

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to
love one another. 1 John 4:11

The Flame

Three Weeks at a Glance:

- Today (12/14): School Store & Library Day
6:20 Nativity Characters be at church
6:30 All students be at church for Photo Opportunity
7:00 Mid-Week Advent 3 – Children's Evening Service
- Thurs. (12/15): Popcorn Day
8:10 Chapel
- Fri. (12/16): **Special School Store**
Pizza Day
Fun Run Spirit Day #2
- Sun. (12/18): **Fourth Sunday in Advent**
9:30 Divine Service
10:45 Sunday School & Bible Class
12:15 New Membership Class
- Mon. (12/19): 8:10 Chapel
8:30 Scrip order deadline
3:35 Young Flames Piano Program Group A
- Tues. (12/20): Subway Day
3:30 - 4:30 Basketball practice
7:30 Adult Volleyball
- Wed. (12/21): School Store & Library Day
January Subway Order Due
Special PTL Christmas Lunch and Classroom Parties
7:00 Mid-Week Advent 4 – Evening Prayer
Christmas Break
No School or Daycare until 1/2/2017
- Sat. (12/24): **The Nativity of Our Lord**
3:50 Choristers & Handbells Warm-up
4:30 & 10:30 Christmas Eve Divine Services
- The First Week of Christmas**
Sun. (12/25): **Christmas Day**
9:30 Divine Service
- Sat. (12/31): **Eve of the Name of Jesus**
4:30 New Year's Prayer Office - Evening Prayer
- The Second Week of Christmas**
Sun (1/1): **9:30 New Year's Day Divine Service**
- Tues. (1/3): **School and Daycare resume**
Subway Day
9:15 MOPS

3:30 - 4:45 Basketball practice
7:30 Adult Volleyball

Wed. (1/4): School Store & Library Day
3:30 - 4:45 Basketball practice
3:35 Knitting Club

From the Principal's Office



Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 14 (Full Service)

- The service will begin at 7:00 p.m.
- **All students should be in the church by 6:30 p.m.**
- **Grades 7–8 students that have nativity character roles need to be here at 6:20 p.m. to get costumes on by 6:30.**

PLEASE NOTE: The Word of God declares: “Guard your steps when you go into the house of God. Draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools...” (Ecclesiastes 5:1-2). In other words, we are to maintain reverence in the midst of worship in the holy places. This means that **we DO NOT take photos during the service.** However, we know the event is special, and in order to **provide photo opportunities**, the children will be gathered **at 6:30 p.m.** into the same positions / costumes that will occur during the “Silent Night” portion of the actual service. We will **conclude the photo session promptly at 6:45 p.m.**

Dress specifics:

All students may wear their Christmas best or the following:

Girls - appropriate top, nice dress pants or skirt of appropriate length, dress shoes (no heels please!)

Boys - tucked in dress shirt (with tie, if desired), dress pants, dress shoes

Please have your children to the church on time.

Gift Exchanges

Each class will exchange gifts with classmates. We ask that these gifts be kept under \$5 or homemade. We understand a child may want to do more, but in the interest of those with several children, please keep it simple. We also ask that students refrain from exchanging personal gifts with their friends at school – unless they bring something for everyone in their class. This will help prevent hurt feelings.



School News

Middle School Handbells & Choristers play and sing for church on Christmas Eve at 4:30 p.m.

Handbells will be ringing and Choristers will be singing for the Divine Service on Christmas Eve. **Be here by 3:50 p.m.**

Christmas Baskets

Collections for the Social Ministry Benevolence baskets to be distributed at Christmas concludes this week. The collection is similar to the one with which we assisted in November. Donations are due by Friday, December 16. **As of today, we have received very few donations.** Social Ministry is planning on assisting 18 families this weekend. With your help many families will again be blessed at Christmas with the needed items.

Christmas Concert at LHNW

Lutheran High Northwest presents its annual Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 17, at 7p.m. Please join us for this celebration of the birth of our Savior! LHNW is located at 1000 Bagley in Rochester Hills (near Livernois and Auburn). A free-will offering will be received. For more information on the school, please call [248-852-6677](tel:248-852-6677) or visit www.lhnw.lhsa.com.

Christmas Spirit Day

On Friday, December 21, students may wear clothing with a Christmas theme, including sweaters, sweatshirts, Santa hats, etc. All clothing should fit appropriately, be in good repair, and be in good taste. Jeans will also be allowed for this final day before Christmas break.

