

Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
1640 Genesee Street  
Utica, New York 13502

# THE MESSENGER

Vol. 10, Issue 1

Rev. Anita Mohr, Pastor



*Contemporary Worship at 9:00am  
Adult Bible Study at 9:00am  
Traditional Worship at 10:30am  
Children's Time—during 10:30 worship*

*As faithful believers of Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
we profess the covenant God made with us in our Baptism:  
to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God  
in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.*



# ***THE MESSENGER***

## **Our Saviour Lutheran Church January 2012**

From the Pastor:

What is new in 2012? What will change your life and change the world? These are good questions to ask as we begin a New Year. Many times it feels as if we are affected by the world around us. Many times it seems as if the world, our own health issues, the economy, how our jobs are going, determine how our year will be. It is good for us to imagine the year ahead and plan for what it might bring. It is good for us to imagine what God wills for the world in 2012 and then find ways to participate in God's will.

Your new Congregation Council at Our Saviour is working toward learning what it means to be leaders. We are looking forward to a Council Retreat in the new year, where we will spend some time thinking about and discussing our leadership potential and where we might lead in the future. So that Our Saviour can participate in God's will for the sake of the world.

I have been talking about 220 people in worship every weekend by 2020 for some time now. One plan for 220 in 2020 is updating our communication at Our Saviour. Linda Arntsen is helping us find our way to a website. We began one years ago – but we have not brought it up to date. Linda is working on it. Anna Arntsen started a Facebook page for us. I am here to tell you that Anna started that thing in about ten minutes! Really. If you are a Facebook person you need to “like us” on Facebook. It is easy to post information on our page. If you want to communicate to those who “like us,” you can just write on our wall. Remember that anything that you write will be visible to anyone who can find our page. Anna is also a remarkable photographer. She took the picture that is now our profile picture in the Keller Room. Look forward to more of Anna's photography as we go along. This is one of the ways that people will be able to find us – make decisions about what kind of congregation we are, know what we care about, and possibly give us a try. This is one of the ways that Our Saviour participates in the world for the sake of the world.

The Process Committee has been meeting since October. We are working on a process for Our Saviour to decide how it will respond to the New York State decision to legalize same-gender marriage. You can expect to hear from this committee shortly about the process we will use to make such a decision. This committee has been working and praying and studying this issue and will make a recommendation about the process to the Congregation Council in January. The process will clearly involve conversation from the entire congregation. Our Saviour has a chance to help the world to understand this important issue. Not just what we decide but how we decide helps the world to know that God's will for the world involves all of God's people – not just a few people making decisions for all of us.

Take some time as this New Year begins and imagine the world as you believe God wills it to be. Then, take just a little more time and imagine how Our Saviour might participate in that world and participate in helping that world to be. Then, take just a little more time and imagine how you might bring it about by who you are.

Happy New Year  
Pastor Anita

## THE MESSENGER

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**REMINDER—please mark your calendars.**

**The deadline for the February 2012 issue of The Messenger is January 15, 2012.**  
**Be sure that your group's upcoming events are included.** All members of the congregation are welcome to submit information for the monthly Messenger. Articles may be sent to the church office, dropped off in the office or e-mailed to **oslc-utica@verizon.net**.

### OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT LIST

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**Church Office Secretary** ..... Kathy Ed  
**Organist** ..... Justin Jaramillo  
**Council Members**  
Sally Townsend, Council President  
Pam Donovan, Council V. Pres.  
Priscilla Dygert, Secretary  
Paul Douglass, Treasurer  
John Adasek  
Bruno Aploks  
Sarah Fagan  
Cindy Andereck  
David Dudajek  
Youth Group Member  
**Financial Secretary** ..... Paula Klingensmith  
**Women of ELCA Coordinator** .... Liz Douglass  
**Sunday School Superintendent** .... Liz Douglass  
**Coffee Hour Coordinator** ..... Marian Arntsen  
**Altar Guild** ..... Pam Donovan



#### Our Saviour Congregation Council

Council Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month and begin at 7:00pm and are held in the Keller Room. The meeting schedule is:

January 12, 2012  
February 9, 2012  
March 8, 2012  
April 12, 2012  
May 10, 2012  
June 14, 2012

Members of Our Saviour are welcome to attend council meetings and come to share ideas and questions with our council. For committee questions, please speak with a Council member.

### Our Community Outreach

*Members of Our Saviour live among God's faithful people, serve all people, and strive for justice and peace in all the earth by sharing our building and supporting these programs:*

**Alcoholics Anonymous®** a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism holds regular meetings in our facility.

**Seeds of Hope**, a local food pantry is a collaborative effort of First Presbyterian—Utica, Our Saviour, New Hartford Presbyterian, and New Hartford United Methodist churches.

**Hope House**, a safe haven providing meals and other services in Utica is supported by volunteers from our congregation.

**SPAN**, a resource program for individual nurses who are affected by an alcohol or drug-related problem or related mental health problem meets weekly in our building.

**HIV dinners** which provide dinner and a place for people who are HIV positive to network and learn about the latest trends in treatment are held each month at our church.

