

THE MESSENGER



Our Saviour Lutheran Church Newsletter

December 2016

From the Pastor—

I had Latin in high school – mostly because it was the only language that was offered to those who did not have any language credits already. Sometime I can tell you learning Latin stories. It was an interesting class. I do not remember lots of Latin – but I do know this much – “Advent” comes from two Latin words which mean “Come toward. It is really a combination of a verb – come and a preposition – to or toward.

I give you this Latin lesson because I think it is important to remember in this Advent season. Yes, it is already here. The purpose of Advent is that we might come toward. It is easy to talk about how commercial Christmas has become. It is easy to decry that no one even mentions Jesus in this holiday season. We, the people of God, who know what Christmas is, are in a different place. We are people who can celebrate this season with God.

We are certainly not immune from the busyness of this season. We have busy schedules just like the rest of the world. We can so easily be distracted by all that we have to do. This Advent here at Our Saviour we are inviting you to “come toward” the God who loves us in this amazing way—by coming to live among us.

On Tuesday evening we will join for dinner and worship. Gerry Presser has agreed (even in the midst of roasting multiple turkeys for the Rescue Mission Thanksgiving dinner) and planned the menus for the main dish at these meals. We just need to bring a salad or desert. This is a wonderful Christmas present from Gerry to us. Even if this were the whole reason for coming – one day each week you do not have to prepare dinner—and if it helps with the busy thing, it would be a good reason.

Then we will join for worship. We will sing Holden Evening Prayer. I will have a few words and invite you to think and share around a part of Luther’s Small Catechism. Those who are preparing for confirmation are especially encouraged to participate. I am very aware that many of us had some exposure to the Small Catechism when we were getting ready for confirmation – but many parts of what the catechism teaches went right over our heads. Other parts we might have learned but we no longer remember.

I may not remember much Latin, it is a use it or lose it kind of thing, but my appreciation of what it means to be Lutheran has only grown through the years. We have a wonderful rich heritage of Lutheran theology that speaks very clearly about the God who has chosen to love us. This is the God who invites us to “come toward” in this Advent Season. This God invites us in during this Advent season. This God wishes to be known in the gift of Jesus come to live among us. It will be Christmas soon – we need to get ready to welcome God among us into our very beings. This is what it means to wish someone “Merry Christmas.” How can we help but be merry when we know and experience the love of God!?

Pastor Anita

Dinner will be at 6 – worship at 7 each Tuesday before Christmas in December.





**Christmas
at
Our Saviour
Lutheran Church**

**ADVENT WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP
EVERY TUESDAY IN DECEMBER**

12/6, 12/13, 12/20

POTLUCK SUPPER beginning at 6:00PM

Bring salad or dessert & join in the fellowship

EVENING VESPERS SERVICE

BEGINS AT 7:00PM



**CHRISTMAS EVE
FAMILY WORSHIP
AT 7:00PM**

**CHRISTMAS EVE
MUSICAL PRELUDE
AT 9:00PM**

**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT
WORSHIP
AT 9:30PM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY
BREAKFAST
AT 9:00AM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY
WORSHIP
AT
10:00AM**

OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

1640 GENESEE STREET

UTICA, NY 13502

315-732-0134

oslc-utica@verizon.net

oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org



Help Decorate the Church
Sunday, December 11, 2016
following the Congregation
Budget meeting.

All invited to stay after our
Budget meeting on Dec. 11 and
help us prepare the
sanctuary for Christmas—
hang the wreaths, decorate the trees
and ready the church for the coming
of the baby Jesus.

**OUR SAVIOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2016**

**We will gather at 6:00PM (cash bar) at the
Roselawn, Main Street, New York Mills.**

Dinner will be served at 6:30pm.

Reservations & cash payment to Liz Douglass

NO LATER than Sunday, December 4.

Dinner choices—Fish Fry (\$15),

Roast Pork (\$18.50) or Turkey (\$18.50)

**Congregation Budget Meeting
2017 Budget**

Sunday, December 11, 2016
11:00am—immediately
following worship



Budget information will be available in
the Narthex. The Budget Meeting is
your opportunity to give input for
**God's work through Our Saviour in
2017.**

JOHNSON PARK ON DECEMBER 4

Some of our members went to Johnson
Park for God's Work Our Hands Sunday.
We had dinner with the residents and
stayed to play games with both adults
and children. We agreed to come back
and join them again the first Sunday of
each month. Zion was there in Novem-
ber. **Our Saviour will be going on Sunday,
December 4 at 12:00noon.** There is a
sign-up sheet on the bulletin kiosk in the
Narthex or contact Pastor Anita to let her
know you are interested in planning or
helping with this event.



