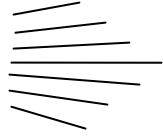




THE

VOICE



The monthly newsletter of Our Savior Lutheran Church
1103 N Broad St., Mankato, MN 56001 **DECEMBER 2011**

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www.oslcmankato.org



HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Advent Worship

Wednesdays, December 7, 14, and 21
1:30 and 6 p.m.

Children's Christmas Service

Saturday, December 17 at 6 p.m.
Pre-service recital at 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24
Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols
5 and 7 p.m.
Pre-service recitals at 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Traditional Christmas Service with Holy Communion
11 p.m.

Christmas Day with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 25 at 10:30 a.m.

New Years Eve with Holy Communion

Saturday, December 31 at 6 p.m.

Without the seasons of the calendar (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter), how would we know about or prepare for the seasons of life (childhood, youth, adulthood, old age)? And without the seasons of the Church Year (Advent, Epiphany, Lent, Easter), how would we know about the seasons of our salvation?

Seasons of salvation? Yes! We begin with a recognition of our sin and our need for a Savior (Advent). God then provides our Savior (Christmas). As we get to know Jesus (Epiphany), we realize just what it is that God is doing. This leads us to a mature understanding of God’s Plan (Lent) which is fulfilled for us in the Resurrection – both Jesus’ resurrection (Easter) and ours (End of the Church Year).

This same pattern is repeated each week in the Divine Service each Sunday morning: Confession (seeing our sin), Forgiveness (meeting Our Savior), the Readings (getting to know Him), the Sermon (understanding God’s plan), and Holy Communion (a foretaste of the Resurrection and Eternal Life we have in Christ).

Again, the same pattern is repeated in the Creation and in each new day which, in the Old Testament, started at sunset, not sunrise. First the darkness (our need for a Savior). Then the sunrise (seeing the Light!). Next comes the “Day” during which we can work. At the end of the day, before the darkness returns, we give thanks for the blessings received and enjoyed and look forward to a New day Yet to come. We can look at it this way:

<u>Daily</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Church Year</u>	<u>Lifetime</u>
Darkness	Confession	Advent	Birth
Dawn	Forgiveness	Christmas	Childhood
Daylight	God’s Word	Epiphany	Youth
Daytime	Sermon	Lent	Adulthood
Evening	Communion	Easter	Old Age
New Dawn	Benediction	Fulfillment	Resurrection

God’s Message of salvation is built-into our days, our weeks, our years, and our lives! Pay attention to them all and learn how God is at work in your day, your week, your year, and your life!

And now is the time when it begins again: In Advent!



BAPTISMS

Levi Andrew Michael Kitzmann
Born: October 4, 2011
Baptized: November 20, 2011

Brody Alan Willett
Born: November 3, 2011
Baptized: November 27, 2011



WEDDINGS

Heather Anne Bissonette & Richard Louis Hedin
November 11, 2011



IN MEMORIAM

Frieda N. Braun
November 18, 2011

Our Savior Lutheran Church Planning Council Minutes Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Present: Gene Mensing, Matt Brand, Gregg Marg, Perry Eimers, Kenneth Polzin, Garry Streich, Larry Hansen, Rev. Paul Lauer, Michelle Rottermond, Kathy Whitehead, Art Blomquist, Dianne Schmidt, Denise Painter

President Gene Mensing called the meeting to order.

Pastor Lauer opened with prayer.

There was no congregation/Public Presentations.

There were no additions to the agenda.

The October Planning Council minutes were approved as recorded.

Treasurer's Report: Matt Brand reported we are at about 67% of budget for the year which is tracking normally. He has also incorporated changes from the Financial Review. The report was approved as submitted.

Pastor's Report: The congregation will be going through leadership changes this year with a new President, Vice President, and Board of Elder chair. Six positions on the council will be changing. There is new potential for the congregation going forward. The Board of Elder's are trying to see delinquent attendance sooner and contacting the member and helping as needed. Membership has declined but receipts have increased- more receipts from fewer people. But receipts haven't kept up with budget increase.

Old Business: 2012 budget was distributed.

New Business: District convention delegate- Pastor made 1 suggestion. The Nominating Committee update- still needs candidates for President and 2 Elder's. Proposed Voters Meeting Agenda was distributed. A discussion of the transition of new officers and board members referred to the bylaws. It was suggested the outgoing Board chairs attend meetings in December to help with transition. 2011 board reports will be published for the January 2012 meeting to include the full year. Church officers will also be installed in January. A constitution committee will be formed to review and address changes needed to the bylaws which will then need to be reviewed by the District president.

