



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
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Hermosa, SD 57744
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NEW Website: oslhermosa.com
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December 2013 Newsletter

From the Pastor's Desk

--The Imprints of Faith --

Passing on the Faith -- Every Adult Needs. . .

To be able to be participants/lay leaders in worship.



In worship, we come together as a community of God to reflect on the gifts we are given, share the Holy Communion meal, praise God through music, have time for reflection, hear God's Word, participate in the rituals and traditions of the church and Christian community, and grow into our faith. Making space in your schedule to worship together as a family becomes an important ritual for the faith life of your family. Depending on the age of children, there may be some worship times where there are more distractions to deal with than at other times. Even during those times, it is good for children to know that they are welcome in church and in worship – there is a place and a space for them. One way that children learn this is not only to see a parent involved in worship leadership, but to be a part of that leadership as well. We have many families of various sizes and ages, that help usher, take the offering, greet, hand out bulletins, ring the bell, light the candles, etc. There are numerous opportunities, from behind-the-scenes work to reading Scripture passages during worship. When children participate, they discover that they are the church of today. When children participate, they may even seek out ways to be involved. When children participate, they encourage the rest of their families to attend worship on Sundays. When children see the important adults in their lives participate and lead, they learn that it is an important thing to do. I encourage you to talk to the children in your life about how you participate in worship and why you do it. Do you help serve at fellowship time? Do you greet and hand out bulletins? Usher? Help make communion bread? Play the organ or piano? Find our bell ringers? All of these are done in service for the community who joins together to worship. All of these are done in God's name for the sake of the community.

As we venture into another church year, we thank you for your participation and leadership in worship.







In Christ,
Pastor Becky

*Over the last year, we have used a working list from the book entitled *Making a Home For Faith: Nurturing the Spiritual Life of Your Children* by Elizabeth F. Caldwell. This December newsletter brings us to the end of the list.



DECEMBER

at Our Savior's Lutheran

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 LOVE 9:30 Worship/ Communion 11:00 Confirmation Class  <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	2	3 7:00 Men's Breakfast	4 D.O.G. Night 5:30 Supper 6:00 Workshops	5 4:30pm LCM Meeting	6 	7
8 LIGHT 9:30 Worship 11:00 Confirmation Class <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	9	10 6:30 Council Meeting	11 D.O.G. Night 5:30 Supper 6:00 Workshops	12	13	14
15 PEACE 8:30 Worship/Music Committee 9:30 Worship/Communion January Care & Serve 11:00 Confirmation Class  <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	16	17 7:00 Men's Breakfast 9:30 WELCA Christmas Party	18 NO D.O.G. Night till January 9	19	20 9am-noon God's Cupboard	21
22 JOY 9:30 Worship <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	23 DEADLINE for January Newsletter	24 5:00 Jingle Bell Christmas Eve Service 7:00 Traditional Christmas Eve Service		26	27	28
29 9:30 Worship 11:00 Confirmation Class <i>First Sunday of Christmas</i>	30	31 New Years Eve 	Office Closed 			



DEADLINE for January Newsletter is **December 23**. Please email osl@mt-rushmore.net or call the church (255-4662) by noon with any announcements or items to go in the December Newsletter.



The church office has a wish list. This will be an ongoing list throughout the year.

If you would like to help contribute to this list, it would be much appreciated.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

Postage Stamps
 New CD Player to be used for D.O.G. Night



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Wednesday 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-3:00
 Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 9:00 -12:00
Please stop in or call anytime

December Events . . .



Advent begins Sunday, December 1st. Anyone who would like to get into the spirit and help decorate the church for Advent and Christmas, please join us on Saturday, November 30th at 1:00pm. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Advent Themes for this season



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December 1 Love

December 8 Light

December 15 Peace

December 22 Joy

JANUARY CARE & SERVE TEAM!
January "Care & Serve" Team will meet during fellowship on **Sunday, December 15.**

January Care & Serve Team:

Council Host, Alan Platt

Also serving: Don & Vicky Bender, David & Alisa Bender, Dick & Susan Deutscher, Roger & Betty Dickoff, Larry & Linda Fritz, Dennis & Kathy Thompson.

The WELCA Christmas Party/Meeting will be at 9:30 am, **Tuesday, December 17th** in the church fellowship hall.



Adare Diers will give a special Christmas reading.

Each member planning to attend is asked to bring an item for a potluck brunch.

We welcome all women to join us.



