for our prayers and financial assistance to aide those affected in Japan by an earthquake and tsunami that took place on March 11.

In April Tessa Bucher was publicly examined. By the power of the Holy Spirit, and a little hard work, she did great! Holy Week began on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Tessa Bucher was confirmed during the Passion Sunday service with Procession of Palms. Also this Sunday the Sunday School children processed in waving palm branches. They sang the refrain to the hymn "All Glory Laud and Honor" and the congregation sang the stanzas with them. The Triduum (or three day remembrance of our Lord's life, death and resurrection) began on April 21<sup>st</sup> with a celebration of a Maundy Thursday Divine Service with stripping of the Altar. We also rejoiced with the family of Tessa Bucher as she received the Lord's Supper for the first time. A quiet and somber Good Friday Service of Darkness and reading of the Passion of Our Lord was held. Easter Sunday Divine Service was celebrated at 8am. OSLC Youth served an Easter Breakfast following the service. A free-will offering was collected to help with future youth activities. The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Voters' Assembly agreed to send Pastor Olson and his wife as well as Head Elder Gary Hailey to the DOXOLOGY Retreats. A free-will offering was collected to help with the cost. The Pipestone Zone LWML Rally took place at Trinity Lutheran in Jasper. The topic was "The Abundant Life" with guest speaker Dr. James Lamb of the organization called "Lutherans for Life". There was also a Pipestone Circuit Convocation at St. Paul, Pipestone entitled "The Handiwork of God". The Ladies Guild began trying a new meeting schedule with some meetings taking place immediately following the Sunday Divine Service. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Voters' Assembly decided to change the Sunday worship service time to 10am for the foreseeable future beginning on May 29<sup>th</sup>. A Vine & Branches Conference was held and attended by a few from Our Saviour's on the topic of Witness, Mercy & Life Together in Rural Ministry at The Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Windom, MN. Pastor attended the MNS District Spring Pastoral Conference. Ladies Guild dissolved two LCEF funds and decided to give the money to our church fund.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup> an F5 tornado tore through the city of Joplin, MO. I thank the saints here at Our Saviour's for allowing me to spiritually and physically attend to the victims, including my mother and father-in-law Talitha and Steve Elsea. Pastor Mark Mumme from Hardwick and I drove all night Monday and arrived Tuesday morning. Because of the thoughtfulness and compassion of two small congregations in SW Minnesota, two pastors were also able to assist LC-MS World Relief and Human Care with a guided tour of the devastated areas. It was a great learning experience for two young mid-west pastors.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup> Good Shepherd ~ Marshall hosted a Pipestone Circuit celebration of The Ascension of Our Lord with a Divine Service. The Ladies Guild hosted the popular Spring Salad Luncheon on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The Ladies Guild salad luncheon received \$1,025.67

Pearl Alma Buffington received her crown of life everlasting on June 14<sup>th</sup> with funeral and burial on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

## FEBRUARY 2012

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Annual Report ...p.1-2

Annual Voters Assembly  
Minutes .....p. 3

2011 Membership  
Statistics .....p. 4

2012 Adopted  
Budget .....p. 5

Thoughts on Stewardship  
*Gifting Commodities..*  
.....p. 6

Thrivent Choice Dollars  
.....p.7

Stewardship Question  
.....p. 8

January Stewardship  
Facts & Story .....p. 9

Faith Nourishment ....  
.....p. 10

Ladies Guild/Altar Guild/  
Youth Group ..... P. 11

Birthday/Baptism Lists  
Homebound List P. 12

Church Officers & Ladies  
Guild Officers ..... p.13

Calendar..... p.14

Youth Group met for a meeting to plan a trip to Valley Fair. 8 youth from our church and two of their friends attended with a handful of adults, including the pastor who went on all the Roller Coasters. St. John's ~ Trosky celebrated their Centennial Anniversary with a worship service on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

In July we held our Vacation Bible School. The theme was River of Life and the materials came from and financially supported the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. A light supper and presentation by the youth was given on the last day. There were more than a dozen children, ages three and up who learned about the Gospel proclaimed around the world and the gift of Holy Baptism. On July 10th Marley Rose Casavan (Megan Tadesse) received the gift of faith and the forgiveness of sins by the washing away of her sins in Holy Baptism. A Youth Bible Class began meeting on Tuesday mornings studying various topics the youth pick from the "What About..." Series of pamphlets and "How to Study the Bible". An Open House was held on July 4th at the church for Arnie Veldhuizen's 90th birthday.

