

“GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST;

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
1529 Southwest Boulevard
Jefferson City MO 65109
Web: www.ReachingOutInLove.org

THE MUSTARD SEED –February 2012

*The kingdom of heaven is like a
mustard seed that someone
took and sowed in his field; it is
the smallest of all the seeds; but
when it has grown it is the
greatest of shrubs...*

(Matthew 13:31-32)

Sunday Morning Schedule:

9 a.m. Classic Worship

10 a.m. Brunch

10:30 a.m. Modern Worship

10:30 a.m. Children’s Worship

Office: Monday through Friday
from 9 a.m. to Noon

e-mail:

churchoffice@reachingoutinlove.org

Phone: 636-2609

“Growing Together in Christ;

Reaching Out in Love”

REACHING OUT IN LOVE”

“GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST;



I have been noticing how aggressive people seem to drive, and I wonder why. What good is it to drive fast and then brake hard for the next “red” traffic light? Why do we dart around on the crowded Missouri Boulevard and play “chicken” in the left turn lanes? Do you ever dare take a moment to look at the faces of those driving near you? How do they look? Lots of them either appear scary, sad or angry.

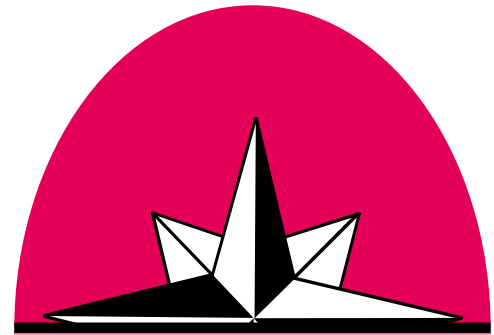
Is that how Jesus looked when he drove around on his donkey? I don’t think so. Do you suppose some of these people go to church that drive like maniacs? (Maniacs drive faster than you do. Idiots drive slower.) I think that Jesus should help your driving skills. I think that Jesus should help everything in your life, from here to eternity. But there must be something far more internal involved here when you see people be a bit more honest with their lives in driving. It is like we think we are invisible, but we are in reality quite public.

I think it has to do with power. We feel terribly powerless in so many aspects of our lives. How about money? You can work hard, be a good steward and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America still loses 40% of your pension in 2008 (hypothetically speaking, of course)! What about relationships? You can’t control how others act and react around you? How about a job? The state budget might just cut your position. And if you have a job, you have a boss who has a boss who has a boss... So you had better keep your mouth shut because you never know who is listening and what they might do.

It is for such reasons that I think people act out in two places, amongst others I suppose. They are the aforementioned driving. And then there is church. It is tempting to let all your pent up negative emotions fly at church. That is why so many people think churches are filled with hypocrites because we often don’t act any better than the rest of society.

We have sought to change that at Our Savior’s with our behavioral/ membership covenant. We will respect one another, embrace everyone and always speak well of our congregation. I think that that is how Jesus would drive his donkey. Jesus gives you the power to not need to try to bring others down. That’s what we are going to explore in worship this February.

May God bless our households,
Scott Musselman, Pastor



“Where Can I Find Power?”

Can Jesus help me with my needs of everyday life?

Does God really care about me personally?

Where can I find power when I am powerless?

2-5-12 = “Power when I Feel Threatened”

2-12-12 = “Power When I Feel Despair”

2-19-12 = “Power When I Feel Cowardly”

2-26-12 = “Power When I Feel Tempted”

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Worship Ministry Important Dates to Remember

February begins the time of Lent and our individual preparation for the remembering of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. There will be several exciting and memorable musical numbers, dramas, prayer times, and interactive worship experiences in the time leading up to the celebration of the resurrection. Please lock-in these important dates:

- ⇒ **February 22nd**—Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins) Dinner served at 5:30pm/ Service at 6:30pm. Each Wednesday dinner will be served at 5:30pm and service will be from 6:30 to 7pm.

