



# The VOICE of Our Savior

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LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

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**AUGUST 2010**

## Pastor's Message

I recently heard a Christian speaker define *grace* as "God at work". It was placed in contrast with "people at work" in the sense that grace is God working in our lives that which is impossible for us to make happen on our own. I like that definition, because it places all the emphasis on God, removing me from the spotlight. It means that God loves us, even in our broken, incomplete, messed-up conditions. It means that even when we question our value and worth, God in Jesus has already placed great value upon our puny lives. It also means that when we trust and allow God to work in our lives, God can do some amazing things through us.

That is important for us to remember when we find ourselves in transition, such as we at Lutheran Church of Our Savior find ourselves now. August is one of those transition months – it's the last gasp of summer vacation before school resumes; it is also the month before our fall ministry schedule kicks into high gear here at the church. What we are able to do in ministry is fueled solely by God's grace, for our ministries are what God is making happen in and through us. Whether we are embarking on new ministries, such as the joint venture with St. Paul's Lutheran Church

in the Noah's Ark Lutheran Preschool, which opens in August, or continuing with current ministries, it is God's gift of grace that powers our ministries.

During this transition month, I invite you to look at your relationship with God and with this community of faith. Reflect on how God values you and has been at work in you and through you in this place. Then, prayerfully seek how God wants to be at work in you as our fall ministry schedule unfolds, and trust that God will lead you when you are willing to let the Lord work in and through you!

In Christ's joy,  
Gary

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Saturday**, 5:30 p.m. - Prayer Labyrinth

**Sunday**, 9:45 a.m. - Sanctuary

## WORSHIP THEMES

### *August 1, Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

### *August 8, Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning - to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part today in assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

### *August 15, Mary, Mother of Our Lord*

Mary's role is not limited to giving birth to Jesus and mothering him in his childhood. In John's gospel, she is among the women standing near the cross; in Acts, she is among the disciples awaiting the gift of the Spirit. Through all that happened she continued to see how God was at work

through her son, keeping the ancient promises to her ancestors, brushing aside the rich and powerful, and focusing on those as poor and powerless as Mary herself.

### *August 22, Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

### *August 29, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Invited and inviting - that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

## THEOLOGY ON TAP

This month, our public discussion group will meet on Monday, August 23, 6:30 p.m. at Chappy's Tap Room and Grille, on Alex Bell Road.

## LCOS MISSION STATEMENT

- + *Share God's Word*
- + *Serve Community*
- + *Grow in Faith*

## VISION STATEMENT

We are a growing, diverse congregation actively sharing God's blessings in the world community.

## Council Update

Your council met July 19, and after a brief moment to clear our minds, Pastor Eichorn led us reciting Psalm 138. The June minutes were approved and we received the financial reports. Our church is experiencing a continued shortfall in giving, and unexpected building maintenance has created a large financial shortfall in our budget. Even with the cuts we all voted on at the annual meeting, we are at a point of negative cash-flow. The council is drafting a letter that you will be receiving, asking for additional giving. Also we will send everyone an update on where you stand versus your pledge for 2010. Our goal at this time is to receive an additional \$20,000.00 and lessen our shortfall.

Kim Buechele announced that she would head up our stewardship committee, which is sorely in need of direction. Thank you, Kim.

All the council requests your input. As we prepare to continue the mission of Lutheran Church of Our Savior ... What areas are we doing right? What areas do you feel we are under serving or not addressing at all? Worship, youth, ministries, building facilities. Please communicate with the staff or myself.

*Chris Becker*

*christopherbecker@sbcglobal.net*



## DAYTON CONFERENCE MISSION TRIP

The Dayton Conference is organizing another mission trip to New Orleans for the end of September. If you are interested in learning more about this event, you are invited to attend an informational meeting here at LCOS on **Sunday, August 15, 2:30 p.m.** The group will be leaving September 26, 2010 at 7:00 a.m. from our parking lot and returning on October 2. The Conference will not be renting a bus this year but will be using Passenger Vans. Volunteers wishing to participate in the mission trip are asked to donate \$150 per person. This donation will help cover transportation, housing and meals while in Louisiana. Volunteers will be finishing up houses that have been destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The need is still great even after five years. There may also be need to help with clean up from the oil spill. Please contact Terry Bruns for more information 937-478-5892 or by email: [terryobrunsv@verizon.net](mailto:terryobrunsv@verizon.net).

