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The
Communicator
July & August
2019



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LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

The Communicator



Thursday
July 4
No summer evening
Service on July 4.

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

It was her first college course in history. She studied well, took thorough notes, read the assigned texts, and reviewed it all in preparation for test day. The professor's tests were always of the one question essay type.

When the test was returned, she didn't get the good grade she expected. The learning came when the professor told her, "You can't just repeat what the textbooks and I have said. You have to interpret history!" And the door of her mind opened to the fresh breezes of lifelong enjoyment in learning to think historically.

It was their first course in discipleship. They followed along as best as they could. They listened to him teach and preach. They observed his healing attention to people in need. From time to time they reviewed what they remembered him saying and doing.

Now he called them together and sent them out to do ministry. So it was test time. The teacher tested them on one question: "Who do you say that I am?" They didn't get the good grade they expected. They learned there was more to it than just repeating the responses of others. Finally, Peter would land on the right words, "The Messiah of God."

But the learning would come the hard way for Peter and all of us who declare a faith that follows the Messiah of God. There were and will be times of confusion and bewilderment. There were and will be times of denying Christ before learning to deny ourselves.

How does the joy of learning to think and act as Christ's people come about for us? It is not by anything we do, not by anything we tell ourselves, not by anything we mastermind. Peter and the disciples had to experience Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension, and wait for the gift of the Spirit at Pentecost. For us, too, it is the Spirit who works through the gospel. We are energized for living differently.

The Spirit creates in us a growing disbelief in the contemporary gods of self-gratification and acquisition. With new eyes we learn to see through the promises that deceive and destroy. The spirit, given in our Baptism, is our strength to die daily to all the trappings of self-centeredness within and around us. And we get a second wind—Pentecost air—to delight in living for others and sharing God's gifts with Christlike extravagance.

``Pastor Wilck

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: Reflections from a school teacher –“Ah, summer! For the next three months I will not be sitting up at night grading papers, developing tests, and all of those things I usually do after coming home from a day of teaching.

When June comes, I teeter on the edge of burnout. During the school year, each Friday is a “little burnout.” I need worship on Sunday. It reminds me of the inner power God gives. It reminds me that all of us face struggles and discouragement in our lives. We all need worship, don't we?

This summer a friend and I plan to take a vacation together. On Sunday mornings we will stop for church wherever we are. Most of these experiences will be really great. During the services I will pray for those of you who are worshipping here in our church.

Before leaving on vacation, I will write a check for my regular church giving. It is much easier and more joyful to do before I leave than after coming back. (Like me, do you spend more on vacation than you intend to?)

The gift before going is great for the church and great for the giver. In other words, everybody wins. I like that. (There is an envelope in this newsletter so you can do just that.)

May you have a wonderful and blessed summer.

UPDATED LIST OF OUR CHURCH LEADERS AND MINISTRIES

Our members were installed on Sunday, June 2, 2019.
 God bless us with all of you for caring and helping Our Saviour.
 Thanks cannot express enough for all that you do for the church!

Organization and Staff of The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

Church Staff

Pastor Joachim Wilck.....	269-9086
Simone Harter, Office Manager.....	230-7196
Alexandra Pond, Music Director	738-4158
Alice Popen, Wedding Coordinator	247-1024
Janeen Oliver, Youth Ministry.....	1-936-494-8348

Elected Staff - Church Council

President	
Donna Miller	270-5818
Vice-President	
Frank Johnson.....	770-3222
Secretary	
Jill Klein	698-9812
Treasurer	
Pam Spencer	967-4775
Chair, Board for Christian Education:	
Yvonne Dougherty	571-4161
Chair, Board for Church and Community:	
Barb King	293-7136
Chair, Congregational Life Committee:	
Mary Ellen Saur.....	247-1692
Carol Werth.....	247-8327
Chair, Board for Evangelism:	
Pam Spencer	967-4775
Chair, Board for Stewardship:	
Cindy Borzilleri,.....	633-4524
Chair, Board of Trustees:	
Ed Jarvis	426-0332
Chair, Board for Youth Ministry:	
Janeen Oliver	1-936-494-8348
Assistant Financial Secretary:	
Rod Potter	247-1682

Congregational Life Committee

(CLC reports to Board of Church & Community)

Mary Ellen, Co-chair	247-1692
Carol Werth Co-chair	247-8327
Frank Johnson	770-3222
Diane Parke-Potter	247-1682
Han Witt	247-4625
Alice Popen	247-1024
Brian Spencer.....	202-1481
Donna Miller	270-5818
John and Debi Macksamie	426-4561
Ann Seppa	889-4413
Michelle Coval.....	247-7502
Ed Jarvis	426-0332