- ⇒ **April 1st—Palm Sunday**. Please join us at 4pm for an Easter Cantata performed by the Our Savior’s Singers and orchestra. Look for more details to come.

- ⇒ **April 5th—Maundy Thursday** @ 6pm. You are encouraged to bring family and friends to this unique experience where we will share a 1st Century meal together with Christ, as He breaks bread and pours the drink with us, exhorting us to continue to remember his sacrifice as often as we meet. We then transition into the auditorium to pray with Jesus and experience the Garden of Gethsemane with him, and relive the dramatic events leading to his crucifixion.

- ⇒ **April 6th—Good Friday** service @ 7pm. The darkness of the crucifixion pierces our hearts as we remember His stripes.

- ⇒ **April 8th**—Easter Sunday services at 6:30am, 9am, and 10:30am
*An 8am brunch served by the youth is tentatively scheduled that morning.

Kyle Bellinger, Worship Minister



Faith in the Desert

How do we reach out to those who do not know Jesus? This is a fundamental question we look at in our Outreach ministry. We know from going through our coaching and consultation process that church in the 21st century is drastically different than church was in the 1950’s or 1960’s. Denominations do not hold sway like they once did. Indeed, many people seek out non-denominational churches in part to get away from negative experiences they had as children or adults in mainline church. People that have little or no church experience make their decisions on a variety of factors. Those of us who have been connected to a church a long time work within the framework and look at ways that we can reach out to others so they might experience the love of Jesus.

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Lyn and I have been members at Our Savior’s for over 30 years. Through thick and through thin, good times and bad, we have stuck with it. We know God has great plans for us. But for the next few months we are spending time in the desert southwest. We are in a unique position to discover how others are doing church. How are they reaching out to others? What types of worship styles are available? How many are extending great hospitality to their guests? How many of them are reaching out to those who do not know Jesus? Can we experience great, uplifting music and dynamic preaching and feel acceptance as guests at various churches? We are calling this our “Faith in the Desert” experience. For the next several weeks I will be giving a little review of sorts of the churches we visit. I’ll mention the high points and low points. I’ll post these in my Friday Thoughts blog on our website. If you are interested in finding out more about what we have experienced, visit <http://reachingoutinlove.org/about/church-leadership/outreach-friday-thoughts-.html>

Jim Carlson, Outreach Director



Dribble! Pass! Shoot! Move!



The Upward basketball season is in full swing at the First Christian Church and Jacob, along with many other kids, is having a blast. For those of you who don’t know, this is a program run by the First Baptist, First Christian and Methodist churches downtown Jefferson City. Upward basketball brings a non-competitive voice to the game of basketball for young kids along with a little bit of God’s word during each game and practice. It is truly a great program.

As I sit in the bleachers on Saturday mornings watching Jacob and his team play I hear all these parents and loved ones cheering on their child. Dribble! Pass the ball! Move around! And other such commands are coming from their mouths, not in anger but in encouragement. The kids are so focused on the game that they appear to not even hear these voices coming from the bleachers. I found myself wondering the other night

while reading in my Bible if God does that to us and we just simply don’t hear? Maybe we, like the kids, are so focused on our game of life that we don’t hear what God wants us to do.

After thinking about it some more I decided that even though it may appear easier to wait for an order to come from the sky, God doesn’t want to shout orders or commands at us and watch us win the game, He wants us to have a relationship with Him. He wants us to come to Him with our problems, joys and sorrows and share them with Him. He will of course be there to cheer you on and encourage you and let you know He is proud of you. It would be easy to just look up to the sky and wait for God to tell you to move or quit your job or pick up the ball and make a basket but it would be like a robot waiting for a command without any emotion being involved. I don’t know about you but as much as my emotions get in the way some times I sure wouldn’t want to be without them!

