Our Saviour’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
815 S. Washington Street
Naperville, IL  60540
Phone: (630) 355-2522
Fax:   (630) 355-2553
E-mail: info@oursaviours.com
Web site: www.OurSaviours.com

Worship Services
Main Campus
815 S. Washington St., Naperville
Saturdays at 5:00 pm, Sundays at 8:00, 9:00, 10:30 am

Celebration! Campus
919 S. Washington St., Naperville
Sundays at 10:00 am

Pastors
Tom Grevlos, Mark Borgetti, Al Creighton

Mission Partners
Bohdan Hroboň - Slovakia
Misheck Ruwa - Vida Humana, Chimoio, Mozambique

For Children
Church School is available from September - May for 3 year olds - 5th Grade
Sundays 9:00 and 10:30 am - Main Campus
10:00 am - Celebration!

Our Saviour’s Mission
"Knowing Jesus and Making Jesus Known"

Our Saviour’s Vision
EXPERIENCE Christ, CONNECT others to Christ, REFLECT Christ

Our Saviour’s Core Values
Model Jesus, Teamwork, Speak the Truth in Love, Pursue Excellence, Live Abundantly and Generously, Practice Hospitality

VISION 2012...Our Saviour’s Five-Year Plan for Ministry and Mission
• Grow Participation in worship, faith formation for all ages, generosity, serving
• Strengthen our Missions through focus and resourcing
• Foster Learning for all ages, making disciples and growing in faith
• Enhance Facilities for supporting growth
• Strengthen the Organization by evaluating and strengthening the infrastructure

Monthly Connections Articles
Articles and pictures always welcome! Please send all articles to Jean Jepson at jeanjepson@oursaviours.com.
The deadline dates for the next three months are as follows:
• Articles for September are due on August 11, 2011.
• Articles for October are due on September 8, 2011.
• Articles for November are due on October 13, 2011.

During August...
Ice Tea and Lemonades
$1.00

Bring this coupon to
The Open Door
at the Celebration! Campus
to redeem.

Hours
Monday - Friday - 8:00 am - noon
Sundays - 9:30 -11:00 am
Expires August 31, 2011

Of God and Grocery Carts
A Modern Day Parable
By Jeanne Grevlos

There once was a little boy who loved to go to the grocery store. He loved to sit in the seat of the big, shiny cart and look deep into the eyes of his mommy. Every now and then she would give him something noisy to hold, and he would shake it until his tiny arm grew tired. As he got older, he would often reach over to the shelf and pick something on his own to put into the cart. Periodically, his mother would find several things in the check out line that were not on her list!

He knew how grown up he had become when he had to start walking and could no longer ride. He thought it was time for him to guide the cart himself! He asked his mother, and she replied, “No, son, the cart is much too heavy. Besides that, you need to be taller. You can’t see over the top of the cart. You might run into someone or something. You might run over your own foot. You are not quite old enough yet.”

So the little boy continued to go to the store with his mother, month after month, year after year. When he was in first grade, he thought it was time. He thought he was old enough to steer the cart himself. Walking beside his mom as she shopped for a week’s worth of groceries was just not fun anymore. As the two of them would find their way through the parking lot to the entrance of the store, he would beg to PUSH the cart ALL...BY...HIMSELF.

And then, it happened! She said, “Yes!”

One snowy day, as the two of them trudged through the winter’s cold, the little boy didn’t have to even ask. His mother said, “Son, if you’d like to push the cart, I think you’re strong enough. I believe you can do it!” He went through all the rules, “I won’t push too fast. I’ll follow behind you. I’ll watch out for other people. I’ll say ‘Excuse me’ when I have to pass another cart. I’ll make sure I can stop.”

Carefully, the little boy pulled a cart from the others to use. He took off his mittens and unzipped his jacket. He stuffed his hat in his pocket. He was ready. Imagine his dismay when going down the aisle of cereals and breads, he found his mother’s hand, holding onto the side of the cart, gently guiding his way.

