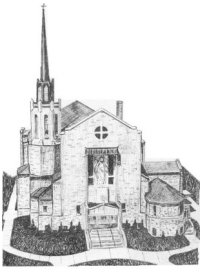


The Messenger

Vol.60, Issue 2

FEBRUARY

2013



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

3022 W. Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53208-3950

Tel: 414-342-5252

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"A Church Where God's Diversity Works"

From Pastor Barbara Rasmussen

Dear Friends in Christ,

I will say good-bye to you one more time along with a huge thank you for all the cards, verbal well-wishes, gifts, hugs, tears and especially for Sunday, January 27. Much work and generosity of heart was put into the whole day by many people and I will remember it for a long time -- in fact, for the rest of my life! You have been an important part of my life for 10 years, and I am very grateful for the time I spent in ministry here at Our Savior's.



As I leave I want to affirm what our former Bishop, and former member of Our Savior's, Peter Rogness has written regarding pastor/parishioner relationships after the pastor has moved on. It is included in the Call Process Manual of the Greater Milwaukee Synod for sharing at this time.

I cherish our relationships, but will no longer be your pastor. I will continue to hold you in my prayers for your well-being. May God continue to bless you as has been true for 155 years.

Please read Peter Rogness' letter on page 3...



February 13

Ash

Wednesday

Soup Supper

6:00 p.m.

Service

7:00 p.m.

**Dollar-a-day
For Poverty**

Lenten

Devotions and
Collection
envelopes
available

Sign up at the
church office

**Midweek
Lenten
Suppers and
Services**

begin Febru-
ary 20 at Cen-
tral United
Methodist



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

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

A church where God's diversity works

Church Council

Miguel de Jesús - President

Wendy Enockson - Vice President

David Ingvaldstad -Treasurer

Virginia Koch - Secretary

Paul Brynildson - Personnel

Mike Festge - Our Savior's Foundation

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 op-
pressed;
and establish partnerships with the Global
Christian Community.

Why Not Ask Our Former Pastor?

An open letter of pastoral advice from former Bishop Peter Rogness

With our synod being as geographically compact as it is, we often face the matter of pastors who have moved from one congregation to another or who have retired, being asked for pastoral acts by people who are former parishioners.

There is no painless way out of an awkward situation. A good pastoral relationship is not coldly functional; it is personal as well, so it's not at all uncommon for people facing a wedding, funeral, or baptism to desire the presence of a pastor who has been personally important in their lives. Good pastors can expect that times will come when former parishioners would like the pastoral relationship to continue for a special occasion.

That's where we run into trouble. We need to be clear on what has come to be understood as a "professional ethic" for pastors: ***when a pastor leaves a parish, she/he is no longer those people's pastor; he/she may continue to be a friend, but the pastoral relationship is ended.*** The implications for pastors are clear; it is often (not always) appropriate to do what other friends do - attend a wedding or funeral - but the pastoral act of presiding in those moments belongs to the current pastor.

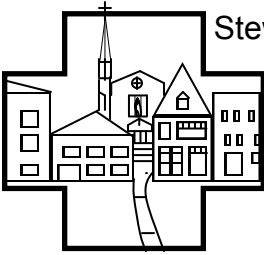
I lived for many years in the house I moved into to be pastor of Hephatha Church, 1^{1/2} miles away, so I know the awkwardness. I've found the most helpful response to be something like, "I'm not your pastor any more, but I am glad you consider me a friend. I'd love to come if invited, as your other friends do."

I don't say, "You'll have to talk to your pastor about that." That would put the current pastor in the no-win situation of relinquishing the pastoral role to me or saying no and being regarded by the parishioner as cold, jealous, unresponsive and uncaring. So I simply point out that the pastoral role isn't mine anymore.

So, what's the best way for all concerned to handle this? I would advise that you or lay members don't even ask - it immediately puts both the current and former pastor in very awkward positions. Even if the current pastor is someone that you hardly know, you affirm your former pastor best by inviting her to com while showing high regard for the pastoral office she held by seeking out that new pastor to be your pastor.

I don't mean this to sound arbitrary and legalistic. I mean it to be pastoral. I'm sure there may be a few situations that are "exceptions", but probably a lot fewer than it seems.

continued on page 4...



Stewardship - *from Pastor Bob*

THE NEIGHBORHOOD WINS:

There remains among some members a felt tension between Our Savior's initial vision when the congregation first moved to Wisconsin Avenue, and one that has developed more recently. The earlier vision was that of being a strong metropolitan church drawing its membership from throughout the city. A newer vision is that of becoming first and foremost a neighborhood congregation drawing members and serving people from the immediate surrounding area.

