

# THE MESSENGER



Our Saviour Lutheran Church Newsletter

March 2020

All of us have heard this week about the Coronavirus. Our President has declared in a National Emergency. It is scary stuff. We have heard of all kinds of activities being cancelled or postponed because of the virus. Schools are closed in Oneida County.

~~We get confusing information about how dangerous this disease might be and how much danger it is to us. We wonder what we can do. I copied some pages from the Center for Disease Control Website and put it on the table in the narthex. One page lists the symptoms of the disease. Another lists what we can do to prevent the disease. I made some for you to take home. All of this is good advice but they come with a cost we do not talk about. A priority for safety and health is important. Social distancing can prevent disease but what about those for whom distances are unsafe?~~

~~Bishop Macholz wrote a letter to the Upstate New York Synod telling us to cease "in person worship" for the next three weeks. You can find a copy of that letter on the table in the narthex as well. His concern is that we might be safe.~~

Being fully aware of the danger of this disease, we will not cease "in person worship" at Our Saviour at this time. I am aware that this disease is more dangerous for some of you than for others. I am aware that some of you will have very good reasons for staying away from worship. I am asking that you use your own judgment about what is best for you and for this community of faith.

Our Saviour will do our best to keep you safe. We will use disinfecting cleaners as we clean. We will make announcements about being safe during the passing of the peace. We have moved to using the small cups that have been placed in their holders by the Altar Guild while wearing gloves. I will continue to use a hand sanitizer before distributing the host. I will ask you to receive the host with open hands so that I can place the host in your hands without touching them. ~~I will be in the back to greet you after worship, but I will not expect you to shake my hand. Just be sensible.~~

We will continue to have dinner with our Lenten Services. If that scares you, bring your own food. This time of interaction is important to some of us. It supports our faith. It connects us.

We are not the only ones who use this building. Some who use this building are among those who are less safe at a distance. They are the ones who are vulnerable to drugs and alcohol when they are alone. ~~They are the ones who are safer in school than at home. they are the ones who may be deprived of meals because school lunch is no longer served. They are the ones who may not have positive activities to attend when they are out of school. They are the ones we are called by Jesus to serve - the vulnerable.~~

We are expecting our brothers and sisters from the Pentecostal Church to be just as cautious as we are. We will ask for their prayers. They are long and loud praying people. Our experience with them has been that they are fabulous cleaners.

~~Friday night I talked to the chairperson of the AA group downstairs and emphasized that they ought to keep themselves safe. She had just finished bleaching all the chairs downstairs. These meetings also save and change lives for a very vulnerable population.~~

I will talk to people who use our gym this week. With children out of school, it will be especially important for them to have a safe place to go - a place that has positive activity.

We have a responsibility to this community. As scary as this disease is what really scares me is that it will divide us, from one another and from those we are called to serve. What really scares me is that in the midst of being especially careful about our needs, we will fail to see the needs of others.

As this disease progresses some of us may be called on to care for each other. Some of us may be the ones going to the grocery store, or bringing meals to those who cannot or ought not to get out. We are the vulnerable ones as well.

During this stress, it is a good time to remember who we are and what we are called to be. We are people who have said that we will serve all people following the example of Jesus Christ. Now is the time to live that promise, finding ways to serve even when it scares us, finding ways to serve that makes sense to each of us. In this time when we are being told not to hold hands with one another, it is a good time to find ways to hold hands with Jesus so that we can carry those who need us.



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

March 13, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In Luke Jesus calls his followers to be as innocent as doves and as wise as serpents. It is now time for us to be wise as we follow the One who brings hope and healing to our lives and world.

I am announcing the cessation of “in person” worship in this synod beginning March 15 and continuing for at least three weeks through Tuesday, March 31. At that point in time we will reassess and make additional recommendations if needed. I recognize that I do not have the authority of Scripture or constitution to do this but I do believe that we have the imperative of both to act responsibly for the well-being of the Church. The rapid spread of COVID-19 requires that we act. Some may see these measures as drastic. I consider them prudent.

Many of our members at the Sunday liturgy are age 60 and older. People in this age group have been designated as persons at higher risk, as well as those who are vulnerable for health reasons. It is our responsibility to care for them and for all our members in every possible way. This is one of those ways.

Continuing to gather only gives the virus increased opportunity to grow and spread. We have the ability to slow this spread. This is, in my pastoral opinion, the time act.

I am in continuing contact with the Churchwide office in Chicago and the Governor's office in the state of New York. We will continue to seek their advice and counsel in this regard.

