



## 2010 Annual Report

*Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Moorhead, MN*

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church is a community of Christians called, washed and fed by the Spirit, sent into God's world to follow Jesus and invite others to walk in faith, hope and love.

610 13th Street North, Moorhead, MN 56560



Phone: (218) 233-2412  
 Fax: (218) 233-6237  
 osc@oursaviorsmoorhead.org  
 www.oursaviorsmoorhead.org

## 2010 Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

*Sunday, January 30, 2011 - 12:15 p.m.*

- 1 Welcome and Call to Order *Congregational President Heather Rix*
- 2 Approval of Agenda
- 3 Opening Prayer and Song
- 4 Approval of Minutes of January 31, 2010 Annual Meeting
- 5 Reports
  - Pastor(s) and Staff Reports
  - Council President
  - Acceptance of Committee and Team Reports
  - Treasurers Report
- 6 Old Business
  - Debt Reduction
- 7 New Business
  - Stewardship Key Leader Program, Building Renewal, and Debt Reduction
  - 2011 Budget
- 8 Elections
  - Congregational Council Members
  - Northwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly
  - Nominating Committee
  - Endowment Committee
  - Representatives to Partner Minister Boards
- 9 Other Business
- 10 Adjournment
- 11 Benediction

## 2010 Annual Congregational Meeting

*January 25, 2010*

It was determined that there was a sufficient quorum present.

The meeting was called to order by Congregational president Rod Lezer at 12:50.

Pastor Loree gave the opening prayer and led the congregation in the opening hymn.

CM.10.01.01 Move to approve the minutes from the January 2009 congregational meeting. (Harrison/Morsch) Carried

CM.10.01.02 Move to approve the agenda as written. (Blue/Olson) Carried.

### Reports:

a

Pastor Mellum:

Word of thanks to staff and church council. We continue to discover the richness of Moorhead. The opportunities that exist in the community are multiple. We continue to discern as a congregation how we connect with the neighborhood and our mission field. Is Our Savior's ready to be reborn in its mission field? How do we integrate neighborhood walks into our life at Our Savior's? Neighborliness is one of the strengths of our congregation. See annual report for in depth details.

b

Pastor Loree:

Patrick and Suzy appreciate the call to serve Our Savior's and extend a word of thanks to the staff and the call committee. A portion of Patrick's call has been to work with the Melissa and the youth of the congregation. Nineteen youth within the congregation are planning a mission trip during the 2010 summer. Multiple opportunities for younger kids and a renewed emphasis on the high school age kids. The mission field at Our Savior's is changing. How can we reach out to those in our mission field?

Congregational President Report:

Thanks to Karl for his two years as congregational president. The past year as president has been much more laid back and fun. It is great to work on the future of the church and not spending so much time how can the congregation make it week to week.

C

Committee Reports:

CM.10.01.03 Motion to accept the committee reports as written in the annual report (Rix/Rusch) Carried

CM.10.01.04 Motion to approve the treasurer's report as written (Philbrick/Beadie) Carried

### Old Business:

a

Catch the Spirit:

We owe Wells Fargo \$59,517.65 and OSLC trust fund \$78,224.03

CM.10.01.05 Motion to approve the Catch the Spirit report (Morsh/Swanson) Carried

**New Business:**

- a** OLSC Trust Committee  
John Olson shared the history behind the Trust Committee bylaws and presented the new bylaws. CM.10.01.06 Motion to approve the Endowment Bylaws (Rix/Zafke) Carried
- b** 2010 Budget  
CM.10.01.07 Motion to approve the 2010 budget (Morsch/Cusey) Carried
- c** ELCA Grant:  
We received a grant for a Minister of Music. Funds will begin to be dispersed to our congregation on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. The money will enter into a designated into a fund until this summer when we begin a hiring process for the position. We will be visiting Cathy Tousley to hire the individual who will serve the mission field.
- d** Stewardship Key Leader Program, Building Renewal and Debt Reduction:  
John Paul shared the Building renewal background and Video from the ELCA  
  
Pastor Loren presented the background of the building renovation. He emphasized that this presentation is just an idea. None of this has been decided and is just seed for thought as we look toward the fall when the current Catch the Spirit funds run out and we move to some sort of debt reduction strategy.
- e** 2010 Elections

Council (1 Position)	Ryan Nelson (3 Year term) Lori Spaeth (3 year term) Ike Morsch(1 year term) Cheryl Giffey
Eventide Ministry Partner (1 yr term)	Linda Jones
Churches United Ministry Partner	David Cusey (2 yr term)
Pathways Ministry Partner	Kathy Byers
Synod Delegate	Gene Anderson, Deb Hovde, Karen Mellum, Karrie Walters, Warren Zaffke, Carrie Olson(Alternate)(1 Year terms)
2010 Nominating Committee	Karl Bakkum, Kathy Bakkum, Wyatt Johnson, Kathy Byers, Brian Pickering
2010 Trust Committee	Renai Ehrichs, John Esser, Stephen Sakrismo

CM.10.01.04 Move to accept and cast unanimous ballots for those nominated by the nominating committee. (Morsch/Goodman) Carried.

**CHURCHES UNTIED FOR THE HOMELESS (CUFH) 2010**

**President: Pr. Paula Muhmel; Vice President: Jon Rustvang; Treasurer: Lowell Bottrell; Secretary: Barb Anderson-Lewis; Past President: Jim Meier; Board members: Jon Aarsvold, Linda Coates, Matt Donahue, Gracia Fulwiler, Michelle Kommer, Ellen Mahli, Pr. Loren Mellum, Sandra Roers, and Laverne Sanstad.**

[www.churches-untied.org](http://www.churches-untied.org)

**This facility is located at 1901 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North in Moorhead. Director, Jane Alexander, says that CUFH is the only shelter within 250 miles that is able to accommodate single men and women, both one and two parent families. CUFH offers a safe haven to those most in need, a chance to reflect on the direction they wish for their lives, and the opportunity to utilize our community's many resources in achieving their goals.**

**CLAY COUNTY HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CCHRA) opened their 24 unit apartment building next door to CUFH in 2010. This offers transitional housing for people who start at CUFH. It also cooperates with CUFH in serving meals and the many services the residents need to meet their goals. This is proving to be very successful with its proximity to CUFH.**

**October held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gourmet Soup Kitchen at the Scheel's Center at Oak Grove High School. More than 350 people came out for a night of warm home-cooked soup and festivities in support of CUFH.**

**This September, Hope Lutheran Church in Fargo held it's annual "Party with a Purpose", Hope Fest. Proceeds from that event were donated to Churches United to purchase two new pieces of equipment for our kitchen.**

**On an average, CUFH serves approximately 300 meals a day and are on track to serve over 110,000 meals during 2010. Each day three meals and two snacks, five days a week, and a hot brunch and supper on weekends.**

**Youth driven Homeless & Hungry event, 17 churches and schools and 670 individuals raised \$130,000.00 and collected 40,000 pounds of food for the needy.**

**Fill the Dome resulted in 97 tons of food and \$75,000.00.**

**Member churches pledged turkeys and some donors to distribute Thanksgiving Food Baskets before that holiday.**

**A Community Christmas Party was held on December 14, 2010. On December 16-19 the Free Christmas Store was open for people needing gifts for their children and loved ones.**

**A Christmas Eve dinner and Christmas Day worship service was held with volunteers distributing gifts to the residents.**

**Thank you for all your help and contributions. Volunteers and money donations are always needed. Continue your support and prayers for the less fortunate at CUFH.**

# Our Savior's Lutheran Women Balance Sheet

August 31, 2010

## CURRENT ASSETS

Checking - Wells Fargo Bank	134.16
Savings - Kitchen Remodeling	11,816.54
Savings - Triennial Convention	1,500.00
Savings - Women's Retreat	1,176.51
Savings - Women in Need	400.00
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 15,027.21</b>

## New Life Center Auxiliary Report - 2010

The New Life Center Auxiliary is comprised of representatives from 43 area churches. Their goals are to acquaint women with the purpose and needs of the Center, and to sponsor projects to meet those needs. The Auxiliary also sponsors an area wide Prayer Breakfast and Evening Dessert each April that features a nationally renowned speaker to show appreciation to the community for its support. The Auxiliary meets the third Friday at noon on a monthly basis September through May. Our Savior's was responsible for serving the noon luncheon for Auxiliary members in October 2010, as well as providing the program, at which Melissa Pickering provided music and Pr. Loren Mellum brought the homily.

Each month member churches are asked to provide items for the Center, such as large cans of vegetables or fruit, cleaning supplies, pumpkin pies for the residents' Thanksgiving dinner, and Christmas gifts for the residents, such as sox, caps, and gloves. Our Savior's members have been very generous in giving items for the Center.

