

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.



A Monthly Insight into the Life of Our Savior's Lutheran Church

parish visitor *live your faith.*

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worship this january >>>

Sundays

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
10:30 a.m. Alternative Worship

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. Community Meal
6:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship

Communion

Communion is celebrated every Sunday and Wednesday.

Ecumenical Service

Wednesday, January 18,
7:00 p.m.

Worship together with us on January 18 at St. Francis De Sales Church (601 15th Ave. N, Moorhead). There is no Wednesday meal or service at Our Savior's that night so please join us at St. Francis as we worship our King with our neighbors!

winter weather >>>

Just a reminder to tune in to the local radio and television stations when the weather turns bad! If worship

services are cancelled, Sunday School will also be cancelled. On Wednesdays, if Moorhead Public Schools are cancelled or dismissed early, there will be no youth activities that afternoon or evening at Our Savior's. Call the church office if you have any questions regarding Sunday School or Wednesday activities.

www.oursaviorsmoorhead.org

www.facebook.com/oursaviorsmoorhead

Our new website is finished! Check it out:
www.oursaviorsmoorhead.org

MEN'S Retreat

Be Challenged. Get Inspired. Walk Encouraged.

January 20-22, 2012

Join us for our annual Men's Retreat at Camp Emmaus in Menahga, MN starting Friday, January 20.

Camp Emmaus is Pathways Bible Camp and is known for its good food, warm beds, private bathrooms, and beautiful scenery.

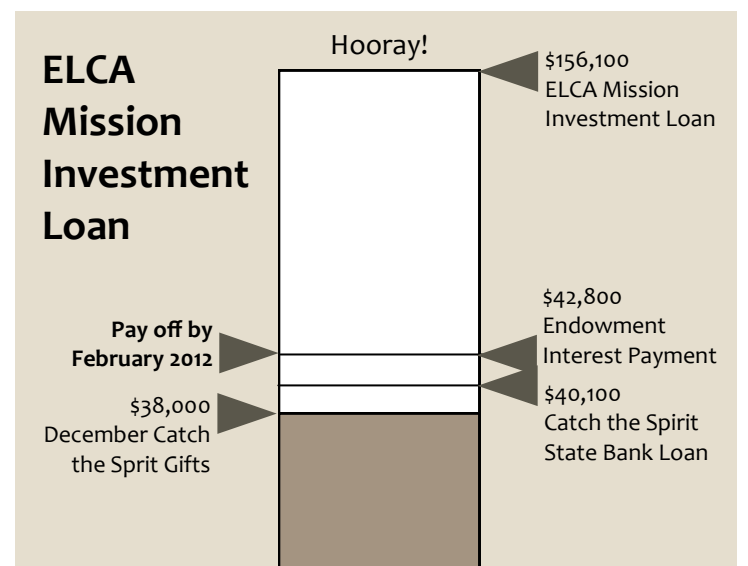
Each year, men of all ages join in the fun of ice-fishing, broom-ball, great food, moonlight cross-country skiing, and so much more. Contact Pr. Patrick (233-2412 or pastorpatrick@oursaviorsmoorhead.org) for more details and to register.

\$60/person (estimated)
Register by January 15

What a Meeting!

Congregation members celebrate financial gifts and make goals to pay off loan by February, 2012

Sunday, December 4 we gathered for a congregational meeting. God stirred in our midst! Our congregational president led us. People asked questions and discerned wise decisions. We celebrated recent gifts to the Catch the Spirit Building Debt Reduction Fund and we made a plan. First, while maintaining our commitment to the General Fund we will pay off the State Bank and Trust Loan of \$40,100 plus interest of \$2,700 by February 2012. Second, we will refinance the remainder of our Catch the Spirit Building Debt with the Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America with a steady commitment of reducing the \$113,000 we refinanced. As you live in God's abundance and as the Holy Spirit leads you to act generously, consider your gifts to this effort. We celebrate that \$38,000 in commitments were made to the General Fund of the congregation within a two week period of time in early December. Generosity is contagious and the Spirit's Movin'.



Grateful Living

Stories to Tell and Gifts to Share

Giving thanks is easy—nothing to it. It seems natural to say thanks to God: “Thank you, God, for fine days and the good, green earth, the abundance of the harvest, the plenty of your garden.”