Women of the ELCA

Ann Marie MacBride, President.....	594-5836
Ann Seppa, Secretary	889-4413
Cheryl Stone, Treasurer.....	247-6557
Cheryl Stone and Ann Seppa, Outreach Co-chair	

Jubilees

Ed Jarvis, Chairperson	426-0332
Deb Ciccone.....	227-8720
Daryl Jarvis	426-0332
Nancy Austin	293-1079

Altar Guild

Debbie Frey, Co-chairperson	426-0382
Daryl Jarvis, Co-chairperson	426-0332
Cheryl Stone, Co-chairperson	247-6557
Carole Chapin	594-8963
Yvonne Dougherty.....	571-4161
Peggy Hamblin	247-5775
Marjorie Kowalski	426-0870
Ann Marie MacBride.....	594-5836
Donna Miller	270-5818
Joan Plowe.....	889-9780
Karen Preston.....	944-8438
Marielies Renke.....	491-6545
Ann Seppa.....	889-4413
Patty Stich	426-0622
Sharon Yackel.....	594-2496
Debbie Wilck	465-8824
Sandy Johnson.....	247-5405
Colleen Forsey	do not list #

Our Saviour Sunday School Staff and Officers

Sunday School Superintendent:	
Michelle Coval.....	247-7502
Teachers:	
Pre-Nursery/Nursery/Kindergarten:	
Jessica Denz	354-8687
God's Littlest Light (Parents-and-Me Class): Janeen Oliver	
	1-936-494-8348
Grades 1-4: Michelle Coval	
	247-7502
Grade 5-6: TBD	
Grade 7-8: Pastor Wilck.....	
	269-9086
Grade 9-12:	
Dick Ransom	889-4460
Wendy Forrest.....	594-1723
Paul Denz.....	354-8687

Board for Christian Education

Yvonne Dougherty, Chairperson
Michelle Coval

Board for Church and Community

(BCC reports to Church Council)

Barb King, Chairperson	293-7136
Jerry Stich	426-0622

Board for Youth Ministry

Janeen Oliver	1-936-494-8348
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Board for Stewardship

Cindy Borzilleri, Chairperson.....	633-4524
Mary Ellen Saur.....	247-1692
Ann Seppa.....	889-4413
Donna Miller	270-5818

Board for Finance

Pam Spencer, Treasurer.....	967-4775
Rod Potter, Asst. Fin. Sec.	247-1682
Ron Castrichini	247-5098
Andrew Pond.....	721-1461
Nancy Austin	293-1079
Linda Loughlin	406-7708

Board of Trustees

Ed Jarvis, Chairperson	426-0332
Jim Flick,	334-5020
Rick Chapin.....	594-8963
Jerry Stich	426-0622
Larry Hopkins	563-6743

Evangelism Committee

Pam Spencer.....	967-4775
Mary Ellen Saur.....	247-1692

Worship and Music Committee

Alexandra Pond.....	738-4158
Carol Ransom	889-4460
Mary Ellen Saur	247-1692
Daryl Jarvis.....	426-0332
Diane Parke-Potter	247-1682
Linda Loughlin	406-7708

(The election was discussed at the Church Council Meeting on 4/8/19; as well as at the Congregational Meeting on 4/28/19)

Document last updated: 6/24/19

Prayer for Independence Day

God, source of all freedom, this day is bright with the memory of those who declared life and liberty are your gift to every human being.

Help us to continue a good work begun long ago. Make our vision clear and our will strong: that only in human solidarity will we find liberty, and justice only in the honor that belongs to every life on earth.

Turn our hearts toward the family of nations: to understand the ways of others, to offer friendship, and to find safety only in the common good of all.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Exciting activities occurring throughout 2019!

Our official Anniversary is November 3.

- ♥ Different Pastors speaking at our various Services in May, June, July, September, October and November.
- ♥ Speakers from various ministries will be at our Services in May, June, July, September and October.
- ♥ Celebration Luncheon with comedian entertainment in October.
- ♥ We will have a baby picture contest.
- ♥ We will video record interviews with members to gather stories of our church history.
- ♥ There will be a new 75th Anniversary Booklet.

Please join the committee meeting on **July 10** at 6:30 p.m.

