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# SIDELITES

Our Savior's Lutheran Church (507) 233-4430

October 25, 2009

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Newsletter Deadline:  
Items for the next  
newsletter are due in  
the church office by  
3:00 PM Tues., Nov.  
17. *Sidelites* will be  
available in mailboxes  
on Sun., Nov. 22.

 **GOOD  
NEWS**  
Go tell it... EVERYWHERE!

*“For by grace you have been saved and this is not your own doing but the gift of God.”  
Ephesians 2:8.*

Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 15 youth will affirm their baptism. It indeed is a time of celebration. Why is Confirmation or Affirmation of Baptism an important Sunday at Our Savior's?

1. Confirmation Sunday is a time for the youth to fulfill the promises that their parents made at their baptism. It is a time for the youth to say, “yes,” to the faith in which they were baptized and the faith they were taught.

2. Confirmation Sunday is a time for the youth to make public their promise to continue to live as a Child of God in the covenant of baptism.

3. Confirmation Sunday is a time of spiritual growth for youth as they are reminded that church and family will be there in their life's journey to remind them that they belong to Christ.

4. Confirmation Sunday is all about relationships. Faith is taught and caught. This is a time for the whole church to celebrate the work of the Spirit in our youth. Confirmation is a commitment of the whole family to grow together, support one another and encourage one another to find

their trust in a God who loves us, cares for us and forgives us.

Confirmation Sunday is also a time for each of us to renew our commitment to God to live out our baptism.

The youth who are being Confirmed are:

Zach Apitz  
Cassandra Cano  
Josh Dittrich  
Kelsey Eckstein  
Trent Loverude  
David Martens  
Miranda McKeeth  
Liz Meyer  
Jordan Reinarts  
Megan Ryan  
Dan Rykhus  
Shalyn Salonek  
Damon Scheibel  
Ashton Schultz  
Zach Wichmann

Together may our prayer be:

*We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.  
(ELW page 237)*

## Ministry Focus

### *New members received*

On Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4, the following people were received into membership at Our Savior's:

Jeff & Rebecca Eikanger and their children Morgan, Aaron, and Kaelyn

Jean Geistfeld

Don & Eunice Olson

Maxine Christopherson-Vick

Kris Wilfahrt and her children Nick and Lizzy

Mischelle Toltzman and her son Mitchel

Dave & Cindy Harms and their son Eric

Eleanor Miller

Joleen Wendinger

Seth & Kristin Kveno and their children Peyton and Lauren

Sreen Lervaag & Randal Hoffman and daughter Sara Hoffman

Scott & Tammy Skogberg and their children Cody and Kendra

Matt & Sarah Berger and their daughter Sophia

Eric Hacker & Lisa Berg

Chris & Brittany Ward

Jeff & Mary Hohensee and their children Ellie, Rachel, and Benjamin

Jeff & Sandy Donnay and their children Kaitlin and Jenna

Stefanie Madsen & Mike Steffensmeier and their children Ally, and Luke

Seth Dreckman & his daughter Daviney

Nicole Nelson & Luey Grathwohl

Rich & Barb Baumann

Bruce & Tina Severin and their daughter Kaylyn

*We welcome you into Our Savior's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, and workers with us in the kingdom of God. We pray that you will find a home, a place to put down roots to grow in faith, and a place to open your hands in service to others.*



### **Sunday School Dates to Remember!**

November 1 – Nursery

Milestone

November 15 – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Milestone

November 29 – Advent

Festival

December 20 – Sunday School

Christmas Program

December 27 and January 3 –

No Sunday School

## **WELCA Bazaar & Bake Sale** **Saturday, Oct. 31st** **9:00 AM – Noon** **Our Savior's Social Hall**

We will be serving coffee cakes and coffee at 8:30 AM. Holiday and other treasures, craft items, baked goods, frozen apple pies/crisps, lefse, etc. All proceeds from this bazaar/bake sale will go to support mission projects.



### **Donations Needed:**

Bring your donations of baked goods, jams, caramel corn, salsa, lefse, pickles, craft items, etc. to the church for pricing on Fri., Oct. 30 after 3:00 PM.

