











DECEMBER 2015 at Our Savior's Lutheran

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 	2 5:30 -7:00 D.O.G. Night	3	4 Pastor Deb returns from vacation	5 
6 9:30 Fellowship Hour 10:30 Worship/Communion HAHA Winter Carnival 11-2 <i>Second Sunday in Advent</i>	7 	8 7:00 Men's Breakfast	9 5:30 -7:00 D.O.G. Night	10 	11	12
13 9:30 Fellowship Hour 10:30 Worship/Communion Affirmation of Baptism 11:45 Worship/Music Committee <i>Third Sunday in Advent</i>	14 	15 WELCA 8:45 Old Testament Bible Study 9:30 Regular Meeting	16 5:30 -7:00 D.O.G. Night 6:30 Council Meeting	17	18 Annual Report  DUE!	19
20 9:30 Fellowship Hour January Care and Serve meet 10:30 Worship/Communion 4-8pm Christmas Showcase <i>Fourth Sunday in Advent</i>	21 January Newsletter Deadline	22 7:00 Men's Breakfast	23 NO D.O.G. Night	24 Christmas Eve Services 5:00 and 7:00pm with Communion	25 Office Closed 	26
27 9:30 Fellowship Hour 10:30 Worship No Potluck due to the holiday <i>First Sunday after Christmas</i>	28 	29	30 NO D.O.G. Night	31 New Years Eve		



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
386 Main Street ~ PO Box 136
Hermosa, SD 57744
605-255-4662

Email: osl@mt-rushmore.net
Website: oslhermosa.com

Pastor Deb Grismer: 605-890-0781 cell
dlgrismer@gmail.com



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
605-255-4662

Pastor Deb Grismer 605-890-0781

Secretary, Peg Tesch 605-255-4662

Church Council for 2015:

Bill Dennert, President 605-209-8750

Jack Corr, V President 605-255-4373

Adare Diers, Secretary 605-255-4321

Marvin Bishop, Treasurer 605-255-4092

Russell Jensen 605-484-2971

Greg Neugebauer 605-390-4804

Crystal Wiles 605-431-7715

Kevin Vining 605-209-1662

Reflections from Pastor Deb

“Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.”
Luke 2:10b-11

It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year

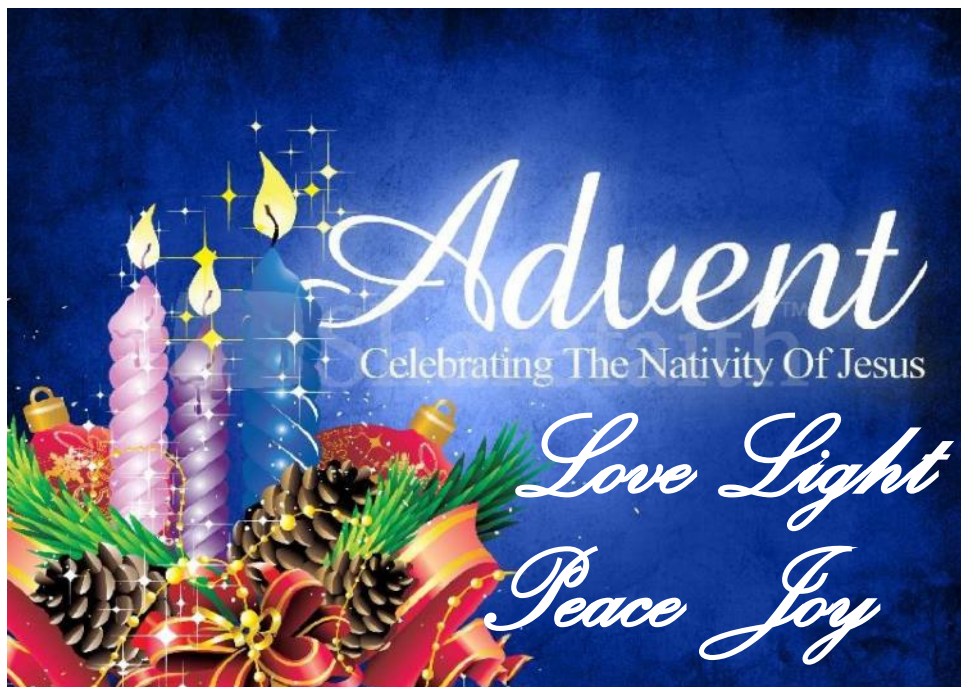
For some, these words from a popular Christmas song are very true. This time of the year is a time of celebration and excitement as we prepare for *CHRIST-mas*. Lights and good cheer abound as decorations are put up and presents are purchased, wrapped and placed under the tree. Family plans are made and feasts of favorite Christmas foods are prepared (some of them are even healthy J). Rituals and traditions are in place and lived out that help children and adults count down the days to Jesus' birthday. Memories are made as people gather together to once again celebrate the birth of our Savior. There is good news and great joy abounding.

