

January 2015

In the name of the Lord Jesus

"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word and deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:12-17

As we begin the year 2015 AD (anno Domini – in the year of the Lord), I offer these verses from the letter to the Colossians as a scripture passage for our lives for the coming year.

The passage gives advise for how to live our whole lives in a way that grows out of the relationship that God has made with us in Jesus. When our relationships are nurtured by compassion, love, forgiveness, and gratitude we have the hope of experiencing the joy and wholeness of the life God want us to know. I've sometimes used this text for weddings, but it is a passage that should be a guide for all our relationships – with family members, with neighbors, with co-workers, and with the strangers that we encounter in our daily activities. It is a passage that should especially guide our relationships with others in the church. This is, I believe, what Paul specially has in mind as he writes to the Christians in Colossae. Our life together in the church, which grows out of our relationship with Jesus, must be built on the foundation of compassion, love, forgiveness and gratitude. Only then can we grow spiritually, and only then can the light of Christ shine through us to bring hope to those who experience darkness.

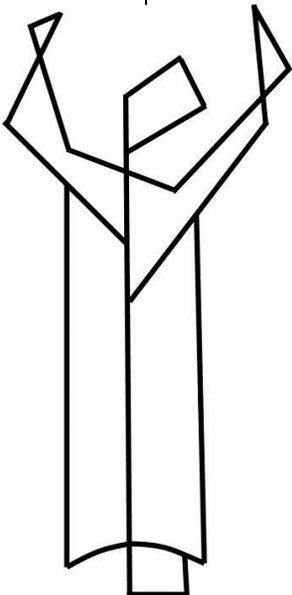
As Our Savior's moves toward a new chapter of ministry and a new pastor, one question for each of us to ask ourselves is this: "what am I doing so that the ministry of this congregation can flourish and that a pastor with energy for ministry will want

to serve Christ in this congregation?" A few weeks ago I said in a sermon that while there is a lot of energy at Our Savior's and commitment to a variety of projects and programs, I'm not sure we are very good at supporting people whose energy is focused in a different place than our own; nor am I sure we see how the pieces fit together, and how God uses all of us as channels of God's love and grace. You can perhaps identify some divisions that exist at Our Savior's – ways in which we fail to build up one another in love. The most important things we do to strengthen the ministry of our congregation are not projects and programs, but the ways we think and speak about one another. When our thoughts and actions are based on compassion, love, forgiveness, and gratitude, divisions among us will disappear and we will encourage, support, and strengthen one another, whatever our age and whatever our passion is for ministry. The command that Jesus gives his disciples is that they love one another. In fact the love we have for one another is what truly marks us as his disciples: *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* (John 13:35) Divisions happen among us. We think and speak sometimes in terms of "we" and "they" within our congregation. Whenever we think of someone or some group in our congregation as "them" rather than "us," we nurture division and we fail to demonstrate the true mark of our discipleship.

Our goal must be to build one another up in love – to take hold of the opportunities to strengthen and support one another in living our faith. I believe Paul's encouragement to the Colossians is the key to our life together. *"Whatever you do in word and deed, do everything in the name of Lord Jesus."* When we do everything in the name of Jesus, compassion, love, forgiveness, and gratitude are able to flow through us, and we bring light into the dark places in our own lives and the lives of those around us; and our divisions disappear because our love for one another guides our live together.

In the name of the Lord Jesus,

Pastor Loren Anderson-Bauer



FOR THE START OF A NEW YEAR

A lot of people make New Year's Resolutions. I have to admit that I have never been very diligent in making resolutions or carrying them out for that matter! What has been helpful to me is to look at the New Year as a fresh beginning.

My "theme/mantra/resolution" has remained the same for the past couple of years. It is to be "Intentional" in the present year and more "Intentional" in the year to come. It allows for focus without being too specific or getting hung up on details. I desire to be more intentional in my spiritual well-being even as I am reminded I need to be more intentional in my physical well-being.

What fills my daily and weekly calendar needs to be *more intentional* as well as prioritized. There are so many good things going on all the time but if my calendar fills up beyond realistic time commitments, I cannot be intentional or fully present in any of them! Realistically (although perhaps *not* intentionally!) the aging process continues. It's a part of life, yet there are still many blessings to be found. One of those blessings is that what once was confusing or overwhelming in lining up schedules and responsibilities (and trying to maintain a healthy balance between work/family/self), becomes a little clearer as to what can wait or what needs immediate attention. It also aids in keeping the main focus in clear view.

