



**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
1524 WEST MAIN, DURANT, OK 74701**

OUR SAVIOUR'S NEWS

JANUARY, 2018

PASTOR'S CORNER

As I sit at the computer and write this short note to the Our Saviour's faithful, we are in the midst of a cold snap. And this weekend it is supposed to become even colder. As I get older, the less and less I like the extremes that the weather can dish out to us, but in the middle of a heat wave you will never hear me say, "I wish it was January!" The cold snaps get to me more now than they used to and I even grew up in a more severe winter climate than here. I think the night before Rebekah returns to Waverly, Iowa the predicted overnight temperature there will be -11!

While in the midst of this depressing cold weather (at least for me) let us not forget that the Christmas season is a 12 day season and celebration! Even in the midst of some of the hardships of life we can celebrate that God saw fit to enter into our humanity at a particular time and place for the salvation of the world and that is definitely worth a party!

Then, when the season ends we get to move into the great moment of the Magi bringing the gifts to Jesus and the opening up of the king of the world to all nations and peoples for 6 weeks after our 12 day celebration and that is also worth a party!

So I pray for a continued very Merry Christmas and Epiphany to you all,

See you in church,

Pastor Jeff

P.S – Do not forget to check the calendar for important dates in January, especially the congregational meeting the last Sunday of January, the 28th. We will vote on our yearly budget and elect any new officers for the next year's council!



CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
Sunday, December 10, 2017

In attendance: Shanetha Collier, Evelyn Engel, Gary Hicks, Martha Landua, Paige Poppe, Rade Radasinovich, Sarah Weissenbuehler, Pr. Jeff Corson

President Rade Radasinovich called the meeting to order at 12:14 pm. Pastor Corson opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the November 12, 2017 regular meeting of the Council and the October 31, 2017 and the November 30, 2017 financial reports were presented for approval. **Evelyn moved to approve the minutes and financial reports as presented; second by Shanetha; motion passed.**

Committee Reports were presented by the following representatives:

Shanetha (Fellowship) – The Living Nativity will be held on Friday, December 15th 6:30-8:00 (with 3 shifts of “actors”). Pr. Jeff will again this year provide a brief devotion before the Nativity to prepare participants’ hearts and minds to properly represent the Nativity. Attendees are invited to bring finger foods and/or drinks to share.

Martha (Secretary) – Correspondence received from the local Crisis Control Center (appreciation for donation), New Life House (appreciation for donation) and Advent/Christmas greetings from Bishop Gronberg and the NT-NL Synod Staff.

Sarah (Education) – Sixteen individuals attended the “Advent Festival” Family Faith Formation on Sunday, December 3, which included Caroling several shut-ins. Dates for further FFF events will be announced at a later date. There will be no Adult Sunday morning class on December 24. This Bible study will begin again after the New Year with a study of the Gospel of Mark.

Paige (Worship) – A report was given on the November 26th interview with Joanna Nannestad for the position of Music Coordinator/Accompanist. After a lengthy discussion following that interview, the Worship committee agreed to offer a contract to Joanna, which she has accepted. A part of that contract allows for periodic reviews. Pastor Jeff will meet with Joanna in the coming week; she will begin her accompanist duties on January 7. The Worship Committee will meet again on the 3rd Wednesday of January and will begin their “every other month” schedule with that meeting. The Christmas Eve service will remain basically the same in format with a few minor changes.

Gary (Stewardship) – The Stewardship Committee met on December 6 to decide on teams and outline a schedule for next year. Co-captains of each of the two teams are: Paige Poppe & Shanetha Collier and Larisa Comer & Kevin Kusch.

Evelyn (Ministries) – Evelyn plans to tackle getting assistance to paint the Narthex ceiling after the first of the year. A recommendation for a product that will seal the tiles was recently received from Martha’s neighbor who is a professional painter. Chad Gray announced this date to the congregation that he will replace all of the old lighting fixtures we currently have in our building with newer and more efficient lights. Donations are accepted to fund this project.

(continued on page 3)

Pastor Jeff—Pastor Jeff will submit a written report to be provided soon to all Council members. Council meetings, which were moved to accommodate his class schedule, will be moved back to the normal day beginning in January (3rd Wednesdays). Due to the difficulty of some council members to make the 6:30 pm time, the new time to begin will be 6:45 pm.

Other Business:

ALICE (Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate) also known as “Run-Hide-Fight”: Pastor Jeff is working to set this up for the congregation. It was again mentioned that all doors in the church should be unlocked during any event at the church in the case of an emergency situation. We will need to bring our outside doors to code.,

Maintenance: Pr. Jeff will continue to help with as many maintenance issues as he can, as well as, utilize others in the congregation.

New Business:

The Annual Congregational Meeting was set for January 28th immediately following worship service. Committee and organization reports will be due January 14 in order for Martha to have the Annual Report ready for review on January 21. Council Positions open for election at this meeting are Vice-President/Evangelism through Fellowship (currently held by Shanetha Collier) and Evangelism through Ministries (currently held by Evelyn Engel).

Shanetha moved to adjourn the meeting (12:52 pm); second by Gary; motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Landua
Secretary

The next meeting of the Church Council is scheduled for Wednesday January 17, 2018 beginning at 6:45 pm.