For others, though, these words could not be farther from the truth. For some, this time of the year is far from wonderful and joyful. The cold and darkness of winter brings about isolation and depression. Those who have lost loved ones in the past year are trying to figure out how they are going to survive the first Thanksgiving and Christmas without their loved one. Finances might be tight which means little to no presents under the tree and feasts are not to be had. Family may be scattered or strained so no family plans are made. New rituals and traditions need to be made which look very different from the movies and commercials we see on TV. The struggle to find hope is very real as we prepare for *CHRIST-mas*.

All of these feelings are real and honest and okay. There is no right or wrong way to prepare for or to celebrate *CHRIST-mas*. You can jump in with both feet and embrace all the chaos that is available this season. Or you can stop and sit and breathe and acknowledge that this year needs to be a year for a quiet Christmas with minimal, if any, of the 'traditional' festivities. Or you can choose somewhere in between. You see, Christmas is not about how it is celebrated. It is about who is celebrated – the baby born in the city of David, the Messiah, who grows up and becomes our Savior – Jesus the Christ, our Lord. Jesus who brings hope, love, grace, mercy and forgiveness. Jesus who is the Word made flesh. Jesus who celebrates and mourns. Jesus who brings us peace and joy.

So may the peace of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – be with you this holiday season and may you find ways to experience the birth of Our Savior again and anew.

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Deb



MEN'S BREAKFAST
FAITH, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

All men are invited to gather for food and fellowship at the **Men's Breakfast** every other Tuesday morning at **7:00am** in the church Fellowship Hall.. **This months dates are December 8th and 22nd.**

Preparing for CHRIST-mas

In case you haven't noticed, the countdown to Christmas has begun all around us. This means once again we are preparing for Christmas. But where is Christ in the midst of this? Join us this Advent, as we look to the writings of Luke and see how Jesus, John the Baptist and Mary might help us to prepare to welcome Jesus the Christ now and in the future.



D.O.G. (Disciples of God) Night
Wednesdays, beginning with supper at 5:30pm and ending at 7pm.

There is a new curriculum this year called "**Living Inside Out**" Where Kids Dare to Live Their Faith 24/7.



The theme for December is: **Under the Tree.**

No D.O.G. Night on December 23rd and 30th. We will begin the new year on January 6th.

NO Youth Group Gathering this month!

Friday night Lock-in is in the works for January. More information to come!

Affirmation of Baptism

On **Sunday, December 13**, during our 10:30 am worship, we will be celebrating a very important faith milestone in the lives of five of our young adults. **Cody Corr, Sawyer Corr, Jamie Neugebauer, Jay Neugebauer, and Nick Sunding** will publicly affirm their faith and claim the promises their parents made at their baptisms as their own as well as become adult members of our congregation as they participate in the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism, also known as Confirmation. This is a very exciting time for these young people. Please keep them in your prayers as they finish their Statement of Faith projects and prepare to continue growing in their faith in new ways. We hope you are able to join us in celebrating this milestone with these confirmands.

The WELCA Bible Study meets **December 15th** in the church fellowship hall beginning at 8:45 with the ongoing study of the "Old Testament".



We will begin our regular meeting at 9:30 AM with a **breakfast brunch** followed by our bible study, which is out of our women's magazine, "Gather". The title of the study is "**Imagining: an advent lesson**" which includes the Christmas story. *There is an extra copy of the magazine in the church office.*

Please plan on joining us - just for the breakfast - just for the study - or for all. We would love to have you join us.

Hostess - potluck brunch.

Bible study leader - Paula Warren .

JANUARY CARE & SERVE TEAM!

will meet during fellowship on

Sunday, DECEMBER 20

January Care & Serve Team

Leader is Adare Diers. Team

members are: Dick & Susan Deutscher, Roger & Betty Dick-off, Larry & Linda Fritz, Alan &



Christmas Showcase



When: December 20, 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Where: Leave from the church (*We will car pool*)

What: Visit and enjoy Christmas decorations in our community.

Light supper provided (Kaiser's).

Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long at the last home in the Showcase (*Marie Kennedy's*), also dessert.



Who: Anyone interested in seeing Christmas decorations and good conversation.

Let Rebecca Kaiser know by noon on December 20, if you are interested in attending by calling 255-4203, or emailing rebecca.kaiser@k12.sd.us.

Anyone interested in having their home being one of the homes in the showcase, please let Rebecca Kaiser know by December 18 by calling 255-4203, or emailing rebecca.kaiser@k12.sd.us. When you call, please let her know whether you want a drive by to showcase your outside decorations, or whether you want to have to have people come in to see your inside decorations, or both!

Christmas Eve Service



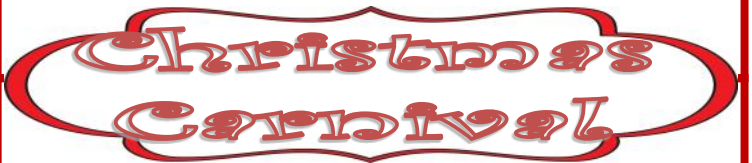
We have spent weeks *Preparing for CHRIST-mas* and now the time is finally here.

Let's celebrate!

Come to *Our Savior's Lutheran* on **Christmas Eve** for worship at **5:00pm** and **7:00pm** as we *Experience CHRIST-mas* as a community of faith through song, Scripture, Communion, candle lighting and fellowship. This year both of the services will be the same, combining some traditional elements as well as some interactive non-traditional elements.

We will once again be singing Christmas songs at the *HAHA Christmas Carnival* on December 6. Anyone who would like to sing is welcome. We will be singing at the Hermosa Elementary School for 20-30 minutes beginning at 12:00 noon. We will have a couple of rehearsals prior, dates and times to be announced.

Musicians, ages middle school through adult, if you would like to play one or more songs, it would be a great addition to the carnival! Those who wish to play will be scheduled before or after the singers. Contact Carla Oerter if interested. Call 431-9564 or email at oerterc@gmail.com.



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

Invites you to join us at the

4TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL

Sunday, December 6 from 11am-2pm.

Santa Claus, 11:30-1:30,

games, fun, crafts & bake sale.

Soup & dessert **FREE WILL** offering.

To be held at the

Hermosa School Gymnasium.

PREPARING FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Our Savior's Lutheran Church will be held Sunday, *January 24, 2016*. 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 4.**

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. Bill Dennert and Russell Jensen have completed their terms. Due to a council member resigning, the third person will be needed. If you are interested in being nominated to serve on the council, please let a council member know.

The present council members are: Jack Coor (1), Crystal Wiles (1), Adare Diers (2), Greg Neugebauer (2), Bill Dennert, & Russell Jensen and Kevin Vining.



Third grade students were presented their bibles, November 22, during worship service.



Pictured left to right are: Pastor Deb, Kyle Virtue and his parents, Rhett Lowe and his parents, Cody Dirkes and his parents, Gracey Schave and her parents, Jackson Wiles and his parents, Torin Knight and his parents.



The Youth Group completed their Digital Scavenger Hunt and received donations of \$150 for God's Cupboard on November 15.

Better Choices Better Health

This is a self-management workshop for anyone who lives with a chronic condition or for caretakers of someone who has a chronic condition. Workshops go 6 weeks 2 ½ hours and are led by trained leaders.

The emphasis of the curriculum is not designed to help people learn more about the chronic conditions but rather *to learn skills and tools to better manage those conditions.*

You will learn such skills as managing your symptoms, communicating better, dealing with anger and depression, designing a healthy eating plan, managing pain and fatigue, problem solving, relaxation and stress management, and appropriate use of medications.

This program is being instituted in South Dakota by the SD Department of Health and SDSU Extension.

Other partners include SD Department of Social Services, Regional Hospital, Avera and Sanford Health Systems, and numerous other organizations.

