



# Our Savior

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

2900 Burton Street SE + Grand Rapids, MI 49546 + 616.949.0710 + www.oursavior-gr.org

## What the World Needs Now is Love, Sweet Love

Paul Gerhardt the great Lutheran hymn writer and pastor wrote a beautiful Advent hymn, "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You." In this hymn he directs our thoughts to the Lord's great compassion for us as we sing to Christ:

I lay in fetters, groaning;  
You came to set me free.  
I stood my shame bemoaning;  
You came to honor me.  
A glorious crown You give me,  
A treasure safe on high  
That will not fail or leave me,  
As earthly riches fly.

Love caused Your incarnation;  
Love brought You down to me.  
Your thirst for my salvation  
Procured my liberty.  
Oh, love beyond all telling,  
That led You to embrace  
In love, all love excelling,  
Our lost and fallen race.

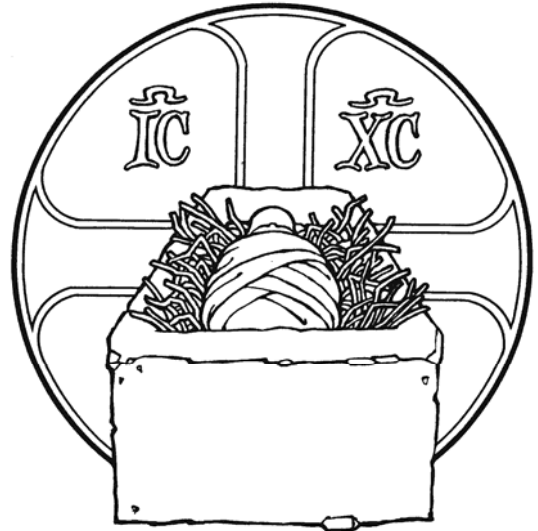
This compassionate coming of the Lord in human flesh to save us is the great wonder of Christmas. As St. John wrote: "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:9-10, ESV)

Advent is a blessed time of repentant preparation for greeting Christ as He came in Bethlehem to deliver us, as He still comes to us in His word and blessed Sacraments to forgive us, and as He will come on the Last Day to free us from the shameful reign of decay and death.

You, your neighbors, your family members, and even your enemies need this compassionate love of Christ. Thanks be to God He gives it!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Fleming



### advent

*The church's calendar begins with Advent. Advent is the season of preparation for Christmas. It is a time for repentance, prayer, and the Word of God. Our Savior Church observes Advent with services on Wednesday evenings and daily matins.*

**Advent Evening Prayer**, Wednesdays,  
December 2, 9, 16 and 23, at 7:00 pm.

**Soup Suppers**, above Wednesdays at 6:00 pm.

**Daily Matins**, Monday-Friday, December 1-18,  
8:35 – 8:50am at school.  
December 21, 22 & 23 at church.

**Sunday School Advent Service**, Sunday,  
December 6, 4:00 PM at church

### christmas

*The celebration of our Lord's coming in human flesh to save us.*

**Christmas Eve Vespers**, A small service without choirs  
Thursday, Dec. 24, 6:00 pm

**Christmas Eve Divine Service**, The main Christmas  
Eve service, complete with choirs  
Thursday, Dec. 24, 11:00 pm

**Christmas Day Divine Service**,  
Friday, December 25, 11:00 am

**Eve of the Name of Jesus Vespers**  
(New Year's Eve), Thursday, Dec. 31, 7:00 pm

**Epiphany Divine Services**,  
Wednesday, January 6, 7:00 PM

## Lutheran Radio and Television

- \* The Lutheran Hour. 105.7 FM at 6:30 AM and 1680 AM at noon.
- \* Issues, Etc. You can listen to what you want when you want at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org).
- \* Worship for Shut-Ins WTLJ-TV 54 in Grand Rapids, Sundays at 11:30 AM . Also on DirecTV channel 377

## West Michigan Lutheran High

Check out the West Michigan Lutheran High School website at [www.wmlhs.org](http://www.wmlhs.org) and follow the links for more information on all things WMLHS!

## Coffee and Snack Time

WE'VE CHANGED THINGS UP A BIT!

You may now volunteer to bring the snack OR make the coffee, or do both if you'd like! We need volunteers every week who are willing to set up the gym on Saturday night, or provide and set up the snacks and/OR make the coffee pot on Sunday morning. **A sign up sheet is on the counter in the office at school.**

**Many Thanks** to all those who take down chairs and tables each week!



## Knit-Wits—Special Day this Month!

Join us on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 at 7:30 PM. Beginner to expert – everyone is welcome - knitters, crocheters and stitchers!



## OSLC Meeting Schedule - December

School Board, Tuesday, December 1, 7:00 PM  
Elders, Wednesday, December 2, 7:00 PM  
Church Council, Tuesday, December 8, 7:00 PM

## Summer Camp Positions

There's a kid out there that needs YOU to touch their life with God's love this summer!