Dan Danielson, CEO of the New Life Center, provided us with the following statistics for 2010:

- 1) Lodgings = 34,506 an average of 95 nightly. This is an increase of 3,045 lodgings provided over 2009.
- 2) Meals = 97,505 an average of 267 meals prepared daily. An increase of 2,285 over 2009.
- 3) Families served = 905. This is an increase of 115 families served in 2009. Family members included 990 adults and 339 children served.

Free Clinic = 1,057 shelter residents received medical attention.

The New Life Center maintains a Thrift Store which provided 2,453 individuals with clothing, furniture and other household essentials at no cost. These people were either referred to the New Life Center by other social service organizations or were staying in the New Life Center residential program.

Nine hundred nineteen unduplicated individuals stayed in the men's shelter.

Total individuals served in 2010 = 4,429.

Joan Jensen and Norma Swanson, New Life Center Auxiliary Representatives from Our Savior's

## 2010 Congregational Statistical Report

### Membership (Using figures from current computer statistics)

	<u>Baptized</u>	<u>Confirmed</u>
Membership as of December 31, 2009	1762	1173
Members received during 2010		
By baptism	+ 20	
By affirmation of faith	+ 13	+ 1
By transfer	+ 14	+ 7
Baptized youth who were confirmed in 2010		+ 17
Members removed during 2010		
By transfer	- 27	- 21
By death	- 12	- 12
By inactivity, request, etc.	- 2	- 0
Membership as of December 31, 2010	1768	1165
Average number in attendance each week at worship (2009 average)	386 (391)	

### Pastoral Acts

Baptisms:	19 Children	1 Adult
Weddings:	6 Members	0 Non-member
Funerals:	12 Members	7 Non-member

### In Memory

Carl A. Bakkum	Floyd Hansen	James Sax
Allen Borseth	Viola Honrud	Robert Swanson
Signe Bourcy	Perry Mark Johnson	Iris Swenson
Eric Corbet	Myrtle Kind	Chloe Vaineo
Arlene Correll	Ken Larson, Sr.	Beverly Walden
David Cusey	Marlan Miller	
Arla Hagen	Merwyn Ostrem	

## 2010 Financial Report and 2011 Proposed Budget

	Budget 2010	Actual 12/31/2010	Variance 10 Bud / Actual	Budget 2011	Variance 10 / 11 Budget
Offering	\$ 423,000.00	\$ 347,149.00	\$ (75,851.00)	\$ 427,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Other (services & Misc.)	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 12,565.00	\$ (9,935.00)	\$ 23,200.00	\$ 700.00
Memorials	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Balance Forward	\$ -	\$ 7,473.24		\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 446,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 367,187.24</b>	<b>\$ (86,786.00)</b>	<b>\$ 458,700.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,200.00</b>

### Benevolence

Lutheran Soc. Service	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ -
NW MN Synod	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ (10,000.00)	\$ 14,000.00	\$ (6,000.00)
Pathways	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00	\$ -	\$ 650.00	\$ -
Oak Grove	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Churches United	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,875.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Lutheran Campus Ministries	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>\$ 25,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 14,625.00</b>	<b>\$ (10,625.00)</b>	<b>\$ 19,250.00</b>	<b>\$ (6,000.00)</b>

### Worship & Music

Compensation	\$ 30,269.39	\$ 21,106.36	\$ (9,163.03)	\$ 27,594.59	\$ (2,674.80)
Music, Licenses, Fees	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,065.37	\$ (334.63)	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 400.00
Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 415.00	\$ (585.00)	\$ 800.00	\$ (200.00)
Other	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ (100.00)	\$ 100.00	\$ -
<b>Total Worship &amp; Music</b>	<b>\$ 32,769.39</b>	<b>\$ 22,586.73</b>	<b>\$ (10,182.66)</b>	<b>\$ 30,294.59</b>	<b>\$ (2,474.80)</b>

### Education

Compensation	\$ 36,852.92	\$ 34,154.34	\$ (2,698.58)	\$ 36,852.92	\$ -
Benefits	\$ 2,900.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ (500.00)	\$ 9,920.00	\$ 7,020.00
Activities / Programs	\$ 10,450.00	\$ 6,944.03	\$ (3,505.97)	\$ 9,450.00	\$ (1,000.00)
Other	\$ 360.00	\$ 3,160.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 360.00	\$ -
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>\$ 50,562.92</b>	<b>\$ 46,658.37</b>	<b>\$ (3,904.55)</b>	<b>\$ 56,582.92</b>	<b>\$ 6,020.00</b>

### Pastoral

Compensation / Housing	\$ 104,988.09	\$ 116,279.79	\$ 11,291.70	\$ 106,714.00	\$ 1,725.91
Health / Pension	\$ 45,881.00	\$ 23,615.30	\$ (22,265.70)	\$ 45,881.00	\$ -
Cont. Education / Conferences	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,325.00	\$ (175.00)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Other	\$ 5,564.00	\$ 1,552.01	\$ (4,011.99)	\$ 2,400.00	\$ (3,164.00)
<b>Total Pastoral</b>	<b>\$ 158,933.09</b>	<b>\$ 143,772.10</b>	<b>\$ (15,160.99)</b>	<b>\$ 157,495.00</b>	<b>\$ (1,438.09)</b>

### Pastoral Care

Benefits	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ (450.00)	\$ 450.00	\$ -
<b>Total Pastoral Care</b>	<b>\$ 450.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (450.00)</b>	<b>\$ 450.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

### Administration

Compensation	\$ 44,417.43	\$ 49,024.35	\$ 4,606.92	\$ 61,867.07	\$ 17,449.64
Benefits	\$ 4,915.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ (3,265.00)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ (2,915.00)
Cont. Education / Conferences	\$ 200.00	\$ 196.37	\$ (3.63)	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Operational Costs / Supplies	\$ 24,380.00	\$ 15,751.93	\$ (8,628.07)	\$ 24,480.00	\$ 100.00
Equipment & Maintenance	\$ 11,600.00	\$ 2,201.14	\$ (9,398.86)	\$ 14,600.00	\$ 3,000.00
Other	\$ 4,060.00	\$ 7,369.02	\$ 3,309.02	\$ 6,780.00	\$ 2,720.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$ 89,572.43</b>	<b>\$ 76,192.81</b>	<b>\$ (13,379.62)</b>	<b>\$ 109,927.07</b>	<b>\$ 20,354.64</b>

## Expenses

	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget
Activities Expense	653.32	125.00
WELCA (1/2 Prior Year Offering)	395.00	400.00
WELCA (Thankoffering)	508.02	50.00
Cluster Offering (Spring)	50.00	50.00
Cluster 6 Bible Retreat (Jan)	50.00	50.00
Cluster Offering (Fall)	50.00	50.00
NW MN SWO Offering (June)	100.00	100.00
Triennial Yearly Offering	100.00	100.00
Sunday Coffee	1,113.04	1,200.00
NW MN SWO Convention Delegate	60.00	60.00
Triennial Convention	0.00	750.00
NW MN Synod Conference Expense	85.00	85.00
Funerals	1,393.22	2,500.00
Fundraising	358.25	750.00
Kitchen Equipment	87.22	400.00
Kitchen Supplies	368.44	1,100.00
Churches United	150.00	150.00
Dorothy Day House	100.00	100.00
Eventide Foundation	100.00	100.00
Food Pantry (March)	100.00	100.00
Golden Living Center	40.00	40.00
Hospice of the Red River Valley	100.00	100.00
Larson Molldrem Scholarship	100.00	100.00
Lost & Found Ministries	100.00	100.00
Lutheran Campus Ministries	100.00	100.00
Maasai Scholarship Fund	100.00	100.00
Missionary for a Day	100.00	100.00
New Life Center	100.00	100.00
Oak Grove Lutheran High School	100.00	100.00
OSLC 3rd Grade Bible Fund	100.00	100.00
OSLC Good Samaritan Fund	250.00	250.00
OSLC Good Samaritan Fund (non-budgeted)	188.90	0.00
OSLC Quilters	100.00	100.00
OSLC Quilters (non-budgeted)	90.00	0.00
OSLC Mission Committee (non-budgeted)	300.00	0.00
OSLC Youth	100.00	100.00
OSLC Youth Mission	200.00	200.00
Pathways	50.00	50.00
Recovery Worship	100.00	100.00
YWCA Shelter	100.00	100.00
Women in Need	0.00	600.00
Miscellaneous	149.16	50.00
Officers Expense	69.40	50.00
Stationary and Stamps	57.68	75.00
Programs	0.00	100.00

TOTAL EXPENSES

27

\$ 8,516.65 \$ 10,935.00

## Senior Quilts

This is a report of the quilting group which sews full bed size quilts for the High School graduates who are members of our church. These are given in honor of these young people who pass a significant milestone of their lives.

This group and these quilts are not in any way to be confused with the "quilters" at Our Savior's whose product is given to Lutheran World Relief Missions.