Board Sharing: Elders- Gregg reported the Call Committee will meet next Tuesday. 4 nominations from the congregation were sent to President Seitz office. He will add 12- 16 more names.

Board of Education- Denise thanked all who helped with the Fall Festival. Ten people attended the Traveling Lighter workshop.

Trustees- Tuck pointing on the church exterior will be done in 2012. This is an ongoing project as the needed.

Gene, as outgoing President, thanked everyone. He will not be able to attend the November Voter's meeting. Garry Streich will conduct this meeting.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Denise Painter for Jan Taplin, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Accessions: November 2011

Judy Hendley; Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato; LCMS;
November 11, 2011

Marissa Humberg; Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Mountain Lake, MN; LCMS; November 17, 2011

Losses: November 2011

Rev. Jack & Barbara Dahl; Trinity Lutheran Church,
Janesville, MN; LCMS; October 27, 2011

Daryl & Mary Jane Rockow; Hosanna Lutheran Church,
Mankato; LCMS; November 11, 2011

Elizabeth Tauer, William [age 10]; Amelia [age 6];
Lucille [age 3]; St. John the Baptist Catholic Church,
Mankato; November 11, 2011

Lee Woelmer; Messiah Lutheran Church, Lincoln, NE;
LCMS; November 18, 2011

Jennifer Clark, Grace [age 7]; Hosanna Lutheran Church,
Mankato; LCMS; November 25, 2011

OSLC Treasurer's Report Commentary Period Ending October 31, 2011

This report is Year-to-Date as of October 31, 2011. It includes the following documents: Income & Expense Report by Account, Balance Sheet by Account, and Bank Account Balances Less Dedicated reports.* The October 2011 bank statement was reconciled on November 2, 2011 and the month was closed on November 2, 2011. An Accounts Balance Trend graph is attached.*

Income & Expense Report by Account:

Total receipts for the month were \$37,037.53; this includes \$3,493.00.00 from Joyful Response. Expenses for the month totaled \$36,112.14, resulting in a positive cash flow of \$925.39.

General Fund performance is presented in the following table. The difference between the disbursements and the expenses presented in the Income & Expense Report by Account is the LCEF loan principle reduction which is reflected in the Balance Sheet.

2011 Ahead/(Behind) Calculation

	Current Month		Y-T-D		L-T-D
Beginning Balance from 12/31/10					-\$73,964.51
Income-from Income & Exp. Report		\$37,037.53		\$390,311.14	
Expenses-from Inc. & Exp. Report	\$35,321.77		\$371,899.02		
Plus: LCEF Principal Reduction	\$790.37		\$7,517.06		
Total Expenses	\$36,112.14	-\$36,112.14	\$379,416.08	-\$379,416.08	
Ahead/(Behind) for cur month & Y-T-D		\$925.39		\$10,895.06	\$10,895.06
Ahead/(Behind) Life-To-Date					-\$63,069.45

Balance Sheet:

Assets		Current Value	Liabilities		Remaining Principal
Checking Account		\$35,752.90	Mortgage		\$189,614.80
Joyful Response		\$20,061.44	Dedicated Funds Payable		\$129,348.42
Music Fund		\$1,067.62	Current Liabilities		\$10,624.85
Library Fund		\$20,116.99	Wells Fargo Business Line		\$0.00
Dedicated Funds Receivable		\$0.00	Total		\$329,588.07
Total		\$76,998.95			

Balance Sheet:

Bank Account Balances Less Dedicated:

All Dedicated Funds other than the LCEF accounts are included in the checking account and are used for cash flowing. Currently \$51,141.77 is owed to Dedicated Funds.

Respectfully submitted,
Matt Brand

*See reports on the "Church Information" bulletin board near the office



The students of
Our Savior's Lutheran
Sunday School
invite you to

“The Symbols of Christmas”

Saturday, December 17

6:00 p.m.

Pre-service recital

5:30 p.m.

featuring young musicians
from our congregation

Please join us to worship
our newborn Savior



You are invited
to the annual
Birthday Party
for Jesus
featuring the brand-new
Veggie Tales movie
“The Little Drummer Boy”
Sunday morning, December 18
We will begin in the chapel
promptly at 9:15 a.m.
due to the length of the movie.
Please join us!

Evangelism Committee

Free cab rides to services are made possible for our members through Our Savior's Taxi Fund. To procure a ride, call KATO CAB at 388-7433. Please call a half hour before you would like to leave. To call for a return ride, you may use the phone in the office or kitchen. Please dial 9 before you enter the number. Let Kato Cab know where you will be waiting—the front door on Broad Street or the back door on Adams Street. Thank you.



