



# ***THE MESSENGER***

## **Our Saviour Lutheran Church June 2012**

### ***From the Pastor,***

June in New York is an ending month. So many of us started school when we were five (or even earlier if you had preschool) that it has become engraved in our memories. School is out in June. It is the end. At Our Saviour, we end some programs in June as well. The Choir typically sings for the last time on Father's Day. Sunday School stops about the same time. We will go to one service beginning the first of July. June is the end.

This June is also a time when we are facing some losses. Our Church secretary, Kathy Edic is retiring. Many of us have come to rely on Kathy's friendly voice when we call the church office. We know that we will hear a cheerful "Our Saviour Lutheran Church, May I help you?" each time we call. We know that Kathy knows who we are and will try to figure out a way to help. We know that if we just want to chat for a bit, Kathy will put down what she is working on and chat with us. We rely on her quick laugh and gentle ways. It is hard for us to think about what we will do without her. She has so much of who we are stored in her head. When she was away a few weeks ago, it was amazing how many times we wanted to ask her another question. We do not want Kathy Edic's time with us as our secretary to end.

Also in June Peter, Sarah, Christopher and Eric Fagan are moving. We have known for some time now that they are going—but now it is becoming very real. They will be going to Elmira where Peter has found a new job. We will miss them. We have valued Peter's leadership on the Congregational Council. Sarah's musical ability has been such a blessing to us! Christopher and Eric are just plan fun to have around. We do not want our relationship with the Fagan family to end.

I am writing this just before Ascension Day. I'm thinking that the disciples may have felt some of these same emotions on Ascension Day. Jesus had died and risen again. It probably took some getting used to having the resurrected Jesus around—but after forty days they were getting used to Jesus coming in even though the doors were locked. Then Jesus leaves and goes to heaven. It had to seem like an end to those disciples. As much as Jesus promised to be with them until the end of the age—it was not the same. What were they supposed to do? Jesus told them to go to Jerusalem and wait.

Ten days later the Holy Spirit blew through the room where they waited and they were never the same. The church was born that day. I'm guessing those disciples always missed the Jesus who had been physically with them. They would though always remember that ends are also beginnings. God promises to bring new life. It may not come in the rush of a mighty wind on Pentecost—but God promises that it will come. Life belongs to God and God is generous.

Peter, Sarah, Chris, Eric and Kathy, you have been wonderful signs to us that God is with us and blesses us with your gifts. We have been blessed beyond measure with your presence. We will miss you. We look forward to the ways that God will bless us again and again, and again.

*Pastor Anita*

## THE MESSENGER

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**REMINDER—please mark your calendars.**  
**The deadline for the July-August 2012 issue of**  
**The Messenger is June 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](mailto:oslc-utica@verizon.net).

## OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT LIST

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**Church Office Secretary** ..... Kathy Edic

**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** ..... Gerry Presser

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Annual Congregation**  
**Meeting**  
**Sunday, June 10, 2012**

## 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 June 2012

Greetings to you.

Several members have asked the council to make the minutes more accessible to all the members of the church. After discussion, the council decided that a draft of the latest council minutes will be posted in the narthex of the church within a week after the meeting.

Some of you may not know that Our Saviour has a web site. The address is:  
[Http://www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org/](http://www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org/). I encourage you to go and visit our web site.

Other council news for June includes an opportunity for you to meet and have dinner with our Zimbabwe twin synod Bishop Stephen Dube, his wife, Mrs. Efinna Dube, and Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe general secretary, Mr. M. M. Dube. Through congregation to congregation twinning a network of idea sharing both within and across synods has developed. Dinner will be at Our Saviour on Monday, June 4. Members and friends of Zion Lutheran, St. Peter's Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran are also invited. This promises to be a very informative event for us. I hope you can come.

The Process Committee members continue to follow their plan to explore and discuss same gender marriage at Our Saviour. The committee members reported that they have had enriching thoughtful and respectful discussions at the meetings that they schedule for congregation members. I am acknowledging the help and insight that was given to the council as a result of the meetings. Thank you.

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

Please Save the Date: **Our Annual Meeting is between the two services on Sunday, June 10.** Reports will be available in the narthex two weeks before the meeting. We really need to have you be present to help us plan for our future in an informed way.

