

# WORSHIP WITH US!

Thursdays at 6:00pm w/Communion  
Sundays at 8:00am & 10:30am  
(Communion 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 8:00am & 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 10:30am)  
9:15am Sundays - Family Bible Hour for ALL ages

FEBRUARY 2014

OUR SAVIOR'S MESSENGER

Vol. 51 No. 2

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## Take Comfort in God's Love

**"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believe in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).**

A member recently told me how her mother was able to see the beauty of God's care in the simple things of life: the sun rising over Lake Michigan, the serenity of a white blanket of newly fallen snow, or the way the Lord washes the earth in the midst of a torrential downfall of rain. Simplicity is really at the heart and core of our Christian faith. John 3:16 is a classic example, as it tells us about God's great love.

This verse tells us that God loved the world. Now, one might wonder how God could possibly love a sinful world like ours, but He did. He loved all the poor miserable sinners so much that He gave his one and only Son. He gave him to pay in full for all the sins of all the sinners, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. You and I are a part of the world for which Christ Jesus gave His holy, precious life. That's the simple message of Good News that God brings to us.

Human reason sees this as foolishness and a stumbling block, believing it's wrong that God should sacrifice His Son to save sinners of all kinds—so that the murderer, thief, adulterer and the like who repent and believe in Him shall not perish; while respectable folks who try to do

what is right are condemned if they do not believe. This is where the Gospel becomes offensive to many, the fact that salvation is entirely by God's grace and not our goodness.

However, it is in this offense of the Gospel that we find God's great glory. The Gospel never demands—it always gives. The Gospel never requires that we meet God halfway—it assures us that He went all the way for us. The Gospel never kills—it always brings life. It brings eternal life to the infant who cannot do any good works and to old sinners, like you and me, who have broken God's Law over and over. The Holy Spirit works through the message of the Gospel to take hold of sinners like Peter, who betrayed the Lord, and the thief on the cross, and brings them to repentance and makes them saints destined for glory. The Gospel always offers hope—the hope of the certainty of eternal life in heaven. You and I are just as despicable and evil as the thief on the cross, and that same Gospel that opened heaven's gates to the thief fills our lives and brings us peace.

That's the basic simple message of God's love, the simple yet surpassingly beautiful Good News that is at the very heart of our Christian faith. May we never grow tired of hearing it but find comfort in it daily and share it eagerly.

In Christian love and service,

Pastor Marcus Powers

**Financial Information—  
December 2012**



**Financial Report**

	<u>Dec. 2013</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
<b>Income</b>		
Offerings	\$ 31,331.06	\$ 255,971.34
Building Fund	1,719.25	20,368.91
Other	<u>7,244.03</u>	<u>(11,405.63)</u>
Total Income	<u>\$40,294.34</u>	<u>\$264,934.62</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Missions and Outreach	\$ 2,333.31	\$ 30,300.00
Salaries and Benefits	17,758.32	58,824.91
Mortgage Payments	2,738.54	33,642.33
Christian Education	665.24	5,582.51
Office and Maintenance	3,502.16	47,065.35
Other	<u>7,871.49</u>	<u>46,849.79</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 35,669.06</u>	<u>\$ 222,264.89</u>
<b>Net Income (Expense)</b>	<u>4,625.28</u>	<u>\$42,669.73</u>

**Loan Progress Report**

Principal Balance at 8.10.07	\$ 190,000.00
Less: Principal Pmts to Date	<u>(150,395.43)</u>
Principal Balance at 1.15.14	<u>\$ 39,604.57</u>

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

**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.

**WORSHIP...SERVE...SHARE**

**COME AND GET IT!!**

Sponsored by



**CEP STUDENTS & PARENTS**

**DATE: Sunday, March 9, 2014**  
**TIME: 11:30am-2:00pm**  
**In the Church Fellowship Hall**

The menu will be:

Steak & Chicken sandwiches,  
Hamburger & Brats, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, chips and variety of desserts and beverages.

**Let's all turn out, support a good cause, and enjoy a tasty "Sheboygan Style" Bratwurst meal. Invite your friends and relatives**

### **Silent Auction Donations for Board of Education Brat Fry . . .**

Donations for Board of Education Brat Fry: Mark your calendars! Sunday March 9th will be the annual Brat Fry/Fundraiser at Our Savior's and we need your help. Donations of new items or gift cards for our silent auction baskets (Crazy About Candy, Movie Night, Wake Up! Breakfast Time) would be appreciated. Members who would like to donate raffle items or theme baskets should contact Kory at the church office.