The vision is also becoming clearer with the help of trifocals! The tired vision on the opposite end of my computer screen or music stand is aided by these magical specs sitting on my nose. It takes a bit of adjusting but the benefits will be good.

Tired vision. Clearer focus. Adjusting for good benefits. The Interim Process here at Our Savior's is moving right along. (Please take the time to fill out your response forms! It is so important for the Transition Team to hear from everyone.) You might even envision this process as Intentional and with Trifocals! Pr. Loren has led other congregations through this wonderful process of exploration and hope. Our Transition Team will fine-tune the vision bringing the future mission and ministry into clearer focus. There will be adjustments but the benefits will be good!

Please continue to pray for your Church Council, the Transition Team, the various ministry teams diligently serving, the Call Committee to come sometime in the New Year, and for Pr. Loren and the rest of your staff who are faithful and intentional in carrying out their ministries. God is faithful and will lead us in this journey!

For the start of a New Year, the cranberry hymnal (ELW) pg. # 75 has a wonderful prayer. May it be our prayer as we venture forth intentionally into the New Year, together: **Rooted in Faith + Growing in Christ + Reaching to Serve.**

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*In Christ,
Shanda Gibbetts, Aum*

COMING IN JANUARY



*** Service for Hope & Peace for the World – Sun., Jan., 2015 @ 9:30 am**
Come join in exploring music and prayers from around the world as we lift up prayers for peace and hope *plus* Commissioning of our Mission Jamaica Team!



*** CAMP SUNDAY! Jan. 11, 2015**
Get your VLM gear on for worship ☺

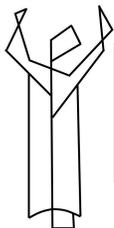
*** CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MTG. Sun., Jan. 28 following worship.**

*** MARDI GRAS PARTY IS COMING!**
Our Savior's Mardi Gras is "always just a bubble off" the mark. So in keeping with that tradition, we will meet on **Mon., Jan. 26, 2015 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm.**

This year's theme is: "Gilligan's Island" so bring a friend with you and *"Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale, a tale of a fateful trip, that started from this tropic port aboard this tiny ship!"*

Can you name all the characters?!
Can you sing the entire song?!

Great food! Lots of fun & laughter!
Games and activities for everyone!
Hoola-Hoop contest!
Come dressed as your favorite Island character from any TV show, movie or song. Hope to see you there ☺



YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Acting in Love • Building Relationships • Following Jesus

January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- Sunday Jan. 4th—Intergenerational Sunday School—Praying in Color
- Wednesday, Jan. 7th—Faith Finders and Confirmation Resume
- Sunday, Jan. 11th—Camp Sunday!
- Sunday, Jan. 18th—Youth Advisory Council Meeting / NO Bible Quest (Holiday Weekend)

LOOKING AHEAD....

- Feb. 27th-March 1st—Cardia Deo Grades 9-12
- March 20-21st – Elementary Rejuve Overnight Retreat at Camp Vermilion Grades 3-6

Dear friends,

Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

Matthew 7:7-8

January is a month of great resolve and commitment to the things we hope will strengthen our bodies, minds, or relationships, things that will make us a better, healthier person. It is wonderful when we have an opportunity to “begin again” and to realign our priorities. What is it that you are seeking in the coming year?

As I pass the sixth month mark in our ministry together at Our Savior’s, I am asking myself the same question. What are we looking for, hoping will come, and working towards happening? How can we strengthen our congregation and our ministries and do God’s work in the world? What is God’s work in the world?

This spring I hope to better connect and integrate our Youth and Family programs with the ministries of the whole congregation. I hope we can reach out into the community (and world!) in service, be more open and inviting about the Good News (like the shepherds!), celebrate the ministries of our partners at OSLC, and share God’s love in all that we do. But we need your help!