In the meantime, remember this: we are not closing down congregations. We are seeking new ways to be in ministry with one another. We are working on resources for use at home, some have already been posted to the synod website and on Facebook. The synod website will be continually updated and include information on COVID-19 as it becomes available. In addition, making use of Facebook and Instagram Live can provide an opportunity for continuing contact for some. A simple phone call on a regular basis to those most isolated will be an important ministerial tool and a welcome gift. To paraphrase Presiding Bishop Eaton's words, "we are practicing physical distancing, not social distancing"

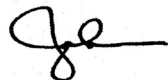
I am deeply grateful for technology that allows us to work remotely, which many of us will do moving forward. It adds another level of distancing ourselves from the source.

Please also note that during these times Church Staff (Administrative Support Staff, Sexton, Musicians and the Pastor/s) will continue to work in connecting with their faith communities and the local authorities to remain current with realities and progress, as well as planning for the future. It is important; therefore, that we continue to pay salaries and provide insurance for staff members. It is also good stewardship that we find alternative ways to give our regular offering to the church. There will be an article on the web site that may prove useful for you.

As we move forward as the Church Together please know that I will continue to hold you and our shared ministry in prayer and in hope. We shall weather this storm and come out on the other side stronger, more compassionate, more knowledgeable and more resilient about ministry in these trying times. This will be an opportunity for us to grow and discover. May it be so among us.

To God alone by the glory!

In Christ's Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John S. Macholz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John S. Macholz, Bishop

# March 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p><b>1</b> 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>2</b> 10am Survivor's group</p>	<p><b>3</b> 7 pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>4</b> 6:30 pm HA Group 6pm Lenten meal 7pm Lenten services</p>	<p><b>5</b> 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book Meeting 7:pm UCC Services</p>	<p><b>6</b> 3 pm MUCC Volleyball 5:30 pm Prayers around the cross</p>	<p><b>7</b> UCC Prayer Meeting 7am-12 pm 3 pm GZM basketball</p>
<p><b>8</b> 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>9</b> 10am Survivor's group</p>	<p><b>10</b> 10 am Bible Study 7 pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>11</b> 6:30 pm HA Group 6pm Lenten meal 7pm Lenten services</p>	<p><b>12</b> 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book Meeting 7:pm UCC Services</p>	<p><b>13</b> 3 pm MUCC Volleyball 5:30 pm Prayers around the cross</p>	<p><b>14</b> 3 pm GZM basketball</p>
<p><b>15</b> 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>16</b> 10am Survivor's group <b>6pm Council Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 7 pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>18</b> 6:30 pm HA Group 6pm Lenten meal 7pm Lenten services</p>	<p><b>19</b> 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book Meeting 7:pm UCC Services</p>	<p><b>20</b> 3 pm MUCC Volleyball 5:30 pm Prayers around the cross</p>	<p><b>21</b> 3 pm GZM basketball</p>
<p><b>22</b> 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>23</b> 10am Survivor's group</p>	<p><b>24</b> 10 am Bible Study 7 pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>25</b> Pastor Anita Vaccation 6:30 pm HA Group 6pm Lenten meal 7pm services</p>	<p><b>26</b> 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book Meeting 7:pm UCC Services</p>	<p><b>27</b> 3 pm MUCC Volleyball 5:30 pm Prayers around the cross</p>	<p><b>28</b> 3 pm GZM basketball</p>
<p><b>29</b> 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>30</b> 10am Survivor's group</p>					

# April 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<p><b>1</b> 6:30 pm HA Group 6pm Lenten meal 7pm Lenten services</p>	<p><b>2</b> 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book Meeting 7:pm UCC Services</p>	<p><b>3</b> 3 pm MUCC Volleyball 5:30 pm Prayers around the cross</p>	<p><b>4</b> UCC Prayer Meeting 7am-12 pm 3 pm GZM basketball</p>
<p><b>5</b> Palm Sunday 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm</p>	<p><b>6</b> 10am Survivor's group</p>	<p><b>7</b> 7 pm UC C services</p>	<p><b>8</b> 6:30 pm HA Group</p>	<p><b>9</b> Maundy Thurs services 2&amp;7 pm 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book</p>	<p><b>10</b> Good Fri services 2&amp;7 pm 3 pm MUCC Volleyball 5:30 pm Prayers around the cross</p>	<p><b>11</b> Easter Fun Day 10:30am 3 pm GZM basketball</p>
<p><b>12</b> Easter 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm</p>	<p><b>13</b> 10am Survivor's group</p>	<p><b>14</b> 10 am Bible Study 7 pm UC C services</p>	<p><b>15</b> 6:30 pm HA Group</p>	<p><b>16</b> 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book Meeting 7:pm UCC Services</p>	<p><b>17</b> 3 pm MUCC Volleyball 5:30 pm Prayers around the cross</p>	<p><b>18</b> 3 pm GZM basketball</p>
<p><b>19</b> 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>20</b> 10am Survivor's group</p>	<p><b>21</b> 7 pm UC C services</p>	<p><b>22</b> 6:30 pm HA Group</p>	<p><b>23</b> 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book Meeting 7:pm UCC Services</p>	<p><b>24</b> 3 pm MUCC Volleyball 5:30 pm Prayers around the cross</p>	<p><b>25</b> 3 pm GZM basketball</p>
<p><b>26</b> 10 am Service 11:15 Choir Practice 1 pm Women's Group 2pm UCC services</p>	<p><b>27</b> 10am Survivor's group</p>	<p><b>28</b> 10 am Bible Study 7 pm UC C services</p>	<p><b>29</b> 6:30 pm HA Group</p>	<p><b>30</b> 3 pm MUCC Basketball 5:30 pm HA group 6:30 pm Big Book Meeting 7:pm UCC Services</p>		