I also thank those of you who have come to council meetings and given your time and thoughts to us. We continue to be very appreciative for your ideas. 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:

June 14, 2012

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

### Annual Congregation Meeting

**Sunday, June 10, 2012**  
between the  
**9am and 10:30am services**  
Reports available in the  
Narthex on May 27.

**Summer worship  
schedule begins**  
**Sunday, July 1, 2012**  
**One service at 10:00am**

# Congregational Ministries

## SEEDS OF HOPE (Food Pantry)

Our congregation continues to support this important community ministry. Summer months increase the need for food assistance in families.



Don't forget to bring extra canned goods and leave in the food wheelbarrow at church. If you would like to volunteer to help, please see Liz Douglass, a member of the Seeds of Hope Steering Committee, at church or call her at 733-9240.

## Monday, June 4, 2012 Potluck supper at church With Bishop & Mrs. Dube from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe.

Gerry Presser is preparing chicken and baked potatoes. Bring a vegetable, salad or dessert to compliment the main course and join us in welcoming our companion synod delegates. This should be an interesting evening.



Sign up in the Narthex!

## Women of the ELCA



A good time was had on Sunday, May 20 by 12 daughters at the *Daughters Hat Tea*. Thank you to Gerry Presser, Pastor Anita and Patsy Glista for the delicious refreshments. We had a lively conversation about the many ways that hats are helpful and used in day to day life as well as hearing the stories behind the beautiful hat creations made by those in attendance. For our devotion we used a Litany for Malaria and learned a little bit about malaria and how it impacts the lives of people living in African countries.

Liz Douglass shared some of the history of our congregation Women of the ELCA which was followed by discussion on ways we might gather from time to time as women of faith at Our Saviour.

Patsy Glista, Secretary

## Property



Summer is here and our lawn needs regular mowing. The front garden also needs weeding from time to time. If you can help with mowing or gardening, please see Jim Lenahan. There will also be geraniums to plant after our Pentecost worship on May 27.



Property Committee

## Important!

Be sure to pick up your copy of the 2011 Annual Report in the Narthex beginning on Sunday, May 27 in preparation for the Annual Meeting on June 10.

## Youth Group News



The Youth Group held a CAR WASH and hot dog lunch on Sunday, May 20 following worship. This was a fundraiser for the Youth Group to continue helping them raise monies for some of the members to attend the 2012 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. THANK YOU to everyone who supported this event.

All youth in grades 6—12 are invited to join us for our meetings and activities. For more information talk with Mr. and Mrs. Donovan.

Youth Group

# Supporting God's work through our giving.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

April 2012

	2011			THRU March	2012		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$51,183	\$49,941	-2%		\$ 51,183	\$ 59,076	15%
EXPENSES	<u>\$51,183</u>	<u>\$46,678</u>	-9%		<u>\$ 51,183</u>	<u>\$ 38,262</u>	-25%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	\$ 0	\$ 3,263			\$ 0	\$ 20,814	
	2011			THRU April	2012		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$17,061	\$ 9,002	-47%		\$ 15,748	\$ 12,664	-20%
EXPENSES	<u>\$17,061</u>	<u>\$ 6,534</u>	-62%		<u>\$ 15,748</u>	<u>\$ 7,794</u>	-51%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	0	\$ 2,468			\$ 0	\$ 4,870	
INVESTMENT INCOME					\$ 30,000		
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	0	\$ 5,731			0	\$ 20,684	

**NOTES Current month:** Our income is 20% BELOW estimate and our expenses are 51% below budget. We were \$4,870 in the black for the month of April. Easter was in this period. Our actual pledged envelope giving was 7.5% BELOW what was pledged.

**Year to Date:** Our income is 7.2% above plan due to the withdrawal previously of \$30,000 and our expenses are 31.2% below plan. We are currently \$25,684 in the black AFTER the WITHDRAWAL of the \$30,000.