Who are you in this story?
Are you the little boy, wanting something for which you might not be ready? Are you longing for independence, responsibility, recognition? Maybe you don’t want to be reminded there is a loving force wanting to walk beside you, wanting to guide your way.

Or—are you more like the mother—in a metaphorical sense—saying, “God, manage this cart—but not completely! I don’t think you’re quite big enough for me. I can’t trust you just yet. I need to control where it goes.”

Or—are you the cart—being pushed and pulled by whomever comes along...filling you with whatever they choose?

...he said to them, “Do you believe I can do this?” They said, “Lord, we do.” –Mt. 9:27-31

A PUBLICATION OF OUR SAVIOUR’S LUTHERAN CHURCH
August 2011
Observations From the Deck

by Pastor Tom Grevlos

"Let the children come to me..." Jesus

As I draft this article, I hear the chatter and laughter of our Vacation Bible School children. We are hip-deep in our second summer session of Vacation Bible School. It is a week of abundant smiles, little children hanging on to older kids, energetic singing, snacks that ingest the lessons, and an occasional appearance from VIP (very important panda...yours truly) It is always a great week of learning and of being the face of love for children! I am grateful to all the adults and youth who create space in their life to help lead.

The faces and voices of the children remind me of the importance of our family ministry and the critical role parents play in their child’s faith formation. Our faith in God is not self made, love for God is transmitted from person to person, and from generation to generation...or it isn’t! The faith formation of our children and of adults first takes shape by the priority we give it in our homes. In God’s fertile imagination families were and still are the most important environment for faith to be shared, encouraged, and lived. Our faith community seeks to support families and provide intentional ways by which all family members can deepen their relationship with God and with one another.

Because of your commitment financially, we are able to provide a strong faith formation ministry for families at Our Saviour’s. This is and always must be a priority! Our commitment to children’s, youth ministry, and family ministry is incredibly demanding and equally rewarding!

Our ministry programs will be starting to build momentum in August for our launch in September. Numerous opportunities abound for our children and families of all shapes, ages, and sizes. Keep a close watch for our Fall Happenings, check out the website, sign-up for e-Connections, take home your Weekly Connections, and use all the great tools of communication that have been developed as a source of encouragement for children and families of all ages.

The wonderful sounds of the children at Vacation Bible School remind me of the terrific responsibility we have to be a faith community that is warm and welcoming to all...including children. We may as well close our doors if this is not important! I urge parents to make your child’s faith formation and your faith formation a priority...not a matter of convenience.

My background is a combination of business and ministry. I owned and operated an exterior remodeling company in Aurora for many (many) years. During that time, I served my church in a number of roles and led teams to develop several ministries including a neighborhood Teen Center to reach at risk youth in the Montgomery, IL community, and a Christian pre-school. I was called into set apart ministry by my home congregation in 1997 and was ordained as a Church of the Brethren pastor in 2006. I served in a Co-Pastor role in a new church start, and as Assistant Pastor in a church restart. Before coming to Our Saviour’s, my role had been as Director of New Church Development for the IL/WI District Church of the Brethren. I believe all of my past experiences and training have converged in this new ministry role. I pray to serve this community well as we seek to continue in the mission of “Knowing Jesus and Making Jesus Known.”

A Note From Pastor Janelle

Thank you to Our Saviour’s for the opportunity to serve in ministry with all of you. The world is in need of Christ-followers, and I am blessed to have served with so many and seen the world changed for the better due to your conversations, prayer and outreach to a hurting world. I take with me all the experiences over the last four years, and am grateful for the ministry we have shared. On behalf of my whole family, Brad, Sophia and Soren, we wish Our Saviour’s the very best as all of you continue to get to "know Jesus and make Jesus known!"