I think that when you are dribbling your way through the game of life if you stop mid-court, ask God for help and listen for an answer you may just hear him telling you to pass or take the shot! And don’t forget to thank Him and praise Him for all He has done and will do in your life.

Karen Diemer

Administration Director



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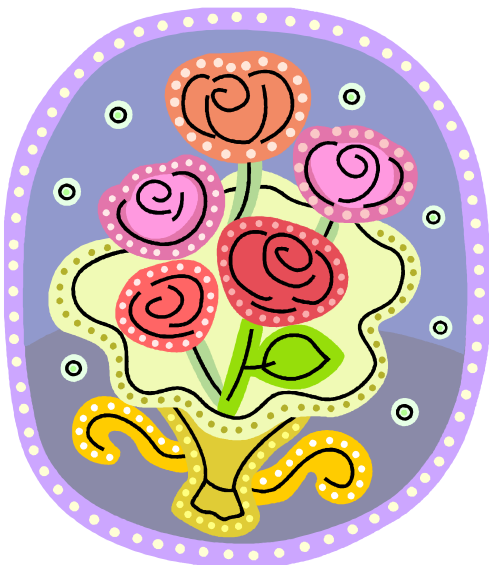
Don't Give Up

I have a mantle clock that I love to hear chime every 15 minutes and I am hearing it again after a long silence. Several years ago it stopped working. No matter what I tried, I couldn't get it to run for more than a couple of minutes. I took it to a clock repairman and he wanted \$250 just to look at it with no guarantee of being able to fix it. So I resigned myself to it being a silent decoration. Then recently, I just decided to give it another try, fully expecting it to stop after a few minutes. To my great delight it continued running and has continued now for almost two weeks, with occasional winding. I'm so glad I gave it another chance and didn't give up on it. The Westminster Abby type chiming every fifteen minutes reminds me of my childhood when we would mark the time while playing at the neighborhood park by the chimes from a local church that rang every 15 minutes.

Isn't it comforting to know that our God never gives up on us either. He didn't give up on the descendants of Abraham even though they were "stiff necked" people" and constantly disappointed him. Why did so many of the kings of Israel and Judah "do what was evil" in God's sight? In the course of hundreds of years you could count on one hand the number of kings who "followed God." If wasn't like they didn't "get the message." God sent prophets to tell them to "shape up and do right." But did they listen? The prophets performed powerful miracles but the people quickly forgot and went back to the pagan ways of the neighboring peoples.

We can be confident from our readings in The Story the last few weeks that God is always with us. He never gives upon us, no matter what. We shouldn't give up either. We should share this confidence, this good news, with others.

God's Blessings to all,
Janice Rambo, Discipleship Director



DON'T FORGET THERE IS A FLOWER CHART AVAILABLE AT THE INFORMATION CENTER IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE ALTAR FLOWERS IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF SOMEONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION. THE COST IS \$30. SIGN UP AT THE INFORMATION CENTER OR BY CALLING THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 636-2609.

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CONNECTION TEAMS Weeks for 2012

Teams are assigned to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of each month and a 5th Sunday as needed

*1st Sunday of each month & on special church festivals communion will be served using small cups which means 4 people will be needed to assist with communion at 9 o'clock service

Connection Team	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
January	*1 & 29	8	15	22
February	*5	12	*19 Transfiguration 22 Ash Wed Service, Choir has meal	26 & 29 Lenten Service & meal
March	*4 & 7 Lenten Service & meal	11 & 14 Lenten Service & meal	18 & 21 Lenten Service & meal	25 & 28 Lenten Service, Modern Worship Praise Team has meal
April	1 *Palm Sunday & 1 Easter Cantata 5 Maundy Thursday & Pot Luck Meal 6 Good Friday	8 Easter Sunday & 29	15	22
May	*6	13	20	*27 Pentecost
June	*3 Holy Trinity	10	17	24
July	*1	8	15 & 29	22
August	*5	12	19	26
September	*2	9	16	23 & 30
October	*7	14	21	*28 Reformation
November	*4 All Saints	11	18	*25 Christ the King
December	*2 1 st Sun in Advent	9 2 nd Sun in Advent & 30#	16 3 rd Sun in Advent & Christmas Cantata#	23 4 th Sun in Advent 24 Christmas Eve 25 Christmas Day

#THIS WILL DEPEND ON THE DATE OF THE CANTATA

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POWER SOURCE!