**Boy Scouts of America**, has a chartered scouting program including a Cub Scout Pack. Paul Douglass serves as our congregation liaison to the scouting program.

# Congregational Ministries Youth Group News



## TELLERS NEEDED:

The tellers who count the weekly offering are in need of help.

They meet each Monday morning for 1—2 hours to count the previous days offering. The teams count for a month at a time (4 months/year). No previous skills are required. Please contact Paul Douglass for any questions and to volunteer for this important ministry.

Paul Douglass, Treasurer



The Youth Group will go **sledding on January 15**. Everyone is asked to bring a bag lunch and their sled.

Let's hope that there is snow.

Our **Spaghetti Dinner will be held on February 11, 5—7pm**. This is a fundraiser in support of our participants at the National Youth Gathering. Youth should arrive at 4pm to set up. WATCH for more information in the Sunday bulletin and the February Messenger.

Save the Date—**March 16** **sleepover** at the church.



All youth in grades 7 through 12 are invited to join us. Meetings are usually held the second Sunday of each month. For more information contact the Donovan Family.

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE—

God is good! God provides! God provides through His people at Our Saviour who faithfully share what He has given to us. Thanks to that generosity our financial stewardship commitment for 2012 exceeds what is in the 2012 approved budget by more than \$3,000! Give thanks!

God has also provided each of us with time and talents. Seeds of Hope is in need of some of that time and also some donations to support refreshments January—March. Hope House is in need of some of our time as well. The Tellers are in need of the time and talents of those who enjoy counting and using math skills. Which of your God given gifts will you share this month? If you see someone caring for the 'least among us,' put it up on the 'Caring for the Least' board in the Narthex. Let's see how many of our gifts we can share in 2012.



## At the Altar Marriage of



Robin Theodora Bagnall  
and  
Kenneth Doncourt Graniero  
November 23, 2011

## UPCOMING COURSES

Capital Region  
Theological Center

### **Second Five Minutes: Introduction to Preaching, Sat., Jan. 14, 2012, 9am - 3pm.**

Come and learn the basics of preparing and delivering a sermon from this creative and dynamic pastor and professor. Discover how to move from the biblical text and image to an engaging message

### **Coin and Kingdom: Would Jesus Toss Us Out Today, Sat., Mar. 3, 2012, 9am - 3pm.**

Come explore these questions, and bring with you any who help the church manage money: deacons, treasurers, trustees, financial secretaries and ministers alike.



**Befriending Our Inner Teacher: Biblical Foundations and Practices of Discernment- Day 1, Thurs., Mar. 8, 2012, 9am - 4pm.**

**Befriending Our Inner Teacher: Biblical**

Our Saviour is on Facebook!  
Facebook fans, please 'like us.'

*Our Saviour Lutheran Church—  
Utica*

**And coming soon—our website!**

# Check us out!

## AVAILABLE IN NARTHEX

- Pick up your 2012 envelopes
- Jan.—Mar. devotion books
- 2012 Calendars



# In the wider Lutheran Community



337 Martin Road  
Cleveland, NY 13042  
vkcenter@vk.org  
www.vk.org (315) 675-3651

## Alternative Spring Break with VK

From April 10—13, High School-aged youth are invited to join the Vanderkamp team for a few nights of Fellowship and 2 days of work to help relieve flood damage in Schoharie County. More details to follow in the next newsletter and online. Mark your calendars if you would like to come!

## Online Registration Now Available

Go to [www.vk.org](http://www.vk.org) and click "Summer Camp". Look through our offerings and see what suits you best! Print brochures go out January 1, so if you are worried you won't get a copy, please send an email or call with us with your address. First 25 people to sign up and pay by April 1, will be entered into a drawing for a FREE CAMPERSHIP.

## Disaster Update—

Congregations across Upstate NY helped to raise over \$31,000 to assist those impacted by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. This was matched by Thrivent with a \$5,000 Challenge Grant. Long Term Recovery groups are forming in the affected counties including a group for Oneida-Herkimer counties. Lutheran Disaster Response is actively helping in the Schoharie Valley area. Many families were not yet in their homes for Christmas.

Volunteers continue to be needed to help with some clean-up and with all the rebuilding which will be ongoing for 2–3 years. Want to help—see Patsy Glista or email [ldrunyteam@gmail.com](mailto:ldrunyteam@gmail.com).



## Northeast Forum on Spirituality and Aging

A program of LutheranCare, the Northeast Forum offers bi-monthly educational presentations on topics relevant to older adults. The next program will be held on Feb. 9 at LutheranCare. For more information contact Pr. Brian McCaffrey at (315) 235-7125.



## Upstate New York Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

Visit [www.upstatenysynod.org](http://www.upstatenysynod.org) to learn about happenings around the Upstate New York Synod. Read about community ministries at other congregations, upcoming National Youth Gathering, synodical Women of the ELCA activities, messages from Bishop Marie Jerge and much more.

