

OUR SAVIOR EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
ANNOUNCEMENTS — 31 JANUARY A.D. 2016

✠ **CALENDAR** ✠

31 January to 7 February A.D. 2016

TODAY

Divine Services	8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School & Bible Studies	10:00 A.M.
New Membership Class	12:30 P.M.
40+ Koinonia Bible Study	5:30 P.M.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

Office of Matins	8:10 A.M.
Lutheran Confessions Study	8:45 A.M.

TUESDAY

MOPS	9:15 A.M.
Adult Volleyball (Gymnasium)	7:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Mid-Week Divine Service	7:00 P.M.
Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	7:30 P.M.
4 th to 8 th Grade Midweek/Confirmation Class	7:45 P.M.
Adult Bible Study	7:45 P.M.

THURSDAY

Responsive Prayer	8:10 A.M.
Social Ministry Meeting	9:00 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.

SATURDAY

Elders Meeting	7:00 A.M.
Individual Confession	9:00 A.M.

SUNDAY, 7 February

Divine Services	8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School & Bible Studies	10:00 A.M.
New Membership Class	12:30 P.M.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDIES:

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!

"NEW MEMBER ADULT CLASS" — TODAY at 12:30 p.m. for anyone considering membership here at Our Savior. Also, it's worth noting that even if you are already a member, you may join the class. It would be an opportunity for a refresher in the Christian basics. The class will meet in the Prayer chapel (the room adjacent to the Narthex).

THIS SUNDAY, — 40'S Plus KOINONIA BIBLE STUDY and POT LUCK. (*Changed to the 5th Sunday for this month*) 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.

OUR STUDY OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS THIS WEEK! Please join us on Mondays at 8:45 a.m. (just after chapel) for a casual study and discussion of the Lutheran Confessions. We meet in Pastor Thoma's office. The study concludes promptly at 9:15 a.m. Join us for chapel and then for study!

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2015. The statements are on the shelf in the lobby and available for pick up.

CALLING ALL COUPLES! A trial run for a small group Bible study has been conducted, and the results are in: Success! We would like to expand and start more small groups, consisting of 4-5 couples each, meeting once a month for fellowship and study. Meeting times and subject texts are to be decided by the individual groups, and texts are to be approved by Pastor Thoma. Re-start "date night," get support on parenting, marriage, and bringing God back to the center of it all! This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with your brothers and sisters in Christ! Contact Rachel Bronsberg at (517)410-3121 or rbronsberg@gmail.com for more information.

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, Alexis Ripke
- 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

JR. AND SR. YOUTH GROUPS UPDATE

A lot has happened in a short period of time.

The Youth Board has met together twice this month with Pastor Thoma in order to begin retooling its efforts to serve the youth. A basic philosophy was formulated and discussed, goals were identified, and initial plans were set into motion to start reaching those goals.

Highlights include...

- knowing who our prospective youth actually are,
- having an Adult/youth leadership support structure in place to call and talk with the youth personally about events, activities, life in general,
- understanding that church attendance for our youth is paramount, and yet this typically translates to youth group participation.
- providing more opportunities to connect with the life of the congregation.

Some things to watch for...

Over the course the upcoming year, the Youth Board will spend a good deal of its time providing opportunities for building sturdy relationships among the core youth members. This effort will be mostly activity driven — that is, the efforts will consist of providing activities considered of high interest to the youth (i.e. paintball, overnight Cedar Point trips, overnight Base Camp events, and the like); the events will be provided free of charge to attendees and any invited friends. Also, more of the youth will be brought into service duties — acolytes, crucifers, lectors, ushers, altar guild, etc.

More news to come!

SUPER BOWL PARTY- Junior and Senior High youth are invited along with their parents to the Mrozek's home in Hartland. Please come early for a short devotion before the game. Rick Spangler's culinary skills will be featured as usual with a new main dish at each quarter. Bring your choice of drink and come enjoy the game!

SUPER BOWL SUBS: Youth in Mission (YIM) is sponsoring this popular fundraiser again this year! All subs are \$5.00. If you buy 4 of any kind you will receive the 5th one free. The last day for ordering is Sunday, January 31. Subs will be ready for pickup after both services on February 7. An order form will be located in the school office and on the Youth Bulletin Board for placing your sub orders. We are asking for youth volunteers to help assemble the sandwiches on February 6, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. There will be a sign up sheet located on the Youth Bulletin Board.