FROM THE TRUSTEES

As with every summer time there is still a need to still maintain the church buildings and the surrounding grounds. It's a good time to trim the bushes, paint outside walls, cut the grass, take care of repairs where needed, and other miscellaneous jobs. If you are interested in this type of work, please contact Ed Jarvis. A major job this summer will be re-sealing the church parking lot. We have contracted the Seyrek Sealers Company for the work. Please be aware that when the work starts, the parking lot will need be closed for a few days. Also, we will be going forward with the installation of an Electronic Carillon Bell System by the Schulmerich Company in memory of Betty Curry. We hope to have this system ready by our 75th Anniversary Celebration on October 27.

RED WINGS GAME



Each year Genesee Valley Motors purchases tickets to a Red Wings game for Law Enforcement to share with their community. The Gates Police Chief offered us tickets. The game is on Sunday, **July 14**, 1:00 p.m.

The tickets have been handed out. If you think you will NOT be attending, please let Ed Jarvis know ASAP so that we can free up some tickets for those on the waiting list.

LYO/YOUTH

SUMMER FAMILY FUN

Sunday, **August 11**. We have reserved a pavilion in the park. There is a sign-up sheet for this event on the Narthex table. The event is a family event for our families and children of all ages. The Youth provide charcoal for the grill, lemonade and iced tea. The children and Youth members of our church do not have to pay for their tickets. All others are asked to pay the group rate (\$25.25 for ride & slide, or for spectator \$13.99). We encourage the Youth to invite their friends.

CANS & BOTTLES: Tired of bringing your bottles & 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 & bottles and they will credit Our Saviour's account. Every little bit helps!



EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

We had another successful basket raffle. Thank you to everyone who donated a basket and/or bought raffle tickets. We raised \$777. Thank you to Mary Ellen Saur, Andy Pond, Ed and Daryl Jarvis, Debbie Frey, Janeen Oliver and the Youth Group, Simone Harter and Debi Macksamie for helping with selling raffle tickets, cooking, serving food, games, cleanup, etc. for the church picnic. Brian and Pam Spencer really appreciated all of the help this year.

The Christian Movie is on hold until September.

Christian Book Club will resume on **October 3** at 6:30 p.m.
The book is yet to be determined.

Carol Newman shared a Natalie Grant and Charlotte Gambill one night event to be held at Roberts Wesleyan Cultural Life Center, **August 24, 2019** at 7:30 p.m. EDT. "Dare To Be" is a life-changing event for women of all ages. The theme is "Speak To The Storm" which is a night of worship, music and two full Bible teaching sessions. Cost: Reserved Price Level 1 - \$44.50, Level 2 - \$34.50 and Level 3 - \$24.50. If anyone is interested in attending, please let Pam Spencer know ASAP. The tickets will go fast.



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE through Labor Day

Thursday Evening Service at 7:00 p.m.
Outdoor Service—remember to bring your lawn chairs or blankets.

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

BEFORE YOU GO

As you step into summer and times of relaxation we know many of you will be traveling and will not be at church. We remind you that our financial needs continue through the summer months and ask that you do not forget your church before you go. Enclosed in this newsletter you will discover an envelope reminding you to send your offering to your church before you leave town. Your gifts are always appreciated and thank you in advance for remembering our ministry at Our Saviour.

RECENT BAPTISM ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOSEPHINE NAIOMI ROBINSON—JUNE 29

PLEASE KEEP HER IN YOUR PRAYERS AS SHE JOINED
OUR CHURCH FAMILY



SERVING SCHEDULE July and August 2019

Our sincere thanks to all who faithfully served during the month of June...and our thanks to all the following who are serving in special ways during the month of July and August.

THURSDAY DATES	TIME	SERVICE LEADERS	USHERS	LECTORS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	GREETER
7/4/2019 No Service Happy 4th of July!	7:00PM	X	X	X	X	X
11-Jul	7:00PM	Deb Ciccone	X	X	X	X
18-Jul	7:00PM	Michelle Coval	X	X	X	X
25-Jul	7:00PM	Deb Ciccone	X	X	X	X
1-Aug	7:00PM	Ed Jarvis	X	X	X	X
8-Aug	7:00PM	Deb Ciccone	X	X	X	X
15-Aug	7:00PM	Alice Popen	X	X	X	X
22-Aug	7:00PM	Michelle Coval	X	X	X	X
29-Aug	7:00PM	Ed Jarvis	X	X	X	X

