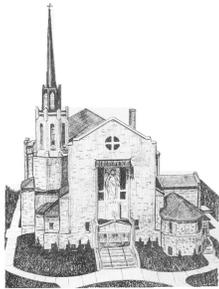


The Messenger

Vol.64, Issue 2

FEBRUARY

2017



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

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From the desk of Pastor Keen

Greetings to you on this crisp wintry day in the season of Epiphany. We are please to bring you yet another addition of the Messenger, following the 159th annual meeting of the congregation of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

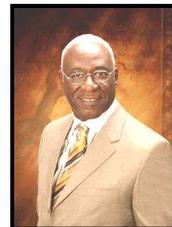
A result of the Strategic Planning process we have undergone over the past year, is there is a lot of activity going on here as we move toward some of the goals set before us. The vision is to re-launch this ministry to enable the future God has in store for Our Savior's and to begin identifying the persons who will be engaged in this process of rebuilding this ministry's future.

GROWTH ENGINES

There are four area that have been identified as areas we will have to give attention, if we want to see the results we desire. The four areas are the Sunday Morning Experience, Family Ministry, A Discipleship Path, and the Heart of Milwaukee.

Sunday AM Experience

Our goal is to develop a guest service strategy to become an even more welcoming place. We are to identify a person who will take on the role of coordinating the worshipers in the 8:30 and/or 11:00 service, we have begun to de-clutter our facility and brighten our look.



Come out for catfish!
Never frozen fresh catfish filets straight from Louisiana will be fried on February 10th
12:00 noon



This is a test run for a fund raiser in March—so come to taste the fish!
\$10 suggested donation

READERS WORKSHOP
February 16 6:00 p.m.
for all who are interested in reading the scriptures on Sundays - present readers and new folks are all invited.

RENEWREJOICE!
from Generation to Generation

Stewardship Campaign
2017
kicks off this month see Pastor Keen's article and pages 4&5 for the exciting vision for OSLC

Continued on page 3



Our Savior's is a member of Central City Churches, Inc. and is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Council

Wendy Enockson - President

Julie Carr - Vice President

Frank Schultz -Treasurer

Mike Festge - Secretary

Paul Brynildson - Elected Congregational Member

Tim Larson - Elected Congregational Member

Our Savior's Mission Statement

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is a diverse community of loved sinners gathered in the central city of Milwaukee:

created by God the Father Almighty;
 redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ;
 united in celebrating God's act of salvation in Word and Sacrament;
 called to be the body of Christ;
 and empowered by the Spirit with a variety of gifts for ministry.

Our purpose/ as a congregation and as individuals/ is to:

be a visible and tangible sign of the body of Christ in metropolitan Milwaukee;
 acknowledge the reign of God by living out God's forgiveness, love and justice with all creation
 and use the diversity of gifts given us by the Spirit for proclaiming anew the healing and liberating Good News of Jesus Christ.

As the body of Christ in this city we:

celebrate the presence of the living God in our lives/ congregation/ community and world;
 proclaim the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ
 administer the sacraments of Baptism and Communion;
 welcome as sisters and brothers, persons of any age/ gender, racial/ or ethnic heritage/economic status, mental or physical ability or sexual orientation;
 act as a messenger of hope in the redemption of the city;
 empower people to live as children of God;
 respect the witness/ insight and gifts of one another;
 support ministries of service to people in need locally and globally;
 advocate on behalf of those who are oppressed;
 and establish partnerships with the Global Christian Community.

continued from cover

Family Ministry

The vision here is to develop a clean spaces for our nursery and children up to 4th grade, to determine when they will be in class verses in worship, to develop the curriculum that will be used, and to partner with others already doing the work, such as Lutherdale and Penfield.

Discipleship Path

Here we are challenged to provide clear serving on-ramps for service during the week and other times. We are to define what discipleship is and to develop a skills inventory to help people discern their spiritual giftedness. Our Wednesday Prayer Lunch is a clear “on-ramp” service opportunity here at OSLC.

The Heart of Milwaukee

Our goal is for the leadership to run point on developing the community partnerships like Neighborhood House, Central City Churches and others to be aligned with a single vision for the growth and future of this congregation. This includes relationships with the city, county and state governments to connect with the vision of becoming the Heart of MKE.

