



# ***THE MESSENGER***

## **Our Saviour Lutheran Church**

**February 2015**

From the Pastor—

Remember when you were taught to share? It seems like one of the major messages from my childhood. I ought to share with my sister. It did not matter how much I wanted to have that....whatever. It mattered that we figure out a way to use it together. I think it is a good message. It is more than a good value to teach our children. It is a way of life. It is God's way for the sake of the world. It is God's intention that we share the amazing resources that we have so that all the world might have what it needs.

A good deal of my own personal theology about sharing – about what the world is intended to be comes from the first chapters of Genesis. This year during Lent, we will use some of the major stories from Genesis as the center of our meditations during Lenten Services. I love these stories! They are the basis of many other stories in the Bible and good place to start if you are interested in what the Bible is about.

You will be sharing my time for a bit. I have been asked by our Conference Dean to be the Transition Pastor at Zion, New Hartford. The pastor at Zion has resigned and they are without a pastor. They have people scheduled to fill in on Sunday mornings through March – but they need some time from me as well. I will be attending their Council Meetings and visiting their hospitalized folks and I will have office hours at Zion on Thursdays from 10 until Noon. You can still get ahold of me by calling the church office here, Linda will always know how to contact me.

We are also sharing our Ash Wednesday service with Zion. They will not have services there on Ash Wednesday, but instead have encouraged their folks to come here for worship.

The JAM time leaders met last month. It is their intention to encourage children to raise funds for Lutheran World Relief and especially issues around hunger. It is another way to share. It will be good for us to be generous with our contributions as well.

We have been asked and the Council has agreed – to share our space with another AA Group. They meet three days a week at noon. It does not interfere with the other groups that mostly meet at 6:30. Sharing our space so that others might come to know a Higher Power however they might understand is one of the ways we live God's intention for the world. Our relationships with the AA community are very positive. What happens in those meetings literally saves lives and changes the world. We get to participate in that saving and changing.

Flyers with information about Lenten worship are available. Share them! Let someone else know what is important to you during this Holy Season. Share with others what it is that gives you the courage to be a sharing person in the world.

Pastor Anita

PEACE BE  
WITH YOU

## THE MESSENGER

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**REMINDER—please mark your calendars.**

**The deadline for the March 2015 issue of  
The Messenger is February 15, 2015.**

**Be sure that your group's upcoming events are included.** All members of the congregation are welcome 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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Dave Wilbur, Secretary. .... 725-0835  
John Andereck ..... 738-4363  
Liz Douglass ..... 733-9240  
Sandy Lenahan ..... 859-0747  
**Coffee Hour Coordinator** ..... Barbara Magnusson  
**Hope House Coordinator** ..... Jan Dudajek  
**Altar Guild** ..... Gerry Presser  
**JAM Coordinator** ..... Pam Donovan

David Dudajek, Vice President. .... 736-8685  
Paul Douglass, Treasurer. .... 733-9240  
Katherine David. .... 507-7218  
Erma Gaspa ..... 797-0913  
Youth Group Member ..... Rotates

Visit us on the Web!

**Check us out!**

[www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org](http://www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org)



## 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 Council President



The Congregation Council meets the third Thursday of each month and all are welcome to attend. Our hope is for everyone to be involved in the ministry of Our Saviour. It has been mentioned many times at council meetings that we are a family. As such, we all have different roles and different responsibilities. We have different interests and abilities. But we all love each other, support each other and take care of each other.

The Congregation Council believes it is important to think about decisions in light of our beliefs as Christians. Our devotions are centered around the book "Reclaiming the 'L' word Renewing the Church from it's Lutheran Core" by Kelly Fryer. In this month's chapter, Kelly Fryer tells us of conversations with those in her congregation who worship there because of what Lutherans believe. Look for signs around church demonstrating what it means to be a Christian who is also Lutheran. Also in this chapter we are reminded that some of the things people disagree over are things that just don't matter. We aim to be sure that people who worship with us understand the joy of grace. Also we don't want the things that don't really matter to come between us or between us and our God.

At this month's meeting, we voted to donate 10% of our investment income to Hope House. We discussed the need for an additional member on the audit committee. We authorized another Alcoholics Anonymous group to meet in our building. We have a committee of people looking into replacing our stoves using memorial gifts.

Pam Donovan



**From the Church Secretary**—We are beginning to increase our technological presence and internet use this year. The first step in this process is developing a database of email addresses for our membership and friends. I would like to communicate mid-week with prayer requests and news about our members. I need your help in two ways: 1) send your current email address to the office at [oslc-utica@verizon.net](mailto:oslc-utica@verizon.net) and 2) notify the office by calling 732-0134 or by email of your prayer needs. We also have a Facebook page where you may post comments and pictures. Search for Our Saviour Lutheran Church Utica NY to 'like' us on Facebook.