I’m so excited about all the new things that will happen this spring and summer with the youth and families of our congregation! The launch of the Youth Advisory Council, Sr. High Pie, more service opportunities for all our youth, a Confirmation Retreat, Youth Lock-In, and greater involvement in camp (including a Voyageurs Canoe Country trip next summer!) are all in the works. Please pray that we continue to have the energy and resources needed for these amazing events, and if you have ideas, time, or a meal to share, please contact me! Remember, “there can never be too many shepherds!”

with joy,

Meagan Esterby

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

m.esterby@gmail.com • 218.410.4704



SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:30 Worship

10:30 Bible Quest (Age 3-Grade 5)

Join us for music, a snack, story time, and great activities as we dive into the Bible together!

WEDNESDAYS AFTER SCHOOL

3:10-5:00 Faith Finders (K-Grade 5)

Join us for a snack, music and story time, and great activities as we explore faith and have lots of fun!

5:00-6:00 Supper (All are welcome!)

We are seeking volunteers to help prepare, cook, and serve!

6:15 Worship (All are welcome!)

6:50-7:45 Faith Matters (Confirmation, Grades 6-10)

Rooted in Faith • Growing in Christ • Reaching to Serve

Shepherds, Cookies, and Caroling

December was a wonderfully festive month at Our Savior's. In Bible Quest we focused all our energy on the Youth and Family Christmas Program, "Too Many Shepherds", with awesome help from the Confirmation class, our narrator Tucker and soloist Nicole, our leaders and musicians Phyllis and Carolyn, our sound team (especially Steve and Brenda!), and Tracie and all the parents who helped organize costumes and memorize lines. Thank you!!!

In Faith Finders we built an obstacle course with Jackie, decorated cookies with Kay, and volunteered at the Salvation Army, where we helped organize scarves and mittens, quilts and soap. In Confirmation we went caroling around Virginia with students from Gethsemane and worshipped at the "Cloth for the Cradle" Advent Vespers Service. What a beautiful month!



Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry

...In God's Great Northwoods!



VLM Annual Meeting

Saturday, February 7 at First Lutheran in Duluth

We invite you to join us as we celebrate 2014 and look forward to another year of ministry in God's great northwoods. Updates on Vision 2016 and the "Watch Them Flourish" appeal for the Camp Vermilion dining hall will be shared during the meeting.

Registration begins at 10:30am; the meeting starts at 11:00. Lunch provided.

Please contact the main office to let us know you are coming.

Upcoming VLM Events

- | | |
|--|--|
| Winter Fun Day -
February 28 - Camp Vermilion | Choir Festival Fundraiser -
March 29 - Grand Rapids |
| Elementary Rejuve -
March 6-7 - Camp Hiawatha | Paddle Building Workshop -
April 10-12 - Camp Vermilion |
| March 13-14 - Camp Hiawatha | |
| March 20-21 - Camp Vermilion | |

Voyageurs Canoe Country

Canoe trips with Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry provide the opportunity to discover nature's wonders while experiencing all the benefits of living in a faith community. Our staff are trained to not only guide trips but to lead discussions that take the lessons learned in the BWCAW and apply them to our faith and our lives. A trip with us does not end with the final portage!

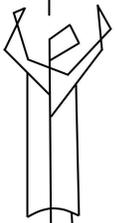


First time groups in 2015 receive a 20% discount.

Want to know more? Contact Grant at 218-780-2696 or grant@VLMcamps.org and start planning a trip you'll never forget!

DID YOU KNOW...

OSLC Sr. High Youth will be going on a Voyageurs Canoe Country adventure this summer July 19-25, 2015! A huge thanks to the "Lefse Ladies" for kicking off our fundraising efforts last month, and to everyone who bought and enjoyed the lefse!



www.VLMcamps.org • vlm@VLMcamps.org • 800-331-5148 • 218-666-5465



Camp Hiawatha, 36944 Camp Hiawatha Rd., Deer River, MN

Camp Vermilion, 2555 Vermilion Camp Rd., Cook, MN



BROADCASTS

January 4, 2015

OPEN

January 18, 2015

Kirk Miller in loving memory of his father Charles Miller Faith

January 25, 2015

OPEN

There is a sign-up sheet for radio broadcasts on the bulletin board in the hallway.