In addition to these efforts, we are simultaneously developing a Stewardship campaign that will help to fund these initiatives for our future. Read more about that on the next page. We need your help to realize the great results we are seeking in a revitalized ministry that will last another 160 years.

Blessing of almighty God be upon you and all that you love,

Pastor Keen

RENEWREJOICE!
from Generation to Generation

*One generation shall praise your works to another generation,
and shall declare your mighty acts. Psalm 145*

RENEW REJOICE!

from Generation to Generation

Drawing on its 159 years of rich history, Our Savior's Lutheran Church is pivoting to an exciting new vision of its future. Always a place of devout worship and service to the community, the congregation is now awakening to an essential and unique role that God is calling it to play in our community. Our Savior's looks to become not just a caring and steadfast observer of the future, but a robust and active builder of it – a church for the city – a church for the next generation.

The need is great.
The time is now.

The neighborhood we serve is on the cusp of resurgence. The City of Milwaukee is becoming increasingly attractive to young professionals who are looking for a deeper sense of purpose and greater engagement in the community. At the same time our neighborhood is home to many young families struggling with poverty and lack of opportunity.

At Our Savior's, we envision a future where these disparate communities will meld their unique cultures and strengths to create an even stronger Milwaukee. But that future depends on the presence of strong institutions that can bring them together in mutual understanding, support and understanding through faith. *We must be here for a resurgent community to build around.* Faith and a shared vision of a strong community can be the bridge that ends silos of division among Milwaukeeans. With God's guidance, we will reshape Our Savior's for this new role. *For such a time as this*, we will be a church for the city – a church for the next generation.

RENEW REJOICE! Stewardship Campaign 2017 kicks off this month - Increased gifts and offerings will be used to *sustain current day-to-day operations* of the congregation (\$170,000) so that we will be staffed and positioned to effectively carry out our work as a congregation.

All are invited to participate with increased offerings so that we have a strong and secure financial base. Your joyful participation will help us reach our goal of \$80,000 in *new gifts* in 2017. We will communicate with you by mail, temple talks and bulletin inserts throughout February, culminating with Commitment Sunday on March 5th. Plan to be present on Sunday, February 26th to hear our guest speaker, Kay Edwards, present the Siebert Foundation Millennial Study highlights that will help us learn what young professionals are seeking for their lives.

And so we begin! Ministry Initiatives for 2017

To assure that key strategies of our strategic plan become reality, Design Teams have been convened for each strategy to create new, exciting action plans. Resources will be needed to launch and implement the efforts of these Design Teams.

Goal 1: Sunday Morning Experience \$6,000

Evaluate and plan for all aspects of Sundays at Our Savior's.

- ◆ Update our worship space (including lighting and technology) and develop new and improved worship services that are engaging to a new generation. \$2000
- ◆ Develop Guest Services including new "welcome stations" for receiving visitors. Improve the space with cleaning, new signage, new furniture, printed materials and supplies that will help our guests' first impressions result in return visits that will lead to engagement in the life and ministries of the congregation. \$4000

Goal 2: Marketing and Communications \$3,000

Update, improve and increase our marketing and communications platform to better communicate to our members and our target audience - young millennials and young professional families.

- ◆ New website that is easily navigable with contemporary graphics and imagery, and the ability to provide video and podcasts of worship services. \$2000
- ◆ New church logo that speaks to who we are and what we value. A new logo that is modern and reflects the church's values is imperative. \$500
- ◆ New marketing collaterals to welcome, invite and communicate what is happening at Our Savior's, including a welcome brochure, updated bulletins and church newsletter formats, stationary and business cards that reflect a modern look and include our new logo and mission statement. \$500

Goal 3: Strengthen On-going Ministry \$1,000

Sustain current day-to-day operations with excellence as we strive to make up for \$49,000 in revenue lost in the last few years as faithful members have joined the saints in God's heavenly realm.