For those who know my faith journey it will come as no surprise that I personally favor a primarily neighborhood focus. If the congregation on the corner of 26th Street and Auer Ave did not have a strong focus of serving its neighborhood it would have been highly unlikely that I would ever have become a member of the church, much less a pastor. I'm also sure that my experience of neighborhood ministry by Resurrection Lutheran Church was an influence on my seeking a graduate degree (MS) in social work.

The 60's and 70's saw the church greatly influenced by Jesus' parable in Matthew 25 of the sheep and goats, where he says, "When you did it unto the least of these my children you have done it unto me."

Those words still ring loud in my conscience as it is fulfilled at OSLC. I know the various ministries here at OSLC are a powerful witness to the love of God as they are deeply appreciated by our neighbors. For some it is a matter of survival that they have access to these ministries.

OSLC may not have the largest number of Sunday worshippers, but it does have one of the biggest God-loving hearts. Love for the loveless wins.

As OSLC moves into the future I vote for neighborhood ministry!

Pastor Bob

(cont. from page 3)

There are also contacts with former pastors over personal life issues, complaints about the life of the parish, etc. but the same principle applies: we honor our former pastors most highly by recognizing the importance of the work they do and the office they hold by looking to the current pastor for those ministry acts.



FROM MIGUEL DE JESÚS, CONGREGATION PRESIDENT...

The widow had two coins which together added up to a penny. The boy just had some bread and fishes for a snack. Sarai was in her nineties and still barren. Jeremiah, Samuel, Elijah and Elisha, were only boys. Other prophets felt ill-equipped. Most of the apostles were poorly educated. Simeon was very old.

None of these people felt they had anything they could offer, yet through them, God brought about many marvelous deeds.

Some of what I've been writing might have brought about a response in you which is similar to theirs. Me? What can I do? What more can I do? Leave that to younger, older, other people.

From folding a sheet of paper, to writing grants for many dollars, there is something even those of us who are homebound can do for the greater good of the people of God at Our Savior's. If you can move a finger, if you can breathe, we need you to find a way to use that for the greater good of all. Remember all the years we listened to the readings as they were recorded by persons who could not leave their homes?

But we all have to work together. It took a team of us to make those recordings and present them to the community. Please think of ways, we might combine what we can do together in one great symphony of praise to God. What can I do? How can I do that with others? What can we all do together?

What can I do?

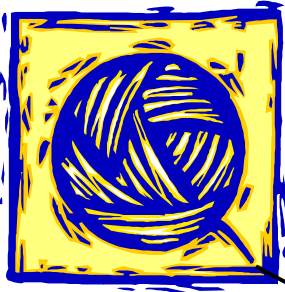
There are many opportunities to serve...

Worship Leaders: Assisting Ministers, Readers, Communion Servers, Sacristy Workers, Sound Room Attendants, Ushers, Gift Bearers...

Serve on a Ministry Team: Building and Grounds, Worship, Stewardship, Arts, Education, Fellowship...

Answer phones, greet visitors, sweep floors, make repairs...

and what is it that interests you? Bring your ideas...



Knitting, Crocheting, Yarn Craft Fellowship Ministry
New outreach with a heart and a prayer

All are invited - For beginners and the experienced, and anyone in between.

DATE: Next Gathering of yarn enthusiasts with a mission -
2nd Sat., February 9th, 2013

WHEN: Saturday morning 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Brumder Mansion; (Big brick mansion next door to Our Savior's, on the corner of W. Wisconsin Ave. and 31st Street.) We will meet in the parlor.

INSPIRATION: Based on and inspired by the book, "**Knitting into the Mystery: A Guide to the Shawl-Knitting Ministry**", by Susan S. Izard

PURPOSE: While we will learn from each other, enjoy Christian fellowship and encourage each other's efforts, we will be making shawls, lap robes, scarves and other interesting yarn projects, at our own pace, which will be blessed by the group, through prayer.

OUR OVERALL GOAL is to lift the spirits of people going through a hard adventure/ transition of life. Such endeavors send love, warmth and blessings, giving the recipients something physical to represent love and caring of others.

RSVP - PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL JULIE OR KARIN IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US.

Contact: Karin Ziemienski 414-326-7777

OR Julie Carr 310-766-2215 julie@christianmusic.com

Giving and Receiving Thanks

To Billy Nash, Ayub Mohamed and Nila Wooten, our custodians, for their extra efforts with snow removal and floor mopping during these wintry days.