The cost of a broadcast is now \$85. The church pays \$85 per week for the broadcast. Fill in the sponsorship sign-up and give a check to the church earmarked for Radio Broadcast.

Our church service is broadcast on **KRBT 1340 Am** on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.

Thank you and may God bless this important ministry. For those who have cable TV, you can watch the service on channel 5. **If you are home bound and would like to receive a Sunday bulletin so you can follow along, please contact the church office.**



Statistics for December

<u>December</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
3	27
7	159
10	8
14	160
17	29
21	121

JOIN US

Rooted in Faith † Growing in Christ † Reaching to Serve
Sunday Worship Schedule

9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Coffee & Bible Quest

Mondays

9 am Text Study
10 am Bible Study

Wednesdays

1 pm Bible Study with Virginia Nelson
3-5 pm Faith Finders (Grades K-5)
5:15pm Choir
5-6 pm Supper
6:15 pm Worship
6:50 pm Confirmation

Correspondence

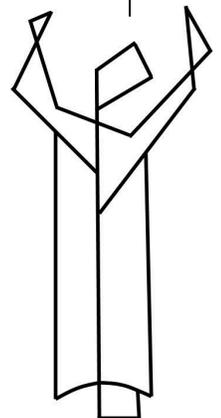
Thank you for everyone who came to celebrate her 80th Birthday– Joyce Wessman

Thank you for the gift of \$189.74 to the Alaska Synod – Shelley Wickstrom, Bishop

Constitution and Bylaws

A committee has been at work during the past few months to revise the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Constitution and Bylaws. The goal is to bring our constitution up to date with the model constitution for ELCA congregations. The committee compared the model constitution with our current constitution and kept most provisions of our current constitution. Some of the language is changed and descriptions of the council committees, which are included in the bylaws of the current constitution, were left out to give the council more flexibility in arranging committees to oversee the mission and ministry of the congregation.

The revised constitution will be presented for a first vote at the annual meeting on January 25. Amendments to the constitution require two votes by the congregation. This constitution will be presented again at the 2016 annual meeting, and will take effect after it has been approved by a second congregational vote. Copies of the constitution will be available in January.



Church Council Highlights

The church council met on **December 9, 2014** at 6 pm with President Dan Peliska calling the meeting to order.

Present: Pastor Loren Anderson-Bauer, Ginny Ahrlin, Steve Carlson, Diane Dundas, Meagan Esterby, Bruce Larsen, Debora Lekatz, Dan Peliska, Carole Rutka, AiM Brenda Tibbetts, Marc Westerbur, Shelley Svatos, Kristi Ongalo.

Excused: Dave Crockett

Staff Reports:

Treasurer (Ginny) – Checkbook balance at the end of November was \$1,392.96. \$10,000 still owed to line-of-credit and \$1,500 owed to Memorial Fund. \$7,002 was received from special appeal letter.

Interim Pastor Loren Anderson-Bauer – Impressed with the work of the Transition Team. As head of staff, will do annual reviews with new staff (Meagan Esterby & Amanda McMillen), and AiM Brenda Tibbetts.

AiM Brenda's report – Assisting Social Concerns with names of 3 additional families for Christmas baskets. A number of families are experiencing big-time transitions at this time.

Director of Y & F – Meagan Esterby – Preparing for Christmas program; fun to see different ages working together.

Ministry Team Reports

Guest Speaker: Dave Toole – Transition Team update. Dave shared a copy of a brief survey that the team has drafted for distribution to congregation via bulletin inserts and mailings. Suggestion made to include church logo, and to work with Meagan Esterby in reaching youth and/or on-line options.

Caring Ministries/Welcome & Hospitality (AiM Brenda) - Working with Youth & Family on Mardi Gras party (01/27/15); theme is "Gilligan's Island". A lot of prayer shawls have been going out. In need of more Grief Support booklets, but will hold off right now due to financial constraints.

Finance – (Ginny) Carolyn Blossom has resigned; will officially be done at the end of January. Finance would like to work with Executive Board in finding a new bookkeeper. Went over preliminary Budget Worksheet. Budget has been paired down to approximately \$280,000; getting it down to \$255,000 is a fairly reasonable goal.

