

OUR SAVIOR EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
ANNOUNCEMENTS — 24 APRIL A.D. 2016

✠ **CALENDAR** ✠

24 April to 1 May A.D. 2016

TODAY

Divine Services 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School & Bible Studies 10:00 A.M.
40+ Koinonia Bible Study 5:30 P.M.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

Office of Matins 8:10 A.M.

TUESDAY

Council Meeting 7:00 P.M.
Adult Volleyball (Gymnasium) 7:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Celebration Ringers Rehearsal 7:15 P.M.

THURSDAY

Responsive Prayer 8:10 A.M.
Women's LifeLight Bible Study 1:30 P.M.
Cantate Choir Rehearsal 7:00 P.M.
Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 8:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, 1 May

Divine Services 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Special Congregation Meeting 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School & Bible Studies 10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDIES will meet today:

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 10:00 a.m.

HANDLING THE WORD OF TRUTH — Mr. Ted Nichols continues to lead this wonderful study of John T. Pless' delightful book on Law and Gospel. The group meets in the church conference room #105 at 10:00 a.m. Check it out!

LIFELIGHT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

LifeLight Women's Bible Study on the book of Acts. We meet at the school on Thursdays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., spending our time together in small groups, prayer, and discussion of the previous week's lesson completed at home. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact LifeLight's director, Carol Caswell (248-296-1140).

TODAY, APRIL 24 —40'S Plus KOINONIA BIBLE STUDY and POT LUCK. Please join us, single and married adults for fellowship, food and Bible Study in the school cafeteria. Bring a friend, a dish to share, and a beverage.

Special Congregation Meeting
Sunday, May 1st
10:00 AM (between services)

Brothers and sisters, during our March congregation meeting, the discussion surrounding having one Sunday Divine Service or to continue with two Divine Services concluded with the commitment to allow for more discussion and questions and then schedule a follow-up vote at a special congregation meeting. The May 1 meeting will have the opportunity to vote on our direction. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting. If there are any questions or comments in advance, please contact Dave Tabbert or Pastor Thoma. Blessings!

THE FINE ARTS FESTIVAL IS COMING!

Thursday, May 12 is the Spring Fine Arts Festival at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. The evening will include a concert featuring each music group of Our Savior Lutheran School and individual instrumental and vocal performances as well as art displays from the various classes. Plan to join us and hear and see what great things the children have been up to at Our Savior! A repeat of the concert will also be offered the morning of Friday, May 13 as part of Special Persons Day festivities.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Join us this week for Sunday School. A reminder for families with younger students, please be sure to drop them off and pick them up in their room. The following is your child's teacher and room numbers:

Preschool—Room 212—Sue Kelly
Grades K & 1—Room 215—Joyce Hicks & Rachel Bronsberg
Grades 2 & 3—Room 219—Mia Chapman
Grades 4 & 5—Room 203—Bill & Ruth Libby & Janel Gryc
Grades 6 & 7—Room 205—Emily Helmreich
Grade 8—Room 206—Donna Hay

THE CHURCH WEBSITE. Have you ever visited our website (www.oursaviorhartland.org)? No? You really should! There's a lot of great stuff there that you can share with friends, especially the information about the identity of your church and her school. Speaking of the website, Roy Raymond has offered to help Pastor Thoma maintain it. Is there anyone else out there who may be interested in joining the effort? The help is needed. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Thoma at pastorthoma@charter.net.

IF YOU ARE NOT ON THE CONGREGATION EMAIL LIST, YOU ARE MISSING OUT ON A LOT OF HELPFUL INFORMATION!!! There are about 215 people on the list. Are you on there? To get on the list, just send an email to pastorthoma@oursaviorhartland.org.

Did you know that Pastor Heckert is leading a tour to Germany entitled "In the Steps of Martin Luther" in celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation? We have brochures available here at the church if you are interested in reading more about it and possibly participating. You may find the brochures on the shelf in the entranceway. The dates for the trip are November 1-11, 2016.

