

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

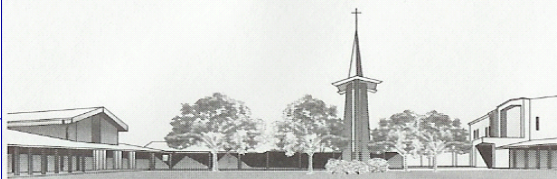


Volume XXVII, Issue 1

January 2012

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Our Savior Lutheran Church Living Faith Center

WORSHIP WITH US

Traditional Worship 8:00 & 9:30 AM
Sunday School Classes 9:30 AM
Adult Class 9:30 AM
Praise Worship 11:00 AM

Communion is served the 1st & 3rd Sunday at Traditional and every Sunday at Contemporary.



**EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL
 POLKA WORSHIP
 Sunday, January 29
 8:00 and 9:30 am
 Living Faith Center.**

Traditional Worship at 9:30 and Contemporary Worship at 11:00 will be offered in the Sanctuary.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN STAFF

MINISTERS	ALL PEOPLE OF OSLC
PASTOR	STEVEN HERZBERG
ASSOCIATE IN MINISTRY	JANET WEST
OFFICE MANAGER	SUE WADGYMAR
CHOIR DIRECTOR/PIANIST	LINDA TODD
YOUTH DIRECTOR	DAWN EVERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT	RUDY LOSOYA
VICE PRESIDENT	BASE HUSTON
TREASURER	TOM RIESTERER
BORDER MISSIONS	WENDY FOWLER
FELLOWSHIP	PHYLLIS YARDLEY
OUTREACH	VI GREENWALD
PUBLICITY	BASE HUSTON
LEARNING & YOUTH	TERRI JENSEN
	KATHY SALINAS
PROPERTY	RALLAND HARRISON
STEWARDSHIP	JANET WEST
WORSHIP & MUSIC	BETTY COOKSLEY
	CAROL TODD

(Pictures of council members are posted in the Narthex, as are copies of minutes & financial reports.)

Pastor's Notes

This newsletter comes out a little early due to the Christmas holidays. What a Sunday we had on the 11th with the Cantata and Children's Program, followed by caroling by the LOST Youth Group to seven of our shut-ins. This note goes out before Bishop Tiemann's visit. God-willing, that will also be a blessed Sunday. Note that the 7pm Candlelight Service on the 24th will be a bilingual offering. The Thanksgiving bilingual service was well received and gave us the opportunity to worship with several of the Spanish speakers we have been working with for a number of years now. The 7pm service is traditionally low-attended, and therefore, we would like to take this opportunity again to worship together with others in both English and Spanish. May your Christmas days bring

joy and happiness to your lives. The Christ-child is in our midst again. He brings blessing to the world and peace to all humankind. Let us live in His Eternal Kingdom – both here and in eternity. On Jan. 14th, Frank Runyan will be presenting a monologue on the Sermon on the Mount. It will have a lot to say about that Kingdom of God. We greatly enjoyed his presentation last year, and I would personally highly recommend him to you this year. You won't regret it. . . . January also brings the Congregational Meeting on Sunday the 22nd after third service. In addition to approving a new budget and electing new council members, we will also select our Synod representatives for the Synod Assembly in May in Corpus Christi. This year's Assembly has the extra feature of electing a bishop. All voting mem-

bers are eligible to be nominated for these two representative positions. We will select one female and one male at the congregational meeting. Janet West and I go automatically as rostered members of the ELCA. . . . In a new twist, we will have the 8am and 9:30am Polka Services in the gym as always, but also offer a traditional service in the sanctuary at 9:30am and a contemporary at 11am. At this point, I will be preaching in the gym, Janet will be preaching at the traditional at 9:30, and Paul Jensen will be preaching at the 11am contemporary. Just think, if you did it right, you could hear three different sermons on one Sunday morning! We don't offer that very often here at OSLC. . . . Lutefisk isn't too far around the corner in February either. Plus, a square-dancing party as well. We'll keep you posted. . . . Merry Christmas to each and every one of you. Pastor Steve, Home phone 956-631-0273

OSLC NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL! You get: faster service, pictures in color, save paper & postage (Mailings cost about \$750/year). Please sign up!



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Healing: Bob & Carol Bitner, Nelda Eason, Ernie Greenwald, Zachary Hoffmann, Brent Jackson, Robert Jackson, Morris & Mildred Johnson, Doug & Mace Magnusson, Kellie Meyers, Bob Moon, Burnie Olson, Bob & Pat Phillips, Savannah Schlaefer, Kelli Travers.

Family Members: Bob & Lorna Rainey.

Friends of Congregation: LaRue Beasley, Paul Cortez, Jerry Groom, Leroy Hedberg, Wyatt Anthony Kamp, Todd Krantz, Jim Laing, Elva Michal, Farrah Mumma, Audrey Rickman, Bob Shaffer, Michael Travers, King Turner, Matthew VanRoekel, Cisco Villa, Mary Whitney, Jarred Yeager. **In military service:** Johnny Cannon (Tom Riesterer's grandson), Cody Crumpler (relative of the Todd's), Justin Garcia, Harry Hanson, Brian Hovland, Bryan Phillips (Esther Olsen's grandson), Ramiro Sandoval (Burnhams' son); Brian Ruiz (cousin of Ruiz family), Michael Sanchez (Carol Todd's son), Matthew Sandford.

