



THE MESSENGER

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

May 2012

From the Pastor—

From “Songs of Justice and Peace” from the Lutheran Deaconess Association “Break my Heart.”
Please break my heart O God
With what breaks your heart O God
Please break my heart.

With this early Spring, coupled with a winter that did not seem like winter, it is such a temptation to plant our gardens early. Frost here and there can be discouraging—but it just seems as if we could put out some stuff—especially if it is not too expensive. I planted some cilantro seeds last week—that were left over from last year. I planted them up close to the house—where they might have a chance even if we have more frost. They had been in the garage all winter. I am never sure if seeds last that long or not. It really does not matter much. If they grow, fine. I will have lovely early cilantro. I love cilantro! If they do not grow, I was going to throw them out anyway. It will not break my heart.

Sometimes I think we try new ministries in the same way as my cilantro seeds. We are willing to give them a try if they are not too expensive. We might even give them extra protection against what could hurt them. If they work, fine. If not it did not cost us that much anyway. It will not break our hearts.

So many opportunities for ministry are presenting themselves to us right now. Cheryl has been coming to worship. She is losing her hearing. We have Jane Anello, who can interpret worship in sign language. Really using Jane is not too expensive. She was here anyway. But what if having Cheryl here costs more? What if it costs me learning to speak more slowly so that an interpreter can keep up? What if it costs us, the members of Our Saviour, learning sign language as well? Why would a person want to join a church where they can only communicate with one person? What if we have to hire an interpreter? Are we willing to be a part of a ministry that is expensive? Will our hearts be broken for the sake of those who cannot hear?

Gerry Presser brought dinner down to the Rescue Mission a few months ago. I went with her. Gerry is a good and capable cook. It does not cost much to go along with her. Gerry has this idea that Our Saviour could provide meals at the Rescue Mission once a month. This is a more expensive ministry. It involves commitment from us. Are we willing to have our hearts broken for the sake of people we do not know?

Sandy Lenahan is excited about the Malaria Campaign. We can all give something to end Malaria—but will our hearts be broken like Sandy’s is so that we might give of ourselves in ways that can really change the world?

I am influenced by the hymn quoted above. We can ask God to break our hearts for the sake of others. We can ask God to break our hearts because we have shouted back and forth to one another again and again this Easter season, “Christ is Risen!” “Christ is Risen Indeed!” We know that the God who breaks our hearts has the power to raise Jesus from the dead once our hearts are broken. — Pastor Anita

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REMINDER—please mark your calendars.
The deadline for the June 2012 issue of
The Messenger is May 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.

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Organist Justin Jaramillo
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Pam Donovan , Council V. Pres.
Priscilla Dygert, Secretary
Paul Douglass, Treasurer
John Adasek. Cindy Andereck
Bruno Aploks David Dudajek
Sarah Fagan. 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 Gerry Presser

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.

Congregation Council Update May 2012

I wonder as I reflect on Easter, how does that purple shroud get up on the cross hanging over the altar every Lenten season? Does an incredibly tall person hang out for the year just to place it onto the cross? Does a crane or a cherry picker get invited to come into the church to do it? Is there a ladder that high and could someone actually climb that ladder? This is only one of the many questions I have about how events happen at Our Saviour. In regard to acknowledging how tasks and service to the church are accomplished and how appreciative I am for all that we as members and friends do to celebrate God's presence and love for us. The following people are some of the individuals who have helped all of us celebrate the Easter Season.

Joy and Gratitude to those who:

- ◆ Organized, ordered and set up plants and florals;
- ◆ Made banners;
- ◆ Sang in the choir;
- ◆ Brought and set up treats for between services;
- ◆ Took charge of the breakfast by developing a menu, shopping, setting up, cooking, serving, and clean up;
- ◆ Developed and carried out the Fun Day activities;
- ◆ Made music contributions by selecting music, organizing and playing or singing. I wonder how many churches have a Brass Choir!
- ◆ Did the service of greeters, ushers, acolytes, altar preparation;
- ◆ Worked hard to make the Easter service accessible to those who are deaf;
- ◆ Came to worship and participated in the celebration.