WINTER IS HERE!



Help is needed for the
Winter Months to keep our
sidewalks shoveled and salt-
ed before Church services
and before the Secretary
and Pastor arrive each day
before 9:00AM. If you are available for
any of these times please contact Jim
Lenahan, 723-2270, or Clare Thiem, 335-
9617 to sign up for a day, week, month or
whatever time you can spare.

TREASURER'S REPORT, 11/14/2016

SEYMOUR MORRIS, TREASURER

Income/Expenses Year-to-Date (11/14/2016):

	2,016				2016 Total	% of Total	Cumulative %
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Expense	-38,861	-34,973	-39,185	-10,755	-123,774		
Employees	-26,251	-27,121	-25,965	-7,664	-87,001	70.29%	70.29%
Utilities	-5,207	-2,612	-1,561	-773	-10,153	8.20%	78.49%
Property	-2,892	-943	-4,202	-1,970	-10,006	8.08%	86.58%
Insurance	-1,621	-1,321	-1,995		-4,937	3.99%	90.57%
Office Supplies	-1,187	-870	-1,079	-348	-3,484	2.81%	93.38%
Donations to Upstate NY Synod			-2,685		-2,685	2.17%	95.55%
Worship & Music	-851	-965	-501		-2,317	1.87%	97.42%
Supply Clergy, Organists, Others			-550		-550	0.44%	97.87%
Congregational Life	-546				-546	0.44%	98.31%
Continuing Education		-520			-520	0.42%	98.73%
Pastor's Fund		-300	-200		-500	0.40%	99.13%
Seeds of Hope Food Pantry	-18		-448		-466	0.38%	99.51%
Synod Convention		-244			-244	0.20%	99.70%
Webmaster	-175				-175	0.14%	99.85%
Kitchen Supplies	-113				-113	0.09%	99.94%
Youth Fund		-78			-78	0.06%	100.00%
Expense, one-time	-8,100				-8,100		
Payroll Correction, 2014	-4,023				-4,023		
Certified Public Accountant	-3,063				-3,063		
Payroll Correction, 2015	-814				-814		
NYS Unemployment Insurance	-200				-200		
Income, one-time		5,194	1,532		6,726		
Ambit Refund		95			95		
IRS Tax Refunds		5,099	1,532		6,631		
Income	33,234	33,620	29,236	14,992	111,083		
Misc.	173	46	132	23	373	0.34%	0.34%
Vanguard, Dividends	852	1,001	945		2,799	2.52%	2.86%
Donations	32,209	32,573	28,159	14,969	107,911	97.14%	100.00%
Grand Total	-13,726	3,842	-8,418	4,237	-14,065		

Ongoing (Excludes one-time):	Actual YTD
Expenses	-123,774
Income	111,083
Deficit/Surplus	-12,691

Mutual Funds:	Account 1	Account 2	Total
Vanguard (11/11/2016)	\$52,644.61	\$80,912.80	\$133,557.41
Morgan Stanley (10/31/2016)	\$8,712.06		\$8,712.06

STUFFING TIME IS HERE!!



First Presbyterian will be serving a Thanksgiving meal to all who wish to come. Our Saviour is one of the churches that makes the stuffing for this meal. We will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 23 at 9:30am in our church kitchen to make stuffing together. This is a wonderful time of fellowship and the smell begins to get us ready for Thanksgiving.

LUTHERAN CARE CHRISTMAS HELPERS

We are again invited to provide gifts for the residents at Lutheran Care. Our unwrapped gifts will surely brighten the season and bring the Christmas spirit to life for many. Please donate a gift from their "wish list."

- + Personal care items (lotion, shower gel, body spray, hairbrushes, boxes of tissues)
- + Jewelry
- + Books (large and small print)
- + Afghans, throws, comforters
- + Crossword puzzles and word find books
- + Slippers, slipper socks, socks, lap robes
- + Tote bags, calendars, room decorations
- + Button down or zipper cardigans (M & F)

A box is available in the Narthex to drop your unwrapped gifts in no later than Dec. 4.