This week I was having a printing problem – my dear computer wouldn’t communicate with my mischievous printer for some reason. We tried everything and as a last resort [with family coaching] unplugged and replugged the computer. Nothing. I pressed the start button and held it for 30 plus seconds. I tried again and again. Nothing. Cords [not chords], outlets, and cables were checked. Nothing. Indeed our computer guru came to the house and diagnosed the “nothing”. “Your power source died!”, She pronounced.

It surprised me how tearful and lost I felt when my PC quit working. I’m not happy that I’m so dependent on devices. I kept hearing her words, “Your power source died.” “Your power source died.”

Huh-uh. My power source, Jesus Christ, died and rose from the dead so that I can live eternally. Even when I feel tearful, lost and separated from God, He is always with me. In reading “The Story” one can’t help but wonder what was wrong with the Hebrew people when they kept rejecting God repeatedly. But I’m no better.

If God forgave them again and again, can I doubt that he forgives me for all my shortcomings? Why do I sometimes wallow in shallow regret? Why does it take me so long to figure out where to go for help, for guidance, for refreshment, for protection, for forgiveness, for what I need when I mess up? Even when I come and go, God is permanently available. His screen never goes black.

This I do know - God gives me energy to work for Him. He has called me through music to accomplish unique things in our church. I’m not gifted in a lot of things...tech knowledge and patience, for instance...but I’m determined to major in the things that are my strengths - mostly music making and encouraging. With that focus I know I can invite others with the love and good news of Jesus. And guess what? God is my unique power source!

“Unsung Singer Heroes”

Spiritual role models are everywhere if we keep our eyes open. Within our choir we have steady singers, unsung heroes, who have volunteered many, many hours and years of their talent and faith to share the joy of the Lord through music in rehearsals and worship. You see and hear them nearly every Sunday morning. Our friends in faith can be the easiest role models to overlook. “What a friend we have in Jesus”, but also what a Jesus we have in faithful friends.

As music director, I wish to honor those who have made the time to glorify God through music and singing. God loves you and uses you as instruments for His Kingdom. I applaud you with my heart and pray for many more years of singing together at Our Savior’s. Thank you for your voices, love, fun, beautiful music and servant hearts.

Steven and Jan Houser-1979; Stan Linsenhardt – 1980; Nancy Michaelson -1980; Linda Eisinger – 1981; Susan McCann – 1986; Tricia Schlechte – 1990; Scott and Debbie Musselman – 1995; Lynn Vallandingham – 1996; Keith Krueger – 2000; Teresa Elzey – 2000; Kim Duggan – 2000; Greg Grote – 2001; Bill Lehman – 2009; Jennifer Plochberger – 2009; Karen Diemer – 2010; Jana Nelson – 2010. God smiles down on you and says, “Well done, my good and faithful servants.”

“Our Savior’s Singers” Singing Schedule

Feb. 5 – “We Are Not Alone” – Karen Diemer, Soloist & Dr. Houser, Soprano Saxophone.,

“There Is A Balm in Gilead” –Black History Month

Feb. 12 – “Soon Ah Will Be Done” Spiritual

Feb. 19 – “Carry Me Home” and Spirit of Mercy, Truth and Love”

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22, 6:30 pm – “Jesus Died Upon the Tree” [Choir members will provide food for the meal]

Feb. 26 – Laudate Dominum – Mozart – Linda Eisinger, Soloist

Coming Palm Sunday, April 1st – 4:00 pm “Once Upon a Tree”, choir musical with orchestra and drama.



