



OUR SAVIOUR

LUTHERAN CHURCH



*annual reports to the congregation
for the calendar year 2016*

Welcome !

Annual Reports Package - the important info . . .

Everyone on our church mailing list is receiving this packet of reports, members and non-members alike. Since all of us are invested in this congregation, we feel that this information is important to all who worship with us.

The distinction is that only confirmed members of record of the congregation may vote or hold an office. If you are uncertain whether or not you are a confirmed member, please ask Pastor Bob.

Questions from anyone, member or non-member, pertaining to both the budget, and/or reports are due in writing (by post or e-mail) to the church office no later than February 12, 2017. Answers will be available in writing at the meetings. In order to be fair to the people at all three meetings, there will be no questions from the floor at the February 19 meeting.

Nominations for Church Council and Synod Assembly Delegates are due in writing by February 12, 2017. Again, in order to be fair to the people at all three meetings, there can be no nominations from the floor of the meetings. A vote will be held on February 19 for all council nominees and Synod Assembly delegates.

There will be three meetings - one after each service on Sunday, February 19. Since there is no regularly scheduled Wednesday worship this year, there will be no Wednesday meeting date. Holding three meetings on February 19 is to assure that we have a quorum of confirmed members present to vote. In years past, we have tried various other options for meetings, but these did not produce the quorum needed to hold a valid meeting. Our constitution mandates that a quorum is 10% of the confirmed members of the congregation. As it stands now, that would be 56 confirmed members.

This system of Annual Meetings was approved by the Church Council and approved by the Congregation a few years ago and is now a part of our Church Constitution, which has been approved by both the Metro NY Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Four years ago, proxy votes were allowed for our homebound members to be included in the process.

Meeting Date

Sunday - February 19, 2017



OUR SAVIOUR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Annual Reports

Council President's Report

The members of the Church Council are Esther Jagnauth, Sharon Glasgow, Yvette Lochansingh, Lionel Deonarine and Dolores Genentz. The regularly scheduled meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. We discuss the business of the church and ways to enhance the ministry at Our Saviour. The members are visible throughout the year through their participation in both the worship services and other various programs within the church. Thank you for your dedication and commitment in the year 2016.

We have been blessed with the leadership of Pastor Bob for 25 years. A special service was set aside to celebrate his years of dedication, love, and presence in September 2016. He has touched the lives of every person in the congregation. His messages sharing the Gospel has helped us to increase our spiritual growth, understanding God's Word, and in our relationships with the Lord and each other. Thank you Pastor Bob for all that you do and continue to do at Our Saviour.

Cindy, you do much behind the scenes to enrich the worship. Proof-reading, weekly hymn selection and your teamwork with Pastor Bob are only part of her involvement. We are grateful for all that you do. Thank you.

We join together as a congregation to worship and praise the Lord. Being called to serve, love, and reach out to our brothers and sisters in Christ; we accept the call to be disciples and share our faith with all whom we meet. It is my prayer that in 2017 our actions, words, and deeds will reflect us to be followers of Christ in our daily lives.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dolores Genentz, Council President

Senior Pastor's Report - Year 25

It has been an absolutely marvelous year at Our Saviour Lutheran Church. It truly has. Words cannot express my joy at being your pastor for 25 years, and experiencing your joy and your sorrows, as well as your support and love for Cindy and I.

While many churches focus on the frivolous, we have worked hard this year to focus on the spiritual. We have worshipped together – we have served together – we have grown together – we have focused on the things we should be focused on – and that is exactly where we should as we head into a new year.

Over the course of the year, well over 100 people have served in our 2nd Saturday ministry. Over the course of the year, over 200 people worship with us every week, despite the loss of our Wednesday worship. Over the course of the year, we have installed the new stairclimbers so more and more people are welcomed into our sanctuary – we have fixed and repaired and cleaned and moved – all to make this place we call our church home a better place.

And, we have also given – and given well – perhaps better than ever before, as we have given to help others through:

- Food for the Poor
- Outreach's macaroni project ministry
- American Cancer Society
- Habitat for Humanity
- Ronald McDonald House of Long Island
- our own Metro NY Synod
- we support an ELCA missionary in Nigeria
- Bread for Life - a ministry of St. John's University

Personally, you all know that this year has been a strain – personally, emotionally, and spiritually. But, God has been with Cindy and I, and will continue to be with us, no matter where this journey leads us. I thank all of you for your prayers and your support as I have needed to trim back my hours spent visiting. Everything else remains as it always has been.