Linda Arntsen, Secretary

*Thank you to Sandy Lenahan for her many hours of watering and care of all the plants in the church sanctuary especially the care of the poinsettias that remain from our Christmas worship.*



Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
Tuesday Lenten Suppers  
and Worship  
February 24—March 24, 2015

Join us at 6:00pm for supper.

A main dish will be prepared  
by Gerry Presser.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Please sign up in the Narthex  
to help our planning.

Gather in the Keller Room at 7:00pm for  
Holden Prayer Worship.



Bring your whole family—invite a friend!

# Congregational Ministries

## 2015 Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 1, 2015



In 2014, more than 10,000 groups collected more than \$8 million in dollars and food for local hunger-relief charities. That's a total of more than \$100 million collected since the movement began in 1990! Help us grow this movement and tackle hunger in America!

**On Sunday, Feb. 1 bring your financial donation or cans of soup and other canned goods on Feb. 1.**

### For Your Information—

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Pastor Anita normally works on National Holidays, like Martin Luther King Day and Memorial Day and Labor Day. She does this because she is aware that many of our members do not work on these days so they are able to come by the church office at a time when they do not need to have an appointment. Pastor Anita then takes another day off as a Holiday near the time of the National Holiday. She has given these dates to the Congregation Council. Please feel free to drop in the church office during working hours. Pastor Anita is usually happy to have conversation. If you want to be sure that she will be available, call the church office first to make an appointment.



## HUNGER FACTS

- 868 million people are chronically hungry
- 1.4 billion people live in extreme poverty living on less than \$1.25 per day
- In the U. S. more than 50 million people do not know where their next meal will come from
- 46.2 million Americans are living in poverty.



## **Your Neighbors Meals Cook-In** **Saturday, February 14, 2015** **10:00am**

**Help us share the love of Jesus—prepare meals for the Your Neighbors program that will be shared with persons recently out of the hospital or homebound.**

**Sign-up in the Narthex to help on Feb. 14 or pick up containers in the Narthex and prepare meals at home. Bring the meals to church on Feb. 14.**

**For more information contact Betty Gallup at 941-2566.**

## **LENTEN WORSHIP—Special Lenten Worship** Services will be:

- ◇ Feb. 18, Ash Wednesday at 2pm and 7pm
- ◇ Apr. 2, Maundy Thursday at 2pm and 7pm
- ◇ Apr. 3, Good Friday at 2pm and 7pm

We are making worship available in the afternoon for those who do not wish to drive after dark. Some of these services may be held in the Keller Room.

We hope that this will encourage more of us to make these Holy Days part of our Lenten observance.



## Northeast Forum on Spirituality and Aging

### Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life:

#### 7 Gateways to Spiritual Growth

#### FREE ONLINE BOOK STUDY

8:00—9:00pm

February 5—Introduction

February 12—Facing Aging and Death

February 19—Living with Limitations

February 26—Doing Inner Work

March 5—Living In and Out of Community

March 12—Prayer and Contemplation

March 19—Redeeming Loss and Suffering

March 26—Leaving a Legacy

The book study will be facilitated by  
Rev. Brian McCaffrey, Chaplain at LutheranCare.

To register and for more information go to  
[www.lutherancare.org](http://www.lutherancare.org) or call 235-7106.

### SAVE THE DATE—

Bishop John S. Macholz invites church leaders to  
*NONES and the Church*  
Saturday, March 21, 2015  
10:00am—2:00pm



First English Lutheran Church  
501 James Street, Syracuse, NY 13203

Bishop Jim Hazelwood, Northeast Synod—ELCA, who has done considerable work in this area, will be with us to inform and lead us in discussion around the topic of “Nones,” the Millennial generation members who have no connection with church.

The program includes 2 sessions—‘Where in God’s name are we?’ and ‘Conversations with People who don’t go to church.’

Cost—\$10.00 to help cover lunch costs.  
Registration to open soon. For information call the synod office at 315.299.4955



## LEARNING AT THE CROSSROADS

### Come Learn and Grow with Friends

Learning Opportunities presented by Central Crossroads Conference  
<http://LearningattheCrossroads.googlepages.com>



**Cost: \$20 March 21. 9 am registration; 9:30-2:30 classes, lunch included.** Write check to “Central Crossroads Conference” (\$20 each) and mail to Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 435 S. Main St., N Syracuse, NY 13212. Registrations must be received by the Thursday before the workshop at the latest.

March 21 --Tom Henry Returns—To guide us in pondering issues of the church today with a historical perspective. Set the date aside now and plan to join us for this popular teacher.