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Kids in Christ (KIC)

Sunday Mornings at 10:30



THE GREATEST LOVE

To me, it seems only natural to have Valentine’s Day and Ash Wednesday In the same month. On Valentine’s Day, we give cards and gifts to people in our lives who are special to us—family, friends, classmates and teachers just to name a few. It is a time when we say, “I love you. You are special to me.”

On Ash Wednesday, we remember that God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to show us how to live and how to love. God’s gift to us through Jesus was also forgiveness for the things we do wrong so we can live with God forever. It is God saying, “I love you, (say YOUR name here). You are special to Me.” WOW! God’s love is amazing!!



LITTLE KIC KIDS (AGES 2—KINDERGARTEN)



When you love someone, you want to be with them and talk with them. Did you know that you can be with God? Just like the air we breath, we can’t see God, but God is always with us, protecting us, and loving us. We can even talk to God through prayer. Color the picture and think about God being right beside you. What would you say to God?

BIG KIC KIDS (GRADES 1-5)

Solve the word search, then retell as many of the Bible stories involved as you can remember! Where could you see God’s love at work?

D E S I M O R P I Z
N R A T J P R R P R
B A O U N U N U I V
O I D A H O D V T L
A Q O R M S E G U H
Z M Q O O R O A E I
I U L T B J S J V S
J O F T R I B E S G
S L A N D D I V A D
S H S G N I K U Y U

WORD BANK

BOAZ	NAOMI
DAVID	PROMISED
JORDAN	RIVER
JOSHUA	RUTH
JUDGES	SAUL
KINGS	SOLOMON
LAND	TRIBES

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Last month I wrote about listening for God’s voice and hearing his call to service. Sometimes his call to service isn’t what you expected. That would describe my current situation.

To make a long story short, I retired in late December with a plan to spend part of the winter in a warm and sunny place and then work on undone projects. As we were packing to leave town I found out that my otherwise very healthy mother has cancer and would need some type of treatment. Thankfully we were on our way to see her and could participate in the initial visit with the oncologist.

Back to the point, my retirement plan didn’t include cancer or being available to go to doctor visits or look for wigs or anything of that kind. I suppose you might say my plan was about things I wanted to do. Well, it’s funny how God works in our lives. It’s now quite clear that his plan was for me to be near my mother and assist with her care. My mother is thrilled to have us in close proximity and for us to be a second and third set of ears to hear disease-related information, instructions for care and to communicate that all back to my siblings and others who can support her from a distance in prayer.

At one time I wondered whether I should continue to work or retire. Seems that God’s plan was for retirement, because he knew that I was needed elsewhere in service. I sure didn’t see that one coming. Was I oblivious to God’s plan or it was part of his plan not to reveal the specifics until I was free of job-related obligations. I don’t know and it really does not matter. I’m confident that I am exactly where he expects me to be. It’s now my job to engage in health care issues facing my mother and do my best to be supportive as the situation plays out.

God’s plan for you isn’t always the same as your plan for you. Be alert to what he is asking you to do in service for others. He is wise; we just have to be open and make ourselves available when he calls.

Lyn Konstant, President



Thank you to all of the members who offered prayers, sent cards, offered condolences, and in many other ways supported Gloria and me during the final days and death of my father, Hugh Sharp. Your support was very uplifting and very much appreciated.

Wayne Sharp

“GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST;

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Sweetheart Dinner

All adults members and friends of Our Savior's are invited to attend our annual Sweetheart Dinner Saturday, February 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy a catered meal, play bingo, and have lots of fellowship. Cost is \$14.50 per person - please pay before the dinner to Gloria Sharp or Doris Molineaux. Each person is asked to bring a bingo prize. Please sign up by Monday, February 6 on the sign up sheet located in the Information Center. For information contact Gloria.

