

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



Volume XXVI, Issue 11

November 2011

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Our Savior Lutheran Church *Living Faith Center*

WORSHIP WITH US

Traditional Worship **9:30 AM**

Sunday School Classes *9:30 AM*

Adult Class *9:30 AM*

Praise Worship **11:00 AM**

Note: 9:30 Worship only on Nov. 27

Reception of New Members, Sunday, Nov. 6

We welcome Paula Cheever, Christine Day, Vicki Drews, Norm & Betty Frey, Eddie, Lorrie, Jessica, Rebecca, & Allison Long, Bill & Betty Mauck, Guy & Willie Morris, and Kevin, Danae & Braylahn Wiley. We give thanks to God for the commitment of these individuals and pray God's blessing upon them in their time with us. We are all part of Saints of God and want to celebrate with these special Saints on that special Sunday.

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

November is All Saints, Christ the King, Thanksgiving, Advent, and Stewardship time. We will receive 17 new members on the 6th for All Saints' Sunday, have a Taco Breakfast Fundraiser for the youth's trip to New Orleans on the 13th, have Stewardship Sunday on the 13th, celebrate Christ the King on the 20th, give thanks at worship on the 23rd, and begin Advent on the 27th. And that's not even December yet. It has a tendency to pick up more during that month. . .

We appreciate your participation in our congregation. We go through many transitions just like the rest of the world. However, our transitions always have one constant – Jesus the Christ and His saving presence and challenge to all of us to follow Him. Church participation gives a for-

mat to do those things. May you come and be fed in order to go out and serve. . . .

We continue to feel the loss of Arvid Mann from our community. I personally want to thank so many of you who gave of your time on and around the date of Arvid's Memorial. You made us a community in Christ for that transition time for Maddy and her sons. She will need your continued support upon her return from Minnesota. . . .

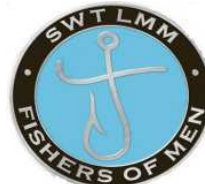
The church year calendar transitions to a new year on the last Sunday of this month – the First Sunday in Advent. It's our opportunity to begin again the Seasons of the Church Year. I would be lost without them and not have the effective witness of God's plans for our world. Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost – the seasons are a tool to keep us con-

nected to our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Someday, like Arvid, we will have the Final Transition of all – into the merciful hands of our God and King. Won't that be something incredible! Thanks be to God!

Happy Thanksgiving and Transitioning!

Helping Our Men Become Responsible

Examples Spiritually



HOMBRES will meet on Thursday, November 10, at 6:30 pm in the home of Ken Dreier, 414 Mercury, Mission. Look for the sign up in the Narthex. All men are welcome.

A Word of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for the memorial service for Arvid Mann. We very much appreciate the help of the ladies who served refreshments and those who brought deserts. Maddy Mann & Family



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Healing: Kermit Andrews, Bob & Carol Bitner, Emma Dunn, Nelda Eason, Zachary Hoffmann, Brent Jackson, Robert Jackson, Morris & Mildred Johnson, Kellie Meyers, Carney & Burnie Olson, Bob & Pat Phillips, Joyce Remus, Kelli Travers. Dorothy Wittcamp. **Family Members:** Gerri Craig (Linda Todd's mom), Bob & Lorna Rainey. **Friends of Congregation:** LaRue Beasley, Paul Cortez, Jerry Groom, Wyatt Anthony Kamp, Todd Krantz, Elva Michal, Farrah Mumma, Audrey Rickman, Bob Shaffer, Michael Travers, King Turner, Matthew VanRoekel, 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 & Friends of Arvid Mann**, who passed from life through death to life eternal on Sept. 29. **For the Family & Friends of Lee Watson**, who passed from life through death to life eternal in Oct.

Our Nominating Committee is looking for council members. We all have Spiritual gifts from God that are indeed a blessing. Consider giving OSLC the benefit of your time and knowledge. Talk to Wendy Fowler, Cindy Liljedahl, Kathy Salinas, Bruce Taylor, or Linda Todd.