This project began in 2008 under the direction of Eldora Lorentz, Mary Fossum and with help from four or five ladies from the congregation.

Year #1: 2008 there were 31 grads on the list – there were 28 quilts made from materials purchased by Eldora Lorentz and Mary Fossum, some contributed scraps and with the aid of 4-5 ladies: included were – Ollie Kosen, Corrien Eisert, Grace Anderson, Carol Beede, Kay Rokke. This year Dorothy Dale made 2 quilts completed – this year there were 14 of Our Savior's grads on the honor list. A brunch was served in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 worship service (at which the grads each received a quilt/comforter). The Director of Education was the organizer.

Year #2: 2009 – 17 quilts were made – Again this year Mary Fossum and Eldora Lorentz used their own materials for the tops, but purchased backing and filler for 16 of these quilts – and were reimbursed for the cost of filler and backing from Our Savior's. Dorothy Dale made one quilt complete in 2009. Brunch held after 11:00 worship service, with the Director of Education in charge.

Year #3: 2010 – 18 quilts were made and presented to the graduates. A more formal piece quilt pattern was used with Eldora Lorentz and Marry Fossum preparing and paying for the material used for this years tops – A bill for backing, filler, thread and incidentals was submitted to Our Savior's for \$313.40 for reimbursement. Brunch was served by Eldora Lorentz and Mary Fossum, providing a luncheon of pasta salad, fruit bow, open face buns (egg salad, ham salad), brownies, chocolate homemade fudge and toffee bars, lemonade and coffee.

Opal Cameron, Dorothy Dale, Donna Anderson, Rose Mary Strom and Ruth Dahlquist were asked to act as hostess for each table.

## Our Savior's Lutheran Women Income Statement

*For the Twelve Months Ending August 31, 2010*

	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Activities	570.94	125.00
Offerings	728.50	600.00
WELCA Thankoffering	489.00	200.00
Sunday Coffee	1,483.38	1,500.00
Funerals	2,423.49	3,200.00
Fundraising	1,205.19	2,700.00
Rentals	40.00	120.00
Serving Units	1,820.50	2,150.00
Lenten Meals	239.00	70.00
Weddings	90.00	70.00
Interest	30.35	0.00
Programs	0.00	200.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 9,120.35</b>	<b>\$ 10,935.00</b>

<b>Church Home</b>					
Compensation	\$ 38,095.94	\$ 29,010.41	\$ (9,085.53)	\$ 38,095.94	\$ -
Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Utilities	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 31,380.63	\$ (1,619.37)	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Insurance	\$ 4,200.00	\$ -	\$ (4,200.00)	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 500.00
Supplies	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,907.76	\$ 1,107.76	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,200.00
Repair & Maintenance	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 7,019.57	\$ (2,480.43)	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Other	\$ 825.00	\$ 2,123.38	\$ 1,298.38	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 2,925.00
<b>Total Church Home</b>	<b>\$ 87,420.94</b>	<b>\$ 72,441.75</b>	<b>\$ (14,979.19)</b>	<b>\$ 96,545.94</b>	<b>\$ 9,125.00</b>
<b>Evangelism</b>					
Publicity	\$ 750.00	\$ 121.88	\$ (628.12)	\$ 750.00	\$ -
<b>Total Evangelism</b>	<b>\$ 750.00</b>	<b>\$ 121.88</b>	<b>\$ (628.12)</b>	<b>\$ 750.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Missions</b>					
Missions local / global	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 160.00	\$ (840.00)	\$ 500.00	\$ (500.00)
<b>Total Missions</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 160.00</b>	<b>\$ (840.00)</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>\$ (500.00)</b>
<b>Stewardship</b>					
Stewardship Drive	\$ 2,200.00	\$ -	\$ (2,200.00)	\$ 2,200.00	\$ -
<b>Total Stewardship</b>	<b>\$ 2,200.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (2,200.00)</b>	<b>\$ 2,200.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>					
	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,732.98	\$ (2,267.02)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 453,908.78</b>	<b>\$ 379,291.62</b>	<b>\$ (74,617.16)</b>	<b>\$ 478,995.53</b>	<b>\$ 25,086.75</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 446,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 367,187.24</b>	<b>\$ (86,786.00)</b>	<b>\$ 458,700.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,200.00</b>
<b>PAYABLE - LINE OF CREDIT</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>RECEIPTS LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (7,408.78)</b>	<b>\$ (12,104.38)</b>	<b>\$ (12,168.84)</b>	<b>\$ (20,295.53)</b>	<b>\$ (12,886.75)</b>

## Annual Report – January 2011

*Pastor Loren D. Mellum*

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Peter 2:9).

Friends in Christ,

As the new year begins I give thanks for the character and very human qualities of our Christian community. God has worked in Our Savior’s in a special way to create a community that has a good measure of acceptance, kindness, and service to others. I give thanks as well for a church staff whose commitments and giftedness is very noticeable and for the Church Council and others at Our Savior’s who enter into the journey of being church together.

### Highlights from 2010 –

- Working in partnership with Pastor Patrick in his first year of ordained ministry as well as the really fine staff at Our Savior’s – great people!
- Joining with the Worship Planning Team in considering music and the arts in worship as a means of missional renewal.
- Embracing and putting to use a music and ministry renewal grant from our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- Being a part of year-round Wednesday evening worship (with the full use of video projection).
- Joining the Minister of Music Search Committee in interviewing applicants and “most of all” welcoming Dr. Doug Thompson and his many gifts in church life and music. Most of all a genuinely good person to call friend.
- Watching our children, youth, and family ministry continue to creatively involve all ages.
- Seeing people wholeheartedly work together for the Bluegrass Weekend, Come Home for Christmas Gathering and other special happenings.
- Blessing of the Pets and the Kids in worship.
- Prayer Walks in the neighborhood.
- Being church together in sadness and joy, ordinary days and extraordinary moments.

I am sure there is more. We have many blessing as a church. We are quite comfortable. I often wonder in what ways the Holy Spirit would like to disrupt us so that we would be more alive to the reign of God. As a farm boy I remember those mother cows vigorously nudging and licking the backs of their newborn calves to get them up and get them going. It wasn’t long and they were running with their tails straight in the air. I wonder if the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who is Mother of us all desires to get us moving in the same way. Sometimes our insatiable need to fuss about small things keeps us from really, truly embracing and participating in the larger life-transforming ways of the Holy Spirit. I would be interested in hearing your thoughts in this regard.

### Looking ahead to 2011, Worthy Consideration and Goals -

- Boats (immigrants) and births (baptisms) no longer grow the Lutheran church or any church for that matter. Developing a public and invitational presence in the community is the forward move worth engaging. What might this look like for us?
- In what ways will the hidden treasure of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church be made known in the Fargo-Moorhead-Dilworth area? What would it look like to be more public with the grace that has changed our lives?
- Moving worship from ritualism to synergistic ritual is quite important (ask me about this). It is a journey from being passive observers to being participants.
- Renewing existing teams and authoring new teams in areas critical to Our Savior’s journey.
- Support the ministries that are really core to who we are such as vibrant worship, children’s ministry, youth ministry, caring for the aged, people in transition, faith formation, and social ministry to those in need of a leg up.

## Women’s Circle Reports

### Altar Guild

The Altar Guild met 9 times during the year. We have 16 active members. Each member takes her turn on serving as altar server for the month. Members set up communion each Sunday and each Wed. evening service. Dust the altars and fill the candles with oil each week.

We served a lenten supper in March, Wed night supper in July and one in November.

We purchased miles in the amount of \$250.00 for the youth mission trip.

Purchased material for drapes on the candles on the wall in the front of the church.

We gave James Houglum a gift of \$200.00 for all his designs and work he has done on the complete set of paraments we are so blessed to have at Our Saviors.

Totals as of 12-31-10	Checking	\$ 494.10
	Savings	\$1,451.02
	Total	\$1,945.12

Sonia Keltvedt

Treasurer

### Hannah Circle

The Hannah Circle meets the third Tuesday of each month in the Larson Lounge at 2:00 p.m. We have fifteen Members and meet nine months a year for Bible Study.

Our Members save our dimes and turn them in each month for the Good Samaritan Fund - this year we gave \$217.00 to that Fund - \$90.00 from our Sunshine Fund and \$127.00 from our dimes.

One of our members (Millie Thompson) addresses and brings Christmas and Birthday cards to several Nursing Homes (over 1000 cards).

We brought canned fruit and vegetable donations for the New Life Center in March and we collect items for LAYETTES and Health Care Kits throughout the year.

Our offering for 2010 was \$111.00 and the same for our Sunshine Fund.

New members are always welcome.

Millie Thompson, Chairperson

Bonnie Thom, Treasurer



## Purpose Statement

As a community of women: created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

The executive board of the OSLW meets the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 in the Larson Lounge. We met 11 times to plan and prepare for the events of the year. Those events were as follows:

In August of 2009 a Prayer Book workshop was held. Those in attendance created their own prayer books and enjoyed a potluck salad supper. The workshop was led by Janice Alm who had attended the National ELCA Women's Convention in Salt Lake City.