Pastoral Call Process for Foster Learning

We have begun the process of searching for a pastor who will be dedicated to the area of faith formation. We will keep you well informed.

A New Journey

By Lynda DeVore

I am very excited to be serving the Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church family as your new Executive Director. I grew up in, and continue to reside in the Oswego, Illinois community where I share my home with my faithful, and very adorably companion Buster, an 11 year old Schnoodle (Schnauzer and Poodle mix). In my non-work hours I enjoy walking, bicycling, yoga and strength and toning exercises. I like to read and enjoy music.

Save A Life

Submitted by Dawn DeBoer

Did you know the disco hit “Stayin’ Alive” can actually help save a life? The song has the same beat as the proper rate of chest compressions during CPR.

Blood Drives

Submitted by Dawn DeBoer

Our blood drive on July 11 surpassed our goal—a total of 39 units of blood/packed cells was donated. Our next blood drive will be Feb 18, 2012 at Our Saviour’s. Thanks to all who participated. Your contribution is truly priceless!

Bereavement

God of New Life, surround with the peace of Your presence all those grieving the death of loved ones, especially for:

• Kim and Frank Baleskie on the death of Kim’s mother, Lorraine Heywood.
• Gretchen Abruzzo and family on the death of her father, Ernest Schwehm III.
• John Rumishek and family on the death of his brother in law, Gary Kreamer.
• Roberta and Ned Musselman on the death of their son, Michael.
• Sheila and John Alonso on the death of Sheila’s aunt, Andrey Andrews.
• Craig Boehmke and family on the death of his sister, Kim Kaczor.
• JoAnne Haubenreiser.
• The Biegalski family on the death of Kim’s father, Bob Bosman.
• John Rumsheek and family on the death of his brother in law, Gary Kreamer.
• Barbara Rutherford on the death of her cousin, John Haubenreiser.
• Roberta and Ned Musselman on the death of their son, Michael.
• Sheila and John Alonso on the death of Sheila’s aunt, Andrey Andrews.
• Craig Boehmke and family on the death of his sister, Kim Kaczor.

Births

We rejoice with Bob and Lindsay Swanson, and grandparents Don and Barb Swanson and family on the birth of Max Robert Swanson.
Celebrating Special People

25 Years and Counting…
With Gratitude to God for the Privilege of Serving!

Pastor Tom is celebrating 25 years in ministry this July. He started his journey in ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church, Porterville, California as the Youth Director from 1980-1982. He attended Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota from 1982-1986 and graduated June 1, 1986. Only days later he married the love of his life, Jeanne, on June 7, 1986. He was ordained on July 13, 1986, at First Lutheran in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

From there, here is the journey his ministry has taken and some of the highlights;

Church: New Hope Lutheran Church, Missouri City, Texas
Position and Dates served: Associate Pastor, 1986-1990
Highlights: Building of church multi-purpose center; Developing and growing youth ministry programs, Son Tommy was born.
Trivia: Frequented Luby’s Cafeteria and Lone Star Café, bought first home.

Church: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Addison, Illinois
Position and Dates served: Lead Pastor 1990-1996
Highlights: Building and Renovation Program, Grew worshiping community and family ministry, Congregation received ‘Fast Growth’ Grant to call an Associate Pastor.
Trivia: Trained as a church consultant under Peter Steinke, trained as a Stephen Ministry Leader.

Church: Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church, The Woodlands, Texas
Position and Dates served: Pastor Developer of New Church Start 1996-2002
Highlights: Congregation financially independent within first two years, categorized as one of the fastest growing Lutheran mission starts in country growing to over six hundred in less than five years. First building included multipurpose space, Preschool for Sunday School classrooms, Adult Study Space and kitchen.
Mission trip to Lima, Peru.
Trivia: First church meetings in their living room, coached many of Tommy’s basketball teams, got their first dog! Congregation met for two years in Barbara Bush Elementary School.