CHECK BOOK SUNDAY:

Actually, every Sunday should be check book Sunday now that we are in our busy season. Caring & Sharing have the coupon books, there are tickets for the Frank Runyeon production (you don't want to miss that!), and there is Scrip. Want to know the best part of all this? It all helps our church, our community and each other. Wondering what to get friends & family for the holidays? Gift cards! So bring that check book and participate! The 2nd & 4th Sundays are "SCRIP SUNDAYS". Thanks. Vi

Bible Classes for Everyone

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

SUNDAY ADULT CLASS: PRODIGAL GOD: FINDING YOUR WAY TO THE TABLE continues at 9:30am in Classroom C. Open your eyes to the powerful message of Jesus' best-known-and least understood-parable, The Parable of the Prodigal Son.

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. Come study the Book of Acts with Janet West until the 16th. We'll begin "Gifts of Christmas" on Nov. 30th.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: "The Greatest Story: Jesus". Join Pastor Steve in the Parish Hall.

THE LEARNING COMMITTEE will meet Thursday, Nov. 3 at 6:30pm in the Friendship Room. Help us plan classes and/or activities for every age group.



Frank Runyeon,

Saturday, Jan 14, 2012

3:00 PM Get your tickets!

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

And "Hollywood vs Faith"

\$10 Adult, \$5 School age youth



READING CLUB: We'll meet Wednesdays at 5:30 pm in the Living Faith Center (except the 9th which is Kid's Club). Helpers are always welcome and the more we have, the more children we can help. Please talk to Tonia (631-0273) .

KID'S CLUB! Come and join Kid's Club on Wednesday, November 9 at 6:30 - 8:00 PM! Games, art, and Bible time for preK—5th grade. Contact Tonia or Kathy (631-6707) with questions.

~ **In the Spirit of Reformation** ~ Lutherans believe that individuals receive the gift of salvation through faith alone. Saving faith is the knowledge of, acceptance of, and trust in the promise of the Gospel. Even faith itself is seen as a gift of God, created in the hearts of Christians by the work of the Holy Spirit through the Word and Baptism. Faith receives the gift of salvation rather than causes salvation. Lutherans believe that good works are the fruit of faith, always and in every instance. Good works have their origin in God, not in the fallen human heart or in human striving; their absence would demonstrate that faith, too, is absent. Lutherans do not believe that good works are a factor in obtaining salvation; they believe that we are saved by the grace of God - based on the merit of Christ in his suffering and death - and faith in the triune God. Good works are the natural result of faith, not the cause of salvation. Although Lutherans are no longer compelled to keep God's law, they freely and willingly serve God and their neighbors. (from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lutheran>) Stewardship Sunday is Nov. 13th.



Jottings from Janet: Greetings from the deck of the Diamond Princess. We are in the North Pacific on our way to Honk Kong. When I get home we will begin our annual stewardship time. In the meantime here are some thoughts for you to contemplate:

We receive, reflect, return.
Therefore we should acknowledge all we from Him;
Consider in quiet time;
Thankfully giving our time, talents, and treasures.

So many things to share with ya'll, most of all God's constant presence and protection in all we do.

Blessings, Janet

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Dawn Garcia
- 2 Roger Burnham
- 3 Paul Delaney
- 3 Audrey Kalmoe
- 4 Ken Dreier
- 7 Stan Johannsen
- 7 Bruce Taylor
- 8 Joe Nelson
- 9 Morris Johnson
- 10 Macel Magnussen
- 14 Ralland Harrison
- 14 Tabatha Shourds
- 14 Linda Todd
- 16 Gene Neilsen
- 16 Gwen Preston
- 18 Barb Denman
- 18 Jim Offerdahl
- 18 Milam Smith
- 20 Rudy Losoya
- 21 Thomas Beasley
- 22 Audrey Drewes
- 25 Bob Rainey
- 27 Dillon Day
- 30 Austin Smith

COUNCIL CLIPS FROM OCTOBER MEETING

These notes are a highlight of items discussed at the most recent council meeting. They are not official minutes. The complete record will be available after approval at the next council meeting. Council meetings and committee/board meetings are open to anyone interested in attending. Committee/Board reports are available for review in the church office during the weekdays. Approved minutes and financials are available in the Narthex.

September income and expenses are tracking with the budget. Year-to-date income is greater than plan by \$2075 and expenses are \$741 less. Regular member giving is below plan but Associates and Other income are greater. \$5000 was transferred from the Boetcher bequest to a dedicated Member Emergency Fund which was approved at the September meeting. Committees were reminded to turn in their budgets prior to the November meeting.

Pastor reported that our average attendance in July, Aug & Sept was higher than last year. Motion passed to receive 15 new members on Nov 6. Nominating Committee will be convened in the near future.