Information presented by Paul Douglass, Treasurer

**Ever wonder what would happen  
If we treated our Bible  
like we treat our cell phone ?**



- + What if we carried it around (all the time, in our hands, or) in our purses or pockets?
- + What if we turned to it and flipped through it several times throughout the day?
- + What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?
- + What if we used it to receive messages from the text?
- + What if we treated it like we could not live without it?
- + What if we gave it to our kids as gifts?
- + What if we used it when we traveled?
- + What if we used it in case of emergency?
- +

**This is something to make you go. . . "Hmmm...where is my Bible?"**  
**Oh, and one more thing: Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible (or any connection we have with God) being disconnected...  
 ...because Jesus has already paid the (disconnection) bill.**



(Editor note: Taken from a recent newsletter from Resurrection Lutheran Church, Rochester, NY)

## June 2012

**June 10, 2012**

***Greeters***

Alex Dudajek and  
Dennis Ready

***Acolyte***

Moeisa Andereck

***Worship Assistant/Lector***

Norris Ellinwood

***Nursery—10:30am***

Sue Arntsen



**June 17, 2012**

***Greeters***

Liz and Paul Douglass

***Acolyte***

Emily Donovan

***Worship Assistant/Lector***

Liz Douglass  
Myron Sierson (L)

***Nursery—10:30am***

Susan Morris

**Ushers—**Youth Group members and Donovan Family

**Altar Guild—**Gerry Presser



**Summer worship schedule begins  
Sunday, July 1—one service at 10:00am**

**June 24, 2012**

***Greeters***

Judy and Myron Sierson

***Acolyte***

Noah Thrasher

***Worship Assistant/Lector***

John Andereck

***Nursery—10:30am***

Liz Douglass



**July 1, 2012—10:00am**

***Greeters***

Sandy and Jim Lenahan

***Acolyte***

Joey Abraham

***Worship Assistant/Lector***

Clare Thiem  
Erica Tollerton (L)

***Nursery—10:00am***

Judy Petroski

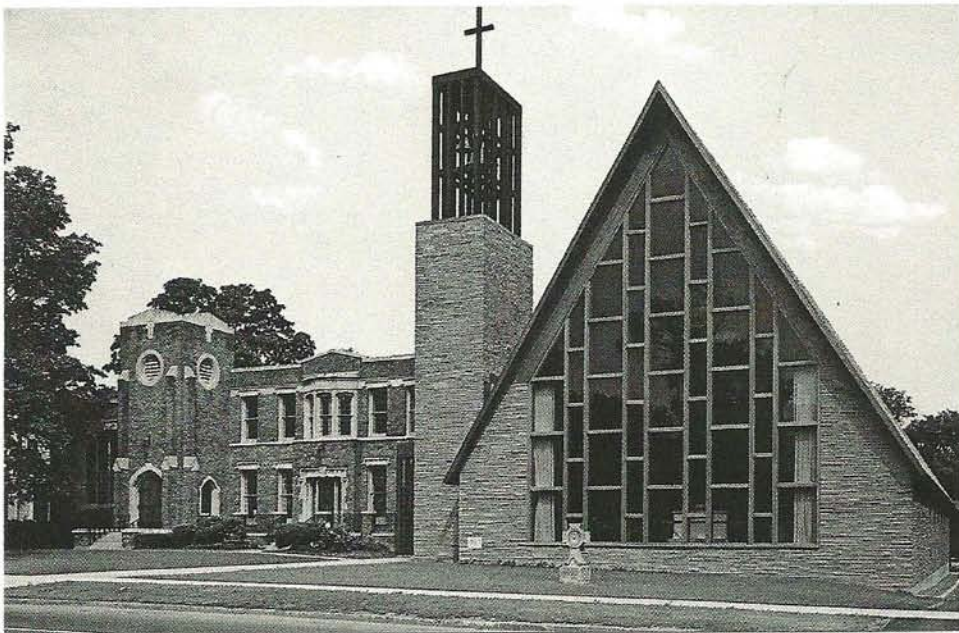
Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
1640 Genesee Street  
Utica, New York 13502

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Rev. Anita Mohr, Pastor

**Contemporary Worship at 9:00am  
Adult Bible Study at 9:15am  
Traditional Worship at 10:30am  
Children's Time—during 10:30 worship  
Summer worship schedule begins  
Sunday, July 1—one service at 10:00am**



*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.*