



*“God loves a cheerful giver.”  
2 Corinthians 9:7*

# *THE MESSENGER*

## Our Saviour Lutheran Church

### November 2014

*From the Pastor,*

Why do you give up?

I’m guessing that you will think I will tell you not to give up—but I will not. I’m telling you that giving up is the thing to do. It is what we do as Christians. We give up ourselves for all kinds of reasons.

How many hours of sleep do you suppose you gave up because your children were sick or did not come home when you thought they would, or because a friend needed someone to talk to, or because you had a term paper to finish or a test to study for?

How much of your time have you given up watching the Red Sox or Yankees? How much time have you given up waiting in line for a movie, or at the grocery store or waiting for tickets for your favorite group?

How much of your creativity and energy have you used getting that perfect Christmas gift or completing a project for school or figuring out how to fix your car?

I think that shopping is about how much money you are willing to give up for what. How much money are you willing to give for an iPhone? How much for a new car? How much for a visit to a doctor that you trust? How much for one extra day with your family? How much for one healthy day to be with those you love? How much money would you give up for gathering with people who really care about you?

The truth is that it is what we have given up or are willing to give up that has given meaning to our lives. We give up for what is important to us—what gives us life—what we love—what will be fun for us—what will help us accomplish what we want to do.

During November, we will talk some about giving up at Our Saviour. We will encourage you to give up—some of what is important to you. We are aware that money is important to you. We are aware that many of you have worked hard for the money that you have. We know that most of us do not have stacks of money lying around just waiting for a place to be. We know that each of us carefully considers how we will spend what we have. We also know that all of us give up for what we think is important.

Your Congregation Council will do their best to help you understand our budget and why it is important. We will talk about what we are hoping to do at Our Saviour. It will take more than the money that you give to accomplish—it will take your time and your creativity and your energy. It is expensive to do the work of God for the sake of the world. It is expensive for God to express God’s love for us. It cost God, God’s own life.

The really good news is that life comes after death. Jesus gave up his life—and then was raised to new life. Life comes from giving up what we hold to be precious. God gives life in the midst of giving up. If you have loved and been loved you know what I am talking about.

You are loved—by God’s everlasting love and you can count on being loved even when you decide to give up what is yours to give. Giving up is only possible because we know that we are loved.




*Pastor Anita*

## THE MESSENGER

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**REMINDER—please mark your calendars.**  
**The deadline for the December 2014 issue of**  
**The Messenger is November 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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<b>Council Members</b>			
Pam Donovan, Council President. ....	736-8042	David Dudajek, Vice President. ....	736-8685
Dave Wilbur, Secretary. ....	725-0835	Paul Douglass, Treasurer. ....	733-9240
John Andereck .....	738-4363	Katherine David. ....	732-0611
Liz Douglass .....	733-9240	Erma Gaspa .....	797-0913
Sandy Lenahan .....	859-0747	Youth Group Member .....	Rotates
<b>Coffee Hour Coordinator</b> .....	Barbara Magnusson		
<b>Hope House Coordinator</b> .....	Jan Dudajek		
<b>Altar Guild</b> .....	Gerry Presser		
<b>JAM Coordinator</b> .....	Pam Donovan		

## 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.



## A Thoughtful Reminder



With the autumn colors in full bloom it's time to reflect about the good times one had enjoying friends and family or perhaps the special trip that produces memories that will last a lifetime. Perhaps we gave of ourselves by either volunteering, helping a neighbor next door, or at a local charitable organization. Whatever the memories I'm sure we all in some way tried to be good stewards of our time and God given talents.

**Stewardship Sunday, November 9**, is quickly approaching. Please take time and give prayerful consideration to this year's stewardship pledge. God wants us to provide support for our church, community, and the world just as he provides for us. Financial support although essential, is only part of what God expects from us. He has given each one of us talents that we have used to make this world a better place. It's our way of thanking God for the gifts he has given us.

We have a very kind and caring congregation. We have an exceptional building which enables us to be good stewards in our community and beyond. Yes, Our Saviour Lutheran Church is a very special place indeed.

Thank you,  
*Richard and Priscilla Dygert*  
Stewardship Chairpersons



**Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone who helped with the October Fall Clean-Up day!



*THANK YOU to Risleigh Roche for her care and work as our church secretary for the past few months. She stepped in quickly when the need was great.*



### THANKSGIVING STUFFING PREPARATION Wednesday, November 26 at 9:30am



Bring your sharp knives and cutting boards! Mini-choppers, too! We'll meet at 9:30 in the church kitchen to chop the celery and onions provided by First Presbyterian Church for their Community Thanksgiving Day dinner. It smells so good as we cook them down! Join us for as long as you can spare! For more information, see Judy Stanek or Betty Gallup.

# Congregational Ministries



## Jesus and Me

Children are invited to join us for Jesus and Me time each Sunday during worship.

Our JAM leader for November is Barbara Godbey-Miller.

## All Saints Day Sunday, November 2

Give thanks for all who have led us in faith! Our Saviour Saints in the past year:



7/13/2014—Ruth L. Walker  
9/1/2014—Paula A. Klingensmith



Our Saviour will be presenting a concert of music by Bach on January 4, 2015. Help is needed!

