



# THE MESSENGER

## Our Saviour Lutheran Church

### July—August 2014

## Congregational Ministries



Thank you to all who helped us prepare 49 meals for clients of Your Neighbors, Inc. on Saturday, June 21. Our Saviour

has been asked to make more meals over the summer in July and August. Please watch the Sunday bulletin for the next date and be sure to sign up in the Narthex to help. Betty Gallup is coordinating this effort and can be reached at 941-2566.

Your Neighbors, Inc is dedicated to providing quality service and support to people who are frail, elderly or have a disability in their home setting. Their volunteers offer friendly visits, medical transportation, supplemental frozen meals and specialized shopping services. Their offices are located on the LutheranCare campus—(315) 235-7149.

Would you like to share your musical talents over the summer in worship? The choir takes a break during the summer and we welcome our gifts. Speak with a member of the Worship and Music Committee or our Organist, Richard Bostick.

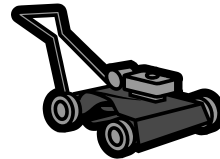


## JESUS AND ME (JAM) TIME

Children are invited to join one of our JAM leaders during worship following the Children's Message to learn about Jesus and have time for faith projects.

Our JAM leader for July is Priscilla Dygert. The August leader is Barbara Godbey-Miller.

## Property



Our church lawn grows and needs regular mowing throughout the summer. The front garden also is in need of weeding. If you can help to keep Our Saviour looking good by mowing or gardening, please contact Jim Lenahan or Clare Thiem.

Property Committee  
Jim—723-2270  
Claire—859-1933



## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The church office is in the process of updating our mailing list. Has your address changed? Do you have a new email address or phone number? Please share these changes with us. You may send them to Risleigh in the office or add them to the Change of Information sheet located in the narthex.

Our church secretary is looking for volunteers who would enjoy helping to prepare *The Messenger* for postal mailing. Folding and stickers are involved. Please call Risleigh in the office to let her know you can assist.

Pastor Anita's regular monthly letter will return to *The Messenger* in September.

## THE MESSENGER

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Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
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Utica, New York 13502  
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**REMINDER**—please mark your calendars.  
The deadline for the September 2014 issue of  
**The Messenger is August 15, 2014.**  
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](mailto:oslc-utica@verizon.net).

## OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT LIST

**Church Office** ..... 732-0134  
**Pastor Anita Mohr** ..... 724-5426  
Email: [pastor-oslc@verizon.net](mailto:pastor-oslc@verizon.net)  
**Church Office Secretary** ..... Risleigh Roche  
**Organist/Music Director** ..... Richard Bostick  
**Council Members**  
Council President ..... TBD  
Secretary ..... TBD  
John Andereck ..... 738-4363  
Liz Douglass ..... 733-9240  
Erma Gaspa ..... 797-0913  
David Wilbur ..... 725-0835  
**Coffee Hour Coordinator** ..... Open  
**Hope House Coordinator** ..... Jan Dudajek  
**Altar Guild** ..... Gerry Presser  
**JAM Coordinator** ..... Pam Donovan



Pam Donovan Vice President ..... 736-8042  
Paul Douglass, Treasurer ..... 733-9240  
Katherine David ..... 732-0611  
David Dudajek ..... 736-8685  
Sandy Lenahan ..... 859-0747  
Youth Group Member ..... Rotates



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.