In August Ladies Guild supported Vicar John Henry III was the guest preacher. Following the worship service he spoke about his time in seminary and went to lunch with members. On August 10th the Youth Group reserved the Pipestone Aquatic Center for a Swim Night. On August 13-14 St. Paul ~ Fulda celebrated 125 years of Gospel proclamation with many activities.

Sunday School and Bible Class began again on September 11th. There was a Pipestone Circuit Lutheran Layman's League Rally at St. John's ~ Luverne on Sept. 18th.

October's Newsletter reminded us all of the importance of regularly receiving the Lord's Body and Blood. The Board of Elders made an appeal to the inactive members to make more frequent use of the Lord's Supper. LWML Sunday was celebrated with a Divine Service on October 2nd. Matthew Determan and Elizabeth Rohde were united in Marriage on October 8. Vernon Henry Krusemark completed his Holy Baptism on October 25th. A Christian funeral and burial was held for him in Tyler, MN. The Festival of the Reformation was celebrated with a Divine Service on October 30. Also this day, Ryder Lullabel Franz (Erin Cox) received the gift of new life by the washing and regeneration given in Holy Baptism.

November began with our joyful celebration of a Divine Service on All Saints Day. During which time we remembered and gave thanks to God for the earthly and heavenly life given to: Wallace Eugene Bucher, Marvella Zarn, Pearl Alma Buffington, & Vernon Henry Krusemark. I attended the last of the three retreats with Head Elder Gary Hailey and Council Secretary Carmen Hailey. This retreat especially focused on the relationship between laity and their pastor. November 13th had the Lutheran Heritage Foundation teaching and preaching about all the work they do spreading the Gospel message around the world. On Thanksgiving Eve we gave thanks again to God for His many benefits to us by celebrating a Divine Service. Advent services began on November 30th. The theme for Wednesday Advent Services was based on the phrases from the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed: "...conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary...SAVIOR!"

Come December, with the church beautifully decorated for Advent and Christmas, we were blessed with the baptism of Clara Mary Evangelina Olson; a Public Recognition of which took place on Christmas Day. Christmas Eve had the congregation inviting the community, friends and family to attend a Service of Lessons and Carols. There were about 150 in attendance. It was a very special service as the children sang stanzas from two hymns. They also sat through the whole service in the front row! Who said Lutherans can't sit in the front! The service consisted of the congregation singing of 9 Christmas hymns, prayers concerning the birth of Jesus all the while listening to the Sunday School children read the Christmas story to us. Another highlight for most was the gradual (not so gradual-we'll work on that next year) dimming of the lights as more and more candles were lit to symbolize Jesus Christ as the Light of the world. The service closed with the singing of Silent Night, Holy Night while each attendee held their own candle. A special night indeed! On Christmas Day we celebrated the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ with a Divine Service.

It was thus yet another year of God's great mercy and grace to us as a parish. As we prepare to enter our 57<sup>th</sup> year as a parish, our membership stands as follows: baptized; communicant; with an average attendance over a weekend of . That means % of our baptized membership attends on a given weekend. A better average than the Synod as a whole, and certainly better than some neighboring parishes, but a far cry short of our Lord's expectations for us. But despite our faithlessness, His faithful mercy and love continue to us. To Him be the glory forever and ever! Amen.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Jon Christopher Olson  
In the 5th year of his pastorate at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

# OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL VOTERS ASSEMBLY

Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 12:00 p.m.

*(Minutes pending approval at next Voters Assembly)*

Approximately 33 plus Pastor Olson were in attendance.

President Jack called the meeting to order; Pastor opened with prayer.

**Agenda additions:** Voters meeting time, oil candles, election of district convention alternate delegate and Congregational concerns.

Minutes were read and approved.

**Treasurer Report** was distributed. Year to date expenses were \$93,145.85 Check book balance-(\$206.04); Building Fund balance-\$2,057.63; Savings balance-\$1,350.91; Memorial Fund balance-\$2,656.43.

**Financial Secretary's report** was distributed. Total income Year to date: \$90,282.42

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor distributed a membership report for 2011-see attached; He also gave an overview of what occurred in our church in the past year-see attached. This will also be printed in February's Newsletter.

