



THE MESSENGER

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

September 2013

From the Pastor:

September has always seemed like “begin again” time to me. Even though it is the end of the summer growing season, I always remember the smell of new school supplies, the excitement of new clothes for school, the determination that this year I will stick to my study routine and get better grades, the possibility of new friends. Fall seems like a chance for newness.

Our Saviour has spent some time this past year getting ready for some newness—some fresh starts. Like the beginning of a new school year, the newness depends on what has gone before. Children who do not learn to read can hardly be expected to be scholars as they go on to high school. Our Saviour is well prepared for a fresh start. We have a solid foundation in the basics of what it means to be church together. Now it is time for us to make a “fresh start” in sharing what we know—what we love about being church together with those who are new to us.

September, the “begin again” time, is a good time for us to consider how it is that we might make new friends this year. This is not a scientific observation, but it seems to me that we have seen more people who are new to us in worship lately. For many years here, we could go for several weeks without anyone in worship who was a visitor. Now, it does seem as if we see someone new almost every week.

In the next month or so, I will be inviting you in on this conversation. If you are a part of the Altar Guild, the choir, the Coffee Hosts, the Greeters, the Ushers, the Youth Group gatherers, the JAM Time leaders, Bible Studiers, Acolytes, Worship Assistants, Church Council, Property Committee, newsletter preparers, musicians, Hope House volunteers, Malaria Campaign thinkers and doers; if you do any ministry at Our Saviour, mowing lawn, snow shoveling, Christmas decorations group; if you are a person who has a good time during the Coffee Time talking and visiting with others, I would like to talk to you about what you do. I would like for us to imagine together how we might invite others to be with us in what we do.

I am thinking about the healing ministry of Jesus. Some of the time, people came to Jesus and asked Jesus to heal them. They initiated a conversation. Other times Jesus is the one who begins the conversation. Jesus goes to them. We, who are part of Our Saviour, are people who know the healing ways of Jesus. We are the eyes of God turning to those in need. We know how to care for one another. We are really good at it. Some people will come to us and ask for what God has given us. Some folks can be invited—by the ways that we are.

This month, let’s “begin again.” Let’s find new ways to be the eyes of God turning to those who are in need of God’s presence.

Pastor Anita

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REMINDER—please mark your calendars.
**The deadline for the October 2013 issue of
The Messenger is September 15, 2013.**
**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
the office or e-mailed to **oslc-utica@verizon.net**.

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Coffee Hour Coordinator Marian Arntsen

Altar Guild Gerry Presser

If you have a committee question, please speak to one of the Congregation Council members.



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



Please join us in welcoming Anthony Marris, our new Organist/Music Director, on September 8th. He is from the Waterville, NY area, and most recently was organist in Sherburne, NY. He has also traveled to various locations worldwide. We'd like to use this new opportunity to invite anyone who enjoys singing to join our choir! One short weekly rehearsal, and we can make some beautiful music together to add to our service of praise. Choir rehearsals begin after worship on September 8.



Worship and Music Committee

Property Committee

Missing Hearing Assistance Receivers

The Property Committee is seeking the help from the congregation to locate two of the hearing assistance receivers that are missing. The receivers are black units about the size of a deck of cards with either headphones or ear buds attached to them. They will only work with the transmitter connected to the sound system so they are little use outside of church. They are small enough that someone who has used one may have inadvertently placed one in a purse, coat or jacket pocket and accidentally left the church with one. If you know of their location, please contact Clare Thiem at 859-1933.

Lawn Mower Needed!

The Property Committee is asking if anyone in the congregation has or knows of someone that has a riding lawn mower that they would be willing to donate to the church. It would be a great help to keep our grounds and property maintained. Please contact Jim Lenahan at 723-2270 with questions or to donate. Thank you!



THANK YOU to everyone who helped mow lawn and to keep the church lawn and landscaping in tip top shape this summer!

Thank You!

A word of thanks to all those who helped out with our Coffee Hour during the summer months. Our regular hosts appreciated the break and the congregation appreciated the refreshments for conversation!

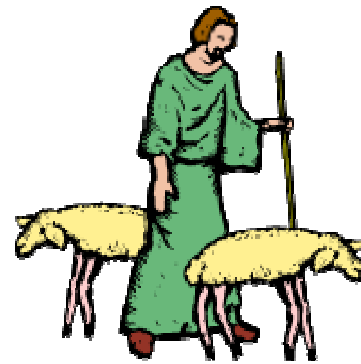
Malaria Campaign

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Malaria Campaign, either by donating your change or by baking or helping at the Oneida County Farmer's Market Booth.



JAM Time

Every Sunday morning during worship, following the children's sermon, young children may join one of our JAM leaders for JAM Time. This is a time during worship for our children to learn about Jesus and the Bible lessons for the day. Creativity is included in this as well and may include a craft or project to enhance our worship space. Join us for JAM Time.



Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' Luke 15:6b



September is National Preparedness Month—

take steps to 'Be Ready.' Resources for individuals, families and congregations are available at www.ready.gov. Prepared families are best able to respond resiliently in the event of a disaster.



Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response, a ministry of the ELCA, has a volunteer Leadership Team in upstate NY. We are currently involved in disaster recovery in Schoharie County impacted by Hurricane Irene and in Oneida, Herkimer, and Montgomery counties impacted by the 2013 floods. We are looking for a volunteer to represent us on the Herkimer-Oneida Organizations Active in Disaster (HOOAD). Learn more contact Patsy Glista, 235-7106.

In the larger Lutheran Community

Learning at the Crossroads



An educational program of our
Central Crossroads Conference
Presents

“Standing for Something”

A Day Apart at Vanderkamp Center for
Learning, discernment, and personal refreshment.

Led by the Rev. Judith VanOsdol
Director for Evangelical Mission/Assistant to the Bishop

Saturday, October 5, 2013
9:30am—3:30pm

\$35.00 cost includes program, lunch, and refreshments.

Through study, conversation, and personal reflection we will explore what our congregation stands for and reflect on what we personally stand for. We will write our own personal mission statements. Participants are asked to bring a written copy of their congregation's mission statement.

To register email LearningattheCrossroads@yahoo.com with your name & phone number



“Nearly New” Sale
September 27, 10am—4pm
and Sept. 28, 10am—2pm
\$3 bag sale—Sat. 12—2pm

Sponsored by the
Friends of the Lutheran Homes

Donations to sell of household items, clothing, jewelry, dishes, silverware, knick-knacks, etc. in good condition are appreciated

Donations can be dropped off at Arntsen Administration Building Reception Desk at LutheranCare in Clinton Sept. 17—20 from 7am to 3pm only.

Please do NOT bring: books, suitcases, exercise/sports equipment, curtains/drapes, or metal office furniture.

Supported in part by the North Central NY Chapter, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Always
being made
New.

25 YEARS TOGETHER IN CHRIST



REFLECTIONS ON CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

Sixteen members of the Upstate New York Synod served as voting members at the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly with the theme *Always Being Made New*. The following is a summary of actions at the assembly:

- Elected the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton as ELCA presiding bishop. She will be installed on Oct. 5 at Rockefeller Memorial Chapel in Chicago.
- Elected Wm. Chris Boerger as ELCA secretary. Boerger recently completed 2 terms as bishop of the ELCA Northwest Washington Synod and was installed at the assembly.
- Adopted “The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries,” a social statement on criminal justice.
- Approved the ELCA's first major fundraising campaign, a 5-year campaign which will begin in 2014 and is designed to increase this church's capacity to renew and start new congregations, educate and develop its leaders, bolster its global mission and expand the impact of its relief and development work.
- Moved to extend the Book of Faith initiative as a continuing emphasis and priority in this church.
- Adopted ELCA budget proposals for 2014—2016 and approved World Hunger income proposals.
- Considered proposals from the Memorial Committee on topics that include community violence, Israel and Palestine, Holy Communion, immigration reform, pastoral ministry among same-gender couples and their families, the United American Families Act, gender identify, discrimination, immigration detention, hydraulic fracturing, fossil fuels and more.
- Considered resolutions from Reference and Counsel committee and approved resolutions on topics ranging from the 500th anniversary of the Reformation to a social policy resolution concerning the guarantee of voting rights to all citizens. It also considered amendments to the ELCA Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions. The next ELCA Churchwide Assembly will be in August 2016 in New Orleans.

September 2013

Worship each Sunday is at 10:00am

	Sept. 8	Sept. 15	Sept. 22	Sept. 29	Oct. 6
GREETER	Pam Donovan and Alex Dudajek	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	Judy and Myron Sierson	Dennis Ready and Mary Ellen Riemenschneider	Liz and Paul Douglass
ACOLYTE	Michael Robles	Kenny Douglass and Joey Abraham	Sheena Andereck	Joey Abraham and Michael Robles	Kenny Douglass
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	N/A	Clare Thiem	N/A	John Andereck	Norris Ellinwood
LECTOR	N/A	Mary Tollerton	N/A	Pam Donovan	Myron Sierson
NURSERY	Judy Petroski	Katherine and Kathy David	Sue Arntsen	Liz Douglass	Susan Morris
Coffee Hour Hosts	John Adasek	Priscilla and Rick Dygert	Barb Magnusson and Linda Roser	Willie and Chuck Bach	

Ushers—Peter Lincoln, Norris Ellinwood, Norm Glista, and Dennis Ready
Altar Guild—Bev Lombard and Betty Gallup

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

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Rev. Anita Mohr, Pastor



Join Us for Worship

*Worship at 10:00am
Jesus and Me (JAM)
children's time during 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.*