Missions – (Dave, Diane, Carole) Sales totaling \$1240 from SERRV. Continuing to sell yellow T-shirts off & on. Heifer Sunday (11/30/14) brought in \$232.51. Missions Team voted to switch from the Heifer Project to the ELCA's Global Barnyard, which has lower administrative costs but a similar program in every other way

Property & Management – (Bruce) AiM Brenda Tibbetts and Meagan Esterby are having some trouble with their keys.

Social Concerns -(Marc) 10 Thanksgiving baskets were successfully delivered last month. Donations for the Christmas baskets are coming in nicely; volunteers will meet at church on Tuesday, 12/23/14 at noon and begin delivering at 1:00.

Stewardship – (Deb) Working on ideas to inspire congregation in sharing their blessings. Asking each ministry team to draft a card to explain what they're all about.

Technology (Dan Peliska) –Filming going along nicely, although sometimes sound goes out & then back in. Will film Christmas Eve service at 3:30 p.m.

Worship Music & Arts (Ginny Ahrlin, AiM Brenda Tibbetts) – Services planned through Christmas Eve. Met with Beckie Aitken (11/30/14) for ideas to replace baptismal bowl & double chalices with matching patens.

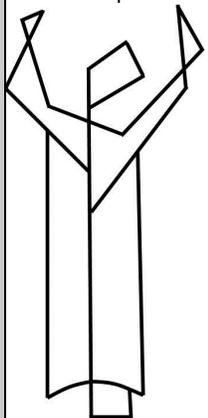
Youth & Family/Christian Education –(Steve, Kristi) Discussed bringing back the Christmas tradition of a potluck with singing Carols & tree decorating on a Sunday evening.

Unfinished Business:

- Ministry Team Annual Reports – Due no later than Christmas.
- Background Checks – Volunteers are covered under our liability insurance; no need for background checks for volunteers. Need to do background checks for new hires.

New Business:

- Updated Constitution – Completed at this time.
- Policy and Personnel Manual – Need a committee of 3 or 4 council people to work on putting together standard policies in writing
- Endowment Fund Committee – Terms are supposed to be for 3 years. Will begin phasing out current members.



January Birthdays

Happy Birthday and God Bless!!

Janet Heglund	1	Jordan Ezell	17
Sam Saari	2	Julie Louks	17
Donald Skorsth	2	Mary Beulke	18
Mary Green	3	Cliff Heglund	18
Sara King	3	Linda Mobraten	18
Blake Lautigar	3	Kate Starich	19
Jacey Monticello	3	Donna Kohler	21
Joseph Petron	3	LuAnn Skorseth	21
Spencer Koschak	5	Patricia Stahl	21
Gail Baribeau	6	Diane Zavodnik	24
Sharon Panula	7	Cleo Jacobson	25
Eric Wildes	7	Dawn Brown	26
Idell Henderson	8	Landon Zavodnik	26
Vernon Saxhaug	8	Diane Elofson	27
Karen Tokarczyk	8	Jim Weikum	28
Emma Koschak	9	Brian Nelson	29
Lucas King	10	Lily Nybo	29
Sally Peterangelo	10	Kathy Sather	30
Doris Tamte	11	Jim Gilbert	31
Bette Wegner	13		

PRAYER

PRAYER VIGIL - January 13, 2015

2015 WE ALL NEED PRAYER

In 2015, pray for your church family at Our Savior's. Prayer uplifts the person being prayed for, and the person who is praying. God is with us. Pray for these members of Our Savior's that their faith will grow and be strengthened through worship and involvement at OSLC, and that God's love be shared by us in our community.



For the week of January 4: Charles Roduner, Scott and Gayle Rozell, Ruth Rubow, Robert and Carole Rutka, Diane Sandvig, and their families.

For the week of January 11: Kathy Sather, Brian Sausman, Earl and Nancy Sausman, Heather Sausman, Roland and Linda Sauter, and their families.

For the week of January 18: Mark Saxhaug, Vernon and Marlys Saxhaug, Jon and Jane Scherf, Kris Schumacher, Vernon Schwandt, and their families.

For the week of January 25: Delores Severson, Butch and Betty Shaffer, Philip and June Shopp, Jean Shrawder, Steven and Patricia Simberg, and their families.