**Elders Report:** Wax candles will be switched to oil. It will cost \$1500 to make the change but will save \$200 a year, wax vs. oil. Pastor has been using his own personal common cup and home communion set. These two items along with new communion ware have been added to the memorial list. Gloria asked for others to consider helping on the Altar Committee. \$685 from Buffington memorial was donated for new processional cross which is now in front of Church.

**Trustees Report:** Jack gave report, as no trustees present. Roof work has been done; Organ speakers hung; Restrooms need work; Painting of the building needs to be done.

No Unfinished Business.

New Business: Alternate Lay delegate is needed. Gary volunteered. **MM/S by Denny to have Gary be the Alternate; Carried.**

**MM/S by Linda Winter. to replace all candles with oil with undesignated memorial funds; Carried.**

Congregational concerns: Lyle Miller asked about renting space to Cornerstone Church for additional income. There was discussion only. Lyle will check on details.

**Joan MM/S to change quarterly voters assembly from 8 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Carried.**

Officers were then voted in: **MM/S by Pat for a unanimous vote for Shane Vos for Elder; Carried. MM/S by Pat for a unanimous vote for Dennis Winter for Trustee; Carried.**

**MM/S by Pat for a unanimous vote for Tom Priester for Treasurer; Carried.**

**MM/S by Pat for a unanimous vote for Karen Currier for Board of Education; Carried.**

**Two names were in for Secretary. Ballot vote was taken and counted. Linda Vos won the votes.** There were no nominations for Stewardship; the office remains open.

Head Elder Gary distributed the proposed budget of \$94,834.62. He explained the formula used to get to Pastor's Salary. There was much discussion on the budget amount. **Pat MM/S to pass the budget, a ballot vote was called- Yes to pass, No to not Pass; Yes vote 23, No vote 11.**

**The budget passed.**

**MM/S by Denny to adjourn; Carried.** Pastor publicly thanked each outgoing officer. Pastor Olson closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Carmen Hailey, secretary

# Membership Report for 2011

*Rev. Jon C. Olson*

2011:	began with	243	Baptized members
	<b>ended with</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>Baptized members</b>
2011	began with	199	Communicant members
	<b>ended with</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>Communicant members</b>

## **Official Acts:**

### Baptism:

7/10/2011	Marley Rose Casavan, infant daughter of Shawn & Megan (Tadesse) Casavan
10/16/2011	John Ray Currier, adult
10/30/2011	Ryder Lullabel Franz, infant daughter of Matthew Franz & Erin Cox
12/8/2011	Clara Mary Evangelina Olson, infant daughter of Pastor Jon & Emily Olson

### Youth Confirmation:

4/17/2011	Tessa Bucher
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### Adult Confirmation:

	Matthew Determan
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### Marriage:

10/08/11	Matthew & Elizabeth (Rohde) Determan
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### Christian Burial:

6/18/2011	Pearl Alma (Wittforth) Buffington
10/28/2011	Vernon Henry Krusemark
11/10/11	Ethel (Frank) Winter

### Transfer In:

10/3/2011	Elizabeth (Rohde) Determan
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### Transfer Out:

1/16/2011	Dawn Klumper
3/9/2011	Christopher Evans
4/6/2011	Larry Smallfield
4/6/2011	Marlene Smallfield
4/6/2011	Jessica Smallfield
10/3/2011	Clara Forde