**Oneida County Lifeworks**, peers helping peers build bridges to new lives, connecting people through enhancement of personal recovery, providing a safe, drug & alcohol free environment, providing local community resource guidance and enhancing life and social skills through peer to

# Supporting God's work through our giving.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

May 2014

	2013			THRU April	2014		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$40,321	\$39,769	-1%		\$44,025	\$36,697	-17%
EXPENSES	<u>\$73,744</u>	<u>\$63,968</u>	-13%		<u>\$77,571</u>	<u>\$57,176</u>	-26%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	(\$33,423)	(\$24,199)			(\$33,546)	(\$20,479)	
	2013			THRU April	2014		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$ 8,064	\$ 9,834	22%		\$ 8,805	\$10,345	17%
EXPENSES	<u>\$14,749</u>	<u>\$23,325</u>	58%		<u>\$15,514</u>	<u>\$18,734</u>	21%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	(\$ 6,685)	(\$13,491)			(\$ 6,709)	(\$ 8,389)	
INVESTMENT INCOME		\$30,000				\$ 0	
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	(\$40,107)	(\$37,690)			(\$40,256)	(\$28,868)	

NOTES: Current month: Our income is 17% ABOVE estimate and our expenses are 21% ABOVE budget. This month we are \$8,389 in the RED.

Year to Date: Our giving income is 11% below estimate & our expenses are 18.5% BELOW plan.

Do not forget that the long summer here. If you do not plan to attend worship please send your offering to the church.

Information presented by Paul Douglass, Treasurer

### Resources in the Narthex—

There are a variety of resources in our church narthex including The Lutheran magazine, Upstate New York Synod publications and more. When you grab a cup of coffee before or after worship, check out the materials on the table to the right of the Coffee table. Pick up a copy and take home to read.



Children's books and coloring materials are also available in a basket in the narthex for



use during worship.

JAM time creativity—artwork done by the children during JAM time is on display on the bulletin board outside the nursery. Stop & see what's been made.

**WELCOME** to our new Church Secretary, Risleigh Roche. She comes to us with many years of experience as a church secretary and has jumped right in, joining us the first week of June. She is in the office Monday—Friday, 9am—12noon. Stop by and introduce yourself.



# In the larger Lutheran Community



**SUMMER CAMP** is filling up! It is shaping up to be the biggest summer at Vanderkamp ever. There are 75 more campers signed up already than attended camp in 2013. Join in the fun—register for a week at Vanderkamp. [www.vk.org](http://www.vk.org) or call 315.675.3651.

**PLANTS ARE ON THE WAY**—Thanks to generous donors like C & J Farms in Constantia, Vanderkamp’s Garden promises to be the biggest and best yet. Volunteers are needed to help tend the garden all summer long. If you have an hour, an afternoon or more to enjoy God’s sunshine while helping tend the garden contact the camp.

**VK IS GOING SOLAR**—Solar Libery did the first installation of solar cells at Vanderkamp in May moving them forward in their goal to move away from fossil fuel usage. The camp now has the capacity to offset 100% of their electrical use in the Commons. Come check us out!



The Women of the ELCA Synodical Gathering will take place in Syracuse, October 3, 4, and 5, 2014.

We will gather at the Best Western on Carrier Circle Friday evening until Sunday morning. Our theme “Called to Mission” will offer time to learn about mission, participate in workshops and field trips as well as join in fellowship with other women.

Information and registration forms for this event are on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Consider attending and joining with other Lutheran women from our synod.

*“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, “Here I am. Send me!” Isaiah 6:8*

## “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



### “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014

This dedicated day of service is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—a church freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Join with other congregations of this church as we gather to put our faith into action and serve communities across the country.

In 2013 hundreds of ELCA congregation members in the Upstate New York Synod participated in “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday. Our Saviour will be joining with Trinity—Herkimer, Zion—New Hartford, and other congregations in the Central Crossroads Conference on Sept. 7 to put our hands to work for Jesus. Watch for more information over the summer about available projects.

““God’s work. Our hands.’ Sunday reminds us that we are church together for the sake of the world. Our lives have been changed by our relationship with God through Jesus Christ, and it’s that encounter with Jesus that frees us to make a difference.”

- ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton



Liz and Paul Douglass attended this year's Synod Assembly in Rochester as Our Saviour's voting members. They share the report on the next two pages with you as a summary of their experience at the Assembly.