In September of 2009 we featured the quilters of OSLC. The kits for Lutheran World Relief were displayed and a video highlighting the need for, and the process of distribution of the kits was shown. We also held election and installation of new officers.

In November of 2009 we held our Thankoffering Brunch. MSUM student Nana Matusa was our guest speaker.

Our December Christmas Luncheon featured salads and Christmas breads from around the world. We held our annual bake sale in December and also served coffee and cookies each Sunday at the VA Hospital Lutheran Chapel service.

In February 2010 we held a Family Fun Night with movies, crafts, snacks and games.

In March we served a Lenten supper.

In April of 2010 we hosted the Cluster 6 Spring gathering, serving the meal, furnishing the music and speakers. Bishop Larry and Joy Wohlrabe spoke about their recent trip to India. "In Praise" from OSLC provided the music. Over 150 women were in attendance. We also held our second annual Tablescape with the months of the year as our theme.

In May we held our annual Mother/Child Event. "Hats on Parade" was our theme.

In June the annual Cluster 5, 6 and 7 WELCA Bible Retreat was held at the Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn. Carol Peddycoart and Jeanne Rodriguez were our delegates to the NW Synodical WELCA Convention, which was held in Perham.

In August we hosted the All City Bible Study at OSLC with about 90 in attendance.

Pastor Patrick gave the bible study and Melissa Pickering provided the music.

Respectfully submitted by  
Nancy Bahe and Vonnie Thordal

- We are in a year where many of our council member's terms end. As we thank them for their service it is quite critical that new leaders step up and step forward.
- Finally, in the coming year we have a commitment to form and install a Re-rooting in God's Mission Team. This team will engage Our Savior's in a transformational ministry process with several other congregations in the Eastern North Dakota Synod and Northwestern Minnesota Synod. The journey takes seriously that the key factors in a congregation's vitality are a clear sense of purpose, a willingness to change for the sake of God's mission in the world, faith practices that lead to faith action and leadership that moves congregational systems out of decline and stagnation. Our team will join others for the beginnings of a two-year journey starting on Saturday, March 5.

## Final Word

Thank you for the opportunity and privilege of serving as your lead pastor. Our family has always been significantly shaped by the congregations that we are part of and the relationship that touch our lives. 2011 marks my 20<sup>th</sup> year of full-time ministry in the church. The first seven were as a lay associate in youth ministry and congregational life and the last thirteen as an ordained minister. In this year I will complete my Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Leadership and Mission at Luther Seminary and with these new learning's stirring in my imagination I begin to wonder about what the next 20 year will bring. As I close I especially remember those who have lost loved ones this year. As you grieve and feel the passage of time remember that you are in a community that confesses a timeless promise with you that Christ is in, with, and among us and nothing in all of creation can separate us from God's persistent love.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Mellum

## Annual Report for 2010

### *Pastor Patrick Loree, Pastor for Youth and Congregational Life*

“First, I thank God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because *your* faith is proclaimed throughout the world. 9For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel2 of his Son, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers...” (Romans 1).

2010 has been a year of great surprises and new beginnings for me as a pastor here at Our Savior’s. In 2010 I began to dive deeper into my call here and I discovered a number of things about this place, a number of things about myself, and a number of things about what I believe God is up to and has in store for us as the people of his church worshipping here at Our Savior’s. Let me begin by thanking the people of this place for their continued service to the Lord and for your support of my call to this place.

### Certification School

Melissa Pickering and I attended Vibrant Faith Ministries Certification School this year. We completed the course in November. During the course, we learned and honed new skills that we can use to better our youth programs here at Our Saviors. One of the main lessons that we took away from our studies was the knowledge that faith is caught more than it is taught and that experiencing faith (especially at home) is vital for our young members. We have taken what we have learned and have begun to implement new ideas in our Youth programs.

### Confirmation and Youth Activities

Our confirmation program got a bit of a makeover this year. We changed our confirmation program’s structure in the hopes of building a strong high school program in the years to come. We meet every Wednesday evening from 715 to 815. We begin by playing a game or doing an activity that relates to the subject at hand, then we gather for large group discussion time, then we retreat into our small groups for prayer and conversation. The small groups have really changed our program and its attendance rate. The small groups are facilitated by a group of individuals that have connected with our youth through caring conversations and fun. In addition, the parents now also have small group time in which we discuss matters of faith in the home setting and we try to equip our parents for faith in the home.

### Worship Leading and Preaching

I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of worship here at Our Savior’s. I particularly enjoy our Wednesday evening worship services. In 2010 we have enjoyed greater worship attendance because of this service. Our use of Holden Evening Prayer during Lent is wonderful and I enjoyed being able to lead the congregation in song at that time.

I have had a variety of opportunities to preach in 2010 both here at Our Savior’s and other places in the community. I feel that I am growing as a preacher and I find myself enjoying preaching more.

### Visitation

I really enjoy visiting members of our congregation and visited many of our members either in their homes or in the hospital in 2010. Beginning in January of 2010 I saw nearly all of our members who were homebound. However, I do have two concerns about visitation. First, the sheer amount of members who desire visitation can be overwhelming at times. With only two pastors serving such a large congregation, it can be difficult to see everyone when they are hospitalized. Also, we often do not know when someone has been hospitalized unless they permit the hospital to notify us. We are thankful for our Home Communion Ministry team and our Befrienders. However, I wonder if we might explore putting into place a visitation team in 2011.

### Rituals and special services

As a pastor, I have become increasingly engaged with the idea of faith rituals in our lives. This past fall, I commissioned an iron cross from Jim Schulz to be used as part of a ritual during a healing service. During that service we invited members to come forward to say a prayer and light a candle while placing it in the cross. It was a very moving experience for me and seemed to be very moving for many members of our faith community. We also did a service in which we blessed the pets of our faith community. This was a huge success and over 150 people brought their critters to be blessed by the pastors here. And finally at Christmas, during one of the services, I was invited to walk down and light a single candle during the singing of silent night. This seemingly insignificant ritual, seemed to transform our worship into something that I have yet to fully understand. Rituals are powerful and can be a tangible way

## Scholarship Committee

The following students received \$300 scholarships for the school year 201-2011. All the applicants are at Concordia College. The applicants and their class are as follows:

- Jared Mackner – Senior
- Mary Zeh – Senior
- Tanner Sakrismo – Junior
- Rebecca Conant – Sophomore
- Kayla Johnson – Freshman

The scholarships come from the interest for the Larsen/Molldrem Fund and the Sellie/Molldrem Fund plus whatever donations come from the congregation in the form of memorials and gifts to the funds. Thank you to all who remember students through your donations.

Mary Zeh was also awarded the Karen Buland Seifert Scholarship of \$1,500. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a member of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church for a third or fourth year student majoring in elementary education and attending either Concordia College or Minnesota State University Moorhead.

## Apple Pie Extravaganza

Thirty-five people volunteered October 19 and 20 to make and bake pies in the kitchen and fellowship hall. Additional volunteers were the women who offered their ovens at home to bake pies.

Donations to the project included apples, flour, Crisco and money plus 100 pounds of sugar from American Crystal. In two days, 250 pies were made and sold for a profit of \$2,513.00. This year \$2000 was donated to Catch The Spirit Fund and \$513 to the Handbell Fund to be used for refurbishing bells and purchasing a set of chimes.

The committee extends a thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to the pie baking fundraiser.

Donna Anderson, Joan Bommen, Opal Cameron, Dorothy Dale, Bonnie Thom

## Our Savior’s Book Club

Our Savior's Book Club meets at 4p in Larsen Lounge eight times each year, usually the fourth Wednesday of the month. Each spring the members choose books to be read the following season, with selections being listed in the *Parish Visitor* and weekly bulletins. In 2010 the selections were *The Guernsey Literary And Potato Peel Pie Society* by Annie Barrows and Mary Ann Shaffer, *Death Walker* by Aimee’ & David Thurlo, *The Secret* by Beverly Lewis, *The King of Lies* by John Hart, *Say You’re One of Them* by Uwem Akpan, *Giants in the Earth* by O. E. Rolvaag, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie, and *The Shack* by William P. Young.

Each year Book Fairs are held in the winter or spring with books being donated by members and sold at a nominal fee with the funds going toward an organization within the church or to purchase books for the church library. Donations of books of all kinds are needed for Book Fairs - hard covers and paperbacks, biographies, autobiographies, cookbooks, children's books, et cetera. In 2010 \$355.05 was raised through the Book Fair, and was given to Our Savior’s Youth for their mission trip.

People are encouraged to come to Book Club meetings any time they wish to discuss the month's chosen book. The only qualification is the appreciation of books and the reading thereof. Everyone is welcome.