We, as a congregation, have begun the search for a new Associate Pastor; however, there appear to be no viable candidates on the horizon. The Bishop's Office is focused on first filling pastoral vacancies for churches that have no pastor. That means that we are just not a priority and may need to work outside the system in the future.

But, short-staffed, or not – 2017 is shaping up to be a tremendous year for YOUR church. We hope – we pray – that you will be a vital part of it because all of us are needed – perhaps now more than ever. That begins with worship faithfulness – and continues with support for the ministries here, both financially and personally.

See you all on Sunday morning !

Yours in Christ - Pastor Bob Fritch

Senior Pastor's Report - addendum

We have also been blessed as we have been recognized by many outside the congregation:

- 1) Clergy of the Year Award - received from Christ for the World CHapel at JFK Airport. This award is bigger than myself, it recognizes all the great work all of us are doing. This is a huge award.
- 2) Cover Article in the March 2016 Lutheran Magazine - we were recognized by the "Lutheran" the publication of our nation church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This is a huge recognition, as it is the third time Our Saviour has been featured in this national magazine.
- 3) My 25th Anniversary - was recognized by both the NYC Council and the Queens Borough President's Office

Financial News

This year, we have good news, and we have good news.

- 1) While worship faithfulness has dropped, giving has not – thanks in large-part to our online giving. This new method of giving has allowed folks who are not as regular in worship, to be regular in their giving. Online giving has also allowed folks who have moved away to continue their support of this church that nurtured them while they lived in NYC. We hope that you will consider giving by this method.

While the "half-empty" folks would say that we have more money because we do not have extra staff this year, we have exceeded those needs and have been able to do more ministry and get much-needed repairs done around the church – thank you to everyone ! Keep up the good work and the good works !

- 2) In response to our outside auditor's financial audit last year, we have hired an outside accountant to keep our financial records up to standards. While our records have always been great, we now have financial records that meet the accounting standards of the industry for a not-for-profit corporation in the State of NY. This provides one more level of security for our finances.

- 3) And, for the first time in the history of the church, we have been able to invest money in a mutual fund account. Church Council felt it was poor stewardship to keep all of the church's money in bank accounts that do not earn any interest. We have invested \$75K in a medium risk portfolio through Thrivent Financial. This is money for our future.

PreSchool Report - Our 20th Graduating Class !

Greetings and Happy New Year to all! I hope the start of the new year has brought you all health and happiness.

At the start of every year, the preschool prepares for the registration period for new students entering our school in the fall. We were fully registered with 45 students and an extensive waiting list by the end of the registration period in early February. As with every year, there had been a few students that had moved away or changed schools throughout the summer. This year, however, many of the families on our waiting list had already been placed in another school by the NYC Department of Education. We eliminated more than half of our waitlist before we registered enough students to remain fully enrolled at the start of the 2016-2017 school year. It was looking grim for a while but I'm happy to say we met the goal and opened the 2016 school year with 45 members of the school's 20th graduating class!

Our vibrant students have been busy learning and developing friendships. Although we've been struggling with parent participation this year, the parents that are active in the school have been busy with family projects, parent workshops, volunteering and donating to our fundraisers.

Almost all of our staff returned for the 2016-2017 school year with the exception of Miss Parveen advancing from lunch staff to assistant teacher after one of our assistant teachers went on leave. In our ongoing search for new and innovative teaching methods, the staff was enrolled in a series for workshops on how to implement the Arts into our every day routines. The workshops are provided by the NYC Department of Education and have taught us several techniques in using the Arts to meet the Prekindergarten learning standards.

Submitted by Roslyn Raymundo - Director of the PreSchool



Report of the Volunteer Coordinator

Blessings to all ! My name is Kurena Dilchand. I am the Volunteer Coordinator and Office Manager for the church and school. When we first started the 2nd Saturday Service Day in October of 2014, never did we imagine that this day of service would be so successful ! For those of you that are unfamiliar with 2nd Saturday – it is a day of service on the second Saturday of every month for anyone young or old. We have projects for every age even if you are skilled or not.

