

Weekly Connections

November 25- December 2, 2018

Lutheran Church
OUR SAVIOURS



Sing Christmas Concert 2018!

Sunday, December 2

3:00pm and 5:00pm.

Kick off your holidays, invite your family and friends and come to this year's Cantata, Sing Christmas by Joel Raney and Mary McDonald.

All singers are invited to sing in the choir. Rehearsals are Thursdays, 7:30pm-8:30pm. Additional Saturday rehearsals: December 1, 10:00am - noon (w/the orchestra). Contact lynnpanosh@oursaviours.com

***All are invited and welcome!
We look forward to seeing you.***

An Invitation Might Make a Difference!

Let's face it. When we invite people to church, the idea of it can be nerve-racking. There's a lot of inner dialogue that happens. How do I bring it up in conversation? What if I come across as judgmental? What if I get rejected? What if I make them uncomfortable? The tendency is to ask a lot of "what if" questions that focus on the negative side. But what if you reminded yourself of the potential, instead?

- What if God has been preparing their heart and has been waiting for me to invite them?
- What if they say yes?
- What if they're hurting and find healing at church?

A "no thanks" won't negatively impact your life. But a "yes" could change someone's life forever. Press through any fears of rejection and keep inviting! You'll never get a "yes" if you never ask.

Now let's play the what if game again.

- What if they say yes?
- What if they experience authentic community and love for the first time?
- What if the church renews their faith and hope in Christ?
- What if they find their identity in Christ and have an opportunity to serve and worship with you, and grow in the Our Saviour's faith community. With the many ministries and missions, both locally and globally, there is opportunity for all to be invited, to get involved, whether a one time event, or perhaps serving regularly on a team.

God wants to use you. And often, it's through a simple invite. If we do our part, God will do God's part. We just have to plant the seed.

Who will you invite this week?

Our Saviour's is a nurturing, grace-filled faith community

- We welcome people from diverse spiritual experiences.
- We walk with all people on their faith journey.
- We value worship that nurtures lifelong faith.
- We inspire use of our God-given gifts to serve others locally and globally.

We do all this to ***Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.***

Save the Date!!!

Lynn Panosh's Retirement Celebration!

Sunday, December 16, Our Saviour's Campus

There will be a Potluck Brunch Reception at noon in Fellowship Center and a presentation in the Sanctuary at 1:30 pm. Everyone is invited to bring their favorite breakfast casserole and pastries/sweets to share after the 10:30am service. With 30 years of ministry, there is so much to celebrate and share with Lynn. Please send your memories, stories, or best wishes to celebratelynn@oursaviours.com. We will print those out for her to take and read on her road trip across country. We give thanks to God for the energy, talent and love which she has shared.

Church Council Opportunities:

If you are interested in serving on the Church Council, there are two open positions. You are encouraged to send an e-mail to the nominating committee (nominatingcom@oursaviours.com) by Wednesday, November 28. The purpose of the e-mail is to determine why the congregation member believes he/she is being called by God to serve in leadership. Any confirmed adult member of Our Saviour's is invited to apply. As a reminder, a desire to serve is not a guarantee that you will be asked to serve. Thank you.

Service of Ordination

Sunday, November 25th at 2:30 PM

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Congratulations to Julie Reishus Peterson, granddaughter of Margaret and Marlin Reishus, Our Saviour's members. Julie will be ordained on Sunday, November 25 at Good Shepherd Church in Naperville. She grew up here at Our Saviour's and was very involved with Eagles Wings and the youth ministry. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Dialogues in Faith: Sundays, 9 and 10:30am

November 25: There will be no class due to the Thanksgiving holiday!

December 2, 9, and 16: "Calm Amidst the Hustle & Bustle". We will be reading, contemplating & discussing provocative essays on community and peace from two books, "Called to Community - The Life Jesus Wants for His People" and "Seeking Peace". Like many words in our Christian vocabulary, we begin thinking we know what they mean, only to find that there is so much more we need to understand about these concepts. What a perfect time to do this as we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace in our world.

Membership at Our Saviour's

For those interested in membership or learning more about becoming a member, please join Pastor Emily on Sunday, November 25, at 11:45am, at the Our Saviour's Campus. Please RSVP to Debbie Montrose at debbiemontrose@oursaviours.com.