Submitted by Norma Swanson

## Churches United for the Homeless

The Missions Committee works to support CUFH, along with our congregation's representatives to CUFH. This year we doubled our financial support of CUFH by donating on the designated Giving Hearts Day. Thank you to Our Savior's members for your continued support of CUFH. (For more information:

<http://www.churches-united.org>)

## Season of Hope/Giving Tree

Through the coordination of Jean Anderson, a Season of Hope/Giving Tree was set up in the back of the sanctuary during early December with names of people in need and requested gift items. Fifty names were taken by members of Our Savior's and gifts provided. Thank you for your support of this effort. (For more information: [http://www.myfirstlink.org/html/holiday\\_clearing\\_bureau.html](http://www.myfirstlink.org/html/holiday_clearing_bureau.html))

## Thrivent Builds/Habitat for Humanity

Starting in 2007 we began one of our most exciting ventures, joining forces with the Thrivent Builds/Habitat for Humanity program. We continued this venture in 2008 and again in 2009. Since no building was done in Moorhead this year, we did not assist in labor, but we did donate financially to this cause. Thank you to OSLC members for your support.

## Peoples Church in Bemidji

Beginning in 2004, OSLC has partnered with Peoples Church in Bemidji, a largely Native American church. Peoples Church is a mission church of the ELCA and reaches out to those who have no church home and to those in need. Peoples Church can be said to be living Jesus Christ's instructions as found in Matthew 25:31-46. Missions Committee donated money this year to help Peoples Church in their Capital Campaign. For more information: <http://www.peopleschurchelca.org>)

## Refugee Assistance

In 2009 the missions committee agreed to assist a young Congolese girl so that she could complete her education. Though not technically a refugee, Nana Manga Matuba found herself in this country, with no means to support herself, and unable to continue her education. Missions committee, under the direction of Jeanne Rodriguez, found housing for Nana, arranged for speaking engagements and other opportunities for her, and raised funds to keep her in school. It has been a joint effort with generous members of OSLC, the OSLW, the Trust Fund committee, and Our Savior's Women in Barnesville. Nana graduated this spring from MSUM with a double major in Biology and Communications. Missions committee organized a graduation party for her. Nana is now working, and deciding what direction she will take for graduate school.

## Education

Missions committee strives to provide worthwhile educational opportunities for the congregation.

In May, Bishop Larry and Joy Wohlrabe presented a power point overview of their trip to our sister synod in India.

In July, we sponsored the art exhibit "Remember Me"...a visual reminder of the victims of violence in Colombia. This was in conjunction with Lutheran World Relief

## Robert Blue Benefit

In October, the missions committee in conjunction with Lend A Hand agreed to sponsor a benefit for longtime OSLC member Robert Blue. Approximately 220 people attended the pancake feed, bake sale and silent auction. The quilt raffle was won by Kathy Hannula. \$5,457.10 was raised and subsequently matched by Dakota Medical Foundation. Thanks to all who participated and supported this endeavor.

for us to worship, I wonder what new rituals will come about in 2011. I wonder about rituals in which all of us participate more fully, rather than a singular individual performing the ritual. How can all of us participate in the worship/ritualistic life of the church?

## Mission Trip

In June, Melissa and I, along with many members of our youth programs, went on a mission trip to Lander, WY. While there we were transformed by the scenery, our service, and the stories of those we went to serve. Although the drive was very tedious, this trip proved to be life altering for many of our youth. In 2011 we are planning two trips. One will take us to Duluth, the other to Chicago. In 2012 we will be attending the national youth gathering in New Orleans. Fundraising for all these trips is now underway.

Mission trips are so important because they remove us from our comfort zone and introduce us to what God is up to in the larger world. So often we can become so turned in on ourselves that we fail to see that our lives are meant for service outside of the church's building. These trips help us to shape our hearts and minds, our very lives, for service.

## Lutheran Campus Ministries

I have accepted the call to serve on the board of Lutheran Campus Ministries of MSUM. In 2010, it was decided that LCM was going to pursue a capital campaign to build a new facility near campus. I have been overseeing the acquiring of two properties in order to make that happen. Partnering with campus ministry is terrific for our congregation. In fact, because of our partnership, we have a group of volunteer college students from both MSUM and Concordia that now lead our Children's Church on Wednesday nights.

## Funerals

In 2010 we saw many of our dear members and friends pass away into the fullness of God's grace. As a pastor I care deeply for the people of this faith community. I want to express my sincerest sympathies to all that mourn any loss that came in 2010. The loss of so many wonderful people greatly impacted my ministry in ways that I am only now beginning to discover. I hope that 2011 will come and go with less mourning.

## Looking Ahead

I know that God will be up to big things here at Our Savior's in 2011. I feel that we are approaching a threshold and need to begin to really, with great intentionality, consider the future goals of this faith community, the future of our faith community gathering within these walls, our "real" mission field, and what we hope for our children's faith in the years after we are gone. What kind of faith gathering place do we want to be for the next generations, knowing that what we do now will continue to echo throughout their lives, long after we are gone? In short, I am wondering if in 2011 we don't consider the big picture stuff such as who we are serving and why? Are we doing "all" that God is calling us to do? What can we let go of that is hindering us from moving forward? What is our legacy as a faith community?

## 2010 Our Savior's Music Program

Dear new friends in Christ at Our Savior's: May grace and peace -- along with good music! -- be ours as we pilgrimage together to the Promised Land! In the twenty-fifth chapter of 1 Chronicles we read how King David and his officers "set apart" Ministers of Music to lead music making for "thanksgiving and praise to the Lord." Today the Christian Church continues this long tradition of valuing music as an essential part of lives lived in God's family, and of calling Ministers of Music. I consider it a privilege to serve in this capacity here at Our Savior's, something I have done since 1 September 2010. Being still very much a "new kid in town," the following report may be seen, rightly, as woefully incomplete. Yet, I want to take this opportunity to share several observations from the past five months, and to some degree share with you "my agenda" as I see it unfolding in 2011.

### Transition Time

With the addition of a Minister of Music to the congregation's professional leadership, this truly has been a milestone year for Our Savior's. Since its beginnings, Our Savior's has relied on members from its midst to provide leadership to this vital aspect of the congregation's ministry. Along with others, I am sure, two prominent long-term members fulfilled this task: Ms. Dorothy Dale and Mr. Tom Houglum. As my direct predecessors, and folks deserving of this congregation's gratitude, I salute their work here in this place, and say, "Bravo." As I begin my work among you, I am grateful for the good things they put in place that I now can begin building upon.

I know full well, however, from my own experience with transitions, both as an ELCA pastor having served congregations in an interim capacity and as a choral music professional, that transitions always have "rough edges." How can it be any other way? A new leader always means a different leadership style, even when the differences are small. A new leader emphasizes and expects, hopes for and dreams different things than former leader(s). Why would we expect things to stay the same?

I realize my coming has been a significant change -- in the eyes of some, a positive one, in the eyes of others, thus far somewhat of a negative one. Probably for most here at OS, it is a somewhat of a confusing one as well. What does a Minister of Music do? Why do we need a professional Minister of Music when we've gotten along fine without one for 50+ years? What do we gain as a congregation in having a person "set apart" to specialize in this unique ministry?

To all, I reiterate the sentiments I expressed to you in accepting the call to become your first Minister of Music. I am not coming to you as a stranger, but as a Brother in Christ. As a churchman with integrity, I come to you with a caring heart, with the desire to offer you the best I have in order to build your music ministry and build up this congregation. As a musician, I come to give your music program a solid direction and focus, the share of the wealth of my talents, and to offer you my best efforts. As your new -- indeed, first! -- Minister of Music, I encourage everyone to be "open" to the gifts and vision for music ministry God has given me. My wife once told me I am "an acquired taste," and, as far as I know, she meant that positively because we are almost at 25 years of marriage! As a congregation, you need time to learn about what it means for OS to have a professional Minister of Music in residence. You also need time to get to know me. You already know the most significant things about me: I am your Brother in Christ; I am a professional musician; and I have a "built-in" care for OS as a congregation. I hope, with time, most will find that I am a good "acquired taste." We are yet early into this transition: let us journey with joy, openness, and enthusiasm together.

### Music & Musicians

Respecting music, it is fair to say that I bring "new" to OS. I take a broad view of Christian hymnody and music, and see it as my charge to not only honor the rich traditions that have proven rich and valuable to the Church over time, but also to introduce new hymns and songs I believe are worthy of joining that list of what will become valuable and meaningful with time. Expect to sing old favorites right along side of hymns you haven't tried before. I believe variety is important, and not only variety, but quality and depth. You can expect to see a continued and measured expansion of both the breadth and depth of music here at OS in the coming year(s).