VBS 2016 is "FARM-TASTIC!"—JUNE 20 TO 24 – 9:00 A.M. TO 12 NOON

Register your children now for the *Barnyard Roundup* VBS!

Your children will learn that Jesus gathers us together! They'll look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, and explore five Bible accounts. The key Bible verse is Psalm 23.

Registration forms are available in the Church and School office and **Online Registration** at vbsmate.com/oursaviorhartlandmi
For more information call Georgine at 248-887-4300 or email gshelton@oursaviorhartland.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Be part of *Barnyard Roundup* VBS! As VBS staff you can share the message and the fun with kids! If you can help full or part time, we have many ways for you to be involved to suit your schedule and interests. **Register on line** or **Call** Georgine at 248-887-4300 or email gshelton@oursaviorhartland.org, for more information. Join us to see how Jesus gathers us together!

SPRING IS HERE and we are looking for individuals, families, or groups to adopt a bed around the church or school to keep it clean and weed-free. Whether you are interested in doing one yourself or sharing with someone else, please sign up on the facilities map on the trustee's bulletin board across from the coatrack in the church hallway. A new listing is posted for 2016 so if you had signed up in the past and would like to continue ... and who wouldn't, please sign up again. Questions?
Email Michelle Nichols at mnichols@oursaviorhartland.org.
A man's children and his garden both reflect the amount of weeding done during the growing season. ~Author Unknown



**THE CAPITAL FUND RECEIVED A HUGE BOOST!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

God is at work through His people! Our Capital Fund balance has increased to \$ 21,881.64! That is wonderful!

WE MET THE NEED!!! THANKS BE TO GOD!!!

Thank you to all who stepped out in faith to help. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



Weekly Financial Report 17 April A.D. 2016

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

APRIL 17, 2016

8:30 Divine Service : 105 Sunday School/ Bible Studies: 62
 11:00 Divine Service: 102
 Total Attendance: 207

Week of 24 April to 1 May

BIRTHDAYS

Jonathan Raymond	4/25	Lynn Sredzinski	4/29
David Tabbert	4/25	Luke Nichols	4/30
Mary Ann Brueggeman	4/27	Solomon Spangler	4/30
Douglas Haponek	4/29	Roy Raymond	5/1

ANNIVERSARIES

Alan and Susan Weedon	04/25/1987
Ronald and Rebecca Loughry	04/25/1997
Robert and Susan Shipe	04/28/1979
Eric and Karolina Hicks	04/29/2000

Do You Know What I Like about Stewardship Here?

Do you know what I really appreciate about the way we do “stewardship” here at Our Savior? First, I love that we keep it Biblical. We’re always starting and ending there. When this is the mode, we are more likely to see, understand, and be strengthened to give and serve according to God’s perspective. That, of course, is very, VERY important. Second, we don’t use gimmicks – that is, we don’t rely on sinful man’s self-interests to successfully meet a need for support, whether it’s financial or through time and talents. What I mean is that we don’t take a challenge that may be relatively obscure to most and then twist and turn it to make it relevant in a way that is of interest to everybody so that more people will give. We give the Gospel, and from this we do our best to educate, and then we trust that God will move His people to work together as a body of believers with their eyes upon faithfulness to Christ and the support of that same Gospel here in this place and around the world.

This is great stuff. I encourage you to rejoice in it as I do, to do what you can to serve and support the work, and to let others know just how wonderful faithful stewardship can be! – Pastor Thoma+

✠ PRAYERS ✠

THE SICK, THE SHUT-INS, THOSE IN ADVERSITY: Adrian Atkinson, Ingeborg Bailey, Jack & Barbara Bain, Jack Bartenbaker, David Bell, Wendell Bergren, Christopher Bolton, Susan Brandt, Matt Budisill, Sylvia Cole, Bill Cokley, Carole and Ferdinand Doll, Jim Faught, Carol Ford, Kevin Haas, Bill Kirkpatrick, Kayla Marcum, Charles McCloskey, Leah Nelson, Miriam Nichols, Tommy Plewka, Cindy Pushman, Cindy Quinkert, Robert Rabin, The Shirk family, Robert Schneider, Art Swett, Donna Talsma, Randi Talsma, Joan Thompson, Cheryl Tobel, Susan Vogt, Eric Wermuth, Ed Willer, Rev. John Wurst, Frances Wyckoff, and Randy Zeilinger.

