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The  
Communicator  
February 2020



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LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

# The Communicator



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

Pastor Wilck is normally in his church study Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 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 when prompted dial Extension 311 for his personal voicemail.

Please inform Pastor 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.

### 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.

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

# Pastor's Page

As I sit at the beginning of February, I become mindful that Lent doesn't begin until the end of the month. It leaves me a bit unsettled as I am used to putting the Lenten services together and planning for Ash Wednesday. As I think about it, I believe this is a Gift from God.

Maybe as the cold of February enfolds us, God is asking us to be quiet; to think about ourselves, our church and our relationship with him. I believe God is preparing us for Lent this year by asking us to slow down. While there are many calls on our time and many demands, maybe it's time to sit in quiet for an hour a day and reflect on the blessings God has given us and how we might use those blessings in the future.

As I reflect on the life of the church, I ran across an article in [First Things Journal](#) entitled "Heal" by Patricia Snow. I share a few opening paragraphs with you as it caused me to think about our witness to the Gospel.

"Six months after he was elected the Chair of Peter, Pope Francis made one of the most provocative statements of his five-year pontificate. Asked by the Italian Jesuit Antonio Spadaro, what the church (small c) most needs at this point in her history, he replied that he sees the church as a field hospital after battle. The church he envisions would focus on God's mercy and love; it would have the ability to "heal wounds and to warm hearts." In an age that has lost all sense of sin, emissaries of this church might speak of salvation but not—at least not at first—about what it is the man needs to be saved *from*. "It is useless," the pope exclaimed, "to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds."

...Much of the world, he (Pope Francis) reminds us, has been reduced to a mission field: increasingly unchurch and hostile to organized religion and therefore incapable of responding to the faith in its fullness. In this anxious, defensive world, rife with both presumption and despair, Pope Francis's ideal church would dispense with outdated requirements and doctrinal niceties. Grabbing a theological first aid kit, she would hasten to where the battle is hottest, to the killing fields of the culture, and there, before it is too late, *stop the bleeding.*"

I believe the Pope and the ELCA both have it right. It is time to reach out and touch our neighbor so healing and growth can happen. Maybe God has given us this February to reflect personally, and as a church how we can stop the bleeding. I am reflecting and planning on how we can "stop the bleeding" in our relationships and culture so that Christ can be made manifest in our lives and church.

In Christ's Name,  
Amen



## *LYO/YOUTH*

LYO Souper Bowl is **February 2**. The youth are asking everyone to bring a can of soup and a dollar. This year the proceeds and the soup will go to Maggie's Place. To help celebrate Super Bowl Sunday, we're asking the congregation to wear their favorite sports jerseys to Church.

LYO 30-Hour Famine Event is on **February 7 and 8 (Friday and Saturday)**. Our Youth group will take a "retreat" through thought-provoking Bible studies, games, inspirational video, and more for an unforgettable day-and-a-half of going without food to raise funds for World Vision hunger.

The Youth would like to borrow a table-top water fountain (something like the Zen bubbling over stones or rocks). This is for the Youth service in March. If you have one and are willing to share, please let Janeen Oliver, Dick Ransom or Wendy Forrest know.

Grace and peace, Janeen Oliver

## *CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE*

Scouting is adventure, family, fun, character, leadership and so much more. In Scouting, boys and girls start with their best right now selves and grow into their very best future selves. It's fun, hands-on learning and achievement that puts kids in the middle of the action and prepares them for today – and for life.

The Congregational Life Committee would like to invite you to a cake reception following the Scouts' Sunday service on **February 9**. Please join us after the 9:00 a.m. service.

## *JUBILEES*

Jubilees' Valentines Luncheon will be held at noon on **February 12** at Rohrbach Brewing Company, 3859 Buffalo Rd. The sign-up sheet is on the Narthex Table. We will be ordering off the luncheon menu and individual checks will be provided. No advance payment will be required. Hope you can join us for some delicious food and great fellowship.

## *EVANGELISM COMMITTEE*

Christian Movie will be at church on **February 15** at 2:00 p.m. The movie is Overcomer. High school basketball coach John Harrison and his team face an uncertain future when their town's largest manufacturing plant shuts down unexpectedly. As hundreds of people move away, John reluctantly agrees to coach cross-country, a sport he doesn't even like. His outlook soon changes when he meets Hannah Scott, an unlikely runner who pushes herself to the limit. Inspired by the words and prayers of a new friend, John starts to train Hannah for the biggest race of her young life.

Christian Book Club will be in **April (date to be determined)**. The book is Nerves of Steel. Nerves of Steel is the captivating true story of Tammie Jo Shults' remarkable life—from growing up the daughter of a humble rancher, to breaking through gender barriers as one of the Navy's first female F/A-18 Hornet pilots, to safely landing the severely crippled Southwest Airlines Flight 1380 and helping save the lives of 148 people.

# WOMEN OF THE ELCA

We hope that everyone has recovered from the busy holiday season and January's very chilly weather. We now have to get back to our regular meeting schedule.

The Women of the ELCA are having a Blanket Workshop along with Girl Scout Troop 60543 on **February 9** at 1:00 p.m. in the Augsburg Room. At this workshop, we will be making no-sew knotted fleece blankets to be donated to the Coldwater House, a local women and children's shelter. This event is open to everyone. Pizza lunch will be served. A special thank you to Thrivent for sponsoring this event. We will provide instruction, material and supplies (just bring your own scissors). Any questions, you may contact Ann Seppa at 889-4413. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex or call the office. Please RSVP so we know how much food and material to buy.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, **February 11** at 12:00 p.m. This is a lunch meeting, so please bring lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided. **Daryl Jarvis** will serve as hostess and **Barbara King** will provide devotions for this meeting. At this meeting, we will be discussing upcoming events.

**Debbie Frey, Daryl Jarvis and Donna Miller** will provide refreshments for fellowship on **February 9**.

The Women of the ELCA would like to wish everyone a "Happy Valentine's Day."

As we continue to increase our membership, we hope that this will continue as we move through the year. There is always room for more!

Ann Seppa  
Secretary



## BINGO PRIZES FOR CREEKVIEW NURSING HOME

The Women of the ELCA here at Our Saviour continue to collect items for bingo prizes at Creekview Nursing Home. Members of the congregation are invited (and encouraged) to participate in this activity. Please put the items in bags and place at the WELCA table in the Narthex.

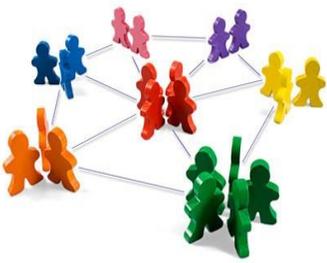
The suggestions that follow were provided by the Recreation Leader at Creekview Nursing Home:

<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>
Stuffed animals	Stuffed animals
Jewelry*	Shaving cream
Lotion (small bottles)	Large print playing
Cards	Non-slip stocking slippers
Non-slip stocking slippers	
Large print Word Search books	
Nail polish (bright or sparkles)	
Polish remover	

\*clip-on earrings only, necklaces long enough to fit over the head, and bracelets large enough to fit over the hand.

Jewelry with clasps are difficult to handle.

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



A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR RELATIONSHIPS— In keeping with St. Valentine’s Day, we are celebrating relationships during our worship services on **February 16**. We give thanks for marriages, parental, sibling or any relationship you may wish to celebrate. Join us for a coffee hour following each service. There will also be opportunity for members who wish to renew their wedding vows to do so during the Prayers of the Church. We encourage you to share your wedding photos on this date as well.



Don’t forget the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on **February 25** at 6:00 p.m. There will be a sign-up sheet available in the Narthex. A free-will offering will be received with the proceeds going to Richards House, a ministry for homeless vets.



Ash Wednesday is **February 26**. A service of Holy Communion and the imposition of ashes on this first day of Lent is planned at 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday is the first of the forty days of Lent. With it, the Church begins the Lenten observance which reflects on Christ’s death for us, our faith and trust in God, and sharing acts of love and kindness with others. The Ash Wednesday service encourages us to contemplate our faith and life in light of Jesus’ giving himself for our salvation.

You are invited to join in this special service. Plan to attend the Ash Wednesday service and the other Lenten services.



JUST A REMINDER—The Coin folders are available on the Narthex table. The offering received from this coin folder will go to our Mission/ELCA 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 ELCA. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the mission of the whole church. **\*\*Lent starts Ash Wednesday, 2/26 and ends Maundy Thursday, 4/9\*\***

**A LENTEN CHALLENGE** - Each year I am asked: “Pastor, what should I give up for Lent?” It is a powerful question. How can I match what our Lord accomplishes for us on the tree of the Cross? In essence we cannot; we can, however, take on something that reflects the love of God to our community. I am therefore challenging you to share food with St. Theodore’s pantry. I ask you to bring 1 item for the pantry for each of the 40 days in Lent (**February 26—April 9**). You may bring your items each week to church (i.e. 7 items per week) and we will bring them to the pantry.

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 Helper	Chicken Helper, Tuna Helper
tea	hot chocolate mix	applesauce
hand soap	toothpaste	toothbrush
shampoo	toilet paper	facial tissue

# Thank You

- ♥ *Mary Ellen Saur, Ann and Gordon Seppa, Patti Schulz, Debbie Frey, Daryl Jarvis, Jean Lombard and Margie Kowalski for stapling, addressing and mailing the January newsletter.*
- ♥ *Mary Ellen Saur, Sharon and Richard Yackel, Daryl Jarvis and Ann Seppa for assembling the bulletins each week.*
- ♥ *Mary Ellen Saur for continuing to change the message on the sign and doing other various tasks in the office.*
- ♥ *To all the Sunday Modern Traditional PowerPoint volunteers.*
- ♥ *To all the video recording of our services volunteers.*
- ♥ *Linda Loughlin for maintaining the oil candles in preparation for Sunday services.*
- ♥ *Margie Kowalski for continuing to care for the plants in the Narthex and replacing the flowers in the planters and vases.*
- ♥ *Cindy Borzilleri and Carol Werth for maintaining the Time and Talent and Worship documentation, as well as the volunteers.*
- ♥ *Sharon Yackel for coordinating our coffee (Equal Exchange) order and keeping track of our coffee supply.*
- ♥ *Jerry Stich for shoveling snow from our walk-way.*
- ♥ *Jerry Stich and Ed Jarvis for working on the new sound system.*
- ♥ *Thrivent for their continued support, sponsorship, and contributions.*
- ♥ *Everyone bringing snacks to the Tuesday/Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor.*
- ♥ *Deb Ciccone for proofing the weekly announcements.*
- ♥ *Patti Schulz for proofing the various documentation/publications.*
- ♥ *Mary Ellen Saur, Ann Seppa, Debi Macksamie, Patti Schulz, Daryl and Ed Jarvis for assembling the Annual Report.*
- ♥ *Terry Stich for creating a video recording of Jeanette Ferraro's funeral service per the family's request.*
- ♥ *All who served at both of our Christmas Eve services: Service Leaders, Ushers, Lectors, Communion Assistants, and Acolytes/Deacons.*

♥♥♥ *THE CHURCH STAFF WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A BIG THANK YOU TO THE CONGREGATION FOR THE GENEROUS CHRISTMAS BONUS. MAY MANY BLESSINGS BESTOW UPON YOU! ♥♥♥*

*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. Committees and others are asked to share these names with the Office Manager, Simone Harter, for inclusion in future issues of the Communicator.*

## In Loving Memory

The members of Our Saviour extend Christian love and sympathy to the family of  
Stephen Cuyler  
and  
M. Jeanette Ferraro

- Stephen passed December 17, 2019 at the age of 52.
- Jeanette passed December 28, 2019 at the age of 89.

- Memorial Services were held at
- Our Saviour in December 2019 and January 2020.

Rest eternal grant for them, O Lord;  
and let light perpetual shine upon them.



Copies of **Our Saviour's Annual Report** are available on the Narthex table. If you would like a copy mailed just call the church office.

### Closing of the church due to weather

If the church closes due to hazardous weather conditions, we will post the closing in the following forums:

- ◇ WROC/CHANNEL 8: On television and website (RochesterFirst.com).
- ◇ SPECTRUM/CHANNEL 9: On television and website (spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/rochester)
- ◇ WHEC/CHANNEL 10/NBC : On television and website (WHEC.com).
- ◇ WHAM/CHANNEL 13/ABC/FOX ROCHESTER. Please note that you can only check via their website (13wam.com) instead of your television.

If the phone system is operational, we will also initiate a phone call distribution (aka phone tree) to the congregation.

**CANS & BOTTLES:** Tired of bringing your bottles and cans with a 5 cent deposit to the grocery store? Bring them to Flower City Bottle & Can Return across the street from church. They are open Sundays from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., so bring your cans to church and drop them off. **DID YOU KNOW? You can designate Lutheran Church of Our Saviour Youth Group** to receive credit for your returns. Just drop off the cans and bottles and they will credit Our Saviour's account. Every little bit helps!



### CARING AND SHARING

We all have loving hearts but busy lives. To make life easier for you to show others you care, we are providing a CARD BOX.

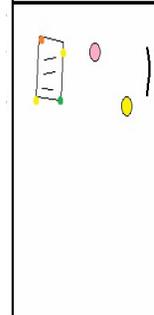
Help yourself to cards and envelopes. Our LCOS Directory is there to help you find addresses. You can write your notes and address the envelopes now while you are thinking of it. Just add a stamp and drop it in the mail.

The card box is located on the small round table next to the lift/elevator.

Do you receive free cards in the mail? Bring them in and add to the box.



### **REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER USE**—a reminder to anyone who stores food and drinks in the church's



refrigerator and freezer. You must date and identify everything that 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.

# IMPORTANT DATES



## SPECIFIC TO OUR SAVIOUR

- † Bell Choir and Vocal Choir are in recess for the month
- † Souper Bowl Sunday, 2/2
- † LYO 30-Hour Famine Event, 2/7  
6:00 p.m. to 2/8 6:00 p.m.
- † Scouts Sunday, 2/9  
Cake reception after the 9:00 a.m. service
- † Evangelism Committee Meeting, 2/9, 10:30 a.m.
- † WELCA & Scouts Blanket Making Party  
2/9, 1:00 p.m.
- † Church Council Meeting, 2/10, 6:30 p.m.
- † WELCA Meeting, 2/11, 12:00 p.m.
- † Jubilees Valentines Luncheon, 2/12, 12:00 p.m.
- † *February 14th Happy Valentines Day!*
- † Christian Movie, 2/15, 2:00 p.m.
- † Winter Break 2/16—2/23
- † Renewal of Vows Sunday, 2/16 services
- † Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 2/25, 6:00 p.m.
- † Ash Wednesday Service, 2/26, 7:00 p.m.

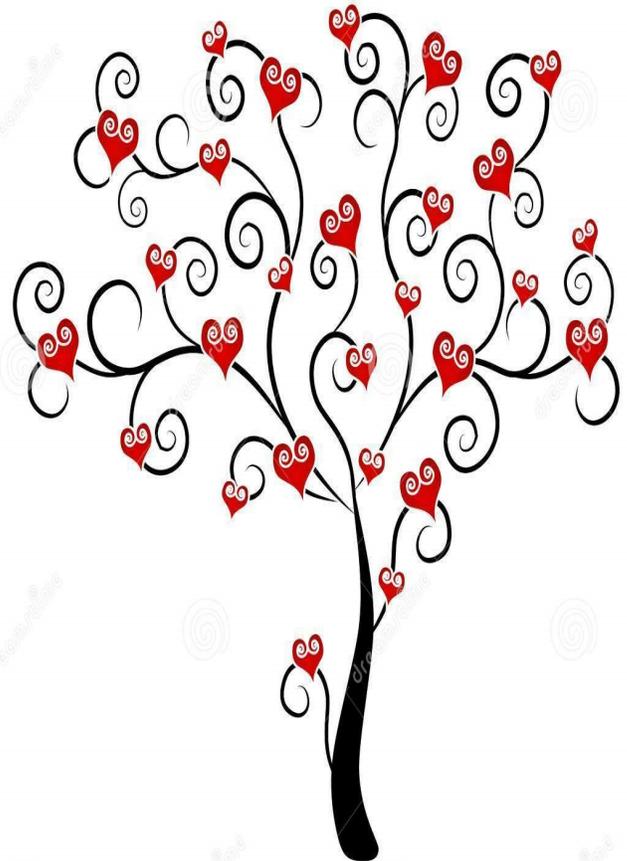
Believe in God's  
love and love  
people that you  
meet on your way.

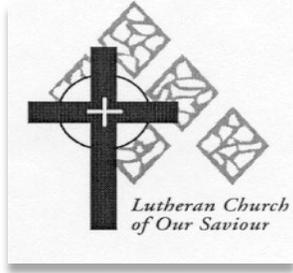
## SPECIFIC TO OUR SAVIOUR

- † Mid-week Lenten Services are on Wednesdays  
from 3/4 to 4/1, supper 6:30 p.m., service 7:15 p.m.
- † Youth Service, 3/15, 9:00 a.m.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- † WELCA Spring Communion Brunch, 4/25
- † WELCA Leadership and Planning Meeting, 6/10
- † 2020 WELCA Genesee Finger Lakes Conference  
Retreat (date to-be-determined)
- † 2020 WELCA Advent Gathering  
(date to-be-determined)





*Newsletter of the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour*  
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 Website: [www.OurSaviourRochester.org](http://www.OurSaviourRochester.org)  
 The Rev. Joachim Wilck, Pastor  
 Office Manager: Simone Harter  
 A member congregation of the Upstate New York Synod  
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



**THE CHURCH SERVICES ARE  
 RECORDED AND ARE ON YOUTUBE  
 GO TO  
[WWW.OURSAVIOURROCHESTER.ORG](http://WWW.OURSAVIOURROCHESTER.ORG)  
 AND  
 CLICK ON WATCH AND LISTEN**

**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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