Ideas: Movie passes, popcorn, movies, popcorn seasoning, any kind of Candy, breakfast items, cereal, coffee, tea, kitchen items! These baskets and other exciting silent auctions items will be up for bid at the Brat Fry. Members with their own basket ideas are welcome as well. Proceeds will be used for CEP and various other youth activities. See you there!

### **Our Savior's Annual Report**

Pastor Powers shared the following information at the annual Voters' Meeting this past month. It included information regarding the Word and Sacrament Ministry at Our Savior's. We rejoice that so many of our people continue to be faithful in their life of worship and participation in the Sacraments. But we also realize that there is always room for continued improvement regarding our commitment to the Lord and His Church. May each of us, motivated by the love of Christ, respond with a life of total commitment to following Jesus.

The total attendance at all worship services held during the past year was 12,571 people. This was a decrease of 1,246 worshippers over the previous year. Communion attendance based upon registrations was 6,413 for our congregational members at worship services during the year. This is a increase of 59 from the previous year.

As of December 31, 2012 the baptized membership for Our Savior's was 790 and communicant membership was 678.

#### Pastoral acts for 2013 were:

##### Funerals - 21

Caroline Beaudry Corsentino	Erma Jentink
Bernice Vanic	Melvin Larson
Herman Rautman	Karl Towsley
Esther Krause	Annie Bersch

Ted Zimmermann  
Donna Hoppe  
Dorothy Wagner  
Carol Huibregtse  
John Giefer  
Tim Cyr  
Harold Pantel

Roger Hering  
Ruth Fischer  
Anita Zachow  
Gary Klumb, Sr.  
Debora Richards  
Jim Hoerz

#### Other Pastoral acts for 2013 were:

Marriages .....	2
Baptisms (children) .....	8
Baptisms (adults) .....	1
Non-member Baptism .....	1
Youth Confirmed .....	6
Adults Confirmed .....	2
Re-Affirmation of Faith ...	1

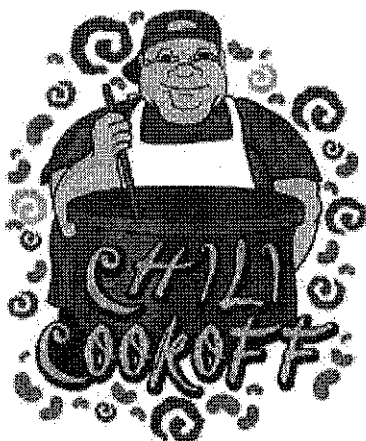
### **Soup & Sandwich Update:**

Thanks to all who came and enjoyed soups and sandwiches during Advent, those who made soup and helped to set up and clean up.

Mum (aka Helen Bergeron) would like to especially thank everyone who so willingly made soup and desserts when she called. She didn't even have to twist any arms! J

We had 3 soup and sandwich nights during Advent and served a total of 107 people and had enough free-will offerings to pay for the sandwich fixins'.

Our next Soup and Sandwich will start on Ash Wednesday, March 5th, at 5 pm and continue each Thursday throughout Lent (March 13, 20, 27, April 3, and the last one being on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for more information.



**OUR SAVIOR'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL  
CHILI COOK-OFF**

**February 23, 2014  
Our Savior's  
Fellowship Hall**

**ALL YOU CAN EAT!!!  
FREE WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN**

So do you think you have a good chili recipe that can't be beat, and you want bragging rights for the next year? Then why not enter Our Savior's "Chili Cook Off" on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Bring your chili to the Fellowship Hall already cooked in a crock pot (5-6 qts.) by 11:00am. Everyone attending will judge who has the best chili. Judging will take place from 11:30am-12:15pm, followed by the eating of the chili. Prizes will be awarded for the top three places, with top prize holding the trophy for a year. Please sign the sign up sheet in the narthex before Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> so we can get a count of who will be attending and for donations of bake goods. You **DO NOT** need to make chili to participate, just come out for a fun afternoon of good food, friends and fellowship. A free-will offering will be taken.