Human Care Committee

Missionaries to pray for in December

Patrick Frerking, Asia
Jamie Endorf, Peru
George Frahm, Cambodia
Coral Rose, South Africa



Thank you

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Human Care Committee projects that benefited members of Our Savior's congregation and the community at large.

The projects for 2011 were: Prayer Shawl Ministry; working with Salvation Army on Red Kettle Bell Ringing, Bundle Me Warm and Sunday Noon Meal projects; Volunterism for VINE Faith in Action and Habitat for Humanity; collecting food and cash for Thanksgiving/Easter baskets and Echo Food Shelf; sending condolence and birth cards to Our Savior's widows and widowers and shut-ins; praying for missionaries listed in the Voice; and sending cards to Confirmands.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

A Prayer Shawl, simply put, is a soft warm shawl, knitted or crocheted, which is given to persons who are ill, have suffered a loss, or are in the midst of a crisis. Shawls . . . made for centuries are universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God.

If you know of anyone that you would like to receive a prayer shawl, please contact Human Care Committee member Jane Emich at 947-3226.



Music Notes



O rejoice, ye Christians, loudly, For our joy has now begun;
Wondrous things our God has done.
Tell abroad His goodness proudly,
Who our race has honored thus,
That He deigns to dwell with us.
Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness!
Christ has done away with sadness!

Hence, all sorrow and repining, For the Sun of Grace is shining!

December Worship Music Schedule:

December 4:	Kids Praise!
<i>December 7:</i>	1:30 – Christus Choir 6:00 – String Duet
December 11:	Adult Choir with Kids Praise!
<i>December 14:</i>	1:30 – Christus Choir 6:00 – Women’s Choir
<i>December 17:</i>	<i>Children’s Christmas Service</i> Kids Praise! Student Recitalists
December 18:	Peals of Praise
<i>December 21:</i>	1:30 – Christus Choir 6:00 – Ruth Mackie, piano
<i>December 24:</i>	<i>Christmas Eve</i> Christmas Choir, Christmas Bells, Adult and Student Recitalists
December 25:	<i>Christmas Day</i> Special Music
<i>December 31:</i>	<i>New Year’s Eve</i> Special Music

Rehearsal schedules go a little goofy in December as we adjust for holiday groups and give the regular groups a little break. Please check with your director or check the calendar each week for rehearsal times.

Looking for a short-term music opportunity? Each year, we assemble a “Christmas Choir” and “Christmas Bells” to sing/ring

for the Christmas Eve worship services. These two groups will be meeting on Wednesday evenings in December beginning December 7. If you would like to participate in one of these short-term musical groups - with no lasting obligation ☺ - please call Ruth at 385-2183.

Christus Choir meets before each midweek Advent service this month to prepare anthems for the daytime service. Are you a singer who's available in the daytime? Please feel free to join us. Call Ruth at 385-2183 for more information.

Pre-Service Christmas Recitals have become part of our tradition before the Children's Christmas Service (to be held this year on December 17) and our Christmas Eve services. The variety and quality of musical gifts that are shared at these recitals have made them a very special part of our celebration of Jesus' birth. We are seeking recitalists of all ages for these two dates. If you are interested in participating, please let Ruth know. We will schedule rehearsals at your convenience before the recital in which you are participating.

Ruth is in the office Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday.
Office: 385-2183 Home: 389-9780 ruthm@oslcmandato.org

+ + +

***Coming in January
to the Tuesday afternoon Bible class:***

**“The Bible’s Big Story –
Our Story”**

**(affectionately known as the
“timeline course”)**

**Join us at 1:00
in the Fireplace Room
beginning January 10!**



Notes from the Sunday School



Dear Friends of Our Savior's Sunday School,

*"I won't let all this commercialization
ruin my Christmas!"*

So said Charlie Brown - way back in 1965. Those of us who actually remember 1965 ☺ remember a world which was different in many profound ways, but then, as today, Christmas could still conceivably be "ruined" by greed and selfishness. Or it could be "lost in the shuffle" in the combined flurry of "Christmasy" and regular day-to-day activity. Or it could simply be tossed off like a meaningless old legend.

But it is not possible to "ruin" the love of God. It is not possible to undo the mystery of the Incarnation - of God Himself willingly undergoing the humiliation of becoming a helpless human being. It is not possible to erase Jesus' work on the cross or the seal of His victory in the empty tomb. These things are true and eternal. These things are unfailingly real and meaningful. These things give peace and forgiveness to our past, purpose to our present, and hope to our future. God bless your preparation for the celebration of the birth of His Son.

