

L E N T

LIVING LENT is the mid-week series which continues through March 16. Each service in this series focuses on a word to consider while living Lent as Easter people. Highlighted are the ways in which the passion narratives of Christ take on more significant meaning for us when we see them through the lens of the empty tomb. Each service helps us see that we are always alive in Christ, who died and was raised.

Week 3 – March 2 - Proclaim – 1 Peter 2:9-10 – To proclaim the story of Christ is to paint a picture of the God who seeks and embraces us. Our proclamation of the Savior brings faith to life.

Week 4 – March 9 - Praise - Psalm 34:1-10 – Even in the midst of sorrow, we are called to celebrate the love of God and the joy that can be found only in Christ crucified, who reigns in glory now.

Week 5 – March 16 - Pain – Luke 15:11-32 & 23:26-49 – The pain of rejection and the pain of a father when a son leaves are juxtaposed against the reckless love of God revealed in Jesus, who wipes every tear from our eyes.

We gather at 6:30 for soup and subs and worship at 7:15. These opportunities for fellowship and worship are part of our Lenten discipline. Please join us as we prepare for the Easter festival.

March 20 - Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday) – 8:00, 9:30, and 11:15 worship. LYO breakfast 9:00 – 11:00; Sunday School Easter egg hunt 10:30. We begin Holy Week His triumphal entry and His passion on our behalf. Our services recount both events as we parade with the pilgrims of Jerusalem and hear again the story of his passion.

March 24 - Maundy Thursday – Worship at 12 Noon and 7:30 PM. We remember the night Jesus was betrayed and the institution of the Sacrament. At 7:30 we gather around the table for the distribution and strip the altar reminding us of Jesus’ humiliation.

March 25 – Good Friday – Worship at 7:30 PM. In the service of shadows (Tenebrae) we follow the steps of Jesus from trial to crucifixion. As the shadows lengthen we leave the church in darkness with only the light of Christ illuminating the sanctuary reminding us of God’s presence and the promise of resurrection.

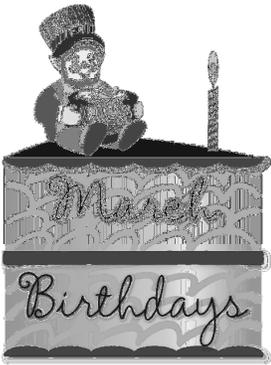
March 27 – Easter Sunday – Worship at 8:00 and 10:00. We gather to celebrate our Lord’s victory over death and the grave through his glorious resurrection. As we resurrect our Alleluia’s we lift up Christ as the “Praise of God”, praising him through word and sacrament.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

The Communicator

*Newsletter of the
Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
2415 Chili Avenue
Rochester, NY 14624
585/247-7824
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A member congregation of the
Upstate New York Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*





MARCH BIRTHDAYS . . .
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
 and **BEST WISHES** to all these members of Our Saviour who celebrate

birthdays during the month of March. We pray for your continued growth in God's grace.

- 1-Leslie Brightman
- 1-Brandon Morningstar
- 1-Ashley Yackel
- 1-Jessiana Malaih-Randi Frank
- 3-Diane Parke-Potter
- 4-Laurel Girvin
- 4-Tyler Jones
- 4-Thomas Stuver
- 5-Michael Werth
- 6-Daniel Hahn
- 7-Sheila Foltz
- 8-Cassie Forrest
- 8-April O'Connor
- 9-Andrew Loughlin

- 10-Ann Marie MacBride
- 10-Tyler Potter
- 11-Brian Mochrie
- 11-Lincoln Carpenter
- 12-Thomas Glanville
- 12-Karen Saur
- 12-Caitlyn Farmborough
- 14-Cameron Ransom
- 14-Justin Pickett
- 15-Richard Zacharko
- 15-Anatole Pleten
- 16-Tanner Eberhardt
- 16-David Wiesmore
- 16-Brian Crnkovich
- 16-Ava Elizabeth Stuver
- 17-Annette Maas
- 17-Pamela Carmichael
- 18-Lisa Schroff
- 18-Kevin Spence
- 19-Harper Daniels
- 20-Christa Witt
- 20-Lindsey Emerson
- 21-Lars Reafler
- 22-Carol Ransom
- 22-Franz Foltz
- 23-Gene Northrop
- 26-Michael Christensen
- 26-Stephen Fichter
- 26-Carter Schroff

- 27-Jonathon Greene
- 27-Lindsay Werhmann-Guhl
- 27-Ernst Hafner
- 27-Rudy Vogel
- 28-Todd Grimes
- 28-Johannes Witt
- 29-Robert Riemer
- 29-Emily Klein
- 20-Dominic Derleth
- 31-Elizabeth Crombe
- 31-Michelle Stone Coval
- 31-Logan Heid
- 31-Julia Bryce
- 31-Olivia Bo-Ri Strasser



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES . . . Congratulations and Best Wishes to these members of Our

Saviour who celebrate Wedding Anniversaries during the month of March. May God continue to bless you and increase your love for one another!