Every month since we started this service day, we have had 30 plus people every month. That is such an amazing thing – that on a Saturday, people from the church show up just for a few hours to support something that means so much to us.

In 2016, we have done many great projects. In February, we partnered with Habitat for Humanity. We helped repair a basement that was damaged when a sewer system failed during Superstorm Sandy. We have also made Highland Care Center (down the block from us) a part of our church community for the Holidays. We made over 400 craft projects for the residents at Highland Care Center for Easter and Christmas and hand delivered it to them.

In April, we partnered with “Bread for Life” a ministry of St. John’s University and prepared over 600 “Blessing Bags” that were distributed to folks who have no shelter or food for the night during their Midnight Runs in Manhattan and Queens. In June, we partnered with Queens Botanical Garden and got down and dirty with the horticulture team. In September, we had our Annual Community Carnival. Everyone came together to make the carnival a great success by working together as a team. We also went to Holy Trinity of Bellerose to help package macaroni which was equal to 20,000 meals that helped to feed the hungry in and around Queens and Nassau. In December, we went to the Ronald McDonald House of LIJ where we cooked brunch for the residents and their families.

We have done a lot of work inside and outside of the church. The men from the congregation and around the neighborhood have gotten down and dirty on the roof. They have painted and fixed things inside the church that Pastor Bob just can’t do by himself. The women, children and youth have helped with monthly newsletter and postcard mailings, labeling, putting together Mother’s day and Father’s day gifts for the church.

In the busy months before all the different events and holidays that take place at Our Saviour Lutheran Church - Second Saturday has become a savior to us. Many hands make the work go quicker ! Our members, non-members, and neighbors have shown that coming together on a Saturday morning for a few hours helps to serve a higher purpose for God. Thank you to everyone that has helped in 2016 ! Make 2017 the year you give back for a better cause ! “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” – Winston Churchill.

The Sisters of Our Saviour - SOS

1Corinthians 12:4-5: there are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.

The Sisters of Our Saviour Lutheran Church have continued to grow strong in faith and spirit. We have experienced another successful year in our mission of sharing God's gift. We encourage and reach out to other Sisters in the church and community. We meet every second Friday at 7pm of each month. We are moving forward with very small steps. Even though we are a very few, we are strong and dedicated, we look forward to meeting, praying, sharing and spending quality time with our Sisters in Christ. This is God's gift of sisterhood in our church and we pray that we will continue to grow and be strong.

We sponsored and organized a few great and successful activities during the year. These activities were well attended and supported by members of the church and community. We look forward to have similar events for the New Year, 2017. Serving hot chocolate for the Sunday school classes, refreshment at the Christmas Pageant were delights and privilege for us.

We showed the movie, War Room in church. This was well received and attended by friends and relatives of all age group. Great comments were received. We have been receiving suggestions for the upcoming Movie night for this year. We will be showing the movie on the biblical story – Ruth. We are extending the invitation and look forward to another successful outreach.

We had great participant at our Wellness event in May. We are grateful to all of those who participated and helped to organize this event. Appreciation certificates and tokens were given to those presented – Vanessa Dutchin, Phd., Savitri Bharat, RN., Stephen Beasley – DOH, William Mardavich and Sabina Lakhan – Donor Relations Associate with the NY Blood Center. We are looking forward to their participation again in our events for this year.

We had two family picnics. Picnic at the Flushing Meadow Park was full of excitement, games, kite flying, and activities with all age group. We are looking forward to have greater participation this year. We also had a picnic and tour of Roosevelt Island. We were a small group, we had lots of fun; we were able to travel together. We were not able to see the Japanese Culture at the Cherry Blossom Festival because Roosevelt Island was under reconstruction.

