

Good News

December 2019



Newsletter of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
420 North Progress Avenue
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Christmas is very different in the Gospel of John. In the fourth gospel, Christmas is the incarnation of the Word of God. The Gospel of John says, “And the Word became flesh and lived among us” (John 1:14). No manger scene. No animals in a stable. No wise men offering gifts of frankincense, gold and myrrh. No shepherds coming to see the babe in Bethlehem. No, in John’s Gospel the intimacy and nostalgia of the nativity becomes very academic—the Word became flesh.

In the prologue to John’s Gospel (1:1-18), the gospel begins by noting that the Word (Jesus) was God, and was with God. Jesus as the pre-incarnate Word was there even before creation began. And then, the prologue concludes with a reference to Jesus’ exaltation, with a reference to the Jesus who has ascended into glory. John 1:18 says, “...the Son, who is close to the Father’s heart...” (NRSV). A better translation is “...Jesus, who is by the side of God...” which is a reference to Jesus’ exaltation. So, the gospel writer John seems to give us a glimpse into the Father’s perspective. Because God the Father exists outside of time, both the “pre-incarnate Jesus” and the “post-ascension exalted Jesus” are present before the Father’s vision at the same time. Does your head hurt yet?

So in between the pre-incarnate Word (Jesus) and the post-ascension Jesus, is the Jesus that was the “Word made flesh.” And by giving us this peculiar glimpse into the perspective of God the Father, who sees Jesus as “prior to” and “after the fact,” the gospel writer John is wont to say we can be sure of what God is doing in the middle. In Jesus Christ, the Word is enfleshed. And this enfleshed Jesus Christ is destined to suffer for the sin of all humanity and is destined to die on the cross for all creation. And yet, this same Jesus Christ is destined to rise from the dead and ascend back into heaven. We know this plan of God will hold together, that God’s plan will come to fruition. Why? Because we see the Father’s perspective—thanks be to the gospel writer John. The Word (Jesus) is there in heaven before Jesus enters into history, and Jesus is there in heaven post crucifixion, resurrection and ascension. God’s plan has been fulfilled, even though it hasn’t even happened yet. Again, does your head hurt yet?

This is Christmas according to the Gospel of John. Christmas is the vision of God the Father in his Son Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, except Jesus who has made God known. To see God is to know God. Christmas then is the vision of God in history. Christmas is the vision of God working salvation for all creation in his Son Jesus, knowing that salvation will be accomplished.

Now, part of what makes Christmas so special are the visions. As children, we are delighted to see what it is we have received for Christmas. For adults, it is a delight to see the faces of children when they open their presents. Christmas is about visions; it is about seeing. This is what the Gospel of John hammers home to us.

Do you see it? Do you see the Christmas message of John’s Gospel? God unwraps, unveils the greatest gift ever given to creation. By ironically wrapping the Word in flesh, God unwraps what is the vision of salvation. Yes, Christmas is very different in the Gospel of John. Where the Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Luke give us a glimpse of what Jesus’ birth was like in Bethlehem, the Gospel of John gives us a glimpse of what Christmas was like in heaven itself. In heaven God the Father saw the pre-incarnate Word alongside the post-ascension Jesus, and God assured humanity of salvation by sending the Word all wrapped up like one of us. And in this enfleshed Word we have seen God the Father. We have seen the very heart of God, that loves us so much that he would come and die for us.

Merry Christmas to you all. As you see the gifts of Christmas given and received, and behold the faces who delight in this holiday’s wonder, know as well that God the Father delights in his people who receive the gift of his Son.

In Christ, *Pastor Joel Petruschke*

The Lessons for December 2019

December 1 — Advent 1

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

December 8 — Advent 2

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

December 15 — Advent 3

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

December 22 — Advent 4

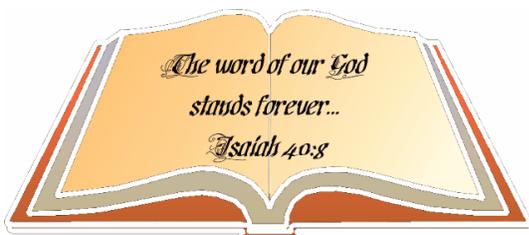
Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

December 24 — Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-20

December 29 — Christmas 1

Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23



Advent Gathering for Soup & Worship

This year we will be having our Advent mid-week soup suppers followed by worship at Good Shepherd on Thursdays, December 5th, 12th, and 19th.

Sign-up sheets for those planning to attend are in the Narthex. We need soup donations for December 5th and 19th. If you would like to donate a soup, please sign-up on that sheet, also in the Narthex. Our soup meal will start at 6pm followed by worship at 7pm.



Christmas Eve Worship

Please join us for worship on Christmas Eve:

4:00pm - Family Service with Holy Communion

7:00pm - Service with Holy Communion



Lessons & Carols

This year our worship of Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 29 will be a joint service with our brothers & sisters in Christ of Good Shepherd and it will be held at Good Shepherd. Worship starts at 10am. We hope to see you there!

Parish Staff

Joel D. Petruschke, pastor
Barbara Johnson, administrative assistant

Good News is a monthly publication of **The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour**, 420 North Progress Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109, 717-545-9992, ossec@comcast.net. **Deadline** for submission is the third Monday prior to publication month.

If you do not have email or internet access, your addressed copy of *Good News* will be available in your church mailbox the first weekend of each month.

About Worship

During the holiday season, one of things I most enjoy is the smell of pine from a freshly cut Christmas tree. In fact, when it was decided that we would replace the Advent wreath in worship with artificial branches, I asked if we could scent the branches with that same smell of pine. The altar guild was gracious enough to fulfill my request.

Worship is meant to appeal to all five of our senses. In worship, we engage the sense of touch through the Sharing of the Peace. In worship, we taste the bread and wine of communion. In worship, we see the symbols on the paraments and observe the cross in the nave, as well as see the decorations during Advent and Christmas. In worship, we hear the Gospel preached and the praising of God in song. And so, it is only logical that our sense of smell should also be engaged in worship. The smell of pine enhances our worship.

It is said that the sense of smell is the most powerful of senses, that certain smells will trigger our memory better than all other senses. When I think of the combined smell of cigarettes, popcorn, and tar, it makes me think of the boardwalk at Ocean City, NJ. Whenever I smell these things, I remember walking the boardwalk at night with my family when I was but a little child, because that is what I smelled back then on the boardwalk.

The holiday season is filled with wonderful smells. There is the smell of the Christmas tree. There is the smell of freshly baked cookies. There is the smell of candles burning. There is the smell of a fire crackling in the fireplace. There is the smell of that special meal being prepared. There is the smell of the cold air outside. All those smells permeate the holidays and create a timeless treasure of memories.

When we come into worship, our sense should be indulged. When all of our senses are engaged we are reminded that our God is the creator of all good things, which in order to appreciate requires the use of all five of our senses. The senses, particularly our sense of smell, remind us that whatever the gifts of Christmas we enjoy, they all come through the God who gives all things.

The Christmas story itself is filled with images that touch the senses: the singing of the angels, the smell of the stable, the vision of a star above, the smell of frankincense and myrrh, the sound of a crying baby, and the softness of fleecy sheep and furry animals. I pray that we may smell, taste, touch, see, and hear the blessings of Christmas when we come to worship during this season. May your senses be awakened, and may your heart and mind be stirred by the power of Christ's coming.



Thank You Notes We Received!

"We would like to thank the congregation of Our Saviour Lutheran Church and Pastor Joel for all of the prayers, words of encouragement and cards that we received after the passing of Herb Logan, Sr. It was an extremely difficult time for our family but we have witnessed God's love throughout this journey. He has blessed us in so many ways and most importantly placed all of you in our lives. We are extremely blessed and grateful!"

Love from The Logan Family

"A special thank you to The Social Ministry Committee members for sponsoring a social after The Praise Him Singers. We had a very successful event and I want to thank my committee members for doing wonderful work. Thank you to Pastor Joel, Nadine and Otis Martin, Dan Fleming and our newest member, Kathy Dare." Donna Miller, Committee Chair



"Pastor Joel, The Praise Him Singers have been blessed in so many ways as you have opened the doors of Our Saviour for our rehearsals, and the concert on November 14th. The refreshments served by your congregation was a grand finale to the standing room only crowd that was present that evening. God was there among us. May your congregation be blessed for your kindness to our choir as you continue to serve HIM in your community.

Jim Hess, president TPHS

A Word on Stewardship

I enjoy most things "Christmas." However, I am a little leery of this thing called "Elf on the Shelf." Have you heard of this? It has been around for some time now, but if you are unfamiliar, here is how it works. A family gets an elf to put in their home, and the elf serves as a "spy" for Santa Claus, who then knows whether the children of the house are misbehaving. The children are told that elf watches how they behave, and the elf then reports to Santa each night, while they sleep. The elf is moved from one room to another, always watching to see how the children are behaving.

Now, to me, this tradition has a certain George Orwell 1984 ring to it. Big Brother is watching. The Christmas song *Santa Claus is Coming to Town* also speaks of this same notion. In that song, we sing, "He sees when you're sleeping. He knows when you're awake. He knows if you've been bad or good. So be good for goodness sake." Now please understand I am not trying to play the Scrooge here, but Santa Clause does come off as a bit creepy, if not downright scary. I wonder if this is why some children, myself included, are terrified to see Santa.

What is my point? My point is about the stewardship of grace. Lutherans don't tend to talk about God as one who is keeping count of all our sins. We don't tend to see God as one who has a list of who has been naughty and nice. In my opinion, God is quite the opposite. He loves us so much that God is doing everything in God's power, including dying on the cross, so that no one need be on the naughty list.

But, it is just so fascinating to me that as humans we have a certain penchant for always dividing people between those that are nice and those that are naughty. It is fascinating how a certain sense of "judgment" enters the equation, even in the Christmas holiday. We take what is a beautiful holiday of grace, where God gives all people a wondrous gift, and make it into a something less than graceful. "Look out, Santa is watching you. You'd better be good." I know, I know, there is no harm in it, right? But, who knows, maybe even in the most subtle way, there is harm in it.

But, ultimately, the good news is that even the "naughty" children receive their Christmas presents, don't they? Even the Grinch and Scrooge become the heroes in their respective stories. But, of course, they had a change of heart. I think a great story would be one where even those who don't have a complete change of heart, still receive the blessings of Christmas. Oh, right, THAT IS our Christmas story. God still gave creation his Son, even though we were anything but perfect. And that is a very wonderful story of grace indeed. Thanks be to God!

Can You Help? Diane Lehrman is asking for help with grocery shopping , transportation appointments, and general, miscellaneous things around the house. If you would like to help or know of someone who can, please call Diane at 717-545-4899. Thank you.

Thank you!

"Thank you very much for your generous donations of puzzles to the Ecumenical Center. The residents thoroughly enjoy putting them together." The Logan Family



Mark Your Calendars, Save the Date and Come Join Us!

The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring an evening of Christmas caroling at Kindred Place and The Manor at Oakridge. Anyone is welcomed to join us on Friday, December 13th. We will meet at the church at 6pm and carpool. Please send an email to Donna Miller @ donloumil@msn.com if you are attending.



Dear Padre,

Where does the tradition of the four Sundays in Advent come from?

Signed, "Awaiting the Birth of the Baby Jesus"

Dear "Awaiting the Birth,"



This is a good question. The duration of the other seasons of the church year can be explained from Scripture. For instance, Jesus was tempted by the Devil for forty days (Mark 1:13). This accounts for the length of Lent. Actually, Lent spans 46 days (Sundays are not included) from Ash Wednesday to Easter. And the Easter season is 50 days, because we read that the Spirit was given to the church on Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4), which means fifty. Advent, however, varies in length because its beginning is marked by the fourth Sunday prior to December 25th. And depending on where December 25th falls in the week, the season of Advent can be anywhere from twenty-two to twenty-eight days long.

But why Advent is marked by the four Sundays prior to Christmas is an interesting question. Initially, Advent was not much different than Lent, in that Advent was seen as a preparatory/penitential time leading up to Christmas. Since Advent is associated with the four Sundays prior to Christmas, it could be that these Sundays were the real focus within the season in preparation for Christmas. Although, it should be noted that Advent originally consisted of five Sundays and was then later reduced to four. The first Sunday of Advent falls on or around November 30, which is the Feast Day of St. Andrew. Does this feast day have any play in how the schedule for Advent was set?

Interestingly enough, St. Andrew's Day is a national holiday in Scotland, and St. Andrew's Day determines the beginning of the church year, since the First Sunday in Advent is the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day. In many liturgical books, therefore, the list of saints begins with Andrew. So the beginning of the church year, which begins with the first Sunday of Advent, may have something to do with the feast day of St. Andrew.

That is the best I can come up with. I hope it helps. Thanks for your question.

Signed, *Padre*

Congratulations

We offer our congratulations & best wishes to Jessica (Logan) and Jesse Burigana who were united in marriage on Saturday, November 2nd.



The Next Lunch Bunch

The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a Lunch Bunch event on December 7, 2019 at The Peach Tree Restaurant at 12 noon. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. The only cost of the event is your lunch. Please join us!



2019 Advent Project

The Youth Group and Social Ministry Committee will be doing an Advent Project by collecting items for HANNA's Pantry. The Pantry is located at Susquehanna Township High School at 3500 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA. One in six children struggle with hunger in Pennsylvania.

The HANNA Foundation and The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank , along with the Susquehanna Twp. School District, created HANNA's Pantry. It provides the school students with a place to obtain fresh food, pantry supplies and essential products to address food issues in Susquehanna Township families.

In addition, through the HANNA Foundation's [Communities in Schools](#) project at Susquehanna Township Middle School, HANNA's Pantry provides "HANNA Packs" to those students who are part of the CIS program on a weekly basis. HANNA's Pantry is proud to serve both students and families through this unique hybrid school pantry model. Susquehanna Township School District is one of the top five most diverse school districts in the state.

All items must be in the church by December 24, 2019. If you have any questions please see Nadine Martin or Donna Miller. Thank you!

ITEMS FOR COLLECTION -

(ITEMS MUST BE IN CANS OR PLASTIC JARS**)**

1. Box of hot or cold cereal
2. Peanut butter (plastic jar)
3. Box of Jell-O Mix
4. Boxed Potatoes
5. Box of Macaroni and cheese
6. Canned Fruit
7. Roll of Paper Towels
8. Canned Tuna Fish
9. Bar of Soap
10. Breakfast Bars
11. Canned Sweet Potatoes
12. Toilet Paper
13. Canned Beans
14. Jelly (plastic jar)
15. Box of rice
16. Canned Meat - Ex. Chicken, Spam
17. Box of Pasta
18. Spaghetti Sauce (plastic jar or can)
19. Canned Soup
20. Toothpaste
21. Canned vegetables
22. Paper Plates or Cups
23. Box of Tissues
24. Small Plastic Bottle of Cooking Oil

Council Minutes

Please Note: Council Minutes cannot be included in the newsletter until after Council has approved them. Here are the minutes from the meetings in September & October.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Members Present: Pastor Joel Petruschke, President John Zimmerman, Jessica Logan, Jim Lubrecht, Nancy Pinko, Kathy Sheetz, Arno Miller

Members Absent: Vice President Herb Logan, Andrea Faber, Joan Bateman, Anneke Fleming

Call to Order: At 6:35 pm, with a quorum of members, Pastor Joel began the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

Minutes: A motion was made by Arno Miller, seconded by Pastor Joel, to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Without objection, the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jim provided more detailed, itemized lists on expenses for Music and Worship, Maintenance supplies, and Administrative supplies. Our revenue for GermanFest was up. Expenses were less than last year. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Nancy. Kathy seconded. Without objection the motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education - No report. However, Pastor did note that he will be conducting Adult Sunday School. The youth will continue to meet on Sunday mornings. Kathy Sheetz and Tiffany Trea are working on a Sunday School program for the children of the church (mainly Evan and Tyler).

Fundraising - Minutes from GermanFest meetings attached and made a part of the record. A final report from the event will be submitted at a later time.

Property - Report attached and made a part of the record. Reminder that Nancy is stepping down as chair of the committee as of the Sept. congregational meeting.

Welcome - No report.

Worship and Music - Report attached and made a part of the record.

Social Ministry - No report.

Stewardship - No report.

Pastor's Report - Report attached and made a part of the record. Pastor highlighted a few points. The team continues to meet and work on the OSL's constitutional changes. The Scholarship Committee had a brief meeting at the end of August to introduce the new program to those eligible for scholarships this year. The Scholarship Board of Trustees continues to meet and revise the program. Pastor explained that the Child Protection Program has been updated. The council will review the documents and discuss at the next council meeting.

A motion to approve the Search Committee for a new music director was made by Pastor. John seconded. Without objection, the motion carried.

Along with the Search Committee that has been put in place to find a new music director, the council was to approve an advertising budget (\$250) along with the details/description for the job. A motion was made by John to approve an annual salary of \$17,000, 4 weeks (4 Sundays) of vacation, and social security to be provided to the new music director. The motion was seconded by Arno. Without objection, the motion carried.

Finally, Pastor worked with the Mutual Ministries Committee to create a Congregational Covenant. A motion was made by Jim to approve this covenant (with the change from "rancor" to "animosity"). The motion was seconded by Nancy. Without objection, the motion carried. The covenant will be framed and shared with the congregation.

Old Business:

Margaret offered to leave her set of chimes at OSL. After a discussion the council felt it was best to place a set of chimes on the wish list and make it a priority. John made a motion to keep Margaret's chimes (on loan) until OSL is able to purchase their own. Once the church obtains their own set, Margaret's will be returned. Pastor seconded this motion. Without objection, the motion carried.

Leader List Update - Tabled for now. Changes to come.

By-Laws and Constitutional Update - Carol Ranck and team are working diligently and are making progress. Carol is to attend the October council meeting to discuss and review/proposed revisions.

Dawn Veet offered to donate a 7x7 shed. After discussion, a motion was made, by John, to respectfully decline. The council greatly appreciates the offer, but the shed would not meet the church's needs. The motion was seconded by Arno. Without objection, the motion carried.

Facility Use Update - The fellowship hall continues to be rented by the martial arts group and the Praise Hymn Singers. Family Promise also uses the area. A calendar will be kept for all members to see which will show all activities taking place at the church. The calendar will also be published in the newsletter.

The topics for the September Congregational meeting were decided upon.

Family Promise - Good Shephard has offered to take on the responsibility of planning and preparing for Family Promise (as well as providing volunteers) as long as OSL is willing to provide the use of its facility. The church was asked to provide the dates of 4 weeks that will work to host the families. Pastor made a motion to approve this. The motion was seconded by John. Without objection, the motion carried.

New Business:

New council nominees - Brad Neil and Marlee Zimmerman

The Rumba is charging and will be ready to use soon.

A motion to adjourn was made by Arno Miller and seconded by Jessica Logan.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Logan

**Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 8th, 2019**

Members Present: Pastor Joel Petruschke, President John Zimmerman, Vice-President Herb Logan, Brad Neil, Arno Miller, Anneke Fleming, Treasurer Jim Lubrecht, and Marlee Zimmerman

Members Absent: Secretary Jessica Logan, Andrea Faber, and Kathy Sheetz

Non-members Present: Carol Ranck to discuss Constitution and By-Laws; Penny Zimmerman to assist in taking minutes

Call to Order: The meeting opened with devotions by Pastor Joel at 6:30 pm.

Minutes: The minutes from the September 11, 2019 council meeting were not available for review. They will need to be reviewed and approved at the next council meeting on November 13, 2019.

Treasurer's Report: Jim mentioned that the deficit year to date is \$11,000.00 versus a \$40,000.00 deficit last year. There were no other questions or comments. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Arno Miller and seconded by Brad Neil. Without objection, the motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education

Fundraising

Property

Welcome

Worship and Music

Social Ministry

Stewardship

These reports were not available. Had they been available, they most likely would not have been reviewed due to the time devoted to discussing the Constitution and By-Laws.

Pastor's Report:

Hanna Hope Garden - Pastor Joel has talked with Joan Tracy from STHS and she would like to come talk to council about their plans for next year. She is planning to come to the December meeting. Pastor Joel did mention that vegetables were harvested from the garden this year.

Child Protection Policy - It is ready to be reviewed by council before being presented at the Congregational Meeting in January 2020. Donna Zimmerman will be presenting to the council at the November meeting.

Discussion is still ongoing with Social Ministry about having a Live Nativity this year.

The organist search committee has met. They have "tweaked" the advertisement and reviewed the questions that are asked of potential candidates. The ad has been placed in several different venues, colleges, online etc. We do

have a substitute organist secured through November. The substitute may also be available for one Sunday in December.

Pastor Joel and Social Ministry are considering making tickets to be given to people who buy our chocolate Easter eggs. This ticket would allow them to come to the church, on a designated date, for a free spaghetti dinner. They would need to call the church office to RSVP.

The proof for the church directory has been sent in. The directory will not have a staff page, due to the fact that we currently don't have an organist or sexton(s). Consideration is being given to using our credit from the company to print brochures with our staff when we are full staffed. These brochures can then be put inside the directory.

Old Business:

Facilities Use - Brad Neil would like to know about ALL groups/individuals using the facility - he especially needs to know about any groups/individuals that council approves to use the facility. Use of the facility should ONLY be approved by Brad. Brad mentioned that there have been instances where people have asked groups to re-arrange their schedule so that someone else can use the church or a certain area of the church. Brad is in the process of re-doing the facility use form and policy for using/renting the facility. It was suggested that Brad do a temple talk to review the new policies with the congregation. For a church member, the fee for renting the facility will increase to \$50.00 in 2020. Brad also requested that he be given an adequate amount of time to approve requests to use the facility. Brad also reminded council that per the current policy the facility is not to be rented by groups/individuals that are using it for profit related purposes. The facility is allowed to be used for fundraising for a non-profit.

New Business:

Anneke Fleming noted that after Altrusa's use of the fellowship hall and a subsequent donation, they did not receive a formal thank you note. She recommended we send letters, or Thank-You notes to individuals or groups making a donation to the church when renting the facility. Jim will need to relay to the counters that any checks or donations received for use of the facility should be provided to Barb for sending thank-you notes.

After reviewing the Constitution and By-Laws with Carol Ranck, it was determined that council would meet on Sundays after the second service to discuss the By-Laws further, before presenting to the congregation. John will send out dates to discuss the By-Laws- this was actually e-mailed to all council members on October 12, 2019.

The next council meeting will be held on November 13, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

A motion to adjourn at 9:25 pm was made by Arno Miller and seconded by Brad Neil.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlee & Penny Zimmerman

A Little Bit of History

They Also Serve

**Ladies' Aid President Pillar of Strength
In German Zion Lutheran Church 47 Years**

By ELIZABETH MACKERT
Mrs. Henry Neidich has been a part of her church council's "right hand" for 47 years.

This description is often applied to the Ladies' Aid Society of German Zion Lutheran Church, which donates the funds it raises to the church treasury. In the last several years the group has given a big financial hand to make possible renovation of the church and Sunday School buildings.

For the past seven years, Mrs. Neidich, who lives at 609 N. Cameron St., has been president of this group, which volunteers many hours to spiritual and ways and means projects.

"When she is here we know things will be done right," is the consensus of the congregation.

The best known project sponsored by Mrs. Neidich's society is a fasnacht sale held three or four times annually. For the gigantic undertaking (they sell upwards of 2,200 dozen), the members gather in the church kitchen at 5 p.m. the preceding day and work through the night and on until 6 or 7 the next evening. Mrs. Neidich is one of the first to arrive and the last to leave.

Until the end of World War II the society also sponsored rummage sales. The members still collect clothing, but not for sale. All is sent to displaced persons in Europe and Korea, and a special fund is maintained for postage. Under Mrs. Neidich's leadership, the Ladies Aid has spearheaded a drive among all church groups for clothing contributions.

Mrs. Neidich is active also in the Missionary Society and Sewing Circle, and recently succeeded

her husband as Sunday School treasurer.

Not only Mrs. Neidich's faithfulness was cited by the Rev. Paul Januzemis, pastor, but her leadership abilities also. The latter is best exemplified by her "church minded" family, whose 24 members often participate, in a group, in the worship services.

At the present time her son and son-in-law, Maj. Andrew Neidich and Henry Schafer, are members of the church council; a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Michael Neidich, is president of the Missionary Society; Mrs. Schafer is treasurer of the same society, and her granddaughters, Carol Neidich and Julie Ann Greenawalt, hold offices in the Luther League.

Some years ago the family set another record when four of the church council's 12 members were related to Mrs. Neidich. They were her husband, two sons and a son-in-law. Neidich also served as a Sunday School teacher for two decades and superintendent for three years.

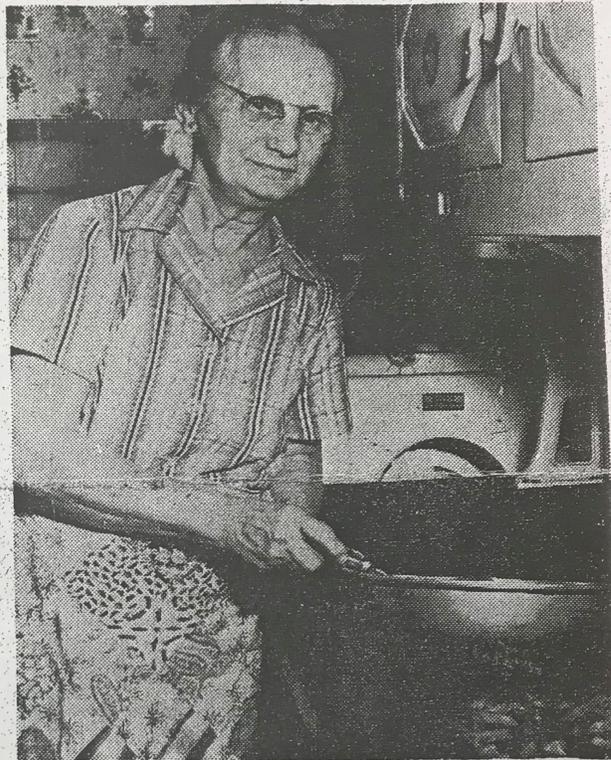
Mr. and Mrs. Neidich were born in the same village in Austria-Hungary, and came to this country in 1907 and 1906, respectively, when both were in their teens. Their friendship was renewed at meetings of the "Yugendverein," the church youth group, and culminated at German Zion's altar three years later.

At this same altar five of their six children were married and ten grandchildren baptized.

With redevelopment of the area surrounding the church proposed, the Neidich family now is looking forward, with the pastor, to the

proposed plans for exterior renovation of the church, which, it is hoped, will come prior to the church centennial celebration in 1960.

These plans will, as in the past, depend greatly on the Ladies Aid Society and the devotion and efforts of members as faithful as Mrs. Neidich.



PREPARING FAMILY FAVORITE

Mrs. Henry Neidich of 609 Cameron St., although actively engaged in work of the German Zion Lutheran Church, is never too busy to whip up the favorite German recipes of her family.



Dana Barr	12/3
Savannah Beachtel	12/11
Ellavene Rutter	12/14
Ava Shertzer	12/19
Caleb Guldner	12/22
Katharina Kreischer	12/23
Alex Parson	12/23
Alexandra Kessler	12/26

Our Saviour would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. We hope you enjoy your holiday with family and friends.





Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>1 - Advent 1 8:30 am - Word & Sacramento 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacramento Council By-Law Review 1st Sunday Social Decorating of the sanctuary</p>	<p>2 6:30 pm - Welcome Committee</p>	<p>3 5 pm - Martial Arts Class</p>	<p>4 7 pm - Sunday School Meeting</p>	<p>5 5 pm - Martial Arts Class 6 pm - Advent Soup & Worship (7 pm) @Good Shepherd</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 12 noon - Lunch Bunch @Peach Tree</p>
<p>8 - Advent 2 8:30 am - Word & Sacramento 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacramento Social Ministry after 2nd service</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 5 pm - Martial Arts Class</p>	<p>11 6:30 pm - Council</p>	<p>12 5 pm - Martial Arts Class 6 pm - Advent Soup & Worship (7 pm) @Good Shepherd</p>	<p>13 6 pm - Caroling</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 - Advent 3 8:30 am - Word & Sacramento 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacramento</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 5 pm - Martial Arts Class</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 5 pm - Martial Arts Class 6 pm - Advent Soup & Worship (7 pm) @Good Shepherd</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 - Advent 4 8:30 am - Word & Sacramento 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Word & Sacramento</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 - Christmas Eve 4 pm - Family Christmas Eve Service 7 pm - Christmas Eve Worship office closed</p>	<p>25 - Christmas Day  office closed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 </p>
<p>29 - Christmas 1 10 am - Lessons & Carols @Good Shepherd</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 - New Year's Eve </p>				

Good News

The Evangelical Lutheran
CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR
420 North Progress Avenue
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109

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Email: ossec@comcast.net
Web Site: www.oslutheranharrisburg.org



Mission Statement

Our Saviour Lutheran Church, a caring congregation dedicated to the word of Christ, welcomes all people to worship and to grow with us as we share His love and salvation with our neighbors, our children and ourselves.

Worship

8:30 am & 10:45 am
Holy Eucharist is celebrated
every Sunday.
Sunday School 9:30 am

Church Office

9:00 am -12:00 pm Monday through
Friday

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.