#### Musicians and ensembles

We have already seen the impact of the leadership transition, both in terms of "gains" and "losses." Our worship leadership ensembles have, for the most part, responded positively to my work as your Minister of Music, and, in my assessment, there has already been a great deal of musical growth in our ensembles. On the other side of the coin, the Chancel Choir has, unfortunately, lost members in this transition. It is entirely normal for this to happen in such a transition, though, especially for me, this causes me genuine sadness. Nonetheless, it has always been the case, in my experience, that as some choose to "leave the center" of some

MISSIONS  
committee



God's Work.  
Our Hands.

When we lost Dave Cusey this past year, it left a huge void in the missions committee. Everything about Dave was big-- his eye-brows, his hands, his feet, and most of all his big heart for missions. Dave was an inspiration in his enthusiasm, a mentor in his experience, and a great example in his willingness to serve and quietly lead. We will miss him.

Committee members: Denise Bakkum, Chair; Jean Anderson; Paul Anderson; Wendy Blue, Council Liaison; Barb Bustamante; Dave Cusey; Marcie Felix; Virginia Moses; Beth Olson; Neal Philbrick; Jeanne Rodriguez.

The Missions Committee helps to coordinate and promote education and awareness for a wide range of mission efforts. These include: Missionary for a Day, Global Health Ministries (midwife/AIDS kits), Season of Hope/Giving Tree, Hunger issues, Lutheran Hunger Appeal, CROP Walk, Churches United for the Homeless, Blood Drive, Food Pantry, Thrivent Builds/Habitat for Humanity, and Peoples Church in Bemidji.

### Bulletin Board

An Our Savior's Lutheran Church Missions bulletin board is maintained by the committee on the wall near Larsen Lounge to educate our congregation about OSLC and ELCA missions, provide the congregation current mission news, and promote our efforts.

### Missionary for a Day

OSLC supports and maintains a relationship with missionaries Rev. Philip and Lou-Marie Knutson in South Africa. The Missions Committee maintains correspondence with Rev. Knutson, and promotes his work through the Missionary for a Day fund at OSLC. We thank the congregation for their support of this important endeavor. This year we co-hosted a brunch with Trinity Lutheran Church during Pastor Knutson's home visit. It was a great chance to catch up with the Knutsons' work in South Africa, and visit with Phil and Lou-Marie. (For more information: ELCA South Africa Packet:

<http://www.elca.org/countrypackets/southafrica/desc.html>.)

### Global Health Ministries

GHM is an organization that supports Lutheran medical missionaries around the world. Each year the Missions Committee assembles midwife kits and AIDS kits, which are delivered by GHM to missionaries in the field. (For more information:

Global Health Ministries: <http://www.ghm.org>)

### Hunger Issues

The Missions Committee deals with hunger issues throughout the year. In November, we collected money (with a Thrivent match) and food for local food pantries. Thank you to the congregation for your generous support to feed the hungry in our community. In 2010 the missions committee donated money to the Great Plains Food bank. We also donated money to Churches United for the Homeless so they could qualify for matching funds. (For more information: ELCA World Hunger Appeal: <http://www.elca.org/hunger>)

### CROP Walk

The "new and improved" CROP Walk was held this year, for the second year. The Missions committee organizes walkers and donors at OSLC for the walk, and we also donate money to offset expenses for the walk. As a result, all proceeds go directly to Church World Services. Seventy-five percent of funds raised are used in CWS projects around the world, and 25% of funds raised is returned to the FM area where it is divided among 6 organizations: YWCA Shelter, CUFH, New Life Center, Salvation Army, Dorothy Day House, and FM Food pantry. This year's walk raised \$11,769.00. The 2011 walk is scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Watch for more details!

### Blood Drive

Our Savior's hosts 2-3 blood drives each year. Thanks to Marcie Felix for her good work organizing these blood drives, and thank you to the members of Our Savior's who donated blood this year. (For more information: United Blood Services: <http://www.unitedbloodservices.org>)

## Good Samaritan Fund

**“As you have done it unto the least of these, you have done it unto me”** (Matthew 25.40).

The Good Samaritan Fund of Our Savior's was established over 25 years ago to help members and non-members in need. It is completely funded by members, Our Savior's organizations, and others who contribute toward it through memorials and other monetary gifts. In 2010 help was given for gas vouchers, MAT bus passes, occasional bus or train tickets for people trying to return to their homes in other areas, co-payments for medical necessities, and many other needs. Good Samaritan records are kept for all those receiving vouchers/payments, with the limitation of people being helped no more than three times in a 12 month period. **Help is given to those in need from the Good Samaritan Fund on Mondays (except when the church is closed for holidays, etc.) from 2:00-4:00 p.m. by the Good Samaritan team. The pastors are available when needs arise during the week for Our Savior's members.**

Referrals are made to the F-M Food Pantry in Fargo; referrals must come from an agency or church. This Food Pantry serves Fargo and Moorhead, as well as surrounding rural areas. Families are only eligible for three referrals in a 12 month period. Thank you to everyone from Our Savior's who has contributed toward the Food Pantry with food and monetary contributions, which are, in turn, distributed to these families in need through the Food Pantry. When families are in need and no longer eligible for Food Pantry referrals, grocery vouchers are given through the Good Samaritan Fund if funds are available. These vouchers can only be used for food and necessary groceries, with stipulations made prohibiting the purchase of cigarettes, soda pop, etc. When gas vouchers are given (usually \$10-15 each), a valid driver's license for the person driving the vehicle and proof of insurance on the vehicle being driven are required. The New Life Center will accept referrals from us for those in need of clothing and household supplies, with no charge to us.

Our Savior's Quilters continue to keep the fund supplied with quilts in case there is a request from someone in need, and another Our Savior's member donates baby quilts to be distributed. The Merry Mitten makers have shared mittens of all sizes, as have congregational members. The same Our Savior's couple who has provided holiday meals to those in need the past several years, again furnished complete Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for two families in need.

### Good Samaritan Fund receipts for 2010:

Balance on hand January 1, 2010	\$ 488. 38
Contributions January 1 - December 31, 2010	<u>5012.82</u>
	5501.20
Help given to those in need in 2010	4410.98
Balance on hand December 31, 2010	<u>\$1090.22</u>

Good Samaritan Team: Opal Cameron, Don & Dorothy Dale, Carol Ann & Duane Dahlberg, John & Marjorie Gjevre, Linda Jones, Dan & Faith Meurrens, Norma Swanson, Bonnie Thom, Cheryl Zeh, & Pr. Loren Mellum.

Submitted by Norma Swanson

congregational activity, while others choose to join. My sincere hope is that, over the course of the next couple years, the Chancel Choir will bounce back with respect to numbers of singers. As a professional choral conductor, I will give my sincere efforts to this end.

To conclude this section, I offer an invitation and a frank reminder. The invitation is this: all of our musical ensembles, with the exception of the MOOS, are open to new members! In my vision of music ministry, ensembles are not “exclusive clubs” open only to “the talented.” If you have an “average voice” (whatever that is), you have a seat waiting for you in Chancel Choir. If you play “a little bit” of oboe or flute or violin, you have a place in one of our groups. If you’ve never rung a handbell in your life, but would love to do so, you have a place in one of our bell choirs. If you are 8, 16, 30, or 80 years old – there’s a place for you. Really! We are all in a process of discovering, learning, and developing our musical abilities. If we wait to get involved until we “can do it,” the remainder of our lives might slip on by and we will never have the joy of making music (and I am well aware of how short lives are).

Now for the “frank reminder:” if Our Savior's wants to build its music program, then the people of Our Savior's must participate in it. It will only cost you a small amount of time, the openness and willingness to try, and the expectation that doing so will probably be great fun – at least meaningful. This is a “season of renewal” here at Our Savior's – most certainly it OS's music program. There has never been a better time to become involved. It is the time to risk if you haven't before. OS have so much “going for it” here, but we cannot settle for “just enough” or “good enough” if we want our music program – and this congregation – to grow. I am laying it on the line: the only way ahead is if you reading this sentence consider participating, and if a number of you respond to God's call to do so. So, come . . . and experience the joy of a lifetime by making music with old and new friends, who are in reality people with whom you will spend eternity. As I am fond of saying, learn to sing (or play) now, this side of heaven, for when you arrive there, that is, according to the scriptures, about all we will do. And who knows, those heavenly “ministers of music” might be a good deal fussier than I am! Think of the lessons you will need to make up! Best to begin now!

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### Expressions of Thanks

I wish to express thanks and appreciation to many: To professional staff colleagues – this team is one of the best! To Ms. Mary Maynard and the directors of the individual ensembles, who are fine folks to work and make music with. To members of the Search Committee who have graciously helped me find my way, and have been supportive when the way was not clear. And to the many musicians who share their time and love of making music in all our ensembles, and who, by their devotion, inspire this congregation week in and week out. St. Augustine once remarked, “He (or she) who sings, prays twice.” May the good Lord hear our many prayers!

