

WORSHIP WITH US!

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

DECEMBER 2017

OUR SAVIOR'S MESSENGER

No. 11

Telephone 452-4005 ♦ oslcsheboygan.com ♦ e-mail oslcsheboygan@gmail.com

Dear Saints of Our Savior's:

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Christmas is not the celebration of Jesus' birthday. Christmas is the celebration of God taking on flesh in time. We are not just remembering an event that took place a long time ago, we are receiving by faith the Word made flesh in the here-and-now. Here are two reasons for the comfort and joy of what that means.

First, because Jesus is God and Man in one person, He was able to live and die as our Substitute. If Jesus were merely a man, He could have lived a perfect life because He was born of the Virgin Mary, but the salvation He would have earned would have counted only for Himself. But because Jesus is both God and Man – conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, His Father reckons His perfect life as the righteousness mankind needs to merit salvation. As God and Man Jesus could die and therefore His Father would make the punishment He suffered for our sins count as reconciliation between Himself and mankind. Through faith in what God promises, those who believe in Jesus receive the forgiveness, life, and salvation He earned for all.

Second, because Jesus is God made flesh, He interacts with us today tangibly in the ways and places He promises. Because Jesus is the Word made flesh, it is Jesus himself who preaches to us through the pastor's sermons and who absolves us from our sin when we receive in faith the announcement of Jesus' forgiveness. Because Jesus said about His Holy Supper "This is my body... This is my blood" we can be sure that Jesus Himself is present with His gifts whenever we receive His Sacrament.

Christmas means God is with us then, now, and forever. He is not a God far away or in the distant past. He is our Savior who is still among us through His Word and Sacrament to strengthen, guide, and guard us until He comes again in clouds of glory when we will see Him as He is face-to-face, and we ourselves transfigured to be like Him: glorified forevermore.

May God grant you a blessed Advent and Christmas season filled with the joy Christ brought to the world by becoming Immanuel – "God with us."

Pr. Jim Schulz +

CHURCH OFFICERS INSTALLATION

Our **newly elected and re-elected officers and board members will be installed at the 10:30am service on Sunday, January 7, 2018.**

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.

Thank you to 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.



**Social Activities
Group
Sponsoring the
"Christmas Giving
Tree"**

The Social Activities Group has again put up the giving tree. It has been decided that this year's recipient of our generosity will be Mary's Room, a non-profit, non-denominational, pro-life organization that helps to meet the physical needs of mothers and their children in Sheboygan County.

Mary's Room was started in Dodge County by a mother who, after her daughter, Mary, went off to college, used Mary's room to house maternity clothes and baby items for mothers in need. In 1992, three mothers worked together to start a Mary's Room in Sheboygan. The mission of Mary's Room is "to put Jesus' love into action by helping financially needy mothers and their babies."

The items needed are boys and girls winter jackets - sizes 3T and 4T, boys and girls clothing - size 3T and 4T, diapers - size 1 and premie, baby shampoo and baby wash, and pack and plays. Cash will also be collected to go towards pack and plays. Feel free to take more than one ornament off the tree. If you would prefer to donate cash rather than shop, the committee will be glad to do the shopping for you.

All gifts must be under the tree, or cash given to Marijo Pitsch or Jane Woodard (checks written to Marijo or Jane), by Sunday, December 17th. Please do not wrap the gifts. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



**CHRISTMAS CAROLING
sponsored by
The Social Activities
Group**

We will be Christmas caroling this Christmas season on Saturday, December 9th to some of our member's homes and nursing homes.

We will meet at the church parking lot at 3:00pm and going out to carol. After we will go to Dick and Jane Woodard's home for refreshments. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex to let us know you will be attending.

Please mark your calendar for Dec. 9th at 3:00pm to share the birth of Jesus Christ to our shut-ins.



Food Pantry News

Carolyn Kapitz and Jean Brauer have offered to manage and organize the food pantry for Our Savior's members. Any member who needs assistance can contact the church and a time to meet will be set up for them to get items from the pantry. We appreciate your willingness to donate items to the food pantry. In the near future, they will be communicating with the congregation as to what items are needed in the food pantry.

Eight Thanksgiving baskets were delivered to some shut-ins and other identified individuals within our congregation. All were very appreciative of the generosity of their Christian friends to care for their needs. We are in the process of evaluating needs and gearing up for the Christmas baskets. If you would like to sponsor a basket, the cost is \$55 per basket. You can put your donation in a plain envelope and put it in the collection plate. Please label the envelope "Food Baskets". We will also be asking for the donation of individual items as soon as we have had the opportunity to evaluate what is needed. Thank you for your generosity.



Altar Flowers

FLOWER CHART POSTED:

The flower chart for 2018 will be in the narthex, next to the ushers' room in the cabinet, starting November 26.

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.