### Peaceful Release:

9/6/2011	Ron Pietz
9/6/2011	Amy Pietz
9/6/2011	Devin Pietz
9/6/2011	Eric Pietz

## Our Saviour's 2012 Budget

<b>PASTOR</b>	2011 Adopted Budget	2011 Actual	2012 Adopted Budget
Salary and Housing	41199.73	40740.24	45959.17
Concordia Health D	15108.00	18931.18	15852.00
Part D Deductable	1400.00	1400.00	1400.00
Church Plan Retirement	3584.38		3998.45
Education	500.00	1267.43	500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61792.11</b>	<b>62338.85</b>	<b>67709.62</b>
<b>EMPLOYEES</b>			
Secretary	2500.00	2442.50	2500.00
Janitor	3750.00	3750.00	3750.00
Organist	1400.00	1365.00	1400.00
Choir Director			
Payroll taxes	700.00	387.35	400.00
Pulpit Supply	450.00	525.00	450.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8800.00</b>	<b>8469.85</b>	<b>8500.00</b>
<b>UTILITIES</b>			
Electricity	2500.00	2179.04	2300.00
Garbage	255.00	251.60	255.00
Gas	3000.00	3341.00	3300.00
Internet	330.00	327.36	330.00
Telephone	330.00	326.39	330.00
Water & Sewer	700.00	709.65	700.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7115.00</b>	<b>7135.04</b>	<b>7215.00</b>
<b>SUPPLIES</b>			
Church	500.00	371.21	500.00
Education	500.00	-270.60	500.00
Office	2400.00	1848.71	2000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3400.00</b>	<b>1949.32</b>	<b>3000.00</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>			
Property/Casualty	1725.00	1461.62	1500.00
Workman's Comp	550.00	619.00	650.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2275.00</b>	<b>2080.62</b>	<b>2150.00</b>
<b>BOARDS</b>			
Christian Ed	0.00		
Evangelism	0.00		
Stewardship			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>COMMITMENTS</b>			
Conventions/meetings	500.00	422.15	500.00
College Pacts			
Mileage	1500.00	1625.28	1600.00
Youth			
Missions	2000.00	2000.00	2000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4000.00</b>	<b>4047.43</b>	<b>4100.00</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
Maintenance	500.00	649.27	500.00
Mowing yard	650.00	560.00	560.00
Snow removal	800.00	915.00	800.00
Material/Labor/Repair	200.00	301.54	300.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2150.00</b>	<b>2425.81</b>	<b>2160.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>89532.11</b>	<b>88446.92</b>	<b>94834.62</b>

# Thoughts on Stewardship

## ***GIFTING COMMODITIES TO THE LORD***

Facts obtained from phone interviews with Cargill and Meulebroecks

*By Gary Hailey*

Selling commodities in the name of the church can be a very beneficial way to serve the Lord (and also help you). Your income will be lowered by the amount of the gift, thereby giving you the equivalent of a 100% deduction off your income. There are a few simple guidelines to follow to make this work.

The commodity being sold must change ownership over to the church. This means the commodity can no longer be sold by the farmer. The grain is now owned by the church, and must be sold by a representative of the church. Tell the business this load is for your congregation, and contact our representative Faye Long (ph. 825-4091) for the marketing. When they call Faye she will immediately sell for the current cash price. (Another option would be if the business had a letter on file from the church stating they should always immediately sell any Our Saviour's Commodity as soon as it hits the pit. Let the church office know if you prefer this option and we will get them a letter.) The business receiving the commodity will need the name and address of our church:

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  
1102 7<sup>th</sup> Ave SW  
Pipestone MN 56164

The congregation will receive a check made out to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. There will be no record of the individual who made the gift. The only people who will know will be the personnel of the office where the commodity was sold. You will not receive a record of a charitable donation from the church. The tax benefit will be the lowering of your income; however, you cannot take the deduction for a charitable contribution. This would be deducting the gift twice.

Cargill informed me that this is something they do all the time. It is most common when a contract is being filled and there is an over-run. The over-run is often sold to that owner's congregation. Some customers will also sell a whole load, or any percentage of a load.

As far as the IRS is concerned, there is one rule to follow. The gift can not be made in the same year the crop was produced. If such a gift were to be made, you must decrease your deductions on the crop inputs for that part of your production. Put simply, you can't deduct the fertilizer on the crop if you give the crop away. This problem does not exist if the donation is made the following year. For example, the crop grown in 2011 can be donated to the church in 2012 with no book keeping headaches, and the IRS will be happy. All your input deductions can still be made, and your income will be lowered when the donation is made.

If you still have any questions, I'm sure they can be answered by your tax man or the place where you sell your commodities (or me). This is a common practice.

Please consider this as an option for your giving to your congregation—giving back a small portion of the bountiful gifts our Lord has first given us.

# Choice Dollars Details

[https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/program/dollars\\_details/](https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/program/dollars_details/)

The Thrivent Choice® program lets members recommend where some of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans' charitable outreach funds go by directing Choice Dollars. The 2012 details are outlined below.

## Member Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for Choice Dollars, you must be a benefit member age 16 or older. Individual eligibility is also based on:

- ◆ Holding a Thrivent Financial Volunteer Leadership position; or
- ◆ Having \$800 or more in annual premiums of qualifying insurance products; or
- ◆ Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying products.
- ◆ Member eligibility under current eligibility requirements is determined monthly, and these eligibility requirements are re-evaluated on an annual basis.