Workshops in Hermosa and Custer will be scheduled for late January or early February. You may register at this website, www.betterchoicesbetterhealthsd.org.

For more information, check the website or call Vicki Palmreuter at 303.521.7935 or Margie Neugebauer at 303.590.4403 or email; margeneugebauer@gmail.com.



Praying and Caring for One Another

Praying for one another is vital to our community of faith and part of being a member of the priesthood of all believers. If you or a family member wishes to be included in this printed prayer list, please contact Peg in the church office.

We pray for the comfort and strength for those who have recently lost loved ones including the family and friends of: **Kayla Cunningham** (friend of Brandon Grismer).

We pray for the health and healing of those ill or hospitalized and their caregivers, including: **Rodney Clark; Kevin Davisson; Chelle Sorensen-Schnefcik; Ken Diers; Roger Downen; Clarice.**

We pray for those in special circumstances, including: **Military members, Law Enforcement officers, First Responders, those affected by floods and blizzards, and those fleeing their homelands to escape violence.**

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: **Ralph & Lois; Geraldine Pedersen; Don Aduddell, Steve Hammer, Jerry Puckett; Matt Roby.**

Treasurer's Report

November 1	78	\$2,542
November 8	68	\$1,753
November 15	67	\$1,921
November 22	89	\$1,504
November 29	49	\$1,288
November averages	70	\$1,801

November Offerings	\$9,055
November Expenses	\$5,624
Total Offerings YTD	\$92,219
Total Expenses YTD	\$64,530
November Mission	\$475

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A COUNCIL MEMBER? NOW is your opportunity to help your church. We will be having our **Annual Meeting, January 24**, with election of officers. If you want to put your name in, please contact council president, Bill Dennert, or any of our current council members so we can get your name added to the list.

God's Cupboard wants to thank the **Youth Group** for the monetary donations received during their Digital Scavenger Hunt on November 15th, and also to those in the community that have also recently donated.

20 Thanksgiving boxes have been given out.

We will be preparing **25 Christmas boxes** to distribute.

Monetary donations are needed to help accomplish this.

Thank you. Alicja, Doreen & Lois

LOOKING AHEAD AT OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN.

Coming Soon!

The gifts are unwrapped, the food is eaten and the relatives have all gone home. Christmas is over. The story is done. *Right? Wrong!* The Word was made flesh so that the story can go on and on. Join us post-Christmas as we continue the Christmas story and experience **God With Us**.



We will have our Chili Cook-off following the Annual Meeting on January 24. Not only do we get to eat the best of many different types of Chili, but there will be judging for the 1st place winner.

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who donated to the November Mission of the Month, Veterans Honored Interment. We reached our goal for 1 urn and 1 casket.



HERMOSA COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

'GOD'S CUPBOARD'

OPEN December 17
3:00-6:00pm



Located at Pop's Grocery

We will be filling 25 boxes for Christmas. Any donations are very much appreciated.

For information please contact Lois Rudd at 255-5299.

OSL Calling Committee -

Our committee continues to wait for profiles from our SD Synod. Keep our congregation, pastors, and your call committee in your prayers.

This is your Call Committee: Paula Warren, Becky Lowe, Alan Platt, Bill Dennert and Dennis Thompson. *Please feel free to contact any of us if you have questions or concerns.*



Mission of the Month

Bibles for the Growing Church

Share the good news! New, growing Lutheran churches around the world need Bibles in their own language to preach, teach, study and share in God's promise of steadfast love.

Through ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, the Bibles are sent to churches around the world for \$12.00 each.

As followers of Christ and as members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) we believe that God is calling us to help meet needs of our church and the world. Together, we can do more than we ever could alone, making a huge collective impact.

To contribute to this mission, please drop your donation in the Mission Donation Box in the fellowship hall or in the offering plate. Please write checks to Our Savior's with "Mission" in the memo line.



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

Website: oslhermosa.com

E-mail: osl@mt-rushmore.net

Worship Time
Sunday 10:30 am
1st & 3rd Sundays
Communion
Coffee Hour 9:30

D.O.G. NIGHT
5:30 - 7:00pm
Wednesday's

DECEMBER



LOVE
PEACE
JOY

NEW YEAR'S EVE

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