### **T.I.M. – Together In Ministry**

The church is a community. We are one with God and with each other. T.I.M. allows us to use our gifts of welcoming others, ushering, reading the lessons, and working with setting up Holy Communion or cleaning up following the service. Thanks for your part in serving the church!

**T.I.M. sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the social hall. Please sign up to be a servant.**

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## Stephen Ministry Update



*"Whatever you did for the least of these...you did for me."*  
Matthew 25:40

Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus' command to love one another. Through one-to-one caring relationships, those who are hurting receive the love and care they need to support them.

Why YOU should become a Stephen Minister:

1. Stephen Ministry is a life changing experience.
2. Stephen Ministers are caregivers, not curegivers.
3. Stephen Ministers are skilled caregivers who experience the joy of fellowship and learn to listen to others.
4. God calls us to share our gifts with one another.

We are excited to be moving ahead with our Stephen Ministry. Our goal is to begin training on Sunday, January 10, 2010. We are now in the process of asking people who are interested to fill out an application form. The application form will outline for you the process of becoming a Stephen Minister and help to celebrate the gifts people bring to the ministry. The application process and the 50 hours of training insure the integrity of the program and makes sure the people needing care receive the best care possible. Please note the

application includes more information about the training. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us if you have questions regarding the application process and to request an application. We look forward to moving ahead with this vital ministry  
Deb Bastian – 354-7063  
Kathy Hopf - 359-1800  
Carla Zimmermann- 354-8559  
Pastor Joyce -233-4430

### PASTOR'S PONDERING:

The Board of Deacons is reading the book, *Sabbath*, by Wayne Muller. When you hear the word "Sabbath" what comes to your mind? We tend to think of Sunday as our Sabbath and Sabbath is going to worship. The book has challenged me to see Sabbath not just as part of a day or as just pausing but as a way of life and a rhythm of life. Muller explains, "We live in a culture that supposes that action and accomplishments are better than rest. We consume things and people." He goes on to say, "The Chinese pictograph for 'busy' is composed of two characters: *heart and killing.*" (page 3) When I read that, I did think of my own life and our culture. How is our lack of Sabbath killing us? I am learning that Sabbath becomes a way of life that includes, rest, learning to live in a rhythm with God, waiting, ceasing, and being mindful of God's presence all around. Sabbath keeping takes time. Creating space for God

and Sabbath is not a luxury but a necessity in the consumer busy world we live in.

I encourage you to pause, give thanks, and rest with God. *God of Sabbath, renew and revive me. Amen.*

--Pastor Joyce



### Piano duettists Helen and Paul Baumgartner

will present a recital at  
**Our Savior's**

**Lutheran Church**

**Sun., Nov. 1 -- 3:00 p.m.**

The Baumgartners are retired professors of piano from Gustavus Adolphus College. Selections will be by Felix and Fanny Mendelssohn, celebrating the 200th anniversary of Felix's birth.

The recital will be a benefit for the Global Mission Institute of Luther Seminary. The Global Mission Institute is an integral part of Luther Seminary. It educates and informs seminary students about the importance of missions. It also provides scholarships to many international students to help equip them for leadership in their home churches.

This fall there are fifty-four international students from twenty-two countries studying at Luther Seminary

The GMI is supported entirely by gifts and grants by individuals, congregations, and corporations. The GMI covets your prayers for their work and thanks you for your gifts.

## Stewardship 101



### *Making it Simple!*

*'Tis the gift to be simple,  
'tis the gift to be free,  
'Tis the gift to come down  
where you ought to be,  
and when we find ourselves  
in the place just right,  
we'll be in the valley of love  
and delight.*

The words of this Shaker song stand to remind us of the incredible gift simplicity can bring to our lives. By *Making it Simple*, we find our proper place in relationship to one another and with God. *Making it Simple*, encourages us to see how God has blessed us with and interconnectedness which strengthens us as individuals and as members of a greater whole, the church. It is with this understanding that the Our Savior's Board of Stewardship invites you to *Make it Simple* in your life as a steward here at Our Savior's.

Now you might be thinking to yourself, "*Make it Simple* sounds, well ...so simple. Isn't the Board of Stewardship going to come up with some flashy presentations, elaborate giving charts, home visits, a calling program or some kind of special dinner?" And the answer to your question is no? Rather, to make things simple for you the board of stewardship simply wants to invite you to Just Give!