MILITARY: Ramone Baca, Alexander Baloh, Drew Barber, Brandy Bates, Robert Bell, Corry Brennan, Tom Buller, Brian Chapman, Mark Ciero, Jonathan Cross, Kenneth Eyer, Darrel Fenbert Jr., Drew Helmreich, Chad Libby, Neil Lipon, Richard McManamon, Nick Morley, Jonathan Mrozek, Matthew Niendorf, Chris Robosky, Steve Roeske, Samantha Russell, Jake Simkins, Albie Therrien, and Alex Young.

MISSIONARIES: Rev. Charles Ferry and family.

♪ Come on, let's cruise! ♪
 The youth group is proudly hosting the 3rd annual Sock Hop AND Classic Car Show! Mark your calendar for May 21st, from 4-7pm. This is a FREE event for the whole family. Free admission, free entry for the car show, free beverages and snacks. Tony's Dogs of Howell will be there with his hot dog cart selling dogs, polish sausage and chips! Another new addition is a free photo booth! And as always, great music! Wear your 50's and 60's gear or come as you are! If you know someone with a hot rod (or have one yourself!) encourage them to come show it off!

ATTENDANCE in HOLY WORSHIP: Christ declares that Christians are made by baptizing and teaching, that is, Word and Sacrament (Matthew 28:19). The Apostle John declares that this same Lord makes His presence among His believers and strengthens them in the faith through the means of Baptism, the Lord’s Supper, and the Word of the Gospel, pronounced, read, preached, and taught (1 John 5:6-12).

Jesus, the Light of the World (John 8:12) declares that by His Gospel given through Word and Sacrament, Christians become lights in the world around them (Matthew 5:16). History proves that attendance numbers do not change by programs or gimmicks. Such things do not truly introduce people to Jesus. By way of the Gospel, His Christians do! The Lord sends His Gospel invitation into all nations through you, His church. *IN THE NEW YEAR*, invite your friends and family to hear the Gospel so that they may believe in Christ as you do and be joined with the Savior for eternal life!

SCHOOL NEWS

EXCITING NEWS!

Every two years we present a proposal to the Hilda E. Bretzlaff Foundation requesting funds which support our resource room teacher, Mrs. Linda Schrupp. We are happy to say that they have not only renewed her funding but will increase the amount to allow her to be in our building an additional half day next year. What a blessing that she will be able to assist and support even more students that may need a boost to be successful learners! In addition, they have also granted us funding to purchase new reading materials in the lower grades for the coming school year, and new science materials for grades 6-8 for school year 2017-18. This too is very exciting! The third part of the grant will provide professional development for the teaching staff to increase their skills to implement technology into their classrooms. Praise God for this generous donation to improve our school and help our students reach their potential!

SPRING CLEANUP

In an effort to teach our students to be good stewards of God’s creation, we hope to assist the congregation in getting the church and school flower beds in shape for the coming warmer weather. Weather permitting, on Tuesday, May 3, each class will plan a part of the afternoon to work outside in one or more designated areas to clean up debris, pull weeds, and other spring cleanup tasks. To be able to accomplish this, we will need additional help to supervise students, work with them, and teach them the tasks that need to be accomplished. We encourage parents to help with this if they are able, but would also like to invite other congregation members who may have the time and talents to join us in this effort to beautify the property. If you can spare some time between 1:00 and 3:30 on that day, please contact the school office. The more help that we have, the more we can accomplish.

OUR SAVIOR EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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 Reverend Dr. Jakob K. Heckert, Assistant Pastor
 Reverend Dr. Frank J. Pies, Pastor Emeritus
 Mr. Jonathan Swett, Kantor
 Mrs. Andrea Johnson, School Principal