Thanks, too, to the good folks of Our Savior's, who make it possible for me to integrate my love of music, God, and people in this position. I pledge to you my best efforts as we begin this 2011 together.

Sincerely submitted,  
Dr. Douglas E. Thompson DMA

## 2010 Youth and Family Discipleship Report

### *Youth and Family Discipleship Committee*

Paula Danielson, Cherie Rusch, Melissa Pickering, Tasha Haug, Wyatt Nelson,

Pastor Patrick Loree and Amanda Eickhoff

### Sunday School

Our Savior's Sunday School finished the 2009-2010 education year using *Witness, an older publication of Augsburg Fortress*. Even though *Witness* is a wonderful curriculum, the Youth and Family Discipleship Committee decided to make a curriculum change for the 2010-2011 education year. *Spark, a publication of Augsburg Fortress* is the curriculum that the Sunday School currently uses. This is the second year that *Spark* has been available. We have had an extremely positive response to *Spark* and are excited about using it again next year. We are using *Spark* in a traditional classroom setting for both primary and intermediate students.

*Spark* is a Sunday school faith formation program designed to activate faith in children ages two through grade six. **It's innovative, intuitive and designed to ease the burden of planning and teacher preparation** for Christian Education Directors and Sunday school teachers. During the Christmas and Easter seasons, we take a break from the curriculum to practice for the programs and give teachers a chance to teach a Christmas/Easter lesson. All Sunday School classes provide special music during the worship services bi-monthly. The Sunday School Teachers were all invited to the Volunteer Brunch held in May, 2009.

The Spring Program was held on Mother's Day, May 9, 2010. The Preschool through First Grade presented their program during the Education Hour and the second through sixth grade participating in the 11:00 worship service by sharing their praise through song. On September 19, Rally Day was held for the Sunday School. Kids of all ages, and their parents, participated in the events held outside the church. The Spirit Stampede focused on the theme "Gallop in His Glory," and all Rally Day activities centered on a cowboy roundup. The Preschool class had a short orientation meeting on September 9 to help them become acquainted with the church and Sunday School. Kathe Eldred, the Sunday School music leader, has been a blessing to our Sunday School program. On October 31, 10 third graders received their Holy Bibles during the 10:30 worship service. This year the NRSV Bible from *Spark* was given to the kids through donations from the Enervold Bible Fund. Melissa Pickering spent the morning with the third graders, exploring and learning about their new Bibles.

The Christmas program, entitled "Carriers of the Light" was presented by all Sunday School students on Sunday, December 12. "Carriers of the Light" is inspired by scriptural passages focusing on Jesus as the Light of Salvation. It celebrates the passing of God's Light from Mary to Joseph to the animals in the manger, from the shepherds in the countryside to the wise men in the east. Thank you to Kathe Eldred, director; Judy England, accompanist and Sandy Van Dyke, narrator.

Current (January '10) enrollment: There are 68 students registered for the 3 year olds (preschool) through first grade and 83 Second through Sixth graders.

### Children's Church

Children's Church is offered on Wednesday evenings (excluding Advent and Lent) from 6:45-7:15 pm in the Children's Chapel at Our Savior's. Mike Lauer, a freshman at Moorhead State, along Sammy Trick, a sophomore from Concordia College gather after Children's Time (during worship) and use music and small group discussions to convey the lesson for the evening. Mike brings his guitar, and the kids pray and sing together.

Current (November '09) enrollment: There are about 5-10 kids each week at Children's Church. Registration is not necessary.

### Mission/Stewardship

Sunday School offerings continue to provide monthly support (\$30/month) to Waldo Boris Tarqui Tellez, our *World Vision* child from Bolivia.

### Confirmation Ministry

We took 17 ninth graders to Christ the King Lutheran Church in Moorhead for their **Confirmation Retreat** on September 26. Confirmands made their sashes, discussed their Faith Statements, went on a scavenger hunt in the F-M area, and explored the

### *6. Special Projects*

We planned to address the use of Styrofoam in our church building during 2010. The Women of Our Savior's Board discussed the issue and listed to a presentation on Styrofoam by Carrie Brusven in October. The Women's board agreed to begin using mainly ceramic cups instead of Styrofoam during Fellowship Times—the latter to be used by request only.

### Goals for 2011

- Committee membership growth
- Earth Sunday 2011
- Continue to address the use of Styrofoam within the church building
- A joint rain barrel workshop with other churches in our community
- Art contest to decorate the rain barrel for our church grounds
- Continue to promote awareness of environmental issues in our parish, community and world.

### Thank You

Thank you to Our Savior's Lutheran Church members and friends for your continued and growing interest and enthusiasm in caring for God's creation.

Thank you to both Pastor Loren and Pastor Patrick for their support of this ministry at Our Savior's.

Thank you to the board members of Our Savior's Lutheran Women for their openness and willingness to consider using ceramic cups!

Thank you to the committee members for their enthusiasm, wealth of ideas and willingness to be role models in our parish and our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Brusven  
Committee Chair

"You must be the change you hope to see in the world" - Gandhi



## Creation Care Committee

### Mission Statement

The Creation Care Committee seeks to model care for creation in the life of our parish, in the lives of our members and within our community by providing ideas, resources and support to other committees of the church in adopting creation care practices and programs.

### The Call to be Green

The Creation Care Committee was formed in January of 2009 following a Web of Creation Leadership Training Program in the spring of 2008. Committee members are Carrie Brusven and Laura Caroon. The committee is following the Green Congregation Program, a resource from The Web of Creation ([www.webofcreation.org](http://www.webofcreation.org)).

An Action Plan was developed for the care of creation at Our Savior’s. “The strategy is to make a difference on earth by 1) transforming attitudes and commitments, and 2) embracing concrete actions that reduce human ecological impact on Earth and 3) contributing to justice for people affected by environmental degradation” (*Green Congregation Program*, Web of Creation). The Action Plan includes the following six categories:

#### 1. *Worship*

Devotionals from the ELCA e-Advocacy Network, “Climate Justice, A Lenten Journey of Discovery,” were reprinted in our worship bulletins and on our blog during Lent.

Our Savior’s celebrated its second Earth Sunday on April 18, 2010. The worship service included special liturgy, prayers, and music focused on care for creation. The theme of Earth Week 2010 was Climate Justice.

We continue to ask worshipers to recycle their bulletins after each service.

#### 2. *Education*

Video and discussion groups, centered around the videos “God’s Creation and Global Warming” and “The Inconvenient Truth,” were offered during Earth Week by the Adult Education Committee.

The Youth and Family Discipleship Committee worked with us to organize a “Clean Up the Red” project with River Keepers of Fargo. The event was cancelled due to bad weather and we hope to try this event again in the spring of 2011.

A Rain Barrel Workshop was organized with River Keepers of Fargo in the fall of 2010. Bad weather caused a small turn-out for the class but those who attended learned a lot and are now proud owners of their very own rain barrels!

#### 3. *Building and Grounds*

Our Savior’s purchased and built a rain barrel from River Keepers of Fargo to be installed in the spring of 2011.

#### 4. *Discipleship at Home and Work*

Over sixty-five worshippers pledged to become better stewards of creation during Earth Week worship services.

Information about recycling in the Fargo/Moorhead area was also available before and after worship Earth Sunday services. Congregation members were also challenged to walk, bike, or carpool to church for worship on our Earth Sunday.

Green Lights: green tips and fast facts are printed in the weekly bulletin to encourage the congregation to take action.

#### 5. *Public Ministry / Political Advocacy*

Creation Care articles and action alerts are printed in the church newsletter, the *Parish Visitor*, and the weekly bulletin as often as possible.

We continue to use the blog, Creating a Greener Community at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church ([www.oslcgreen.blogspot.com](http://www.oslcgreen.blogspot.com)) to highlight efforts of the committee and the Congregation, to provide ideas and inspiration on being better stewards of God’s creation, links to other helpful resources, and to encourage people to share their own “green” stories.

Sacraments in depth. The students affirmed their baptisms and confirmed their Christian faith on October 10, 2010. Seventh, Eighth and Ninth graders, along with 9 confirmation guides, and Pastor Mellum and Pastor Patrick as large group presenters, met on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 pm to 8:15 pm. Parents are required to attend 12 sessions. Each 9<sup>th</sup> grade student has a mentor that will encourage their faith through their last confirmation year. Beginning in 2010, mentors will be assigned to 9<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation students for activities during Lent. There are currently (Jan. ‘10) 61 students enrolled in our Confirmation Program.