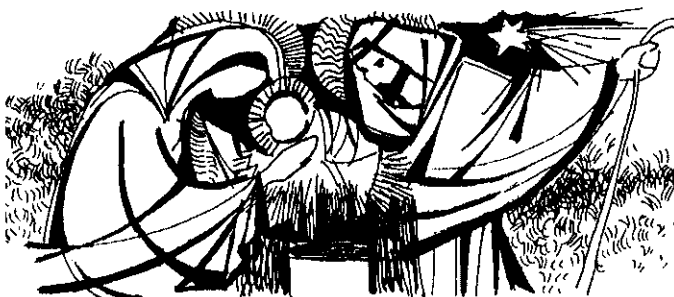
The flowers are supplied by Caan's Floral Co. The cost of for the two vases is \$26.00 and the centerpiece is \$24.00. Kory will contact each donor about mid-week before the specified Sunday to determine the occasion for acknowledgment in the Sunday bulletin.

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.



Mary Martha Report

Pastor Schulz opened our November meeting with a devotion and shared with us details of the life of Fritz Zenk, who served Our Savior's so faithfully all the years of his life and whose funeral was celebrated the day previous to our meeting.

Our guest speaker was Bill Wangemann who spoke to us about many historical happenings in the Sheboygan area over the years. He spoke "off the cuff" and his style proved to be chatty and conversational. He told us of the boiler fire and sinking of the Phoenix in 1847 and the tragic deaths by fire or freezing water of all but a few of the 320 people who managed to escape in the two lifeboats that were carried by the ship. We were told of the sawmill at the far southside of Sheboygan, which became an amusement park. Factories known worldwide included one that made x-ray machines, another that manufactured heavy duty trucks. He spoke of the Kohler Company and the early strike that even today is a touchy subject for many who were involved. He spoke of Christmas letters to Santa during the Depression where one child asked not for toys but for a rope to pull his sled. He also touched on his twenty-two years on the police force and how a loaded shotgun was carried in the front seat of his police car at that time. All was truly interesting and gave many openings for discussion from his audience as we interacted with him and each other.

Our hostesses were Ann Fredericks and Deb Kuitert who decorated the tables with a colorful Thanksgiving décor and served an equally colorful and delicious rainbow sherbet along with a small chocolate éclair.

The committee will host our Christmas party at Rupps in downtown Sheboygan beginning at 11:30am on Tuesday, December 5th. Those wishing to participate in the gift exchange are asked to bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift.

Parish Nurse News

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christmas blessings.

I'm sure many of you have heard about the dangers found in cans. Bisphenol A (BPA) is everywhere. Research shows that tiny amounts can cause subtle changes in fetal and newborn lab animals. If these changes occur in human infants they may increase risks of birth defects, infertility and cancer later in life. To reduce exposure, avoid foods and beverages in cans. "BPA-free" cans may have BPA substitutes that may not be safe either.

Perchlorate and phthalates are also cause for concern. These three compounds are called Endocrine Disruptors. See below for ways to reduce your exposure.

Dodging Endocrine Disruptors

- Check the recycling number on the bottom of plastic bottles and containers. Avoid:
 - No. 3 – Vinyl or Polyvinyl chloride (PVC). It can contain phthalates.
 - No. 6 – Polystyrene foam. (Styrofoam is one popular brand.) It contains styrene, a chemical that the International Agency for Research on Cancer calls a possible human carcinogen.
 - No. 7 – Other. It's mostly polycarbonate, which contains BPA.
- If it's convenient, wash plastic containers by hand, to avoid the harsh detergents and high heat of the dishwasher. If you run them through the dishwasher, put them on the top shelf.
- Use fewer canned foods. The insides of most metal cans are coated with an epoxy resin that contains BPA. The resins used in most "BPA-free" cans may be no safer.
- When possible, microwave in glass or ceramic. If you microwave in plastic, try to avoid using polycarbonate (recycling number 7). And cover the food with a paper towel or a plate, not cling wrap.
- If you keep food in plastic, you're better off with:
 - 1 – PETE
 - 2 – HOPE

- 4 – LDPE

- 5 – PP

- Try not to put very hot liquids or foods into plastic containers.
- Toss scratches plastic containers. They may be more likely to leach harmful chemicals.
- Avoid thermal paper. Thermal printers use heat instead of ink. The paper has a slick, slightly shiny coating that contains BPA. So handle credit card and ATM receipts as little as possible.