OUR SAVIOUR’S ANNUAL MEETING

WHEN: JANUARY 28, 2018
TIME: IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE
WHO: ALL OSLC CONFIRMED MEMBERS

OUR SAVIOUR’S MEMBERS WILL VOTE UPON THE 2018 BUDGET, REPORTS, AND ELECT A COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT/EVANGELISM THROUGH FELLOWSHIP REPRESENTATIVE AND COUNCIL EVANGELISM THROUGH MINISTRIES REPRESENTATIVE. MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND BE SURE TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT MEETING ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Natalie Williams**
- 5 Kevin Kusch**
- 14 Randall Phelps**
- 19 Charlie Johnson**
- 23 Maya Phelps**
- 24 Sean Corbin**
- 28 Alex Poppe**
- 29 Kevin Bell**
- 29 Laverne Fulcher**
- 30 Maci Remshardt**

OUR SAVIOUR’S WELCOMES

Joanna Nannestad as our Music Coordinator/accompanist beginning Sunday, January 7, 2018.

THANKS to those who participated in the Living Nativity in Dec. Without you, this event could not happen.

THANKS for helping make Christmas special at OSLC—decorating the church/tree, sharing your vocal talent, playing an instrument, filling Christmas sacks, letting us use your poinsettias, purchased Angel Tree gifts, etc. We appreciate you!

THANKS to Nate Lamb for serving in our midst as Music Coordinator/accompanist the past several years. We wish you success in your future endeavors.

OUR SAVIOUR'S WOMEN OF THE ELCA

All women of Our Saviour's are invited to the home of Mary Slice, 1208 Four Seasons Drive, Durant, OK on Tuesday, January 30th, at 7 pm when we will have a Movie Night and brief meeting to decide on projects for 2018.

Some of you have seen live performances of the biblical presentations at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Branson, MO. If you haven't had that opportunity, it is now coming to you—Live at the Slice's!

The video "Noah" will be shown—live in the Slice living

room via a DVD they purchased when attending the presentation of "Moses".

The fun will begin at 7 pm with plenty of popcorn and drinks provided for your enjoyment.



Dress is casual and guests are always welcome.

So, put a mark on your January 2018 calendar for the evening of January 30th and make plans to join your sisters in Christ for an evening of giggles, chatter and lots of excitement and fun.

Who knows, Mary might even invite us to screen more of these presentations that she has on hand such as "Moses", "Ruth", "Joseph" and "Jonah".

Sorry, but if you want to see the new presentation of "Jesus", you will have to attend the Sight and Sound Theatre in Branson, Mo—it begins this spring for a 2-year run.

BENEFIT BLOOD DRIVE PLANNED—FEBRUARY 8, 2018

A Benefit Blood Drive for Rhonda Clouse will be held on February 8, 2018 inside the Donald W. Reynolds Library/Community Center in Durant, OK from 10 am to 2 pm.

Coordinated by Shawna Pyle-Smith, the Southern OK Blood Institute and other friends of

Rhonda, any blood donated on Feb. 8 will be credited to Rhonda Clouse for previous blood given to her in 2017 and for that which she may need in 2018.

No reservations are needed and cookies and juice will be provided afterwards to all donors.

Even if you can't give blood for

some reason, let your family, friends and neighbors know about this upcoming blood drive. The more donors, the better!

Volunteers to help are needed! If you would be interested in helping in some capacity such as registration, baking or serving cookies, etc., please contact Mary Slice.

WORDS TO START THE NEW YEAR

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." Proverbs 15:1

"Let your face show your faith—smile!"
Author unknown

"Endeavor to so live that when you die even the undertaker will be sorry." Mark Twain

"Health is wealth." Jim Reed

"It's better to walk alone than with a crowd going in the wrong direction." Diane Grant

"A lot of people are in debt because they spend what their friends think they make."
Jim Reed

"Celebrate your successes. Find some humor in your failures." Sam Walton

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January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day Church office closed Happy B'day Natalie Williams	2	3	4	5 Happy B'day Kevin Kusch	6
7 9:30 Adult CE 10:30 Worship	8	9	10	11 7 pm Pastor's Bible Study	12	13
14 9:30 Adult CE 10:30 Worship & Fellowship Annual Reports Due Happy B'day Randall Phelps	15 Martin Luther King Day	16	17 5:45 pm Worship & Music Committee 6:45 pm Council	18 7 pm Pastor's Bible Study	19 Happy B'day Charlie Johnson	20 9-4 pm Quilter's Retreat
21 9:30 Adult CE 10:30 Worship	22	23 Happy B'day Maya Phelps	24 Happy B'day Sean Corbin	25 7 pm Pastor's Bible Study	26	27
28 9:30 Adult CE 10:30 Worship OSLC Annual Meeting & Fellowship Happy B'day Alex Poppe	29 Happy B'day Kevin Bell & Laverne Fulcher	30 Happy B'day Maci Remshardt 7 pm Women of the ELCA Movie Night at Slice home-1208 Four Seasons, Durant	31			

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1524 West Main Street
Durant, OK 74701*

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January 1, 2018

