

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

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Worship Services

Saturday worship – 5:30 PM

Sunday worship – 9:00 AM

Tuesday Worship – 6:30 PM

Regular Broadcasts

(Comcast Channel 14; NU Telecom Channel 3)

Mon.–7 PM; Thurs.–11:00 AM & 5 PM

Day 1: Sun. – 9:30 a.m. (KNUJ)

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.

SIDELITES

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

July 24, 2011

2011 Churchwide Assembly available to all ELCA members online

CHICAGO (ELCA) Members throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will be able to follow the 2011 ELCA **Churchwide Assembly Aug. 15-19** through a

variety of online channels, including live video streaming and social media.

Members can access live video of plenary sessions and, for the first time, daily worship at <http://www.ELCA.org/assembly> with opportunities for online giving. Updates about the assembly will be posted on the ELCA's Facebook page and released through Twitter.

The theme for the ELCA's 12th churchwide assembly, "Freed in Christ to Serve," expresses "the very heart of our faith," said the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, ELCA presiding bishop. Hanson will chair the assembly.

"Freedom is God's gift that has been flowing to us and through us since the day of Christ's death and resurrection. Through word and sacrament, freedom flows to the center of our being, transforming our very life and making us into servant vessels of the Spirit's liberating work," he said.

The assembly will be held at the Marriott World Center in Orlando, Fla., site of two previous churchwide assemblies. Voting members will act on a proposed ELCA social statement, "Genetics, Faith and Responsibility," a possible fundraising campaign to support work to contain malaria through the ELCA Malaria Campaign; and a series of proposed implementing resolutions related to a comprehensive report about the ELCA's structure, its interrelationships and its future.



Voting members will also consider proposed resolutions on various topics of significance to the ELCA. The assembly will elect members of the ELCA Church Council, plus various boards and churchwide committees. It will act on budget proposals for 2012 and 2013 and consider various amendments to the constitutions, bylaws and continuing resolutions of the ELCA.

About 1,500 people, including 1,025 voting members, plus staff and visitors will participate in the biennial assembly. Each of the ELCA's approximately 10,000 congregations may send one representative to serve as an official "congregational observer." Voting members are elected by the synods to serve on behalf of the ELCA's 4.5 million members.

Significant funding for the assembly is provided by the churchwide organization with some financial support from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, a not-for-profit fraternal benefit society based in Minneapolis.

Follow the assembly online at <http://www.ELCA.org> on the Web; on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/Lutherans>; and on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/ELCA>. Hashtags for the assembly will be #CWA11 and #ELCA.

About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with approximately 4.5 million members in more than 10,000 congregations across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. Known as the church of "God's work. Our hands," the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer, Martin Luther.

Ministry Focus

Noisy Offering

“Make a joyful noise to Lord, all the earth.” Psalm 100:1

“Dear children let us not love with words or tongue, but with actions and in truth.” I John 3:18

These two verses are lived out among us as we support various ministries through our noisy offerings.

The Board of Missions thanks you for your past generous support of the noisy offering. Noisy offerings are received throughout the year on the fifth weekend of a month. Noisy offering is a special offering that is received that goes to support different ministries locally and through our national church.

In the past, noisy offerings have supported our local food shelf, Pro-Kinship for Kids, For Hearts and Souls, Operation Christmas Child, ELCA Malaria project, and Lutheran Disaster Response. Together we have made a difference in the lives of others through these offerings.

The weekend of July 30th and 31st we will be receiving a noisy offering for Operation Concern. Operation Concern is a ministry offered by Our Savior’s to those who find themselves going through difficult times and need some assistance. This ministry reaches out to people in our own congregation and those in need in our community. Operation Concern provides people with a bag of groceries and \$20.00 gas voucher. People can receive assistance once every three months. Operation Concern is designed to meet the immediate needs of a person.

Members of Our Savior’s are already supporting this vital ministry. We have members who donate bags of groceries or Kwik Trip cards. The bags of groceries include such items as crackers, soup, peanut butter, sauce, cereal, canned vegetables and hamburger helper. The Kwik Trip card that is included can be used for milk, bread or other perishable food items.

We are blessed so we can be a blessing. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how you will be involved with this program. Your support of this ministry is appreciated. If you have questions about how you could be more involved please contact a member of the Board of Missions.

Sue Hunstad, Linda Brown, Carolyn Drexler, Doreen Peterson, Jeremy Berg, and Jeff Eikanger.

Dear Faithful Ones:

“It is good to give thanks to the Lord; to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.” Psalm 92:1-2

I have served with you since July of 2002. Where has the time gone? Ministry is a partnership and I have been grateful for the many ways we have served together. I would like to thank you for the cards, written notes, and gifts you shared with me in honor of the 20th Anniversary of Ordination. I was overwhelmed by your kind words, your words of encouragement and your gifts. Your cards touched me and I am grateful to be serving with you in this time and place.

Part of what was given to me financially I shared with the work of the Women of the ELCA and the ELCA Malaria Initiative. Thank you for making a difference in my life and in the lives of others by your gifts. Together we make Christ known as we worship, pray, and serve.

I thank God for you and for the privilege of serving Christ together,

Pastor Joyce

Pastor's Pondering: **BETHLEHEM**

What comes to mind when you think of Bethlehem? Most likely shepherds, wisemen, and the place of Jesus' birth. Bethlehem played an important role in the Old Testament. Bethlehem is where Rachel, the favorite wife of Jacob, died during childbirth. The Tomb of Rachel is there. Bethlehem is the place Naomi and Ruth returned to. Samuel anointed David to be king and David is from Bethlehem. Bethlehem is a village in Judah located about 10 miles south of Jerusalem. The word Bethlehem means, "house of bread."