But how often do I say: “Thanks for staying with me today. Thanks for loving me in spite of myself. Thanks for caring for me, even when I am uncaring. Thank you for being my friend, though you know me well. Thank you for forgiving me when I do what I said I would not do and failed in what I had promised.”

Our stewardship theme for this year continues to focus on “Stories to Tell & Gifts to Share.” We recognize that God has showered us with gifts of grace that literally fill our lives. In response we live, joyfully sharing God’s gifts and giving thanks for all that God has given—especially the gift of forgiveness and life in Jesus Christ.

2011 became an abundant year at Our Savior’s as the Spirits Movin’ Team and Church Council continued to encourage and invite us to move with the Holy Spirit into God’s promised future. Our

Savior’s continues to be known as a church with people of substance, who love God and act compassionately. We are known as a church where no one stands on their own dignity at the expense of another person, but a community that is for all people. This is grace at work! 2012 is a year of expectation.

God, what do you have in store me? God, what do you have in store for us?

We begin this year with a clear focus of God’s grace in our hearts, we can respond as Paul encourages: “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). May your gratitude for life, for Lord, and for Church cast out all pessimism and may you trust that God will work in delightful and surprising ways in this new year where Our Savior’s Lutheran Church turns 65 years old. We are a young church! God has a promised future. Believe this for yourself and the congregation, “God has a promised future.”

Grace and peace,
Pastor Loren Mellum

Happy New Year

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! 2 Corinthians 5:17

I am comforted by the words above. They seem to say to me that my past shortcomings and failures have been put away as Christ continues to sift out the old sinful Adam inside of me while replenishing the voids in my life and heart with his presence.

The New Year often signifies for us a chance to begin again. I don’t know about you, but when I look back at the past year, it is rife with both good and not so good things that I have done or said. For the latter things I find myself ashamed and wondering about how I will ever live down or overcome such moments. And while I know the passage of time offers to us all the chance to reflect on our shortcomings and growing edges, the passage of time very rarely lets us ever truly forget what we have done to harm ourselves or others. Truth be told, just because 2012 is here, 2011 will not be forgotten. And while we may make ourselves feel better by claiming change as the calendar rolls over, real change in our lives is more fleeting and most often we continue in old patterns that hurt us and others.

That’s why I find these words so comforting. I know the sin inside of me that refuses to go quietly. I know things about myself that seem to want to cling to my bones and never let go. But Christ, grants me something new...a new creation. This new creation isn’t a second or third or 10,000th chance...it isn’t a “do-over”. Instead, Christ knows that I may continue being the same sinful man I have always been (though I know that changing some of my ways would be

good for me and for those around me). Christ knows this about me and about you and does something amazing with us. Instead of completely razing us to the ground and starting over. Christ works from within us to reshape and form us as forgiven sinners. And while our sinful natures may continue, Christ replenishes our brokenness and fills hallow places with his grace and love. And in doing so, Christ claims us as his people and we become at one and the same time both Sinners and Saints.

We live as sinners and saints. But Christ is constantly at work in us, causing us to die to our sin and be raised daily to be these new creations that Paul wrote about in 2 Corinthians.

The fact of the matter is that we may make all sorts of resolutions about the coming year, only to feel the shame of not changing our old patterns and ways of being. Yet Christ tells us to put away our shame, for our actions do not justify us in God’s eyes, but rather it is the work of Christ’s love for us that brings us back to being saints again and again.

So as the New Year unfolds for us, we remember that no matter what changes we make to better ourselves, no matter what old sinful ways we find within, Christ will continue to raise us up again and again and again. And we shall be a new creation, those who die to their sin daily, people who are at one and the same time sinners and saints. The old sinful Adam is now replaced with the power of the New Adam—Christ.

May God bless us in the New Year and may we, in turn, bless others.

Pr. Patrick

Youth & Family Discipleship >>>

Youth Gathering

On November 19 and 20, Our Savior’s sent four Junior High Youth to the NW MN Synod Youth Gathering in Grand Forks, ND. They were: Spencer Fjelstad, Grant Invie, Emily Haugrud and Claire Maynard. Wheatys for the event were: Jessie Jensen and Paige Olson. They participated in worship with hundreds of students for the Northwest Minnesota ELCA Synod, listened to speakers and danced the night away! Following a party in the pool, the group met for devotions before heading off to bed. A huge thank you to the OSLC congregation for their support and prayers for this trip! What a wonderful experience our youth had! They were truly blessed to be able to participate in this Gathering! Thank you to the chaperones, Zach Fjelstad and Carrie Olson for making the Gathering so memorable for our youth.

