



OSL Connections

Worship our God,
Share His Salvation!

Our Savior Lutheran
Church & School
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www.osva.org

January 2012

What's Inside

New Year's Eve & Day Services
See page 2

2012 Officers & Boards Meeting
January 7 see page 8

Epiphany and Eritrean Christmas
January 8 see page 2

Primetimers White Elephant
January 12 see page 5

School News
See page 3

Men's & Women's Breakfasts
see page 6

OSLS Bingo Night & Auction
January 20 see page 5

Newcomer's Orientation
January 22 see page 4

Commissioning of Deconess
Saron Woldehaimanot
January 28 see page 4

OSLS Open House
January 28 see page 4

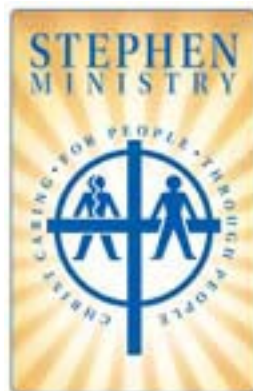
OSSM News
See page 7

Bridges Seminar
February 4 see page 4

GROWING AS DISCIPLES NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The call to follow is what the Epiphany season is about. Now that we have celebrated our Savior's coming in the flesh, it's time to consider how that birth, forever blessed, changes our lives. Let's use this Epiphany season to grow in our discipleship!

In worship each Sunday, we will examine our Lord's interaction with His disciples then and apply that to our lives today. Sunday Morning Bible Classes offer an opportunity to dig deeper into the Word. Furthermore, Monday Night Bible Class gives an added opportunity to immerse oneself in the Word each week. By immersing ourselves in God's Word, His Spirit will cause growth to happen in each of our lives. Our Sunday Evening Bible Class offers a similar opportunity for Adults and Youth on Jan. 8th!



MORE GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES: Christian Caregiving through Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry will be the focus of an after church seminar on Sunday, January 29th. We will gather over lunch for a presentation of what Stephen Ministry is, how it works, and how you can get involved. No matter what your interest level, come and find out more about this lay caregiving ministry!

Reaching out and sharing with those of the Muslim faith is the subject of the Bridges Bible Study on Saturday, Feb. 4th. This seminar will be grow your ability to witness God's love to those of a different faith background. See the details later on in this newsletter. In fact, check out all the other GROWTH opportunities offered in the rest of this newsletter! However you choose to get involved, may the Lord grant us ALL renewed growth in discipleship in 2012!

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL
Pastor
Pastor Wayne Fredericksen
Principal
Barbara Huehn

Pastor Fredericksen

NEW YEAR'S EVE COMMUNION WORSHIP

Saturday, December 31st

at 5:00 PM

Champagne & Sparkling Cider toast following the service.
Begin your evening with friends at Our Savior.



NEW YEAR'S DAY - 1st Sunday After Christmas

10:00 AM - with Holy Communion

(NO Sunday School or Adult Bible Study)



EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 8th

Everyone is welcome to share in the

9:30 AM ERITREAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

(Tigrinya)

-an English outline will be provided.-

There will also be worship at 8:15 & 11:00 AM (English)

Luncheon follows at noon.

A NEW YEAR OPPORTUNITY TO HELP A NEW FAMILY THROUGH LSS

This holiday season, we can help Lutheran Social Services (LSS) collect the household items needed to create welcoming homes for refugees who are just arriving into our community. By MLK Day 2012 they hope to collect:

50 Alarm clocks

25 sets of pots and pans

50 energy-efficient light bulbs

50 jugs of laundry detergent

50 bottles of dish soap

100 small trash bins

100 can openers

15 pillows

50 bottles of household cleansers

100 rolls of toilet paper

50 rolls of paper towels

(Gently used clocks, pillows, trash bins and kitchen wares are acceptable.)