- ◆ Maintain the building for ongoing ministries of hospitality as we host church and community partner ministries, meetings, events and worship services. This campaign is raising funds (\$28,000) for a shared Facilities Manager position to help us oversee the care and maintenance of the church plant.
- ◆ Strengthen the organizational structure. Attention to leadership needs (both staff and volunteer), is vital for pivoting Our Savior's to fulfill its mission and vision for the future. We anticipate costs for research, training, and materials for this initiative of \$1000.

Gifts to the 2017 Renew Rejoice! Stewardship campaign will ensure a strong and secure financial base, alleviating dependence on the Foundation, and becoming sustainable into the future.

February 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

The Yarn Ministry invites you to the monthly gathering at The Brumder Mansion 31st & Wisc. Av at 10 am February 4. Skilled yarn craftspeople and beginners all are welcome on the first Saturday each month.			1 12 noon Prayer Service & Lunch	2 5:30 Structure Meeting 7:30 Choir	3	4 9 am NA* 10 am Yarn Ministry 
5 Worship 8:30 & 11 am (Church Council Installation)	6 3 pm KBS	7 9:30 L&M* 6:30 diakonia*	8 12 noon Prayer Service & Lunch	9	10 12 pm Fish Fry Tasting 	11 9 am NA*
12 Worship 8:30 & 11 am 6 pm MCC*	13 3 pm KBS	14 9:30 L&M* 10 am Wedding in the chapel  6:30 diakonia*	15 12 noon Prayer Service & Lunch	16 6 - 7:30 pm Worship Readers Workshop 	17	18 9 am NA* & PLT Meeting
19 Worship 8:30 & 11 am 10am Mt Meru Coffee Presentation 6 pm MCC*	20 3 pm KBS 7 pm OS Foundation Meeting	21 9:30 L&M* 6:30 diakonia*	22 12 noon Prayer Service & Lunch	23	24	25 9 am NA*
26 Worship 8:30 & 11 am 10am Siebert Fdn 3pm Heritage Choral 6 pm MCC*	27 3 pm KBS	28 9:30 L&M* 6:30 diakonia*				

* indicates "Guest"

KBS - Kaleidoscope Bible Study (all are welcome)
L&M - L&M Payee Service office hours for clients
WIW - Wisconsin Injured Workers
CP - Construction Pastors
SAS - Stewardship for All Seasons

CCC - Central City Churches
MCC - Milwaukee Chamber Choir
NA - Narcotics Anonymous
MCC - Milwaukee Chamber Choir

New Leaders Elected & Affirmed at the January Annual Meeting

Congregational Council Vice President: Julie Carr
Treasurer: Frank Schultz

OSLC Foundation Board of Directors Kris McLean
Paul Brynildson
Chuck Formoe 1 year term

Nominating Committee: Anna Johnson
Gail Jacobsen

Synod Assembly Voting Members: Maurice Scruggs
Cyndi Benner

Assistant Treasurer: Linda Moore (Volunteer, affirmed)

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

Copies of the 2016 Annual Report are available in the church office.



We tried Text2Give last month and will continue in January with this company that facilitates mobile giving by text message. Please join in by trying it out and getting back to us about your experience. Here's how to do it: Text GIVE to our giving number: **414-292-9314**

“How much would you like to give to Our Savior’s Lutheran Church?” is the reply

Enter the amount and send: Example: 20

“Give \$20 to Our Savior’s Lutheran Church? Enter yes or no”

Enter YES “Would you like this gift to be reoccurring?” Enter YES or NO

“Tap this link to complete your gift of \$20 to Our Savior’s Lutheran Church.” & the link directs you to the Text2Give website to set up your credit card. Try it! So we can see how it

February Highlights

Sunday, February 5 - Installation of the Church Council at both services

Friday, February 10 - Test Run Fish Fry! 2:00 p.m. This is a trial run for the big fish fry fund-raiser that is coming in March. You might call this one “a foretaste of the feast to come”. Never frozen catfish fresh from Louisiana will be delivered that day and fried using Pastor Keen’s outdoor fryer on the parking lot. What’s not to love about a mid-winter fish fry? Come taste and be ready to sell tickets for the actual fish fry fund raiser coming in March.



