



THE MESSENGER

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

October 2012

From the Pastor:

When I began to make announcements last Sunday at the 10:30 service, I would guess less than twenty people were sitting in the pews. So, I made the announcements as slowly as I could—saving the really important announcements until the last—because I knew that we had many more than twenty people gathered for worship. Most of the people gathered for worship were in the narthex. We have the best times with each other at Our Saviour! We love to be together! I am familiar with congregations where passing the peace is a very stiff and forced time. It is not so at Our Saviour. We love to greet one another. We have some tendency to say more than “God’s peace” when we are greeting. This joy at being together is something to be cherished and loved. It is truly a gift to us from God. It is a gift that we have been given in order to share it with the world.

In the last couple of months we have had some new faces at Our Saviour. It makes me excited to see new folks here! They tend to be among the twenty folks who obediently come into the worship space and sit down and not the ones who do not move until someone starts clicking the lights off and on. In order for us to share our gift of joy at being together with others, we may have to learn some new ways. Here are some things I have thought that I have to do differently. You may have your own list:

1. I cannot make short-hand announcements. I cannot say “See Pam in the narthex if you want to...” New people do not know Pam. New people may not even know what a ‘narthex’ is. New people may not know what Pam wants people to volunteer for. I need to use more words than I have done in the past.
2. I want all the people who gather for worship to want to stay in the narthex and greet each other. When I am in the narthex while people are gathering, it should be my priority to greet people I do not know. This one is tough for me because I have messages I want to give to people I do know and I may not see them again for another week.
3. I cannot assume that this is a hymn, or method of communion or piece of liturgy everyone knows. I need to learn to do more explaining. I need to introduce everything as if no one has seen it before. Like the flight attendants that demonstrate the use of seat belts on every flight, I need to go back to the basics.
4. I need to find ways to connect new people to the ministries that we are already doing at Our Saviour. I need to find space in the existing structures and create some new ways for people to be a part of who we are.

You probably have your own list. I would love to hear it from you. I know that you too cherish the gift of being together and know that it is a gift from the God who loves us. It was given to use to share.

Pastor Anita

THE MESSENGER

Published monthly by:
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
1640 Genesee Street
Utica, New York 13502
Phone: 315-732-0134
Email: oslc-utica@verizon.net
Circulation: 251
Editors: Patsy and Norman Glista
Contributors: Members of the Congregation.
Internet: www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org

REMINDER—please mark your calendars.
The deadline for the November 2012 issue of
The Messenger is October 15, 2012.
Be sure that your group's upcoming events are
included. All members of the congregation are wel-
come to submit information for the monthly Messenger.
Articles may be sent to the church office, dropped off in

OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT LIST

Church Office 732-0134

Pastor Anita Mohr 724-5426

Email: pastor-oslc@verizon.net

Church Office Secretary Erica Fuller

Organist _____

Council Members

Sally Townsend, Council President

John Adasek

Cindy Andereck

Pam Donovan, Council V. Pres.

Bruno Aploks

Katherine David

Priscilla Dygert, Secretary

David Dudajek

David Wilbur

Paul Douglass, Treasurer

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—



Greetings to you all.

I had a plan for one of my gardens. Over the past five years everything in that garden performed just as I planned. I planned the work and worked my plan. Now in year six, “Stuff” started to happen that wasn’t in the plan.

Shrubs suddenly grew out of control. Three of them got way too big and grew over the flowers that were close by. Weeds began to take over because I couldn’t keep up with my gardens after I broke my leg. What to do? What to do? At first I was really discouraged because the garden wasn’t doing what I expected it would do. I came to realize that I needed to develop a new plan for the garden.

So it is with the church. Our Congregation Council is in the process of reviewing, assessing and making a new plan for the future of Our Saviour. Much has changed. Much has changed for me. I came to Utica and joined Our Saviour in the summer of 1969. I drove a Dodge van, played a guitar and worked at Children’s hospital and Rehabilitation Center as the director of Occupational Therapy Department for a great salary of \$7,000.00. Life was wonderful! My life is still wonderful; however, it is so different than what I planned back in 1969.