**Always**  
being made  
**New.**

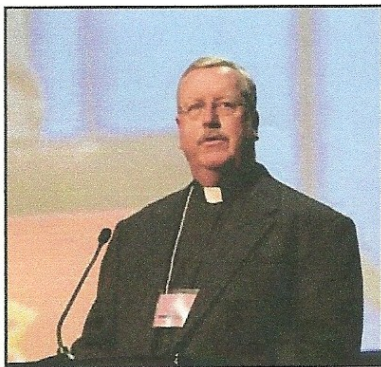
*Going Public: Poured Out for the World.*

## Post Assembly Report

The Twenty-seventh Assembly of the Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

### Upstate New York Synod Assembly, June 1-3, 2014

*"though in the form of God...Christ emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness." Philipians 2:6-7a*



The Rev. John S. Macholz was called to serve as the fourth Bishop of the Upstate New York Synod. Bishop-elect Macholz will take office on September 1. He received 236

votes and the Rev.

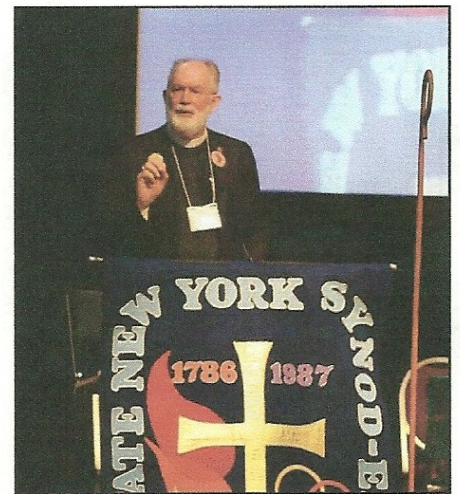
Marie C. Jerge received 154 on the fifth ballot. Bishop-elect Macholz serves as Pastor of Atonement Lutheran Church in Rochester and has completed eight years as the Dean of the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference. Bishop Jerge was first called to the Office of Bishop in 2002 and has served in that office for twelve years.

The selection process involved long, hard, prayerful work, undertaken with a commitment to follow the voice of the Holy Spirit. Six nominees were lifted up by the conferences to begin the process and answered honestly and faithfully various questions from the elections committee and the assembly. This was not a contest among opponents but a discernment among colleagues.



Bishop-elect Macholz addressed the assembly after the results were announced, saying, "This election is for the whole church and how we go forward in God's Holy Spirit, proclaiming the gospel. I ask for your prayers as we begin a new phase in the life of our church." He led the assembly in a standing ovation for Bishop Jerge and thanked her for all that she has brought to the office and the church.

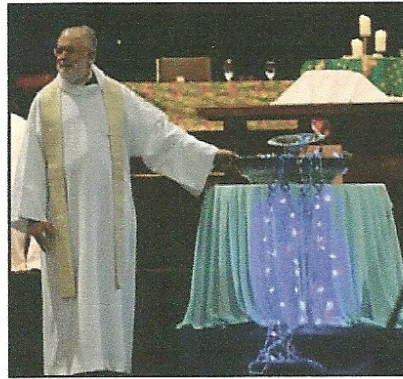
ELCA Secretary Wm. Chris Boerger, the Churchwide Representative at this assembly, chaired the bishop's election. He thanked the assembly for its careful attention to the process and for raising up many outstanding leaders. "The whole church has been watching Rochester, because of the quality of leaders here," he told the assembly. "I'm mightily impressed with the Upstate New York Synod. Keep up the good work!"



*Rev. Macholz will be installed as Bishop in Rochester on Saturday, September 6, 2014*

**Resurrection people who pray first, walk together and change lives.**

With the baptismal font as the centerpiece, prayer, hymns, and Bible study enveloped each and every part of the proceedings. Pastors Joanne Stewart and Allie Leitzel led the assembly in Bible studies. ELCA Secretary Chris Boerger preached at the Eucharist. The Prayer Room provided a quiet refuge from the activity and conversation of the assembly proceedings.