Prayerfully submitted,

Deb Kuitert

Blood Pressure Check:
Sunday, December 3rd

Office Hours

Mondays 9:00-11:00am

Thursdays 3:45-5:50pm

Pastoral Acts

Funerals

Mr. Fredrick Zenk

Age: 97

Died: November 2, 2017

Laid to Rest: November 6, 2017

Mr. Donald Schmidt

Age: 74

Died: November 13, 2017

Laid to Rest: November 18, 2017

Wedding

Craig Dekarske and Cheyenne Mohr
November 4, 2017

Memorial Gifts

\$40 in memory of Don Schmidt

CHURCH RECORDS TO CLOSE:

The financial records for 2017 will close on December 31st. To the many faithful members whose weekly offerings throughout this year have been such a blessing for the Lord's work, our Lord says, "Well done good and faithful servant." To those who feel they missed opportunities to participate in Christ's great work through Christian giving, there's still a little time left to give before the year ends! All offerings for 2017 must be in by December 31st.

Offering packets for 2018 are available to all members in the narthex after each worship service starting December 3 or you may come to the church office during office hours and pick them up. But please do not use them until 2018.

Bible study begins December 3: "Heaven and Hell"

Popular misconceptions about the afterlife vary from abject denial to the fanciful. "How can a loving God send good people to hell?" or "Every time a bell rings an angel gets his wings." Join us for a Bible study on heaven and hell to learn what God has revealed to us about the afterlife. The details are terrifying!..... and encouraging! Class is held Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the church basement with a repeat of the Sunday class on Monday at 10:00 a.m.



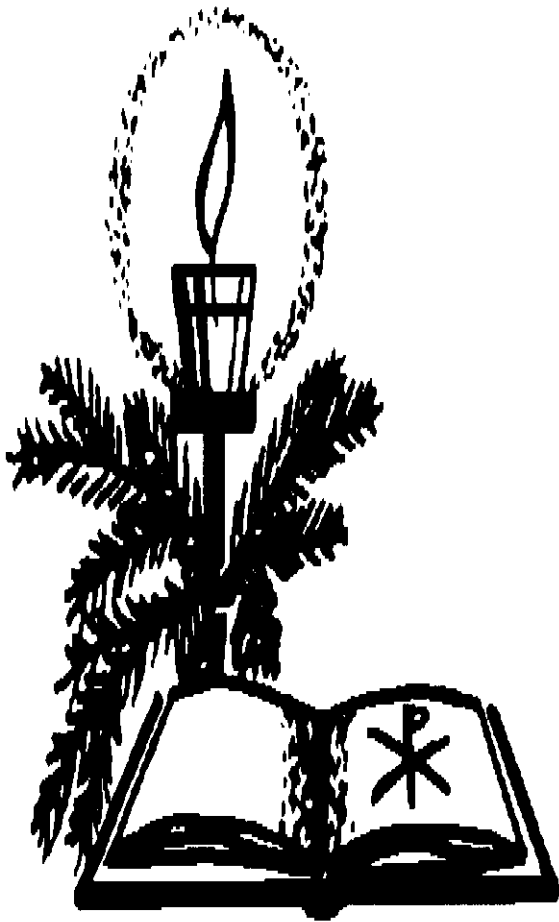
Coming in 2018

Ladies Night Out . . . We will not be meeting in December, but will pick up our once a month gathering in January. We also plan to start a little earlier during the winter months by gathering at 5:30 with the plan to sit down to eat at 6 PM. More news to come after checking with a few restaurants about days of availability. Watch the bulletin for more details to come.

Rummage Sale, 2018 . . . Please start collecting items for the next year's rummage sale. Winter is a good time to clean out closets, basements, and attics. We need your items so begin a box to tuck away items that you find as you do your reorganizing!

Changes to the Newsletter . . . As of January 2018 we will no longer be mailing out Our Savior's monthly newsletters. However, we will continue to mail them to our shut-ins. We are asking the congregation to inform us of a updated or current email address. The monthly newsletter will be sent out VIA email. Please contact the church office at 452-4005, or contact us through the church email at oslcshboygan@gmail.com. Church members without an email address can still pick up a copy in the Narthex while the supply last. As always, the newsletter is always available on the church website. Our goal is to eliminate the extra cost involved and communicate with our members electronically.





Join us for worship!

Advent Season

November 30 & December 3
Savior of the Nations, Come!

December 7 & 10
Comfort, Comfort My People

December 14 & 17
Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!
10:30 Children's Christmas Program

December 21 & 24
O come, O Come, Emmanuel!