SUNDAY DATES	TIME	SERVICE LEADERS	USHERS (only 1)	LECTOR (only 1)	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS (2 needed)	GREETER
7-Jul	9:30AM	Diane Parke-Potter	Rod Potter	Diane Parke-Potter	X	X
14-Jul	9:30AM	Hans Witt	Colleen Forsey	Franz Foltz	Jessica Denz & NEED ANOTHER PERSON	X
21-Jul	9:30AM	Carol Werth	Ann Seppa	Linda Loughlin	X	X
28-Jul	9:30AM	Ann Seppa	Jennifer Large	Norma Snyder	Donna Miller & Linda Loughlin	X
4-Aug	9:30AM	Diane Parke-Potter	Rod Potter	Diane Parke-Potter	X	X
11-Aug	9:30AM	Mary Ellen Saur	Donna Miller	Patty Stich	NEED 2 PEOPLE	X
18-Aug	9:30AM	Carol Werth	Jessica Denz	Jessica Denz	X	X
25-Aug	9:30AM	Ann Seppa	Jill Klein	Franz Foltz	Donna Miller & Linda Loughlin	X
1-Sep	9:30AM	Carol Werth	Helga Mitchell	Carol Werth	X	X

ALTER CARE: (July-Daryl Jarvis & Yvonne Dougherty) (August-Colleen Forsey & Debbie Wilck) (September-Debbie Frey, Daryl Jarvis & Valerie Baird)

COUNTERS: (July-Rod Potter) (August & September-TBD)

WOMEN OF THE ELCA



Another exciting year has ended. Our end of the year potluck dinner was at the home of Ann Seppa on June 11. Twelve women enjoyed delicious food and as always, wonderful fellowship. The ladies all thanked Ann for hosting. At this meeting, we planned for the upcoming 2019/2020 year of events.

We look forward to another exciting year to begin in September with our annual potluck dinner to be held on Tuesday, **September 10** at 6:30 p.m.

Thank you to all the ladies who provided desserts and volunteered their time for the Hans Strasser memorial reception held on Saturday, June 8.

The Women of the ELCA are again sponsoring the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox church-wide project. Debbie Frey is chairing this project and if anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact her. A large box is in the Narthex for collecting donations during the next several months. The official kick-off date will be in September.

The Upstate New York Synod Convention, sponsored by the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference, will be held on Friday, **October 4 through Sunday, October 6, 2019**, at Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua, NY. The theme is “And God said...Walk a Faithful Journey”.

The Registration form and the Convention flyer are in this newsletter. Any questions, contact Ann Seppa.

Please remember that as members of an ELCA congregation, you are a “*Woman of the ELCA*”.

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer. Looking forward to seeing you all in September.

Dear Christian Family,

The Women of the ELCA are once again sponsoring **THE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES**. We are going to try something different this year. We are collecting a list of items per month starting in April. The box along with a list of items for that month will be on the table in the Narthex. Each month there will be a different list of items. This will give the Youth plenty of items to pack boxes in November.

The month of July and August: cars, books, Lego’s, trucks, planes, stickers, card games, small crafts, small games, fishing items, farm animals and coloring books.

A few notes of what can not be in the boxes: Fighting toys like knives, guns
No liquids (paint, nail polish, bubbles)
No candy or toothpaste

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to me or call me at 426-0382.

~~Debbie Frey



WOMEN OF THE ELCA



Upstate NY Synod Women of the ELCA 2019 Convention

“And God said . . . Walk a Faithful Journey”

Rest, relax, and recharge on beautiful Canandaigua Lake and enjoy a program of Bible study, spiritual reflection, fellowship, and workshops.

Where: Notre Dame Retreat House, 5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424
(585) 394-5700

When: October 4– 6

Registration: \$65 for the weekend

Registration for Saturday only: \$75 (includes meals)

Lodging: Cost for lodging includes all meals.
Double Room (2 beds) with full bath----\$170 per person
Single Room (with sink and shared toilet) ---- \$200 per person

Workshops: Presenter, Pastor Aileen Robbins - “Camino de Santiago”
Pilgrimage to the shrine of the apostle St. James in Spain

Any questions, contact Simone Harter at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour,
office@oursaviourrochester.org or (585) 247-7824



REGISTRATION FORM, deadline September 16th

***WOMEN OF THE ELCA
Upstate New York Synod 2019 Convention***

**October 4 – 6 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday)
at Notre Dame Retreat House
5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424, (585) 394-5700**

**Registration Fee \$65; cost for lodging includes meals:
Double Room (2 beds) with bath, \$170 per person
Single Room with sink, \$200 per person - shared toilet (Jack and Jill setup)
Saturday only \$75 (Registration and meals)**