So much has changed in our church’s neighborhood. It is not the same. Buildings have deteriorated, people who live in our neighborhood are different from the people who “used to” live here. The world is in an economic crisis. Church life has also changed significantly from what it was in the past. Our Saviour is not the only church that is in need of “Economic reform” and a new plan. The Congregation Council is beginning our review of what we do and who we are with the intention of making a plan for our future. To address the changes we are experiencing, the

Council is beginning the process and we are inviting all who are interested in helping with this process to participate with us. We anticipate that this group will develop a mission statement and a plan that will direct Our Saviour to carry out God’s work in our community.



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

Congregational Ministries

Altar Guild

On Saturday, October 6 at 11:30am we will have a meeting of the Altar Guild. Please attend for a refresher course in the honor



of setting the table for the Lord. A lite lunch will be provided.

Thank you.

Gerry Presser

NEW ADDRESS:

Robert and Arlene Stillwell
1756 State Route 14A
Penn Yan, NY 14527-9302
(315) 404-4557

We wish the Bob and Arlene well in their new home in Penn Yan.

Women of the ELCA

The Central Cross-roads Conference
Women of the ELCA

Fall Assembly will be held on Sat., October 13, 2012, 10am—3pm at Atonement Lutheran Church, 116 W. Glen Ave., Syracuse. The program will be presented by Rev. Gail Riina, Lutheran Campus Ministry Chaplain at Syracuse University. The cost is \$6.00. Please register by October 8 by calling Emily at (315) 422-7873.

Supporting God's work through our giving.

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 2012

	2011			THRU July	2012		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$119,428	\$ 99,283	-17%		\$119,428	\$115,019	-4%
EXPENSES	<u>\$119,428</u>	<u>\$115,080</u>	-4%		<u>\$119,428</u>	<u>\$ 96,545</u>	-19%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	\$ 0	(\$ 15,797)			\$ 0	\$ 18,475	
	2011			August	2012		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$17,061	\$12,134	-29%		\$15,748	\$ 9,814	-38%
EXPENSES	<u>\$17,061</u>	<u>\$ 5,434</u>	-68%		<u>\$15,748</u>	<u>\$ 11,136</u>	-29%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	0	\$ 6,700			\$ 0	(\$ 1,323)	
INVESTMENT INCOME						\$ 47,000	
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	0	(\$ 9,097)			0	\$ 17,152	

NOTES—Current month: Our income is 38% BELOW estimate and our expenses are 29% below budget. We are \$1,323 in the RED for the month of August.

Year to Date: Our income is 7.7% below estimate and our expenses are 20% below plan **We are currently \$17,152 in the BLACK for the year BECAUSE** we have currently withdrawn \$47,000 from our investments.

Information presented by Paul Douglass, Treasurer

Congregational Ministries



Fall Clean-up



Saturday, October 20, 2012

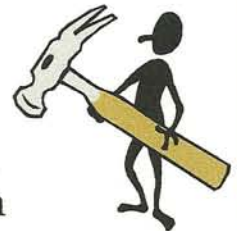
9am – 3pm

Coffee, juice & goodies at 9:00

Lunch served at 12:00noon

Bring your muscles, tools and appetite and help us get our Church ready for the Fall and Winter. Check the jobs list and sign up sheet in the Narthex. Bring the tools needed for the job you wish to do. Come for a few hours or the whole day.

Plenty of jobs for all!!



Jim Lenahan

Thank you!

A special thank you to everyone who helped collect school supplies for the not as fortunate children that attend John F. Hughes Elementary School. Every child deserves the equal right to be fully prepared with all the necessary supplies that each class has requested, to give them the opportunity to start school the first day as fortunate as all of their classmates. It's a blessing in disguise to be able to take part in helping children that you may never meet with something as important as their education.

Not only did Our Saviour collect school supplies but we had huge help from the New Hartford Presbyterian Church as well as the Utica First Presbyterian Church. The staff at John F. Hughes were able to distribute the supplies between the needy children and hopefully each and every child had all they needed to start the school year properly.

It is a true joy to see 3 separate churches become one and be able to work towards a goal of providing children they don't know at all with their 2012-13 school supplies. Thank you for being so generous in helping provide ALL children with the opportunity to learn. It makes a big difference now as well as in the future years to come. May God bless you as you have decided to bless these young minds.