**Holy Week Services are as follows:**

**April 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Palm Sunday: Worship Service at 10:00am**

**April 8<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday:**

**Worship Services at 2:00pm and 7:00pm**

**April 9<sup>th</sup> Good Friday: Worship Services at 2:00pm and 7:00pm**

**April 12<sup>st</sup> Easter Sunday: Worship Service at 10:00am.  
Celebrating the Risen Lord. Alleluia, The Lord is Risen!**



At the portal: Funerals in 2020

Angela Wong

Paul Williams

Erma Gaspa

Marian Arntsen

### **Prayer List**

As you pray, please  
remember these people who we have been  
praying for on Sunday in your daily prayers:

Baby Gavin, Baby Leah, Baby Kia, Baby Ella, Gwen, Nate, Lorraine, Rick, Billy, Dennis, Tony, People in Recovery, Betty, Linda, Charlotte Lee, David, Lou, Lorraine, Ruth, Lucy, Gus, Joe, Paul Jr, Jerry Remy, Theoryn, Anthony, Sonny, Viola, Ann, Becky, Ken, Sue, Sharon Matt, Diana, Jerry, Denise, Emily, Jan B, Al, Verna, Parker, Lenore, Rylie, Adam, Lynn, Woody, Brenda,

*Installation of  
Pastor Tara Eastman*

*Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> @ 2p*



Join our brothers and sisters at King of Kings  
as they welcome & install their new pastor!

Central  
Crossroads

***Hosted by King of Kings***  
8278 Oswego Rd, Liverpool

*Installation of  
Pastor Susan Feurzeig*

*Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 4p*



Join our brothers and sisters at Luther Memorial  
as they welcome & install their new pastor!

Central  
Crossroads

***Hosted by Luther Memorial***  
435 S Main St, North Syracuse





ST. MARGARET'S ECUMENICAL & RETREAT CENTER is hosting an overnight trip to:

***Queen Esther @ the Sight & Sound Theatre in:***

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

<https://sight-sound.com/>

**Tuesday & Wednesday, April 21 & 22, 2020**

**Tuesday, April 21**

- 7:30am** Depart New Hartford – St. Margaret's, 47 Jordan Road  
- appropriate break stop(s) en route
- 2:30pm** Approximate arrival at Sight & Sound Theatre
- 3:00pm** *Queen Esther*  
Set in the opulent yet perilous Persian Empire, Queen Esther is a captivating tale of beauty and bravery. Esther's ordinary life changed forever when she was taken through the palace doors, entering a new world of royalty and risk. With a crown on her head and a secret in her heart, can she find the courage to trust in God's plan and believe that she was made for such a time as this?  
Experience one of the most riveting Bible stories of the Old Testament as it comes to life with magnificent sets, special effects and live animals in this brand-new, original stage production.
- 6:30pm** **Hometown Kitchen – Family Style Dinner**  
You'll be seated at tables with buggy seats instead of chairs in the Carriage Room, filled with antique carriage decor. Enjoy a Penn Dutch family-style meal including rolls, homemade strawberry jelly, tossed salad, turkey breast, beef pot roast, mashed potatoes, buttered noodles, peas and carrots, dessert and beverage.
- 8:00pm** **Hotel check-in: La Quinta Inn & Suites (717) 392-8100**  
25 East Brook Road, Ronks, PA

**Wednesday, April 22**

- Breakfast included at hotel
- 10:00am** **The Shops at Rockvale**  
Time for shopping and lunch on your own before departing for home.
- 2:00pm** **Depart for home** – appropriate break stops will be made
- 9:30pm** **Approximate return to New Hartford**

**COST PER PERSON:**

<b>TWIN OCCUPANCY \$315.00</b>	<b>TRIPLE OCCUPANCY \$305.00</b>
<b>QUAD OCCUPANCY \$300.00</b>	<b>SINGLE OCCUPANCY \$370.00</b>