Parents, please help your child choose their clothing for this special dress day so it will be fun for everyone and we can do this again in the future.

Looking Ahead / Plan Ahead

December 14: Children's Christmas Service
 December 16: Fun Run Spirit Day #2
 December 21: Christmas Lunch and Classroom Parties
 December 24: Choristers & Middle School Handbells
 Dec. 22-Jan. 2: Christmas Break- No School or Daycare
 January 3: School Resumes— Daycare Open
 January 6: Epiphany - Spirit Day
 January 12: PTL Meeting
 January 13: Red Cross Blood Drive
 January 16: No School—Teacher Work Day

Hearing & Vision Screening

The Livingston County Department of Public Health will be doing Vision and Hearing Screening for our students on Wednesday, January 4. Hearing Screening will be offered to students in Preschool, Kindergarten, and Grades 2 and 4. Vision Screening will be offered to students in Preschool, Grades 1, 3, 5, and 7. Any student not scheduled for screening may be referred to the technician by a parent or teacher. Please notify the school office. Parents may opt

out of this free screening by contacting the school office. Please call the school if you have a concern and it is not your child's scheduled year for screening or you do not want your child screened. Please call the Health Department if your child has a programmable shunt, or you have questions about either vision or hearing screening. Call (517) 546-9850 and ask for the Hearing & Vision Coordinator.

Congratulations

It has been the practice here at Our Savior Lutheran School to have the students draw a picture of the Christmas story to be considered for use as the cover on our bulletins for the Children's Christmas service. This year the pictures chosen were drawn by

- * Amelia Ayers - Grade K
- * Lexy Bronsberg - Grade 1
- * Jonah Swett - Grade 2
- * Lucas Rocheleau - Grade 3
- * Harrison Thoma - Grade 4
- * Carmen Pushman - Grade 5
- * Katrina Kautz- Grade 6
- * Emersyn Kolonich - Grade 8

January Milk Second Semester starts on Monday, January 23. For those who order milk by the semester, semester order forms will go home with each family messenger the first week we are back from Christmas break.

Red Cross Blood Drive

We are hosting our first Red Cross Blood Drive of the new year on Friday, January 13, from 2 to 6:45 p.m. Please make an appointment to donate blood by going to www.redcrossblood.org. Enter sponsor code *OurSaviorHartland* to select a time or call 1-899-733-2767. For more information please contact Tom Hay. Thank you!

Mission Opportunities

During the first three months of the school year, all chapel offerings were designated to the Ferry family bringing the Gospel to the people in Southeast Asia. A total of **\$2,078.90** was collected in chapel offerings and will be sent to support their work as they return to the mission field after being home this fall to share their experiences from their first two years of service. Thank you for generous support of the Ferry family through your chapel offerings. In addition to these chapel offerings, the mission cans located in each classroom will continue to be available for the remainder of the school year to collect coins and other donations to add to this total. The total collected for the month of November is **\$69.60**.

Chapel offerings for the months of December, January, and February are designated for The Lutheran Hour Ministry's online mission trip to Madagascar. Our Savior will participate in the live online video feeds from Madagascar and St. Louis during Lutheran Schools Week at the end of January. Our accumulated chapel offerings for these months will support the mission work being done in this part of the world.

BOX TOPS

Keep bringing in those Box Tops! Our Box Tops coordinator, Mrs. Jennifer Churray would like all available Box Tops turned in before Christmas break please.

Kroger Community Rewards

We recently received a check in the amount of **\$298.15**, which is our reward from the households who had their Kroger card linked to Our Savior from August through October this year. If you have not taken the opportunity to link your Kroger card to Our Savior, please consider doing it. The more households that are linked to Our Savior, the greater reward check we will receive. The directions are included as a link on Fast Direct.

SAT/ACT Practice Test Opportunity

The Brighton High School Interact Club, affiliated with the Rotary Club of Brighton, is hosting a combination SAT/ACT practice test for interested middle and high school students on Saturday, February 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Brighton High School Cafeteria, 7878 Brighton Road. Each student will receive:

- ◆ Same Day Scores delivered to a smartphone or computer
- ◆ Access to Kaplan test-taking strategy and online learning seminars, and
- ◆ Either the 2017 Kaplan SAT or ACT book Strategies, Practice & Review.