## Learning at the Crossroads

SATURDAY, FEB. 11, 9:30—2:30

**Servants of God: The Biblical Understanding of Ministry**  
Led by Rev. John Ferrie, Ph.D.



The Bible uses several terms for ministry that range in meaning from "slave" to "waiter." We'll survey (some of) what Scripture has to say about ministry and explore together what that means for your ministry today, both within your congregation and beyond its walls.

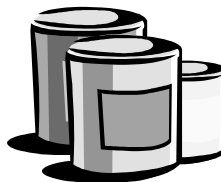
Register early! Write check to "Central Crossroads Conference" (\$20 per workshop) and mail to Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 435 S. Main St., N. Syracuse, NY 13212. Registrations must be received by the Thursday before the workshop. More information (315) 458-1481.

(For deacons, deacon candidates and all interested persons. Meets the New Testament deacon training requirement.)

# Serving Our Community

## SEEDS OF HOPE, Some Updates and Needs

Our Saviour Lutheran, New Hartford Presbyterian, New Hartford United Methodist and First Presbyterian—Utica are the four churches that make up “Seeds of Hope.”



The Community Foundation of Oneida and Herkimer Counties has granted us \$6,000 towards our expenses.

In an effort to cut down on expenses the four partnering churches are being asked to donate the refreshments that are served each time the pantry is open. **Our Saviour has been asked to cover the first 3 months of 2012**, which is coming up very quickly!

*Seeds of Hope* offers coffee, juice and cookies to the clients as they wait their turn to receive their groceries. It is an opportunity to provide some social time and to treat our clients with respect.

For 3 months we need **36** cans of frozen juice (punch or fruit), **54** packages of cookies (NO NUTS), **2** large cans of coffee (270 servings per can) and **2** small bags or cans of Fair Trade Coffee. There is also a need for napkins and large containers of creamer. There will be a sign-up sheet for monetary donations to help cover these expenses. The pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30—11:30am.

Please consider making a donation to this need for *Seeds of Hope*.

Liz Douglass, Steering Committee Member



## English For Speakers of Other Languages TUTOR TRAINING WORKSHOP

presented by  
Literacy Volunteers of America/MidYork Inc.

*Help someone learn to read and write  
Help to change a life for the better*

Learn valuable tools for tutoring ESL learners including strategies for teaching, listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

January 7, 2012, 9am—3pm  
January 14, 2012, 9am—3pm



Utica Public Library  
303 Genesee Street, Utica, NY  
Call (315) 733-4529 to register by Jan. 3

\$25 registration fee covers materials

## HOPE HOUSE WISH LIST

- Hot chocolate, coffee, tea bags
- V8 Juice
- Toiletries—all kinds
- 8" styrofoam plates, 6" paper plates, coffee cups, toilet paper, hand soap.
- Powdered creamer
- Used books especially children's
- Postage stamps

Volunteers are also needed for Our Saviour teams to help with meal preparation. Contact Jan Dudajek. For more Hope House information visit [hopehouseutica.com](http://hopehouseutica.com) or call Hope House at (315) 793-3723.



# January 2012 Schedule



**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP is every Sunday at 9:00am**

**ONE service on Sunday, January 1 at 10:00am**

	Jan. 8, 2012 10:30am	Jan. 15, 2012 10:30am	Jan. 22, 2012 10:30am	Jan. 29, 2012 10:30am	Feb. 5, 2012 10:30am
<b>GREETERS</b>	Pam Donovan and Dennis Ready	Alex Dudajek and Mary Ellen Riemenschneider	Liz and Paul Douglass	Helen Dudajek and Emily Donovan	Judy and Myron Sierson
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Emily Donovan	Joey Abraham	Noah Thrasher	Sheena Andereck	Moeisa Andereck
<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANT</b>	Sarah Fagan	Patsy Glista	John Andereck	Liz Douglass	Clare Thiem
<b>LECTOR</b>	Pam Donovan	Dave Wilbur	NA	Jane Anello	Mary Tollerton
<b>NURSERY 10:30am</b>	Katherine and Kathy David	Sue Amtsen	Susan Morris	Judy Petroski	Liz Douglass



**Ushers—Pam and Scott Donovan and Karen and Dave Wilbur**

**Altar Guild—Bev Lombard and Betty Gallup**





# JANUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 –Holy Communion	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3	4 Pastor's Sabbath Day	5 7:00-Finance Committee	6	7
8-9:00 –Holy Comm. 9:15- Bible Study 10:30-Worship 11:45-Choir Rehearsal	9 Our Saviour at Hope House 6:30- Worship & Music	10 10:00 –Bible Study	11 Pastor's Sabbath Day	12 7:00-Congregation Council	13	14
15-9:00-Worship 9:15-Bible Study 10:30-Holy Comm. 11:45-Choir Rehearsal Youth Sledding <b>MESSENGER DEADLINE</b>	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17	18 Pastor's Sabbath Day	19	20	21
22-9:00-Holy Comm. 9:15-Bible Study 10:30-Worship 11:45-Choir Rehearsal	23	24 10:00-Bible Study	25 Pastor's Sabbath Day	26	27	28
29-9:00-Worship 9:15-Bible Study 10:30-Holy Comm. 11:45-Choir Rehearsal	30	31				