Our Saviour's + SamaraCare = #GivingTuesday

Tuesday, November 27

Giving Tuesday was united to created to unite us all in a day of generosity, to make a difference in the world any way we choose at the start of this busy holiday season. Our Saviour's was one of the founding congregations of SamaraCare, which offers counseling who are ready to work with anyone and everyone who's looking for things like clarity, understanding, acceptance, calm, courage, hope and change. 2018 has been an exciting year for SamaraCare as they have expanded their current work space with a building project. With this expansion, they have asked the surrounding community prayerfully consider a financial support for this growth. We are excited to share that Our Saviour's has given \$5,000 and the council has decided to dedicate this year's #GivingTuesday as an opportunity for our congregation to expand our support. Help others through the gift of your time, donations, goods or your voice.

Celebration Sip and Shop Fundraiser

Thursday, November 29, 6:00-8:00pm

Celebration Campus

Come shop local vendors and support The Children's Center! Over twenty small businesses will be represented! Wine bar with celebrity teacher servers and raffle prizes to be won! We hope to see you, no ticket required!

Meal Ministry:

Sharing the Load...Welcoming a new family member? Undergoing surgery or another illness?

The Meal Ministry team would love to help "share the load" for those who would benefit from a meal, for instance, those with new babies, recent or chronic illnesses, or caregiving demands. A meal is a way to "share the load" and are prepared/shared by church members. Interested? Please email: caremeals@oursaviours.com. And please email if you would like to volunteer, too.

Senior Lunch

Monday, December 3 at noon, Our Saviour's Campus

All seniors are welcome to attend the Christmas Senior Lunch. RSVP to Dawn at dawndeboer@oursaviours.com or the front office at 630-355-2500. See you there!

Mens Breakfast

Saturday, December 8, 7:30am, Our Saviour's Campus

The next Men's Breakfast is December 8, at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at Our Saviour's. The guest speaker will be Our Saviour's own Robin Dusek. Robin will tell the remarkable story of Dusek Child Care Center, a little school in the foothills of the Renzori Mountains of Uganda. One man had a dream and a piece of land in his home village of Ibanda. He shared his dream with Robin Dusek while she was visiting Uganda. When she returned to the states, Robin established a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation to raise the funds to build the school. When Dusek Child Care Center opened in 2011, only 35 students were expected to enroll. Instead, more than 100 were enrolled! Today there are over 800 students! The Center provides daycare for its teachers, three levels of pre-school, and a primary school from grades 1-7. Many members of the Our Saviour's community, along with friends, relatives, and clients, have been an important part of making this dream a reality. Come hear Robin share the story of the school on Saturday, December 8.



Children's Ministry and Children's Choirs

We are providing a special opportunity to share God's love at Christmas. Together, we are collecting new books for the children of Holy Family School in Chicago. We invite children to bring in a new book that they would enjoy reading, to give to a child at Holy Family School. The school would like to provide each child with a new book for Christmas. Suggested reading levels: preschool - 5th grade.

Book Drop off locations and dates include:

- All Sunday School classes during November
- All Choir rehearsals in November



- Books must be received by December 2



Women's Ministry

Coffee/Tea Party and Cookie Exchange

Sunday, December 9, Noon - 2:00pm

Fellowship Center, Our Saviour's

All women welcome. Here's the recipe for participation:

Ingredients:

- Sign up online through REALM.
- On the day of the event, bring 4 dozen homemade cookies for exchanging.
- Bring an extra empty container to take home your chosen cookies from the assortment.
- Bring your recipe on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper and/or email it to gina7525@sbcglobal.net by December 1.
- Remember, Christmas calories don't count!

Eagle Scout School Supply Collection

Our Saviour's member and scout, Liam Athas, is working on his Eagle Scout project and will be collecting school supplies for Frazier Preparatory School. This is a school in Chicago where students can't afford simple school materials. Help these students see God by donating much needed school supplies. A box can be found in the Fellowship Center with a list of wanted supplies. Thank you for your support.