Church: Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, Naperville, Illinois
Position and Dates served: Senior Pastor from 2002-present
Highlights: Congregation financially independent within first two years, categorized as one of the fastest growing Lutheran mission starts in country growing to over six hundred in less than five years. First building included multipurpose space, Preschool for Sunday School classrooms, Adult Study Space and kitchen.
Mission trip to Lima, Peru.
Trivia: Skysdiving with Tommy, a genuine hole in one, and reading glasses becoming necessary!

We will be celebrating Pastor Tom’s 25 years in ministry on August 28, 10:00 am - noon, with a reception in his honor. Please mark your calendars and join us for the celebration of his ministry. In addition to his celebration of 25 years in ministry, Pastor Tom and Jeanne are celebrating 25 years of marriage, their son Tommy’s college graduation and Jeanne finishing her studies in Spiritual Direction. Congratulations to the Grevlos family on these wonderful milestones.

Introducing Terry Thompson, Seraphim Choir Director!
The Worship and Arts ministry of Our Saviour’s is excited to introduce and welcome Terry Thompson as the Seraphim Choir Director beginning in September, 2011. The Seraphim Choir is the oldest of our three children’s choirs and includes children in grades 3-5. The choir will begin with a picnic on Wednesday, September 7, 4:30 pm at Main Campus, and weekly rehearsals begin on September 14, at 4:30 pm in the Bach Music Room. Terry graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelors and Masters in Choral Music Education. Terry was a high school choral director for 13 years and has taught private voice and piano. Terry and her husband, Dan along with their sons David and Steven are members of Our Saviour’s. Terry is passionate about music and children and is looking forward to working with the Seraphim Choir, as well as being part of the talented team of Caryn Borgetti and Stephanie Duesing, who direct the younger choirs.

What’s Going on This August?

Special Event…
Celebration for Pastor Tom
25 Years in Ministry
Sunday, August 28, 10:00 am - noon
Main Campus

Men’s Sing
Sunday, August 28
During All Worship Services at Main Campus

Missions…

PADS
Friday Night During August Celebration! Campus
Do you like to entertain? Do you like to bake?
Do you have clothes to share?
Do you like to stay up late?
If you said yes to just one of these questions, then find out more about PADS! Sign up tables are at both campuses. Contact Lorri Neely for more information at 630-759-3784.

Junior High and High School…
Great America Trip
Wednesday, August 10, 9:00 - 4:00 pm

“Fall Into” - Retreat Eagle’s Wings
August 12 - 13
Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center
Oregon, IL

Junior High Parent Session
Sunday, August 21, 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Celebration! Campus

High School Parent Session
Sunday, August 21, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Celebration! Campus

High School Cook Out
Sunday, August 28, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Celebration! Campus

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Opportunities

Take 2 Ministry
By Jim Hiner
Take 2! is a program created at Our Saviour's that seeks new insights and opportunities for those individuals who are either contemplating or transitioning into retirement and want to explore what comes next. "LifeKeys", a series of self assessment exercises, are used to help individuals focus on their gifts, talents, values and passions. Through supportive group discussion we probe how these personal traits can be used to create meaning and purpose for the individual while also creating a positive impact and legacy for future generations.

Here’s a few comments from some of the participants:

- I think I had already processed some of this thinking upon my retirement. But now, I have a more concrete way to evaluate what I need and how I can more effectively contribute to both the faith community and the community at large.
- Now being much more aware of my life gifts and how I can be most effective, I will be able to better identify areas where I can make a positive impact. I want to create energy, not deplete energy.
- This program is thought provoking and a great way to do some self examination and gets you focused on your gifts/talents and the value they have regardless of your stage of life or professional standing.

We will be offering the program three times during the next year. All three offerings will take place at the Adult Learning Center at Celebration! Campus from 7:00 - 9:00 pm and will last for 7 consecutive weeks. Each offering is limited to 10 participants.