Little Lambs Lessons for December:

December 4: A Message for Mary

December 11: Jesus is Born

K-5 Lessons for December:

December 4: Angels Visit Mary and Joseph

December 11: The Birth of Jesus

Grade 6 Lessons for December:

December 4: Jesus' Birth
December 11: The Flight to Egypt

Junior High Lessons for December:

December 4: Matthew's Gospel
December 11: Mark's Gospel

All grades are invited to the annual
"Birthday Party for Jesus" on December 18.
Classes do not meet on December 25 or January 1.

What are you doing between services? We encourage all Sunday School parents to stick around while their children are in Sunday School. If you haven't checked out the parent room yet, please stop in. It's a great place to connect with other parents and browse through some family resources. We've recently added the Concordia Sex Education Series and highly recommend it for parents who are looking for a Christian approach to this important topic. The parent room is located just off the east entrance to the building.

Rehearsals for the Children's Christmas Service begin on Saturday, December 3, for students in Grades 1-6. Sunday School families should have received a "snail mail" letter the week of November 14 with all the details. If you didn't receive one or have any questions, please contact Ruth at 385-2183.

Offering News: The fall quarter ended on November 20, and we were able to present the ECHO Food Shelf with a check for \$240. Winter quarter offerings are designated for the "Orphan Grain Train," a ministry of the Lutheran Laymen's League, which is active in providing relief to the families devastated by the Joplin, Missouri, tornado this past summer. May God bless you as you share what He has given you with those in need.

K.I.D.S. Program: Don't forget to check in at the KIDS table regularly for KIDS savings stamps! KIDS is a wonderful way to practice "share, save, spend" to the glory of God! They also make terrific Christmas gifts! ☺

Fall Quarter Attendance Awards: The Sunday School congratulates these students and their families for outstanding attendance this fall:

Perfect Attendance:

Madison Chapman - Evelyn Keltgen - Daniel Mead -
Mikey Lauer - Caleb Mead -
Katelyn Wilson - Thomas Lauer

Excellent Attendance:
(one Sunday missed)

Joel Brand - Linnea Hendley - Elsie Mack -
Madelyn Mack - Naomi Brand - Gabriela Musolf -
Danica Maus - Jacob Wintheiser -
Addie Musolf - Shelby May - Levi May -
Elizabeth Taplin - Hailey Wintheiser

The K-5 Sunday School staff will "touch base" following the worship service on Sunday, December 11; all other Sunday School staffs will meet again in January. Remember to thank a Sunday School teacher this Christmas for all (s)he does in Jesus' name!

*Ruth is in the office Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.
Office: 385-2183 Home: 389-9780*

ruthm@oslcmandkato.org



Lost Sheep



The following is a list of people who we are unable to locate. If anyone knows any of these individuals, please ask them to contact the church office at 385-2180 with their current address and phone number. Thank you for your assistance.

Jeffrey Bode

Kari Gilbertson

Avery Lindmeyer

Steve Morrison

Gregory Nichols

Tera Volk

Tyler, Taylor, Thomas



Lutheran Laymen's League / Young at Heart

LLL/YAH will meet Monday, December 5 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireplace room for pot luck dinner and "white elephant" gift exchange. Everyone is welcome to join us.



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

People Of Christ With The Message Of Hope

Advent Devotions, *Transforming This Christmas*, from Lutheran hour ministries can be found at www.adventdevotions.net.

Written by Pastor Wayne Palmer, LHM's theological editor and writer, these seasonal devotions puts the brightness back into this glorious season. We are reminded it's not about our gift-giving. Rather, it's all about God's Gift-giving: His perfect, sinless Son, born in a manger, to save us and give us life eternal.

Available to read online, to hear as a podcast, or receive as an e-mail subscription throughout the Advent season.

From the Stewardship Committee

Over 2,000 years ago the world received the greatest gift that has ever been given. The angel announced this gift to shepherds who were watching their flocks at night. The message of God's angel explained what a truly remarkable event this was. The angel said: ***“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.”*** Suddenly a great company of heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying: ***“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests.”*** (Luke 2:10-12; 14 NIV)

Those shepherds were never the same again. They went to Bethlehem to see for themselves this great happening. After seeing the Christ child with their own eyes they left in great joy and shared this good news with everyone they met.

On that first Christmas God fulfilled His promise to send a Savior who would rescue His people from their sins. What a blessing for the lowly shepherds to be the first people besides Mary and Joseph to hear about and see this great happening!

Years later the Apostle John by inspiration of the Holy Spirit acknowledged this miraculous gift with one of the most memorable verses in the Bible: ***“God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but shall have eternal life.”*** (John 3:16 NIV) This single verse expresses two things that God delights in doing and those two things are ***loving*** and ***giving***.