“Soup”er Bowl of Caring

Our Savior’s Youth will collect loose change (and paper money) and canned items for the “Soup”er Bowl of Caring again this year. On Sunday, February 5, bring along a canned or boxed item and all your loose change and help Our Savior’s beat hunger! All collections will go to the local food pantry.

Confirmation >>>

8th Grade Retreat

On Sunday, January 15, all 8th grade Confirmation students will gather together at Our Savior’s from 1-5 p.m. We will focus on 1 Corinthians 12:27. Now you are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Confirmation Schedule

Jan. 4	The Apostle’s Creed (God the Father)
Jan. 11	The Apostle’s Creed (Jesus the Christ)
Jan. 18	The Apostle’s Creed (The Holy Spirit)
Jan. 25	The Lord’s Prayer (Intro and 1st Pet.)

Acolyte Schedule

Jan. 1	New Year’s Day (9:00)Austen Norman/Daniel Kunze
Jan. 8	(8:30)Spencer Fjelstad/Aaron Norman (10:30)Tyler Schmidt/Alex Jensen
Jan. 15	(8:30)Kyle Conant/Callie Hanson (10:30)Alex Schmidt/Sarah Nelson
Jan. 22	(8:30)Kaitlyn Jarrett/Gregory Jarrett (10:30)Kassidi Steffes/Jordan Nelson
Jan. 29	(8:30)Taylor Nyborg/Reno Hoselton (10:30)Aaron Middlestead/Haley Ludwig

Could You be a Mentor?

Mentor volunteers are needed again for Our Savior’s 9th Grade Confirmation students. If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact Melissa. (Mentors meet with their students during Lent only).

Sunday School >>>

Christmas Program

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Christmas Programs a success! The students and teachers, parents and shepherds, everyone contributed so much to making these programs work! A special thanks to Kathe Eldred and Cathi Chial for all of their hard work and dedication.

5th Grade Milestone

The 5th Grade Sunday School students will be meeting on Monday afternoons (Mar. 12, 19 and 26) to prepare for First Communion. We will meet from 5:30-6:30 p.m. First Communion will be on Maundy Thursday, April 5, 2012. Parents are invited to attend each week, but are encourage to please attend the March 26 session.

Sunday School Schedule

Jan. 8	Naomi and Ruth
Jan. 15	David and Goliath
Jan. 22	Sunday School Baptism Celebration
Jan. 29	Elijah and the Widow



Women of the ELCA



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.

Happy New Year from the Women of Our Savior's!

Our Christmas brunch was well attended. We had the very lovely music from Red River Harp Ensemble and a true Christmas Story read by Donna Anderson that touched everyone's hearts. Fellowship was great with the exchanging of our prayer partners and drawing names for next year.

We hope you had a blessed Christmas!

We always said we have the best bakers and workers here at Our Savior's and after our very successful bake sale at Christmas on 13th Street we know it's true! A huge THANK YOU to everyone who baked all kinds of goodies, made lefse for two days ahead of time and for rolling lefse at the event on Saturday. Thanks also go out to everyone who worked the event and for those who came and purchased the goodies. Since

this article is being written on Tuesday December 13 we do not have a final total but, as of today, our total was \$1550.00. We give the youth 30 percent as they do all the advertising. We will have a final total to report next month. Well done everyone!

2012 is here and it is time to focus on the present. We are not scheduling any events in January so watch for the upcoming events to be announced next month.

Family Service Unit

Every month, Our Savior's members are called to help serve at various events held at the church, such as Sunday morning Fellowship Time, congregational meals, benefits, etc.

If your family is on the list for the up-coming month, please watch the mail for a letter with more information about how Service Units work at Our Savior's and plan to attend the informational meeting on Sunday, January 29 at 9:45 a.m. in the West Narthex.