Our menu for the evening will include:

Black Cherry Marinated Pork Tenderloin Tequila-Lime Chicken
Green Beans Almondine Roasted Zucchini and Squash
Twice Baked Potatoes Green Salad / w Mandarin Oranges
Coconut-Chocolate Marjolaine or Strawberry and White-Chocolate Mini-Cheesecakes
Rolls Coffee /Iced Tea

Shrove Tuesday Breakfast

All women are invited to our Shrove Tuesday Breakfast February 21 at 6:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We celebrate Shrove Tuesday before the beginning of Lent. You will be able to get to work by a.m. Please sign up in the Information Center to attend and choose what you would like to bring.

Prayer Chain

The Women of Our Savior's are in the process of reorganizing our Prayer Chains. If you would like to be put on one of our Prayer Chains, or if you would like your name taken off of the Prayer Chain, please contact Gloria Sharp. When you have a prayer concern you would like us to pray about, please contact Nancy Michaelson or Gloria Sharp - and we will begin the Prayer Chain. We would welcome you to join one of our Prayer Chains.

Health Kits

Items needed to complete our health kits include: bath towels, bath soap, toothbrushes, combs, and nail clippers. We would appreciate your help to complete these kits by buying some of these items or contributing money for us to buy the items. For more information, please contact Judy Linsenhardt. Thanks so much for your help.

Dates to Remember

Thursday, February 2 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting at Gloria Sharp's
Saturday, February 11 6:30 p.m.
Sweetheart Dinner Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, February 14 7:30 p.m.
Hannah Circle at Doris Molineaux's
Tuesday, February 23 6:45 a.m.
Shrove Tuesday Breakfast
Fellowship Hall
Thursday, February 24 10:00 a.m.
Tamar Circle, Fellowship Hall

The following is a thank you note received from Marylyn Defeo, Executive Director of the Samaritan Center after our donations taken at the Christmas Cantata:

“Many thanks for all your constant support of the work of the Samaritan Center. You are the heart and hands that make it possible for us to say “yes” to so many of our neighbors in need. Please remember the children in your prayers and know that they are not going to bed hungry or cold because of your generous heart! God Bless you all for making 2011 a wonderful year for folks in need. I love you all and wish you the very best Health, Happiness and Laughter in 2012!”

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OSLC Contact Information....



OSLC Ministry Leaders

Altar Guild – Linda Petersen
Asst. Ministers – Trisha Schlechte
Audio/Visual – Ellen Whittington
Bookkeeper – Stan Linsenbardt
Data Entry – Carolyn Strobel
Financial Sec. – Bob Anderson
Handbells – Kim Duggan
Hospitality – Gretchen Mueller
Housekeeping– Vivian Legreid
Kids Worship – Debbie Musselman
Men, Retired – Charlie Coon
Office – Karen Diemer
Prayer Chain – Gloria Sharp
Prayer Team – Carla Holste
Property— Wayne Sharp
Vision Team
President – Lyn Konstant
Secretary – Nancy Hoffman
Treasurer – Kent Nelson
At Large – Tim Duggan
At Large – Scott Holste
At Large – Kate Kirchhoff
Women – Gloria Sharp
Youth Events – Kim Cash
The Bellingers
Brie Larson
Kent Nelson

OSLC Leadership Team/Staff

Scott Musselman, Pastor

Email: pastorscott@reachingoutinlove.org

Kyle Bellinger, Worship Minister

Email: worship@reachingoutinlove.org

Jan Houser, Music Director

Jim Carlson, Outreach Director

Email: outreach@reachingoutinlove.org

Janice Rambo, Discipleship

Email: discipleship@reachingoutinlove.com

Karen Diemer, Administration

Email: administration@reachingoutinlove.org

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Web: www.ReachingOutInLove.org



Please submit all newsletter articles to the church office or Karen Diemer by the 20th of each month.

churchoffice@reachingoutinlove.org

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