THE CAPITAL FUND NEEDS THE HELP OF THE CHRISTIANS AT OUR SAVIOR!

Last summer we invested \$15,000.00 in repairs for our parking lot. We replaced the catch basins in front of the Church entrance and at the rear of the parking lot, re-sealed the lot, and striped the lot. Unfortunately, last week the catch basin in front of the school entrance collapsed. This catch basin visually looked sound from the surface. However under the concrete and pavement the drain was eroded and undermined. We now have an 8' X 8' hole in front of the school that will most certainly become larger and more expensive to fix if not addressed soon. We are asking you to prayerfully consider making a donation to the Capital Fund. The purpose of the Capital Fund is for making improvements to the building and property, including but not limited to the repair of this catch basin. The current fund balance is \$ 2,320.91 We are in the process of getting estimates for this project, which is anticipated to cost approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000.



Attendance	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
24 January AD 2016	83	235
Total:		318
Sunday School: 30	Wednesday 20 Jan.: 14	

Week of 31 January to 7 February

BIRTHDAYS

Jeanne Barber	2/1	James Nordin	2/3
William Mead	2/1	Georgie Rhodes	2/3
Nathan Bangert	2/3	Marc Charder	2/5
Charlie Brooks	2/3	Cheryl Tobel	2/5
Samantha Newport	2/3	Cassandra Ferry	2/6

✠ PRAYERS ✠

THE SICK, THE SHUT-INS, THOSE IN ADVERSITY: Adrian Atkinson, Raleigh Bahr, Ingeborg Bailey, Jack & Barbara Bain, Jack Bartenbaker, James Bastian, Wendell Bergren, Christopher Bolton, Susan Brandt, Mary Ann Brueggeman, Sylvia Cole, Carole Doll, Jim Faught, Carol Ford, Sharon Johnson, Bill Kirkpatrick, Kayla Marcum, Charles McCloskey, Bob Minock, Leah Nelson, Bekham Partee, Cindy Pushman, Josephina Renard, Rev. William Sabol, The Shirk family, Donald & Marie Stoll, Donna Talsma, Randi Talsma, Monica Tkac, Joan Thompson, Susan Vogt, 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, Randy Horst, 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING from Cheryl & Joe Tobel:

"We would like to thank the congregation for praying for our Son-In-Law for the past several years (Senior Chief Randall Horst/Nuclear Sub — U.S. Navy). Currently stationed in the state of Washington, he has served our country for over 20 years. Today, January 31st, he is officially retired. Randy, our daughter, Jennifer, and their children, Allisa (18) and David (17) have really appreciated the prayers all of these years, knowing that the Lord has kept him safe. God Bless America!"

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).

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

Lutheran Schools Week

This past week we celebrated the uniqueness of Lutheran schools here in Michigan and across the nation. The following is a review of the highlights of the week.

Sunday, Dress Up Day

The PTL hosted a wonderful coffee hour in the cafeteria which allowed many families the opportunity to meet and get to know each other better, and most of the students were in attendance at the 11:00 service to share the message of the Gospel through their singing.

Monday, Neon Day

Students wore neon colored clothing on Monday. They also created signs and banners to hang in the gym for Tuesday's basketball game.

Tuesday, Hat Day

Students wore hats to accessorize their school clothing. It was amazing to see the wide variety of head gear chosen to wear to school. In the afternoon the seventh and eighth grade students played basketball against the teachers and other staff members while the rest of the students cheered for both teams. The teachers and staff defeated the students 22-16. It was a great game and many parents and friends came to watch and cheer on both teams.

Wednesday, Wacky Wednesday

Students chose to mix it up by wearing clothing in very unusual ways. What fun to see such creative clothing choices! Each class also made time during the day to share board games with their classmates that they brought from home.

Thursday, Super Hero Day

The students arrived dressed as their favorite super hero. They tested their talents and skills during the Viking Games that morning. After these challenges, PTL was prepared to fortify the students with "super foods" at the Super Hero Lunch.

Friday, Pro Sports Day

Students wore an article of clothing on Friday to show support of their favorite pro sports team. Scrap Box from Ann Arbor brought a wide variety of recycled materials for the students to use to create imaginary creatures like you have never seen before. In the evening, PTL sponsored the Cranbrook Family Science Night with the Star Lab in the gymnasium and fourteen additional science activity stations scattered throughout the building for children and adults of all ages to explore and experience. It was a great way to end another memorable Lutheran Schools Week.

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