

WORSHIP WITH US!

Thursdays at 6:00pm
Sundays at 8:00am & 9:30am



AUGUST 2013

OUR SAVIOR'S MESSENGER

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Persistent faith—Matt 15:21-28

Parenting is not an easy task. The erosion of moral values in our society today, along with a myriad of increasing pressures upon our children, makes parenting a daunting challenge. This challenge becomes more acute when one of our children is suffering in some fashion. At those times there's nothing we won't do in order to help our child. We face these moments with a sense of persistence and determination looking for a source of help or relief from that which afflicts our child.

We see this kind of persistence in the Canaanite woman in Matthew 15:21-28. She is a beautiful example of persistence as she seeks help for her child. This mother is desperate to find help for her demon-possessed daughter. It would seem quite likely that she has sought help from every possible source, but to no avail. I would imagine that this mother was at her wits end, but she had not given up hope. She has reason for hope; her hope comes through Jesus Christ.

She cried out to Jesus, "**Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering from demon possession.**" Initially Jesus didn't answer. As a matter of fact, he fails to acknowledge her until the disciples complained about the woman's persistence. At that point Jesus spoke in a way that might be perceived as rather harsh. He said, "**I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.**" It's difficult for me to understand how this mother must have felt at this moment—all of her hopes were in Jesus and yet all of his time and energy were seemingly directed elsewhere. At first it appeared that he was no different than his disciples who wanted this foreigner hushed up and sent away. The Canaanite woman has faith and though she endures silence and what could seem like ridicule, she patiently waits for Jesus to respond to her cry for mercy.

There are times when we must wait patiently for our Lord to answer our prayers—I realize that's always easier said than done. At times the Lord's silence in

answering our prayers may go on for days, weeks, months, or longer. It's during this period of waiting that our faith is tested. We may find ourselves wanting to give up; and yet Jesus encourages us to be persistent in our prayers for his mercy and help.

In the midst of the silence, our Lord speaks to us in a gentle whisper—through the gentle whisper of his Holy Word and Holy Sacraments, reminding us that we have the promise of his continual presence and the certainty of forgiveness, life, and salvation. As God speaks to us through these means we find a sense of patience and persistence in our prayers. God working through his Word and Sacraments brings us the peace of God that surpasses all human understanding. And then according to the God's will and timetable he answers our prayers.

Jesus didn't answer the Canaanite woman's prayer so that he could have some peace and quiet. He answered her prayer and answers our prayers so we can have his peace and hope—no matter what the outcome might be.

God's Blessings and peace as you remain persistent in faith.

Pastor Marcus Powers

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS RESUME

It's important for all of us to learn God's Word. Through our study and discussions about the Word, God gives us the strength necessary to stand our ground against the devil. Ongoing Christian education is a vital tool in that struggle.

Our Savior's Sunday school will start classes on Sunday, September 8th at 9:15am. Look for registration information in the mail!

Bible Classes will start on Sunday, September 8th and Monday, September 9th.

Treasurer's Report June 2013



Financial Report

	<u>June 2013</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income		
Offerings	\$ 23,295.43	\$ 129,893.99
Building Fund	1,607.00	11,229.51
Other	<u>1,206.20</u>	<u>(8,416.31)</u>
Total Income	<u>\$26,108.63</u>	<u>\$132,707.19</u>
Expenses		
Missions and Outreach	\$ -	\$15,550.00
Salaries and Benefits	10,382.02	27,469.57
Mortgage Payments	1,942.00	15,901.70
Christian Education	133.29	1,973.19
Office and Maintenance	2,537.68	26,818.52
Other	<u>3,889.49</u>	<u>16,738.73</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 19,684.48</u>	<u>\$ 104,451.71</u>
Net Income (Expense)	<u>\$6,424.15</u>	<u>\$ 28,255.48</u>

Loan Progress Report

Principal Balance at 8.10.07	\$ 190,000.00
Less: Principal Pmts to Date	<u>(133,899.98)</u>
Principal Balance at 6.28.13	<u>\$ 56,100.02</u>

·The building loan has been refinanced at an interest rate of 4.875%, fixed for 10 years at a monthly payment for \$950.
 ·The Church Council has decided that the monthly loan payment should match the monthly contributions whenever giving is greater than \$950.

"We give Thee but Thine own,
 Whate'er the gift may be;
 All that we have is Thine alone,
 A trust, O Lord, from Thee."

"And we believe Thy Word,
 Though dim our faith may be:
 Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
 We do it unto Thee."
 (LSB 781)

In Sincere Appreciation

Linda and I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the 20th anniversary celebration of my ordination and installation that took place here at church on June 21st. We were overwhelmed with your many expressions of love and kindness. The cards, gifts, and prayers were appreciated.

Be assured, you are in our prayers daily as we thank the Lord for the opportunities that are given to worship, serve and share Jesus' love and forgiveness with you and within our community.