September 2011 Service Unit

Anderson, Nancy	218-233-3143	Davidson, Stacy & Amber	218-287-2743	Preister, Lori, Dan, & Taylor	218-287-1192
Ball, Carrie		Donat, Jared, Lisa & Adeline	218-287-5729	Redfield, Jason, Jurene, Mallorie & Karisa	218-287-7755
Bengs, Bobbette & Kevin	218-287-2680	Eickhoff, Steve & Marilyn	218-790-0648	Redfield, Steven, Barbara, & Sarah	701-293-8720
Boldt, Craig, Nancy, Anthony & Nicholas	218-236-1033	Fairbanks, Michael, Deborah, Jonathon & Adam	218-236-1655	Schulz, Scott & Skylar	218-790-1694
Buhaug, Karl, Kimberly, & Lindsey	218-236-1217	Fatland, Ridge, Linda, Lucas & Keisa	218-236-1638	Schulz, Steven, Vicki, Justin, & Brandon	701-219-4198
Bullock, Linda	218-233-5651	Fedje, Arliss & Donna	218-233-6096	Schultz, William & Rachel	218-236-5242
Carney, Robyn	218-233-0944	Gagner, Mark, Laura, & Dylan	701-526-0764	Skjefte, Barbara, Eldon, Alexander, & Austin	218-236-8379
Chase, Bonnie, Kimberly & Christy	218-287-0585	Gerlach, Dennis & Barbara	218-236-7225	Skrei, David, Nathan & Brandon	218-236-7608
Clarey, Patrick, Christie,	218-790-2629	Harrison, Les & Vicki	218-233-3229	Sloan, Marlo, Terri, Tanya, & Neil	218-236-7779
Nicholas, Andrew & Bridgette	218-790-2622	Holz, Allyne	701-371-2963	Swanson, Rocky, Bonnie, & Sara	218-236-6688
Cusey, Bradley, Michelle, & Tanner	218-291-0622	Houglum, Joyce & Steven	218-287-5116	Trelstad, Lynn, Michelle, Matthew & Michael	218-287-2777
Cusey, Rebecca	218-790-5422	Jones, Linda	218-233-4233	Warling, Nancy, Stacy, Troy, Cory, & Ricky	218-233-7149
Davidson, Helen & Israel Flores	218-2873943	Meis, Duane, Nina, Ryan, Kaitlynn & Kelsey	218-233-8644	Wohlrahe, Larry & Joy	218-287-8342
		Moore, Manda, Meghan, & Riley	701-238-2262	Zeh, Keith, Cheryl, & David	218-236-7712
		Oanes, Todd, Nancy Jo, Nicole, & Andrew	218-287-2265		

Prayer Shawl Gathering

Please come and join us on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to learn how to knit or work on a shawl that you are making. We meet 6:30 to 8:30. Come and stay as long as you can.

Please feel free to take a prayer shawl for a person who needs it.

Adult Ed Series



On Sundays in January (the 8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th), we will focus on the Psalms. Discussions will be held in the chapel between services from 9:40-10:25 a.m.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer observed that "Psalms are God's Word and the prayers of man as well." This rich collection of 150 psalms is a book of prayers that touches on many aspects of our lives. Through the Psalms, God speaks to us in our circumstances and the psalms also help us to pray.

We have selected four gems for our study: Psalms 84, 86, 90 and 91. What a good way to start the New Year! Come and join us.

Volunteers Needed

Lutheran Social Service of MN is currently seeking volunteers for our "Morning Out" program. "Morning Out" is a day program for those who have Alzheimer's disease or a dementia-related illness. Our volunteers are friendly visitors who participate in activities such as playing cards, crafts, music, etc. This program provides a much needed break for family members so they can run errands, go to appointments or take a well needed rest. Day services are offered Mondays from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Our Savior's. Training is provided. If you are looking for a meaningful way to volunteer and to make a difference in an elderly person's life, please call Tara Giese at LSS of MN (218-233-7521) or Cheryl Zeh at Our Savior's (233-2412).