As stewards of God's gifts we believe and trust that God gives us whatever we need and more to make sure that the good news of Jesus is shared in our life together as the church, so you are invited to *Make it Simple* and Just Give!

Consider for a moment what would happen if each one of us who call Our Savior's our church home would Just Give! a little more of our time, a little more of our talents, and a little more of our treasures to the ministry of Our Savior's. The Board of Stewardship believes incredible things can happen, things like; meaningful worship, insightful learning for children and adults, a community of fellowship and support, and the good news of Jesus being shared locally and globally.

In the next few weeks we encourage you to think about the places where God is inviting you to Just Give! Maybe it is in an increase of your offering by a dollar a week, or maybe it is to give your time to a project at church, or maybe you are being urged along to try something new on a Sunday morning. We truly believe that if you Just Give! you will experience the joy of *Making it Simple* as you steward God's gifts.



### **The Time and Talent Auction will be held on Sunday, November 8.**

Donations are needed for the auction. Items that have been donated in the past include: meals to be delivered, fall produce, gift certificates, labor such as snow blowing or painting, hand crafted items, baked goods, and much more. Ideas are posted on the bulletin board in the Social Hall. If you would like to donate an item, please list your item on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Social Hall. Donations may be brought to Kathy's office.

### **Time and Talent Auction & Baked Potato Bar Sunday, November 8, Noon**

Come join the fun and support our youth program. Lunch will include a baked potato with a variety of toppings (cheese, broccoli, chili, sour cream, taco toppings, etc), salads, and bars. A free will donation will be taken. The auction will begin at about 12:30. Monies raised will help fund the summer mission trip, bible camp, youth gatherings, and many other youth events.



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### Discipleship Diary

#### Healing

Dear Discipleship Diary,

In the past couple of weeks I have been doing a lot of thinking about the gift of healing and how faith is such an important part of the healing process. It is amazing how many times the scriptures refer to healing and God's power to bring healing to all aspects of our lives. Whether it be the comforting words of Psalm 23 where we are reminded that the Lord is our shepherd or the words of Jesus spoken in Matthew 11 where he invites those carrying heavy burdens to come to him and find rest, the scriptures play an important role in our healing.

Prayer also plays a significant role in our healing. As much as I enjoyed the visits from Pastor Joyce and Intern Kathy, it was the fact that they prayed for me that really brought comfort and relief. When Jesus sent his disciples out into the world to continue his work of healing, he sent them with the gift of prayer, laying on of hands, and anointing. Note what is first—prayer. As bearers of Jesus' healing, we, as disciples, bring that intimate conversation with God—prayer, as tool for healing. I am so thankful for the ministries of prayer that are part of the ministry of our congregation. Prayers shawls, prayer chains, and now, Stephen Ministries, carry our need for wholeness and healing to God.

One thing I haven't mentioned yet is the hands of those who practice the healing arts. God has gifted doctors, nurses, therapists, and other health care workers with incredible gifts for bringing comfort, relief, wholeness and healing. Then there are the hands of our loved ones who change bandages, rub sore backs, transport us to medical appointments, and soothe our fevers. In all these people, God's hand of healing is at work.

So Discipleship Diary, I say thanks be to God! For wholeness and healing! For the comfort and reassurance of his healing Word! For those who hold and uplift others in prayer! For those whose hand and presence bring healing!

Soli Deo Gloria!

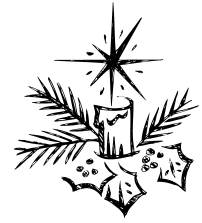


Pastor Todd

### Kwik Trip Card fundraiser

**continues!** The Board of Youth was able to purchase additional Kwik Trip gift cards at 20% off and these cards are on sale now. When these cards are gone we will purchase cards at 10% off until next July, at which time the fundraiser will be over. The youth group raised about \$5000 during the first year of the fundraiser. Thanks for your support!