I realize that there are many others and services that were and are responsible for making our Church what it is. So thank you for doing God's work with your hands and spirit.

The Process Committee members continue to follow their plan to explore and discuss same gender marriages at Our Saviour. Each of you are encouraged to participate in formal or informal discussion that informs us of each others thoughts in a respectful manner.

I ask that each of you keep the members and work of Our Saviour in your thoughts and prayers throughout the week so that we can continue to do God's work and grow in faith.

If you are interested in coming to a council meeting, let me know. My phone number is (315) 404-6045.

Peace and Health,
Sally Claycomb Townsend, Council President

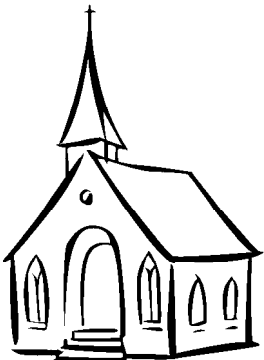
Our Saviour Congregation Council

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

May 10, 2012

June 14, 2012

Our Saviour members are welcome to attend meetings and come to share ideas and questions with our council.



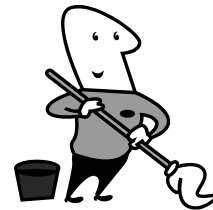
Invite a friend to Worship!
Share the Resurrection story!



Congregational Ministries

Spring Clean Up Day

If you weren't there on Saturday, April 21, 2012, you missed a beautiful thing! People all working together for the good of a ministry we all call "Our Saviour Lutheran Church." Thirteen people gathered to do jobs like: cleaning up our landscape, moving the curb stops back to the parking lot, lights back on in the choir loft, Exit signs re-lit, general cleaning of the Church including Paul Presser's great job at cleaning our refrigerator, Gerry Presser's job of cleaning up our huge altar, people mopped, dusted, and vacuumed, sanctuary storm windows taken down, windows washed, installed air conditioner in the Keller Room window, dehumidifiers put back into service, and numerous other jobs you will see as you walk about our building. One job you will be most impressed with, as I was, is the job Seymour Morris did at re-surfacing our Communion Rail. Take a look next time you go up to commune.



One of our neighbors, Erika, is another you will be most impressed with as she has outworked all of us in doing the work she has been doing of picking up every single cigarette butt on our rear lawn, cleaning on her hands and knees and climbing ladders to scrub every floor, cabinet, and wall in our downstairs meeting rooms! Take a look and then come back in a few weeks after she has finished painting the cabinets and walls and I am sure we will all be amazed at what she has done!!

In addition to thanking Paul, Seymour, Gerry, and Erika, you can thank: Dennis Ready, Clare Thiem, Don Arntsen, Mark Betley, Priscilla Dygert, Rick Dygert, Pastor Anita, and Dave Dudajek. These people all gave of their time and talents Saturday. But wait, there is more. . . we couldn't finish all the necessary jobs to be done, so check out the list of unfinished jobs in the rear Narthex and see if you can help us cross off a few more jobs to help out this ministry we all call "Our Saviour Lutheran Church."

Jim Lenahan, Property Chair



Women ^{of the} ELCA 



Join us for
A Daughters Hat Tea
Sunday, May 20—2:30pm

Dig out those old hats or make one to wear to the Tea from odds and ends around the house.

Deck your hat with May flowers!

Prizes for—
the most creative hat,
most beautiful hat,
most unusual hat, and
most faithful hat.

Serving tea and a variety of desserts



An afternoon tea for daughters of ALL ages. Bring your daughter, bring a friend. Join us for a special program with fancy 'tea' fixings and dessert.
SIGN UP in the NARTHEX

Visit us on the Web
oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org
and on Facebook
Our Saviour Lutheran Church-Utica



 LutheranCare [®] Helping Hands

Helping Hands, a service of LutheranCare provides services such as light housekeeping, cooking, laundry, pet care, run errands and grocery shop for those who cannot or do not want to leave home. Their Home Companions are approved to provide transportation as part of their service as well. All Helping Hands staff are background checked, insured and bonded. For more information please contact Kathy Leslie (315) 235-7196.