“AND GOD SAID...WALK A FAITHFUL JOURNEY”

Please print

Name _____

Badge Nickname _____

Address _____

Primary Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Month of birthday _____

Church _____

Conference _____



Registration Form Page 1 of 2

Dietary, Mobility or Special Needs

Need registration confirmation by postal mail? (otherwise sent via email) Yes No

Does your church have a WELCA unit? Yes No

You are reserving a: Single Room Double Room Coming on Saturday only

Will you need a roommate? Yes No Person's Name _____

Please mark all that apply: Voting Member (Delegate) Alternate Participant Visitor
 Board Member Conference Coordinator Scholarship recipient First time attending

Weekend Registration Fee	\$65	\$ _____
Saturday Registration Only (includes Registration & meals)	\$75	\$ _____
Single Room (includes meals)	\$200/person	\$ _____
Double Room (includes meals)	\$170/person	\$ _____
Your Total		\$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO Lutheran Church of Our Saviour and send to:
Simone Harter
Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
2415 Chili Avenue, Rochester, NY 14624
Please note on the check "WELCA convention"

Any questions, contact Simone at office@oursaviourrochester.org or (585) 247-7824.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA



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	

*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.

Upstate NY Synod Convention *October 4-5-6, 2019* **"And God said...Walk a Faithful Journey"**

Where: Notre Dame Retreat House
5151 Foster Road
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Weekend Costs: (Includes ALL meals)

Registration: TBD

Lodging:

Double Room (2 beds) \$170/Person
With full bath

Single Room (with sink) \$200/Person
Share toilet (Jack and Jill set-up)

Enjoy: Bible Study

Communion

Spiritual Reflection

Fellowship

Workshops

We would like to update our Church Directory in the next few months. Would you please provide the following information:

- ◆ A change in your address or home phone number.
- ◆ Email address (we will not publish this, however, it is the preferred method for the office to contact you, as needed).
- ◆ Primary cell phone (we will not publish this, however, it can be used by Pastor or the office, if needed).

You can email to office@oursaviourrochester.org, call the office or drop a note in the office. We thank you for your cooperation and help.

Please provide the information by **July 31**.

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.



Dear Sisters and Brothers of Our Saviour,

Thank you so very much for all of your loving compassion and sympathy on the loss of our father, Hans Strasser. Thank you for helping us honor his Christian life and memories for a life well lived in the Lord. The inspired funeral service reminded us that the church is there for you at any time in your life. Thank you also for your honoring him as a US Army Veteran, both with the honor flag ceremony and the placing of the brick in the Memorial Garden.

We are grateful to Pastor Wilck, the church staff, and all of the various committees that helped with our Dad's Memorial Service. We're also very grateful to the Women of the church, with the preparations for the Holy Communion, and the planning and coordination of the splendid luncheon, including delicious desserts, and setting up and cleaning up. The whole event was extraordinary. It was a gift to us.

We are blessed to be connected to such an amazing church family, who supported us during a difficult time.

Much love and peace,
Arden, Lance, Richard and Heidi (Pongracz) Strasser

**THANK YOU TO OUR SUNDAY
SCHOOL TEACHERS!**

A special thank you to Sheila Foltz who taught Vacation Bible Study and Sunday School at Our Saviour for 18+ years! We are very appreciative of all that she's done for the families and church. It has been a blessing to have her teach our children during those many years.

Sheila is stepping down and the Board of Christian Education is looking for another volunteer. It is absolutely rewarding work to help raise our children in the Christian life. No teaching degree or certification is necessary. Please contact Yvonne Dougherty or Michelle Coval if you can assist.



- ♥ Mary Ellen Saur, Ann and Gordon Seppa, Patti Schulz, Daryl Jarvis, Colleen Forsey, Jean Lombard, Cheryl Stone, Sandy Johnson and Elaine De Vantier for collating, stapling, addressing and mailing the May newsletter.
- ♥ Mary Ellen Saur, Sharon and Richard Yackel 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 Power Point volunteers.
- ♥ Linda Lough 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.
- ♥ The Cleaning Bee members for keeping up with the various cleaning jobs.
- ♥ Cindy Borzilleri and Carol Werth maintaining the Time and Talent and Worship documentation as well as the volunteers.
- ♥ Ed Jarvis, Larry Hopkins, Mary Ellen Saur and Frank Johnson for the lawn work.
- ♥ Ed Jarvis and Rick Chapin for building maintenance work.
- ♥ To the various Committees that help with Memorial Services and Baptism.
- ♥ Thank you for the lovely sound of the Vocal Choir, Bell Choir and Sunday School Children during the Pentecost (June 9) Service.
- ♥ Sandy Johnson would like to thank everyone for their prayers during her time of need. Prayers are indeed powerful and it helped her get through it all.
- ♥ Carol Werth for supplying the cake for Pastor's 15th year LCOS Anniversary.
- ♥ Joe Manuse from the Gates Fire District as our special speaker on June 23. It was interesting to hear how much more they do for the community than we think. For those who could not attend, you may contact Joe at 585-426-2720, email: jmanuse@gatesfd.org.