**God loves us
the way we are,
but too much
to leave us
that way**

In the larger Lutheran Community



Fall Work Day...Reserve the day!

Everyone is invited to join us October 27, any time or all day, 8am to 4pm to ready the camp for winter. Whether you desire to rake, paint, store picnic tables or use a hammer, we can find a project. Lunch provided. **Contact us at (315) 675-3651 or vkcenter@vk.org.** A desire to share in the work of the day is all that is needed.



Finding Inner Peace, October 19—21, 2012.

An event for 6th—10th graders at Vanderkamp Christian Retreat and Summer Camp. Join us to talk about finding peace in ourselves in a world that makes it more and more difficult to do so.

Peace

We will also talk about:

- ◇ Dealing with high expectations of us
- ◇ Coping with problems with friends
- ◇ Tactics to quiet all the noise in our heads.

And have a ton of fun! Call the Vanderkamp office for more information.

Learning at the Crossroads

An educational arm of the Central Crossroads Conference of the Upstate NY Synod presents:

Creation and Christian Faith A Day for

Reflection, Rest, Engagement

led by Pastor Gail Wolling
with James Davis, Vanderkamp Director

Vanderkamp Center
Saturday, October 13, 2012
9:30am—3:30pm

“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. We will also consider the effects of our human use and abuse of God’s creation and look at our calling as Christians to care for the earth. James Davis will also lead us in an outdoor exploration of the interconnectedness of all life.

\$35 cost includes program, lunch, refreshments.

Register by calling (315) 458-1481 ext. 1

Vanderkamp Center's Annual Food Festival & Silent Auction

Cruise on in!
Join the fun!

Enjoy the fellowship of friends,
fabulous food &
entertainment,
while you bid on items of your choice!



This fundraiser supports program needs and camperships for Summer Camp 2013. Camper weeks were up 68% this past summer!

November 3 6-8:30 p.m.
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Route 92, Fayetteville, New York

You can participate by:

- Making a donation to be auctioned at the event
- Attending the event...

Tickets \$15/person

Donate or Purchase a ticket from any Board or Committee member or by calling...

Bev Carrigan 476-8800	Becki Harris 696-6566
Linda Graves 451-4944	Vanderkamp 675-3651



**LutheranCare and
The Northeast Forum on Spirituality & Aging**
to be a partner site for
Trinity Institute's

42nd National Theological Conference
RADICAL CHRISTIAN LIFE:
Equipping Ourselves for Social Change
Friday, Nov. 9—7:00-9:30pm
Sat. Nov. 10—9:00am—5:00pm
Sun. Nov. 11—2:30—5:00pm

Topics include: **What does it mean to be a radical Christian community in times such as these with Sister Joan Chittister, OSB.**

Registration is FREE and open. LutheranCare and St. Margaret's House in New Hartford will be the local host via live, interactive webcast. Reservations Please! RSVP at 235-7125 or bmccaffrey@lutherancare.org.

In our community -



Hope House Empty Bowls



**Sunday, October 14, 2012
12:00noon—2:00pm**

**First Presbyterian Church
1605 Genesee St., Utica**

Purchase an empty bowl for
\$15.00 and fill it with delicious
soup and help to feed the hungry!
For more information call 793-3723.

Jesus lives
in the community -
He only visits
the church.

Oneida County Office for the Aging
& Continuing Care and Special Populations
invite you to

Lifestories Training

By Eileen Kent

**Wednesday, October 10, 2012
Nolte Auditorium at LutheranCare
108 Utica Road, Clinton, NY 13323**

**Registration—8am
Workshop 8:30am – 12noon**

Eileen is the owner of Stories of a Lifetime and producer of the first video for the Age.Net Health and Wellness Digital Resource Library. That video "Everyone has a story; Telling the stories of Oneida County Seniors for Age.Net," will be used in the workshop. Join us for practical advice on how to gather the rich life stories of seniors in our life. Thanks to the generosity of the Community Foundation of Oneida/Herkimer Counties, Inc. this training is free. **Registration is required.** Call 235-7125 or email Pr. Brian McCaffrey at bmccaffrey@lutherancare.org.