*A \$150.00 deposit is due when the reservation is made. Full payment is due by March 13, 2020. Call or email to request a reservation form. 315-724-2324 or [info@stmargarethousenv.org](mailto:info@stmargarethousenv.org)*

*\*All times are approximate and subject to change.*

*Arrangements by: Tours By Design, Inc. PO Box 29, Hinckley NY 13352*

*Tours By Design is not responsible for delays*

ST. MARGARET'S ECUMENICAL & RETREAT CENTER

**QUEEN ESTHER**  
at Sight & Sound Theatre

Lancaster, Pennsylvania  
<https://sight-sound.com/>

Tuesday & Wednesday  
April 21 & 22, 2020

**RESERVATION FORM**

**Names of attendees and phone numbers:**

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Phone Number:</u>
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____

Address of main contact person:

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE, LANCASTER, PA – APRIL 21 & 22, 2020**  
**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

Round trip motor coach via Hale Transportation, family style meal at Hometown Kitchen includes tax and gratuity, overnight accommodations at LaQuinta Inn & Suites includes taxes, luggage handling, and expanded continental breakfast, reserved seat for performance of *Queen Esther* at Sight & Sound Theatre, and shopping at The Shops of Rockvale.

**COST PER PERSON:**

TWIN OCCUPANCY \$315.00	TRIPLE OCCUPANCY \$305.00
QUAD OCCUPANCY \$300.00	SINGLE OCCUPANCY \$370.00

*A \$150.00 deposit is due when the reservation is made. Full payment is due by March 13, 2020.* Payments can be in the form of cash or check made payable to: St. Margaret's House, we do not accept credit cards. There are no refunds once payment is made and late additions are accepted based on availability. Tickets are transferrable, arrangements made by the guest.

For questions or more information contact St. Margaret's House – 315-724-2324 or [info@stmargarets housenv.org](mailto:info@stmargarets housenv.org)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Office use



# LEARN ABOUT MEDICARE

## GET ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

- When am I eligible for Medicare?
- How does Medicare work?
- Medicare Advantage vs. Medigap Plans
- What if I am still working?

Join us for a **FREE, no-obligation** Medicare 101 to get answers to your Medicare questions.

**WHERE:** St. Margaret's House  
**DATE:** Monday, March 9, 2020  
**TIME:** 2:00pm to 3:00pm  
**LOCATION:** 47 Jordan Rd., New Hartford / Great Room  
**RSVP by 3/6:** Melody Groves (315.724.2324)  
[info@stmargaretshouseny.org](mailto:info@stmargaretshouseny.org)



315.624.2617



315.864.1870



[pflorentino@adkfs.com](mailto:pflorentino@adkfs.com)



**Paula Florentino**

Licensed Insurance Agent  
Medicare Planning Consultant

*The guidance you need, the service you deserve*



**ADIRONDACK**

Financial Services, Corp.

185 Genesee St • Utica • NY • 13501

## Report from the historian to the Our Saviour congregation on the evaluation of the stained-glass windows

In September 2019, Mr. Henry of Sullivan Studios in Chittenango, NY, evaluated the condition of the stained-glass windows. At the October 2019 council meeting, Mary and I along with Mr. Henry presented the results of that evaluation. At pastor's request, Mr. Henry's report is included here. What little is known about the history of the stained-glass windows is given elsewhere in this newsletter. Report from the historian to the Our Saviour congregation on the history of the stained-glass windows

What little is known about the history of the stained-glass windows is presented here. The report to the congregation on the evaluation of those windows is presented elsewhere in this newsletter.

October 31, 1883 was a great day for protestant congregations, but especially for Lutheran congregations. It was the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther, and the celebration was held at First Presbyterian Church in Utica as at the time it was home to the largest assembly space in the area. At the conclusion of the celebration program, Judge Bacon, in behalf of the Lutherans of Utica, presented the matter of a memorial window for Pastor Wetzel in the Church of the Redeemer. He offered the following resolutions which were adopted by the audience (quoted from: A Sketch of the History of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Utica, N.Y., written for the Celebration of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Church, 1878-1903)

“Whereas, The late Rev. A. Wetzel, the pioneer of Lutheranism in Utica and Central New York, was for almost a half century favorably known hereabout as a gentleman of eminent ability and purity of character; and

Whereas, There is now being erected in this city a church which is the outgrowth of Rev. Wetzel's labors, and which, cherishing his memory, has set apart the south window in its new structure as the place for a memorial to him: therefore

Resolved, That in the sense of this meeting that, in this Luther memorial year, it would be a graceful, befitting and eminently proper acknowledgement of a good man's memory for Rev. A. Wetzel's friends in Utica and vicinity to place in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer of this city, a tribute to his memory in the form of a memorial window.

