



# *THE MESSENGER*

## Our Saviour Lutheran Church

### September 2014

From the Pastor:

I looked this up on You Tube. I remember a song from my childhood, "Let's Get Together."

*Let's get together yeah, yeah, yeah,  
Why don't you and I combine.  
Let's get together what do you say  
We could have a swingin' time....*



It is more corny than I remember - but it is what I'm thinking these days.

Getting together with the people of Our Saviour seems really important to me this Fall. It is easy for us to go our separate ways in the summer. We have people and events pulling us in all kinds of directions. We try to squeeze everything we can into these months.

As September begins, let's begin to find ways to be with each other. Let's find ways to gather and reconnect. I'm always influenced by the Bible readings for each Sunday - I'm thinking about St. Paul's words to the Romans, calling them the body of Christ. Let's find ways to be that body serving God and for the sake of the world. Let's get together and wonder how Ushers, the Altar Guild, the JAM time leaders, the Choir, Greeters, Worship and Music Committee, Coffee Servers and any other ministries of Our Saviour serve God and are for the sake of the world. On the way, we can talk some about how each of us are the body of Christ for the sake of the world. It is exciting conversation! It is life-giving for us and for the world.

God's Work Our Hands Sunday is September 7. Talking while we work is always a good plan. We also have dinner after so we can talk some then. Come with your calendar so that we can make up some dates.

Outdoor Worship is Sunday, September 14. I'm thinking we will have lunch after worship - a picnic of some kind. Here is another opportunity to make a plan to be together. I'm learning that if we do not put it on the calendar it does not happen.



We are planning on offering more opportunity for Bible Study. So, let's talk about what works for you. Let's talk about where you are with Bible Study. Are you a person who loves Bible Study and already knows quite about the Bible? Are you a person who has never come to Bible Study because you assume it is boring? Are you a person who hesitates to come to Bible Study because you are sure that you will be the class idiot - you do not know enough? Are you a person who thinks the Bible has nothing to do with you? Let's talk about it. I want you there. Actually, the only Sunday without food in September at Our Saviour is September 21. On September 28th, we are cooking for the Central Crossroads Conference which is meeting at Our Saviour. It sounds like quite a bit of Let's Get Together. It would be if we were not already the Body of Christ. We are already together. We are connected to one another and to God. God has made it so our baptisms. Let's Get Together and celebrate what we are!



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](mailto:oslc-utica@verizon.net)  
Circulation: 251  
Editors: Patsy and Norman Glista  
Contributors: Members of the Congregation.  
Internet: [www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org](http://www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org)

**REMINDER—please mark your calendars.**  
**The deadline for the October 2014 issue of**  
**The Messenger is September 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



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Email: <a href="mailto:pastor-oslc@verizon.net">pastor-oslc@verizon.net</a>			
<b>Church Office Secretary</b> .....	Risleigh Roche		
<b>Organist/Music Director</b> .....	Richard Bostick		
<b>Council Members</b>			
Pam Donovan, Council President. ....	736-8042	Vice President. .... TBD	
Dave Wilbur, Secretary. ....	725-0835	Paul Douglass, Treasurer. .... 733-9240	
John Andereck .....	738-4363	Katherine David. .... 732-0611	
Liz Douglass .....	733-9240	David Dudajek. .... 736-8685	
Erma Gaspa .....	797-0913	Sandy Lenahan .....	859-0747
Youth Group Member .....	Rotates		
<b>Coffee Hour Coordinator</b> .....	Volunteer Needed		
<b>Hope House Coordinator</b> .....	Jan Dudajek		
<b>Altar Guild</b> .....	Gerry Presser		
<b>JAM Coordinator</b> .....	Pam Donovan		

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 peer.

## Message from the Congregation Council

At the annual congregational meeting on June 8, John Andereck, Erma Gaspa and Sandy Lenahan were elected to three year terms on the Congregation Council. Ending their terms were John Adasek, Cindy Andereck, Bruno Aplocks and Priscilla Dygert. Jesus has been truly present in each of them as they have served with the council and we are grateful for their involvement. The current Congregation Council members are: John Andereck, Katherine David, Pam Donovan, Liz Douglass, David Dudajek, Erma Gaspa, Dave Wilbur, Sandy Lenahan, and Pastor Anita Mohr. Paul Douglass serves as the treasurer.