PLEASE GIVE US A CALL

If you are going to be in the hospital, are ill in any way, or would like to talk with someone in confidence about any problem or concern, please give Pastor Loren (218-343-9183) or AiM Brenda (750-0164) a call. We want to be there for you, and would appreciate you letting us know when we could be of help.

Transition Team

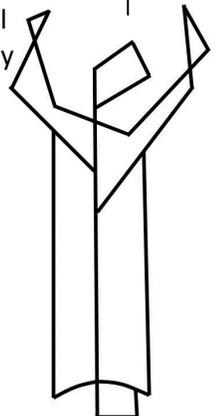
At our December 17th meeting we finalized the first survey. Hopefully by now you have seen this survey and have taken the time fill it out or are going too soon. It is available in paper form and on line at oslcmn.com. We have heard from several of you already and it has been great talking with you. We look forward to hearing from more of you.

If you need assistance filling out the survey please see or contact one of the below team members and we will be happy to assist you. Please take the time to fill out the survey your feedback is important. Once your survey is filled out please drop it in the survey box in the narthex or put it in the mail to:

Loren Anderson-Bauer	218-343-9183	l.andersonbauer@gmail.com
Gail Baribeau	218-741-0677	gail_baribeau@hotmail.com
Tanya Carlson	218-749-1744	stcscarlson@yahoo.com
Kris Cochran	218-741-7178	kristine.cochran@live.com
Carolyn Flaschberger	218-780-6942	cmflash@msn.com
Tucker Nelson	218-780-4594	tnelson10@msn.com
Kay Rent	218-749-3986	kayrent3@gmail.com
Bob Rutka	218-368-1249	robertrutka@hotmail.com
David Toole	218-780-7729	dssn_2L@yahoo.com
Tom Witty	218-258-3153	tgwitty@aol.com

OSLC Transition Team
1111 8th St South
Virginia Mn 55792

Thank You,
David Toole



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Prayer Chain Ministry

They are in need of more participants! Can you be of service in this important Ministry? Please contact Jan Heglund @ #749-6143. You do not have to be a lead to participate, you can be a link in this important service.



Missing item

There is a missing tub that was used for a rootbeer keg early this Fall at the church that has disappeared. It is blue with white rope handles and belongs to a church member. If the tub can be returned to the church they would greatly appreciate it!



The annual 25 cent clothing sale will be January 16th and 17th and the Salad Sampler Luncheon will be January 29th from 11-1pm.



Choir

There will be no choir rehearsal on December 24, 31 and January 7. The choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 5:15 and sing for worship on January 18. New faces are always welcome! Thank you for singing in the church choir. May all of you have a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be Sunday, January 25th following worship.



Thank you to everyone who helped out with donating items and food for the Christmas baskets. You made 10 families very happy this Christmas!



Quilting

Wednesday quilting will resume on January 7th.

Thank you!

Thank you for all the thoughts, prayers & gifts during my recent surgery and recovery. – Ann Markley



Thank you to everyone who participated in the choir, accompanied the choir and to director Kris Weikum for all your hard work the last year.



Offering Envelopes

For those who use offering envelopes, they will not be sent in the mail for 2015. Boxes of envelopes for next year may be picked up in the church entrance on Sundays or the church office during the week.



Needed Accounting Bookkeeper-

Experienced part-time position, references required. Application & job description available in the church office. Please apply ASAP.



Essentia Health St Mary's Hospice

Volunteer training program for those wishing to help with St Mary's Hospice will be Friday, January 16th and Saturday January 17th from 8am-4:30pm at the Virginia Hospital. Flyer located on kiosk for more information.

The next meeting of the **Women of Our Savior's Lutheran Church** will be on Sunday, January 11 at 10:30. a.m.

Just a reminder fill out the information form you received in the mail so the circle booklet can be updated. Please return the forms to the church office, give them to your circle chair person or e-mail to gagnon2jj@gmail.com



You are invited to participate in the planning session for the Laurentian Conference Spring Gathering on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 501 East 23rd St. in Hibbing starting at 9:30 a.m. Please RSVP by calling their church office 263-7422 by Sunday, January 18. The Laurentian Spring Gathering will be held at Our Savior's in Aurora on Saturday, April 11, 2015.