Resolved, Further that the matter be left to the officers of said church who shall appoint a committee to designate a place for receiving subscriptions and making all needful arrangements for the accomplishment of the proposed object, and that John Kohler, Treasurer of Oneida County, be designated as custodian of the fund."

A very poor black and white photograph of the window is included in that 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary booklet. Additional black and white photos, also of poor quality, are in that booklet. Those stained-glass windows are the Krauth Memorial window, the Bucher Memorial window, and the Chancel window.

There are no known records of who made any of the stained-glass windows, nor of exactly when they were placed in the designated spaces when The Church of the Redeemer was on Columbia Street, Utica, NY.

For various reasons, in January 1923, the congregation decided to relocate, and in April 1924, the Hieber property on Genesee Street was purchased.

The following is taken from Pastor Keller's report to the congregation at the annual meeting, November 1925.

"Our main objective this past year having been our new church plant, it will interest us, in conclusion, to cast a retrospective glance over the meandering ways which we have arrived at our present splendid purpose.

On October the 24<sup>th</sup> 1924, we decided to build an auditorium seating about 300 people, adjoining the present building. Dec. 2 1924, an option on the Columbia St. Church was given Mr. C. Hill. The building committee was appointed... Dec 30<sup>th</sup>, 1924 found us revoking our action and resolving to build the Church. On May the 12<sup>th</sup>, the building committee recommended to building a modified church,

the Church Council authorized the drawing of modified plans. June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the modified Church Plan rejected. Resolved to return to the original plan of Church.

Owing to the financial impossibility of carrying out the New Church Plan, it was resolved on September the 15<sup>th</sup> 'That we adopt plan for the chapel adjoining house to the south, together with modification of the house; said chapel to be used for Church purposes until we build new Church Building.' On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1925 the congregation adopted this recommendation."

Although it cannot be verified, it would seem likely that the stained-glass windows would have been placed in the new church building located where the present Our Saviour sanctuary is located. It would also seem likely that those stained-glass windows would be placed in whatever new sanctuary would be built. However, that never happened.

The stained-glass windows have been in storage in crates in the boiler room since their removal from the Church of Redeemer when it was on Columbia Street, Utica, NY. As reported elsewhere in this newsletter, those windows were evaluated in September 2019.



## Sullivan Studios

2299 State Route 5  
Chittenango, New York 13037-1039  
(315) 687-6828 /sullivanstudios@gmail.com/

October 1, 2019

Victor Tollerton  
Our Saviour Lutheran  
1640 Genesee St.  
Utica, NY 13502

Dear Victor,

Attached are my notes regarding the stained glass in storage at Our Saviour Lutheran Church. Enclosed also are prints of photoshopped images of the complete window. There are also two CD's with my photos that can be looked at on the computer for better detail that does not show up in the prints.

Their condition varies from poor to fairly good. There are six large windows all about 39-40 inches wide and approx. 102 inches high unframed.

There are also two smaller windows approx. 27"W X 91"H and 29"W X 97" H. This second "St. Paul" is different from the others and is in quite good condition, although the paints on the memorial panel are faded.

With your permission I would like to restore and frame these two windows this winter. I realize that you have budget constraints, but these windows should be brought back to life. I would anticipate a cost of \$800-\$1000 for the St. Paul window and \$1000-\$1200 for the "sower of seed" window. When restored they could be displayed in the church to incentivize funding, or sold if need be.

You expressed interest in the Wetzel "Good Shepherd" window. I would estimate a cost of \$3-\$5000 to restore this window. The glass overall is fairly good although there are some cracks and missing

border glass. The "Loving Friends" window is quite far-gone and possibly glass can be taken from this window to replace missing glass in this and other windows.

This sort of cost is what you are looking at concerning the others. They are all quite restorable with the exception of the "loving Friends" as noted and better used for parts.

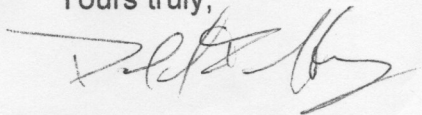
I brought panel #16 to the shop for it was very unstable, although nearly all the glass was there. I have re-leaded it at my own expense to get a feel for the work involved and also to see how it cleaned up. This also gave me a chance to study the painting to give clues as to the origin of these windows. I can keep it here or return it to the church if you wish.

I do not believe they were fabricated locally. The painting is very good and I have only encountered the "Blood Red" glass paints on English windows, although I believe they are domestic in origin. At this point I have found no marks or signatures.

I have enclosed my bill for \$500.

When you have had time to digest the material, please give me a call to discuss how you wish to proceed.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald F. Henry", written over a horizontal line.

