

1

WORSHIP WITH US!

Thursdays at 6:00pm with Communion
Sundays at 8:00am & 10:30am
9:15am Sundays - Family Bible Hour for ALL
ages

JANUARY 2014

OUR SAVIOR'S MESSENGER

Vol. 51 No. 1

Telephone 452-4005 ♦ e-mail oursavior917@sbcglobal.net ♦ oslcsheboygan.com

The Power to Change!

Happy New Year! The beginning of 2014 is a great opportunity for us to reflect upon the past. As we look back, we see that there are things in life that we'd just as soon change; however, change is not always easy and typically comes with much struggle. I believe this struggle is for a good reason. It's in the midst of our struggles that we grow in faith and trust in the Lord.

As you look back over the past year ask yourself: Is there anything about my relationship with Jesus that I'd like to change? What kind of struggles have I been dealing with in my spiritual life and walk with the Lord? Have I worshipped the Lord as often as possible? Have I been as faithful to the Lord as He has been to me? In the last year, in the midst of my illness, did the Lord respond and bring healing? Did I remember to give Him thanks? If healing wasn't the answer, did the Lord give me the strength to deal with my trouble? What was the high point in my life in this past year? What was the low point? Through it all was the Lord faithful to sustain and keep me?

How'd it go for you? Were you honest as you answered the above questions? No doubt all of us have numerous things we'd like to change when it comes to our relationship with the Lord.

In truth, the life of a Christian is one of constant change. We are called to become more 'Christ-like' in our daily lives. But as we looked back, no doubt we discovered that we're not very 'Christ-like' at times. A change is needed and this is where the struggle begins.

For many there is a significant area of life that needs to change, that's the life of regular worship. It may have begun with a brief illness, a struggle in your personal life, or travels may have taken you away from the routine of worship. Gradually, you found yourself occupied with other priorities and your worship life faded. This scenario is so subtle that we're not always aware of this change.

If you've been absent from the Lord's house for several Sundays, months, or longer the beginning of a New Year is a great time to renew your commitment for regular worship with your faith family.

Our worship life is one avenue the Holy Spirit uses to feed the faith that was given in the waters of Baptism. Through the Word and the Lord's Supper we have a source of power that enables us to make changes that lead to a God-pleasing life.

It's my prayer that as you begin this New Year you will recall the One who is the source of your strength in times of trial and trouble—Jesus Christ, and as you do, His Spirit will empower you to respond in a renewed life of worship.

God's Blessings in this New Year and always,

Pastor Powers

Voters' Meeting

Financial Information— November 2013

Financial Report

	<u>Nov. 2013</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income		
Offerings	\$ 18,749.31	\$ 224,490.28
Building Fund	2,738.54	18,649.66
Other	<u>2,941.16</u>	<u>(12,969.96)</u>
Total Income	<u>\$24,429.01</u>	<u>\$230,169.98</u>
Expenses		
Missions and Outreach	\$ 4,666.70	\$ 27,966.67
Salaries and Benefits	12,260.09	51,781.05
Mortgage Payments	7,695.09	30,903.79
Christian Education	599.09	6,277.50
Office and Maintenance	4,740.90	43,563.19
Other	<u>8,667.96</u>	<u>38,978.30</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 39,429.83</u>	<u>\$ 199,470.50</u>
Net Income (Expense)	<u>\$(15,000.82)</u>	<u>\$ 30,699.48</u>

Loan Progress Report

Principal Balance at 8.10.07	\$ 190,000.00
Less: Principal Pmts to Date	<u>(147,826.40)</u>
Principal Balance at 10.28.13	<u>\$ 42,173.60</u>

·The interest rate is 4.875%, fixed for 10 years and the monthly payment of \$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)

The church council would like to encourage everyone to attend the first quarterly voters' meeting held on **January 19th between services in the Church**. All confirmed members 18 years and older are voting members of the church, and have the privilege of being part of the decision-making process of the congregation.

At this meeting, reports will be given by the various boards on the past year's activities. Please set aside time for this important and informative meeting.