The assembly unanimously re-elected Vice President Thomas Madden and Treasurer Fred Risser. Watch the Upstate Update for election results for Synod Council, the Synod Consultation Committee, the Committee on Discipline, and a Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia Board Member.

We joyously received Immanuel Lutheran Church of Olean and the Rev. Derek Cheek into the ELCA family of faith.

The assembly heard a positive financial report from Treasurer Fred Risser and Mr. Greg May of the Finance Committee and adopted:

- the 2015 Mission Proposal totalling approximately \$1.3 million
- a resolution in support of the ELCA Malaria Campaign
- several by-law changes and resolutions regarding the Synod Assembly
- a resolution asking the state legislature to pass legislation preventing employee discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation
- a resolution asking Synod Council to establish a way to share resources for those wishing to support people and couples of all sexual orientations and gender identities, and their families

A Mission Investment Fund grant made possible the Guidebook app and wireless internet access. Our guide was downloaded by more than 600 people. Over 1,800 viewers joined the live video stream throughout the course of the assembly watching over 30,000 minutes.



Two car-loads of can tabs were collected to support Cherish All Children and the Lutheran Disaster Response efforts in West Seneca near Buffalo.

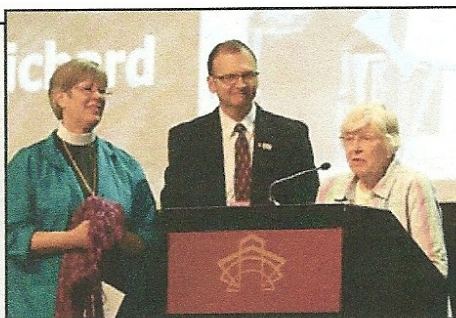
Almost \$30,000 will be sent to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

We celebrated the conclusion of the the *Feed the Roots of Leadership* capital campaign and the distribution of over \$750,000 to camps, campus ministries and seminary scholarships.

**Honorees**  
*Congregational Discipleship Award* - Nan Richard of St. Peter's, Verona

*Synodical Discipleship Award* - Jeffrey Human of St. John, Amherst

*50th Anniversary of Ordination* - The Rev. Charles "Chick" Biegner



L to R: Bishop Jerge, Vice President Tom Madden and Ms. Nan Richards

The Mission Faire, Workshops, SERRV, and the Good Bookstore offered the assembly many opportunities for learning, service, and growing in discipleship. The 2014 Synod Assembly departed from Rochester steeped in prayer and led by the Holy Spirit, empowered by their baptism to continue as *resurrection people who pray first, walk together, and change lives* by the grace of God.



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

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans offers ways to understand your personal financial situation and take action to help you meet your goals.

- Financial Education Workshops—Thrivent Financial offers a variety of workshops that present a values-based approach to financial education. The workshops are led by local Thrivent Financial representatives at no cost or obligation to you.
- Financial Education Tips—We've got tips on a range of topics you may find useful: identity theft, retirement, teaching kids about money, job change and other life events, and more.
- Do One Thing Differently—What one thing can you change today that can improve your financial situation? Our Do One Thing Differently resources aim to motivate you to action. Use the tips and tools today and you will see progress tomorrow.

Our local area Thrivent Chapter, the North Central NY Chapter, is one of nearly 1,400 nationwide chartered local units of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans that brings Thrivent Financial for Lutherans members together for charitable, social and educational activities. The local chapter is chaired by Steve Crane, a member of Trinity Lutheran, Herkimer. Dale and Paula Klingensmith are members of the local Chapter. For more information on Thrivent visit [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com) or call the regional office at (315)451-0252.



