Wednesday, December 20, 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:

Tues. (12/20): Subway Day
3:30 - 4:30 Basketball practice
3:35 Knitting
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

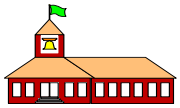
Sat. (12/31): **Eve of the Name of Jesus**
4:30 New Year's Prayer Office - Evening Prayer

The Second Week of Christmas
Sun (1/1): ***9:30 New Year's Day Divine Service***

Tues. (1/3): **School and Daycare resume**
Comfy Clothes Day
Subway Day
9:15 MOPS
3:30 - 4:45 Basketball practice
7:30 Adult Volleyball

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

From the Principal's Office



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.

Church attendance forms to record worship and Sunday school attendance during the Christmas break are coming home with each student today. The church attendance form has also been posted as a link on Fast Direct. Please return the completed and signed form in January when we return to school after Christmas break.

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. **Choristers warm up at 4:00 p.m. and Handbells should be here to prepare at 3:45 p.m.**

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.

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 Coordina-

Looking Ahead / Plan Ahead

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
Comfy Clothes Day
January 6: Epiphany - Spirit Day
January 12: PTL Meeting
January 13: Red Cross Blood Drive
January 16: No School—Teacher Work Day

January Milk Second Semester starts on Monday, January 23. For those who order milk by the semester, semester order forms will go home today.

Subway

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

Benevolence Update

The generosity of our school families is truly amazing! While there were very few donations early in the week, the school families really came through on Thursday and Friday to fill the benevolence tables and the baskets that were distributed over the weekend. Thank you so much for your generosity and contributions to this year's Christmas benevolence collection. Social Ministry was very grateful of the outpouring of items received, especially the 16 hams and turkeys. The final overall total was 663 points with **Luther House earning 330 points**. **Walther House finished very strong with a total of 333 points.** Way to go!!! Working together, 17 families benefited with a Christmas meal as well as other items and gifts to assist them for the Christmas holiday. Pictures from Saturday's distribution are included in The Flame today.

As a reward for a successful benevolence collection, **all students will enjoy a Comfy Clothes Day on Tuesday, January 3**, the day we return from Christmas Break. *Acceptable clothing for Comfy Clothes Day includes T-shirts, sweat shirts, sweat pants, jeans, athletic apparel, or anything that you feel comfortable wearing. Clothing should fit appropriately, be clean, and in good repair. If there are words, slogans, or graphics on the clothing, they should be in good taste. Pajamas and slippers are not allowed*.

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

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.

LHNW High School Placement Test

Lutheran High School Northwest is offering a placement exam for prospective 2017-18 9th graders on **Saturday, January 7, 2017**, from 9-12 for those who did not take the exam in November. The High School Placement Test (HSPT) is an achievement test required for all incoming 9th graders at LHNW. While not an entrance exam, the test is used to help determine course selections next spring. There is no charge for taking the test or for the materials, which will be provided to the students on exam day. The test will be given at Lutheran High Northwest, which is located at 1000 Bagley, Rochester Hills MI 48309. To register your child, please call the LHNW school office at 248-852-6677 or email mgutenkunst@lhsa.com.

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 Tuesday, January 3. Orders will be accepted until 8:30 a.m.** You can also order reloads and ***Scrip Now!***

www.shopwithscrip.com

Our Savior Lutheran School
Enrollment Code: B745A65B289L

shopwithscrip.com

PTL

Christmas Lunch PTL will host a special Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, December 21. They still need some 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. Order forms are due today.

Dads Come to Play We invite any and all available dads or grandads 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.

Nativity Displays

Fifteen nativity displays were submitted and prizes were awarded for Best Design, Most Creative, and Students' Choice:

BEST DESIGN:
1st: Zaremba Family
2nd: Lily Wintland
3rd: Carmen Pushman & Caleb Mrozek
4th: Jaidah Plummer

MOST CREATIVE:
1st: Daniels Family
2nd: Jake Spinneweber
3rd: Ian Churray & Kindig Family
4th: Belle Browder

STUDENTS' CHOICE:
1st: James Tougas
2nd: Hargreaves Family
3rd: Annabelle Graney
4th: Pies Family & Chloe Browder

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.

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 21.

Volunteers Lend a Hand!

Library Volunteers

for Tuesday, 1/3: Jen Kolonich
for Wednesday, 1/4: Gina Wordelman

Popcorn Volunteers

for Thursday, 1/5: Carol Blazen

Subway Volunteer

for Tuesday, 1/3:

Pizza Bakers Volunteer

For Friday, 1/6: Cappellano, Zaremba, Wintland

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

- Joe Richardson for assisting the handbells during the Children's Christmas service.
- Ruth Libby for accompanying the Choristers on flute during the Children's Christmas service.
- Sharon Zaremba for coordinating the very beautiful Christmas Nativity Display contest.
- The students and families that made the time to create the beautiful Christmas Nativity displays.
- The families that donated hams, turkeys, and the many other benevolence items to fill the baskets that were distributed to families in the congregation and community last weekend.
- Ed Dietrich for being a last minute recess supervisor last Friday.

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. The next class will be January 8, 2017.