OUR SAVIOR'S MISSION STATEMENT

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, is a family of believers growing together in faith as we joyfully **worship** the Triune God-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we willingly **serve** our Lord Jesus Christ and **share** his love with others.

CHURCH OFFICERS INSTALLATION

Our **newly elected and re-elected officers and board members will be installed at the late service on Sunday, January 5, 2014.** We appreciate the eagerness you've shown for service to the Lord and others by allowing your name to stand for nomination. God grant you faithfulness and strength as you serve Him.

On behalf of all members, I'd like to thank those officers and board members who have served the Lord and our congregation during the past year. Your time and talents are a gift from the Lord and you have willingly used them for God's purposes and His glory. Thanks for a job well done!

Pastor Powers

THANK YOU

Linda and I would like to express our sincere gratitude to those members who remembered us with cards, gifts and prayers this Christmas season. Your kindness and generosity is truly a reflection of Christian faith active in love. We pray the Lord will continue to keep you in his grace and abundantly bless you during this New Year.

Additionally, we thank the Lord for the privilege of serving the people of Our Savior's and we look forward to ongoing opportunities for sharing the Good News that a Savior has been born for you; He is Christ the Lord.

In Christian love and service,

Pastor Marcus Powers

"I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus."
(1 Cor. 1:4)

Thank You!!!

As one year ends and another begins, we look back and reflect on the past year. Our Savior's has been truly blessed by the countless hours of volunteers that we know of and those who quietly work behind the scenes. We thank all of you, known and unknown! **Thank You to**

- All who donated and helped with the soup and sandwich suppers. It was delicious!
- Our Savior's Sunday school children for their participation in the Children's Christmas Service.
- All our Sunday school teachers and staff for their time and talents used for the Children's Christmas Service and your weekly commitment to teach the Gospel.
- Those who put together the Christmas treat bags and refreshments after the Children's Service.
- The Decorating Committee for their talents and time to beautify our building.
- The Church Choirs, choral and hand bell, our directors, instrumentalists, and vocalists who enhance our worship services.
- Our ushers for their ongoing service to the Lord and for helping to keep things running smoothly.

- The Food Pantry Committee for showing the love of Christ in helping to gather and distribute items for seasonal food baskets.
- Our Social Action Group for promoting opportunities of fellowship and service within the congregation.
- The Altar Guild for their devotion in helping with the Lord's Supper each week.
- The church secretary, Kory, for her dedicated work and service to the Lord.
- Our custodians, Bill and LouAnn Stroo, and countless others who keep our facility in top-notch shape.
- All church board members who work so hard to keep our church functioning.
- Not least of all, our Lord, for enabling each of us to use our time, talents, and treasures for His Kingdom work. We thank you Lord!

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please stop in the lounge in the back of the narthex to pick up your packet following worship services, if you haven't done so. We hope you will assist us in this process by picking up your offering envelope packet as soon as possible. Your 2013 year – end financial statement that will be mailed to your home in mid-January.

Additionally, for those who are interested in giving your regular offerings by electronic funds transfer, there is a program available for you called "**Simply Giving.**" If you would like to consider this method for your offerings, please contact the church office (452-4005) for information and an application form. There is no cost to you for this service.

Pastoral Acts

Baptism

Miles Keith Knoebel
Son of Brian and Alissa (Roe) Knoebel
December 1, 2013

FUNERALS

Mr. Anthelm Cyr
Age: 86
Died: November 30, 2013
Laid to Rest: December 3, 2013

Mr. James Hoerz
 Age: 80
 Died: November 29, 2013
 Laid to Rest: December 5, 2013

Mr. Harold Pantel
 Age: 101
 Died: December 21, 2013
 Laid to Rest: December 26, 2013

MEMORIAL GIFTS

\$325 in memory of Deb Richards towards the organ fund

FLOWER CHART POSTED

The flower chart for 2014 is in the narthex, next to the ushers' room in the cabinet. Members wishing to donate flowers are asked to select a date by placing their name on the appropriate line. Flowers may be given to the Glory of God in observance of special events, anniversaries, birthdays, many blessings or in memory of Christian loved ones.