Spend an exciting and challenging summer of service in Outdoor Ministry at one of many Lutheran Camps across the country – **including Camp Concordia!**

As a cabin counselor, cook, lifeguard, guitar player, program leader, maintenance worker, wrangler, craft leader, etc.

Check it out and apply online at [www.nloma.org](http://www.nloma.org) or call Paul Golke, Camp Concordia, 616-754-3785

## December Wedding Anniversaries

We're sorry, this information is not available online

## December Birthdays

We're sorry, this information is not available online

If your name does not appear as it should, please contact the Church secretary at 949-0710 or [churchsecretary@oursavior-gr.org](mailto:churchsecretary@oursavior-gr.org)

## Our Savior School News

### MEIJER COMMUNITY REWARDS, SPARTAN UPCS, CAMPBELL'S LABELS FOR EDUCATION, AND BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

These are all collected year 'round! Collection boxes for all items are on the table in the narthex. Please call the office if you have questions about any of these programs. We APPRECIATE your support!

### 📅 DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 11-12	B Boys Tournament (HOME)
Dec. 15	Preschool Christmas Program (7:00pm)
Dec. 17	K-8 School Christmas Service (7:00pm)
Dec. 18	Preschool Christmas break starts
Dec. 18	½ day (with Chapel & parties)
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> (Christmas Break)
Jan. 4	School resumes

**Please join the students of Our Savior School for the Preschool Christmas Program and the Our Savior School Christmas Service!**

## Changes of Address

Please let the office know if you have a change of address, phone number or email address. Please place information in Michelle Rader's mailbox or send it to the office email: [churchsecretary@oursavior-gr.org](mailto:churchsecretary@oursavior-gr.org) Thank you!

## Our Savior Senior Saints

Seniors will meet on December 9 for special Christmas fellowship. Bring your own sandwich, dessert will be provided. We will be collecting men's socks for the Grand Rapids Veterans Home. Sox should be white and sizes 10 - 13. Anyone else who would like to contribute socks, along with the Seniors, can drop them off at the back of the fellowship hall.

Seniors also will be handing out special goody bags for our Sunday School children following the Advent service on December 6.

## Old Eyeglasses Needed!

Cleaned out your "junk" drawer lately? If you run across any old pairs of glasses, just put them in the basket in the Fellowship Hall

## Hats, Scarves and Mittens

During the cold months of winter, hats, scarves and mittens are needed ;by Mel Trotter Mission to help the men, women and children who come to them in need.



By donating these new or clean, good, used items, you're helping those in need right here in our city. Your donations can decorate our snowflake tree or be placed in the basket in the fellowship hall.

December 27 is the last day for donations.

## Serving in the Armed Forces

We're sorry, this information is not available online

**Parents and family members:** Please send addresses for service personnel to Mrs. Rader so that it can be published in the newsletter. Send to: [churchsecretary@oursavior-gr.org](mailto:churchsecretary@oursavior-gr.org) THANK YOU!

## Quilters – Thank you!

I would like to give a special "Thank You" to the ladies involved in working on the quilts sent out this year. Also those who have sewn quilt tops at home and we finish assembling them at our meetings. We were able to send over 30 quilts overseas, and had several children's blankets to take to DeVos Children's hospital. Also, Thanks to the group that loads the box car. Thank You!

## Sunday School News

**Sunday School Advent Practice**  
will be at church December 5 from 9-11am

**Sunday School Advent Service**  
will be at church December 6 at 4pm.

Thanks to the first semester teachers for their service.

If you are interested in teaching Sunday School for second semester starting in January, please contact the office.

## Addresses of College Students

Our congregation has several college students who are far from home, some for the first time. A card or a note might just make their day!

We're sorry, this information is not available online

If you have a college student who would like to have their address published, please call the office 949-0710, or send it to: [churchsecretary@oursavior-gr.org](mailto:churchsecretary@oursavior-gr.org)

## Concordia Ann Arbor News

Celebrate the Christmas Season with Concordia University – Ann Arbor!

Concordia University Ann Arbor invites you to join in the celebration of the Christmas Season. The university is hosting three events in December that are sure to put you and your family in the Christmas spirit.

### The 32nd Annual Boar's Head Festival

December 4, 5 - 7:30 p.m.

December 6 - 4:00 p.m.

Ticket Prices: \$8 - \$15

Contact the Kreft Box Office (M-Th, 12-4 pm): (734) 995-4612

### Christmas Concert - CUAA Music Department

Friday, December 11 - 7:30 p.m.

Chapel of the Holy Trinity

### Dickens' A Christmas Carol - Community Read-Aloud

Sunday, December 13 - 3:00 p.m.

Earhart Manor Living Room

Contact [lookerm@cuaa.edu](mailto:lookerm@cuaa.edu) for more information.

## Family Bible Study

Family Bible Study will meet at school on Friday, December 18 at 6:30 PM. All are welcome!!