- 11—Loren and Lorraine VanOrden
Happy 49th Anniversary
- 14—Joseph and Emily Distaffen
Happy 1st Anniversary
- 20—Ronald and Sharon Castrichini
Happy 40th Anniversary
- 27—Scott and Margaret Meli



New envelopes for the Mortgage Reduction Fund will be available

March 6
 in the Narthex.

A STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

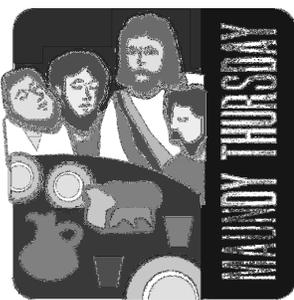
A STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT We recently ordered new folders to receive your altar flower offerings, as I opened the folder there was a little message. I think it bears repeating. "Does God 'need' our money? Well, when you consider that God owns the cattle on a thousand hills, which in essence means he owns it all and as a matter of fact has created everything containing any value... well... you get the point. God is not a 'needy' God, however, we need to learn to be givers!

He wants you to do this cheerfully, with merry hearts delighting that you have the opportunity to give.

You are in a position to receive God's blessings because you have the opportunity to give to the ministry of the Lord. Your faithfulness in giving is appreciated, but most importantly, never overlooked by God. Your faith will be rewarded."

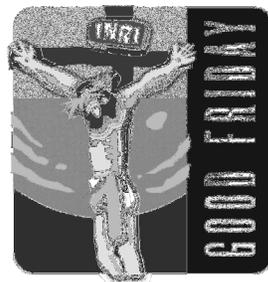


MAUNDY THURSDAY is March 24. Holy Communion is celebrated 12 Noon and at 7:30 PM. On this day Christians gather to share in the holy supper Christ gave the church to reveal his unfailing love for the human family. Jesus demonstrates this love by speaking his faithful word and giving us his body and blood. We realize that as Christ's followers we are sent to continue Jesus' actions in daily life: to serve those in need, to offer mercy, to feed those who are hungry.



Holy Communion will be around a table set at the front of the church. We remember Jesus and his disciples gathering for this meal as we gather in groups of 12 to receive the sacrament. Distribution is by Individual Cup. This service also concludes with a focus toward Good Friday in the Stripping of the Altar.

On **GOOD FRIDAY**, March 25. The Service of Tenebrae at 7:30 PM. The people of God gather to hear the proclamation of the passion, to pray for the life of the world and to meditate on the life-giving cross. The ancient title for this day – the triumph of the cross – reminds us that the church gathers to offer thanksgiving for the wood of the tree on which hung our salvation. Through scripture readings, hymns, the extinguishing of candles and gradual dimming of the sanctuary lights we focus on the crucifixion of Jesus in this powerful and moving service.



Celebrating...

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

EASTER DAY, March 27



The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour celebrates The Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day, with two Festival Services of Holy Communion on Sunday, March 27 at 8:00 and 10:00 AM.

The most important of Christian festivals is Easter Day. On this day we and other Christians celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! Our praise is to God who raised Jesus from death. Through Jesus' resurrection we too have victory over sin and death.

Please Join Us!

Pastor's Page

Sometimes we must let other people speak to us about lent and especially Good Friday. Here are a couple of stories that spoke to my heart, I hope they touch yours.

(Blair Monie tells a story about a congregation he once served, the First Presbyterian Church of York, Pennsylvania. Prior to his arrival there as pastor, the church had somehow misplaced a beautiful Celtic cross from the Isle of Iona that had once had a prominent place in their sanctuary.)

Sadly, the cross had been lost. People talked about it, remembering how beautiful it was, but we had all looked high and low, to no avail. Somehow, we had lost the cross, and the loss was on my mind on that rainy Friday morning.

I heard a knocking downstairs at the door of the church office building. Thinking it might be a delivery or a church member in need, I went down and answered the door. To my surprise, there stood one of our youth, soaking wet, but wearing a broad smile. He was holding the cross -- the cross that had been lost! Our youth group was spending the day cleaning out an old garage slated for demolition to expand the church's parking. There, in the rubble and refuse, they found the cross. And in the rainy gloom of a Good Friday!

Many times over the years I've thought of that day. Are we in danger of losing the cross? ...

Contemporary wisdom advises us that the cross is a downer, and people won't be attracted to such images of death. If we are losing the cross, aren't we also losing sight of why hope is possible? Without that hope, we will forget why God's Friday is good.

--Blair Monie, from the Good Friday installment of the "Seven days to glory" adult curriculum. pcusa.org. Retrieved October 5, 2015.

There is a story about the famed Hasidic rabbi, Zushia of Anapoli. Some rabbinical students were puzzling over the meaning of a line from the Talmud that says, "We must thank God for the good as well as the bad." What could it mean, they wondered, to thank God for the bad?

They asked the dean of their rabbinical college, who said he had no answer. Instead, he sent them to ask the wise old Rabbi Zushia.

Rabbi Zushia lived in a run-down shack in the forest. Following a narrow footpath, the students came to his humble abode. They noted with dismay that the windows were broken, the roof looked in need of repair and the walls were badly cracked. The rabbi greeted them warmly and invited them in, but they were further dismayed to see the abject poverty in which he lived. The chairs were wobbly and few. Everything was shoddy and in poor repair.

The students explained that they had come to ask him this question: "Why does it say in the Talmud that we must thank God for the good as well as the bad?"

Rabbi Zushia looked back at them in astonishment. "Why come to me to ask me that question?" he replied. "I, too, cannot understand it. Nothing bad has ever happened to me. Is it possible that God does anything bad?"

NG's US News

LYO Happenings

The youth would like to thank you for your contributions on Soup-er Bowl Sunday. We received \$119 and lots of soup. All donations went to support the Veteran Outreach Center's Richards House. Richards House is a facility which serves our community's homeless veterans and offers them a chance to reconnect with the community, Thanks to Pastor and Dick Ransom who delivered the soup and donation. As we look ahead, March promises to be a very busy month as we move into preparations for the Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast March 20, a youth lock-in the Saturday before, to set up for the breakfast March 19, a Passover meal (thank you Jessica Dentz) and Easter Sunday. A word of special thanks to all members and youth who helped make our youth service on February 14th a success. (You can see it on you tube)



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, as baptized followers of Jesus Christ will foster a living, expressive relationship with our Lord and our neighbors.

We will do this in a way that seeks to serve all segments of our congregation and community by:

- ◆ Providing a welcoming environment for youth and young adults.
- ◆ Strengthening the family unit.
- ◆ Involving the elderly and recognizing their special needs.
- ◆ Making Christ visible through worship.



March 13

Recommended by the Long Range Planning committee on October 27, 2010



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE. Please note:

March 20-27

Palm Sunday, Services 8, 9:30 and 11:15 AM

The LYO is again sponsoring a Palm Sunday Breakfast 9:00 to 11:00 AM

Maunday Thursday a 12 NOON service of Holy Communion.

And at 7:30 PM service of Holy Communion

Good Friday the Service of Tenebrae at 7:30 PM.

EASTER SUNDAY TIMES FOR WORSHIP are as follows:

8:00 AM Holy Communion and 10:00 AM Holy Communion.

There will be no 11:15 service.





Our Saviour Altar Guild invites you to place a *lily, begonia or a tulip* in the chancel for the Festival Easter Services celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord. Plants may be placed to the Glory of God, as an expression of joy at the Resurrection of Christ, and/or in memory of family members or friends who now share the resurrected love with our Lord in eternity!

The Guild is pleased that the price this year is only \$9.00 for lilies, begonias or tulips. Please sign the Reservation Sheet on the Narthex table by Sunday, March 13. Take an envelope and place it in the offering during any service. Plants may be taken home to sick and homebound friends and relatives following the 10:00 AM Service. Thank you.

CHURCH PEWS CLEANING

The Altar Guild is looking for help cleaning the church pews. They are asking for ladies to volunteer to do 2 hour shifts on Thursday, March 10. You do not need to belong to the Altar Guild to help with this project. Please contact Daryl Jarvis (426-0332) or Marielies Renke (617-4441) or the church office if you are available.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This month we had more heating system issues. A bearing in the office circulator pump made its presence known. Being on the verge of failure it was very noisy and needed immediate replacement. Trustees were able to handle the repair and now all is quiet again.

We are in the process of sprucing up the lower level restrooms painting, cleaning and replacing fixtures where needed. You may run into some items out of service at times; please be patient, we will try to keep that situation to a minimum.

Jim Flick

THANK YOU!

Ed Jarvis for unclogging the sacristy sink.

Ed Jarvis, Rick Chapin and Jim Flick for heating system repairs.

GRACE COMMUNITY SERVICES

Grace Community Services is actively seeking employees to work with individuals with developmental disabilities. If you have congregants that are currently looking for employment and may have interest in the human services field,

They have full-time, part-time, and per diem hours available.. The group homes that operate between 3 PM and 9AM, Monday thru Friday, and 24 hours on the weekend. We do have some day hours available Monday through Friday, but these community-based services that normally only support part-time schedules. Our homes are based in Monroe County in Brighton (one adjacent to Atonement Lutheran), Webster (Behind Immanuel Lutheran), Penfield and Pittsford.

If interested contact Patrick McGrath (675-2749 ext 100 Patrick.mcgrath@gracecommunityservices.com).





JUST A REMINDER—The offering received from this coin folder will go to our Mission/E.L.C.A. benevolence. As we think about the Lent and Easter Season we are reminded that Christ came into the world to save sinners. Our benevolence dollars support the Mission and ministry of the Upstate New York Synod and the broader outreach of the E.L.C.A. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the mission of the whole church.



ALTAR GUILD INVITES CONGREGATION TO HELP MAKE PALM CROSSES

Members of the Altar Guild cordially invite all members of Our Saviour to help prepare Palm Crosses. These special crosses are distributed at worship on Palm Sunday and to the children of the Sunday School. The crosses are prepared on Saturday, March 19 at 9:30 AM.

We make hundreds of these crosses—which is why we need as many people as possible to be present. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to come and help. Your efforts are much appreciated by all who receive these beautiful crosses!

PALM SUNDAY, March 20



Palm Sunday is March 20. This day, also known as The Sunday of the Passion, celebrates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The crowds proclaimed Jesus king as they spread branches of palm and shouted praises to God. Our morning Traditional Services at 8:00 and 11:15 AM will include the Distribution and Blessing of Palms and The Passion of Our Lord.

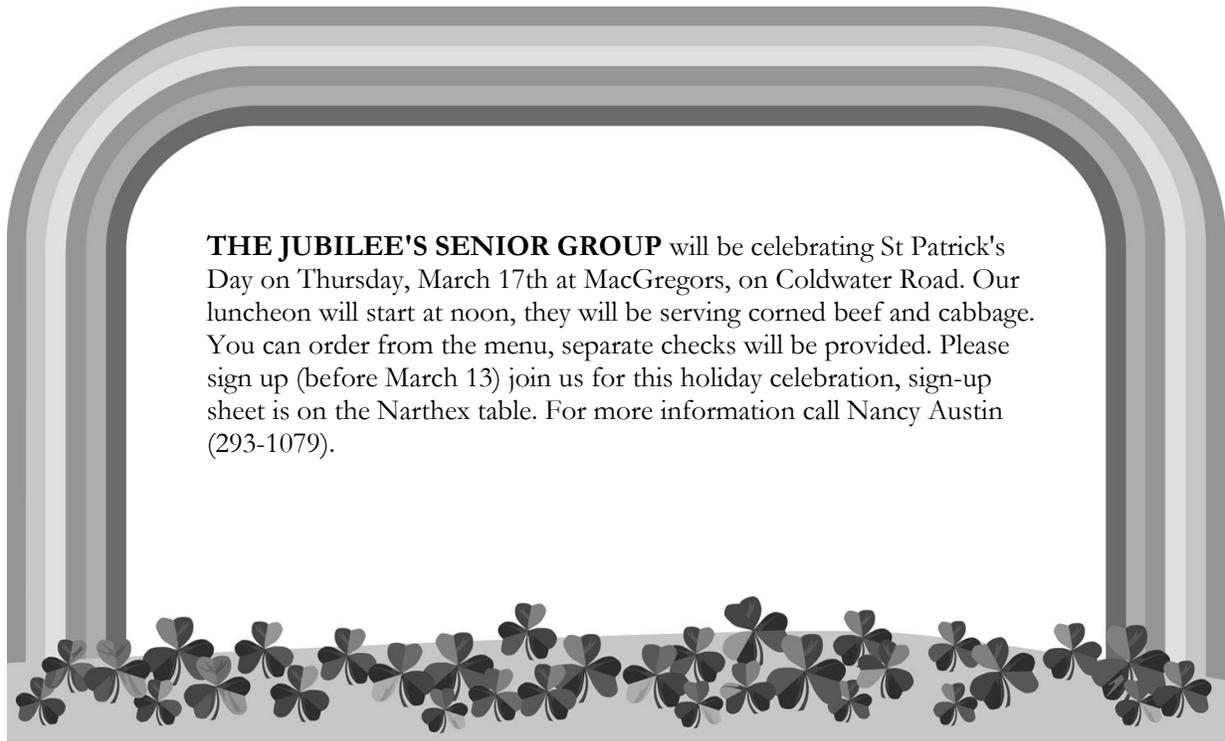
The 9:30 AM Contemporary Service will include Distribution and Blessing of Palms and the briefer reading of the Passion story.

The Youth of the congregation will once again serve breakfast this morning in place of the Easter breakfast.



The children of our congregation are invited to the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. This year the Easter Egg Hunt will be on Sunday, March 20, at 10:30 AM during the Sunday School hour. Please be sure to be on time. Be at church and ready to go by 10:30 AM! Parents should enjoy the LYO breakfast.





BINGO PRIZES FOR WESTGATE NURSING HOME

The Women of the ELCA here at Our Saviour continue to collect items to be used as bingo prizes at Westgate Nursing Home. Members of the congregation are invited (and encouraged) to participate in this activity. A plastic box for donations is located on the large table in the narthex. The suggestions that follow were provided by the Recreation Leader at Westgate Nursing Home.

Women

- Stuffed animals
- Jewelry*
- Lotion (small bottles)
- Non-slip stocking slippers
- Large Print Word Search Books

Men

- Stuffed animals
- Shaving cream
- Playing cards, large print
- Non-slip stocking slippers



* clip-on earrings only, necklaces must be long enough to fit over the head, and bracelets large enough to fit over the hand. Jewelry with clasps is difficult to handle.

Thank you for your support of this activity and to Donna Evenson who delivers our donations.

REFRIGERTOR/FREEZER USE—A notice to anybody that stores food and drinks in the church's refrigerator and freezer. "You must date and identify everything that's goes into the refrigerator and freezer especially if you want to stay the owner of such items. Periodically we will check and purge any unmarked items if they look bad or spoiled. Also, it is very important that we keep the top three shelves cleared for supporting events that may occur periodically like funerals and special church celebrations. Thank you for your cooperation.



Those who are homebound or reside in nursing homes... Audrey Citro (St. John's Home), Hans Strasser (Jewish Home, Winton Road) Helen Pleten (Emeritus Home on Long Pond Road) Edith Pharmakis (Ridgedge Apt. 535 Mt. Hope Ave—part of the Episcopal Home) Jim Clark (Glenmere in Pittsford)



♥ **Mary Ellen Saur, Ann and Gordon Seppa, Cheryl Stone, Carol Werth**, for collating, stapling, addressing and mailing the February newsletter.

♥ **Mary Ellen Saur, Richard and Sharon Yackel** assembling the bulletin each week.

- ♥ **Mary Ellen Saur** for continuing to change the message on the sign
- ♥ **Marielies Renke** for continuing to care for the plants in the narthex and replacing the flowers in the planter.
- ♥ **Jerry Stich and the Witt boys** for shoveling the sidewalks.
- ♥ **Richard Yackel** for continuing to coordinate the cleaning staff for the upper level of the church.
- ♥ **Brian Spencer and Mary Ellen Saur** for setting up the tables and chairs for Shrove Tuesday.
- ♥ **Rich Yackel** for shredding outdated paperwork.
- ♥ **To all the Sunday Contemporary Power Point volunteers.**
- ♥ **Ann Seppa** for helping in the office with year end duties.
- ♥ **Rick Chapin, Ed Jarvis and Jim Flick** for making repairs to the boiler.
- ♥ **Brian, Pam and Brayden Spencer, Ed Jarvis, Rich Yackel, Rick Chapin, Rich Yackel and Mary Ellen Saur** for cooking and helping with the Pancake Supper.

The commitment and dedication of all members of Our Saviour are important to the congregation's mission and ministry. We want to recognize the tasks done by members. Committee/Board Chairs and others are asked to share these names with Office Manager, Mary Pleten for inclusion in future issues of the **Communicator**.



WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A.
Women of the E.L.C.A. meet Tuesday,
March 8 at 6:30 PM.

**EVANGELISM
COMMITTEE**
Sunday, March 13, 10:30 AM

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, March 14, 6:30 PM

ELDERS MEETING
Sunday, March 6, 12:15 PM

STEWARDSHIP MEETING
Thursday, March 17, 7:00 PM

ALTAR GUILD PALM CROSSES EVENT
SATURDAY, March 19, 9:30 AM





As an ongoing mission, Women of ECLA plan to act boldly in their faith by providing food and toiletries for St. Theodore's, a local food pantry in Gates. Deb Housel has volunteered there for 8 years, and she will be transporting the food collected at LCOS to the Cupboard.

St. Theodore's Food Cupboard began in 1982 and is run completely by volunteers. Located in two classrooms of the former school building at 168 Spencerport Road, its entrance is accessible from Dunn Tower Drive. The Cupboard serves two types of clients: monthly and emergency. Sixty families are supported in the monthly program. These families receive 3 bags of food each month. To become a monthly client, a person must go through a personal interview and disclose finances to demonstrate a true need. This qualification process is repeated annually, so the monthly client list changes as clients' fortunes improve.

Between 30 and 50 families each month request emergency food. They are given a 3-5 day supply of food and a small bag of toiletries. St. Theodore's serves people living in the 14606 and 14624 zip code area, but will not turn away anyone outside that area. If a person comes and says s/he needs food, food is *always* given. No appointment is necessary, but proof of ID and address are required. People are strongly discouraged from declaring an emergency more frequently than every three months, and records are kept to prevent abuse of the system. The Emergency Food Program hours are: Monday 12-2 p.m., Wednesday 11-1 p.m., Thursday 10-12 p.m. Emergency clients are informed about social service programs (such as food stamps) and given the paperwork to apply for them.

Who are the people who rely on St. Theodore's Food Cupboard? You might be surprised. It's within walking distance of Dunn Tower, and some of the elderly living there couldn't make ends meet without it. It's often the working poor. Sometimes it's someone who's been laid off at age 57 and told to use up her entire 401K before she can qualify for food stamps.

To help, bring your donations to church and leave them in the wicker basket below the table in the Narthex. There's a Women of ELCA sign on the table above the basket. If the basket is full, terrific! Just pile your groceries nearby for Deb to collect.

St. Theodore's receives help from Foodlink and New York state. As a result, it must follow guidelines about offering healthy foods. Here's a list of the items most needed:

jello	dry pasta	canned vegetables
rice	canned fruits	canned pasta (like Spaghetti-os)
tuna	salad dressing	cake or brownie mix
jelly/jam	spaghetti sauce	canned or crushed tomatoes
cereal	pie filling	applesauce
soup	mac & cheese	pork and beans
juice	peanut butter	baked beans
coffee	Hamburger	Chicken Helper, Tuna Helper
tea	hot chocolate mix	applesauce
hand soap	toothpaste	toothbrush
shampoo	toilet paper	facial tissue

Note: Household cleaning supplies (laundry soap, dishwashing liquid, paper towels, etc) are *not* distributed.

St. Theodore's is the only food cupboard in the Gates area, and due to the economic climate, in the past four months there has been a significant increase in clients. If you have any questions, you can email the director, Kathy Nicol, at knicol7@rochester.rr.com.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

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Phone: 585-247-7824
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Www:OurSaviourRochester.org

*Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00 to 1:00 PM*

Pastor Wilck is normally in his church study Monday thru Thursday 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. He is available to meet you at church or at other mutually arranged times. You may also contact him or leave a message on 269-9086. On Friday Pastor's day off, he is available for pastoral emergencies. When calling the church after hours, and wishing to leave a message for Pastor Wilck, when prompted dial Extension 311 for his personal voice mail.

Please inform Pastor Wilck whenever there is an illness or hospitalization in your family. He appreciates your help. When you are admitted to a hospital, please list your religious preference as "Lutheran Church of Our Saviour" and contact Pastor or the church office.



Mid week Lenten Services
continues
Wednesday, March 2, 9, 16

LYO
serve breakfast
Palm Sunday, March 20, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
in the Augsburg Room.
Please join us!



Permit No. 1559

Rochester, NY

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DATED MATERIAL

**REQUESTED
CHANGE SERVICE**

**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF OUR SAVIOUR
2415 CHILI AVENUE
ROCHESTER, NY 14624**