### Vacation Bible School

“CREATION” was Our Savior’s first Vacation Bible School, offered on Wednesday, June 9. Vacation Bible School children focused on Adam and Eve, Noah and the Ark, and The Very Beginning. On Wednesday, August 11, VBS was offered again, with the theme “Praise Him, Raise Him,” focusing on the words “praise,” “faith” and “rejoice.” Three-year olds through 4<sup>th</sup> grade met from 8:30-5:00 p.m. at throughout the church and the OSCL neighborhood. The Youth Room was transformed into a lakeside Bible Camp. Children had snacks and lunch at the church, and even got in some time to play at Robert Asp School Park. The children sang together, worshipped together and played games together. The 5-6<sup>th</sup> Graders of Our Savior’s were given the opportunity to celebrate God’s creation in their own way -at the Red River Zoo! 4 youth and adult leader, Melissa Pickering worshipped in a new and exciting way by spending 12 hours at the zoo. What a great way to fellowship and have fun! ! Hats off to the Red River Zoo for putting on such a wonderful and educational experience for these kids. VBS was a big success this year, with about 40 kids attending. Thank you to those who helped out with VBS 2010.

### Milestone Ministry

Milestone Ministry is a vital Ministry program at Our Savior’s. We begin with the Preschool Orientation and Blessing (September), and continue throughout their school years. In October, there was a “Praise Party” scheduled for the Kindergarten Sunday School students and their parents. They celebrated their baptisms and learned what baptism is all about. In October, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School students began their ministry as Guardian Angels. They attended a class about baptism and their responsibilities as a Guardian Angel. They are asked to help out at baptisms and pray for “their” baptized child each day. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders ministry to the congregation in 2010 was in the form of Community Service. They collect food for the food pantry, help with ushering, collect loose change after worship, and are a part of other various service projects around the church. In 2010, the First Grade classes marked their milestone with “Lord, Hear Our Prayer.” They spent a Saturday morning learning about the Lord’s Prayer, eating bread together, and making prayer boxes. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders milestone marker is coming up, focusing on fairness. First Communion in the late winter marks the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade milestone, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders receiving their Bibles. In the late winter, the PreKindergarteners attend a Pillow Party with their parents, where they make pillows to remember their baptism. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes lead the congregation in The Lord’s Prayer in early spring. The 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders mark their milestones at their Confirmation Retreats, and the 10<sup>th</sup> graders with the Affirmation of Baptism Service. The graduating seniors from Our Savior’s are celebrated in late spring with Senior Sunday, where they receive quilts made by congregational members and attend a brunch with their families. In 2010, 18 seniors received quilts and celebrated at the Senior Sunday brunch with their families.

### Certification School

In November, 2010 Pastor Patrick and Melissa Pickering successfully completed Certification School sponsored by Vibrant Faith Ministries and Warburg Theological Seminary. Completion of Certification school involves participation in a week-long intensive, completion of reading and blogging assignments, participating in five webinar events and the completion and presentation of a Ministry Plan to guide ministry efforts within a designated congregational setting. Many beneficial things were learned through Certification School, some have which already been implemented at Our Savior’s. Certification School focuses on Milestone Ministry (already in place at Our Savior’s); personal, trusted relationships (growing at Our Savior’s through confirmation ministry and youth gatherings); the connection between theology and youth (through games, interaction with others, etc); faith is caught more than it is taught (learning in a different way, teaching by example and focusing on relationships along with education); and Christian youth need Christian adults (lead by example, honor beliefs and traditions, empower youth to reach out in service). Certification School not only contained classroom time, but it also made time for fun. The high ropes course, engaging community of Wartburg Theological Seminary, and the other eleven participants from all around the United States made Certification School an unforgettable experience. Thank you to Our Savior’s and Pastor Loren Mellum for the opportunity to be a part of such an amazing, life changing and blessing enriched program. Vibrant Faith Ministries will continue to transform and bring to light new and exciting opportunities for youth and families at Our Savior’s in the coming years.

### Thanks

We would like to thank those that have served in Youth and Family Ministry in any way this year. All of the Education and Youth programs here could not exist without the caring and devoted volunteers. We are all very blessed to have such kind and giving members. Sunday School teachers, leaders and shepherds, confirmation guides and large group presenters are the backbone of the Christian Education Department at OSLC. The following people are teaching Sunday School this year: Elicia Weers, Annise Montplaisir, Olivia Stephenson, Paige Olson, Jessie Jensen, Sarah Nelson, Claire Maynard, Mindy Hoffman, Laurene Fuglseth, Wendy Blue, Anne Syvertson, Briana Corneliussen, Jade Krsnak, Brandon Bahr, Debrahe Fairbanks, Marcia Norman, Zach and Kris Fjelstad, Abbey Zuehlsdorff, Rachel Maier, Connie Jarrett, Lori Houseman, Dena Halverson and Carol Ann Dahlberg. Thank you to all the substitute Sunday School teachers who have volunteered their time throughout the year. We have three Our Savior's youth working as shepherds in Sunday School classrooms. Those young people are: Alex Gardner, Ally Sayler and Aliya Jackson.

We are also very blessed to have the following adults helping out with confirmation classes: Tasha Haug, Nick Maynard, Josh Caroon, Laura Caroon, Richard Rix, Nate Heinrich, Tatijana Muller-Dahlberg, Becca Conant and Cody Zitzow.

Thank you to all that have helped out this year!

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

## 2010 Youth Ministry Report

Youth ministries at Our Savior's complement the ways our young people are engaged in worship, music, educational and other ministries of the congregation. We focus on three age groups:

### The 34-56 Club

The 34/56 Club (grades 3-6) meets once a month, usually Sunday afternoons for various events. The 34-56 Club focuses on fun and fellowship with each other. Events this year have included: caroling, making blankets, holiday parties and game days. Cosette Heigaard-McGurran, a senior at Concordia College is leading 34-56 Club.

### Middle School Ministries

Middle School Ministries (grades 7-9) are carried out primarily in conjunction with our confirmation program. This includes separate retreats for each grade level: Seventh Grade (a Sunday afternoon in early fall), Eighth Grade (a Sunday afternoon in January) and Ninth Grade (held on a Sunday afternoon at a Lutheran church in Moorhead in early fall).

### Senior High Ministries

Senior High Ministries (grades 9-12) have focused many on Youth Meetings, Fundraisers, Mission Trips and the Fall Lock-In.

The youth of Our Savior's took a Mission Trip to Wind River, WY in June of 2010. It was an amazing adventure, with 17 youth and 3 adult leaders from Our Savior's participating. Messiah Lutheran Church (Fargo) and Our Savior's partnered together to bring service and caring to the residents of Wind River Indian Reservation. A stop in Billings, MT to worship with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church began the adventure, and an overnight in the Black Hills on the return trip added to the great experience everyone on the trip had. Thank you to Pastor Patrick Loree, Carrie Olson and Melissa Pickering for leading.

2011 promises to be a big year for the Youth of Our Savior's! Beginning in January, Carrie Brusven will be leading *The Story of Stuff*, a senior high study group promoting a clutter-free lifestyle. Fundraising will be in full force, as the Junior High youth of Our Savior's will be taking a mission trip to Duluth in July, and the Senior High youth will be traveling to Chicago, IL to do mission work in August. The youth are busy preparing, praying and planning for these mission trips, as well as a trip to New Orleans, LA in July, 2012 for the ELCA National Youth Gathering.

The youth of Our Savior's and their adult leaders are very grateful to all members and friends of the congregation for their strong support of our youth ministries. As we look to 2010, we are hoping to continue wonderful growth of the youth programs, along with putting in place new adventure trips and events. Our praying has paid off, with the number of youth involved in the Our Savior's Youth Programs up from 2009.

Submitted by Melissa Pickering  
Minister for Youth and Family Discipleship

## Catch the Spirit (Physical Plant Improvement Project)

### 2009 Bank Reconciliation

BEGINNING BALANCE @ 01/01/10		<u>\$ 16,671.30</u>
ADD: CASH RECEIPTS ---		
	CONGREGATIONAL GIVING	\$ 6,600.00
	OTHER (APPLE PIE FANTASY/EXTRAVAGANZA)	5,263.00
		TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS <u>\$ 11,863.00</u>
LESS: CASH DISBURSALS ---		
	SCHEDULED WELLS FARGO BANK LOAN PAYMENTS	\$ 12,009.17
	SCHEDULED WELLS FARGO BANK LOAN PAYMENTS	1,908.96
	OSLC TRUST FUNDS LOAN INTEREST	7,822.40
		80.80
	STATE BANK & TRUST SERVICE CHARGES	80.80
		TOTAL CASH DISBURSEMENTS \$ 21,821.33
ENDING BALANCE @ 12/31/2010		<u>\$ 6,712.97</u>
OSLC TRUST FUNDS LOAN PRINCIPAL BALANCE @ 12/31/2010		<u>\$ 78,224.03</u>
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. LOAN PRINCIPAL BALANCE @ 12/31/2010		<u>\$ 0.00</u>
STATE BANK & TRUST LOAN PRINCIPAL BALANCE @ 12/31/2010		<u>\$ 48,325.62</u>