## Women in Fellowship

### November 10 - Meeting Recap

Thanks to Dee, we now know how the eyeglasses we donate to MOST Ministries are used. Seeing photos of her mission trips and hearing firsthand, her experiences helps us to understand how even a used pair of glasses can be a way to show God's love and care.

### December 1, Tuesday 7:30 PM (Special Date!)

#### Knit Wits in the Fellowship Hall

Knitters are will resume meeting once a month on the first Monday of the month in January. Questions? Call Debbie or Jo

### December 2 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

#### Quilting Bee – Church Fellowship Hall

Bring a sandwich, if you're staying through lunch. For more information, call Judy.

### December 8 9:30 to 11:30 AM

#### Women in Fellowship – regular meeting

Collection and packing cookies for shut-ins. Remember to bring a dozen cookies or bars (and maybe a few extra to share during packing!).

**The special collection for December is hats, scarves and mittens for Mel Trotter Mission in Grand Rapids inner city.**

REMINDER: January, February and March – Annual Fort Wayne Seminary Food and Clothing Bank Drive.



December 2009



Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 6: Commitment Sunday Pledges for 2010 are received December 6, 4:00 PM – Sunday School Advent Service		<b>1</b> 7:00 PM School Board 7:30 PM Knit Wits (note: special day)	<b>2</b> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:35 AM Chapel(1 <sup>st</sup> ) 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Quilt Group 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 Advent Evening Prayer 8:00 PM Elders	<b>3</b> 3:45 PM Jr. Choir & Schola Cantorum @ Church	<b>4</b> 7:00 PM Crazy Card Party At Wade Stephenson's	<b>5</b> <b>Sunday's Readings:</b> <b>Malachi 4:1-6,</b> <b>Romans 15:4-13,</b> <b>Luke 21:25-36</b>
		Matins at School	Advent Daily Matins at School 8:35 AM		9:00 to 11:00 AM Sunday School Advent Service Practice@ Church	
<b>6</b> <b>The Second Sunday in Advent</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:40 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study @ CHURCH 11:00 AM Divine Service 4:00 PM Sunday School Advent Service	<b>7</b> 5:45 PM Junior High Catechism Class 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	<b>8</b> 9:30 AM WIF @ Church 7:00 PM Council	<b>9</b> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 8:35 AM Chapel Kindergarten Sings 12:00 PM Senior Saints 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 Advent Evening Prayer	<b>10</b> 3:45 PM Jr. Choir & Schola Cantorum @ Church	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Sunday's Readings:</b> <b>Isaiah 40:1-11,</b> <b>1 Corinthians 4:1-5,</b> <b>Matthew 11:2-11</b>
Advent Daily Matins at School 8:35 AM		Advent Daily Matins at School 8:35 AM		"B" Boys' Basketball Tournament - HOME		
<b>13</b> <b>The Third Sunday in Advent</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:40 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study @ School 9:40 AM Blood Pressure Screenings 11:00 AM Divine Service	<b>14</b> 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	<b>15</b> 7:00 PM Preschool Christmas Program @ School	<b>16</b> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 Advent Evening Prayer	<b>17</b> 3:45 PM Jr. Choir & Schola Cantorum @ Church 7:00 PM School Christmas Service 7:30 PM CCM in Fellowship Hall	<b>18</b> 8:35 AM Chapel Choir and Chimes 6:30 PM Family Bible Study @ School ½ Day of School with Christmas Parties	<b>19</b> <b>Sunday's Readings:</b> <b>Deuteronomy 18:15-19</b> <b>Philippians 4:4-7,</b> <b>John 1:19-28</b> <b>or</b> <b>Luke 1:39-56</b>
Advent Daily Matins at School 8:35 AM						
<b>20</b> <b>The Fourth Sunday in Advent</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:40 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study @ School 11:00 AM Divine Service	<b>21</b> <b>St. Thomas, Apostle</b> 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir 5:45 PM Junior High Catechism Class	<b>22</b> Deadline for Calendar and Newsletter Items	<b>23</b> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 Advent Evening Prayer	<b>24</b> 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Vespers Service 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Divine Service	<b>25</b> 11:00 AM Christmas Day Divine Service	<b>26</b> <b>St. Stephen, Martyr</b> <b>Sunday's Readings:</b> <b>Isaiah 11:1-5</b> <b>or</b> <b>2 Samuel 7:1-16,</b> <b>Galatians 4:1-7,</b> <b>Luke 2:22-40</b>
Advent Daily Matins at CHURCH 8:35 AM						
<b>27</b> <b>The First Sunday after Christmas</b> <b>St. John, Evangelist</b> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:40 AM Adult Bible Study at CHURCH <i>No Sunday School</i> 9:40 AM Blood Pressure Screenings 11:00 AM Divine Service	<b>28</b> <b>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study	<b>31</b> 7:00 PM Eve of the Name of Jesus Evening Prayer	School Resumes January 4 Epiphany Divine Service Wednesday, January 6, 7:00 PM	
No School - Christmas Break through January 2 (School Resumes Monday, January 4)						

Office Phone: 949-0710

Fax: 975-7840

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