Thursday, February 16 - Readers Workshop 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Are you interested in reading the scriptures in our Sunday services? New and current READERS are invited to a short gathering to meet one another and get acquainted with the texts for the upcoming season of Lent. We can check out the “back stories” that set up the appointed texts, discover the connections between the Old and New Testament selections, practice pronunciations and inflections together. Refreshments will be served!

Sunday, February 19 - Mt. Meru Coffee Presentation - Karin Ziemienski and Ron from the Mt. Meru Coffee Project will present the latest offerings from our favorite coffee brand. Samples will be available for \$1. Come hear about this great partnership that supports coffee farmers and their families in Tanzania and brings delicious coffee to our tables here in Milwaukee.

Friday, February 24 - Milwaukee Bucks Faith and Family Night The Bucks vs. Utah Jazz at the Bradley Center 7:00 p.m. We have a chance to buy tickets at a group rate discount for a group of 10 or more. If you would like to be a part of an Our Savior’s group, contact Penny in the church office.

Sunday, February 26 - 10:00 a.m. Siebert Lutheran Foundation Millennial Study - Kay Edwards will be our guest speaker from Siebert, sharing highlights of this interesting and informative study. What are people in this generation looking for that might be found in the church? Bring your questions! These are the very folks we want to engage here at Our Savior’s. Copies of the study are available in the church office for you to read before this presentation.

Sunday, February 26 - 3:00 p.m. Heritage Choral Concert - Dwight Hamilton and the choral will bring us an afternoon of wonderful music.

From the Archive Team Faith Stories
OSLC MEMORIES FROM THELMA THIELSEN

My father came to America from Norway, became a pastor and married my mother in Dows, Iowa. He served Lutheran churches in Iowa and South Dakota. I was born in 1922 in the parsonage in Moe, SD, the 4th in a family of 8 children. His last call was in Parkside, Saskatchewan Canada.



I attended school in various places and after high school graduation traveled to Chicago, where my sister was a nurse. There I became a nurse through the Cadet Nurse Corp, started during WW II. After the war I met and married my husband, Elmer. We moved to Milwaukee with three children, Janet, Gary and Greg; there he started a new job. We attended a few churches that summer, but knew one family who attended Our Savior's. That was George and Alma Johnson, parents to Ardith Strommen. They were from the same Iowa town as my mother. We joined Our Savior's. It was the right thing to do.

Soon Elmer became an usher in 1956 and we met many wonderful couples who became our lifelong friends. We had two more children, Steven and David. They all attended Sunday School, confirmation classes, youth choir, Bible camp, choir trips, college trips and played on the baseball team. Being a downtown church they met friends living in various parts of the city. Elmer served on the Church Council and Building and Grounds Committee. I was busy with the children and appreciated the baby cry room behind the balcony where I met other mothers. Eventually I joined the Mothers Circle for Bible study and friendship. This later became Leah Circle with 25 plus members.

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief was a big part of my life, where quilts were made in Fellowship Hall with many good sewers and shipped out to where needed, through LWR. Salt and Pepper Club for married couples brought many happy get-togethers for Elmer and me. Best memories were Christmas services, Easter Sunrise Service and being part of the kitchen workers, our friends. The people made it special.



Your Our Savior's story is invited by the Archive Team. Contact Tim Larson, Karen Nimz, Joan Totten or Lolita Lukach for more information.