Christmas Eve Worship

December 24, 5:00pm—Jingle Bell Christmas: a shorter worship service (with jingle bells for kids to play) that includes a puppet skit, holy communion served continuous style, and ends with candle lighting.

December 24, 7:00pm—Traditional Christmas Eve Worship with holy communion and candle lighting.

Men's Breakfast All men interested in getting together for food and fellowship are invited to **Men's Breakfast** every other Tuesday morning at 7:00am at the church. **December breakfasts are December 3th and 17th.**

Who: D.O.G. Night participants and families
What: Chicken Give Away
When: December 11, 7pm at D.O.G. Night Closing
Where: Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Why: We have fresh farm raised, frozen chickens to give away in a drawing. Put your name in the drawing to take a chicken home on **December 11th.**



What will a quarter buy?

Answer: Buy a meal for a hungry child! Read about our Mission of the Month for details.



D.O.G. Night—DISCIPLES OF GOD Wednesdays, 5:30 - 7:10 pm



Unit 3: Advent - Be Alert, Shepherds! - Dec. 4, Dec. 11
Workshops: Games, Drama, Art/Craft, Movie or Music
Key verse: "So the shepherds went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger." Luke 2:16

There will be NO D.O.G. Night December 18—January 1.
We will resume January 9.

We wish to thank our directors, teachers, helpers and volunteers who continue to give the gift of their time and talents so that we can share God's good news with the children of our community. See you in January.



A Sunday school teacher was speaking to a group of four-year-olds about Jesus, Joseph and Mary. After the lesson the kids were to draw a picture depicting their favorite part of the story. The teacher shared the pictures the children drew with the entire class. She got pictures of the Baby Jesus in the manger with animals, she got pictures of the three wise men and the like. Then she got to a picture from little Jimmy, a picture of an airplane with four people on it. She called Jimmy up to explain his picture. She told Jimmy that she could see Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus, obviously in their 'flight' to Egypt. She didn't understand why there was another man on the plane. Jimmy quickly explained, 'That's Pontius, the pilot.'



Confirmation Class



Confirmation Class 7 -8 Grade Confirmation

Our regular Confirmation classes are at **11:00am** following worship. We will meet every Sunday at this time for 1 hour. We are in the year that we cover the Bible. We will be using the reform curriculum -- *Ancestors: Old Testament and New Testament*. Each session begins with a short video and will include work in our "Anti-Workbooks." We will cover the Old Testament Ancestors and then move into the New Testament Ancestors in January. There are 30 sessions. Attendance is essential. If you miss a Sunday, you will have to complete homework in order to receive credit for the missed session. This is different from how we previously led classes. We will discuss attendance as well as other guidelines when we meet. Letters will be mailed out with information. We do need to know who will be participating so that Bibles, Anti-Workbooks, and Catechisms can be ordered for those who need them. The Confirmation classes are for 7-8th grades, as well as any other youth who has not completed their Bible year. *(Last year was the Catechism year.)*

All Around Our Community . . .



HERMOSA ARTS &
HISTORY ASSOCIATION
(H.A.H.A.)

Invites you to join us at the
2nd Annual Winter Christmas Carnival.
Sunday, December 8 from 11am-4pm.
Santa Claus, 11:30-2:30,
games, fun, crafts & bake sale.
Soup & dessert FREE WILL offering.
To be held at the
Hermosa School Gymnasium.




HAHA has asked OSL to provide some music at their fundraiser December 8. Anyone who would like to sing is welcome. The songs will be mostly Christmas carols. We will be singing at the School from 11:30am till about noon. We will have a rehearsal December 7 at the church from 10-11am. Contact Carla with questions, 255-5142.

God's Cupboard December 20 9:00am—Noon



Our community food pantry located at the church will be open on Friday, December 20th from 9:00 am to noon. If you are interested in being a volunteer to work the open dates, please talk to Pastor Becky.

AGREEMENT FOR USE OF CHURCH PROPERTY



Last month I had a note in about using the church or borrowing items from the church. **There is an agreement form that you must complete. This form has to be signed and approved prior to any use by any person. No exceptions.**

The forms are available in my office. Persons borrowing items from the church are expected to respect the church property and return it promptly. Items should be put away where they belong. Any damage that occurs to items borrowed is the responsibility of the persons borrowing the property.

If anyone borrowed the large coffeepot or matching flower vases, please return to the church ASAP.

If things continue to not be returned, and forms are not completed, we will need to make changes to our policy.