If you are willing to help with any aspect including performing, publicity and reception/treats, please contact Richard



Bostick for performing, or Pastor Anita for other matters.

Thank you.  
Worship & Music Committee



## Seeds of Hope Food Pantry

Don't forget the Seeds of Hope Food Pantry—canned goods and other non-perishable food items may be left in the wheelbarrow in the Narthex.



In this time of Fall Harvest—let us remember to help our neighbors.

**REMINDER—TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK  
WHEN YOU GO TO BED ON NOV. 1.  
Be on time for church on Nov. 2.**

### Meals for Your Neighbors



On Saturday, November 1, 2014 at 10:00am we will gather at church to prepare meals for Your Neighbors, Inc. We need people to fill meal trays, make casseroles, desserts, cookies, etc. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex and containers to take home and fill, freeze, and bring back to church. Financial donations are also needed. For more information, please contact Betty Gallup at 941-2566.



**MISSING**—the “Tamper,” used to apply pressure to patched pavement, is missing from the church garage. Anyone knowing of its whereabouts please return it to the garage.

Thank you. Jim Lenahan



## Notes from Congregation Council

By Pam Donovan, President

The Congregation Council is busy preparing a budget for 2015, keeping our focus on ways to be Christ's Church in our community and the world. We hope that our members will consider the valuable ministries we provide as they make, or continue, their pledges for financial support of this congregation for 2015.

Our monthly meetings begin with devotions. For the next several months we will be using the book, "Reclaiming the L Word, Renewing the church from its Lutheran Core" by Kelly Fryer. She begins by telling her readers that transforming the Church begins with us, begins with each of us knowing who we are and being so confident in God's love and grace that we can try new things and dream new dreams.

A new book club group is starting up. We are making plans to begin an alternative worship service during the week. Also, we are looking for people interested in creating welcome packets for visitors. Our new church secretary, Linda Arntsen, is committed to improving our online presence so that more people will know of us. We're embarking on an adventure into the future. Come along with us.

## Supporting God's work through our giving.

TREASURER'S REPORT				September 2014			
	BUDGET	2013 ACTUAL	VARI	THRU August	BUDGET	2014 ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$ 72,578	\$ 75,409	4%		\$ 79,244	\$ 93,023	17%
EXPENSES	<u>\$132,739</u>	<u>\$114,015</u>	-14%		<u>\$139,628</u>	<u>\$120,636</u>	-14%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	(\$ 60,161)	(\$ 38,606)			(\$ 60,383)	(\$ 27,613)	
		<b>2013</b>		<b>September</b>	<b>2014</b>		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARI
INCOME	\$ 8,064	\$ 9,780	21%		\$ 8,805	\$38,487	337%
EXPENSES	<u>\$14,749</u>	<u>\$ 3,090</u>	-79%		<u>\$15,514</u>	<u>\$17,677</u>	14%
OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS	(\$ 6,685)	\$ 6,690			(\$ 6,709)	\$20,810	
INVESTMENT INCOME		\$47,000				\$52,373	
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	(\$66,845)	(\$31,916)			(\$67,093)	(\$ 6,803)	

**NOTES**—Current month: Our income was a little below estimate, but our expenses are 14% above budget. We are \$2,691 in the black for the month of September due to the removal of \$22,373 from Investments.

Year to Date: Our income is at estimate and our expenses are 10.8% below plan **We are currently \$ 6,803 in the RED.** We have currently withdrawn \$52,373 from our investments. This is compared to last year of \$47,000.

Information presented by Paul Douglass, Treasurer

## The Lutheran Homes Foundation



Christmas is a very special time of the year and the Christmas spirit abounds at LutheranCare— with your help. We are respectfully requesting the donation of unwrapped items that would surely brighten the season and bring the Christmas spirit to life for those we care for and care deeply about. This “wish list” includes:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Personal care items such as unopened boxes of tissue, hand cream and hairbrushes | Afghans, throws and comforters                           |
| Books both large print and audio   | Slippers, slipper socks, hats, gloves and mittens        |
| Crossword & Wordfind puzzles—large print   | Room decorations and wall hangings                       |
| Artwork and tote bags for walkers  | Button-down or zipper-front cardigans both male & female |

**A box is located in the Church Narthex to collect donations. Please drop them off no later than Sunday, November 23 and they will be delivered to LutheranCare or you may deliver items yourself to LutheranCare no later than Wednesday, November 26. Questions—call Judy Stanek at 896-5032 or Karen Ostinett, Director of Fund and Volunteer Development at LutheranCare, 235-7104.**



### ***Vanderkamp Center Welcomes New Directors***

Bill and Penny James are the new Executive Directors of Vanderkamp taking over from James Davis. They have also assumed the duties of Facilities Director, Nick Gray.