Early registration donations of \$45 by January 22, or door registration (as space allows) donations of \$60 are used to fund student educational scholarships offered by the Rotary Club of Brighton. Students can register by 5pm on January 22, in person at the Brighton District Library, by mail with receipt before January 22, to Brighton Rotary Foundation, PO Box 11, Brighton, MI 48116 or online for \$47 at www.BrightonRotaryEvents.org.

Questions? Go to www.BrightonRotaryEvents.org or contact SAT@BrightonRotaryEvents.org or [810-227-0656](tel:810-227-0656).

A copy of the flyer with more information and details to register for this opportunity are available in the school office.

Subway

Subway orders for January are available and need to be submitted with payment by Wednesday, December 21.

Scrip is here again this year and is a great way to support our school **without costing you anything extra!** **An order form is available as a link on Fast Direct. The next order will be placed on Monday, December 19. Orders will be accepted until 8:30 a.m.** You can also order reloads through **Scrip Now!**

Low Denomination Gift Cards Back and will be available until 11:59 p.m., Dec 16 or until supplies last. Scrip has a limited number of special small denomination gift cards available, perfect for stocking stuffers and holiday gift-giving! These cards will only be available while supplies last, so don't wait to place your orders. The following cards are available:

- Albertsons \$10
- Amazon.com Gift Cards \$10
- AMC Theatres® \$10
- Applebee's \$10, \$50
- Barnes & Noble \$5
- Chuckie Cheese \$10 (2)
- CVS/pharmacy \$10
- IHOP \$10
- Land's End \$25 (2)

These low denomination gift cards make great gifts for the special people in your life. [Click here](#) to view all our low denomination cards and place your order before they're sold out! www.shopwithscrip.com

Our Savior Lutheran School
Enrollment Code: **B745A65B289L**

shopwithscrip.com

Consider Scrip for Holiday Shopping

Scrip is a great way to support our school **without costing you anything extra!**

- ◆ **Scrip is safer than using credit cards.**
- ◆ **Scrip earns more rebates than credit card rewards** (Scrip rebates average 5.5% compared to the usual .5% to 2% from credit card rewards.)
- ◆ **Scrip accommodates last minute shopping.** (ScripNow eCards make ordering online simple; families just need to copy and paste the code when they checkout, and they will earn the same rebates that they would in the store. Families can even send ScripNow eGifts whenever they want without having to worry about sending gift cards in the mail.)
- ◆ **Scrip can be used for everything you need.**

An order form is available as a link on Fast Direct. Our Parish Administrator has some extra Scrip available if there is something you still need, want, or could use. **The next regular order will be placed on Tuesday, January 5.** You can also order reloads through **Scrip Now!**

www.shopwithscrip.com

PTL



Christmas Lunch PTL is planning to host a special Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, December 21. They will need help with set-up, preparing the food, serving, and clean-up. If you can help with any or all of these, please let our PTL coordinator, Cheryl Wintland know. A sign-up genius will be available soon for this event. Order forms will come home today with family messengers.

Nativity Displays

Fifteen nativity displays have been submitted and will be on display in the school for the Children's Christmas Service tonight. Prizes will be awarded for Best Design, Most Creative, and Students' Pick. Judging will take place by staff and a few parent volunteers. Students will also get an opportunity to vote for their favorite

January PTL Meeting

Please mark your calendars for the next PTL meeting to be held on Thursday, January 12, at 6:00 in the school cafeteria. There are several events that will be discussed and planned that will happen in January and February including Lutheran Schools Week. Your input and involvement is important at these meetings. All school families are invited and encouraged to attend. A great way to get to know other school families is to get involved in a school event. New faces are always welcome.

Dads Come to Play We invite any and all available dads or granddads to come to school on Wednesday, December 21, to play with the children outside during their recess: Grades 4-8 - 11:45-12:05 and Grades K-3 - 12:15-1:00. This will give the teachers a break and a fun activity for the students to enjoy. Please contact the school office to let them know you can help with this.

