

# Celebrating

## *the Missions and Ministries*

### *of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church*

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*This month's highlight:*

## *Worship Ministries*

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*This month, we focus on the many, many (non-musical) volunteers that work so hard to help us prepare, conduct, and sustain inspirational and welcoming worship services at Our Saviour's. Our Reflection this month is written by Dave Iverson, one of our regular lay readers.*

### **Lay Reader Thoughts on Growing Through Giving**

*By Dave Iverson*

I have been asked to share with you what transformative experiences I have had as a lay reader. I have never thought of it in that way. I always thought of it as trying to read the lesson in a way that was meaningful to the congregation. The Bible is the word of the Lord. The Gospel is the center point of the service. The sermon is based on it. The music and the lessons support it.

The lesson is one of the few places in the service where the congregation can not follow along in the bulletin. In some cases the phraseology and pronunciation is cumbersome. I consider Paul the Tennessee Williams of the New Testament who necessitated the invention of the comma. The lesson has a message that is important to get across. It sets the stage for the Gospel. It must be read so that it flows smoothly and is understandable.

I try to determine the main point of the lesson and how it fits with the Gospel. I feel that if I understand the lesson it will help me to get it across. If I don't understand it then it will just be the rote reading of words that project no meaning. In a way, preparing for the reading does become a mini Bible lesson. Before the lessons I always say a little prayer that the word gets through to the people. Within our community of faith I believe it is important to give back the talents God has given us and help out where we can. Reading the lessons is a small way I can do that.

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### *☆ Opportunities to Serve Worship Ministries*

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*There are many opportunities for **each** of us to contribute to our weekly worship experience. Here are some of those ways:*

**Lay Reader** – Read scripture for various worship services during the year.

**Communion Assistant** – Assist pastors in distributing communion; scheduled on a rotating basis during the preferred service time.

**Festival Decorating** – Help decorate worship space and narthex area for Advent, Christmas and Easter.

**Greeters** – Welcome people to Our Saviour's before worship service. No meetings. Volunteers serve on a rotating basis at the preferred service time.

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*Opportunities to Serve in Worship Ministries (continued)*

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**Drama Team** – “The Vine and Branches” drama team prepares worshipful skits for Contemporary Worship and special worship events to bring life to the scriptures, provoke thoughts, and provide illustrations for sermons.

**Altar Care** – Prepares altar and communion for weekly worship and special services. Altar Care teams are scheduled for month-long periods at preferred service times.

**Altar Flower Coordinator** – Handle sign-up of donors and mailings to donors for weekend altar flowers and handles special flower orders for Christmas and Easter. The coordinator takes care of publicity for these sign-ups.

**Altar Flower Delivery** – Volunteers work on rotating basis to deliver donated altar flowers to Lutheran Home after weekend worship services.

**Usher** – Assist in seating, offering collection, general welcoming and preparation weekly and for special services. Volunteers are scheduled in teams for month-long periods at preferred service time.

**Acolyte** – Provide worship assistance. Acolytes are scheduled on a rotating basis for their preferred service time after they attend training session.

**Banner/Parament Design** – Help to design banners and paraments used in the worship space for the various festivals of the church.

**Bulletin Cover Design** – Artists needed to design bulletin cover art.

**Sound Board Technician/Operator** – Operators are needed to run the power point projection, monitor the sound board, and record the services in Contemporary Worship.

**Parking Lot Team** – For **big** holiday services we need hardy, authoritative helpers in the parking lot directing cars to open spots and patrolling the walkways to assure the safety of pedestrians.

**Wedding Coordinator** – Coordinate all the details before the wedding, at the rehearsal and the day of the wedding to ensure that the event proceeds smoothly. Special training required.

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*Over the years, Our Saviour's has supported these*

*Worship Ministries*

*through the annual budget as follows:*

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
\$11,656	\$12,030	\$11,171	\$10,935	\$9,350
.79% of actual	.80% of actual	.70% of actual	.70% of actual	.61% of budget

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*To learn more about (or get involved in) these*

*Worship Ministries*

**Communion Assistants, Lay Readers, Festival Decorating and Banner Design:**

Call Cheryl Boncher, 847-255-8700 ext. 223

**Drama Team:** Call Colleen Hewitt, 847-590-1855

**Altar Care:** Call Bernice Schlotterer, 847-394-1048 or Eleanor Petersen, 847-259-2927

**Altar Flowers (Traditional) and Altar Flower Delivery:** Call Karen Eickemeyer, 847-963-9840

**Altar Flowers (Contemporary):** Kathy Beiber, 847-670-0476

**Ushers (Traditional):** Call George Pedersen, 847-253-7160

**Ushers (Contemporary):** Call Betsy Wagner, 847-398-1845

**Greeters:** Call Jim Schleker, 847-259-0520

**Acolytes:** Call Beth Tsoumas, 847-392-7987

**Bulletin Cover Design:** Call Ann Wagner, 847-255-8700 ext. 242

**Parking Lot Team:** Call Jim Valentine, 847-255-8700 ext. 231

**Wedding Coordinator:** Call Kristi Rotunno, 847-788-0952