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 the Office Manager, Simone Harter, for inclusion in future issues of the Communicator.



Articles written by the Rev. Katie Yahns

Photography by the Rev. Jeff Kane

THE ASSEMBLY POST

In previous years we have had an Assembly Wrap-Up published shortly after synod assembly. As with several shifts made this year, our post assembly news is now called *The Assembly Post*. *The Assembly Post* includes articles from *The Daily Posts*, pictures and more. Read this year's very first edition of *The Assembly Post* now and then print it out to share with your congregation.

TRUMPETING THE GOOD NEWS

The echoes of brass instruments throughout the assembly hall heralded the start of the 2019 Synod Assembly, which happened to fall on the festival of the Ascension of Our Lord. As the gathered people sang “God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind,” the trumpet and trombone fanfares soared overhead, a musical reminder of every Christian's call to share the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ. The assembly had the chance to groove to a different kind of brass music when the opening worship continued and concluded with “Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In.”

Also during the opening worship service, St. John's, Allegheny and St. Paul's, Ellicottville were both received into the ELCA. Both were previously congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

After the evening plenary concluded, the assembly moved into Holden Evening Prayer. The middle of the service included an extended time of Scripture and hymns, during which individuals were given an LED tealight candle and asked to light it and place it on a map of the world at the front of the assembly hall. The result was a shimmering image of the world surrounded in prayer.

WITNESS WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE

Assembly goers gathered at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center this year around the theme of “You Will Be My Witness.” On Thursday evening, the assembly heard more about how the theme will be lived out in the days to come.

The Rev. Norma Malfatti, Director for Evangelical Mission, created and shared a video using her cell phone to introduce video storytelling as a witnessing tool for modern times. She hopes that by encouraging individuals in congregations to create short videos about the mission and ministry in which they are engaged, they can build relationships and inspire others to grow in their own witness to the love of Jesus. “This is our book of Acts for 2019,” Malfatti said. She told the assembly to look for more videos throughout the assembly—and the year—to share more of what the church is up to.

Malfatti also invited individuals to share their “Faith Alive!” moments by writing down their personal stories about encountering the love of Jesus on cards and posting them on a wall of the assembly hall. The idea is to keep it brief—ideally, short enough to be shared in an elevator ride. Those who are open to sharing their stories with the assembly are invited to mark them with a gold star.

BUSINESS MATTERS BEGAN FOR ASSEMBLY THURSDAY

On Thursday evening, the assembly dove into business, adopting the agenda and rules of procedure as published, considering and adopting Resolution #2, and hearing a number of reports.

Resolution #2 is a memorial to the 2019 Churchwide Assembly later this summer, urging the ELCA to endorse The Earth Charter. According to the resolution, the Earth Charter is “an international declaration of values and principles that support building a just, sustainable, and peaceful global society in the 21st century.” It speaks about care for the earth and maintaining a healthy ecosystem as well as sustainability in the future and reshaping our economic and political systems to better build “a democratic and humane world.” It was adopted by a margin of 192 to 13.

The assembly also received information on a number of business items coming up during the next two days, including an introduction to the proposed 2020 Mission Spending Plan from Greg May, chair of the synodical Finance Committee.

Reports from Lori Fedyk, treasurer of the ELCA and representative of the churchwide organization, as well as Sue Fox, president of the synodical Women of the ELCA, were also received. Fedyk shared that the Upstate New York Synod gave a total of nearly 1.4 million dollars to the work of the greater church, and gives the second highest total of any synod to ELCA World Hunger. This fact paved the way for the Rev. Dave Preisinger to brief the assembly on this year's World Hunger appeal with a goal of \$40,000. He will be sharing updates throughout the assembly.

BISHOP JOHN MACHOLZ ON FAMILY LEAVE

As voting members and guests gathered for the 2019 Upstate New York Synod Assembly, Vice President Tom Madden brought some sobering news: Bishop John Macholz would not be present at the assembly this year.