Donald F. Henry



Lin and John Macholz  
103 Elm Drive  
Rochester, NY 14609

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As you know our daughter Barbara died on June 14 following a long battle with Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer. Throughout that battle you stood beside us and with us, in prayer and sometimes in person, offering support and encouragement each step of the way. Your cards and words of kindness meant more to us than you will ever realize.

As Lin and I travelled around this synod in the years following Barb's diagnosis, we were greeted repeatedly with the words "We are praying for you and your family, Bishop." And as I worshiped with you I noted time and time again that Barb's name was on the prayer list and frequently prayers were offered for her and the family as she fought the good fight.

You accompanied us on that journey in ways large and small. Your prayers supported and strengthened us even though we may never have met face to face. Your words of encouragement, your cards and your phone calls renewed our hope and gave us the grace necessary to come to understand what family truly means; that it is beyond names and faces and relatives, rather, it is inclusive of all who were involved in any way as Barb and we walked the path before us.

To say thank you seems to fall far short of the words necessary at this moment in time but they are the words that we have in hand for you. Thank you for accompanying us on this journey. Thank you for your prayers and good thoughts. Thank you for your cards and notes following Barb's death and thank you for your continued care and concern in the days that have followed. We could not have made it without you and our extended church family. You have been, quite simply, gift and grace in our midst.

For all of that and more may our God bless you richly that you might continue to uplift and hold others in prayer and in hope in the most challenging of times as well as in those many moments when celebration is called for and hope is realized.



One final note. Enclosed with this note is a copy of a piece that Barb wrote in anticipation of her death. Her final wishes included the request that this be read at her memorial service by her three closest friends. It was a gift to those gathered as well as to so many others and it is a gift that we would like to share with you. It is our hope that you will find hope and promise within it.

In Christ's Peace and Love,

*Lin and John*

Lin and John Macholz

I think it is hard to love. Hard to really feel love. To let yourself love and show it, vigorously, openly. Harder still to carry it, hold your heart out for the world to see instead of hiding it away in moments like this one. When you give in to love fully, you must also feel the possibility of loss, and the risk of loss feels so deep a pit, so dark and deep a hole, it is sometimes easier to stay on the edge and just look down with a flashlight. Stay on the edge where it is safe and you may teeter but can maintain firm footing, especially surrounded by others who love you.

Some might even say it is one of the hardest things we do while we live. I sometimes found it hard to love, easier to put on a sweater and keep out the cold that loomed just beyond, the heart attack or car accident that loomed, the war halfway across the world, and then the disease, the one that was slowly taking me, slowly taking me away from you. But now it doesn't feel so slow. And loving you was hard some days, because I knew our love would have to go somewhere else someday, someday when I moved on. I imagine you out there, gathered together, ripe with pain, questioning why I am gone now, too soon.

And as I processed the end of my life, as much as one can process such a thing, what I thought most about was how my death would affect you: the people I love. Thinking about you after I died was the thing I found so difficult to imagine in the months and years I carried my disease. It was the thing that left me breathless. The thing that hurt the most. The burden, heaviest to carry.

I grasped for some illumination to relieve my grief and begged for respite from despair. We long for yesterday, or years ago, or the time when I sipped from cocktails of warmth and light and hope and joy on a porch overlooking the water, just listening to the waves, not worrying about the next scan or symptom or medicine. A time when this reality was not.

Questions nip at us, all over our bodies. How did it happen? How could it be? Why? The depth of our pain in these moments may be infinite, impossible. These days. These days are dark.

But loved ones, hear me now. Open your hearts as best you can. The light, your light, shall not be overshadowed by this darkness.

I am not lost to you. Our love is not lost. It is right here. It is still now. It is in the hand you are holding, the tear you are wiping, the memory you are reliving, the air you gasp. The hope that now buried, now almost gone, now is determined not to be lost, that will rise again.

It is in fact, I suspect, in that very darkness you feel in your bodies in this moment that I am with you right now. It is in the deepest, most protected caverns of your hearts that are now screaming to be brightened. That is where I reside. That is where I will be always, within each of you.

For it is not pain you feel right now. It is instead, our love. This is what it feels like to love. Love that is spilling out, exponentially, unknowingly, indefinitely. It is so big. That is what hurts.

Don't you see? Don't you feel that the feeling in your gut that won't let up is actually your heart spilling over with love? Don't you gather that your pain is your love, which someday will be ready to be shared again? Don't you see that the night's sky is more open than ever and yearning to be filled with love and more stars?

Your anguish, your pain, that is the love we shared and tended dearly in our time together. It is because we love that we hurt. It is the thing that proves we were in this together. It is the thing that makes clear that we were once here, together, in love and in life.

My love for all of you has been transfigured from flesh and bone into a river, cutting through the dark places of the damp ground in the forest, bursting forth into twinkling starlight looking down at you from the night's sky, absurdly splashing waves chasing you along the shore, blowing through a field of flowers. All without ceasing.