Children are richly blessed when they have good and godly parents who bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Children are also blessed when they imitate the positive qualities of their Christian parents.

St. John in the third chapter of his first letter stated: ***“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are.”*** (1 John 3:1 NIV)

What does this say to us as God's stewards of all [including time, money, abilities and much more] that He entrusts to our management? It says this: If we are to grow as children of God we will develop those godly characteristics of our Heavenly Father, namely loving and giving.

Christmas is in the very best sense a gift that keeps on giving. May the Holy Spirit help us to receive this great gift with joy and thanksgiving and respond with growth in loving and giving as God's children! This desire could become an important part of our New Year's resolutions! Wouldn't that make our part of the world so much better?

Have a blessed Christmas and a joy-filled New Year!



Sunday Morning Breakfast

Breakfast will be served Sunday mornings from 8:45 – 9:15. Each group will be collecting a free-will donation to help cover the cost of serving the breakfast. The following groups will be serving in December:

December 4:	Endowment Board
December 11:	Youth Committee
December 18:	Pack 17



Articles for the January VOICE are due by Friday, December 23, at 4 p.m.

Wednesday Night Meals

Meals will be served each Wednesday from 4:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. A free will donation will be accepted. (Suggested donation of \$3 per person.) Choir members, Confirmation students and families, everyone is welcome. Come for a convenient, nutritious meal.

Menu for December:

December 7:	Sub Sandwiches
December 14:	Grilled Cheese
December 21:	Pizza
December 28:	No Meal



Widowed to Widowed

Widowed to Widowed members and the Quilters will meet in the Fireplace room at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, December 12 for potluck and social activities. Nonperishable foods and personal care items will be collected for residents of Welcome Inn. If a ride is needed, call 388-4812.

Hot Meals on Wheels

Hot Meals on Wheels is a caring, community volunteer project. It supports the independence of community members by providing well-balanced meals each weekday. Brochures are available in the Narthex if you would like additional information. If you or someone you know could benefit from this service, please call 387-4079.

They would also welcome additional volunteers to help deliver the meals!

*Celebrate
the Gift*



*Jesus the Savior
is born!*

December 2011

*Women Gathering in Christian Fellowship at Our Savior
Lutheran Women in Mission who are . . .*

*In the Word * Of the Word * Walking with the Lord*

“They will celebrate your abundant goodness and
joyfully sing of your righteousness.”

Pslam 145:7 (NIV)

**ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER, PLAN TO PARTICIPATE WHERE AND
WHEN YOU CAN:**

Thursday, December 1 – Gifts will be delivered to St. Peter Regional
Treatment Center

Thursday, December 1 – (seating at 3:30) 4:00 Christmas at Bethany
Concert/Dinner

Monday, December 5 - 11:30 Christmas Potluck with LLL/YAH

Tuesday, December 6 - Serve S.A.G.E.S. Board

Wednesday, December 7 – Fellowship time following afternoon Advent
worship served by Rebekah Circle

Wednesday, December 7 – NO Executive Board

Thursday, December 8 – 11:30 Ruth Circle Christmas Party at
Number 4

Thursday, December 8 – 12:00 Mary Circle Bible Study, East Meeting
Room at church

Wednesday, December 14 – Fellowship time following afternoon
Advent worship served by Mary Circle

Sunday, December 18 – Mites for Missions. Bring Mite Box

Monday, December 19 – 7 – 7:55 p.m. Lydia Circle Bible Study

Wednesday, December 21 – Fellowship time following afternoon
Advent worship served by Lydia Circle

Wednesday, December 21 – 7 p.m. Mission Service

COMING IN JANUARY 2012:

Wednesday, January 4 – 6:30 Executive Board Meets

Tuesday, January 17 – 6:30 Quarterly Meeting beginning with Fellowship
time and Dessert

GRANT PROPOSALS are due by January 15, 2012.

YOUNG WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES: Application forms are available now to be sent to Zone President by February 1. Apply now to be the YWR at the “Extreme You Makeover” on June 22-24.

ZONE/DISTRICT needs officers.

CARD SHOP: Christmas Cards and napkins now available. Christian Wedding, Anniversary and Birthday cards are available all the time. Individual cards, boxes of cards and other new items are added often. Thanks for your support.

MISSION SERVICE: On November 16 over 60 kits for the homeless and layettes for babies were assembled. Thanks for all the donations. We are blessed to have so many generous people. Thanks, thanks and more thanks as we give God the Glory. Mission Service will meet again on Wednesday, December 21. Helpers are encouraged to come from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thanks also for the prayer supporters. Contact Marcella Eilders, 388-9185, or Rhonda Rastedt, 389-9726, for information.