## Amount of Choice Dollars Designated to You

- ◆ \$2.30 Choice Dollars per \$100 of annual premium on qualifying insurance products is designated monthly based upon the premium payments you made in the prior month.
- ◆ \$1.15 Choice Dollars per \$1,000 of contract value of qualifying products is designated on a quarterly basis. 25% of this amount will be designated to you each calendar quarter based upon the actual contract value at the end of quarter.
- ◆ \$25 Choice Dollars for Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership positions is designated once each year.
- ◆ Choice Dollar amounts range from \$25 to \$2,500 for eligible members.

## Choice Dollars Expiration Date

Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year. For example, you can direct Choice Dollars designated to you in 2012 until March 31, 2013.

## Organizations Eligible for Choice Dollars

- ◆ 501(c)(3) Lutheran organizations and Lutheran congregations that meet program eligibility rules; and
- ◆ Recommended by an eligible member or apply online; and
- ◆ Approved by a local chapter before being added to the online list.
- ◆ Directing Designated Choice Dollars. You can direct Choice Dollars to as many organizations as you like. However, you must direct a minimum of \$5 Choice Dollars to each organization.
- ◆ Thrivent Financial will distribute Choice Dollars funds directed by members to organizations monthly.

## Recurring Direction

Want to automatically direct your 2012 designated Choice Dollars to the same organization? Set up a recurring direction.

- ◆ Choice Dollars will be automatically directed to your recommended organization when the balance reaches \$10 Choice Dollars or more. At year-end, the entire balance will be distributed, including balances of less than \$10 Choice Dollars.
- ◆ The process remains in effect for 2012 unless you change or remove this option. You will receive a reminder email prior to funds being distributed.
- ◆ You may only set a recurring direction for one organization.
- ◆ This option is available for 2012 only.

***To set up a new designation account or to change your recurring direction setting, contact local Thrivent representative, Linda Vos (ph. 507-820-1453) or go to the My Thrivent Choice Activity website.***

## February Stewardship Question

*Those TV preachers tell me if I give them money I'll get more money back.  
Is that really how it works?*

TV preachers are known for the teaching that it is always God's will for all Christians to be perfectly healthy and financially wealthy. This is called the "health-wealth gospel".

The essential message of the "health-wealth gospel" is that if you give money, God is obligated to bless you with health and wealth. Consequently, if you give money, but are not blessed with health and wealth, you either did not give enough money, or do not have enough faith to truly receive the blessing. Often times, "health-wealth" televangelists encourage people to give large sums of money, while at the same time preemptively explaining why the people are not blessed with health and wealth as they were promised.

Also known as the "prosperity gospel," ***it is decidedly unbiblical***. Yes, the Bible encourages believers to give. As St. Paul teaches:

**On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come.**  
(1 Corinthians 16:2)

**The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.**  
(2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

And yes, the Bible teaches that those who give generously will be blessed by God. Jesus said:

**[G]ive, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.** (Luke 6:38)

However, the Bible does not teach that we should give SO THAT we will be blessed. The Bible teaches that we should give because we love God and want to thank Him for what He has given us in His Son Jesus Christ.

**I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might be come rich.** (2 Corinthians 8:8-9)

Our motive for giving should not be so that God will bless us in return. Rather, our motive for giving should be to glorify God and to share the blessings He has given, thereby further expanding His kingdom and promoting the message of the Christian Gospel.

Simply put, the message, focus, and motives of the health-wealth televangelists are clearly unbiblical.

# OSLC Stewardship Facts

January 2012

## Current Budget Deposits

5 Sundays \$8,632.00

## 2012 Adopted Budget

\$94,834.62 / 12 mo. \$7,902.89 / mo.

## Other Contributions

Building Fund (LCEF) \$75.00

Memorial Fund (LCEF) \$30.00

Missions \$55.00

## Stewardship Story

AARON Who said that?  
IT IS I AARON, THE LORD Oh, hi Lord what can I do for you?  
AARON, DO YOU HAVE A WALLET? Yes  
I'LL TAKE IT Fine, you can have it, there's only 3 dollars in it.  
AARON, DO YOU HAVE A BANK ACCOUNT? Yes  
I'LL TAKE IT. Sure, help yourself  
AARON, DO YOU HAVE A CAR? Yes  
I'LL TAKE IT Great, I can just walk home  
AARON, DO YOU HAVE A BUSINESS? Yes  
I'LL TAKE IT It's about ready to go under anyway  
AARON, DO YOU HAVE A HOUSE? Yes  
I'LL TAKE IT I hope you have fun making those payments  
AARON, DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY Yes  
I'LL TAKE THEM Hey wait a minute Lord! You've taken my wallet, my bank account, my car, my business, my house, and now my family.  
The only thing you haven't taken is the shirt off my back.  
I'LL TAKE IT Fine! You can have it!  
AARON What now Lord!  
I HAVE A WALLET, A CAR, A BANK ACCOUNT, A BUSINESS, A HOUSE, A FAMILY, AND A SHIRT.  
THESE THINGS ARE ALL MINE, BUT I WOULD LIKE YOU TO WATCH OVER THEM FOR ME AND TAKE GOOD CARE OF THEM FOR ME.