GROUNDING in Jesus Christ
GROWING in Witness

GIVING from God's Abundance

GRACED for the Sake of the World

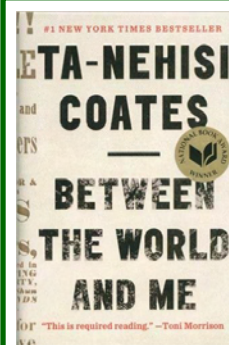
Saturday, December 4, 2016

3:00—7:00PM

Good Shepherd Lutheran, Fayetteville

Our synodical Bishop John Macholz and our Director of Evangelical Mission, the Rev. Norma Malfatti will join members of all congregations in the Central Crossroads Conference to talk about mission priorities for our synod and to hear from us.

We will gather around four salient points that will drive our ministry as congregations and a synod for the coming years. All are invited. Dinner will be served. Please call Good Shepherd, 315-637-9290, to RSVP if you plan to attend.



ABOLITIONIST BOOK READING GROUP

We have met once with good conversation. Our next book is "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

We will meet Tuesday, November 29 at 7:00pm at Our Saviour. All are invited to join us.

A Special Thank You

Thank you so much for all the love shown to my daughter, Linda, and for the outpouring of care for our family from everyone at Our Saviour. It was a wonderful service in the church. What a lovely, lovely luncheon you provided! A special thank you to all the ladies who fixed food and served, and especially Sandy Lenahan for coordinating things. I am so appreciative.

Marian Arntsen

AT THE PORTAL

**LINDA S. ARNTSEN
DAUGHTER OF MARIAN ARNTSEN
OCTOBER 29, 2016**



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS ABSOLUTE DEADLINE—SUNDAY, December 11, 2016



Our Saviour hopes to have a large number of poinsettias decorating the Chancel area on Christmas. Any plants you do not wish to take with you will be donated to a shut-in.

I wish to have the Altar Guild purchase a plant for the Chancel for Christmas. (\$5.95 per plant enclosed donation.) Enclose a check with your order and drop it in the offering plate or mail to: Our Saviour Lutheran church, 1640 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13502.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Number of plants: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Thanksgiving for: _____



(If more than one memorial, please use another sheet.) Please PRINT names. If you are taking your plants, please arrange to do so following the worship service on DECEMBER 25.

_____ I will take my plants after the service
_____ I will deliver a plant to a shut-in. Name _____ |
_____ I will leave my plant for a shut-in



MEMORIALS IN MEMORY OF LINDA S. ARNTSEN



GIVEN BY

SEYMOUR AND SUSAN MORRIS
 WILHELMINA BACH
 DENNIS READY
 CLARE THIEM
 KATHY AND CARL SCHLEICHER
 ED AND MARY ELLEN RIEMENSCHNEIDER
 REV. JANET GRIFFITHS
 REV. DANIEL AND LOIS RUMFELT
 KERSTIN SOYKAN

GIVEN BY

CHARLES AND ESTER GUSTAFSON
 MR. & MRS. PHILIP TEAUGUE
 MRS. MARION ULTSCH
 BARBARA ENGDahl
 CAROL SANDBERG
 KATHERINE AND CHARLES PETERS
 REV. VERNON SQUIRE
 LOUIS AND BEV LOMBARD
 LUTHERAN CARE



ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS GROUPS AT OUR SAVIOUR

- ◆ **ALL ARE WELCOME,**
 MONDAY—SUNDAY AT 6:30PM
 SUNDAY AT 1:30PM WOMEN ONLY
- ◆ **PRIMARY PURPOSE**
 TUESDAY, THURSDAY AT 12:00 NOON
- ◆ **SURVIVORS**
 MONDAYS AT 10:00AM
- ◆ **NURSES,** TUESDAYS AT 4:30PM
- ◆ **BIG BOOK,** TUESDAY AT 6:30PM

COFFEE HOSTS

Nov. 20 Gerry Presser and Sharon Jacintho
 Nov. 27 Pam Donovan and Bev Smith
 Dec. 4 Jan Dudajek and Priscilla Dygert
 Dec. 11 Barb Magnusson and Charlotte Williams