COME TO A BIBLE STUDY: Come to the one that fits your time schedule. Give a call to the leader. Enjoy the fellowship and study of God’s Word.

Ruth Circle – Joan Peterman, 388-6545, 1st Thursday, 1 p.m.

Mary Circle – Julie Schlichting, 388-7533, 4th Wednesday 2 p.m.

Rebekah Circle – Jean Fiskey, 388-6380, 4th Tuesday, 1 p.m.

Lydia Circle – Kathy Johnson, 344-8609, 3rd Monday, 7 p.m.

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE AND WOM are for all ladies of the church. Large print is also available for the Quarterly.

MITES ARE MIGHTY! MITE BOXES are available in Card Shop.

WOMAN TO WOMEN: KSUM or KDHL on Sundays.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO VOLUNTEER, Kathy Johnson, 344-8609. Registrations for LWML membership, contact our Secretary, Dolly Blomquist, 388-4594 or Marion Brunz, 625-5207.

MUCH MORE LWML INFORMATION on their websites:

www.lwml.org and www.mnslwml.org



Our first priority is to seek the Lord to fill us with His Spirit personally and then we will be able to share his Word in our own families. Yes, home, and then the neighborhood and continue reaching out.

Sometimes it seem as if we are sending the Word to other nations and not using it effectively with our own families and friends.

LWML mission is to assist each of us in affirming our relationship with our Triune God so we are able to share this Good News with others.

Annual Voters' Meeting – Our Savior Lutheran Church November 20, 2011

Call to order: Vice President Garry Streich called the meeting to order at 12:50 PM.

58 voting members were in attendance.

Opening devotions by Pastor Lauer: opened with prayer.

Approval of the minutes: Minutes of the previous voters meeting were approved as submitted.

Pastors' report: Pastor explained that while membership has increased, attendance at services has decreased. Average attendance for most congregations is one third of memberships. Pastor Lauer set a goal to increase our average attendance to 50%. One suggestion was made to have a plan for members to greet new members/visitors and to get to know them. Pastor Lauer suggested that they get to know us as a congregation. Regarding the call for a new associate pastor, the congregation has submitted 4 names and Pastor Seitz has 16 to 17 names. The plan is to call candidates in January at the voters meeting.

Treas.'s report: the end of October update: there're two accounts one is general funds the other is Joyful Response. General banking account has \$36,000 the Joyful Response has \$20,000. There is \$130,000 in dedicated funds, \$50,000 is still owed to the dedicated funds. There is one mortgage of \$190,000 and there are 15 years left on this mortgage.

Board reports: none

Business of the boards:

Question and discussion of the proposed 2012 budget:

Budget for Sudanese ministry has been decreasing, as the goal is for them to stand on their own. They are currently being assisted by three other congregations in nearby towns.

Resolution 11.003: to adopted the 2012 budget. Motion carried to approve the 2012 budget in the amount of \$561,418.00 which is a 2.7% increase over the 2011 budget.

Business of the planning Council: Nominations and elections: The ballot consists of: President: Judd Schultz (Vote for 1); Vice President: Lon Whitehead (Vote for 1); Board of Elders: Roger Schwanke, Pete Preston, Dave Wintheiser, Kirk Yungerberg, Randy Kruckeberg, Cedric Thom (Vote for 6); Board of Trustees Chairman: Larry Willet (Vote for 1) (*Note: Larry will be completing the term vacated by Lee Woelmer and will the term will end after one year.*) Board of Trustees: Gary Schwitzer, Kevin Hauschild (Vote for 2); Endowment Board: Dennis Zellmer (Vote for 1); Board of Education: Phyllis Streich, Kathy Fitzloff, Sam Whitehead (Vote for 3); Board of Deacons: Sue Klute; Vicky Senne (Vote for 2); Council at Large: Dianne Schmidt, Becky Rose (Vote for 2). Motion was made and passed to elect the whole ballot as it stands.

Expression of appreciation: Garry thanked everyone who has served on the board. The new board members will be taking over immediately, but the previous board members will be helping transition them in over the next two months.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM

Closing prayer: Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Taplin

LEFSE KRUMKAKE SANDBAKKLE

The 19th Annual Scandinavian Experience 2011 sponsored by Pathstone Living Auxiliary will be Saturday, December 3 from 9 – 11 a.m. at Pathstone Living on Sibley Park. Baked goods and Scandinavian specialties. Proceeds will be allocated for added amenities for the residents.



Board of Endowment Lot

The Board of Endowment has a lot for sale in North Mankato. It is located at 1794 Leona Drive. This is in a new development in Upper North Mankato with other lots also for sale. The lot is priced at \$50,000 and we would be willing to negotiate the price. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 385-2180 or email to oursav@hickorytech.net and they will put you in touch with someone on the Endowment Board.