We are also asking for donations of bars and cakes, please sign up in the narthex. Any questions contact Robyn @918-6165

**SIGN UP TODAY!!!!**

**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES GROUP – UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

Back by popular demand! Pizza by Frank Marzano – Please join us for adult fellowship and fantastic pizza catered by Frank Marzano on Saturday, April 5 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. While sharing stories of his Italian heritage and traditions, Frank will take requests and prepare a variety of pizzas – taste as many as you like! Frank accommodates all dietary needs. The cost for dinner (including pizza, salads, and desserts), beverages and tip will be \$15.00 per person. Free babysitting on-site (including free pizza for the children) will also be available. Ticket sales will begin on Thursday, March 6 through Sunday, March 30. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Heling, Ph. 458-5336. Hope you can join us!

**Food Pantry News:**

For the last quarter of 2013 (Oct thru Dec), 9 families (27 people) were assisted with groceries and other items from our Food Pantry. The people either called to come in or came to the church and asked for food. A total of 33 bags of items were given out.

We've been able to keep up with the demand with your response to the need list in the bulletin and newsletters. People are especially thankful for the shampoo, deodorant and toothpaste.

Eleven families of Our Savior's received Thanksgiving Baskets for a Turkey Dinner and other items. Nine families of Our Savior's received Christmas Baskets for a Ham Dinner and other items as well. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who help to deliver these baskets!

Current needs include: soup, canned meat (tuna, Spam pouches, chicken, etc.), shampoo, mac n cheese, canned fruit, jam/jelly, hamburger helpers, etc. Please hold off on bring in pasta, we are set on boxes of pasta for quite a while (the sales and coupons for pasta has been pretty good, I must admit).

On behalf of the recipients, the Food Pantry committee, thank you so very much for your donations of food items, nonfood items and funds to keep the Food Pantry a blessing to all in need. The Food Pantry is open to members and nonmembers

alike. If you would like a "tour" of the pantry, please contact a committee member.

Submitted by Janine Bergeron on behalf of the Food Pantry Committee (Kathy Launer, Janine & Helen Bergeron).

## PASTORAL ACTS

### Funerals

Steven R. Gartman

Age: 56

Died: January 7, 2014

Laid to Rest: January 18, 2014

### A Note from the Parish Nurse

Dear Friends in Christ:

It's February, and most people associate it with the heart, Valentine's Day, Red Dress campaign, etc.

Let's look at help to keep the heart beating regularly. Pacemakers have been around for more than 50 years and technology has advanced so that the devices are smaller, more durable and loaded with more features.

The heart beats because of electrical signals from the sinoatrial (SA) node. When these signals fail caused by aging heart muscles or damage from a heart attack, heart failure or cardiomyopathy (diseases of the heart muscle tissue), sometimes a pacemaker is needed.

The pacemaker is implanted beneath the skin and leads (wires) are inserted into a major vein in the collarbone and guided into your heart.

There are different types and can have one, two or three leads. There are models that have a defibrillator (ICD) implantable cardioverter-defibrillator.

Precautions needed may include keeping your cell phone at least 6 inches away from the pacemakers

and using the opposite ear to talk. Certain test, procedures such as MRI scans may not be recommended, and caution is warranted with radiation therapy, shock wave lithotripsy, surgical procedures, and TENS (transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation).

Anti-theft devices and airport metal detectors. Pacemakers should not be affected in passing through at a normal pace but one shouldn't linger or lean on them. If a security alarm goes off, avoid searches done with a hand-held metal detector. Carry an ID card from your doctor stating you have a pacemaker.

Power-generating equipment. Your doctor can arrange a test at your workplace if there is welding, generators or high voltage transformers at your place of employment to determine if it affects you pacemaker.

Prayerfully submitted,

Deb

Blood Pressure Checks: Sunday, February 2

### Rummage Sale 2014

Did you ever wonder why you keep things? Are the cupboards and shelves bulging and are you wondering where to put your new gifts/purchases? In a recent article entitled "Why you are keeping so much stuff", some suggestions were given:

1. "I might gain the weight back." Admittedly, that is not my number one reason for keeping clothes, but it may be yours. The article cited this as self-defeating thoughts and almost giving yourself a reason to regain the weight.
2. "It was a gift." Why keep something you don't like or won't use? Gifts are given as an expression of love. Would the giver want you to keep something that doesn't make you happy?
3. "I paid a lot of money for it." If you're not using it and you don't enjoy it, it does not belong in your life.
4. "It's a souvenir." If you need space, it is best to prioritize and keep only the most unique

representative pieces of your memories for display or use.