A letter from Bishop Macholz, stated he needed to be present with his daughter Barb as her life's journey was nearing its completion. She has been fighting breast cancer for several years. As of the starting date of the assembly, Thursday, May 30, Bishop Macholz was officially on family medical leave.

Bishop Jim Hazelwood of the New England Synod will be present with the assembly this week and serve as interim bishop now and in the days to come.

HEARTS AND HANDS FOR BARB WELCOMES THE ASSEMBLY'S HELP

In Friday morning's plenary, Vice President Tom Madden shared that many had asked him if there was a way to help Bishop John Macholz and his wife Lin as they focused their energies on being with their daughter Barbara, now in the final stage of her battle with breast cancer. Bishop Macholz has requested and expressed gratitude for the prayers of the assembly, but some had expressed a wish to do more.

Madden announced that donations to the fund “Hearts and Hands for Barb” were welcome to help lift the financial burden for the Macholz family. Checks can be made out to Atonement Lutheran Church with “Hearts and Hands for Barb” written on the memo line and sent to Atonement Lutheran Church, 1900 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY 14618.

ELECTIONS COMPLETED FRIDAY MORNING

In the Thursday evening plenary, Vice President Tom Madden gave a quick overview of the various elections for positions on Synod Council and the board of United Lutheran Seminary. At that time, nominations for the at-large Synod Council seats were closed as no further names were put forward. One at-large seat is designated for a youth ages 16 to 17, for which one nominee had been identified before the assembly. The other seat is designated for a lay person of color or primary language other than English.

In Friday morning's plenary, Madden announced that a nominee for this seat had been identified. Nominations were re-opened and Atif Dean of Good Shepherd, Loudonville was nominated. Elections for all Synod Council seats were then held and as there was only one nominee for each available seat, Gary Roller, Daniel May, and Ryan Hunneshagen were elected.

Fred Risser was also elected to another term on the board of United Lutheran Seminary.

LESS BUSINESS, MORE CONVERSATION FRIDAY MORNING

In Friday morning's plenary, the assembly set aside "business as usual" for a time and entered into committee of the whole to reflect on and discuss current trends of decline within the ELCA and mainline Protestant denominations. This was in response to a request made of Synod Council. Saturday morning's plenary session will include additional time to discuss this topic in small groups.

Also on Friday morning, the assembly welcomed several guests to the podium to hear their reports:

- The Rev. Dr. Martin Otto Zimmann, president of United Lutheran Seminary, spoke on the current state of seminary education at United.
- The Rev. Lori Kochanski shared the work of the Women and Justice task force of the ELCA, which has produced a social statement entitled "Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Lutheran Call to Action," which will be on the agenda of the Churchwide Assembly this August in Milwaukee.
- Nick Stroczkowski, director of Organic Faith in Buffalo, lifted up the power of youth ministry to help young people process their pain and find healing in healthy ways.
- Deacon Lee Lindeman, executive director of Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, reported on the ministry happening and the new improvements being made to the facilities there.
- The Rev. Peter Cook, executive director of the New York State Council of Churches, reported on the work they do with prison chaplaincy ministry and advocacy in the state capital.
- Fred Risser, synodical treasurer, also delivered his report on the financial state of the synod.

The Rev. Laurie Carson shared her "Faith Alive!" moment shared with the assembly and the Rev. Dave Preisinger gave an update on the total for ELCA World Hunger: \$23,094.19, over halfway to the goal amount. Congregations who contribute are invited to write their name on a paper hand and add it to the display in the plenary hall. Finally, the Rev. Dr. Julius Carroll and the Rev. Dr. Kenneth Simurro shared a historical presentation about the Lutheran witness to slavery during the last 400 years in North America.

CELEBRATIONS TAKE CENTER STAGE ON FRIDAY EVENING

Friday evening's celebration banquet gave the assembly a chance to honor and thank a wide variety of people. Eleven pastors were honored for their milestone anniversaries of ordination, ranging from fifty to sixty-five years each, for a combined total of six hundred and thirty-five years of pastoral experience. Members of Synod Council completing their term of service were also thanked.

For the first time, the assembly took time to verbally thank congregations for their mission support to the synod. Greg May, chair of the synodical finance committee, named each congregation and specially noted those that had grown substantially in their giving to the synod.

Two other awards were given: Tom Madden, synodical vice president, presented Fred Risser, synodical treasurer, with the Synodical Discipleship Award, and Keith Mundy, program director for stewardship for the ELCA, recognized Denise Ballou for her outstanding work as Mission Interpreter Coordinator for the churchwide organization.