UNSPOKEN™

2012 UNSPOKEN Human Rights Conference
October 17—18, 2012

Register Now

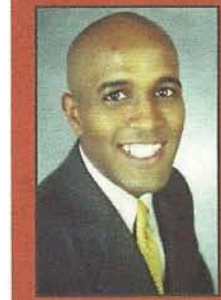
A program of the

Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees
www.mvrcr.org or call (315) 738-1083

Purchase tickets

UNSPOKEN Keynote Speaker

MAWI SPEAKS



UNSPOKEN Conference Speakers & Agenda





October 2012 Sunday Worship Schedule

	Oct. 7 10:30am	Oct. 14 10:30am	Oct. 21 10:30am	Oct. 28 10:30am	Nov. 4 10:30am
GREETER	Pam and Emily Donovan	Helen and Alex Dudajek	Mary Ellen Riemenschneider and Emily Donovan	Liz and Paul Douglass	Judy and Myron Sierson
ACOLYTE	Joey Abraham And Michael Robles	Kenny Douglass and Mariah Thrasher	Sheena Andereck and Emily Donovan	Noah and Derek Thrasher	Moeisa Andereck and Michael Robles
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	Norris Ellinwood	John Andereck	Barbara Godbey-Miller	Norris Ellinwood	Liz Douglass
LECTOR	Dave Wilbur	N/A	Mary Tollerton	Myron Sierson	Erica Tollerton
NURSERY 10:30 worship	Katherine and Kathy David	Sue Arntsen	Liz Douglass	Susan Morris	Judy Petroski

Ushers, 9:00am—Paula and Dale Klingensmith
Ushers, 10:30am—Don Arntsen, Scott Donovan, Norris Ellinwood
and Lou Lombard

Altar Guild—Gerry Presser and Sharon Jacintho



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

THE MESSENGER

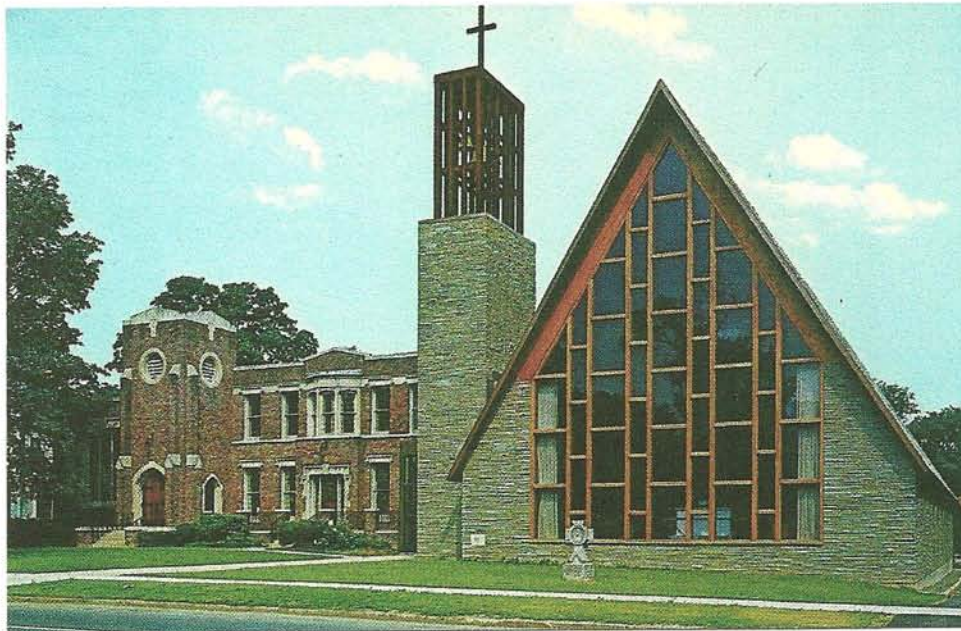
Vol. 10, Issue 9

Rev. Anita Mohr, Pastor

Join us on Sunday!

Contemporary Worship at 9:00am

Traditional Worship at 10:30am
including a Children's sermon
and learning time.



*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.*