5. "It has great information in it." Most of us have more books, magazines, and crafts than we could consume in a lifetime. Also with the computer age, most information is available with a simple click of the mouse.

6. "It's a keepsake." It is not necessary to keep every picture or scribble your child has made. Keep a bin of mementos and when the bin is full, it is time to sort and keep only your favorites.

7. "I can fit into it when I lose weight." Admittedly, this is probably, my number one. Instead of hanging on to clothes for years, why not remove the non-fitting clothes and pass them on to someone who could use them now. When you do lose weight, reward yourself with clothes that will fit and be in style rather than your outdated ones.

8. "I might need it someday." This is the most common excuse. Ask yourself how likely it is that you'll ever need the item in the future—then let it go if you don't have any firm plans for it. So sort through those closets, shelves, drawers, attics, garages, and boxes. Eliminate some of the clutter in your life and help the church reduce its debt.

Also it is not too early to start thinking of helping with the sorting and sale. The sale will be on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon and all day Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. Sorting and set up will occur the two weeks prior to the event. Your help is needed to make a successful sale. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mike Feudner or Clara Murphy.

### **Sunday School and Youth News**

February 2014 –

Ground Hog Day is February 2<sup>nd</sup> and people wait to see the groundhog come out of its burrow. We wait to see if we will have six more weeks of winter or an early spring.

Can a groundhog really predict the weather? Of course not! But it's a fun story that goes back to the Early Christian Church and a festival called Candlemas. On that day, priests would bless and

give out candles to the people to use for the winter. In Germany, the people would say this poem: "For as the sun shines on Candlemas Day, So far will the snow swirl until the May." They noticed that the hedgehogs were coming out of their burrows that time of the year. If it was a sunny day, the hedgehog saw its shadow on Candlemas, there would be a long winter. Years later, when German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania, there weren't any hedgehogs, but there were plenty of groundhogs!

Whether the sun is shining or not we know that a groundhog doesn't predict how long winter will last. But we do know about a "light" that shines day or night, snow or rain, winter or spring. In the Book of John, we read that in Jesus is life, and that life is the light of all. John wrote, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"

(John 1:5). Jesus is the light of the world. With Him we never walk in spiritual darkness (John 8:12). Jesus has paid for our sins. He forgives our sins and gives us eternal life. And that is the brightest part of the day!

#### Upcoming Youth Events:

Wednesday 2/5 is CEP activity Night: "Blinded by Money" 5:00-6:30. We will be making community advertising signs for CEP Brat Fry.

Sunday 2/9 Prayer Partner Reveal following late service. Lunch will be served.

Sunday 2/16 Sunday school pizza lunch and activity following late service.

Wednesday 2/19 CEP Activity Night "Bring a piece of the meal" 5-6:30 We will be finishing sign making for CEP brat fry.

Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> ASH WEDNESDAY. Youth will be helping with Soup and Sandwich this evening.

Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup> is the CEP Brat Fry.

God's Blessings

Brett Meulbroek  
Our Savior's Christian Education Coordinator

~ February 2014 ~

Mar 2014 >

< Jan 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 7:30-10:30am Blood Pressure Screening 8:00am Divine Worship with Communion 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Divine Worship	3 10:00am Bible Class 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse 6:30pm Board Meetings	4 1:00pm Mary/Martha	5 3:30pm CEP 5:00pm CEP Activity Night 5:30pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	6 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	7	8
9 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Divine Worship with Communion 11:30am Prayer Partner Reveal	10 <b>NO BIBLE CLASS</b> 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse 6:30pm Council	11	12 9:00am Quilters 3:30pm CEP 5:30pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	13 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	14	15
16 8:00am Divine Worship with Communion 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Divine Worship 11:30am Sunday School Activities & Pizza	17 <b>NO BIBLE CLASS</b> 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse	18	19 3:30pm CEP 5:00pm CEP Activity Night 5:30pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	20 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	21	22
23 8:00am Divine Worship 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Divine Worship with Communion 11:30am Chili Cook Off	24 10:00am Bible Class 3:00-5:00pm Parish Nurse	25	26 3:30pm CEP 5:30pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	27 4:00-5:55pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Worship with Communion	28	<b>Notes: March 9th is the CEP Brat Fry.</b>