Thank You

Gifts and Memorials through Sunday, December 18, 2011

Altar Guild

In memory of Jim Houglum
Daline/Forsberg
Hiram & Harriet Sirjord

BeFriender Ministry

In honor of Phyllis Johnson
Ellen Mortenson
Addie Rasmus
Georgia Nelson
Olga Ostrem

Catch the Spirit

In memory of Jim Houglum
Vernon & Gladys Kirkeby
In memory of Verna Greig
Vernon & Gladys Kirkeby
In memory of Iona Christensen
Becky Cusey
In honor of Ronald & Bonnie Thom
Rebecca Thom
In honor of children and grandchildren
Fernald & Dorothy Holte

Debt Reduction

In memory of friends and family lost
Marlo & Terri Sloan

Enervold Bible Fund

In memory of Shirley Curfman
Don & Jan Enervold
In memory of David Borgen
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In honor of Virginia Borgen
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In memory Kari Borgen
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In honor of Jack & Kelly Borgen
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In memory of Alberta Asplin
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In honor of Cheryl & Terry Dwyer
Roger & Ellie Johnson

In honor of Jeanne & Gary Strom
Roger & Ellie Johnson

In honor of Pat & Dale Nelson
Roger & Ellie Johnson

In honor of Abigail Mackowick's baptism
Duane & Ramona Mackowick

General Fund

In memory of James Houglum
Linda Jones
Vernon Wang
In memory of Joy Wohlrahe's mother
Linda Jones
In memory of Ione Christiansen
Don & Naomi Rice
Dan & Pat Bacon
In honor of Simon Brusven's baptism
Brian & Melissa Pickering
In memory of Dale Gardner
Gayle & Lawrence Henry

Good Samaritan Fund

In memory of Verna Greig
Joyce Aaserud
Robert & Ruth Dahlquist
Ron & Bonnie Thom
In memory of Lenore Lotton
Carol Beede
In memory of Joy Wohlrahe's mom
Ron & Bonnie Thom
In memory of Warner & Dawn Stephenson
Louanne Stephenson
In memory of Shirley Curfman
John & Kelly Borgen
In memory of Oriet Mae Brown
Carol Beede
In memory of Jim Houglum
Joyce Aaserud
Robert & Ruth Dahlquist
In honor of my grandchildren
Dorothy Fagerlie
In honor of our children and grandchildren
Ronald & Bonnie Thom

Hearing Assistance Fund

In memory of Joel Fedje
Arliss & Donna Fdje
In memory of Verna Greig
Adelaine Rasmus
In memory of Jim Houglum
David & Cheryl Braton
Adelaine Rasmus
In memory of Mike Rasmus
Adelaine Rasmus
In memory of Joy Wohlrahe's mother
Ruth Circle

Music

In memory of Jim Houglum
Lois Edwards

Quilters

In memory of Verna Greig
Robert & Betty Baukol
Shirley Janson
In memory of Lloyd Oltrogge
Robert & Betty Baukol
In memory of Jim Haugstad
Bob & Betty Baukol
Janice Dale
Ardell & June Helgeson

World Hunger

In memory of Ione Christiansen
Arliss & Donna Fedje
In memory of loved ones
Ronald & Bonnie Thom

Youth

In memory of Jim Antonson
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In honor of Cindy Antonson
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In honor of Ron, Kristi, Andrew, Dustin, and Mikaela Johnson
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In honor of Renee, Donnie, Casey, Adam, and Nick Gast
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In honor of all our nieces and nephews
Roger & Ellie Johnson
In honor of Layla Nustad
Roger & Ellie Johnson

WHERE WE CAME FROM...
...WHERE WE ARE GOING

Annual Congregational Meeting and Spaghetti Dinner

*Sunday, January 29, 11:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall*

Spaghetti Dinner

Our Savior's Youth would like to invite all OSLC Congregation members to their Annual Spaghetti Dinner. It will be held on Sunday, January 29 following the 10:30 worship service, and just prior to the Congregational Annual Meeting.

Enjoy spaghetti (red sauce or white sauce), lettuce salad, garlic bread and bars, and help support our Youth. A free-will donation will be taken at the door. Dinner will be served until 12:30 p.m.

Annual Congregational Meeting

After dinner, the congregation of Our Savior's Lutheran church will meet in the Fellowship Hall to review committee reports from 2011 and to discuss financial and organizational goals for 2012. Come and be a part of the conversation!

Annual Meeting Snow Date: Sunday, February 5

Annual Reports due Sunday, January 15 in DIGITAL FORM

Church Calendar

Our Savior's church calendar is always available online.

[Click here](#) to check it out for the most up-to-date information - including event cancellations!



Thanks for choosing the ePV!