*As heard on the XM/Sirius Satellite Radio Network program "Wretched Radio" ([www.wretchedradio.com](http://www.wretchedradio.com))*

### Stewardship Questions and Stories from Members

Pastor and Elders are encouraging members to share your wisdom with others with a story concerning stewardship. An experience you had, a story you heard, something you would share with your child or grandchild. Members may also submit questions to be answered by pastor. If you wish, they may be submitted with your name (in case we have a question) however, no names will be printed in the newsletter.

# Faith Nourishment Opportunities

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Sunday Bible Class</u></b></p> <p>Each week we hear an overview of one book of the Bible. Author, date, theme, and important topics of that book of the Bible are discussed in an informal way. This makes it easy to attend both regularly and not so regularly! Come and plug in anytime!</p> <p><b>February</b>      5—No Bible Class                            12—II Corinthians                            19—Galatians                            26—Ephesians</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TUESDAY BIBLE CLASS</u></b></p> <p>Midweek Bible Class meets at 9:15am. We are studying the Book of Hebrews. All are welcome to attend!</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>CONFIRMATION</u></b></p> <p>Confirmation Class is on Wednesdays from 4-5 pm. Confirmands are being taught God's Word from <i>One Hundred Bible Stories</i> and <i>Luther's Small Catechism</i>.</p>
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**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School takes place following each Sunday Service. The opening consists of a children's lesson based on the readings used in Sunday's Worship Service, offering, hymn, and Lord's Prayer.

Further instruction on the day's lessons is based on a Children's Worship Bulletin entitled, "Lessons of Lambs".

The children are divided by age and taught by Karen Currier/Emily Olson/Sheri Cox (PreK-2nd Grade) and Pr. Olson (3rd Grade and up).

**LCMS Frequently Asked Questions**

**What is the significance of Ash Wednesday and ashes on the forehead?**

*Q: Would you please explain the significance of Ash Wednesday. I've seen some people in the past with black ash crosses on their foreheads.*

**A:** Lutheran Worship: History and Practice, the recent commentary on Lutheran Worship, one of our Synod's hymnals, says this about ashes on Ash Wednesday: "Other customs may be used, particularly the imposition of ashes on those who wish it. This ancient act is a gesture of repentance and a powerful reminder about the meaning of the day. Ashes can symbolize dust-to-dustness and remind worshipers of the need for cleansing, scrubbing and purifying. If they are applied during an act of kneeling, the very posture of defeat and submission expresses humility before God."

The use of ashes on Ash Wednesday is a more recent custom among most LCMS congregations, although some have done it for decades. The ashes are usually derived from the burned palms from the previous Palm Sunday. Experience will show, however, that in obtaining ashes this way, it doesn't take many ashes to "ash" a whole congregation. Like sin, they are very dirty and go a long way. One palm leaf will produce enough ashes for several years.

Usually the pastor takes the ashes on the end of his thumb and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each worshiper, saying these words: "Remember: you are dust, and to dust you shall return." This follows most effectively prior (or as part of) the Service Corporate Confession and Absolution on pp. 290-291 of Lutheran Service Book.

## Ladies Guild

### ♥ *February Meeting*

*7:00 pm, Feb 13th*

### Altar Guild

#### Seasons/Paraments/Colors

##### *"Gesima" Sundays*

This period of the Church Year is our "narthex," our entrance into the season of Lent, a time for us to pause before we begin our pilgrimage to Calvary and the empty tomb. The names of the Sundays in this mini-season are markers telling us about how many days there are until our celebration of Easter: Septuagesima (70), Sexagesima (60), and Quinquagesima (50). Each of the three Sundays focus on one of the three Sola's of Lutheranism. The first week we will hear how we are saved by Grace Alone (Sola Gratia), the next week of Scripture Alone (Sola Scriptura), and finally we consider the importance of Baptism and how we are saved by Faith Alone (Sola Fide). With our eyes focused on how God works to save us, we enter the penitential season of Lent.