**Check out our new website:
oslhermosa.com**

**Did you miss a Sunday?
Watch the service on our
Website at your convenience.**



The Hermosa 2nd grade class with me, their teacher Becky Lowe decided to take on the church giving tree project again this year. The students agreed that they would sell and make popcorn balls to raise money so they could purchase the pajamas for the Children at the Children's Home. The presale order forms went out and money came in raising around \$450.00. I knew this would not be enough money to purchase all the pajamas for the 65 students at the Children's Home. I was at a loss of what to do because I really wanted to make sure that the 2nd graders raised enough money to purchase all the pajamas for the 65 children. At that time, I decided to send an email to Custer Elementary School for their help. They were happy to take on the project with us. They sold over \$450.00 worth of popcorn balls. With some help from Our Savior's Lutheran's Congregation purchasing popcorn balls, the 2nd grade class had their work cut out for them. The students and some of their fabulous parents got together and made around 1000 popcorn balls. When all was said and done, the grand total raised was \$1016.00. I do believe that will be enough to purchase all the pajamas. So, for everyone that is wondering why there is not a giving tree at Our Savior's Lutheran this year, please know that a bunch of kids and their teacher opened up their hearts to children in need and took on the whole project with pride.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this project a huge success for my 2nd grade students and the Children at the Children's Home!!!



PREPARING FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Our Savior's Lutheran Church will be held Sunday, January 19, 2014. A chili cook-off is being planned. Watch for details in the January Newsletter.



In preparation for the meeting, treasurers of church organizations are asked to please have your books ready to be turned in for review by January 2.

Those responsible for reports of activities for committees and groups, please email reports to osl@mt-rushmore.net or have written reports in to the church office no later than December 18. Thank-you very much for your cooperation.

Three 3 year positions on the church council will be open as well as an alternate. Kevin Vining, Darrell Zuerlein, and Crystal Wiles (who replaced Dan Warren) have completed their terms. If you are interested in being nominated to serve on the council, please let a council member know. At this time we have five people running for council. Jack Corr, Dan Martin, Adare Diers, Greg Neugebauer, and Crystal Wiles. (The present council members are: Bill Dennert (2), Russell Jensen (2), Alan Platt (1), Larry VanDreissen (1), Kevin Vining, Darrell Zuerlein, and Crystal Wiles.

CARE & SERVE TEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!

We are in need of people to sign up to help with the monthly Care & Serve teams. If you and your family are able to do unusual tasks to help, please contact Peg in the office, to be included on the Care and Serve list for the month that works best for you.

On the next to the last Tuesday of each month, the "Care & Serve" Team for the following month gathers during vacation bible school or during the next full moon with worship and fellowship for the next month. Members of the team have the opportunity to sign up to usher, greet, walk up and down the sidewalk inviting people in, read scriptures, prepare and/or serve communion, bake communion cookies, acolyte, power point tech, and serve for fellowship time.

As you see, there are changes in this notice and each of you have the opportunity to call or e-mail Peg to tell her you read the article and noticed the changes, so no one needs to feel obligated to do anything you are not comfortable with. On the serious side, please sign up and offer whatever gifts, time, and talents you feel called to share. We really need your help.

Sign up on the list on the bulletin board or call Peg at the church office, 255-4662 to join the Care & Serve Team of your choice.

Remembering in our Prayers . .

Family of Helen Miller, Jerry Puckett, Dale Friend, Betty Dickoff, Luvene Larson (friend of Tom Kaiser), Bruce Skeie (friend of Becky Kaiser), Carol (Cindy Platt's mither), Kerry Lafferty (Mikkey Twitero's brother-in-law), Michala (cousin of Martins'), Dee Ann Hagen, Dennis McMillin, Jim Culpeper, Bill Row (Betty Ott's son-in-law), Char (friend of Evjen's), Nancy (Carpenter's daughter), Cynthia (friend of Diana L.), Tom (friend of Diers), Rosie (friend of Betty Dikoff), Geraldine Pedersen (Tiffany Kaiser's grandmother), Wanda & Jim (cousins of VanDreissen's), Jessica (relative of Zuerleins), Gary & Donna Halverson (friends of VanDreissen's), Larry Gardner (friend of Marci Culpeper), Ken (Judy B. & Karen L.'s dad), Vera (Esther D.'s sister).