Discussion was held regarding possible changes to the worship times in order to accommodate a dedicated Education Hour at 10:15. There being no consensus, any action has been tabled until the November meeting.

Other actions taken: Motion passed to add 4 Handicap parking spaces; parking lot will be swept; bids will be obtained for possible repair to South parking lot entrances; motion passed to purchase new blinds for Friendship Room at the cost of \$405; and motion passed to accept electrician's bid of \$375 for the new sunscreen in sanctuary. Under new business, Sue will update our non-profit status. A Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser for LOST was approved for Dec 3. Razz-Ma-Tazz show choir will perform. Next council meeting is Wednesday, November 9, at 7:30 p.m.



NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Tim & Jeanette Smith
- 8 John & Earline Dirickson
- 22 Dave & Sally Matson
- 23 John & Linda Fraser
- 28 Virgil & Marlene Fasse

TREASURER'S 3RD QUARTER REPORT

Budgeted \$212,452
Difference **(\$2,075)** Income greater than planned by 1 %
Expenses for 9 Months, 2011
Actual \$219,959
Budgeted \$220,700
Difference \$741 Expense about equal to budget. (.04%)

General comments:

Income:
The YTD income is greater than anticipated by \$2,075 (1%) while expenses are less than plan by \$741 (.04%).
Overall, Income is fine, expenses are fine, cash flow is fine, operating fund is fine. We are pretty much as planned so far in 2011. Mortgage Balance is now \$266,704

Tom Riesterer
Treasurer

Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, Nov. 26 at 9:00 a.m.

Take time during your Thanksgiving weekend to help prepare for Advent.



Blood Pressure Screenings will begin on Sun Nov 13. 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 pressures will be monitored for those who desire on the 2nd Sun of each month during the Winter Texan season.

SHARING AND CARING

Every communion Sunday we collect food for distribution to our neighbors in need. Items for November 6 & 20 are **NON-PERISHABLE MILK & CEREALS**. The Sharing & Caring is a group open to everyone at Our Savior Lutheran Church. We'll meet on Monday, Nov. 7 at 6:30pm. Join us. Your help and support is greatly appreciated.

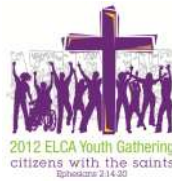
PIECEMAKERS We'll continue to meet on Tuesdays from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Bring your lunch!



Taco Breakfast!

Join the LOST Youth for a taco breakfast on Sunday, November 13 between 8:15 am and 10:45 am. Donations will be accepted to help the Youth raise funds for the National Youth Gathering to be held in New Orleans in July of 2012.

LOST Event Nov. 17 Christian concert: Jeremy Camp/Francesca Battistelli at McAllen Convention Center. **LOST LOCK-IN!** Nov. 22-23 in the LFC.



OSLC Dime Ministry: The dimes from the 4th quarter will benefit the Piece-makers ministry, reaching out to people in our community with hand made quilts and prayers. Save your dimes and bring them to church on the last Sunday of every month. Music Camp received \$148 from the 3rd quarter dimes.

L.O.S.T. DINNER/THEATER

Featuring

**NIKKI ROWE HIGH SCHOOL
RAZZ-MA-TAZZ
AND SPAGHETTI DINNER
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 3
4:00 PM**

LIVING FAITH CENTER

Tickets go on sale mid-November!



Funds raised help our youth attend the ELCA-National Youth Gathering. ("Lady & the Tramp" ©Disney)

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: Nov. 13—Buddhism; Dec. 11—Judaism; Jan. 15, 2012—Islam; and Feb. 15, 2012—New American Religious Movements: Latter Day Saints, Christian Science, Jehovah's Witnesses.

SERVICE OF HEALING

Thursday, Nov. 17 at 6:30pm for all those in need of healing and comfort. Please join us.

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 given on the 4th Sundays of each month. We are currently helping 5 families.

**Thanksgiving Worship
Wednesday, Nov. 23
at 7:00 PM**

above all earthly blessings above all earthly joys

We Give Thanks

Super Savings Fiesta Books



Lots of valuable coupons for you! Funds raised benefit the Sharing & Caring Ministry. Get yours now!

I AM THANKFUL: For the clothes that fit a little to snug, because it means I have enough to eat. For a lawn that needs mowing & windows that need cleaning, because it means I have a home. Count your blessings.

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

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NOVEMBER 2011

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
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