### Advent Festival



The Advent Festival will take place on **Sunday, November 29, from 9:30-11:00** in the lower level of the church. Come prepare for Advent and Christmas with a festive morning of making ornaments and other decorations to keep or give away. Children under 5<sup>th</sup> grade need to attend this event with a parent.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Advent Festival. Two adults or youth are needed in each room. The supplies and plans are ready for you. We need people to help teach and assist with the crafts. If you have a craft idea you would like to share we would also be interested in that for future years.

Volunteers are also needed to help cut some felt designs for the Advent Festival. We will be making Advent banners for a safe way to let young children "light" candles as they keep track of the weeks until Christmas. We will provide the felt and patterns.

Finally, we are looking for a volunteer to make seven dozen cut out sugar cookies to decorate for the Advent Festival. You wouldn't have to lead the decorating, just make the cookies.

If you can help with any of the areas we need volunteers, please contact Intern Kathy or Bridget Phifer.

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## Creation Care Team:

### We encourage you to take the Minnesota Energy Challenge.

What is the Minnesota Energy Challenge? The Minnesota Energy Challenge is a website-based program run by local nonprofit Center for Energy and Environment. Using the website, Minnesota households can calculate their annual carbon footprints. As of May 22, 2009, over 22,300 Minnesota households have taken the Minnesota Energy Challenge! The Energy Challenge is a **pledge** - you promise to take one or more actions to reduce the annual energy use of your household.

**Why should I take the Challenge?** The fact of the matter is that you can save hundreds of dollars a year by taking simple actions that also improve comfort in your home AND are good for the environment.

### **What is a carbon footprint?**

It's the amount of carbon dioxide pollution that your household produces annually. Everyone has a carbon footprint, whether you own or rent, if you are a kid or a grown-up, if you drive or bike - everyone. Energy efficiency and conservation improves the comfort of your home, improves your indoor air quality and helps you save money. You don't have to give up the things you love - and you don't have to do every-

thing at once! Log in at: [www.mnenergychallenge.org](http://www.mnenergychallenge.org)



### **ANOTHER TRIP TO TANZANIA?**

We are considering another trip to Tanzania in November of 2010 to do a work project at the Kikatiti Secondary School and possibly a medical team to provide services to the students. An optometrist has expressed a willingness to travel to Kikatiti to perform eye exams that are critically needed. For logistical reasons, the group would probably not exceed 12 persons and the intent would be to be gone for approximately 2 ½ weeks. Should you have an interest to hear more, please contact Bill Koeckeritz. If there is interest, an informational meeting will be set up for this fall where questions on potential costs, itinerary, etc. will be discussed.

### **The Southwestern Minnesota Synodical Nominating Committee of the Women of the ELCA is searching for nominees to serve as SW MN Delegates to the Churchwide Triennial Convention, which will be held in Spokane, Washington July 12-14, 2011.**

The delegates will be elected at the Synod Convention June 11 & 12, 2010, in New Ulm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Triennial delegates are elected to represent their synods and

make decisions about the future of the Women of the

ELCA during the business sessions at the Triennial Convention. The business sessions will be held July 12, 13, and 14. All delegate expenses—including food, lodging, and round-trip transportation—are paid by churchwide for the 3 days of the convention. *If you are interested in serving as a delegate, please call Marge Hawkins, OSLC WELCA President, at 354-1935 by October 28, 2009.*

### ***Lutheran World Relief Health Kits***

Lutheran World Relief has a great need for Health Kits at this time. We are collecting items for the kits and will have it as our offering for the Synod Convention for the Women of the ELCA held our church June 11 & 12, 2010.

#### ***Items Needed:***

hand towels - dark color recommended;  
wash clothes - dark color recommended;  
bath size soap bar—4-5 oz. in its wrapping;  
tooth brush—adult size in original packaging;  
sturdy comb;  
metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached (no emery boards);  
band aids—preferably ½ to ¾ inch

**Please bring items to church and leave in the large box behind the information desk. Thank you**

## **THANK YOU NOTES**

Thank You!