This year we celebrated great achievement. The WOOS (Women of Our Savior) and SOS share a few common activities. Our goals are immeasurable. We have become a

S.O.S Report continued

member of the WELCA, members from both WOOS and SOS attended the annual women's retreat held in Yonkers, NY. We celebrate with one of our ladies, Gwen Miller, who graduated from the Deaconate program in NY. We visited a few of our sick and shut-in members of the church and community and brought to them God's word and some fun activities. We brought them prayers simple gifts, sharing a slice of cake, fruits and old time stories were all welcomed. We have more activities planned for the coming year 2017. Respectfully submitted: Kamla Lalsingh



Food Pantry Report

The food Pantry opened each Wednesday from 10am -11am for all but three weeks serving over 1500 bags of food in 2016. Through the generosity of OSLC members, friends and donations from St John's University and what we call the "Macaroni Project" , we provide an average of 30 people per week with a prepared bag of six non-perishable food items. We do our best to distribute pasta, soup, tuna fish, canned beans and vegetables or various food items that we have available on our shelves. We not only give food to our neighbors in need, we give words of encouragement, a listening ear, and a smile.

We greatly appreciate your kindness and support for our ministry. Together we are making a difference in the lives of those in need by serving our community with the Love of Christ.

All the best,

Bill Huffman & Ada Cotton

Community Carnival Report

Greetings to all ! Every year, Our Saviour Lutheran Church has their Community Carnival on the second Saturday in September – rain or shine ! The carnival is such a fun-filled, free event with music, FREE food and water, health screenings, face painting, talent show, bouncy house, and much more. We get a huge outpouring of people from the neighborhood to come and join the fun.

The carnival is always a hit but there is a lot of behind the scenes work that has to be done. Between getting permit approvals, vendors, rentals, equipment, etc., we couldn't do it without the many volunteers from Our Saviour Lutheran Church. Without them, the carnival would cease to exist. Thank you to everyone that donated their money, time and energy to make the carnival a success.

The 2017 Community Carnival will be on Saturday, September 9. Hope to see you all there !

Submitted by: Kurena Dilchand



Renovations Report

Much has been done this year to get the building in better shape – more than has been done for many years. This is due in large part to your generosity this year, both in time and money, that has allowed us the freedom to get things done without worrying where the money will come from. We felt this list was so comprehensive, that we would publish it in this year's annual report, along with some notes about some of the projects.

1. Stairclimbers installed and inspected !
2. Upgraded the security system upstairs.
3. Cleaned out the boiler room
4. Extensive repairs to both flat roofs over the choir and organ alcoves
5. Roof repairs to the high roof over the church entrance
6. Repairs to the round stained-glass window above the church entrance
7. Replaced many light bulbs and fixtures with LED lighting
8. Repaired concrete mortar joints on the outside on the building
9. Replaced the ceiling in the choir alcove
10. Renovated rear entryway at parsonage (paid by PB)
11. New toilet at parsonage (paid by PB)

Some upcoming projects include:

1. Upgrading the buildings exterior lighting, especially around the doors to give better light intensity and use less electricity
2. Upgrading the lighting in the church entryway
3. Ceiling repairs in the sacristy
4. replacing sidewalks and steps at parsonage

With the exception of the stairclimbers, there were all done through your generosity of money and time. Thank you to all for your generous support of the ministry here.

Music Director's Report

Greetings! What a wonderful year it has been! We are TRULY blessed with the abundance of talent God gave to this church. Sometime in the beginning of 2015, the Lutheran Magazine was going to do an article about OSLC. Not only did we sing a jaw-dropping anthem, some of our choir members got their pictures taken by the photographer of that magazine!

Since many of our choir members left, we thought it best to video record most of the anthems. Now, these videos are available on youtube and facebook for people who wish to be nostalgic or just want to enjoy watching. With that being said, the Lent 2016 anthems, particularly Palm Sunday and Easter, were not only recorded, but were part of the first to be live streamed!

The choir typically has a hiatus during the summer. I tried my very best to schedule willing choir members to sing select anthems. One of these anthems were sung successfully when the Lutherans from Texas visited. They were really impressed! And we have the recorded live streams to show for it!

Now, the most impressive thing that happened to the choir was the new choir gowns! We unveiled them during our annual Christmas cantata. It was beautiful. Coupled with the songs of the cantata, one word... Epic!

The Senior Choir of Our Savior Lutheran Church is on their 6th year. By God's grace, it can only get better! Blessed be!

Gayle Cabading-Bulaong
Senior Choir Director

Church Prep and Clean Teams Report

A little over a year ago, I was asked to step up in leading/serving the church preparations for “Our Saviour Lutheran Church”. I gladly accepted and it has been a great learning experience ever since. Church Prep may seem less significant, but as I grew up with a parent who was an educator, one quote stuck with me for life which is, “Cleanliness is next to Godliness”. By maintaining the upkeep of the Church, we are paying a duty to our fellow churchgoers and to our creator. Everyone has a purpose in life, a unique gift or a special talent to give to others. When we blend this unique talent with service to others, we experience a fulfillment of our mere existence.

I’m truly thankful for everyone on this team who put aside a little of their precious time every week to give of themselves in service to the one, who is the giver of all. May He continue to abundantly bless each one of you, as you come to seek his blessings and guidance in this very sanctuary that we call “Our Saviour Lutheran Church”.

I thank you in advance for your time and dedication in the New Year and hope it will be a rewarding one for all of us.

In closing, a quote from Mahatma Ghandi can all inspire us all to continue the good work all to His glory. “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”.

Yours in Christ, Evelyn Mandal



The Women of Our Saviour - WOOS

W.O.O.S. meet on the first Saturday of the month(except July and August) at 1.00pm. at the church. We reach out to each other through spiritual growth and fellowship. During the year we made several visits to our Sister at a Nursing Home. We are thankful to Kamla Lalsingh of the S.O.S. who gave us a ride and visited with us a few times at the Nursing Home. We also attended the W.E.L.C.A. Retreat with Kamla.

We plan various Fund raising activities like cake sale and Easter Basket to support some charitable organizations. This year we made donations to the Food Pantry and Breast Cancer Walk. We participated in the Annual Church Carnival in September. In August we had our group lunch at Olive Garden Restaurant and our Christmas Lunch at Red Lobster.

Our membership was increased this year. We seek God's guidance and blessings as we continue to do his will. Please join us in Prayer and Fellowship. All are welcome.

Submitted by: Esther Jagarnath.



Parochial Report / Statistics

Baptisms Child	14
Baptisms Adult	1
Affirmations	7
Transfer	1

New Members Received 23

Deaths of Members	2
Transferred	0

Members Removed 2

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total Baptized Members	845	867	887	906	933	956
Total Confirmed Members	515	525	532	539	556	962

Pastoral Acts

a. Funerals	10
b. Wakes	17
c. Prayer Services	34
d. Weddings	6
e. Workshops	0

Average Weekly Worship Attendance

1991	2002	2007	2008	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
38	234	270	263	250	273	244	251	240	217

Current Church Council Terms of Office

Sharon Duncan-Glasgow	2nd term expires	February 2017
Dolores Genentz	1st term expires	February 2017
Esther Jagnauth	2nd term expires	February 2019
Lionel Deonarine	1st term expires	February 2019
Yvette Lochansingh	1st term expires	February 2019

There are two terms expiring in February 2017. One person can be re-nominated to serve a second term. One person has served two terms and is not eligible for re-nomination until February 2018. A third person was removed from Council when two consecutive scheduled meetings were missed.

There are seven positions open for the year 2017. The ballot at the Annual Meeting in February 2017 will have names of nominees to be voted on to serve on the Church Council.

Thank you to all for your service to the church.

Nominations for Church Council must be made in writing and seconded in writing by February 12, 2017

Questions and Explanations about the budget and other matters

Every year, we include in this package, numerous answers to questions that might be asked about the budget or other things. Answers like “what is a COLA” (Cost of Living Adjustment), etc. Faced with the reality of increased paper costs and the reality, that in the past six years, we have never had any questions submitted prior to an annual meeting, we are not including these explanations this year. If you do have any, please submit them in writing to the church office by February 12, 2017. The answers will then be published for presentation to the congregation on the day of the meeting.

2017 - 2018 Proposed Budget

***** (1st draft to OSLC Council 11/8/16)*****

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

EXPENSES		Approved Budget 2016-2017	Actual Expenses to 11/30/16	EAC (Estimate at Completion) to 2/28/17	Proposed Budget 2017-2018
Outreach					
	Benevolence - Synod	12,000	8,000	12,000	12,000
	a. Benevolence - Other	1,000	0	0	1,000
	Missionary Support	2,000	0	0	2,000
	Postage	2,000	1,626	2,000	3,000
	Evangelism	3,000	2,388	2,388	3,000
	Website	1,000	1518	1,680	2,000
	b. Congregational Events	7,000	15,233	15,233	7,000
	Total Outreach	28,000	28,765	33,301	30,000
Christian Development					
	Christian Education	10,000	1,150	1,150	8,000
	Workshops/Events/Synod Assembly	2,050	1,983	1,983	2,000
	Total Christian Development	12,050	3,133	3,133	10,000
Worship					
	Organist/Musicians	8,000	2,735	3,500	8,000
	Choir Director	6,000	4,200	6,000	6,500
	Supply Preachers	2,000	3,075	3,100	5,000
	c. Worship Supplies	7,600	6,881	6,500	7,000
	Offering Envelopes	2,000	1,194	2,000	2,000
	Total Worship	25,600	18,085	21,100	28,500
Leadership					
Pastor Bob					
	d. Base Salary	77,894	73,373	77,894	80,640
	e. Housing Equity Allowance	3,000	2,480	3,000	3,000
	f. Social Security	7,153	5,961	7,153	7,406
	Pension/ Medical	33,918	28,703	34,000	41,700
	Parsonage Expenses - Utilities	3,800	2,618	3,800	4,000
	Continuing Education / Stipend	1,000	0	0	1,000
	Total Compensation & Benefits	126,765	113,135	125,847	137,746
	i. Future Staff/Programming	10,000	0	0	10,000
	Total Leadership	136,765	113,135	125,847	147,746
Support					
Administration					
	j. Office staff	18,850	11,828	11,828	10,000
	Office Equipment	13,000	9,938	13,000	14,000
	Office Supplies	2,500	2,286	2,500	3,000
	Payroll Services	1,000	827	2,000	3,000
	k. Accounting Fees	3,800	3,016	3,800	4,000
	Professional Fees	0	507	507	500
	l. Other - Misc	3,000	672	1,000	3,000
	Total Administration	42,150	29,075	34,635	37,500
Building Operations					
	Insurance	9,700	5,856	9,700	12,000
	Utilities - Church	16,000	9,479	13,000	15,000
	Repairs to Parsonage	1,500	850	850	1,800
	Capital Improve/Preventative - Church	20,000	1,346	1,346	20,000
	Total Building Operations	47,200	17,531	24,896	48,800
	Total Support Operations	89,350	46,605	59,531	86,300
Restricted Accounts (Out)					
	MAG*		0	0	
	Cancer Walk		1390	1,390	
	Lutheran Disaster Relief		500	500	
	Youth Gathering				
	Total Restricted Out		1,890	1,890	
TOTAL EXPENSES		322,765	211,613	244,802	302,546

INCOME	Approved Budget 2015-2016	Actual Income to 12/30/16	EAC (Estimate at Completion) to 2/28/17	Proposed Budget 2016-2017
General Offering	217,365	151,114	200,000	220,000
Memorial Gifts - Worship	22,900	7,604	10,500	20,000
Misc. Revenue	2,000	172	172	2,046
m. Preschool Shared Expenses	70,000	43,000	58,000	60,000
Other Grants -	10,000	760	760	0
Building Use	500	900	900	500
TOTAL INCOME	322,765	203,550	270,332	302,546
Restricted Accounts (In)				
Lutheran Diaster Relief		500	500	
Memorial Gifts - Other Abiding Memorials		9,866	9,866	
Congregational Events		13,455	13,455	
MAG				
Cancer Walk		1,390	1,390	
Youth Gathering				
Total Restricted		25,211	25,211	
TOTAL INCOME			295,543	302,546

The budget provided has been created and approved by the Church Council of Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

There is an pdf file of this document on the <Downloads> page on the church web site - questions must be submitted by February 12, 2017.

There is also a line-by-line explanation of the budget on the <downloads> page of the church web site



90-04 175 ST Jamaica, NY 11432

**2016 Annual Report
to the Congregation**

**Annual Meeting Date
February 19, 2017**

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