Our love has become something new. Our love has become something even greater, beyond the bounds of beings. Our love has taught you to love harder next time.

Today, the days behind us, the coming days, they have been and may be marked by pain, despair, deep hurt, anger, darkness, and more than we may ever understand. But remember that all of these feelings stem from our love from one another.

And so, I charge you to carry on. Don't stop loving. In fact, love more. Love harder. Love with intention. Love without conditions. Love one another.

Love the people you do not yet know. Love the person who has wronged you. Love the family who has disappeared from you. Love the stranger on the street. Love the person that reminds you of me. Love the person you think is lazy. Love the addict. Love the prisoner. Love the offender. Love the reckless driver. Love the animals and the earth itself. Love the person you judge the most. Love yourself.

Whatever you do, start with love. As often and as genuinely as you can. In your daily routine, in your moments of celebration, in your sleeping and waking, in your pressing forward, start with love.

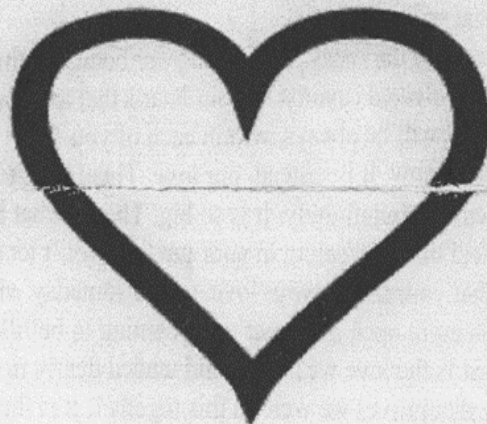
Even when it is hard. For it will be hard to keep loving. I know I charge you with a hard task. But I lay this challenge at your feet because I know how well you can do it. And remember this: when you love others, you breathe my spirit, my hope, my love for you, back into this broken, unknown, confusing, unfair world.

And on days when you simply cannot muster love in the darkness, on days when you are tired, when it is all too much, when I have asked too much, plant a tree. Or flowers. Or go for a walk in the woods. Or enjoy the buzzing bees. Or take the moment to really taste your food and see what is happening in the world around you.

I do not ask you to heal tomorrow, or next year. But I do ask you to keep loving. For I have loved you all. I loved your support on my journey. I loved your friendship. I loved our relationship. I loved our stories together, now your greatest memories to hold dear.

Dig deep inside yourselves as you walk forward from this place. Find the place in your hearts where my love lives, and take it out into the world like never before.

Barbara Christine Macholz Grimaldi  
Copyright 2019



Following are examples of the replacement signs for the front lawn. As you may have been made aware of, our sign was broken by vandals. We had to file with both the police department and our insurance carrier. We have received funds to replace the sign, minus our deductible..

**Renew Conversion LED Series 10mm, 32 x 192 - RGB**  
**Existing 3'x8' Cabinet, 1'x8' LED Cabinet, Existing 1' Base**

Reference #: **22035**  
 Sketch #: **3**  
 Date: **November 13, 2019**

**SPECIFICATIONS**  
 Cabinet/Leg: **EXISTING**  
 Sign Face: **PM57610c Brown**  
 ID Letters: **White**  
 Draft: **White**  
 Fonts: **KabellicTDem**  
 Symbol: **622835**  
 Symbol Colors: **Digital**

**SIGN CAPABILITIES**

# of Lines	10 mm-32 x 192	
	Character Size (H)	# of Characters per Line
4	2.6	32
3	3.6	24
2	6.9	16
1	12.2	7

**APPROVAL**

DATE

PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE

A FIVE MINUTE SET UP INCLUDES UPON SIGN PRICES

8'

3'

1'

**SIGNS PLUS**  
 NEW DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

**800-848-4262**  
 SignsPlusSigns.com  
 4842 Midstate Lane, Sarasota, FL 94232

This colored sketch is provided as an example of color. There is no exact match between ink and print. Signs Plus does not guarantee color. © COPYRIGHT 2019, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED, REPRODUCTION EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED

**EXISTING RC-24 - 3'x8' Cabinet, 1' Base**

Reference #: **22036**  
 Sketch #: **1**  
 Date: **October 23, 2019**

**SPECIFICATIONS**  
 Cabinet/Leg: **EXISTING**  
 Sign Face: **PM57610c Brown**  
 ID Letters: **White**  
 Draft: **White**  
 Fonts: **KabellicTDem**  
 Symbol: **622835**  
 Symbol Colors: **Digital**

**APPROVAL**

DATE

PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE

A FIVE MINUTE SET UP INCLUDES UPON SIGN PRICES

8'