I want to say thank you to everyone for your prayers, encouragement and cards while I have been out with my back problems. Thanks to our incredible staff for carrying the load in my absence from the office and for their fine pastoral care and support. I am so grateful to serve along side of such gifted messengers of the good news of Jesus. Once again, I have had the opportunity to see our congregation be what God calls us to be, a community of faith, prayer, and support for benefit of the body of Christ. It is truly a blessing to serve and be served as one of your pastors. Indeed, I am grateful!  
In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Todd

Thank you to everyone that sent cards, well wishes, prayers, and thoughts when I was out after my surgery. It is great to be part of such a caring church family. Also, thanks to the staff for the card and flowers. It brightened my day. Thanks again to everyone.  
Orv Rannow

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

The Kiwanis Club of New Ulm will again be sponsoring the *Coats for Kids* project for needy children under age 18 in Brown County. Thanks to the generosity of our area businesses, groups, and

individuals, last year we were able to purchase over 135 new

coats and snow pants from local merchants. Many local merchants sell the coats to Kiwanis at a discount of 20% to 60%. Because Kiwanis of New Ulm is a 501C-3 organization, contributions are tax deductible. Monetary donations can be sent to: Kiwanis Club of New Ulm  
PO Box 222  
New Ulm, MN 56073-0222

### **Project Holiday – St. Peter Regional Treatment Center**

A gift means a great deal. Last year 70% of the patients in our program for the chronically mentally ill had no contact with family over the holidays. A gift, no matter how small does make a difference. Cash is also greatly appreciated. It is deposited in the SPRTC Christmas Cheer Account. Volunteers then shop for gifts for our patients. Please make the check payable to SPRTC Christmas Cheer.

#### **Gift Suggestions:**

Toiletries: toothpaste, shampoo, toothbrush, deodorant, cologne, shaving lotion, bath powder, etc.  
Clothing: men and women: t-shirts, underwear, pajamas, bathrobes, jeans, sweaters, socks, gloves, mittens, slippers, shower sandals  
Personal fun items: candy – also diabetic, craft kits, drawing paper, books, wristwatches, jewelry, decaf instant coffee, alarm clock, bath towels, purses, games, etc.

The office is open  
Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM –

3:00 PM, or by appointment. Contributions can be delivered or mailed to: Volunteer Office, Center Building, 100 Freeman Drive, St. Peter, MN 56082  
Tel (507) 985-2249.

### **WHAT: Hog Roast Benefit for Konner Jace Mathiowetz**

Live and Silent Auctions,  
Pie/Bake Sale, Children's  
Games & Bingo

**WHEN: Sun., Nov. 1, 2009  
11:00 –2:00 WHERE: St.  
Mary's Church Basement,  
New Ulm**

Konner was diagnosed with Epilepsy in April 2009. He has suffered with Croup and Pneumonia, along with random seizures, one that lasted for 3 hours and deprived his brain of oxygen. He is currently undergoing treatment and care at Minneapolis Children's Hospital. His progress can be followed at

[www.caringbridge.org/visit/konnermathiowetz](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/konnermathiowetz). This benefit is being held to help the Mathiowetz's with their medical expenses. We would appreciate any monetary donation or auction items you might be willing to donate for the benefit. Please contact the benefit committee at [konnersonbenefit2009@hotmail.com](mailto:konnersonbenefit2009@hotmail.com). An account has been set up at **Southpoint Federal Credit Union** under **"Konner's Benefit"**.

Konner is the son of Kris & Sarah Mathiowetz brother of Abi, and Grandson of Randy & Monica Wenninger and Ken & Penny Mathiowetz.

*Supplement Funding provided by  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans*

# **Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

1400 South State Street

New Ulm, MN 56073

Phone: 507-233-4430

Email: [office@oursaviorsnewulm.org](mailto:office@oursaviorsnewulm.org)

Website: [www.oursaviorsnewulm.org](http://www.oursaviorsnewulm.org)

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## **Worship Services**

Saturday Worship – 5:30 PM

Sunday Worship – 8:30 & 11 AM

Education/Fellowship Hour – 9:45 AM

## **Regular Broadcasts**

Mon. – 7:00 p.m., Thurs. – 5:00 p.m.

(Comcast Channel 14, NU Telecom Channel 3)

# SIDELITES

## **Our Savior's Mission Statement –**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is an open community of believers

- called by God in Christ Jesus to outreach, worship, and growth in faith
- committed to using God's gifts in living service to each other, our neighbors, and the world.