Sunday Hospitality Hosts

November 25: Share your Spares (leftovers)

December 2: Slovakia Team

December 9: CARE Moms

December 16 and 23: All Congregation invited to share Christmas treats, cookies, candies, fudge, breads, etc. at the Sunday Hospitality Tables.

December 30 - open

January 6 - open

January 13 - Slovakia Team

January 20 - Pickleball Team

January 28 - Church Council



For more information, contact Debbie Montrose at debbiemontrose@oursaviours.com.

Prayers for this week:

Joe Tomaskovic
Judy Bell
Mark Quinn

We lift up in prayer Judy and Joe Stary and family at the death of her sister, Donna Smith. We also lift up Ella and Keith Drucek and family at the death of her father, Don Schultz.

If you have a pastoral emergency after office hours, call the on-call pastor at (331) 305-4381.

Financials will be available next week due to the holiday.

Slovakia Ministry

The trip is June 27 – July 9, 2019

We are partnering with Grace Lutheran Church in River Forest in 2019 to teach Vacation Bible School at the Center for Christian Education in Martin, Slovakia. Email Pastor Brian at pastorbrian@oursaviours.com.

The Annual Slovakia Fundraising Dinner is Saturday, January 19, 6 - 9:00pm at the Celebration Campus, Stay tuned

AMAZON SMILE

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser. From your desktop, go to **Your Account** from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to **Change your Charity**. Or, from your mobile browser, select **Change your Charity** from the options at the bottom of the page. Select Our Saviour's Lutheran Church to support.



Children's Ministry Coordinator

We are looking to fill the position of Children's Ministry Coordinator. This position coordinates implementation of the strategies for faith formation for children and their families with children ages 3 through grade 5, with a strong emphasis on building relationships among God, children, and community. Questions? Email: childrensministry@oursaviours.com

Serving Opportunities

Refugee needs: double or queen bed (frame and mattress & box springs in good condition, no stains or tears), wooden bookshelf, Christmas trees and lights. Please contact Anne Wentz 630-961-3961, or at annecwentz@wideopenwest.com Thank you.

Donating flowers for the altar: Honor someone, or make it in memory of someone. Cost is \$30. Questions? Contact Holly at 630-355-2522 or Hollymckinney@oursaviours.com.

Tech help needed all services! Looking for friendly faces to serve behind the scenes. All ages and faces are welcome. Please contact Chris Brown at 630-281-4241, or chrisbrown@oursaviours.com

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, November 25

Worship - 8:00, 9:00, 10:30am (OS)
Sunday School - 9, 10:30am (OS)
Worship Service - 10:00am (C)
Sunday School -10:00 am (C)
New Member Gathering Pastor Emily - 11:45am, Conference Room (OS)

Monday, November 26

Tuesday, November 27

Bible Study - 9:30am (OS)
Bach Bells - 1:00pm (OS)
Pickle Ball - 2:45pm (C)
Bach Ringers - 7:00pm (OS)
Troop 107 - 7:00pm (OS)

Wednesday, November 28

Cherubim Choir - 4:30pm (OS)
Seraphim Choir - 4:30 (OS)
Family Pizza - 5:15pm (OS)
Praise Express/Praise Percussion - 6:00pm (OS)

Eagles Wings - 7:00pm (OS)

CARE Moms - 7:00pm (C)

Thursday, November 29

Hearts in Puppetry - 7:00pm (OS)
Men's Chorale - 6:30pm (OS)
Women's Chorale - 6:45pm (OS)
Sanctuary Choir/Cantata-7:30pm, (OS)

Friday, November 30

Men's Group, Bruce Riley-6:00am (C)
Saintly Stuffers - 9:00am (OS)
Pickle Ball - 1:30pm (C)

Saturday, December 1

Cantata Rehearsal - 8:30am (OS)
Worship Service - 5:00pm (OS)

Sunday, December 2

Worship - 8:00, 9:00, 10:30am (OS)
Dialogues in Faith-9:00,10:30am (OS)
Sunday School - 9:00, 10:30am (OS)
Worship Service - 10:00am (C)
Sunday School - 10:00am (C)

Christmas Cantata - 3:00pm and 5:00pm, at Our Saviour's Campus Our Saviour's (OS) Celebration (C)