Worship Leaders Schedule for February, 2017

	Sunday February 5 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Sunday February 12 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Sunday February 19 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Sunday February 26 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Assisting Minister	Karin Zieminski	Linda Moore	8:30 Paula Holman 11:00 Penny Schwid	Paul Brynildson
Reader	8:30 Cyndi Benner 11:00 Bob Foley	8:30 Mike Festge 11:00 Larissa Roby Brown	8:30 John Schneble 11:00 Anna Johnson	8:30 Norma Fogle 11:00 Gary Christianson
Communion Server	8:30 Paula Holman, Cyndi Benner 11:00 Karin Zieminski	8:30 Mike & Doreen Festge 11:00 Linda Moore	8:30 Linda Wright, Paul Brynildson 11:00 Gail Jacobsen	8:30 Steve Oakland, Norma Fogle 11:00 Paul Brynildson
Acolyte	8:30 Steve Oakland 11:00 Kari Zieminski	8:30 Doreen Festge 11:00 Larissa Roby Brown	8:30 Paul Brynildson 11:00 Penny Schwid	8:30 Paul Brynildson 11:00 Paul Brynildson
Sacristy	8:30 Nancy Schultz 11:00 Bob Foley	8:30 Jerry & LaVonne Williams 11:00 Julie Carr	8:30 Wendy Enockson 11:00 Penny Schwid	8:30 Norma Fogle 11:00 Paul Brynildson
Gift Bearer	8:30 Tom & Judy Pinger 11:00 Maurice Scruggs	8:30 Jerry & LaVonne Williams 11:00 Roby-Browns	8:30 Phil & Wendy Enockson 11:00 Anna Johnson	8:30 Mike & Kris Mclean 11:00 Karin Zieminski
Sound Room 8:30 a.m.	Paul Schneble	Paul Schneble	Paul Schneble	Paul Schneble
Ushers 11:00 a.m.	Maurice Scruggs	Antoine Roby	Kevin & Vivian Watkins Gray	Karin Zieminski

Thank you for serving in these diaconal positions as assigned. Please contact the church office (Penny 414-342-5252) with your availability for the next several months. If you cannot serve as assigned, please arrange a substitute for yourself and advise the church office of the change.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; Hebrews 12:28

February Birthdays



Goeckerman, Charlotte	02/02	Wieneri, Carolyn	02/21
Casey, Catherine	02/03	Holman, Paula	02/22
Roby-Brown, Larissa	02/04	Jorgensen, Herman Jr.	02/22
Heinemann, Gladys	02/09	Brown, Linda	02/25
Westcott, Sophia	02/11	Tweet, Curtis	02/25
Pinger, Judith	02/14	Blasier, Lenore	02/28
Wells, Marquitta	02/15	Nelson, Debra	02/28

YOUR PRAYERS ARE INVITED FOR:

Jerry Williams
 Doreen, Herman & Jon Jorgensen
 Floyd Haberman
 Jenine Wimmer
 Dennis James
 Pastor Keen, & Anthony Boose
 Jim Moore, Linda Moore's brother
 Michael Berg, Kari Zieminski's brother
 Debbie Krueger
 Tammy Arvelo, and her family members,
 Sierra, Tona, August and Miguel
 Ella Schumacher
 Lenore Blasier
 Betty Anderson
 Geraldine Lenz
 Elizabeth Seymour
 Maude Wilson
 Debbie Hyland
 Lakelyn Ruth Poeppel
 The Burns, Johnson, Clark, Elam and Palmer
 families



DEATHS

Longtime member **Dolores Schrub**
 passed from this life on December 31.
 Dolores was a faithful steward and disciple
 in this church community, having served as
 president of the OSLC Women's organiza-
 tion for many years and as a dedicated
 volunteer at Luther Manor. We miss her
 encouraging presence and are thankful for
 her service.

We received word of the death on January
 31 of **John McDowell Jr.** John served as
 an interviewer in the CCC food pantry and
 has been away due to an illness. He has
 already been missed.

Our prayers are lifted up for Curtis Tweet
 on the death of his sister, **Ramona** on
 January 31.

NEW MEMBERS were received on January
 29th. We welcome **Spencer Jackson**
 (Baptism), **Sharina French, Scott Rauch,**
Sidney Hill and Bennie Thompson
 (Affirmation of Baptism)!

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Rev. Dr. Patrick Keen, Pastor
Penny Schwid, Parish Administrator
Nila Wooten & Bennie Thompson, Custodians
John Seboldt, Organist
Wendy Enockson, Congregation President
Rev. Marie Avilés de Jesús, Pastor Emerita

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please notify the church office...



Phone: (414) 342-5252

The Messenger

Editor Penny Schwid

Printing Church office

Collating/ Mailing Office Volunteers

Articles for the Messenger must be submitted by the **15th of the month** to church office or by email: office@oslcmilw.org

**Articles due by
February 15th for the
March Messenger**