February Newsletter Deadline

January 15th at 12pm

Newsletter Coordinator: Teresa Powell

703-892-4846 email: osloffice@comcast.net



SCHOOL NEWS

AIM HIGH

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. Col. 3:2

We are *Aiming High* in the New Year - after our long winter's nap that is! Christmas vacation runs from December 22 through January 2. Classes resume on Tuesday, January 3rd. Watch for an Early Release on the 1st Wednesday - January 4th. Classes will dismiss at 2:00pm. Coming up in January we will hold our annual National Geographic Geography Bee for students in grades 4 through 8. Basketball season will be in full swing for our middle school boys and girls teams called *Triple Threat*. Check the website - osva.org - for the schedule and location of the games and come cheer on our Triple Threat teams. PTL is sponsoring Bingo Night on Friday, January 20th along with a silent auction to help our technology fund. All are most welcome to come join in the fun.

We could use your help in letting others know about the **Our Savior Lutheran School Open House** for prospective students scheduled for **Saturday, January 28th from 10:00am to 2:00pm**. We want people to know about this great opportunity to come visit the school and learn more about our mission to build character and instill values through a quality Christ-centered education in a nurturing environment. Please tell someone about this Open House and invite them to come check us out. The teachers will be here to welcome guests and the campus will be open for touring. We have flyers to drop off at offices or in your neighborhood - just let us know how many you would like to pass out. Perhaps if you have a neighborhood newsletter or email you could get the word out for us. We really appreciate your help!

The New Year will be full of excitement as we eagerly work toward adding on a Pre-kindergarten to our school ministry. We are grateful to the congregation for their support and encouragement as we now plan to offer Pre-kindergarten - 5 days a week from 8:30-11:30am. Many thanks to the Pre-kindergarten Task Force - Kebra Krol, Abby Montero, Heather Fredericksen, Viva Sterner, Patty Collins, Kirtlin Doyle and Eric Heyer. Your efforts have been so valuable in getting us going on this great new venture for our church and school. Please let everyone know about this new educational program.

Don't forget about saving Box Tops for Education this coming New Year - those little Box Tops really add up! We also continue to sell restaurant quality foods through Market Day. To learn more about Market Day visit marketday.com. You can still order for January - online orders are due January 4th for a January 11th delivery.

If you are a Thrivent member please take time to learn about Choice Dollars - this may not be around for long so you will want to learn more now. If you are eligible you may have Thrivent money designated to go to Our Savior Lutheran School. It would be great if every Thrivent member would check out this opportunity.

With grateful hearts for our partnership in the Gospel, all of us at OSLS hope and pray 2012 will be a happy healthy prosperous New Year for you and yours! We look forward to *Aiming High in Christ* - with you all!



**NEWCOMER'S
ORIENTATION
FOLLOWS EACH SERVICE
ON JANUARY 22ND**

New to Our Savior? Interested in more information? Join us for a brief overview of the opportunities Our Savior offers!

**COMMISSIONING OF
DEACONESS SARON
WOLDEHAIMANOT
SATURDAY, JAN. 28TH
AT 3 PM
JOIN US IN THE
CELEBRATION OF
GOD'S CALL!**



**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH
from 10 AM to 2 PM**



A great opportunity to come to school and learn more about our mission to build character and instill values through a Christ-centered education in a nurturing environment!

Please tell someone about this Open House and invite them to come check it out.

The teachers will be present to welcome guests and the campus will be open for touring

BRIDGES ONE-DAY SEMINAR – SATURDAY, FEB. 4, 2012

About 1.5 billion Muslims have little chance of hearing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Nearly 7 million of them call North America home. Between 250,000 and 300,000 Muslims live in the Metro D.C. area. We are living in urgent times. Millions of Muslims around the world and across the street are searching for true peace that can only be found in Jesus. Muslims are coming to our borders, God is opening the door to reach them here. Learn how to talk to your Muslim neighbor/friend/co-worker about your Christian faith.

Join us from 8:30 am to 4 pm on Saturday February 4 for a wonderful combined outreach and adult education opportunity based on the Bridges Bible study.

Yvette Moy from our sister congregation of Prince of Peace will lead this program. Yvette has led Bridges Bible studies at Living Hope in Stafford, Prince of Peace in Springfield and Our Saviour's Way in Ashburn. Yvette has served on SED Black Lutheran Multi-Ethnic Team, Spanish Language Missions Task Force and Multicultural Ministry Team.

OSLC will pay for the study materials. We ask only for a free-will offering for breakfast and lunch. If you have not already signed up please contact Rich Kauzlarich (phone: 703-536-3486; e-mail: rdkauzlarich@gmail.com).