All men and women serving our country in the military, especially John Kramer (Esther Downen's nephew), Alayna (Judy Bishop's granddaughter); Jackie Fitzgerald; Holly (Cindy Platt's niece), 235th Military Police, Thad (Jim Schultes' son-in-law); Scott Dirkes; Cory (Jason Virtue's brother); David VanVleck (employee /friend of Dan Warren); Chase (Jenett & Larry VanDreissen's grandson); Jesse Lynch; Brian (Marvin & Judy Bishop's son); Janna, (Sharon & Leo Hundtoft's granddaughter).

Please help us keep the prayer list current by letting Pastor Becky or Peg know when you would like to have someone's name added or removed from the list.

Treasurer's Report

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER

Date	Attendance	Offering
November 3	73	2,188
November 10	99	1,803
November 17	86	1,510
November 24	95	1,897
November average	88	1,850

November Offerings YTD **\$7,005**
 November Expenses YTD **\$12,893**
 General Offerings YTD **\$100,730**
 Expenses YTD **\$109,846**
November Mission \$190
Furnace Fund as of 11/25 = \$263



The Welca ladies have purchased a new coffee maker and a commercial can opener for the fellowship hall. These ladies deserve a **HUGH THANK YOU** for all they do for our church. If you have any questions about using it, please contact Adare Diers.



We would like to express our thanks to Dan Martin for finishing up several projects at the parsonage!

A special thank you goes to Dennis Thompson for donating an enclosed cabinet for our communion items. Thanks also go to Cleon Diers for helping Dennis.



to all who provided food for our Stewardship Sunday brunch. We have the best cooks ever.

Have you purchased items for Our Saviors to use during the year? Items such as: copy paper – stamps – office supplies – repair materials—electronic equipment – DOG night supplies – etc. Have you kept your receipts for these “Out-Of-Pocket” expenses in giving to O.S.L.? If so, Our Saviors would be happy to provide you with an “acknowledgement letter” for your generous donation(s). BRING IN YOUR RECEIPT(S) AND CHECK WITH THE TREASURER DEPT.



“THE QUESTION COMES UP EVER SO OFTEN – IS OUR SAVIORS “SALES TAX EXEMPT”? ANSWER IS NO!

FIRST: *Our Saviors* is a nonprofit organization. The church is not required to file an “income tax form” pursuant to section 501 (c 3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

SECOND: The church has a Federal ID#, which is used to open an account at a financial institution and when filing and paying our quarterly payroll taxes.

THIRD: *Our Saviors* and the parsonage have a “Property tax exemption”, which is maintained with filing a certain form with Custer County.

“Even though *Our Saviors* is a nonprofit under 501 (c3) and the buildings and land are exempt from paying real estate taxes, these exemptions **DOES NOT** make *Our Saviors* automatically “exempt” from sales tax (this is a State of South Dakota tax).”

FOURTH: Taken from SD Sales Tax Guide: Pgs 8-10

Exempt Entities include:

Indian Tribes // US Government Agencies // State of SD // Public or municipal corporations of the State of SD // Municipal or volunteer fire or ambulance depts. // Public schools // Non-profit hospitals // Relief agencies // SD Religious and private schools, (*Our Saviors D.O.G. Night* does not qualify).

Taxable Transactions: (list is not all inclusive):

SALES TO: Churches // Membership organizations such as YMCA, Boys and Girls Scouts // Civic and Nonprofit organizations // Schools, colleges & religious, Benevolent, fraternal & charitable organizations for fundraisers.



DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

Kids Against Hunger



Feeding families around the corner. . . and around the world



Every 6 seconds, a child dies of starvation or hunger related illness. Do you want to make a difference? You can!

Kids Against Hunger is a nonprofit humanitarian organization dedicated to providing nutrient-rich food for starving and malnourished children and their families, locally and around the world. Volunteers are enlisted to package rice-soy casseroles, which are delivered to families in more than 60 countries, local food banks, and area reservations. *Kids Against Hunger* relies almost

entirely on the generosity and compassion of volunteers, donors, individuals and corporations.

The cost of the meals is just 24 cents a serving! A packaging event will be held here at Our Savior's in January, and the goal has been set for OSL to provide 5000 servings, which will cost \$1200.00.

Here's how you can help: Take an envelope from the "Giving Tree" in the church entry and place your donation in it, or just drop a check in the offering plate, written to Our Savior's with "Mission" in the Memo Line.

Learn more about Kids Against Hunger at www.kahrapidcity.org

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 136
Hermosa, SD 57744



Worship Time
Sunday 9:30 am
1st & 3rd Sundays
Communion

D.O.G. Night
5:30-7:10pm
Dec 4 & 11



Our Mission: "We welcome others to join us in worshipping and serving Christ"