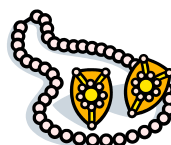
Upcoming Events at VK—

- **Volunteer Work Weekend**—We invite you to join us in service for a weekend of fellowship and mission; Friday, 11/7—Sun, 11/9. Individuals or church groups, even friends or neighbors are welcome. There are lots of projects. Volunteers also needed to help with Saturday meals. Register on our web-site at vk.org to stay for a few hours or the entire weekend, or call 675-3651.
- 8th Annual Food Festival & Silent Auction, Saturday, Nov. 15 at Good Shepard Lutheran Church, Rt. 92, Fayetteville. Auction helps support our VK camperships and program needs. Donate items, services, or baskets. Contact Becki Harris at (315) 696-6566 or Linda Graves at (315) 427-5825.

Learn more about VK in their on-line Fall newsletter at <http://www.vk.org/>.

### **FRIENDS OF THE LUTHERAN HOMES JEWELRY SALE**

Friday, November 7, 2014



The Friends, LutheranCare volunteers, participate in a variety of resident-centered events and activities throughout the year. They plan and conduct luncheons and barbecues in the summer, an August Ice Cream Social, run the Corner Store and make sure every resident receives a Christmas gift. Fundraisers like the November Jewelry Sale and the upcoming December 5 Book Sale help to support these activities.

**STOP BY**  
and do some early  
Christmas shopping.



# In our community and the wider church

## Helping Hands Home Companions

*Quality Care Since 1919!!*



Offering grocery shopping, light house-keeping, transportation, pet care, friendly visitor & respite assistance



- Fully Insured & bonded
- Consistent, reliable, well-trained
- Flexible scheduling
- Days, overnight & week-ends
- Simple in-home registration

 **LutheranCare**  
Helping Hands



Hope House serves hot meals in a warm and safe environment every day—with a smile. They help with referrals to other services, listen when people need to talk, provide a hug when there are no words to be said. They cheer their guest successes and pray for them when they have a set back because in the end, what happens at Hope House is about people.

Our Saviour is one of the groups that helps at Hope House by volunteering to serve meals one night each month. To get involved and help contact Jan Dudajek at 736-8685.

## Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship November 25, 2014 at 7pm

On Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00pm an Interfaith Worship Service will be held at the Resource Center for Independent Living (RCIL) located at 409 Columbia St., Utica.

All are welcome.

Thanksgiving  
Give thanks with  
a grateful heart!

**The Little Lutheran** An Augsburg Fortress publication is a way to share your faith with a young child. It is filled with Bible stories told in child-friendly verse, songs, prayers and crafts and appropriate for ages 7 and younger. Order online at [www.thelittlelutheran.org](http://www.thelittlelutheran.org) or call 1-800-328-4648. A one-year subscription is \$24.95.

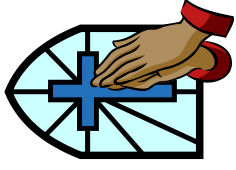




# November

**Worship Schedule**  
**Worship is at 10:00am**

# 2014



	November 2 All Saints Day	November 9	November 16	November 23 Christ the King Sunday	November 30 1st Sunday in Advent	December 7 2nd Sunday in Ad- vent
<b>Greeters</b>	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	Mary Ellen Riemenschneider and Alex Dudajek	Pam Donovan and Dennis Ready	Liz and Paul Douglass	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	Mary Ellen Riemenschneider and Dennis Ready
<b>Acolytes</b>	Anthony and Michael Robles	Joey Abraham	Anthony Robles	Joey Abraham	Michael Robles	Anthony and Michael Robles
<b>Worship Assistant</b>	Patsy Glista	N/A	Norris Ellinwood	N / A	Liz Douglass	Barbara Godbey-Miller
<b>Lector</b>	Dave Wilbur	N/A	Scott Donovan	N/A	Pam Donovan	Mary Tollerton
<b>Nursery</b>	Susan Morris	Judy Petoski	Liz Douglass	Katherine and Kathy David	Susan Morris	Judy Petoski
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	Garry Brom- bacher	Susan Morris and Judy Sica	Jan Dudajek and Priscilla Dygert	Charlotte Williams and Barb Magnusson	Bev and Lou Lombard	TBD



**Ushers—**Scott Donovan, Lou Lombard, Dave Dudajek, Paul Douglass  
**Altar Guild—**Gerry Presser and Sharon Jacintho







# November 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 10:00 Traditional Worship (H.C.) All Saints Day	3	4 <b>VOTE</b> 10am Bible Study Election Day	5 Pastor's Sabbath	6 6pm Worship & Music 7pm Choir Practice	7	8 1
9 10:00 Kairos Worship (H.C.)	10 7pm Executive Council	11  Veterans Day	12 Pastor's Sabbath	13 7pm Choir Practice	14	15
16 10:00 Traditional Worship (H.C.)	17	18 10am Bible Study	19 Pastor's Sabbath	20 7pm Council Mtg. 7pm Choir Practice	21	22
23 10:00 Kairos Worship (H.C.) Christ the King Sun.	24	25  25	25 Pastor's Sabbath	26  Thanksgiving Day	27	28 4-6pm OCLW Family Movie/ Dinner
29 10:00 Traditional Worship (H.C.) 1st Sun. in Advent	30					

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

Rev. Anita Mohr, Pastor

**THE MESSENGER**

November 2014  
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## 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.*