LISTENING TO THE PEOPLE OF OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The transition period between senior pastors is an important opportunity for congregational reflection, learning and growth. On behalf of the congregation and church council, the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Transition Team has created a brief survey to begin this process. As we look and work forward, your responses will help to shape areas for deeper exploration and action.

Thank you for helping the Transition Team to be sure we reach **ALL** those ministered to by Our Savior's Lutheran, including shut-ins, busy families, youth, those living away, past attendees and members, etc. We value all voices! Multiple members of a family are invited to respond individually.

The survey is anonymous, although you are welcome to identify yourself at the end if you would like to be contacted for a deeper discussion related to your response. Transition Team members are always eager to hear your perspectives, whether related to the survey or to other concerns. This survey is also available online at our website: www.oslcmn.com

Please return the survey to Our Savior's no later than January 18, 2015. Surveys may be returned to the survey box in the narthex, to the church office, or by mail (1111 8th St S, Virginia, MN 55792).

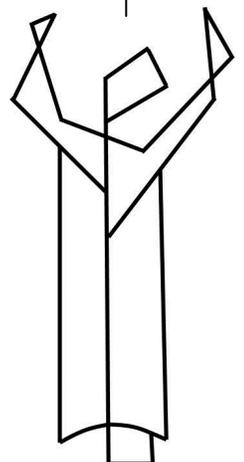
Your ideas and viewpoints are very important as Our Savior's Lutheran prepares the ground for a new pastor. The Transition Team will follow up this survey with occasions for deeper, active research and conversation regarding opportunities and issues identified. Thank you for your help with this important first step!

In Christ,

Our Savior's Lutheran Transition Team

Loren Anderson-Bauer	218-343-9183	l.andersonbauer@gmail.com
Gail Baribeau	218-741-0677	gail_baribeau@hotmail.com
Tanya Carlson	218-749-1744	stcscarlson@yahoo.com
Kris Cochran	218-741-7178	kristine.cochran@live.com
Carolyn Flaschberger	218-780-6942	cmflash@msn.com
Tucker Nelson	218-780-4594	tnelson10@msn.com
Kay Rent	218-749-3986	kayrent3@gmail.com
Bob Rutka	218-368-1249	robertrutka@hotmail.com
David Toole	218-780-7729	dssn_2L@yahoo.com
Tom Witty	218-258-3153	tgwitty@aol.com

(Survey questions on reverse side. You are free to add sheets as necessary.)



1. List your top three reasons for being involved at Our Savior's Lutheran.

2. If you could change something about Our Savior's Lutheran, what would it be?

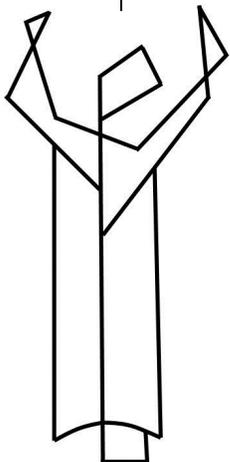
3. Our Savior's Lutheran would be stronger if:

4. Where is God leading us as a congregation?

5. Absolutely optional! I would like a member of the transition team to follow up with me regarding my response to this survey.

Yes

My name and the best way to contact me:



January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7pm NA OFFICE CLOSED	2 10:30am AA 8pm NA	3 10:30am AA
4 9:30am Worship/ Communion 10:30am Coffee 10:30am Bible Quest	5 9am Text Study 10am Bible Study 10:30am AA 4:30pm T.O.P.S 6:30pm Boy Scouts	6 10am Full Staff meeting 3pm Property & Mgmt	7 7:30am Men's BkF 8am Quilting 10:30am AA 1pm Bible Study 3-5pm Faith Finders 4pm Finance committee 5-6pm Supper 6:15pm Worship 6:50 Confirmation 7pm Transition Team	8 9am Caring Ministries 10:30am Fibromyalgia Sup 3:15pm Worship, Music & Arts 4pm Ladies Bible Study/ADV 5pm R&B Investors 6:30pm Scouting Roundtable Meeting/Social Hall 7pm NA	9 10:30am AA 8pm NA	10 8am Men in Mission 10:30am AA
11 9:30am Worship/ Communion/Camp Sunday 10:30am Coffee 10:30am Bible Quest 10:30am Exec Board 10:30am WELCA	12 9am Text Study 10am Bible Study 10:30am AA 10:30am AA 2pm Eveleth Health Park serv 3pm Youth&Family mtg 4:30pm T.O.P.S 6:30pm Boy Scouts	13 8am-6pm Prayer Vigil 11am WELCA Leaders Bible Study 5:30pm Compassionate Friends Committee 6pm Church Council 6:30 Compassionate Friends/West wing	14 7:30am Men's BkF 8am Quilting 10:30am AA 1pm Bible Study 3-5pm Faith Finders 5:15pm Choir 5-6pm supper 6:15pm Worship 6:50 Confirmation	15 9:30am Laurentian Conference 4pm Ladies Bible Study/ Adventures 7pm NA	16 10:30am AA 8pm NA Clothing Sale	17 10:30am AA Clothing Sale
18 9:30am Worship/ Communion 10:30am Coffee/Pizza Sales 10:30am Social Concerns Committee	19 9am Text Study 10am Bible Study 10:30am AA 4:30pm T.O.P.S 6:30pm Boy Scouts	20 10:30am Senior Companions 2pm St Michael's Service 5pm Mission Meeting WELCA circles meet	21 7:30am Men's BkF 8am Quilting 10:30am AA 1pm Bible Study 3-5pm Faith Finders 5:15pm Choir 5-6pm supper 6:15pm Worship 6:50 Confirmation 7pm Transition Team	22 4pm Ladies Bible Study/Adventures 7pm NA	23 10:30am AA 8pm NA	24 10:30am AA
25 9:30am Worship/ Communion 10:30am Coffee 10:30am Bible Quest ANNUAL MEETING	26 9am Text Study 10am Bible Study 10:30am AA 4:30pm T.O.P.S 5:30-7pm Marti Gras 6:30pm Boy Scouts	27	28 7:30am Men's BkF 8am Quilting 10:30am AA 1pm Bible Study 3-5pm Faith Finders 5:15pm Choir 5-6pm supper 6:15pm Worship 6:50 Confirmation	29 4pm Ladies Bible Study/Adventures 7pm NA 11-1pm Salad Sampler Luncheon	30 10:30am AA 8pm NA	31 10:30am AA

Our Saviors Lutheran Church-ELCA

1111 S 8th Street

Virginia, MN 55792

218-741-6207

Email:office@oslcmn.com

Web: www.oslcmn.com

Non Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

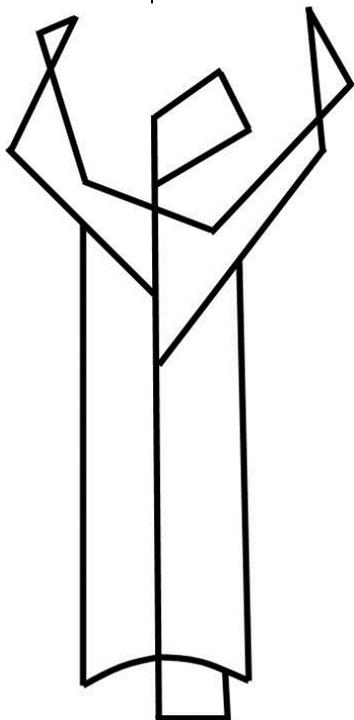
Virginia, MN 55792

Permit No. 46

** Address Service Requested

THE WITNESS

January 2015



Rooted in Faith †
Growing in Christ †
Reaching to Serve

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERS	The Congregation
SENIOR PASTOR	Loren Anderson-Bauer, Interim 218-343-9183
ASSOCIATE IN MINISTRY	Brenda Tibbetts, AiM 218-750-0164
YOUTH & FAMILY	Meagan Esterby 218-410-4704
CHURCH OFFICE	Amanda McMillen
CUSTODIAN	Scott Jensrud
RADIO BROADCAST	Sunday 9:30am KRBT 1340 AM
TV BROADCAST	Cable Channel 5 Fri, Sat, Sun 6:30pm
OFFICE HOURS	Tues-Thurs 8:30am – 4pm Friday 8:30 am – 1 pm
PRAYER CHAIN	November-December Deb Gunderson 218-744-5184