### Lutheran Church of Our Savior

Rev. Gary Eichhorn, *Pastor*

Rachel Spry Lammi, *Associate in Ministry*

Terri Balsom, *Office Manager*

Don Hartman, *Treasurer*

Don Anstaett, *Financial Secretary*

Ginger Minneman, *Music Director*

Celeste Hoerner, *Joyful Noise Choir*

Joe Beal, *Sonshine Choir*

Richard Freudenberger, *Handbell Choir*

Chris Becker, *Council President*

Rev. Robert A. Willauer, *Pastor Emeritus*



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN FAITH FORMATION

Fall/Winter/Spring Sunday Church School for all ages

- **Grades preschool – 6th**

*Co-Teachers:* Prepare and lead lessons for 9:30 a.m. class

*Assistants:* Assist teachers during 9:30 a.m. class

These grades use SPARK curriculum by Augsburg & Luther's Small Catechism Studies.

- **Grades 7 & 8 and Senior High**

*Co-Teachers:* Prepare and lead biblical discussions & activities for 9:15 a.m. class

*Assistant:* Assist teachers during 9:15 a.m. class

Topics and Activities chosen with help of Family Ministries Coordinator, Pastor and youth input.

- **Adult Groups**

*Facilitators:* Lead or take turns leading discussion group studies on various biblical or topical subjects during 9:15 a.m. class.

Rachel Lammi is happy to help you in finding topics, books and materials to spark your discussions. A sign up sheet is located in the back of the sanctuary (narthex), or you can contact Rachel if interested.

## SUMMER SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Continues during 9:45 a.m. worship each Sunday through August 29. Thank you to all the volunteers and to Che Brewer-Coon for helping organize this year's program!

## KINGDOM KID'S CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We are seeking *volunteers to lead children's worship once every month or two.*

Starting September 12, children grades K through 4 and their parents will have a unique opportunity during 10:30 a.m. worship each week. These children will exit just before the sermon after a "children's moment." They will have their own worship time including prayers, songs and biblical story discovery. The children will return to worship by bringing the offering forward. Children will learn how to feed themselves spiritually, and parents will be able to focus on the sermon. If you are interested in helping, please contact Rachel Lammi.

### STAFF EMAIL

- GARY - gwe@oursaviordayton.org
- RACHEL - ras@oursaviordayton.org
- TERRI - teb@oursaviordayton.org
- DON H. - hartmansandon@sbcglobal.net
- DON A. - jfanstaett@sbcglobal.net
- GINGER - dminneman@woh.rr.com
- CELESTE - CMZimmer38@aol.com
- JOE - waveshands@woh.rr.com
- DICK - ralbf@aol.com

OFFICE HOURS (Mon. - Fri.):

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon / 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

## SMALL GROUPS

We are seeking *persons interested in learning while facilitating discussions* on various topics, books, bible or interest. Groups can be centered on common interests, such as cooking or working on cars, books and more. Let your creative juices flow. Rachel Lammi is happy to help groups find resources to use for biblical and topical study. This helps continue our congregation on the path of being a "Book of Faith" congregation.

### *Current Small Groups include:*

- + A self-led men's bible study that meets on Tuesday over lunch during the school year. Contact Ray Strohming if interested.
- + A sewing group that meets the first Tuesday and third Wednesday of each month. Contact Joyce Strohming if interested.
- + Weekly prayer breakfast, Theology on Tap and more. Contact Pastor Gary if interested.
- + WELCA: Woman of the ELCA currently has three fellowship/study groups:
  - Monday circle (contact Karen Tyson)
  - Wednesday morning circle (contact Shirley Coen)
  - Wednesday evening circle (contact Jamie Ashburn)

Whether you choose to be a volunteer leader or participant in an existing or new group/study, the fall is a good time to re-commit yourself to studying God's Word.

## THANK YOU for Making VBS Possible



Your donations of time and money really do make an impact in our community and in the lives of children of all ages. Our Savior budgeted \$2,300 in the 2010 budget for an anticipated 60 participants age 4 through entering grade 6. We had more children than expected, lots of great fun and people of every age enjoy the week experiencing God.