Over the past year, the Congregation Council has been reviewing the options regarding the future of Our Saviour and the suggestions made at the forums that were held with members of the congregation. Several items have been selected as priorities including creating visitor packets and a brochure, establishing a Bible study for those with little experience, creating a midweek, alternative worship service, and forming a book club. The Congregation Council is committed to sharing the Good News of Jesus with our community. The future can be exciting for Our Saviour as we face the challenges of being a church in the 21st century.

Pam Donovan, President

## Congregational Ministries



Join Us for Worship  
outside on the Portico  
Sunday, Sept. 14 at 10:00am

All who enjoy singing and praising the Lord through music are welcome to join our choir! Choir will rehearse on

Thursday evening at 7:00pm.

Come be a part of our music ministry and help make some beautiful music to add to our service of praise.

New choir members are always welcome.



Worship and Music Committee

## 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!**

# Thank You!

A word of thanks to everyone who helped out with our Coffee Hour during the summer months. We are in need of someone to coordinate this important fellowship ministry. If you are interested please contact Pastor Anita.

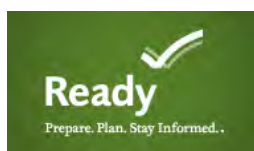


Dear Victor and Mary,

Congratulations and thank you for the comprehensive and informative tour you prepared for the Utica Landmark Society on Our Saviour's behalf. Your research, attention to detail, presentation, and booklet were wonderful! Having refreshments and greeters was also a great idea and gave our visitors a chance to linger and get to know us a little better. Again, we thank you so much for all of your efforts!

From your friends at Our Saviour

**September is National Preparedness Month—**take steps to 'Be Ready.' Resources for individuals, families and congregations are available at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).



## Walk and Talk Series A Success!



Thanks to all who provided refreshments for, and to those who assisted with the Utica Monday Night Landmark Society

Walk and Talk series held at Our Saviour Lutheran Church on July 21, 2014: Patsy Glista, Priscilla Dygert, Willie Bach, Jan Dudajek, Judy Stanek, Sandy Lenahan, Liz Douglass and Mary Tollerton. If I have forgotten anyone, I apologize.

I was informed by Mike Bosak, of the Utica Landmark Society that 38 people attended the tour, and that the tour was very informative and very interesting. The refreshments afterward were greatly appreciated. Again, my thanks to all who made it such a huge success.

Victor P. Tollerton, Jr.

## Camp Noah—Building resiliency. Restoring hope. Changing lives.

Thank you to everyone who made fleece blankets for the Lutheran Disaster Response Camp Noah held in Fort Plain, Aug. 18 -22.



Fifty children were joined by Noah and some of his animals to participate in the Camp. All had a great time. One of the best indicators that the camp was a success is that when it rained during the week of camp and Fort Plain experienced flooding Wednesday—Thursday children responded in more positive ways than they had previously—some even went out and played in the rain!



Patsy Glista, LDR Liaison

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our new Congregation Council Officers—Pam Donovan, President; Dave Wilbur, Secretary; and Paul Douglass, Treasurer.



Central Crossroads Conference  
Fall Assembly  
Sunday, September 28  
Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
Representatives from ELCA  
congregations in  
Central Crossroads Conference  
(central NY) will gather to do  
the business of our conference  
in the afternoon  
followed by dinner.



**A THANK YOU NOTE**  
GOD DOES SEE US THROUGH  
WHATEVER THE CIRCUMSTANCES

As many of you know, last September I was diagnosed with Cancer. The clinical name was, Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma. The lymphoma resides in the Bone Marrow and causes severe muscular and bone pain throughout the body. Fortunately, it was treatable and the prognosis for a total cure was excellent.

As expected, my family was devastated. I knew I was in for a long treatment regime due to how involved I was, but at least we knew the cause of my symptoms. The doctors developed a treatment plan consisting of chemo therapy and several spinal injections to assure my spinal fluid was not compromised.