SCHEDULE

8:30-9:00 a.m. - Registration/Light Breakfast Served
 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. - Session 1
 Muslim Demographics - Global, National and Local
 Power of Prayer
 History of Islam
 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. - Session 2
 Gift of Grace – Visions, Dreams and Healing
 Islamic Beliefs and Rituals
 11 a.m.-11:15 a.m. - Break
 11:15 a.m. – Noon - Session 3
 Aroma of Jesus – Sharing the Good News
 Muslim Background Believers
 Persecuted Church
 Attitudes of an Ambassador

Noon – 1:00 p.m. - Lunch
 1:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m. - Session 4
 Christians Among Neighbors
 Prayer Walking
 How to Bridge the Gospel
 2:00 p.m.- 2:15 p.m. - Break
 2:15 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. - Session 5
 Lutheran Outreach to Muslims – Asian, Arabic and African ministries
 Authenticity of the New Testament
 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. - Session 6
 Being Available in God's Mission Field
 Muslims Cannot Refuse a Gift
 Bibles, Tracts and Hospitality
 Practical Tools for Reaching Muslims

FROM THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

How did you do with your resolutions for the year 2011? About the same as for other years? Can you even remember what those resolutions were? Why do we struggle so much with resolutions? Is it because they are not realistic? Is it because we try to do it completely on our own without any outside help (even from God)? Failure is one of the biggest disappointments in life. Is it possible to start over successfully?

As we enter into this New Year we have another opportunity to start over. Having the privilege of starting over is one of the things in life that gives us hope and courage as we look to the future. As we take down our 2011 calendars and replace them with 2012 calendars we really can start over.

In Romans 12:12 (NIV) the Holy Spirit gives us some great ingredients for a really good New Year's resolution. The encouragement is to ***"be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer."*** Life would be so sweet if everyone could adopt and live out those three pieces as a New Year's resolution.

"Be joyful in hope" should be pretty easy for Christians because our hope is in Christ and ***"that hope will never disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us."*** (Romans 5:5 NIV)

"Be patient in affliction" can be considerably more difficult because we do not like affliction. Who of us likes to be mistreated by people who are rude, inconsiderate and downright nasty? Where can we get the strength to be patient in affliction? It takes a giant transformation to behave so nicely when afflicted! Our comfort is that the power to do that does not come from within us, but from outside of us. When we were baptized ***"we were buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."*** (Romans 6:4 NIV) No one in the history of mankind had to deal with as much affliction as Jesus, our Savior! And He did it out of love for us so that we do not have to fear eternal affliction!

"Faithful in prayer" keeps us in touch with God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus spent entire nights in prayer with His Father in heaven so that He would have the strength to carry out His mission of dying for sinners so that they might have the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Prayer is an excellent way to stay in touch with God and His love and power.

How does this threefold resolution make a difference in our lives and the lives of those around us? It does because the Holy Spirit is at work within us to make us more and more the children of God. As children of God we seek to do the same things that give Him such delight. John 3:16 tells us that God delights in **loving** and **giving**. God has entrusted us with all of life and life's resources and desires that we manage them wisely according to His purposes. **Loving** and **giving** are at the heart of Christian stewardship.

May God bless us all as His stewards in this New Year of 2012!

(Material taken from the Stewardship page of www.lcms.org)



White Elephant

OSLS BINGO NIGHT & AUCTION

January 20th 7pm



It's BINGO NIGHT with a twist! In addition to Bingo fun we will have a Silent Auction. Each class is donating an item for auction.

Items include: Themed Gift Baskets, Desserts, Sports Collectable and more. We hope to see you there!



PRIMETIMERS WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE

PRIMETIMERS will gather for lunch and a White-Elephant Gift Exchange at noon on **Thursday, January 12, 2012**. Bring a wrapped gift that merits "re-gifting". Warren and Irene Dietz will be our hosts; please contact them if you plan to attend.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2012

The offering envelopes for 2012 are available for pick-up in the narthex. If you have not been assigned a box of envelopes but would like one please contact the church office.