THIS MOTHERS DAY HELP US HELP OTHER MOTHERS
SAVE THEIR CHILDREN
MAKE MALARIA HISTORY
A CAMPAIGN TO END MALARIA DEATHS BY 2015

Every 45 seconds a child dies of malaria, a treatable and preventable disease that kills more than 800,000 people a year, mostly children in Africa. Today we are in a special moment where we could turn this around. Working through Lutheran churches in Africa, the ELCA Malaria Campaign is uniquely positioned to provide mosquito nets, insecticides, medication, health care, education and more to help eliminate deaths from this disease—for good.

For many years, the ELCA has been building relationships of accompaniment and mutual respect with our companion churches in Africa. Together with our church partners, we are poised to bring about a massive grassroots movement to contain malaria and bring hope to those who suffer. Lutheran churches in Africa aren't just places of worship. They are the center of community life. That's what makes our work—the work of the church, though churches—perfectly positioned to make a difference.

The ELCA Malaria Campaign funds programs of our companion churches that:

- ◆ Provide life-saving health care—including medicine to treat malaria;
- ◆ Train health care providers and church volunteers to diagnose and treat malaria;
- ◆ Teach people how to protect themselves from the mosquitoes that spread malaria, recognize symptoms and seek treatment;
- ◆ Distribute insecticide-treated mosquito nets and provide training on their use;
- ◆ Provide preventative medication to protect pregnant women and their babies; and
- ◆ Support water treatment projects to control the environments where mosquitoes breed.

The ELCA Malaria Campaign has committed to raise \$15 million as we strive to “Make Malaria History” - ending Malaria deaths by 2015! You can play a role to help us achieve this goal. Join us in the fight against malaria. Just \$10 is enough to provide a family with an insecticide-treated mosquito net. A gift of \$50 could provide a course of medicine to help save the lives of 25 people infected with malaria. Your gifts to the ELCA Malaria Campaign will be used where needed most to provide mosquito nets, health care, education and more to help eliminate deaths from this disease—for good.

You may donate, using the Malaria Campaign envelopes on Sunday, May 13, or send a donation to the church office with Malaria Campaign noted on it. Donations can also be made on the ELCA website. We hope that we can help save a lot of lives. Visit <http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Responding-to-the-World/ELCA-Malaria-Campaign/> for more information.



(Editor note: The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Zimbabwe and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia are the Upstate New York Synod's companion churches.)

Supporting God's work through our giving.

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 2012

	2011			THRU February	2012		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI.		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$29,910	\$20,592	-31%		\$ 34,122	\$ 47,067	38%
EXPENSES	<u>\$29,910</u>	<u>\$23,335</u>	-22%		<u>\$ 34,122</u>	<u>\$ 24,083</u>	-29%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	\$ 0	(\$ 2,743)			\$ 0	\$ 22,984	
				March			
	2011			March	2012		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$14,955	\$29,349	96%		\$ 15,748	\$ 12,009	-24%
EXPENSES	<u>\$14,955</u>	<u>\$23,343</u>	56%		<u>\$ 15,748</u>	<u>\$ 14,179</u>	-10%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	0	\$ 6,006			\$ 0	(\$ 2,170)	
INVESTMENT INCOME					\$ 30,000		
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	0	\$ 3,263			\$ 0	\$ 20,814	

NOTES Current month: Our income is 24% BELOW estimate and our expenses were 10% BELOW budget.
We were \$2,170 in the RED for the month of March.

Year to Date: Our income is 41.7% BELOW estimate and our expenses are 23.3% below plan.
Withdrew \$30,000 from our Investments in February.
We are currently \$20,814 in the BLACK.