December 2016 Serving in Worship

	November 27 Advent 1	Dec. 4 Advent 2	Dec. 11 Advent 3	Dec. 20 Advent 4	Dec. 24 Christmas Eve—7:00pm	Dec. 24 Christmas Eve— 9:30pm	Dec. 25 Christmas Day	January 1, 2017
Greeters	Willie Bach and Mary Ellen Riemenschneider	Ed and Barb Dolan	Katherine David and Norris Ellinwood	Sandy and Jim Lenahan	TBD	Pam and Scott Donovan	Volunteers	Liz Douglass and Willie Bach
Acolytes	Anthony Robles	Joey Abraham	Michael Robles	JT Passolt	Anthony Robles	Joey Abraham	Volunteer	Michael Robles
Worship Assis- tant / Lector	N/A	Peter French	N/A	Liz Douglass	Barbara Godbey-Miller	Clare Thiem	N/A	Patsy Glista
Lector / Reader	N/A	Betty Gallup	N/A	Pam Donovan	Liz Douglass	Barb Magnusson	Volunteers	Scott Donovan

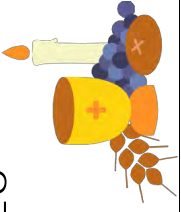


Ushers—Dennis Ready, Jim Lenahan, Scott Donovan, Lou Lombard
Altar Guild—Barbara Godbey-Miller and Judy Petroski



December 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11/27 10:00 Kairos Worship 11:15 Bible Study Advent 1	11/28	11/29 7pm Abolitionist Book Group	11/30 Pastor's Sabbath	12/1	2	3
4 10:00 Traditional Worship (H.C.) Advent 2	5 Our Saviour at Hope House	6	7 Pastor's Sabbath	8	9	10
11 10:00 Kairos Worship 11:00am Budget Mtg. Decorate Church Advent 3	12 7pm Executive Council	13	14 Pastor's Sabbath	15	16	17 Pastor's Sabbath 5:30 OCLW Peer
18 10:00 Traditional Worship (H.C.) Advent 4	19	20	21 Pastor's Sabbath	22 7pm Congrega- tion Council Meeting	23	24 Christmas Eve 7pm Family Worship 9pm Choral Prelude 9:30pm Candlelight Worship
25 Christmas Day Breakfast—9am Worship—10am	26 	27	28 Pastor's Sabbath	29	30	31

Our Saviour Lutheran Church Contact List

Church Office: 732-0134
Pastor Anita Mohr: 724-5426
email: pastor-oslc@verizon.net

Church Office Secretary:
email: oslc-utica@verizon.net

Organist/Music Director: Richard Bostik

Custodian: Ashley Lenahan

Council Members:

Sandy Lenahan, President 859-0747	Erma Gaspa 327-8861
Seymour Morris, Treasurer 580-2305	Liz Douglass, Secretary 733-9240
Dave Dudajek 736-8685	Youth Group Member Rotates

Coffee Hour Coordinator: Barbara Magnusson

Hope House Coordinator: Jan Dudajek

Altar Guild Coordinator: Gerry Presser

JAM Coordinator: Pam Donovan

THE MESSENGER

Published monthly by:
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
1640 Genesee Street
Utica, NY 13502
Phone: 315-732-0134
Email: oslc-utica@verizon.net
Circulation: 200

Editor: Patsy and Norm Glista
Contributors: Members of the
Congregation

Internet:
www.oursaviourlutheranchurchutica.org

Reminder—

Please mark your calendars.

The deadline for the Jan - Feb
2017 issue of **The Messenger** is
December 16, 2016

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 or emailed to: oslc-utica@verizon.net
The Editor reserves the right to edit .

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.

Healthy Relationships Group Meetings which provide a place for people who are HIV positive to network and learn about the latest trends in treatment are held at our church sponsored by St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

Center for Family Life and Recovery, Inc. An instructional program that creates a community mindset where individuals and families embrace sustained recovery from mental health, substance abuse and behavioral issues. CFLRI seeks to transform the lives of individuals and families by providing help and hope through advocacy, prevention, counseling and training. Program offices are located at Our Saviour on the 2nd floor.



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
Worship at 10:00am
Children's Jesus and Me (JAM)
time during worship
Christmas Eve Worship
7:00pm—Family Worship
9:30pm—Candlelight Worship
Christmas Day—10:00am

*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.*