### *VBS by the numbers:*

- 52+ Volunteers (youth and adults)
- 2 Traveling Youth Groups helped set up decorations (+)
- Participants from 9 zip codes, 12 churches, and 13 no church home indicated
- 63 children age 4 through grade 6
- 5 children age 0-3 in the nursery
- 5 adults in discussion group
- 510 meals served
- 143 enjoyed the Ice Cream Social and closing program
- 160 boxes of cereal collected during the week for New Hope Food Pantry
- \$2349.98 total cost against budget
- \$1312.53 total donations against Budget
- \$200+ in-kind donations for decorations, crafts, science, etc., not against budget

*Thank you, Lutheran Church of Our Savior members and friends for making Vacation Bible School a Must Do Ministry Event!!!*

*~ Rachel Lammi ~*



# AUGUST 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> HYGIENE ITEMS COLLECTION 9:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. SCS Red's baseball game	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 9:30 a.m. Sewing 3:30 p.m. Staff 7:00 p.m. Christian Ed	<b>4</b> 7:00 a.m. AA 4:30 p.m. Golf league 7:30 p.m. Social Ministry	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
<b>8</b> 9:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. SCS 10:45 a.m. Property	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 5:00 p.m. Health Ministry 7:00 p.m. Foundation Bd	<b>11</b> 7:00 a.m. AA 4:30 p.m. Golf league	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Holy Terror lock-in and 1st Communion class	<b>14</b> 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
<b>15</b> 9:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. SCS	<b>16</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 7:00 p.m. Council	<b>17</b> 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 3:30 p.m. Staff	<b>18</b> 7:00 a.m. AA 9:30 a.m. Sewing 2:30 p.m. Bethany Communion 4:30 p.m. Golf league	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
<b>22</b> 9:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. SCS 3:00 p.m. Scared Harp	<b>23</b> 6:30 p.m. Theology on Tap	<b>24</b> 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast	<b>25</b> 7:00 a.m. AA 4:30 p.m. Golf league	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
<b>29</b> 9:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. SCS 11:00 a.m. Youth meeting and Confirmation meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast				

# Youth Group News



Our youth participated in a couple of activities last month. We did have one family that joined Pastor Gary for the canoe outing that was held in July. The trip went faster than anticipated because the river level was a little higher than usual.

There was also a wedding set-up and clean-up July 16 and 17. We had a good turnout for both the set-up and the clean-up. Thanks to all the youth and parents who came to help us.

Activities for the month of August include the trip to the Cincinnati Reds game with the Mercy Me concert following the game. This takes place Sunday, August 1. A planning meeting will be held on Sunday, August 29 after the worship service. Lunch will be served and includes cold meat sandwiches, chips, fruit and drinks. We will still be on the summer schedule, so lunch will be after the 9:45 a.m. worship service.

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer! Stay safe and have fun!

*Future Activities* - to be determined



**MONDAY,  
AUGUST 16**

## NEW PRAYER BREAKFAST FORMAT

The weekly Prayer Breakfast is moving to a new format, time and venue, and if your schedule permits, you are invited to participate. After over 9 years of sharing breakfast and prayer at the church at 7:00 a.m. each Tuesday, we are trying something new. **On Tuesday, August 3, we will convene at Panera Bread at the Town and Country Shopping Center (Stroop Rd. and Far Hills Blvd.) at 9:00 a.m.** Our goal will remain the same: to lift up in prayer the congregation, friends, our nation and the world. You may come for breakfast, just coffee, or merely the fellowship and prayer. For those whose schedules do not permit you to participate in a 9:00 a.m. gathering, we will be starting an additional evening prayer ministry this fall.

## MEN'S FISHING RETREAT

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio (LOMO) is holding its first annual Men's Retreat the weekend of October 1-3 at Lutheran Memorial Camp (LMC). Everyone needs a break from the busyness of life; even Jesus regularly went away with "the guys", and this retreat will provide time for Bible study, worship, conversation, adventure, recreation, and of course, naps! There will also be a pan-fish derby and fish fry dinner at the LMC lake. Pastor Eichhorn is the worship and study leader. The retreat, open to 20 men from all three Ohio Synods, begins at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, and concludes at noon on Sunday. Cost is \$91.00/person. For registration information for deposits and deadlines, go to <http://lomocamps.org/retreats/retreatprograms/adult> and click on the "retreat registration" link; or talk with Pastor Eichhorn to learn more.

## Stewardship

### TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF OPERATING FUND STATUS

#### June 2010

Offerings (against budget):	\$25,688.80
Loan Payment (from savings):	1,800.00
Foundation (against budget):	0.00
Other collections (non-budget):	
Social Ministry:	599.00
Memorials:	0.00
House loan payoff:	1,800.00
Special Projects:	333.00
Haiti donations:	0.00
Foundation-scholarship/benev	0.00
Expenses:	\$39,824.98
(Receipts - Expenses):	\$12,336.18

#### 2010 Totals (as of July 19)

YTD collections (against budget):	\$186,258.95
Loan Payment (from savings):	8,448.41
Foundation (against budget):	49,665.36
YTD non-budget collections:	
Social Ministry:	6,474.01
Memorials:	730.00
HVAC / House loan:	11,879.00
Special Projects:	13,159.00
Haiti donations:	3,923.00
Foundation-scholarship/benev	1,577.02
YTD Expenses:	\$278,226.71
YTD Balance (rcpts-expenses):	-\$42,302.43

HVAC Loan paid off in February. House sale  
(to go to Foundation) = \$361,075.57

- Submitted by Don Hartman

Have you remembered our church in your will?