NOTE: Our pledges are 8.21% behind and projected unpledged is 9.61% behind plan(or \$2411).
Information provided by Paul Douglass, Treasurer

Memorials

From

In memory of

The Biels and Schleichers

Anna and Michael Natinoti

AT THE FONT



Sunday, April 15, 2012
Jackson Robert Fenton
the son of
Charlotte and Kyle Fenton

AT THE FONT



Sunday, April 15, 2012
Preslie Faye Williams
the daughter of
Health and Terry Williams

In the larger Lutheran Community



Early Bird Registration discount of \$26 per camper for Vanderkamp campers ends May 1st.

Campers who pay in full by that date will receive the discount, and those who choose to wait until later will pay the full amount. Vanderkamp offers online registration at <http://www.vk.org/wpsite/summer-camp>. Much to the camp's delight, some weeks are coming close to filling up—so register your interest as soon as possible!

For information about Summer Camp 2012 Registration or any of these events, call 315-675-3651 or email us at vkcenter@vk.org. We also encourage you to visit our website at www.vk.org.



In peace,

**Your Neighbors Inc.
Garage Sale
May 4 and 5, 2012
9am—3pm
Our Saviour Lutheran Church**



Plan now to support *Your Neighbors, Inc.* sale. If you are doing spring cleaning, sorting or are just ready to part with items you have accumulated, please set them aside for the *Your Neighbors* annual sale. This is a large fundraiser for *Your Neighbors* and also a great way to pick up some bargains. *Your Neighbors, Inc.* is an affiliate of the Lutheran Home of Central New York.



Chicken N Biscuit Dinner



To Raise Funds for Our Summer Program for Northside Kids

Tuesday May 1st
5:00 -6:30

At First English Lutheran Church
Corner of James and North Townsend Sts.
Syracuse, NY

Adults \$7.50

Children 6-12 \$3.50

Children 5 and Under Free

Families with Children \$20 Max

Free Parking in Back of Building
off North Townsend

Sponsored by First English Lutheran Church
and
The Asian Apostolate

Learning at the Crossroads
An Educational Program of our
Central Crossroads Conference Presents
“Creation and Christian Faith”

A Day Apart at Vanderkamp Center
Learning, Discernment and Personal Refreshment

Led by Pastor Gail Wolling
with James Davis, Vanderkamp Director
Saturday, May 12, 2012, 9:30am—3:30pm
Vanderkamp Center, Cleveland, NY

“In the beginning” is where we will begin to explore the role of God as creator and the complex relationship between humankind and creation in the Bible. The ELCA Social statement on the Care and Creation will guide us in our reflection. James Davis will also lead us in an outdoor exploration of the interconnectedness of all life.

The \$35 registration cost includes program, lunch, and refreshments. To register email or call Luther Memorial Church, (315) 458-1481 x1, or info@luthermemorialns.org with your name, phone and email address.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has helpful information about a variety of topics. Visit their web site at www.thrivent.com or call (315) 451-0252 for more information on a variety of topics including:

- ◆ Retirement;
- ◆ Financial Housekeeping;



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®
Let's thrive:™

- ◆ Thrivent Rollover IRAs;
- ◆ Market View – Experts talk about challenge for savers in today's environment
- ◆ Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity – the single largest source of funding for Habitat for Humanity aside from government funding.



May 2012



	May 13 10:30 am	May 20 10:30am	May 27 10:30am	June 3 10:30am
GREETER	Judy and Myron Sierson	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	Emily Donovan and Helen Dudajek	Pam Donovan and Mary Ellen Riemenschneider
ACOLYTE	Joey Abraham	Emily Donovan	Noah Thrasher and Joey Abraham	Sheena Andereck
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	John Andereck	Patsy Glista	Liz Douglass	Barbara Godbey-Miller
LECTOR	N/A	Scott Donovan	Jane Anello	Mary Tollerton
NURSERY 10:30 worship	Liz Douglass	Susan Morris	Judy Petroski	Katherine and Kathy David



Ushers—Peter Lincoln, Rick Dygert, Jim Lenahan, Don Arntsen
Altar Guild—Pam Donovan and Beverly Smith



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www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org

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Rev. Anita Mohr, Pastor

**Contemporary Worship at 9:00am
Adult Bible Study at 9:15am
Traditional Worship at 10:30am**



*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.*