We don't what the future has in store for us, but we do know who holds the future--Jesus Christ! Living in His love and forgiveness we can know the joy of His salvation in each day. May it be that certain promise that brings you the peace of God that goes beyond all human understanding.

In Christian love,

Pastor Marcus and Linda

This-N-That

- Parents of CEP students are reminded of the upcoming CEP orientation meeting on **Wednesday, September 4th at 6:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. You and your child will need to be in attendance to meet with your child's teacher in order to understand the expectations for the coming year. Keep in mind; CEP classes begin on **Wednesday, September 11th at 3:30 p.m.**
- Just a reminder that the **first day of Sunday School** will be on **September 8, 2013**. We invite young and old alike to join us for this time of spiritual feeding. Jesus said, "Man [woman and child] does not live on bread alone, but on every living word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt 4:4).
- The initial adult Bible study to be offered by Pastor Powers will be entitled, "**Why Marriage Matters.**" This short study (2 sessions) is timely because of the ongoing challenges that face the Christian community in regard to God's design for marriage. It's important for Christians to articulate clearly what Scripture says. This Bible study is designed to help with that process. Please join us on **Sunday, September 8, 2013, at 9:15 a.m.** in the lower Fellowship Hall as we feed both body and soul. (Note: this class is also offered on Monday at 10:00 a.m.)
- **The dedication of our Sunday School and Christian Education staff** will take place at the early service on **Sunday, September 8, 2013** We

hope that you'll join us as we ask the Lord to bless our efforts of teaching God's Word and to bless our teachers, support staff, and those who administer the ongoing program of Christian education.

- Our **thanks for a job well done** to those who have been so diligent over the spring and summer months to help care for the outdoor landscaping!

WORSHIP BY THE SHORE

The Social Activities Group will be sponsoring a worship service and cook-out at Deland Park on August 25th. **Please note:** There will be **NO worship service at church that Sunday** and we will only have a worship service at Deland Park at **10:30 a.m.** with cook-out to follow.

Ticket sales will begin starting Sunday, Aug. 2nd and end Sunday, Aug. 18th, before and after each worship service. Tickets will be sold at the Thursday, Aug 8th service only. We ask that you please purchase tickets in advance so we know how many to plan for but if you don't we will have a limited amount of extra food.

Ticket prices are: \$5.50 for a single hamburger or brat meal or \$6.50 for Dbl. hamburger, brat or chicken sandwich meal. All meals include: your sandwich, beans, potato salad and drink. Beer will be sold separately for \$2.00 a can.

We are also asking for donations of bars, cookies, cupcakes or cakes. Please sign up on the pad in the narthex if you're willing to help out.

Why not plan a "fun family day" at the beach and enjoy the fellowship of your brothers and sisters in Christ? Please plan on attending the "Worship by the Shore" on Sunday, August 25th, starting with worship at 10:30 a.m. with cook-out to follow.

Also, please remember to bring **a lawn chair** for the worship service.

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Social Action Group: Robyn Bemowski - 803-0958; Linda Fleck - 452-7484; Gail Hajenga - 457-7561; Marilyn Heling - 458-5336; Nannette Neerhof - 564-2765; Marijo Pitsch - 457-2974, Jane Woodard - 459-8965, Dawn Brauer - 457-5321, Jean Brauer - 918-1119 or Kelly Jaeger - 457-5175.

CEP Parent Orientation Meeting

Preparations are being made for another year of the Christian Education Program (CEP) at Our Savior's.

A special CEP Orientation will be held on **Wednesday, September 4th at 6:00 p.m.** This meeting is **MANDATORY** for all students and at least one parent must be present before your child can start CEP on September 11th. At this meeting you will meet individually with your child's CEP teacher review the class requirements for your child's grade. Also, registration forms and fees must be completed and paid at the orientation and the 2013-2014 handbook will be distributed. All information forms and fees were sent out to all CEP homes in mid-August.

In addition to the evening meeting, we are planning a special presentation for all 5th graders and new students at the **10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, September 8th**. During the service Pastor Powers will ask all 5th grade students and any new students to come forward to receive their 'Faith Alive' Bible and Luther's Small Catechism. Following a blessing of the Bibles and catechisms, the Board of Christian Education will distribute the books to all students. These tools will be used through all four years of CEP

Our CEP staff looks forward to working with you and your child(ren). As we work together (and that's the key) we know that Christ will bless our Christian Education Program at Our Savior's. See you there!

Update on Church Rummage Sale

Neat Repeats has graciously agreed to pick up the leftover items from our rummage sale. They do not take the following items: TVs, computers, car seats, large appliances, and anything with Freon in it like dehumidifiers. Therefore, we will not be accepting those items for our sale either. If you donate a small appliance like a blender or mix master or such, please make sure they work and are cleaned before dropping them off. We will again be accepting wearable, clean clothes for all age groups.