# In our Community

## Landmark Society's WALKS AND TALKS SERIES

### Coming to Our Saviour

On **Monday, July 21 at 6:00pm** Our Saviour will be featured as one of the historic sites on the Landmark Society's Walks and Talks Series. Our Church Historian, Victor Tollerton, is working on a history booklet to share with those who stop by. If you are available to be at church that evening to help out, please let us know. This is a great opportunity to open our doors to our community neighbors and share our church home!

The Walks and Talks Series is free but donations are welcomed to benefit the restoration of # 1 and #3 Rutger Park.

Don't forget the local community programs that Our Saviour supports as we go into the summer months.

The Seeds of Hope Food Pantry located at First Presbyterian Church continues to meet the food needs of those in the community and still needs our regular food donations. Leave your non-perishable food items in the wheelbarrow in the Narthex. To help out at Seeds of Hope talk with Liz Douglass, 733-9240.



Hope House feeds hundreds of people during the course of the week. Members of Our Saviour help to prepare and serve dinner on the first Monday of each month. Volunteers are always welcome to help with this effort. Contact Jan Dudajek, 736-8685.

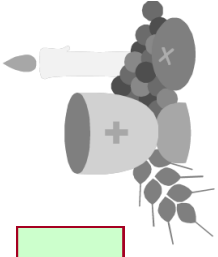




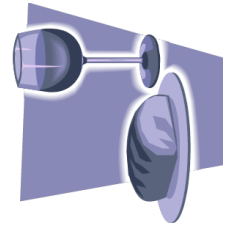
# July 2014

## Worship each Sunday is at 10:00am

JAM leader—  
Priscilla Dygert



	July 13	July 20	July 27	August 3
<b>GREETER</b>	Emily Donovan And Meghan Wilcox	Liz and Paul Douglass	Alex Dudajek and Dennis Ready	Pam Donovan and Mary Ellen Riemenschneider
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Joey Abraham	Michael Robles	Joey Abraham	Anthony and Michael Robles
<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANT</b>	N/A	Patsy Glista	N/A	Emily Donovan
<b>LECTOR</b>	N/A	Matt Wilbur	N/A	Scott Donovan
<b>NURSERY</b>	Judy Petroski	Katherine and Kathy David	Sue Arntsen	Liz Douglass



**COFFEE HOSTS** are needed for the Sundays in July and August. Please sign up in the Narthex to help with refreshments before and after worship.

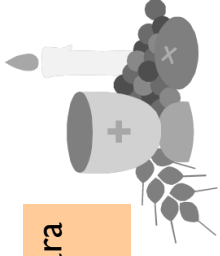
**Ushers**—Sandy and Jim Lenahan  
**Altar Guild**—Patsy and Norm Glista







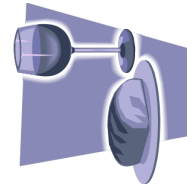
JAM leader—Barbara  
Godbey-Miller



**August 2014**  
**Worship each Sunday is at 10:00am**

	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31	September 7
<b>GREETER</b>	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	Liz and Paul Douglass	Mary Ellen Riemenschneider and Alex Dudajek	Pam Donovan and Dennis Ready	Sandy and Jim Lenahan
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Joey Abraham	Anthony Robles	Joey Abraham	Michael Robles	Michael and Anthony Robles
<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANT</b>	N/A	Meghan Wilcox	N/A	Clare Thiem	Norris Elinwood
<b>LECTOR</b>	N/A	Pam Donovan	N/A	Mary Tollerton	Dave Wilbur
<b>NURSERY</b>	Susan Morris	Judy Petroski	Katherine and Kathy David	Sue Arntsen	Liz Douglass

**COFFEE HOSTS** are needed for the  
Sundays in August. Please sign up in  
the Narthex to help with refreshments  
before and after worship.



**Ushers—Bev and Lou Lombard**  
**Altar Guild—Gerry Presser and Sharon Jacintho**



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

Rev. Anita Mohr, Pastor

**THE MESSENGER**

Vol. 12, Issue 7



## JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

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