They say that when things get tough, the tough get going. Putting it another way, when there's a family crisis, the family rallies around you.

I was blessed to have two very strong families that rallied and supported me throughout my illness, my immediate family and my church family. Additionally, I had some very special friends that encouraged me spiritually and I became increasingly aware of the power of prayer and I felt closer to God than I ever did before. When so many friends, some that I haven't heard or seen from in years, call, offer support and prayers, and send cards of encouragement, you really can feel the love and power of the Holy Spirit.

I have, or should I say, we have won the battle. I have often said, "this was a little bump in the road." So I say thank you, to my family, my church family, and all the friends that helped fill those pot holes on my road to recovery. Forever grateful,  
Richard Dygert

P. S. And to all my grandchildren, "Grandpa's mustache is back!"

# Supporting God's work through our giving.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

June 2014

	2013			THRU	2014		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		May	BUDGET	ACTUAL
INCOME	\$48,386	\$49,603	3%		\$52,830	\$57,042	8%
EXPENSES	<u>\$88,493</u>	<u>\$87,293</u>	-1%		<u>\$93,085</u>	<u>\$75,910</u>	-18%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	(\$40,107)	(\$37,690)			(\$40,256)	(\$18,868)	
				June			
INCOME	\$ 8,064	\$ 9,782	21%		\$ 8,805	\$ 9,298	6%
EXPENSES	<u>\$14,749</u>	<u>\$ 9,478</u>	-36%		<u>\$15,514</u>	<u>\$11,328</u>	-27%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	(\$ 6,685)	\$ 304			(\$ 6,709)	(\$ 2,030)	
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS		\$30,000				\$10,000	
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	(\$46,792)	(\$37,386)			(\$46,965)	(\$20,898)	

NOTE: Current month: Our income is 6% above estimate and our expenses are 27% below budget. We are \$2,030 in the RED for the month of June.

Year to Date: Our income is 8.6% below estimate and our expenses are 19.7% below plan. We are currently \$30,898 in the RED.

Information presented by Paul Douglass, Treasurer

## TREASURER'S REPORT

July 2014

	2013			THRU	2014		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		May	BUDGET	ACTUAL
INCOME	\$56,450	\$59,385	5%		\$ 61,634	\$66,340	8%
EXPENSES	<u>\$103,241</u>	<u>\$96,771</u>	-6%		<u>\$108,599</u>	<u>\$87,238</u>	-20%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	(\$46,792)	(\$37,386)			(\$ 46,965)	(\$20,898)	
				June			
INCOME	\$ 8,064	\$ 8,640	7%		\$ 8,805	\$19,560	122%
EXPENSES	<u>\$14,749</u>	<u>\$ 2,972</u>	-80%		<u>\$15,514</u>	<u>\$19,378</u>	25%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	(\$ 6,685)	\$ 5,668			(\$ 6,709)	\$ 182	
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS		\$47,000				\$20,000	
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	(\$53,476)	(\$31,718)			(\$53,674)	(\$20,716)	

NOTE: Current month: Our income is 122% above estimate DUE TO REMOVAL OF \$10,000 FROM INVESTMENTS & our expenses are 25% ABOVE budget. We are \$182 to the good for the month of July.

Year to Date: Our income is 1.02% above estimate and our expenses are 14.1% below plan. We are currently \$20,716 in the RED. This is due to the removal of the \$20,000 from our invesmtents.

Information presented by Paul Douglass, Treasurer

# In the larger Lutheran Community

## Come Learn and Grow with Friends

Learning Opportunities presented by Central Crossroads Learning at the Crossroads

Cost : \$20 each. 9am registration; 9:30—2:30 class, lunch included

**Sept. 27—”Yes, NO, and Let’s talk!** At St. Peter’s, Verona (Presenter—Rev. Diane Wheatley ) Explore boundaries in all areas of life and tips for establishing better boundaries. Meets Deacon Boundary Training Requirement.