Christmas season

Nativity of Our Lord—Christmas Eve
Candlelight service 4:00p and 6:30p

Nativity of Our Lord—Christmas Day
Festival service 9:30a

The Epiphany of Our Lord—January 6th
Live nativity evening prayer service with
international dinner following service 6:00p



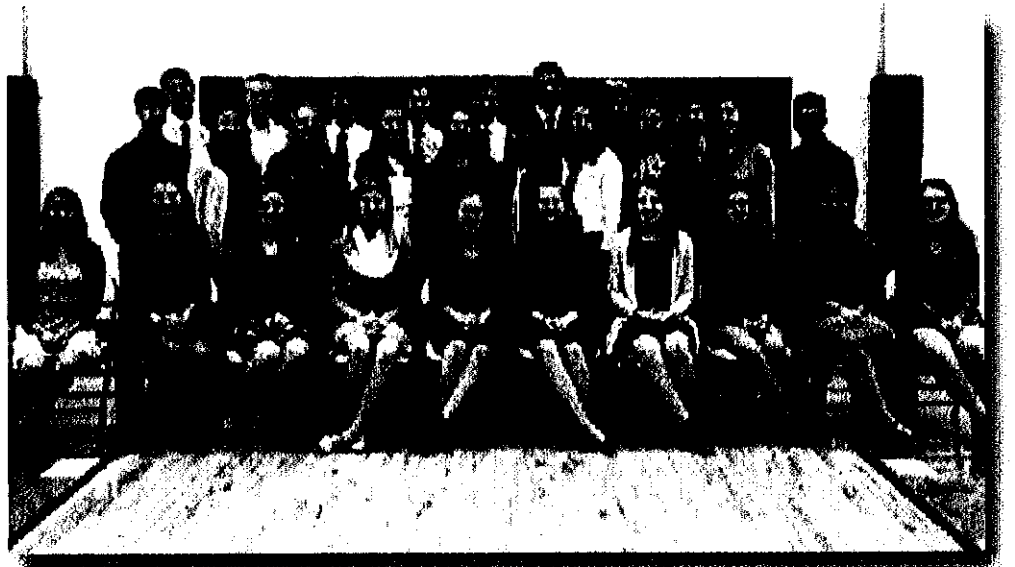
HighLites

"Preparing Christian Leaders – One Student at a Time"

December 2017

National Honor Society

Congratulation to 28 new inductees into our LHS National Honor Society. These Juniors and Seniors were selected by a faculty committee based upon cumulative grade point average and demonstration of Christian character, service and potential leadership qualities.



Twenty-two other students are currently members of the LHS National Honor Society, inducted last semester. The four pillars of the National Honor Society are Scholarship, Leadership, Character, and Service.

These 50 students make up 57% of the junior and senior classes combined.



LHS Christmas Concert



presented by the Lutheran High bands and choirs
Monday, December 11, at 7 p.m.
 in the LHS Gym

Join us for our annual holiday display of musical talent from the Symphonic Band, Chamber Choir, Konzertchor, and Jazz Band.

No admission fee and open to the public. A freewill offering will be collected during the intermission.

Please join us for what promises to be a wonderful night of music and fellowship in celebrating the birth of our Savior.



Neat Repeats Thrift Shop

The shelves are stocked for the holidays. Check out their supply of greeting cards, linens, dishes, artificial trees, lights, and decorations for indoor and outdoor use.

Now accepting MC & Visa!



Store hours:

Mondays: 9:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
 Tuesdays - Fridays: 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Saturdays: 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Closed Sundays
 Located in the Plymouth -
 Commons Shopping Center
 2627 Eastern Avenue, Plymouth
 (920) 892-9100



Lutheran High's Student Leaders of the Month

have been chosen based on their service, behavior, leadership, attitude & academic achievements.

Senior - McKenna Kolb

Trinity Lutheran - Howards Grove

Junior - Naomi Gruben

Trinity Lutheran - Downtown

Sophomore - Anna Ruiz

St. Paul's Lutheran - Sheboygan

Freshman - Lauren Kempf

Trinity Lutheran - Town of Wilson

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 7:30-10:30am Blood Pressure Screening 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Divine Service 11:30am Meet for Memories Theater Trip	4 9:00-11:00am Parish Nurse 10:00am Bible Class 6:30pm Board Meetings	5 11:30am Mary Martha Christmas Party at Ruppus DOWNTOWN	6 3:30pm CEP 5:45pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	7 3:45-5:50pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Service	8	9 3:00pm Christmas Caroling
10 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Divine Service	11 9:00-11:00am Parish Nurse 10:00am Bible Class 6:30pm Council	12	13 3:30pm CEP 5:05pm Youth Night 5:45pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	14 3:45-5:50pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Service	15	16
17 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Family Bible Hour 10:30am Sunday School Christmas Service	18 9:00-11:00am Parish Nurse 10:00am Bible Class	19	20 5:45pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	21 3:45-5:50pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Service	22	23
24 Christmas Eve 9:30am Divine Service 4:00pm Christmas Eve Worship 6:30pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Christmas 9:30am Christmas Day Worship	26	27	28 3:45-5:50pm Parish Nurse 6:00pm Divine Service	29	30
31 New Year's Eve 8:00am Divine Service 10:30am Divine Service	Notes: The Giving Tree will be in the narthex until December 17th. See the article in the newsletter for how you can help.					