The flowers are supplied by Caan's Floral Co. The cost of for the two vases is \$26.00 and the centerpiece is \$24.00. Kory will contact each donor about mid-week before the specified Sunday to determine the occasion for acknowledgment in the Sunday bulletin.

On your Sunday, simply place the amount for the flowers in a plain envelope marked "Altar Flowers" with your name, on it in the offering plate.

PLEASE NOTE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

1. We appreciate the tremendous response of our people over the years to beautify the chancel altar with flowers. However, we can only accommodate so many donors per Sunday, so note carefully the designated spaces, and do not add your name when spaces are full!
2. It is the responsibility of the donor to pick up the flowers in the chancel immediately following the late service. If this is not possible, you may get them on Monday morning.
3. All flower payments should be made no later than the Sunday the donor selected.

Thanks again to all our people for this extra loving act.

A BIG THANK YOU FOR ALL THE DONATIONS:

We want to express our appreciation for your generosity in support of this year's Giving Tree for the Salvation Army. Your generosity directly benefited many families. Thank you again for the many, many donations which meant so much to the Social Action Group but even more to The Salvation Army. Thank you from all of us.

Wishing everyone a blessed 2014,

The Social Activities Committee

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES GROUP SPONSORING A SLEIGH RIDE

Jingle Bells,
 Jingle Bells,
 Jingle all the Way,
 Oh what fun, it is to ride
 In a one horse open sleigh!

Come and have a Winter Wonderland Sleigh Ride
 On **January 18th from 6:00-10:00pm**
 at Bulitz Farm - N6327 Range Line Road - Kohler

Cost is \$8.00 per person and a dish to pass.

Please sign up by Jan. 12th in the back of the narthex of number of attending and the dish you will be bringing. Any questions please contact Kelly Jaeger at 917-9449.

Mary Martha Guild News

The Mary Martha Guild met for its annual Christmas party at Rupps on December 3rd. We were fortunate to be seated in the privacy of the Fireplace Room with its many Christmas decorations and the ambiance of Christmas music in the background. Each member ordered and paid for her own lunch and we enjoyed a \$5 gift exchange.

We enjoyed a reading by Linda Powers of "A Christian Christmas Tree" which told of many ornaments that reflected reminders of the early developments of our faith and as she read, members of our group put these ornaments on a Christmas

tree. As she finished, the lights of the tree were lit to boldly proclaim that JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. The various colors serve to remind us that the various people of the world, all unique and different, reflect the LIGHT OF CHRIST.

It was truly an inspirational program and left us with a warm feeling of fellowship with which to begin our Christmas season.

Parish Nurse News

Dear Friends in Christ:

New Year's blessings!

- Diverticular disease (small pouches [diverticula] along the wall of the large intestine [colon] is common in people by age 60. It is estimated that 60% of Americans have by age 60 and the percentage climbs with age.
- It is most commonly found during exams done for screening for polyps and colorectal cancer but some learn of it after a painful attack caused by the inflammation of the pouches. It can usually be treated successfully but complications can occur which require hospitalization or surgery.
- Some of the causes include: lack of dietary fiber, lack of exercise, obesity and aging.
- The most prominent symptoms are pain and tenderness in the lower left abdomen; the pain is intense and comes on suddenly. There may also be fever, nausea, constipation or diarrhea and occasionally urinary problems. Painless rectal bleeding may be noted not associated with inflammation and pain.
- Treatment may include antibiotics and a liquid diet. If symptoms worsen or don't improve within 2 to 3 days or if it's difficult

to take fluids by mouth, prompt reassessment is needed.

- Surgery is warranted when the pouches become infected and pus-filled. They can rupture into the abdominal cavity, causing peritonitis, bowel obstruction or an abnormal connection (fistula) between the colon and another organ. A portion of the affected colon may need to be removed and then the healthy ends are reconnected. A colonostomy (temporary opening for stool to exit the body) may be needed while healing takes place.

- It is recommended that men and women over age 51 get 30 grams and 21 grams of fiber daily, respectively. There is no evidence that foods such as seeds, nuts or popcorn increase the risk of diverticulitis.

- Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, beans and legumes for dietary fiber. You may also use a supplement such as Citricel or Metamucil to boost fiber intake.

(Info taken from May Clinic Health Letter – December 2013)

Prayerfully submitted,

Deb

Blood Pressure: 7:30-10:30am, January 5th.

Office Hours: Mondays, 3:00-5:00pm
Thursdays, 4:00-5:55pm

Rummage Sale 2014

As you are putting your Christmas decorations away, sort out those unwanted items and put them in your rummage sale box. It is often difficult to do any sorting prior to Christmas because of the demands on your time. With the cold winter and limited outdoor activities, sorting time is easier to come by. Perhaps you will have time this winter to go through your closet or all of those boxes you have ignored in the basement for years. Remember the old saying: "One person's trash is another person's

treasure." And those treasures will help reduce our debt. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mike Feudner or Clara Murphy. Thanks for your continued support!

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH NEWS

January 2014:

January begins a new year. With a new year comes a new journey. The earth will once again travel around the sun. Are we ready for this journey? How should we approach it? Should we be eager or worried? We have no idea what might happen in the weeks, months and year ahead. We don't know what will happen to our families and friends or what will happen to us. Whatever happens there is no need to worry. God already knows what will happen.

Psalm 139 verse 16 says: "your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." Before we were born our heavenly father knew exactly what we would experience everyday of our lives.

It should be a comfort to us that we have an all-powerful and all-knowing God. Our God also loves us because he sent his only Son to die for us. He can take care of big problems like sin, death, and the devil. He can also take care of all the problems we may run into in 2014. One day we will continue to care for us in His perfect heavenly home.

As we begin this new year, remember that God who created the universe and knew us before we were formed is with us every day.

Salvation Army Update:

Thank you to all of you who supported the youth fundraising efforts this year. Between the Brat Fry, Bake Sale and Penny War we raised over \$900.00. This allowed us to buy \$90.00 worth of presents for 10 children in our community. The youth had a blast buying the gifts and are looking forward to this activity again next year.

The youth will be having a lock-in here at church on Friday, January 17-18th. The theme will be superheroes and we will learn more about the greatest superhero of all, Jesus.

The Sunday School children will sing their praises to the Lord at the late service on Sunday, January 19th. There will be an activity for the children after.

Look for information upcoming about an event at Blue Harbor in February.

Happy New Year to you all!!

Brett Meulbroek
Our Savior's Youth Coordinator
oslc youth coordinator@gmail.com
(920) 207-6528

Our Savior's Night at Lutheran High

As a small thank you for the support Our Savior's gives Lutheran High School by being a member of the Lutheran High School Association, all members of will be admitted free of charge to the February 6th girls' basketball game against Elkhart Lake.

The JV game starts at 5:50pm and Varsity starts at 7:30pm.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church – 452-4005 – oursavior917@sbcglobal.net – oslscheboygan.com

4 Dec 2013

~ January 2014 ~

Feb 2014 ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 OFFICE CLOSED. HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2 NO THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP	3	4
5 7:30-10:30am Blood Pressure Check 8:00am Divine Worship with Communion 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Divine Worship	6 10:00am Bible Class 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse 6:30pm Board Meetings	7 12:30pm Mary Martha 7:00pm Scouts	8 9:00am Quilters 3:30pm CEP 5:30pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	9 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	10	11
12 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30 Divine Worship with Communion	13 10:00am Bible Class 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse 6:30pm Council	14 7:00pm Scouts	15 3:30pm CEP 5:30pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	16 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	17 YOUTH LOCK IN	18 6:00-10:00pm Sleigh Ride at Bulitz Farm
19 8:00am Divine Worship with Communion 9:15am Voters' Meeting 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Divine Worship	20 10:00am Bible Class 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse	21 7:00pm Scouts	22 3:30pm CEP 5:30pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	23 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	24	25
26 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Divine Worship with Communion	27 10:00am Bible Class 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse	28 7:00pm Scouts	29 3:30pm CEP 5:30pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	30 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	31	Notes: