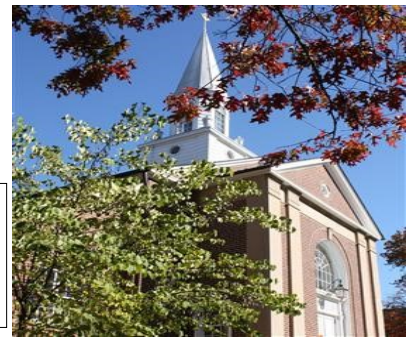




The Parish *Messenger*

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR
HADDONFIELD, NJ



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Worship Times; 5:00, 8:30, & 10:00

Join the congregation in celebrating the birth of Christ this Christmas Eve at any of the three worship times that best fit your schedule. Here are the times and a brief description of each.

5:00 Family Worship: A Children's Sermon and anthems sung by both the Cherub and Children's Choirs as well as the Children's Bell Choir ringing are the highlight of this worship service. This is a great family-focused worship and we hope you will invite your friends without a church home to join you. Communion will be celebrated and the service ends with candlelight singing of Silent Night.

8:30 Traditional/Youth Worship: The Youth Choir and Bell Choir continue to be the featured choir at this service and returning college students are invited to join them in singing familiar anthems if they choose. A traditional sermon is preached. Communion will be celebrated and the service ends with candlelight singing of Silent Night.

10:00 Classic "Midnight" Worship: The Adult Choir and Bell Choir are the featured choirs at this service with a traditional sermon preached from the pulpit or aisle. Communion will be celebrated and the service ends with candlelight singing of Silent Night.

Christmas Pageant & Breakfast Set for Dec 15 @ 9:15 AM in Parish Hall

This pageant is an original script written predominantly by our own Bonnie Richards and involves our children from age 3 to grade 5. The pageant will be held on Sunday, December 15, at 9:15 in the Parish Hall followed by an extensive Coffee Hour/Breakfast in the Parish Hall. The change in time and location last year was to provide an opportunity for a greater number of the congregation to attend the pageant and share in fellowship following the event. It had great success and so we are doing it again this year.

Reflections Worship will not be held that day and regular attenders are invited to worship at 8:00 or 10:30. There will still be Sunday school during the 10:30 worship as well. Come out and experience how Advent prepares us not only for the coming of Christmas but the coming of our Lord in our lives each and every day.



Advent Brunch Held at Parsonage on Sunday, Dec 1 from Noon-2:00

Advent Brunch will again be hosted by Pastor Wayne and Kate Zschech at the parsonage next door to the church at 201 Rhoads Ave on the First Sunday of Advent, Dec 1. Adult beverages will be available as well as ham and turkey, and guests are invited to bring a brunch item to share with other

participants. This is a great way for members and guests to mingle and get to know one another in a festive setting and you won't even need to move your car! You can even use the church ovens if needed to keep your entrée warm during the 10:30 worship. Need childcare? Contact Pastor Wayne and we can arrange for it at the church with some of our senior high youth who are experienced in babysitting.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord, proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs, and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.



“Incarnation – The True Meaning of Christmas”

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

As you drive to and from the stores this holiday season I’m sure you’ll see a car magnet or two with a depiction of the Nativity stuck to the back bumper that reads, “The Reason for the Season.” It’s a reminder to all of us who may have barely survived grocery shopping at Wegmans, finding a parking spot at the malls, or the post office line out the door when mailing gifts that Christmas is about the birth of Jesus. To be more theologically accurate, Christmas is the incarnation of God in the person of Jesus. But what exactly is the Incarnation?

In *Crazy Talk: A not-so-stuffy dictionary of theological terms* the incarnation is defined as **The out-of-this-world notion that the eternal and infinite God came down to this earth in the finite and first-century Jesus of Nazareth.** It further explains, “That he was conceived by the power of the Spirit means that he was *fully God* in the flesh... But that he was born of the virgin Mary means that he was fully God *in the flesh* [in carne]. It’s easy to forget, but Jesus came into the world the same way we do – the birth canal... He wasn’t just God *pretending* to be human; he was completely human in every aspect of life.” (pp. 92-93)

Jesus was human in every aspect of our life. Think about that for a second or thirteen. Jesus was as human as you and me. If you’re a teenager battling acne and think, “I bet Jesus never had zits.” Yes he did. Or when you get sick around the holidays (as we all do at one time or another) and think, “I bet Jesus never got sick.” Guess what, he probably did. Jesus endured the same challenges of humanity we all are faced with and even more than most. He was born in a stable and not a sterile delivery room. He fled as a refugee to a foreign land because Herod was willing and did commit infanticide for every male child in Bethlehem two years old and younger after Jesus birth. He knew hunger in the wilderness. He experienced rejection by the very people he came to reveal God’s good news. He was abandoned on the cross and died the most horrible death known to Roman Empire (because the torture of watching The Christmas Story had not yet been invented). He died – like we all will die. But then he was raised – as we will all be raised. Our humanity was his humanity, and that includes the resurrection as well.

Isn’t that what we proclaim when we sing the carol, Good Christian Friends, Rejoice?

He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Jesus knows our humanity, with all its ups and downs, joys and struggles, because Jesus was born truly human. So as we scurry around this Christmas season maybe we need to reflect on the Incarnation – God’s word becoming flesh – and how God’s word might become flesh in us. How might God’s love be revealed in our hands and feet? How might God’s grace be made flesh in our embrace of acceptance? How might God’s mercy be made flesh with our tears of forgiveness and a kiss of peace? Jesus is the reason for the season, but on a deeper level than simply a story of a babe born in a barn. The incarnation is the true reason for the season and may you experience it and reveal it the days leading up to, during, and after our celebration of Christ’s birth at Christmas. Merry Christmas!

Bible Discussion for Daily Life on Gospel of John Begins Dec 9/11 (7 weeks)

An early-church father, Clement of Alexandria, described the Gospel of John as a “spiritual account” of Jesus’ life and teaching. Often considered more theological than historical, the portrait of Jesus in the Gospel of John is very different from the other Gospels. John includes stories about Jesus that do not appear in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Some of these differences will be the focus of our discussions over the weeks and we hope you can attend any one of them as John is the Gospel readings during the season of Easter and interspersed throughout the year.

This is not a Bible lecture but rather a discussion of how what we read in Scripture is applicable to our daily life and faith. Attend either Mondays from 7:30-9:00 in Room 112 or Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00. **No prior attendance or scriptural knowledge is required to gain insight and value from the discussion.** Just drop on in. Bibles are available if you don’t have one. See you in December. The following dates, reading, and topics are as follows:

Dec 9/11	Chapters 1-3	Water Into Wine
Dec 16/18	Chapters 4-5	Samaritan Woman
Jan 6/8	Chapters 6-9	Adulterous Woman
Jan 13/15	Chapters 10-11	Lazarus Raised
Jan 20/22	Chapters 12-13	Washing of Feet
Jan 27/29	Chapters 14-19	The Crucifixion
Feb 3/5	Chapters 20-25	Peter Reinstated





Deck the Halls and

Drop 'N Shop

Events on Dec 8 at Noon

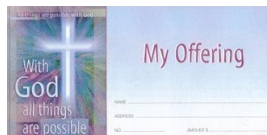
"Deck the Halls" for Christmas from Noon-2:00. The congregation will work with confirmation youth and parents to prepare our church for Christmas by

putting up the two trees in the sanctuary and one in the narthex with lights and Chrismon ornaments. This is a great time for families to learn about the meaning behind the unique Chrismon ornaments that adorn our sanctuary trees each year.

Lunch will be coordinated by Director of Youth and Family Ministry, Jaime Frazier-Baldwin, and the three large artificial pine trees will be put up, strung with lights, and decorated with the handmade Crismons immediately following the meal. Help get our church ready for the Christmas Season and Lessons and Carols events in the coming weeks. Contact the Jaime if you plan to attend to insure enough pizzas are ordered. Homemade Christmas cookies are always a great treat to share if you would like to bring some.

Christmas "Drop 'N Shop" Childcare from Noon-3:00.

Haven't finished your Christmas shopping yet? Want to spend three uninterrupted hours focusing on your To Do List? Or maybe you just want to enjoy a quiet lunch and a movie. Consider leaving your children with the Oasis Senior High Youth Group for three hours after worship. Please pack a lunch for your child. The children will engage in various crafts and games as well as see a variety of classic Christmas children's movies (Pastor Wayne has a big collection). Don't be afraid to let your friends and family know about it too!



Boxed Envelopes Available In Narthex for Pick-Up from Dec 8 until New Year's Eve

Members of The Lutheran Church of

Our Savior are asked to pick up their 2020 offering envelopes in the Narthex by New Year's Eve. **NOTE: Adult children attending college or those who are otherwise still listed as living at home will not be issued envelopes but are encouraged to provide their offerings in the family household envelope.** Any adult child wishing to have their own envelopes need only request them from the Church Office.

If you can drop off envelopes for a friend or nearby neighbor in the congregation please do. Envelopes that are not picked up by December 31 will be mailed out in the first weeks of 2020. Please help reduce postage costs by picking up your offering envelopes in the Narthex.

Pantry Volunteers Through January

Thank you to our November Volunteers: Marianne Aponte, Steve & Debbie Cain, Jerry Murphy, Lynn Block, Heilman Family, Connie Wolf, The Hoffman-Bridges Family, Tracy Stiefel

Week of Dec 1: **Nancy Dempsey, Lynn Block**

Week of Dec 8: **Peg & Spike Riley**

Week of Dec 15: **Hoffman/Bridges Family**

Week of Dec 22: **Marianne Aponte, Steve & Debbie Cain, Jerry Murphy**

Week of Dec 29: **Gralish/DiGirolamo Family**

Week of Jan 5: **Marianne Aponte, Steve & Debbie Cain, Jerry Murphy**

Week of Jan 11: _____

Week of Jan 19: **Millie King**

Week of Jan 26: **Deery Family**

Please contact Lynn Block, Pantry Coordinator, if you have any questions, recommendations, or you can fill in the blank spaces:

blockstar59@hotmail.com or 609-238-7419.



PANTRY NEEDS : DECEMBER

All donations welcome!

Special Needs: **mac & cheese (7 oz.), cereal (18 oz.), pasta (16 oz.), pasta sauce (15 oz.) paper towels**



Sisters in Spirit: Helping the Environment, One Ornament at a Time

This December please join Sisters in Spirit in raising funds to aid the work of the NJ Nature Conservancy,

a local group that focuses on stewarding our natural resources both here and throughout the world. As Christians, we are called to care for and nurture the earth, God's creation. God calls us to protect and nourish this environment he gave to us.

On December 8 and 15 Sisters in Spirit will be accepting donations for this important work. In appreciation for your donation, our gift to you will be a handmade Christmas ornament—great for holiday gift giving or for your own tree. Donate in memory of a loved one or to honor someone special in your life. All ornaments come with gift cards to let recipients know how these ornaments will help the environment.

Please stop by our table in the narthex after each worship service on Dec. 8 and 15 to receive your ornament and support God's beautiful creation. Thank you!



Sunday School:

The Christmas Pageant will be held on December 15th at 9:15 in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcomed to join us for this great event! We will be having a potluck breakfast following the performance. If you are able to provide anything for the potluck, please let Jaime know.

We will be having a dress rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant on December 8th at 11:45am in the Parish Hall. The Confirmation Class and Oasis will be hosting their annual Drop and Shop during this time, please plan on packing a lunch for your child if they are staying for the Drop and Shop.

There will be no Sunday School on December 22nd, so you can enjoy Lessons and Carols as a family during the 10:30 service. On December 29th we will not be having Sunday School either.



Thank you so much to the Howard Family for providing dinner for the Confirmation and Oasis youth during the month of November!

December 8th we will be Decking the Halls from 12:00 to 2:00pm. If you are interested in helping decorate the church, please join us! All are welcomed, you do not have to be in Confirmation or Oasis to join in on the fun! It is a great way to get into the Holiday Spirit.

Also on December 8th we will be hosting our annual Drop and Shop from 12:00 to 3:00pm. This is a great opportunity for parents to grab a bite to eat or do some last minute shopping. Please let Jaime know if your child will be attending Drop and Shop. Children will need to bring a brown bag lunch with them. Please let Jaime know by December 12th if you are able to attend our monthly dinner on December 15th at 6:00pm. If you are interested in cooking or providing for our monthly meeting, please let Jaime know.

Save the date:

January 20th we will be having our Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of service at LCOS from 8:30am to 1:00pm. Lunch will be provided.

Oasis Events:

- December 1- No Meeting
- December 8- Drop and Shop & Deck the Halls
- December 15- Dinner at 6:00pm & Bible Study
- December 22 - Christmas Party
- December 24- Christmas Eve
- December 29- No Oasis

Acolytes-

Please sign up for Christmas Eve services, a sign up genius has been sent out.

I will be making January to May schedule in the beginning of December, so please be on a look out!



Thrivent Baptismal Medallions Given on Jan 12

On Sunday, January 12, the Church celebrates the Baptism of our Lord. It is also the day The Lutheran Church Our Savior celebrates the baptisms of all the children who have been baptized in the previous year. At the 10:30 worship parents and sponsors will renew the promises they made at the child's baptism and the children will receive a blessing by Pastor Wayne, as well as, a gift of a pewter baptismal medallion. Parents who will be participating in the service are asked to confirm their attendance by contacting the church office either by phone (429-5122) or email the Director of Youth and Family Ministry, Jaime Frazier-Baldwin, at lcossjaime@gmail.com.



This month we would like to thank Betsy Kuehn for all the work she does for the ministry at LCOS. Betsy is a faithful member of the Altar Guild; setting up for communion at the rail every month, washing the glasses. She is the co-chair for the Caring Hearts Thanksgiving Meal Delivery Project and the Holiday Food Drive. Betsy coordinates everything for the Advent Giving Tree as the chair for Social Ministry. She is a communion assistant and lay reader. If you are a client of Interfaith Caregivers, Betsy might be the volunteer who picks you up. LCOS appreciates all the hard work Betsy does for our church and our community!





Breaking Down the Great Commission- Vicar Josh Pontious

And Jesus came and said to them,

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and **make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

Making disciples of all nations.

That seems like a pretty tall task for Jesus to ask of us. Most of us when we think about disciple making think of a two-part process. The first is starting a family, having a child, or children, maybe through adoption. The second, is to bring them to the local church to get them “discipled”, and get them to a Sunday School program, send them to confirmation, and just hope and pray that they continue their walk in faith after, if not in high school...then maybe when they get married and start their own families.

Don't get me wrong, all of these are ABSOLUTELY part of the discipleship process, and an important part of the life of the individuals in our churches, and for the work of the church itself. But it's definitely not the kind of work Jesus is describing. Instead, he's talking about an active process of reaching out to people who don't know the truth that is the Good News.

We no longer have to look at the “whole world” as some far off place. The truth is our own neighborhoods are filled with people who have never really heard the story of Jesus, and what God is really about. We don't have to go far to find a nation that needs Jesus, our own needs to hear this news.

And maybe it's the case that it's not the first time a person has heard the stories, but maybe they just need a reminder, an invitation to return to communities of faith.

Or maybe it's just encouraging them to take next steps as disciples. To really live out what they have been called to do as members of God's family. But all of that, is for another article.

Next month, we'll take a look at what it means to baptize these new disciples, and the significance of the 3 persons named in the baptism. Until then, I welcome any thoughts or questions on this, or anything else that is on your mind. Just shoot me an email (jpontious@uls.edu), drop by during regular office hours, or grab me after worship on Sundays.

Environmental Challenge

For God's Planet and God's People and God's Animals

Try Cooking A One Pot Meal

By using one pot to cook your meal, you can save on electricity, gas, and water; which will reduce your footprint and may even give you leftovers for the week !

Be the CHANGE God's world need !!



Messages of Hope

Our Savior's library has many words, encompassed in our books, of encouragement that will inspire, lift up, and edify your spirit.

Advent and Christmas books are ready for you to explore.

We also have some Christmas jigsaw puzzles to keep with the season.

~The Library Ladies



2019 Offerings Must Be Postmarked or In by Dec 31

In order to keep our bookkeeping accurate the Congregation Resources Committee has set Wednesday, December 31, as the last date offerings can be hand delivered to the office or postmarked if sent by mail. Thank you as always for your generous support of God's work in the world that is done through the ministry at Our Savior.

It's Not Too Early To Think About Summer Internships!

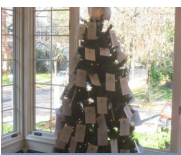
College students looking for real life experience in their field of study should contact Interfaith Caregivers about summer internships. Work with people in a non- profit business environment, that provides vital services to seniors and the disabled. Help this community-based organization by working on digital marketing projects, client services, and assisting with grant research

Interfaith Caregivers is a community-based non-profit operating in Haddon Heights and Haddonfield whose mission is to facilitate the independent living of those 65+ and disabled citizens. Contact Nancy DeLaura at ndelaura@ifchaddons.org for more information.

"December a Great Month to INVITE Others to Come WITH You to Church"

December is a time of invitations. We get invited to one party and then another. We get invited to lunch or dinner at one or another friend's home. We get invited to concerts, plays, and ballet performances of the Nutcracker. We do our fair share of inviting others to the same in our weeks leading up to Christmas Day. The big question is, how often do we think about inviting people to join in our celebrating the birth of Christ at our Christmas Eve worship? Or how often do we think about inviting people to worship during Advent as we prepare for that celebration?

Jesus once told his disciples he would make them fish for people. But if we don't invite people to join us for worship or other ministry events or projects and expect people will simply show up that would be like going fishing and hoping the fish jump in the boat! December is an excellent month to invite people who don't have a church home to join with you in worship and various other events focused on Christmas. Here are some examples and opening lines you might try to invite them to join you.



Dec 1-8: Advent Giving Tree Shopping: "Say while we're out shopping can you help me buy a gift for my Advent Giving Tree family? Our church purchases over 200 gifts for families in need living in Camden County every Christmas and we picked up several tags from the Advent Giving Tree at our church last Sunday. Want to help me?" (If they ask more about it, invite them to join you for worship on Sunday and pick up a tag or two for themselves to help out.)



Dec 8: Drop N Shop Childcare: "I've still got some shopping to do for my children and my church's youth group is sponsoring a Drop 'n Shop childcare event from Noon to 3:00 on Sunday Dec 8. They'll have crafts, games, and children's Christmas shows for the kids to be involved in so they'll have some fun while we get some holiday tasks done. Want to drop off the kids and join me? We could even go to worship together beforehand if you like. Then we can grab some lunch and catch up along the way."



Dec 15: Children's Christmas Pageant: "Our Sunday school children are providing a unique retelling of the Nativity story and experiencing the wonder of Jesus' birth amidst all the hustle and bustle of life. There's even a breakfast planned for after the pageant so there's one less meal to worry about! With our children being such good friends I think they might enjoy seeing them in the audience. Why don't you come as our guests that day and join us? We'd love to have you and hope you can stay for the breakfast."



Dec 22: Lessons & Carols Worship: "Say, our church is holding a really great musical worship on December 22. It's a Lessons and Carols worship at the 10:30 service featuring all the choirs and guest instrumentalists. It's really a great way to get into the mood for Christmas and easy to follow along as well. Want to join us?"



Christmas Eve: "What are you doing Christmas Eve this year? Our church has a beautiful candlelight worship each year and we find it sets the tone for our celebration of Christmas the next day. We go to the (insert your worship preference here) because (insert your reason). We'd love to have you be our guest. Want to come? Here's a card (available at the Usher's Tables) in case you want a reminder or are interested in a different time. They're all great."

REMEMBER: New members start out as first time guests. First time guests start out as friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family members who were first INVITED by someone they know and trust to join them for worship or a ministry event. Don't forget to invite someone who doesn't have a church home to join you this Advent as we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas.

"God Gives Us Hope, Right Now"

Music Ministry Reflections

As I am writing this article, the lectionary readings for this Sunday are as gloomy as they can get - there is talk about warning signs and the end times. Sometimes I feel like that when I turn on the news, it's all doom and gloom. And yet, when I turn to the hymns and anthems we are doing this season, I am reminded that there is hope and light. For our Lessons & Carols this year (December 22nd at 10:30am! Mark your calendars!), one of the hymns we will sing is ELW 285, *Peace Came to Earth*, which opens with the line "Peace came to earth at last that chosen night." That's how Christmas often feels - at last, there is peace and hope, and we are surrounded by our family. Maybe that's why every year, decorations come out earlier and earlier, because sometimes we need the reminder that hope and peace is coming. But we don't need to hang up lights or wait until Christmas to feel that peace. Peace came to Earth when Jesus was born, and the peace of God remains with us always.

Last week, as our children choir was coming up with an extra verse to do for their anthem, one of them suggested the line "God gives us hope, right now." I was so moved by this message - we have the peace and hope of God, right now, not only Christmas morning. I hope and pray that you find a way to carve out moments of peace and hope for you in the midst of this busy season. Maybe it's by paying attention to the words of a hymn you are singing on Sunday morning, or reading a book for pleasure or reflection, joining a group at church (ask our choir members - singing relieves stress!), meeting a friend for a coffee, or starting your day with prayer.

I'd like to end this month's reflection by saying a big thank you to all of you for a wonderful start to my season as music director. Your kindness and dedication is very appreciated, and you are what I am very thankful for this Thanksgiving season and beyond.





**Interfaith
Caregivers
Presents**

Haddonfield House Tour

December 12th

Tour Times: 10a-4p & 5p-9p

**Purchase tickets online at www.ifchaddons.org,
or go to Interfaith Caregivers at 20 Chestnut
Street, the Haddonfield Public Library or
Haddonfield Information Center.**

Music at LCOS Presents

Lessons and Carols

Peace Came to Earth





Sunday, December 22nd
10:30am

Lutheran Church of Our Savior
204 Wayne Avenue,
Haddonfield, NJ 08033
facebook.com/oursaviorhaddonfield
(856) 429-5122

December 2019 Regular Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
8:00 AM, 9:15 AM and 10:30 AM Sunday Services 9:00AM Coffee Hour 11:45 AM Cherub Choir 12:30 PM Youth Choir 1:15 PM Youth Bell Choir 6:30 PM Confirmation/Oasis	7:00-8:30 Possibility Players-PH 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM Bible Discussion – Parlor	10:30 AM Pastors' Pericope 2:30 PM Staff Meeting	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Bible Discussion - Room 112 4:00 PM Tai Chi 6:00 Grief Support "Daughters Without Mothers" - Parlor	9:00 AM Handyman Group 5:00 Kids Vocal Choir 5:45 Kids Bell Choir 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Adult Bell Choir 8:00 PM – 9:30 PM Adult Vocal Choir		10:00-12:15 Bilingual Families of SJ

December 2019 Special Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 First Sunday of Advent 12:00 Adult Brunch Parsonage 6:00-9:00 HP&P-PH No Confirmation No Oasis	2 5:30 Congregation Resources Mtg. 7:00-10:00 HP&P – 3 rd fl	3 7:00 PM Toastmasters 7:00 Social Ministry Mtg.	4 7:00-10:00 HP&P - PH	5 9:30 AM Mission Quilts	6 5:00-10:00 HCC Holiday Staff Dinner	7
8 11:45 Dress Rehearsal for Pageant 12:00 – 2:00 PM Confirmation Serve Event Deck the Halls 12:00 – 3:00 PM Confirmation Serve Event Drop'n Shop	9 4:45-6:00 Girl Scouts	10 SW Cluster/District Mtg. 10:00-3:00 HGC 7:00 PM Toastmasters 7:00 PM Church Council	11 10:00-12:00 Singing Angels 7:00-10:00 HP&P - PH	12 Messenger Deadline 9:30 AM Mission Quilts 6:00 Coping With the Holidays	13 3:15-4:30 Girl Scouts	14 1:00-9:00 NJ Boys Choir Concert (6:00-7:30)
15 Poinsettia Deadline 9:15 Children's Christmas Pageant/breakfast 1:30 - 6:00 Kristine Biller Studios Recital-Sanctuary	16	17 12:00 PM Senior Game Day 7:00 Adult Game Night-Narthex 7:00 PM Toastmasters	18 7:00 MGB Last Grief Support "Daughters Without Mothers"	19 Messenger Mailing	20	21 9:00 AM-noon Adult Choir Rehearsal
22 10:30 AM Lessons & Carols Confirmation/Oasis Caroling & Christmas Party	23 4:45-6:00 Girl Scouts	24 Christmas Eve Worship Services 5:00. 8:00, 10:00 PM	25 Christmas  Church Office Closed	26 9:30 AM Poinsettia Deliveries Church Office Closed No Kids Choirs No Adult Choirs	27 3:15-4:30 Girl Scouts	28
29 No Youth Choirs No Confirmation No Oasis	30	31 New Year's Eve 				
Pastor away	Harrington Wedding	12-29 to 12-31				

The monthly calendar is subject to change. Please check the weekly calendar posted in the Sunday bulletin.

Messenger Mailing Helpers: Thanks to: Jane Evans, Laura Oakes, Janie Braccio, Millie King, Peg Olt, Caryl Wallace, Barb Standke, Nancy Dempsey, Kathy Ellis, David Foster, Doris Rell, Joyce Drew, and Deb Hartigan for helping to assemble the Messenger.

All Envelope Offerings							Average Weekly Worship Attendance				
Month	5 Year rolling average %	Total Revenue per Budget x Rolling Avg % = 2019 Plan Giving	Actual Monthly Giving 2019	Actual Giving vs Plan Difference Over (Under)	Actual Monthly Giving 2018	Actual Monthly \$ Difference 2019 vs 2018 Over (Under)	2019	2018	2017	2016	AW- WA - Mont hly Diff. 2019 vs
Jan	6.45%	\$ 29,811	\$ 44,273	\$ 14,462	\$ 25,472	\$ 18,801	152	155	145	170	-2%
Feb	7.06%	32,634	32,308	(326)	28,365	3,943	168	186	182	190	-10%
Mar	8.42%	38,894	33,620	(5,274)	31,668	1,952	169	202	153	279	-16%
Apr	8.95%	41,366	40,413	(953)	40,187	226	303	225	281	178	35%
May	7.39%	34,142	37,875	3,733	34,967	2,908	162	194	172	174	-16%
June	7.87%	36,355	35,509	(846)	50,071	(14,562)	165	176	153	144	-6%
July	6.67%	30,843	28,510	(2,333)	31,344	(2,834)	108	133	122	104	-19%
Aug	7.20%	33,285	26,152	(7,133)	28,270	(2,118)	109	119	122	122	-8%
Sept	7.77%	35,893	35,294	(599)	33,775	1,519	165	172	163	158	-4%
Oct	9.30%	42,968	28,114	(14,854)	37,652	(9,538)	160	162	190	187	-1%
Nov	8.40%	38,834	-	-	34,315	-	-	192	199	183	-
Dec	14.53%	67,151	-	-	68,157	-	-	214	181	193	-
Total	100.00%	\$ 462,176	\$ 342,068	\$ (14,122)	\$ 444,243	\$ 297					

Average YTD Worship Attend-

166	172	168	171
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Poinsettia Delivery People Needed Dec 26 at 9:30

Help is needed on Wednesday, Dec 26, to deliver the poinsettias that decorated the church on Christmas Eve and Day to our homebound members. This is a wonderful family ministry opportunity and is a great way to meet members who are unable to attend worship any more or regularly. Contact the Church Office (lcossandy@gmail.com) if you are able to assist in delivering poinsettias.



Christmas
Poinsettias
Delivery and Visits
to Homebound



Poinsettia Memorials

Each year the altar is decorated with poinsettias for the Christmas Eve services. If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, please fill out the form below and enclose a check for \$25, made payable to "LCOS Altar Guild." The poinsettias are delivered to our homebound members and nursing home residents on Thursday, December 26. The deadline is Sunday, December 15, 2019.

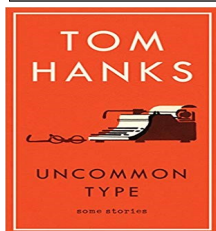
Given by _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Relationship of donor to Memorialized One(s) _____

Return to church office no later than December 15



Fellowship Together Book Club

The book we will be starting with is titled *Uncommon Type: Some Stories* by Tom Hanks (yes that Tom Hanks!). Here is a quick link for a synopsis: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34389773-uncommon-type>

For the time being, I would like to have the first book discussion take place on Wednesday, January 29 at 7:00 in the parlor, as this should allow for plenty of time to read, even with the impending holiday season.

Please contact Sam Wentz if you have any questions: Sam.wentz@gmail.com or 609-922-4973

A limited number of copies are available from Sandy in the office for \$15.



Advent Giving Tree Be an Angel, Take a Tag!

Beginning Sunday, November 10, 2019, the Advent Giving Tree will be set up in the second floor Narthex outside the sanctuary.

If you would like to participate in helping to bring some Christmas joy to people in need, please take a tag. Take a tag from the table, sign your name and phone number on the sheet, purchase an item on the tag (\$25.00 limit per tag), and return the wrapped gift with the tag attached by December 8, 2019 prior to 11:30am.

Monetary donations are also appreciated so that the ministry may purchase gifts for the tags not taken. Please be sure to indicate "Advent Giving Tree donation". If you know anyone who would like to participate in helping people enjoy Christmas but can't make it to Church on Sundays, have them contribute through the Church's website (www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org) or visiting the Church office during the week (Monday thru Thursday 8:30am to 5:00pm and Sundays 7:30am to Noon).

Organizations that benefit from your generosity include My Father's House, Urban Promise, Caring Hearts, our Pantry families, Tatem and Garfield Schools in Collingwood, and Glenview School in Haddon Heights.

The tags and envelopes for contributions will be available for four consecutive Sundays, November 10, November 17, November 24, and December 1. Tags will also be available at the Church office during the week days. The gifts must be returned no later than December 8, 2019 by 11:30am.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Betsy Kuehn at 856-429-3355 or betsy406@comcast.net.

Office Closed Dec 25, 26 and Jan 1

The church office will officially be closed for the holidays of Christmas and New Year's Day.



December Worship Leaders & Volunteers

Altar Guild: Carol Larro, Nancy Gulick

Bread Baker: Mark Bare

Communion Assts: 8- Kate Zschech

10:30- Dave Wyche

Counters: Sandy DeDonatis, John & Kayann Laughlin, Debbie Tredinnick

Ushers: 8- Jim & Jane Evans

10:30- John & Kayann Laughlin

12-1 Paul Knauer, Dave Wyche

12-29 William & Margaret Gensel

December 1

Coffee Hour: Social Ministry

Readers: 8- Rebecca Potterfield 10:30- Julie Frederick

Acolytes: 8- Rob LaBarge, Brian Bogina, Jack Turner

10:30- Hailey & Dylan Melcher, Andrew Smith, Amelia, Grayson, Bennett Wright

Pantry: Nancy Dempsey, Lynn Block

December 8

Coffee Hour: Sisters~In~Spirit

Readers: 8- Juhan Runne 10:30- Tom Foskett

Acolytes: 8- Rob LaBarge, Seba & Javi Miller

10:30- Kate & Matthew Morris, Robby Pineiro, Julia Kiewel, Reilly Rhodes

Pantry: Peg & Spike Riley

December 15

Coffee Hour: Pageant Breakfast

Readers: 8- Peggy Hartmann 10:30- Rich Windle

Acolytes: 8:00- Rob LaBarge, Ava & Joe Poliafico

10:30- Collin Duckett, Theo Howard, Rachael Simpkins, Brooke & Emma Warren

Pantry: Hoffman/Bridges Family

December 22

Coffee Hour: Congregation Resources, Counters

Readers: 8- Pauline Worusski 10:30- Colleen Gross

Acolytes: 8:00- Rob LaBarge, Alex Pietrangelo, Jessie Howley

10:30- Ethan Roncace, Luke & Emerson Riley, Andrew Kiewel, Bobby Bridges

Pantry: Marianne Aponte, Steve & Debbie Cain, Jerry Murphy

December 29

Coffee Hour: Memorial Gifts Board

Readers: 8- Walt Haswell 10:30- TBD

Acolytes: 8:00- Rob LaBarge, Libby DeMichele, Allison Baxter

10:30- Brian & Sarah Bogina, Elena Bovell

Ben Hintz, Emily Demers

Pantry: Gralish/DiGirolamo Family

Congregational Resources: We're Still Growing at LCOS

The calendar may say December, but it's still growing season at Our Savior—Growing in Faith, Growing in Service, Growing in Giving. Here's an update on how we're doing so far.



Growing in Service

Thanks to everyone who responded to the Growing in Service campaign. There were 40 response sheets returned with multiple ministries checked off. As a result of your positive responses, a new Book Club will be gathering in January, ushers will be added to the ranks, volunteers have joined Mission Quilts, and the number of people preparing the various church mailings has increased—just to name a few. There were even parishioners who volunteered to serve on the Church Council. The results of the campaign were positive, and hopefully the experience of serving will be positive, also.

Don't feel left out if you didn't return a response sheet. All of our ministries are open to new members at any time. Contact ministry chairs and find out how you can help.



Growing in Giving

Again, thank you to all who returned a pledge card in response to the Growing in Giving Stewardship campaign. We received 60 Pledges totaling \$181,630 on Commitment Sunday, and additional responses are still coming in. Totals will be reported throughout December, so it's not too late to turn in your response. Every pledge card helps Our Savior's ministry grow.

Thank you also to everyone who helped on both campaigns. It was a real team effort. Whether you helped with mailings, skits, number crunching or writing, your support was greatly appreciated. And a special thank you to Ethan Quanci, who donated his artistic talents to create LCOS' very own original logo.

Now as we turn our focus to a new calendar year, may we all continue to grow in faith, service and giving in 2020.

2019-2020 Coffee Hour Schedule

Dec. 1 – Social Ministry
Dec. 8 – Sisters~In~Spirit
Dec. 15 – Pageant Breakfast
Dec. 22 – Congregation Resources & Counters
Dec. 29 – Memorial Gifts Board
Jan. 5 – Worship & Music & Communications Committees
Jan. 12 – Cherub, Children & Youth Choirs
Jan. 19 – Christian Ed Committee & Sunday School
Jan. 26 – NO COFFEE HOUR, Unity Sunday
Feb. 2 – Confirmation & Oasis
Feb. 9 – Altar Guild
Feb. 16 – Ushers, Lay Readers
Feb. 23 – Mission Quilts
Mar. 1 – Outreach & Fellowship Committees, Greeters
Mar. 8 – Personnel & Property Committees
Mar. 15 – Social Ministry
Mar. 22 – Sisters~In~Spirit
Mar. 29 – First Holy Communion Cake
Apr. 5 – Congregation Resources & Counters
Apr. 12 – Easter, No Coffee Hour
Apr. 19 – MGB
April 26 – Cherub, Children & Youth Choirs
May 3 – Christian Ed Committee & Sunday School
May 10 – Muffins With Moms
May 17 – Confirmation, Oasis
May 24 – Worship & Music & Communications Committees
May 31 – Altar Guild
June 7 – CONFIRMATION RECEPTION
June 14 – Ushers, Lay Readers
June 21 – Donuts With Dads (Last Official Coffee Hour)

If your group is responsible for Coffee Hour your chairperson will get an e-mail the week before. You should have a person or two to set-up and clean-up. Suggested items for Coffee Hour are: sweets, cheese and crackers, bagels and cream cheese, fruit, grapes, juice and half and half. Coffee Hour starts at 9:00 and is over at the start of the 10:30 Worship. Clean-up may be done at 10:30 or after the 10:30 Worship. Thank you! It would be wonderful if the committee or group members would join us for Coffee Hour!



HELP WANTED

The Fix-It Team formerly known as The Handyman Group is in need of reliable, weekly volunteers on Thursday morning from 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon. We are a weekly fixit group dedicated to keeping the church in good working order. Please call the church office if you would like to volunteer, 856-429-5122 or just come by any Thursday morning to help out. Snacks, coffee and fellowship provided. Welcome to our new member, Nancy Dempsey!!! Please consider joining us.



Attention Seniors!

Senior Game Day

DECEMBER DATE IS:

Tuesday, December 17

at 12:00 noon

~ Bingo, Pinochle, Bridge,
Mexican Train ~

Come out and Have Fun!

Food and drinks served

RSVP: Peg Hartmann 856-745-2459

mamahart16@comcast.net



Mobile Giving

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior

204 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033 (856)429-5122 (voice) (856)429-7245(fax) www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org

Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Nursery Provided at 10:30 AM

CHURCH COUNCIL

John Drozdal	Vice President/Personnel	john.drozdal@gmail.com	612-804-7324
Paul Knauer	Treasurer	prknauer@gmail.com	856-427-6595
Shannon Foskett	Financial Secretary	sgfoskett@yahoo.com	856-904-1828
Laurie Eason	Secretary	laurielovesquilting@gmail.com	856-429-8914
Gary Visconti	Christian Education	volsconti@yahoo.com	856-419-8235
Barbara Standke	Communications	barjon302@gmail.com	267-474-3566
Laurie Eason	Seniors	laurielovesquilting@gmail.com	856-429-8914
Scott Goldthorp	Outreach	goldthorp@gmail.com	267-218-4683
Pam DiDario	Social Ministry	pmonticelli1@gmail.com	609-276-5144
Glenn Martin	Church Property	gtmartin240@gmail.com	609-828-5344
Millie King	Congregation Resources	mmking0105@gmail.com	856-669-7794
Samantha Wentz	Fellowship Together	sam.wentz@gmail.com	609-922-4973
Cathe Bare	Worship & Music	b45away@gmail.com	609-238-6527

MEMORIAL GIFTS BOARD

Mike Fallon	President	mffjr@comcast.net	856-952-5545
Karin LaBarge	Financial Secretary	klabarge160@gmail.com	856-428-4709
Bob Mirabello	Recording Secretary	rbmira@comcast.net	856-795-0653
Danielle Deery		danielledeery@gmail.com	317-414-7906
Warren Reintzel		wareintzel@comcast.net	856-429-9252
Jack Berrigan		jberrigan@comcast.net	609-471-0069
Bobbi Newsham		bcn71@aol.com	609-828-5244
Paul Knauer	Ex-officio	paul_knauer@pmagroup.com	856-427-6595
John Drozdal	Vice President/Personnel	john.drozdal@gmail.com	609-238-0184
Pastor Wayne Zschech	Advisory member	wzschech@yahoo.com	856-429-7851

STAFF AND VOLUNTEER LEADERS

The Rev. Wayne Zschech, D. Min	Pastor	wzschech@yahoo.com	856-429-7851
Joshua Pontious	Vicar	jpontious@uls.edu	954-999-7196
Sandy DeDonatis	Parish Administrator	lcossandy@gmail.com	856-429-5122
Jaime Frazier-Baldwin	Director of Youth & Family Ministry	lcossjaime@gmail.com	856-429-5122
Pauline Worusski	Director of Music	pworusski@gmail.com	404-931-2317
Bob Dempsey	Bookkeeper	robertdemp@verizon.net	856-246-8543
Shirley Clinkscales	Nursery Attendant		856-365-5392
Don Richards	Custodian/Sexton	dldrich1@msn.com	856-577-1149
Eva Shaw	Altar Guild	eslohboy@verizon.net	856-428-9434

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior
204 Wayne Avenue
Corner of Wood Lane and Wayne Avenue
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

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December 2019 Messenger

Time Sensitive Material Enclosed Mailed November 21, 2019

Address Service Requested



Sandy DeDonatis	12/1	Ryan Gallagher	12/10	Ryan Ewing	12/20
Ben Hintz	12/1	Ethan Roncace	12/10	Rex Cottone	12/21
Nathan Speas	12/1	Noelle Quanci	12/11	Nicholas Brandinelli	12/22
Bethany Bickle	12/4	Susan Myers	12/12	Max Campbell	12/22
Dawson Floyd	12/4	Carrie Haney	12/13	Ava Remphrey	12/22
Morgan Hammond	12/4	Sandra Cheeseman	12/14	Morgan Sehdev	12/23
John Laughlin	12/4	Lauren Parker	12/14	McKayla Procopio	12/24
David Leeds	12/4	Michael Riley	12/15	Jane Hammann	12/25
Hannah Stauss	12/4	Erin Schaffer	12/16	Harish Sehdev	12/25
Samantha Prepsel	12/5	Cara Stine	12/16	Paul Knauer	12/27
Fred Willis	12/5	Charlotte Brown	12/17	Jeanne Runne	12/27
Brian Bogina	12/6	Benjamin Gonzalez	12/17	Tony Gonzalez	12/28
Nick Procopio III	12/6	Amanda Lamprey	12/17	Jessika Kachnic	12/28
Deborah Ely	12/7	Kathleen Pensabene	12/17	Valda Rishel	12/28
Jim Frazier	12/7	Jen Rhodes	12/17	Aiden Visconti	12/28
Julianna Martinsen	12/7	Pauline Worusski	12/17	Yo Hales	12/29
Cheryl Schaffner	12/7	Garrett Needham	12/18	Gordon Hall III	12/29
Joan Candia	12/9	Reese Qualls	12/18	Wendell Gulick	12/30
Vivien Lechler-Ottens	12/9	Jason Angelone Jr.	12/20	Helen Mountney	12/30
Sophia Pineiro	12/9	Noelle Corressel	12/20	Carlos Bovell	12/31
Troy Adams	12/10	John Dickerson IV	12/20	Paul Demers	12/31