Notary Public Commission

Have a document that needs to be notarized? Bring it to the church office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon or 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sue Hendrickson has been appointed as a Notary Public. This service will be provided free of charge to congregation members.

The **VOICE** is now available on our web site: www.oslcmankato.org. Click on the “Monthly Newsletter” menu item on the left. You will then be able to select which issue you would like to view in PDF format. On the same page, you may opt out of receiving the printed version and be notified by e-mail when the latest issue is uploaded. *Want to review something from a previous issue?* The archives will also be available. *Can't wait to read the latest issue?* The Voice will be uploaded to the website before the printed version is in your mailbox. Check it out!



The Voice
Our Savior Lutheran Church
1103 N Broad Street
Mankato MN 56001

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THANK YOU ALL CONTRIBUTORS

STAFF:

Berneice Wilson
Doris Emich
Fern Siebenbruner
Karen Fischer
Mary Eckhardt
Wilma Pehling
Leonard Pehling
Darlene Dumke
Jean Beetsch
Bonnie Bequette
Esther Holle

December 2011

Address Service Requested

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Sunday Matins is aired at 8:03 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. each Sunday on KTOE.</p> <p>Our Savior's Worship Service is aired Monday at 8:15 p.m. and Wednesday at 2 p.m. on CCTV.</p>				1 4:00 Christmas Concert at Bethany	2	3 10:00 Children's Service Rehearsal (Gr. 1-6)
4 8:00 Worship with Communion 8:45 Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Adult Bible Class 9:30 Youth Bible Class 10:30 Worship with Communion 6:00 Worship with Communion	5 6:15 Early Bird Bible Study 11:30 LLL/YAH	6 10:00 S.A.G.E.S. District Board 4:00 Human Care Committee 7:00 All Boards	7 12:30 Christus Choir 1:30 Advent Worship 4:45 Meal 5:00 Kids Praise! 6:00 Advent Worship 6:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Adult Choir 7:30 Christmas Choir 8:00 Peals of Praise 8:30 Christmas Bells	8 12:00 Mary Circle Ruth/Rebekah Circle	9	10 10:00 Children's Service Rehearsal (PreK-6)
11 8:00 Worship 8:45 Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Adult Bible Class 9:30 Youth Bible Class 10:30 Worship 11:30 K-5 Sunday School Staff 6:00 Worship 7:00 Call Committee	12 6:15 Early Bird Bible Study 9:00 Quilting 11:30 Widowed to Widowed	13 1:00 Bible Study 7:00 Planning Council	14 12:45 Christus Choir 1:30 Advent Worship 4:45 Meal 5:00 Kids Praise! 6:00 Advent Worship 6:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Christmas Choir 7:30 Peals of Praise 8:00 Christmas Bells	15	16	17 10:00 Children's Service Rehearsal (PreK-6) 5:30 Pre Service Recital 6:00 Children's Christmas Service
18 8:00 Worship with Communion 8:45 Breakfast / Pack 17 Bake Sale 9:15 Birthday Party for Jesus 9:30 Adult Bible Class 9:30 Youth Bible Class 10:30 Worship with Communion 6:00 Worship with Communion	19 6:15 Early Bird Bible Study 7:00 Lydia Circle	20 6:00 Pack 17	21 1:00 Christus Choir 1:30 Advent Worship 4:45 Meal 6:00 Advent Worship 6:00 Jr. Confirmation 7:00 Christmas Choir 7:00 Mission Service 7:30 Christmas Brass 8:00 Christmas Bells	22 7:00 Evangelism Committee	23 4:00 The Voice Deadline	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 4:30 Pre-Service Recital 5:00 Christmas Eve Worship 6:30 Pre-Service Recital 7:00 Christmas Eve Worship 11:00 Christmas Eve Worship with Communion
25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 10:30 Christmas Worship with Communion *Note* No 8 a.m. or 6 p.m. worship	26 <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i>	27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> 6:00 New Year's Eve Worship with Communion