Abreht Mogos	1-Jan
Azeb Zeragaber	1-Jan
Hiwet Tesfazghi	1-Jan
Lydia Getachew	2-Jan
Dale Nellor	3-Jan
Edwina Sheldahl	4-Jan
Kirtlin Doyle	4-Jan
Mary Benn	4-Jan
Abigail Montero	5-Jan
Glenn Hogle	5-Jan
Elsie Greenwood	7-Jan
Joshua Klug	7-Jan
Kelli Corts	7-Jan
Megan Gamble	7-Jan
Raymond Seefeldt	14-Jan
Kim Saak	15-Jan
Scott Fisher	15-Jan
Simon Tecele	15-Jan
Ariana Schuehle	17-Jan
Rahwa Girmay	18-Jan
Kelsey Gilman	21-Jan
Stone Mueller	22-Jan
Lewis Clarke	23-Jan
Naomi John	24-Jan
Donald Clarke	25-Jan
Paul McComb	25-Jan
Dee Moellering	27-Jan
Diana Offutt	28-Jan
Katherine Haas	29-Jan
Milt Hackett	30-Jan
Shelby Slayton	30-Jan
Solomon Gebreyesus	30-Jan
Mary Lehrer	31-Jan

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Keith and Phyllis Talbert	1/1/1983
Bob and Marcia Gnuse	1/16/1971
Yimesgen Hailegiorgis & Semret Kidane	1/18/1964

Men's Breakfast
JOSEPH: Carpenter of Steel
Saturday, January 14th at 8 AM
In the FELLOWSHIP HALL this month!

Breakfast prepared by the guys with discussion following in the fellowship hall.

For hundreds and thousands of years carpenters plied their trade with hand tools like hammers, saws, planes and files. For most of them carpentry wasn't a road to riches, fame or power. It was the way you put a roof over your head, food on your family's table and clothes on your children's backs.

In this Men's NetWork Bible study, we look at one of these men, a common, ordinary carpenter. Like countless guys before and after him, he lived his life in obscurity, working hard to support his family and do his part in his community. He may not have worked with steel, but as we will see, Joseph was a carpenter with the character, courage and strength of steel.



JANUARY WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

The Women's Breakfast is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18th at the City Diner on Leesburg Pike. Come join us for food, conversation and fellowship. Please let Irene Dietz (703-256-1312) know if you can join us.

SECRET SANTA – THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who supported the Cotta Guild Secret Santa gift card collection. Thanks to your generosity and a matching grant of \$900 from Thrivent, we were able to take 90 gift cards (a total value of \$1800.00) to the Arlington County Department of Human Services for them to distribute! By ordering through our OSSM youth gift card sale we were a double blessing by support OSSM fund raising efforts! What a great Christmas blessing to share!

Our most heartfelt thanks to our church family. Thank you to those of you who helped with this last move and so many other things. Thank you also to all of you who are keeping us in your prayers! As everyone here who witnessed the last move has said, "You have a wonderful church!" We agree! All thanks, love and prayers from, Milt and Pam Hackett

**SR OSSM
VIRGINIA BEACH
CONSTRUCTION ZONE!!!**

March 2 – March 4, 2012

(Early Bird Registration Closes - January 8th)

Hey Sr. OSSM it is time to sign up for Construction Zone. We will spend the weekend at The Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach. There are fabulous speakers and bands, "breakout" sessions on topics that relate to life as a teenage Christian, not to mention a great hotel on the beach! The featured speaker is Scott Phelps and the musical group is Bread of Stone.

The total cost of the weekend is \$200, which includes lodging, the conference fee, meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. You will need to bring money for Friday dinner, Sunday lunch and spending money. **We will depart from Our Savior at 1pm on Friday and return to church 3:30pm 'ish on Sunday.** To sign up please complete and turn in a **permission slip along with a \$100 deposit (non-refundable) to Mrs. Powell by OSSM Bible Study on Sunday, January 8th.** The balance of the registration (\$100) is due by February Bible Study on February 5th. Any registrations received after January 8th will be accepted on a space available basis and will incur a \$25 late fee. For more information on Construction Zone go to www.youthencounter.org.

**OSSM BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH**
(note date change)
5PM TO 6:30PM

Because the first Sunday in January falls on a holiday, January OSSM Bible Study will be held on Sunday, January 8th. A special note to **ALL JR OSSM GOING ON QUAKE**, please make every effort to attend the January OSSM Bible Study. We will have a special study based on the Quake theme and important information on Quake.