Today, the ELCA has a strong presence in Bethlehem. Christmas Lutheran Church now numbers about 200 baptized members and is led by Pastor Mitri Raheb. Pastor Raheb has led the development of The International Center of Bethlehem. The center promotes arts, music, cultural programs and conferences. Bethlehem Media Resource Center operates news and creative communications resources at the International Center. Dar al Kalima Academy is a two-year fine arts and communications college. They work in partnership with the Lutheran school in Bethlehem, the Dar al Kalima School. Built alongside the school is a Wellness Center offering fitness and health screenings to the community, in addition to a nature reserve and a garden. Pastor Raheb is a native of Bethlehem and he grew up attending the Christmas Church, participating in its youth activities. He is third generation Lutheran, his children fourth generation."

Peace Not Walls is the campaign of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to learn, pray and act for peace with justice in the Holy Land. To learn more about the ministry of the ELCA and about peace in the Middle East, visit www.elca.org/peacenotwalls

Prayer for peace: *God of grace and reconciliation, pour you power upon all your children in the Middle East that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces and peace and justice be experienced by all. Amen.*

Ladies of Our Savior's:

Yes! Those of us who went to the Triennial Gathering in Spokane are home safely. Thank you Lord, for being with us.

There were so many different experiences going on and we all see them differently. MY favorite part was the worship services. When you walk into a large hall and see a "sea" of over 2,000 women – that alone is enough to give you goose bumps. Then the service begins and you listen to the message. To take communion with all these women was breathtaking to me. Another of the experiences I enjoyed was just talking to others who were at the gathering: listening to their stories and comparing our lives.

I hope someday that more of you may take in and enjoy all there is to be seen and heard at a gathering such as this.

Yours in the Lord,
Linda Postel



Calling Women of Our Savior's.....

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, August 17th

for an evening of food, fellowship, conversation, learning, and a few surprises. We will begin with a light supper at 5:00 p.m. followed by music, Bible Study, and other activities. You will hear about the Triennial Gathering in August and about the Gospel of Mark.

Come and be RENEWED, RESPOND, AND REJOICE!!!

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:4-7

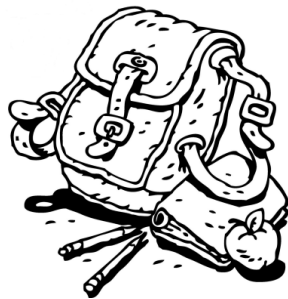
It's not too early to think about how you can help with Sunday School for the 2011-2012 school year. Included with this issue of *Sidelites* you will find information on areas where volunteers are needed and what your responsibilities in each area would be. Please contact Kathy Ulland-Klinkner with questions.



Sunday School registration forms are included in this newsletter and also available on the church website. We require new forms every year as contact numbers, addresses, e-mails, and medical concerns sometime change. This information is very important for safety! We seldom need to use these forms, but when a child becomes ill at Sunday School, accurate and up to date contact information is very important! E-mail addresses help us keep you informed of what is on the Sunday School. Please fill out the registration form and return to the church office.

Rally Sunday, "Backpack Full of Blessings"

will be on September 11. All students are encouraged to bring their backpacks for a special blessing during worship that day. We will also use the backpacks for special Sunday School hour. Watch for more details!



Thank You Notes

Thank you for your prayers during my cancer surgery. Pastor Joyce's visit and your prayer shawl gift were appreciated. God bless you all,
Tom Andryk

Dear Friends of Our Savior's Lutheran Church,
A special thank you to Pastor Joyce for prayers, phone calls and visits, to the person who made the lovely prayer shawl, and to all who sent cards, phoned, visited and sent flowers while Syl and I were in the hospital and as I continue physical therapy at Oak Hills. Each of you will always be remembered. It is our prayer that you will be blessed in numerous ways just as the Lord has blessed us.

Again, a very warm thank you to all,
Syl and Marlys Seifert

Thank you to everyone at Our Saviors for their thoughts, prayers, cards, flowers, gifts and support during the loss of our mom and grandmother. We appreciate the love and concern that has been shared with us during this difficult time.

Cyndi, Scott, Hannah & Miriam Jakel

Thank you all so much for every prayer, card, and word of support you've given me during my battle with cancer. Thank you Pastor Joyce, for being with JoEllen at the hospital in Rochester and for your prayers. To those who brought a meal to our home following my surgery – thank you for your kindness. The support JoEllen and I have felt from this congregation has been amazing.

God bless you,
Dean Tessmer

Dear Friends,

We want to thank all of you who kept us in your prayers at the recent loss of our daughter-in-law, sister-in-law, and aunt, Angie. A special thanks to Pastor Joyce for her prayers and many calls of concern, and also to Kathy Ulland-Klinkner for her prayers. We deeply appreciate the many cards, phone calls, memorials and kind words of sympathy. We are truly blessed to have you as our church family.

In God's love,

Duane & Leatrice Ellanson

Deb & Tom Kaehler

Scott & Kathy Ellanson, Jake, Eric and Adam

Julie & John Busch, Ryan and Nick

The next issue of *Sidelites* will be in mailboxes August 21. Please have items for the newsletter to JoEllen by 3 p.m., August 16. Thank you!