**Oct. 18—”Why Paul Matters—The Creative Genius of the Apostle to the Gentiles.** (Presenter—Rev. Dr. Mark Lawson, Pastor United Church of Christ in Bayberry, adjunct professor in religious studies, LeMoyné College, and author of Cracking the Book: How to Start Reading the Bible, Contending that the Apostle Paul has been misunderstood and misappropriated by both critics and admirers, Dr. Lawson will place Paul in his religious, cultural, and political context and help participants appreciate how his developing theology ensured that the “Way” begun by Jesus would grow into a world religion.

To register by the Thursday before the class Mail check (\$20/class) made out to “Central Crossroads Conference” with name, address, home church and the workshop registering for to: Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 435 S. Main St., N. Syracuse, NY 13212. More information—315.458.1481.



**“Nearly New” Sale**  
**September 26, 10am—4pm**  
**and Sept. 27, 10am—12pm**  
**\$3 bag sale—Sat. 10—12pm**

Sponsored by the  
Friends of the Lutheran Homes

### Donations of Items to sell:

- ◇ Clothing
- ◇ Jewelry
- ◇ Small appliances
- ◇ Household items

Please bring items in good repair to the Arntsen Administration Building Reception Desk at LutheranCare in Clinton Sept. 15—19, 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.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## God’s Work. Our Hands, Sept. 7, 2014

The Eastend of the Central Crossroads Conference has compiled several activities or projects to join other congregations around the country for the ELCA’s *God’s Work. Our Hands.* Day on September 7, 2014. People from four area congregations (Trinity—Herkimer, Zion—New Hartford, St. Peter’s—Verona, and Our Saviour—Utica) will join together and participate in what interests them and then come together for worship at 4:00pm at Our Saviour Lutheran Church. A potluck supper will follow the worship gathering. Sign up for and activity in the Narthex or speak with Liz Douglass for more information.

1. LutheranCare (108 Utica Rd., Clinton) - Kathy Moragne will lead residents in a hymn sing at 2PM. Others may join her to help sing and transport residents to this activity.
2. Your Neighbors—St. Peter’s in Verona and Trinity in Herkimer will work at Zion in New Hartford. We will make food at home, bring it to Zion (630 French Rd., New Hartford) and then make up approximately 100 meals to be delivered to those in need throughout the month.
3. Hope House (130 Eagle St., Utica) Folks will prepare a meal that will be served on Monday. Others will organize the food pantry.
4. Neighborhood Center (615/622 Mary St., Utica) Jobs to be completed—disinfecting toys and cots. If some people have a portable sewing machine—repairs of elastic on crib sheets, and remove snaps on items and replace with Velcro.
5. Outreach Center for Vets—a collection to be done by each congregation and then delivered on Monday, 9/8, to 726 Washington St., Utica. Personal care items for men and women—razors, shampoo, deodorant, tissues, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes. Leave items in box in Narthex.
6. In House projects—join in making cards and table favors for Hope House at Our Saviour.
7. Litter Pick-up—to be announced, may be a local park in Utica.

**JOIN US!!!**



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



	Sept. 7	Sept. 14	Sept. 21	Sept. 28	Oct. 5
<b>GREETER</b>	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	Liz and Paul Douglass	Pam Donovan and Alex Dudajek	Dennis Ready and Mary Ellen Riemenschneider	Sandy and Jim Lenahan
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Michael and Anthony Robles	Joey Abraham	Michael Robles	Joey Abraham	Anthony and Michael Robles
<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANT</b>	Norris Ellinwood	N/A	Barabara Godbey-Miller	N/A	Liz Douglass
<b>LECTOR</b>	Dave Wilbur	N/A	Scott Donovan	N/A	Pam Donovan
<b>NURSERY</b>	Liz Douglass	Judy Petroski	Katherine and Kathy David	Liz Douglass	Susan Morris



We are looking for a Coffee Host Coordinator to schedule people to prepare the coffee and goodies for Sunday morning.

**Ushers**—Peter Lincoln, Norris Ellinwood, Norm Glista, and Dennis Ready  
**Altar Guild**—Liz Douglass and Karen Wilbur





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

**THE MESSENGER**

Vol. 12, Issue 8

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.*