You can begin to bring items to church on August 15th. It would be very helpful for storage purposes if you could box up items so they can stack easily. Clothes can be put in large garbage bags which will also stack nicely.

The sign up sheet for the sale will be available at the end of August. All skill levels are needed. If you can sit in a chair, we have something for you to do—you can be the room watcher for different locations. If you are good with numbers and working with money, you can be a cashier. If you are good at organizing, you would be

extremely helpful the days we are setting up. We are blessed with a number of wonderful individuals in our congregation who have volunteered to head up the kitchen, frying, and bake sale areas of the sale, but many more helpers are needed in preparation for the sale and the days of the sale. Please consider helping. Sale dates/times are Friday, October 18 from 1 to 5 PM (no brat fry on this day) and Saturday, October 19th from 8 AM to 3 PM. If you have any questions, please contact me at 457-2658. Thanks! Clara Murphy

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WRAP-UP

Another fun and successful Vacation Bible School has ended. There were 281 students and about 140 volunteers. Our congregation registered 9 children (6 members and 3 non-members). Three members registered on site the first day. The children enjoyed a puppet show, a video, and a presentation from a sheep (Pastor Hartman from Bethlehem) and a sparrow. They decorated birthday cupcakes and dove cookies. They also made sheep from marshmallows and pretzels and made a pudding parfait with fruit. Crafts included a puppet nativity set, a crown, a prayer scarf, sheep mask and Styrofoam sheep. Games included Baptism Beanbag, Stable the Animals (a race game), Sheep Relay Obstacle Course, and Crown the King (a picture building game). Pictures can be found on the church website (www.oslcsheboygan.com)

NOTES FROM THE PARISH NURSE

Dear Friends in Christ:

One of the breakout sessions I attended at the annual Parish Nurse conference addressed the issue of childhood obesity. The statistics are overwhelming. The 1980 rates vs. today for different age groups show how much the percentage has grown: 2-5 yo from 5% to 13.9%, 6-11 yo from 6.5% to 17%, and 12-19 yo 5% to 17.6%. 18% of all children are obese. The definition of obese means being overweight to the point that it leads to major health problems. It is predicted that this generation will probably die before their parents.

The major health concerns involve neurological (brain), cardiac (heart), endocrine (hormone-producing organs), musculoskeletal (muscles and bones), renal (kidney), gastrointestinal (stomach and bowels), pulmonary (lungs), and psychosocial (self-esteem).

Defining the problem includes the "supersize me" attitude and the empty calories consumed (soda, sports drinks, etc.) "gamification" (video games), school budgets, less active time (more time in cars, video games and snacking), screen time (estimated that 6 months olds to 6 year olds watch at least 2 hours/day), and home environment (mindless snacking).

Some of the solutions identified would be to turn off the TV, vacations with physical adventures, sit-down meals, healthier options at church picnics and gatherings, and community gardens (this can involve Sunday school children).

As of now, obesity is the #2 preventable death (#1 is cigarette smoking) but is predicted to become #1 in the near future!

Resources for information:

www.cdc.gov

www.sesamestreet.org (click on top "Topics & Activities" then "Tool Kits")

www.nhlbi.nih.gov (click on "We Can!" from column on left)

www.choosemyplate.gov

Blood Pressure Screenings

August 4th – 7:30-9:30am in the Lounge

OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays – 3:00-5:00pm

Thursdays – 4:00-5:55pm

Prayerfully submitted:

Deb Kuitert, Parish Nurse

Pastoral Acts

Funeral

Mr. Roger Hering

Age: 80

Died: June 16, 2013

Laid to Rest: June 20, 2013

Baptisms

Wesley David Powers

Son of Drew and Malissa Powers

June 9, 2013

Auibryenn Faith Andrews

Daughter of William Andrews and April Wilterdink

July 28, 2013

MEMORIAL GIFTS

\$50.00 in memory of Ted Zimmermann

\$375 in memory of Melvin Larson towards the organ fund

August 2013

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

452-4005

oursavior917@sbcglobal.net

oslcsheboygan.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 7:30-9:30am Blood Pressure Screening 8:00am Divine Worship with Communion 9:30am Divine Worship	5 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse 6:30pm Board Meetings	6 7:00pm Scouts	7	1 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	2	3
11 8:00am Divine Worship 9:30am Divine Worship with Communion	12 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse 6:30pm Council	13 7:00pm Scouts	14 9:00am Quilters	15 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	16	17
18 8:00am Divine Worship with Communion 9:30am Divine Worship	19 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse	20 7:00pm Scouts	21	22 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	23	24
25 10:30am Worship at the Shore at Deland Park followed by cook-out NO 8:00 WORSHIP	26 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse	27 7:00pm Scouts	28	29 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	30	31