House Points Update

Have you noticed the House bulletin board in the school hallway across from the kitchen? It has been updated with the PTL volunteer points earned so far this year. Parents have earned a total of 742 points for their respective houses through their volunteer activities. Your volunteer efforts are truly appreciated and do accumulate over time. Luther House parents earned 414 points and Walther House parents contributed 328 points. Check out the bulletin board to see the totals for each month. The current total points for the year are: Luther 2231 points and Walther 1985 points. If you have contributed time or made a donation for a school event and have not documented it with PTL, please fill out a form found in the school office or send a message to ptl@oursaviorhartland.org so your points may be included in the next update.

Winter Clothing Drive Update

Thank you to the many families that donated new and gently used winter clothing for the students that attend Caesar Chavez Academy in Detroit. The clothing was delivered and given to the students in need. Over 125 items were donated including 30 coats, 37 pairs of gloves, 26 hats, 16 scarves, 6 snow pants, 8 snow boots, 1 pair of ear muffs, 2 vests, and 1 infant snow suit. Thanks to your generosity, these families and students will be warm this winter.



Sports

Boys Basketball Season is underway practices will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:30 - 4:30. There will be no practice on Wednesday, December 14 and 21.

Volunteers Lend a Hand!



Library Volunteers

for Tuesday, 12/20: Jenn McClue
for Wednesday, 12/21: Trish Mrozek

Popcorn Volunteers

for Thursday, 12/15: Carol Blazen

Subway Volunteer

for Tuesday, 12/20: Dana O'Farrell

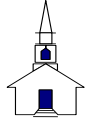
Pizza Bakers Volunteer

For Friday, 12/16: Kolonich, Mrozek, Mortz

Thanks to Volunteers many things are getting accomplished. Special thanks to...

- ◆ Heather Belloli, Rachel Bronsberg, Inga Daniels, Joanna Daniels, Kelly Kindig, and Trish Mrozek for helping with the Christmas store last Thursday.

Congregational News



New Member Adult Class

The class starts at **12:30 p.m. (right after the adult Bible study)**. As always, if you or someone you know would like to join the fellowship, or perhaps you would like a refresher course on what we believe, teach, and confess as Lutherans, then consider joining the class.

MOPS

They meet from 9:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. The next meeting is January 3, 2017. Please contact Kellie Roesner at (810) 397-3981 or kkroesner@gmail.com or Heather Belloli at (734) 765-4293 or hhgemini23@gmail.com if you are interested.

Sunday School/Bible Class

Sunday mornings after service at 10:45 a.m, bring your children to Sunday School and join the adults for Pastor Thoma's Bible Study in the ECC area. Please take your children to the cafeteria where they will enjoy a simple snack. You can pick them up in their assigned classrooms at the conclusion of Sunday School. The location of each class and teacher are as follows:

The Gospel According To Saint Matthew with Pastor Thoma leading the discussion. This has proven to be a lively study full of great discussion. You are encouraged to join to see for yourself! The study group meets in the ECC entrance room, and God willing, starts right at 10:45 a.m.

Preschool-K: Room 212-Sue Kelly
Grades 1-2: Room 215-Rachel Bronsberg
Grades 3-4: Room 219-Michelle Nichols
Grades 5-7: Room 205-Emily Helmreich
Grade 8: Room 206-Donna Hay
High School: Room 204- Bill Mrozek

LifeLight Women's Bible Study

Lifelight Women's Bible Study continues at Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hartland. Lifelight involves personal study, small group discussion and prayer. We are currently studying 1st and 2nd Peter. Lifelight begins at 1:30 p.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. Materials are available upon request. The cost of the book is \$10.00. Childcare will be provided as needed. Please let us know if you will be bringing a little one as soon as possible. Their new meeting place is Room 206. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call Carol Caswell for more information or to register (248) 296-1140.

For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. " Peter 1:23

Congregation Email List

If you are not on the email list you are missing out on a lot of helpful information!!! To get on the list, just send an email to:

pastorthoma@oursaviorhartland.org

New Testament Bible Study

The Wednesday evening Bible Study continues their study of the New Testament with the Gospel of John and the book of Acts. The members of the committee invite all members of the congregation to come and experience the power of the Triune God at work through the person of the Holy Spirit in the word. This study is not primarily a matter of information, although it is that, but a matter of the Holy Spirit impinging on our life restoring us to the Triune God and empowering us to live as his people according to the will of the heavenly Father.

Youth News

Senior High Bible Study

The Senior High youth will be examining each Sunday's readings. Join them in room 204 during the Sunday School hour for this engaging study.