For the Family and Friends of Donald Drozdowski, who passed from life through death to life eternal on 11/26.

For the Family and Friends of Dorothy Wittcamp, who passed from life through death to life eternal on 12/6.

For the Family and Friends of Carney Olson, who passed from life through death to life eternal on 12/8.

Bible Classes for Everyone

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES: 9:30 am in the LFC!

SUNDAY ADULT CLASS: An adult Bible study will be offered at 9:30am. We'll decide which one in January.

CONFIRMATION CLASS for 6th to 8th graders meets Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm in the Friendship Room.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ADULT BIBLE STUDY at 6:30pm in the Library. We'll begin a study of Revelation on January 4. "Is This the Time? Interpreting the Mystery of Revelation" offers an alternative to the popular visions and schemes of interpretation, presenting the book in a way designed to give people a sense of hope.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: "The Greatest Story: Jesus". This is for all who want to encounter the Jesus of the 4 Gospels and see how his story connects to our stories. We walk the journey from Jesus' birth, through his brilliant ministry, along the dark path of trials and crucifixion, and into the bright light of Easter morning. Join Pastor Steve in the Parish Hall.

THE LEARNING COMMITTEE will meet Thursday, Jan. 5 at 6:30pm in the Friendship Room.



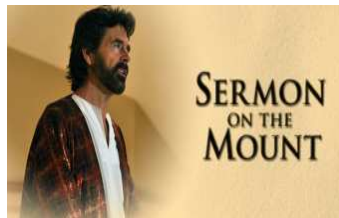
Last year, Frank Runyeon appeared as the Christmas Angel in Training...

On January 14, he returns!



Runyeon sets the famous Sermon in a revealing new setting: as told by the apostle Matthew to the church in Antioch, shortly after the Roman army has burned Jerusalem to the ground...In this dramatic setting, suddenly the lines heard so often have new meaning. And the very human stories of the people which Matthew may have addressed come to life... The performance of the SERMON is followed by **HOLLYWOOD vs. FAITH: The Three Other Beatitudes**. Frank discusses, with humor, the very different beatitudes the media are teaching us, and the choices we face daily as Americans and as people of faith.

**Join us Saturday, January 14 at 3:00 PM.
Adult \$10, School age youth \$5**



SERVICE OF HEALING

Thursday, January 19 at 6:30pm for all those in need of healing and comfort.



READING CLUB: We'll meet Wednesdays at 5:30 pm in the Living Faith Center (except the 14th which is Kid's Club). Questions? Please talk to Tonia (631-0273).

KID'S CLUB! Come and join Kid's Club on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:30 - 8:00 PM! Games, art, and Bible time for preK—5th grade. Contact Tonia or Kathy (631-6707) with questions.

OSLC Food Ministry

Our ministry is continuing to give \$25 food cards to families in need. If you would like to donate, please mark your check "Food ministry". Food cards are usually given on the 4th Sundays of each month. We are currently helping 5 families in our congregation. Thank you for your generosity.

\$6,234 Given in Thrivent Choice Dollar in 2011!

That's right, over \$6,000 has been directed to Our Savior Lutheran by Thrivent members this year. Thank you to all those that have participated!

Are you a Thrivent Financial member: You may be able to designate up to \$2,500 each year to Our Savior through the Thrivent Choice program. How do you direct your Choir dollars to our church? It's easy...call 1-800-847-4836 and state "Thrivent Choice," or visit www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice, click "get started," then choose to give your "Choice Dollars" to "Our Savior Lutheran Church." These dollars are added to "other income" in the General Fund.

Jottings from Janet:

A Blessed Christmas season and a Spirit filled New Year is my prayer for all of you. As we begin a New Year here at Our Savior the Holy Spirit is truly at work in this place. Our Advent Bible study discussed the "True Gifts of Christmas": faith, peace, new Life, and love. I pray that all of us will begin this New Year with a quiet heart, and open mind that can respond to the Holy Spirit's direction for us all.

Frank Runyeon returns to Our Savior on Saturday the 14th of January at 3:00 PM. He will present "The Sermon on the Mount", followed by "Hollywood vs. Faith". Please gather up your friends and plan to attend this special event. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth.

Our Healing Services continue on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM January's service will be 1-19-12. All are welcome as all of us need healing of some kind. Join us if you can.

Our Listening Hands ministry has grown and branched as we hoped it would. We have the pool gardens, the bilingual Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Eve service, and a new project to help the ladies make bags that they can sell to make some money.

My sincere thanks to the various members of our wonderful family who have been my eyes for the last months, your willingness to drive me around, get me to meetings and home again has enabled me to continue doing this work that I love so much. May God bless you all for your kindness and support... In His name, Janet



HOMBRES met for their traditional Christmas dinner at the Red Lobster on December 8th. In January, we'll meet Thursday the 12th at 6:30pm in the home of John Frazer, 2508 Sequoia Dr, Mission, 956-683-0150.. Please sign up in the Narthex. All men are welcome for good food and fellowship.