To all who helped with Pastor Barbara's Retirement Celebration, we thank you! From the recipes, cookbooks, money contributions and food for the lunch to the help with the planning and on January 27 with the set-up and clean-up, food preparation and the kitchen tasks. Many folks pitched in to make it a very special day for our retiring pastor.



From Carol Menting - I know it's been many months of prayers, but I've had a second surgery for reconstruction and a slight setback after that. I believe I am on the mend so I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the additional cards, prayers and well-wishes over these many months. Like I've said before, I am truly grateful for friends like you.

From Luther Manor - for the 70 dozen cookies donated by the members of Our Savior's in 2012. "these treats are distributed each morning by our volunteers to the residents who reside in the Health Care Center. Our residents look forward to the coffee, cookies and conversation served daily. The cookies are a reminder of your care and concern for the older adults we serve here at Luther Manor."

From Next Door Foundation - For the year end gift of money from the congregation as well as the many Christmas gifts, "support from caring organizations like yours allows us to provide programming and services that help families overcome the challenges they face."

Thank you to new and returning leaders

These individuals were confirmed at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 27:

Vice President (2 year term): Wendy Enockson


Treasurer (2 year term): Linda Moore (beginning in April)

Foundation: Paul Brynildsen (3 year term)

Frank Schultz (3 year term)

Nominating Committee: Phil Enockson (3 year term)

February 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Midweek Lenten Services begin Wednesday February 20. 6 p.m. Soup Supper 6:45 p.m. Lenten Service						
3 8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sun School & Fellowship	4 3 p.m. KBS	5 9:30 a.m. L&M* 10 a.m. Fatherhood* 5 p.m. 3AM 6:30 pm diakonia*	6 12 p.m. Prayer Service & Lunch 1 p.m. WIW* 7 p.m. Holy Change	7 9:30 a.m. Quilting 10 a.m. Fatherhood*	1	2 9 a.m. NA* 1 - 9 NA Speak-a-thon*
10 8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sun School &	11 3 p.m. KBS 6 p.m. Hi Hopes	9:30 a.m. L&M* 12 10 a.m. Fatherhood* 12 p.m. CCC Outreach 5 p.m. 3AM 6:30 diakonia*	13 12 noon Prayer Service & Lunch 1 p.m. WIW* 6 p.m. Soup Supp 	14 10 a.m. Fatherhood*	8	9 9 a.m. NA* 12-8 p.m. WIW Val-entire Dinner*
17 8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sun School & Fellowship	18 3 p.m. KBS 4 p.m. Worship Team	19 Election Day 9:30 a.m. L&M* 10 a.m. Fatherhood*	20 9:30 a.m. Leah 12 p.m. Prayer Service & Lunch 1 p.m. WIW*	21 10 a.m. Fatherhood*	15	16 9 a.m. NA* WAVE Councils Meeting
24 8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sun School & Fellowship	25 3 p.m. KBS	26 9:30 a.m. L&M* 10 a.m. Fatherhood* 5 p.m. 3AM 6:30 pm diakonia*	27 12 p.m. Prayer Service & Lunch 1 p.m. WIW*	28 10 a.m. Fatherhood*	22	23 9 a.m. NA* 1 p.m. NA Speak-a-thon*

You may contact the church office or consult the website for up-to-date meeting and event information. Tel: 414-342-5252 www.oslcmilw.org

KEY WIW = Wisconsin Injured Workers L&M = L&M Payee Service KBS = Kaleidoscope Bible Study
CCC= Central City Churches WE = West End Landlord Compact

**Lenten resource available from Outreach for Hope:
Daily Devotions with a 40 Day discipline of giving a Dollar-a-Day for Poverty**

**40 Days in the Wilderness:
Our Wilderness Journey of Poverty, Faith, and Life.**

Each week will focus on a theme, including: "The Wilderness Journey from Broken to Healed," "The Wilderness Journey from Hunger to Contentment," "The Wilderness Journey from the Cross to Victory," seven themes in all.

Paul Brynildson is organizing this Outreach for Hope campaign at Our Savior's. The goal is for 40 families or individuals to participate. Please call or sign up at the church office if you would like a devotion booklet and/or an envelope for your Dollar a Day for Poverty collection.

New this year

- ◆ A simpler format than the past, with a short scripture printed out, two questions to be used throughout the week, and a prayer on the week's theme.
- ◆ Just 5 pieces of paper in booklet format.
- ◆ The whole booklet can be printed and received out at the beginning of Lent, or can be received via email as an attachment.
- ◆ The attractive Dollar-a-day collection envelope will be available to you for helping with this Lenten discipline.


Beneath the Cross of Jesus
Midweek Lenten Services
Wednesdays
February 20 & 27 March 6, 13 and 20
at Central United Methodist Church
25th and Wisconsin Avenue
Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Service 6:45 p.m.