"WE ARE WITNESSES" THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH YEAR

A mournful plainsong chant transformed into a lilting jazz melody as the Rita Collective Ensemble began playing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," the processional hymn for Monday evening's worship service. The ensemble of bass clarinet, marimba, alto saxophone, piano, bass, percussion, and vocals skillfully led worship with a wide variety of global jazz rhythms that were both innovative and singable.

Bishop Jim Hazelwood preached on being a witness to the story of God's love in Jesus Christ for the whole world. He shared stories from courtrooms, T-shirt shops, and congregations about the importance of witnessing to our world today, using what we already have. Even if it's as simple as a congregation sending notes to people when they pray for them in worship, a connection is created that gives life because it witnesses to a God that truly cares about them and loves them.

The music of the liturgy carried the assembly on a mini-journey through the seasons of the church year. The Rev. Hannah Benedict shared a dramatic reading of Exodus 3:1-15, the story of Moses and the burning bush. Pastors celebrating milestone anniversaries of ordination served Communion as well as some who serve as synodical and churchwide staff. The offering received will support the bishop's discretionary fund as well as new church starts in upstate New York.



SPECIFIC TO OUR SAVIOUR

- † 75th Anniversary Committee Meeting, 7/10, 6:30 p.m.
- † Red Wings Game, 7/14, 1:00 p.m.
- † Board of Christian Education Meeting, 7/25, 8:00 p.m.
- † Update Church Directory—
provide the office your information by 7/31
- † Board of Stewardship Meeting, 8/8, 8:00 p.m.
- † Summer Family Fun Day at Seabreeze
8/11, after the 9:30 a.m. Service
- † Worship Committee Meeting, 8/15, 8:00 p.m.
- † Sunday School Staff Meeting, 8/20, 7:00 p.m.
- † First Year Confirmation Class, Parents Only Meeting
8/21, 7:00 p.m.
- † Christian Movie (Evangelism) in September
- † WELCA beginning of the season potluck dinner
9/10, 6:30 p.m.
- † Christian Book Club (Evangelism), 10/3, 6:30 p.m.
The book is to-be-determined
- † Next opportunity to present veteran bricks, 11/10

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- † “Speak to the Storm” Roberts Wesleyan Cultural
Life Center, 8/24, 7:30 p.m.
- † Upstate NY Synod Convention (WELCA),
10/4 - 10/6

IN RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATES

☺ Gabriel (Gab) Foltz graduates from Rush-Henrietta High School. Gab will be attending 4 years at Syracuse University.
Son of Sheila and Franz Foltz.

☺ Danielle Gatto graduates from Gates Chili High School in June 2019. She plans on attending Monroe Community College in the Fall of 2019. She will be working on her Associate Degree in Physical Education and Exercise Science. Danielle will also be playing soccer for the MCC Women’s team.
Daughter of Linda and Nick Gatto.

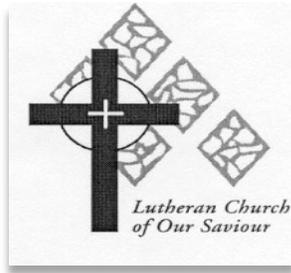
☺ Julianna Gatto graduated in May 2019 from Nazareth College of Rochester with her Bachelor of Science Degree. Currently she is in the Physical Therapy Program at Nazareth College and will receive her Doctorate Degree in May 2021.
Daughter of Linda and Nick Gatto.

☺ Lauren McQueen will be attending Bryant & Stratton of Rochester in Spring 2019. She is working on a 2-year degree in Medical Assistant Administration.
Daughter of Karen and Raymond McQueen.

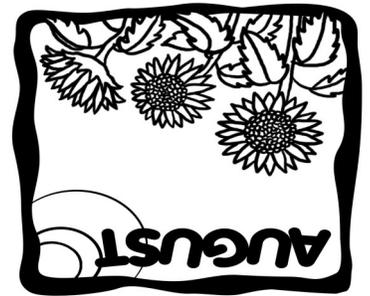
☺ Gracie Swind graduating high school with honors at Palm Harbor University in Palm Harbor, FL. She will be attending St. Leo College in San Antonio, FL.
Granddaughter of Daryl and Ed Jarvis.

☺ Rayshaun Cramer graduates from Churchville-Chili High School.
Grandson of Pastor and Debbie Wilck.





*Newsletter of the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
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 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*



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