May 20—Stain Glass Workshop at Vanderkamp—LIMITED TO THE FIRST 20 WHO REGISTER! We will create a wait list for all others in case of cancellations, and to create a first-choice for another workshop. Rev. Dan Hoffman will help each participant create their own work of art in the beautiful setting of Vanderkamp in Cleveland, NY. Lunch is included. COST: \$50 including supplies. Registration—9:00 am; program 9:15—3pm.

#### REGISTRATION:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

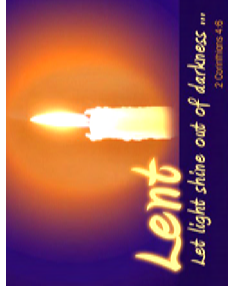
Workshops for which you are registering: \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount \_\_\_\_\_





## February 2015 Schedule

**Worship is at 10:00am each Sunday**  
**Traditional worship on 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays and**  
**Kairos worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.**



	Feb. 1, 2015	Feb. 8, 2015	Feb. 15, 2015	Feb. 18, 2015 2pm and 7pm Ash Wednesday	Feb. 22, 2015	March 1, 2015
<b>GREETERS</b>	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	Pam Donovan and Alex Dudajek	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	Liz and Paul Douglass 7:00pm	Alex Dudajek and Dennis Ready	Mary Ellen Riemenschneider and Pam Donovan
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Joey Abraham	Michael Robles	Michael and Anthony Robles	N/A	Joey Abraham	Anthony Robles
<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANT</b>	Liz Douglass	N/A	Clare Thiem	Barbara Godbey-Miller 7:00pm	N/A	Patsy Glista
<b>LECTOR/ READER</b>	Pam Donovan (L)	Erica Tollerton (R)	Mary Tollerton (L)	Pam Donovan (L) 7:00pm	Erica Tollerton (R)	Dave Wilbur (L)
<b>NURSERY</b>	Judy Petroski	Katherine and Kathy David	Liz Douglass	N/A	Susan Morris	Judy Petroski
<b>COFFEE HOSTS</b>	Bev and Lou Lombard	Garry Brombacher	Bev Smith and Pam Donovan	N/A	Linda Roser and John Adasek	Erma Gaspa and Larry Hajdasz

**Ushers**—Betty Gallup, Liz Douglass, Bev Lombard, and Linda Roser  
**Altar Guild**—Karen Wilbur and Liz Douglass

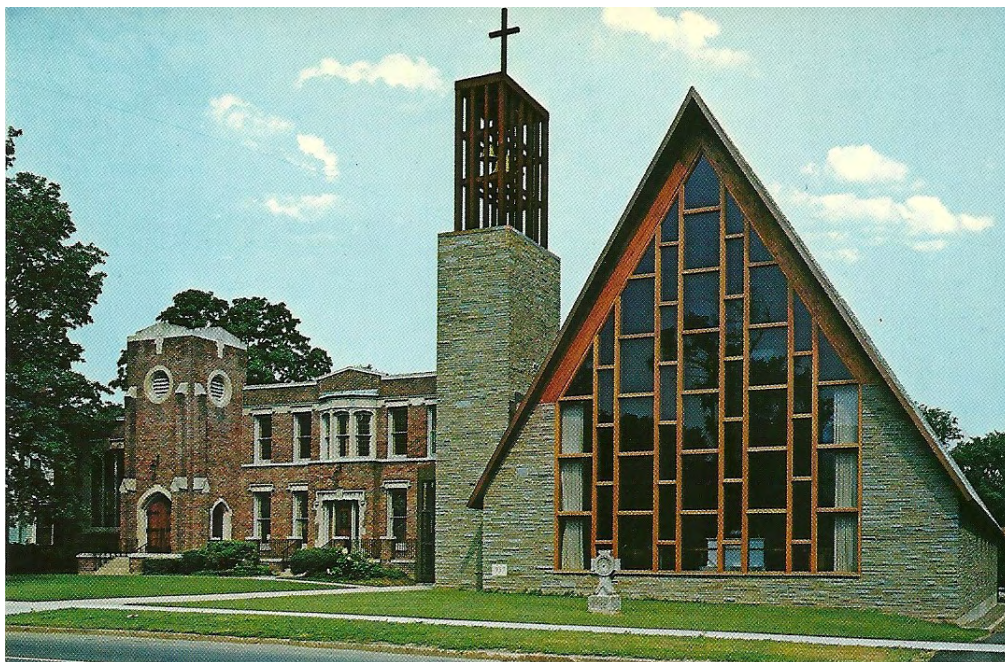
**JESUS AND ME**—All children are invited to join JAM leader, Barbara Godbey-Miller during the worship service on Sunday morning.

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

**THE MESSENGER**

Vol. 13, Issue 2

Rev. Anita Mohr, Pastor



## 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.*