This midweek series is sponsored by Central United Methodist, Redeemer Lutheran, St. Paul's Lutheran and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches. All are welcome. Free will offering will be received.

Our Savior's is responsible for the service and the meal on March 20th. Contact Penny in the church office if you would like to help.

Worship Leader Schedule for February, 2013

	Sunday February 3 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Sunday February 10 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Sunday February 17 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Sunday, February 24 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Assisting Minister	Penny Schwid	Miguel de Jesús	Paul Brynildson	8:30 Paula Holman 11:00 Miguel de Jesús
Reader	8:30 Mike Festge 11:00 Jena Arvelo Sebesta	8:30 Dorothy Kittleson 11:00 Marquitta Wells	8:30 John Schneble 11:00 Karin Zieminski	8:30 Rebecca Lawrence 11:00 Anna Johnson
Communion Server	8:30 Mike & Doreen Festge 11:00 Tammy Arvelo Sebesta	8:30 Cyndi Benner, Paula Holman 11:00 Miguel de Jesús	8:30 Jerry & LaVonne Williams 11:00 Paul Brynildson	8:30 Paula Holman, Steve Oakland 11:00 Miguel de Jesús
Acolyte	8:30 Steve Oakland 11:00 Tammy Arvelo Sebesta	8:30 Gary Christianson 11:00 Isaac & Aaron Wells-Cage	8:30 LaVonne Williams 11:00 Ginnel Palmer	8:30 Paula Holman 11:00 Miguel de Jesús
Sacristy	8:30 Virginia Koch, Judy Pinger 11:00 Tammy & Jena Arvelo Sebesta	8:30 Marie Brynildson, Lenore Blasier 11:00 Doris Sorvick	8:30 LaVonne & Jerry Williams 11:00 Paul Brynildson	8:30 Paul Brynildson, Marie Melchert 11:00 Anna Johnson, Julie Carr
Gift Bearers	8:30 Floyd & Jean Cason 11:00 Kevin & Vivian Gray	8:30 Tom & Judy Pinger 11:00 Isaac & Aaron Wells-Cage	8:30 Kristi Westcott family 11:00 Kerri Kaczor, Sandy Miller	8:30 McLean family 11:00 Palmer family
Sound Room 8:30 a.m.	Paul Schneble	Paul Schneble	Paul Schneble	Paul Schneble

February Birthdays



- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 2/2 Charlotte Goeckermann | 2/22 Tiffany Flatten | 2/28 Wendy Gaines |
| 2/2 Paul Klumb | 2/22 Paula Holman | |
| 2/9 Gladys Heinemann | 2/22 Herman Jorgensen Jr. | |
| 2/9 Charlotte Heyer | 2/23 Jessie Pettigrew | |
| 2/10 Robert Strommen | 2/24 Clayton Shaver | |
| 2/12 Barbara Rasmussen | 2/25 Linda Flatten | |
| 2/14 Judy Pinger | 2/25 Curtis Tweet | |
| 2/21 Colleen Bliesner | 2/26 Sheryl Deer | |
| 2/21 Carolyn Wieneri | 2/28 Lenore Blasier | |

Happy Birthday!

May God bless you!

Choir Director Applications Being Accepted

Seeking a part time Choir Director to direct a choir at two services on alternating weeks for a maximum of four Sunday services per month. We are looking for a director with a Bachelor's Degree in choral music, directing experience, and an openness to leading a variety of worship music, such as traditional and world music.

Submit resume to pastorbarbara@oscmilw.org



YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

- John Jorgensen
- Lillian Larson
- Virginia Howard
- the Davis family
- Cookie Henderson
- Pastor Marie Avilez de Jesús
- Maude Wilson
- Jon Hugdahl
- Sharon Christianson
- Raymond Nelson
- Fred Nelson
- Montiez Telfred

Let us pray



DEATHS IN JANUARY

Rev. Joseph Davis January 18

John Howard January 25

We also received word of the death of **Alberta Henderson**, Cookie Henderson's mother.

The Messenger

Published monthly by:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

3022 W. Wisconsin Ave

Milwaukee, WI 53208

**Non Profit
Organization**

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Milwaukee WI

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Rev. Barbara Rasmussen, D. Min., Pastor

Penny Schwid, Parish Administrator

Billy Nash, Nila Wooten, Ayub Mohamed -
Custodians

John Seboldt, Organist

Miguel de Jesús, Congregation President

Phone: (414) 342-5252

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

<hr/>	
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 15 for
March 2013
Messenger