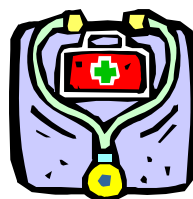
## Joy Group

### SEPTEMBER EVENT

The JOY Group and anyone else that is interested, mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 1 when we will go to the Fraze for the annual Kettering Civic Band Concert at 7:00 p.m. We will meet for dinner at a place TBA later. Details and sign-up poster will be in the narthex.

Call the Dawsons at 438-3339 if you have questions.

• If you are interested in attending the matinee Christmas Show at La Comedia Dinner Theater on November 12, please call the Meckstroths at (937) 434-5033. Cost is \$36 for a group of 20 paid 30 days in advance. JOY Group is sponsoring and everyone is welcome.



## HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

The Health Ministry Team meets on Tuesday, August 10 at 5:00 p.m. in the copy/meeting room. All doctors, nurses and interested persons are welcome to join us.

*Mission:* To recognize and enhance the physical, spiritual and mental health of people in our church and community.

### BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Will be taken after all worship services on August 7 & 8.

## LOADED TO THE BRIM!



Lora Stowe delivered all the cereal items that you donated for the New Hope Food Pantry. As you can see, her car was loaded to the brim! Thanks to you, hundreds of items were delivered and thanks to Lora for being a part of this very important ministry.

**JULY 31-  
AUGUST 1**



## Personal Products Collection

Please bring your donations to church on July 31/Aug 1 and place them in the basket in the narthex. All items will be given to JLI.

Items needed are:

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste
- Mouthwash
- Deodorant
- Men's Disposable Razors
- Soap & Lotion
- Feminine Personal Products
- Q-tips
- Combs



**LOCK-IN & FIRST COMMUNION** family learning experience on **August 13-14**, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. Even if you have already taken part in 1st Communion in the past, please come and share what you know and have experienced.

- Age 2 through entering grade 6
- One parent from each family is expected to stay the night
- Bring a snack and game to share
- Lights out at 10:30 p.m.

# Remember in Prayer

*When we pray for others, we lift them to God, seeking God's grace and blessing in their individual situations. When we ask others to pray for us, we honor them with our trust.*

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## **MEMBERS**

Carl Ault  
Jim Brown  
Don Cox  
Al Davis  
Hilda Mae Durig  
Mary Lou Frick

Bryan Griffin  
Harley Homan  
Jim Lee  
Lucille Loudenslager  
Loren Metzler  
Pastor Robert Neeb

Laszlo & Gabriella Posevitz  
Thelma Snyder  
Ralph Thomas  
Pat Weibel

## **FAMILY & FRIENDS**

Dorothy  
Jerry, Lynn Wirtanen's brother-in-law  
Mark  
Sherm, friend of Moira Levant  
Henry Aldridge, friend of the Harper family  
Todd Bain, Karen Lingle's nephew  
John Beal, Joe's father  
Family of Robert Cook, friends of the Deckards  
The Engblums, friends of Michelle Haun  
Evans-Hilton family, co-worker of Michelle Jackson Haun  
Caelan Guthrie, Cap and Nancy Phillip's grandson  
Walt and Betty Hildebrandt, friends of Suzanne Bruns  
Lori Lambdin, friend of Dick Freudenberger  
Howard Levant, Moira's father  
Jordan Miller, serving in Afghanistan  
Ferne Neeb, Pastor Bob's wife  
Jack and Lois Nelson, Jerry's father and mother  
Mark Nicholson, friend of Dick Freudenberger  
Donna Nuse, aunt of Jerry Nelson's friend  
Bevy Jo Parker, co-worker of Kim Buechele  
Scott Petersen, Stu's brother  
Martha Puckett, Sandy Hartman's mother  
Rev. Steve Reutschle  
Lazarus Siafa, friend of the congregation  
Thomas Siafa, friend of the congregation  
Deb and Dave Toy, friends of Moira Levant  
Terry Zickfoose, friend of Dick Freudenberger