**FIRST OSSM TIME OF 2012
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22ND**
5PM – 7PM

**SR OSSM
STOP HUNGER NOW
LOCK IN & 24-HOUR FAST
JANUARY 27-28, 2012**

The SR OSSM Youth have been invited to join our friends at St. John's on January 27-28th for a hands-on experience and service opportunity. Our goals are to increase awareness about world hunger, provide food for Stop Hunger Now, and deepen individual connections to God.

We will participate in a 24-hour Juice Fast (from noon Friday to noon Saturday) and the Overnight Lock-in will run from 6:30pm Friday to 1:00pm Saturday. At the Lock-in there will be games, fun, and some sleep. On Saturday, we will pack meals for Stop Hunger Now.

Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief organization that coordinates distribution of food and other life-saving aid around the world. Their vision is a world without hunger. Meals support feeding programs in crisis situations, schools, and orphanages and are easy to transport, store and distribute. Each meal costs 25 cents and provides 6 servings of dehydrated, high protein, nutritious food.

We will end the event by breaking our fast with lunch from 12pm to 1pm.

**JR OSSM QUAKE
JANUARY 13-15, 2012**

A MESSAGE FROM YOUTH ENCOUNTER: This year, our service projects at the Quakes will be supporting a variety of organizations that serve the communities in which the Quake participants live (Our own ASPAN is one of the organizations.) Each youth is asked to bring items as he/she is able. During Late Night on Saturday night, participants will have an opportunity to assemble care packages to be used at homeless shelters. Thank you in advance for your support of this project!

Items for Care Packages: (Travel sizes are easiest to fit our bags):

*toothbrush *toothpaste *soap *wash cloth *deodorant *razors *shaving cream *shampoo *conditioner lotion *dental floss *comb *lip balm *small brush *nail file *hand sanitizer *individual sized tissue packs *chewing gum *small sizes of cotton tips *

Also, please write a note telling of God's love to include in the baggies before you get to Quake. These will be added into the packages as we bag them.

2012 Church Officers and Board Members

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING for All Boards, Officers & Members
Saturday, January 7th from 9am –12pm

Commissioning of Officers and Board Members
January 8th at all services.

PRESIDENT - Tom Tiernan
VICE PRESIDENT - VACANT
SECRETARY - Karen Harwood
TREASURER - Jane Ohashi
FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Marion Ott
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT - VACANT
ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN - Katie Voldal

FINANCE (6)

Kirtlin Doyle
Warren Dietz
Glenn Hogle

CHRISTIAN SERVICE (5)

Lori Bodling
Elizabeth Reed
Anne Kauzlarich
Pat McDermott
Azeb Estefanos
Mehret Tesfazghi

ELDERS (6)

Paul McComb
Tim Starker
Bill Messer

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH (4)

Irene Pieper
Megan Bartlett
Neil Lampton
Helen Semere
Karen Schroeder
Fellow Travelers:
Mary Ramming, Dianne Ott,
Elaine Seymour

BYMPE (3)

Saron Woldehaimanot
Teresa Powell

STEWARDSHIP (4)

Nancy Greenwood
Helen Zekarias

EDUCATION (5)

Abeba Tzeggai
Claudia Offutt
Patricia Collins
Sylvan Beck

TRUSTEES (8)

Peter Ramming
Les Hambridge
Aaron Moringstar
Meraza Beraki
Eric Heyer
John Ohashi
Gedion Dagmawi



Armonia Nova
Invites you to
Twelfth Night 'Luminous Gems'
A Celebration of Epiphany and the Winter Solstice

Friday January 6, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.
St. Mark's on Capitol Hill, 3rd & A Sts. SE, Washington D.C.
and
Sunday January 8, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Christ Church 118 N. Washington St., Old Town Alexandria, VA

Constance Whiteside, **artistic director, medieval & baroque double-strung harps**; Yayoi Barack, **early viols**; Marjorie Bunday, **alto**;
Corey McKnight, **countertenor**; Allison Mondel, **soprano**

**BE A PART OF THIS HOLIDAY TRADITION AND CELEBRATE
THE FEAST OF EPIPHANY WITH ARMONIA NOVA**
Free will offering. No tickets required. www.armonianova.org