On Ash Wednesday we will stop singing the Gloria in Excelsis and the singing of the Alleluia before the reading of the Gospel Lesson. This is entirely appropriate since the readings during Lent describe our Lord's procession to the cross on Good Friday. On Easter Sunday the great Gloria in Excelsis returns, along with the Gospel Alleluia. May we all sing it loudly, boldly, and confidently as we praise our loving God!

#### **Altar Guild Meeting**

Five members and Pastor Olson met to review Saturday preparation and responsibilities for Sunday worship services. We also discussed banners, baptismal font, flowers and weekday services. Special thanks to Gloria Smidt for the excellent apple coffee cake!

#### **Church Flowers**

The 2012 Flower Chart has been posted on the hallway bulletin board near the mailboxes. The cost of providing two bouquets is \$25 plus tax. On Sundays when no flowers are provided, the Ladies Guild graciously donates them.

On the chart simply write "anniversary" or "in memory of" or "in thanksgiving for," etc. All clearly noted reasons will automatically be printed in the Sunday bulletin.

#### **Candles**

The Altar Guild is very thankful for the purchase of the new altar candles. They will save us time and money. Special thanks to the families whose loved ones contributed to their purchase.

### Youth Group

Youth Outing to Great Bear February 25, 2012. Leave from Church parking lot at 10 AM weather permitting. Please RSVP by Feb. 23, 2012 so we can arrange for drivers. Please contact: Darla at 825-2873, Linda at 820-1453 or Amy at 562-1880. We would love to have anyone from the ages of 5th grade to 12th grade participate with us!!

#### **Our Saviour's Youth Upcoming Servant Opportunities & Fund Raising Events**

First upcoming fund raising is the Sweet Walk. This will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> time we have done this, and it went over very well last year. We will be contacting the youth to bake items and to help with potluck.

1. Sweet Walk & Pot luck-Feb 12 (Set Up/Bring goodies/serve & kitchen cleanup)
2. Lenten Service Suppers-(serve supper/and or bars / work in kitchen/clean up) March/April approx. 6 times
3. Easter Breakfast-(set up/serve and kitchen clean up) Set up night before and serve and help with kitchen clean up.
4. Salad Luncheon-(June-help with serving/clean up)
5. Bible School-help with teaching/music/rec/arts and crafts
6. Sunday School-help with teaching
7. Soup and Pie Supper-help in kitchen/serve and kitchen clean up
8. Advent Suppers approx. 4 times-(help with suppers before service-kitchen clean up)
9. Fill Christmas bags-(usually done at one of Advent suppers)

These are some of the events you are encouraged and expected to help with. We don't expect that you help with everything, because everybody is busy-but to raise money to do the "FUN" things we all have to work "TOGETHER" to raise the money for the Lock Ins, Valley Fair trips, Great Bear and etc.

Lets have a great year experiencing Christ's love in serving and helping others, working together, and HAVING FUN TOGETHER!!

Youth Group Leaders Contacts:

Amy VandenBosch -507-360-4362  
Darla Wienkauf- 507-215-1346  
Linda Vos- 507-820-1453

## **Happy Baptismal Birthday**

*Megan Beyers ~ Feb 5th  
Gavin Smidt ~ Feb 6th  
Judy Hailey ~ Feb 13th  
Katie Kilmer ~ Feb 18th  
Trent Kurtz ~ Feb 18th  
Bailee Kohn ~ Feb 28th*

## **Happy Birthday**

*Orvil Swenson ~ Feb 2nd  
Linda Winter ~ Feb 3rd  
Joan Crawford ~ Feb 11th  
Cameron Kohn ~ Feb 14th  
Andrew Bucher ~ Feb 16th  
Florine Johnson ~ Feb 18th  
LaDonna Crawford ~ Feb 18th  
Austin Westly ~ Feb 22nd  
Tim Erickson ~ Feb 28th*

## **Happy Anniversary**

*Mike & Kate Harman  
Feb 2, 2008  
Jerry & Gayle Popma  
Feb 20, 1965*

## **Newsletter Deadline**

**Noon Tuesday—February 28th**  
*Thank You , Patricia Rieck, church secretary*

## **MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

Baptism  
Wedding  
Christian Burial  
Transfer In:  
Transfer Out:  
Request for Release:  
Peaceful Release:

# **Our Saviour's Homebound Members**

### **Local:**

**Alvin Langner**  
716 2nd St SW  
Pipestone, MN  
(507) 825-5366

**Helen Westphal**  
2nd Street SW  
Pipestone, MN 56164  
(507) 825-5764

### **Falls Landing:**

1101 N Hiawatha Avenue  
Pipestone MN 56164

**Joyce Jacobson**  
(507) 825-3668

**Pete Carlson**  
(507) 825-2226

### **Out of Town:**

**Lee Rose**  
210 E 3rd Ave  
Flandreau SD 57028  
(605) 997-3554

### **Ridgeview Estates:**

903 2nd Avenue SE  
Pipestone, MN 56164

**Elden & Eloise Olsen**  
(507) 825-5615

### **Good Samaritan Village:**

1311 N Hiawatha Avenue  
Pipestone MN 56164  
(507) 825-5428

**Nora Griebel**

**Doris Klindt**  
(507) 825-5428  
**Florine Johnson**

**Dorothy Tepley**  
(507) 825-3872

**Robert & Mavis Ripley**  
(507) 825-2329

# OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

## 2012 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN: Jack Bucher  
(507) 825-4090

\*TREASURER: Tom Priester  
(507) 215-0968

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Faye Long  
(507) 825-4091

\*COUNCIL SECRETARY: Linda Vos  
(507) 820-1453

HEAD ELDER: Gary Hailey  
(507) 825-2209

\*CHAIR, BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP: vacant

\*HEAD TRUSTEE: Dennis Winter  
(507) 825-5210

\*CHAIR, BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Karen Currier  
(507) 215-7504

\*SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT & CO-CHAIR, BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Karen Currier  
(507) 215-7504

CHAIR, BOARD FOR EVANGELISM: Sheri Cox  
(507) 825-2510

### LADIES GUILD

PRESIDENT: Linda Winter  
(507) 825-5210

VICE-PRESIDENT: Helen Klinsing  
(507) 825-3790

SECRETARY: Linda Erickson  
(507) 920-6217

TREASURER: Nancy Bones

ALTAR GUILD: Gloria Smidt

### BOARD OF ELDERS

Gary Hailey

(507) 825-2209

Dan Hailey

(507) 820-0846

Shane Vos

(507) 820-1524

The members of the **Board of Elders** work closely with the Pastor for the spiritual well-being of the Congregation. Concerns about the Divine Service, service times, pastoral care, church membership, or similar items should be addressed to Pastor or the Elders.

The members of the **Board of Trustees** give attention to the Church's physical properties. Concerns about maintenance of the church, snow removal, lawn mowing or similar items should be addressed to the head trustee.



# Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

## February 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
February Hymn of the Month: <i>O Holy Spirit, Enter In</i>			<b>1</b> 4 pm Confirmation	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <i>Septuagesima</i> <b>10 am Divine Service</b> 11:15 am Sunday School	<b>6</b> 11:30 am—3pm Pipestone Circuit Winkel  1 pm Quilting  6:00 pm Board of Elders 7:00 pm Church Council	<b>7</b> 9:15 am Adult Bible Class	<b>8</b> 4 pm Confirmation	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>Sexagesima</i> 8:45 am Bible Class <b>10 am Divine Service</b> No Communion 11:15 am Youth Youth Sweetwalk & Congregational Potluck	<b>13</b> 7 pm Ladies Guild	<b>14</b> 9:15 am Adult Bible Class	<b>15</b> 4 pm Confirmation	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7am-5pm Pastor @ LWML BOD in Mankato
<b>19</b> <i>Quinquagesima</i> 8:45 am Bible Class <b>10 am Divine Service</b> 11:15 am Sunday School 1pm Good Samaritan Service 2 pm Circuit Forum	<b>20</b> 1 pm Quilting	<b>21</b> 9:15 am Adult Bible Class	<b>22</b> 4 pm Confirmation  <b>7:00 pm</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>Divine Service</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10 am Youth Outing to Great Bear
<b>26</b> <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i> 8:45 am Bible Class <b>10 am Divine Service</b> No Communion 11:15 am Sunday School	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:15 am Adult Bible Class	<b>29</b> 4 pm Confirmation  <b>7:00 pm</b> <b>Lenten Service</b>	<b>Be sure to join us for</b> <b>Coffee and Bars following each</b> <b>Lenten Service beginning</b> <b><u>February 29th.</u></b>		