Annual Congregation Meeting - Sunday, January 22 - 12:15 p.m.

The 2011 Annual Report will be in the Narthex on Jan. 15th along with the 2012 Voter Roster. We will look back on what we've accomplished in 2011 in our various ministries, and plan for the year ahead. Plan to attend.

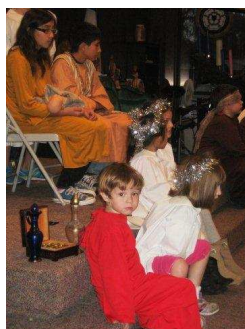
OSLC Dime Ministry: The dimes from the 4th quarter of 2011 will benefit the Piecemakers ministry. So far \$122 has been donated in dimes for Oct. & Nov. for this quarter. In January a different ministry will be highlighted for the 1st quarter of 2012. Save your dimes and bring them to church on the last Sunday of every month.



SCRIP: Thanks to all who participated and for Mary Lovig's help this year. You earned \$2001.70 for the General Fund at Our Savior Lutheran. Shall we try for \$3000 in 2012? Vi

WANTED:

Another sewing machine or two for the Listening Hands ladies to make bags. We have 2 and we need the older metal heavy duty kind that can handle denim. Thanks.



"O Come Let Us Adore Him"
Just a sample of the Christmas program presented on Dec. 11.



BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Virgil Fasse
- 6 Daniel Hovland
- 6 Sandy Huston
- 6 Lorraine Petersen
- 9 Max Beasley
- 11 Kelli Travers
- 13 Marion Platte
- 13 Glen Vissering
- 14 Alice Johnson
- 17 Dick Rush
- 18 David Paulson
- 22 Rowan Wiltse
- 27 Bob Emierick
- 27 Dawn Everson
- 27 Waldo Platte
- 28 Sally Vissering
- 29 Carol Bitner
- 29 Ruth Bjork
- 29 Irene Earl
- 30 Gary Colbenson
- 30 Eldean Drewes
- 30 David Matson
- 30 Bennie Mueske
- 31 Evelyn Bone
- 31 Lynne Watkins



ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Norm & Betty Frey
- 24 Don & Judy Peterson
- 25 Donnie & Kim Beasley
- 27 Orlyn & Alice Johnson
- 28 Jeremy & Tabitha Shourds
- 30 Jenny & Joel Penk
- 30 Waldo & Marion Platte

Blood Pressure Screenings

On Sunday, Jan. 8. Mary Lovig will be in the library between services to check your blood pressure. You can also stop in to browse the library and check out any book(s) you'd like to read. Blood pressure monitoring for those who desire will be offered on the 2nd Sun of each month during the Winter Texan season.

SHARING AND CARING



Thank you to all who contributed to our "Undie Sunday" effort. We will distribute them to Las Milpas, Estrella's House and Su Casa.

Also, thank you to all who purchased Fiesta Books. Your money is being put to good use. Our men are busy in Las Milpas building a handicapped-friendly bathroom for the church secretary at the Lutheran Church, whose son was diagnosed with MS.

We will be distributing items donated from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Wayne, Nebraska. Rowan & Twila Wiltse have been collecting items for distribution to needy missions in the RGV. Special thank you goes out to the Wiltses.

We will deliver your food contributions as follows: **January 1** will be **tuna & canned meat** and **January 15** will be **canned vegetable & canned fruit**; February 6 will be rice & dry beans, and February 13 it's canned tomatoes in any form. Any food you wish to donate will be appreciated as well. And in January, we will be washing windows at 2 elderly ladies' homes.

Please open your hearts and join us. We meet the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm, except for January of 2012. You may contact Norm Frey at 701-471-9568.

PIECEMAKERS We meet on Tuesdays from 9:00am to 2:30pm for fellowship and conversation, and we make quilts while we're at it. Bring your lunch and join us!



7th Annual Lutefisk Dinner!!

Saturday, Feb. 4, 2012
Tickets are \$17.50 each.

Help wanted:

Make meatballs, Thurs, Feb. 2, 9AM
Peel potatoes, Fri, Feb 2, 9AM
Rosettes & Krum Kaka-please sign up! 470 are needed.



Country Gospel Jam



JANUARY 8
And Feb 6 & Mar 6
2:00-4:30pm
Spread the word!

**OUR NEIGHBOR'S FAITH:
Understanding World Religions**

Dr. Ken Grant will present a series of lectures on world religions at 3:30 pm in the Sanctuary at First Lutheran Church, 302 S. Sugar Road in Edinburg. They are: Jan. 15, 2012—Islam; and Feb. 15, 2012—New American Religious Movements: Latter Day Saints, Christian Science, Jehovah's Witnesses.



Super Savings Fiesta Books

Lots of valuable coupons for you for just \$10. Funds raised benefit the Sharing & Caring Ministry.

If you received this newsletter in error, please contact the church office.

This newsletter was taken to the Post Office on December 15, 2011.

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JANUARY 2012

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
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