Serving in December

Date	Elder of the Day	Communion Team		Assistant Usher		Usher Team		Organ-ist	Acolyte		Greeter		Breakfast
		8:00	10:30	8:00	10:30	8:00	10:30		8:00	10:30	8:00	10:30	
12/4/2011	Chris A.	A Early	A Late	Gordy W.	Kurt A.	1st Early	1st Late	Edith	Eric H.; Levi M.	KaNeesha Y; Christina H.	Randy & Becky R.; Matt & Lisa B.	Chuck & Bev F.; Lon & Kathy W.	Endowment
12/7/2011 2nd Wed.in Advent	[6pm] Chris A.			[6pm] Kevin H.		[6pm] 1st Late		Edith	[6pm] Blake K.		[1:30] Chuck & Bev F.	[6pm] Roger & Betty M.	none
12/11/2011	Roger S.			Kevin H.	Dianne S.	2nd Early	2nd Late	Sue	Ben W.; Aaron B.	Bailey L.; Jesse H.	Steve & Kathy B.; Karen S.	Chuck & Bev F.; Bob & Diann B.	Youth Committee
12/14/2011 3rd Wed. in Advent	[6pm] Roger S			[6pm] Gary R.		[6pm] 2nd Early		Sue	[6pm] Aaron B.		[1:30] Bob & Janet T.	[6pm] Roger & Betty M.	none
12/17/2011 Children's Service	[6pm] Everett J.			[6pm] Kurt A.		[6pm] 2nd Late					[6pm] Carl & Kathy F.; Denise P.		none
12/18/2011	Mike B.	B Early	B Late	Gary R.	Steve J.	3rd Early	3rd Late	Sue	Blake K.; Kara B.	Leah H.; Liz T.	Randy & Becky R.; Denise P.	Denise P.; Jo E.	Pack 17
12/21/2011 4th Wed. in Advent	[6pm] Mike B.			[6pm]		[6pm]		Sue	[6pm] Kara B.		[1:30] Erv K.	[6pm] Roger & Betty M.	none
12/24/2011 Christmas Eve	[5p] Roger M. [7p] Chris A. [11p] Gregg M.	[11p] Volun- teer		[5pm] Dianne S.	[7pm] Steve J.	[5pm] 3rd Early	[7pm] 3rd Late	Barb	[5pm] Jesse H.	[7pm] Liz T. [11pm] Elders	[5pm] Russ & Pat J.	[7pm] Chuck & Bev F.	none
12/25/2011 Christmas Day	[10:30am] Chris A.	B Early	B Late	Gordy W.	David B.	4th Early	4th Late	Ruth	[10:30] Thomas F.		[10:30] Lon & Kathy W.; Jo E.		none
12/31/2011 New Year's Eve	[6pm] Roger M.	[6pm] A Early		[6pm] David B.		[6pm] 4th Early		Ruth	[6pm] Elders		[6pm] John & Lu G.		none

Staff

Pastor Rev. Paul A. Lauer Office: 385-2184 Cell: 304-2402	DCE for Music & Education Ruth E. Mackie Office: 385-2183 Home: 389-9780	Visitation Pastor Rev. Mike Hart Cell: 507-316-5830	Secretary Sue Hendrickson Office: 385-2180 Home: 388-3557	Custodian Larry Schultz Office: 385-2180 Home: 387-3930
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Congregational Officers and Elected Board Members

President Judd Schultz 524-4521	Vice-President Lon Whitehead 388-4891	Secretary Jan Taplin 387-1078	Treasurer Matt Brand 389-9088	Financial Secretary Pamella Wilmes 345-3784
Council Members at Large		Board of Trustees		Board of Education
Dianne Schmidt 345-1030	Pete Preston 245-3304	Larry Willett - Chair 387-3645	Denise Painter - Chair 387-4963	
Becky Rose 345-5812	Roger Schwanke 340-6182	Jim Clark 387-5970	Phyllis Streich 625-5235	
Kathy Whitehead 388-4891	Matt Rottermond 317-8337	Larry Dalluge 625-7128	Sue Eichhorst 388-9227	
Larry Hansen 625-5543	Roger Mielke 345-5842	Mike Fletcher 387-4226	Amy Mack 469-0989	
	Kris Keltgen 385-8130	Gary Schwitzer 382-8333	Kathy Fitzloff 625-7834	
	Bob Brooks 257-3991	Kevin Hauschild 625-6497	Sam Whitehead 388-4891	
	Everett Johnson 720-0264			
	Gary Schuft 625-4714			
	Dave Wintheiser 386-0665			
	Kirk Yungerberg 345-8059			
	Randy Kruckeberg 625-1776			
	Cedric Thom 225-9832			
Board of Endowment Fund			Board of Deacons	
Perry Eimers-Chair 387-1650			Michelle Rottermond - Chair 317-8338	
Dave Kroells 345-4423			Nancy Benson 345-1015	
Denny Zellmer 387-6939			David Neegaard 420-6991	
Dave Borchert 931-1511			Cathy Taylor 387-5958	
Brian Schroeder 625-6153			Sue Klute 387-4841	
Janet Timm 388-9213			Vicky Senne 625-1147	
Jan Eimers 387-1650				

(updated 11/22/2011)