3'

**SIGNS PLUS**  
 NEW DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

**800-848-4262**  
 SignsPlusSigns.com  
 4842 Midstate Lane, Sarasota, FL 94232

This colored sketch is provided as an example of color. There is no exact match between ink and print. Signs Plus does not guarantee color. © COPYRIGHT 2019, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED, REPRODUCTION EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES--SEEDS OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY—**

1. GUIDING and/or COORDINATING NUMBERS AND BREAD TABLE ON PANTRY DAYS:  
We are open Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 except for Thanksgiving week and on days that the Utica schools are closed due to weather. We need 4 to 6 people on each pantry day for 2.5 to 3 hours. Interested people should give their contact information to The Coordinator of Volunteers (Sonya Linakis) or to a coordinator in their home church (if your church does it that way). Assignments are made as needed or on a rotating basis. Need to arrive by 9:20 AM in time to get the guiding information you'll needed for consistent operation that day.
2. CLIENT CHECK IN ON PANTRY DAYS: Same general 2.5 to 3 hour requirements as above but these people perform the entry interview of each Head of Household who visits that day. This requires a good and friendly spirit and the asking of specific questioning and noting of the answers given. Volunteers are coordinated the same as above and we prefer to have at least 3 people registering each pantry day.
3. STOCKERS & CLIENT HELPERS ON PANTRY DAYS : Two or three people are needed to oversee the supply of food on the serving shelves and to help load clients' cars or carts as they exit. These folks also need to be ready to clean up spills and to provide help where needed.
4. TRUCK UNLOADERS ON ALTERNATE MONDAYS: FBCNY trucks deliver food orders on (roughly) alternate Mondays at a time between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM. We usually get our scheduled time the prior Friday or Saturday and call you. We need between 4 and 6 helpers each time depending upon the size of the delivery. The volunteers are coordinated by the Coordinator of Purchasing (Bill Wescott).
5. OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE COLLECTOR ON MONDAYS: Pick up surplus frozen food at the New Hartford store between about 11:15 AM each Monday and brings it to the pantry for storage in our freezers. Logistics of getting into the church and the pantry need to be arranged EACH TIME. An electronic report on the amount received needs to be filed within a day or two. (Bill Wescott and Bill Pfeiffer can do this.)
6. PANERA BREAD COLLECTIO ON TUESDAY NIGHT & WEDNESDAY AM: One or two people pick up surplus baked goods from the New Hartford store at 10 PM EACH TUESDAY NIGHT and takes it home, leaving it in the car. The product is delivered to Seeds of Hope about 9 AM on Wednesday for repackaging (with additional helpers) for Thursday's Pantry Day. It is a big help (but not vital) for the person(s) picking up can also help repack the goods. This takes from 1 to 2 hours on Wednesday morning...many hands make light work.
7. PRICE CHOPPER BAKED GOODS COLLECTOR: These people picks up surplus baked goods from the Price Chopper in North Utica on Monday and Wednesday mornings by 9:15 AM and delivers this food to Seeds of Hope as soon as possible. A form is signed at Price Chopper each day. Logistics of getting into the church and pantry need to be arranged EACH TIME.
8. PRICE CHOPPER FROZEN MEAT and DAIRY/DELI SURPLUS COLLECTORS ON MONDAY AND FRIDAY: Coordinated by FBCNY through FEDING AMERICA, two or three people pick up this food at 9:30 AM each Monday and Friday at the nearby Price Chopper on Genesee St. and deliver it immediately to Seeds of Hope. The food is weighed, placed in our freezers and refrigerators, and a form is filled out and faxed to FBCNY.

## Our Saviour Lutheran Church Contact List

**Church Office:** 315-732-0134

**Pastor Anita Mohr:** 315-724-5426  
email: anita.mohr@g.mail.com

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

**Organist/Music Director:** Richard Bostik

### **Council Members:**

Sally Townsend, President Pam Donovan  
315-404-6045

Barbara Godbey-Miller  
315-269-7032

Seymour Morris, Treasurer  
315-580-2305

Jan Dudajek  
315-736-8685

**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

Contributors: Members of the  
Congregation

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

Reminder—  
Please mark your calendars.

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](mailto: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.

**Heroin Addicts Support Group**; meets here 4 times a week, also 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.

**Midtown Utica Community Center:** The Midtown Utica Community Center (MUCC) is an inclusive multicultural and refugee-friendly space in Utica, New York.

**Ground Zero Ministries:** As part of Redeemer church, this group uses our facility for basketball

**Unificado Corazones Constrictos Church:** A Dominican Pentecostal church that rents our facility for worship



***Join Us for Worship***

***Worship at 10:00am***

***Jesus and Me (JAM) children's time***

*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.*