Here’s are the sessions we will be offering:
- Fall – Mondays from October 3 thru November 21.
- Winter – Tuesdays from January 17 thru February 28.
- Spring – Mondays from April 9 thru May 21.

An information session will be held on Sunday, September 11 at the Adult Learning Center at Celebration! Campus from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. You are invited to come and learn more about the program and to get answers to your questions.

For more information contact Tracy Butler at tlb1961@aol.com or 630-650-0173 or Jim Hiner at jrhiner@comcast.net or 630-964-7408.

Finding Financial Peace

More than 70% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck. Thirty-three percent of Christian marriages end in divorce, and money problems are the number one cause.

"When I lost my job, we knew we were going to be okay. The peace of mind we had knowing we didn’t have to worry about car loans, credit card bills, student loans or medical bills—and that our emergency fund would provide for us until I found another job - was a real blessing.”

"Last night, my husband and I did our budget and paid the bills together and when we were done, we hugged and kissed. Our 7-year-old came up to me and said, 'Mommy, you aren’t crying and Daddy didn’t yell, what happened?’ This was the first time in five years we didn’t have a fight over the bills.”

Financial Peace University consists of a 13-week video curriculum—taught by financial expert and best-selling author Dave Ramsey—that incorporates small-group discussions to encourage accountability and discipleship. Its mission is to empower and give hope to everyone from the financially secure to the financially distressed. Financial Peace University is highly entertaining for everyone, with a unique combination of humor, informative financial advice and biblical messages. More than one million families have already had their lives changed by attending.

Our Saviour’s will be offering Financial Peace University this Fall, starting Wednesday, September 14 and is accepting participants now. Join us for the Free preview night on Wednesday, August 31, 7:00 pm in the Adult Learning Center at Celebration! Campus.

For more information contact Tracy Butler at tlb1961@aol.com or 630-650-0173 or Jim Hiner at jrhiner@comcast.net or 630-964-7408.

Our Saviour's Hosts Group From Fremont, NE
By Lynn Panosh

On Tuesday, July 12, Our Saviour’s had the opportunity to “pay back” as we hosted 80 students and adults from the group “SPOUDAZO” (Greek: to be earnest, diligent). First Lutheran Church in Fremont, NE has been the organizer of this Ecumenical youth summer group for the past 19 years. They draw from 21 local churches and the teens meet 2 times a week for 7 weeks in small group Bible study, drama and music rehearsals and then take their ministry on the road.

Eagle’s Wing’s families and more, headed by Heidi Berry, donated food and time to host a barbecue dinner to feed the group upon their arrival at Celebration. A nice crowd of about 100 were treated to the music and drama ministry of these talented teens as they presented “The Truth Will Set Me Free”. Following the concert, families took the students and adult leaders to their homes for the night.

It was a chance for our students to energetically host another ministry tour and for their parents and other families to experience through this visiting group what Eagle’s Wings and Hearts in Puppetry do during their tour in June. It was so gratifying to see the interaction of everyone…new friends were made, ministry was shared and God rejoiced!

Youth

Camp SMARFF Is A Success!
By Lynn Panosh

During the week of July 11-14, eighteen Jr. and Sr. High students attended a theatre day camp at Celebration. Under the direction of Ed Perry and Denise Berzczynski, with assistance from Taylor Musial, Nathan Siwa and Rachel Druke, these students rehearsed music, lines and choreography, ate lots of food, played games and prayed. On Thursday, this band of musical thespians, presented their finished product "The Old Testament Fast Forward" by Tom Long and Allen Pote after just 4 short days!

Denise Berzczynski directs Praise Express, the Jr. High choir at Our Saviour’s and is the Jr. High Choral/General Music Director at Kennedy Jr. High. Ed Perry, a Northern Illinois Theatre major is a 4th grade teacher in Oswego.
Children

Lifebooks for Foster Children
By Janine Norgaard
In the Spring of 2011 the children of The Village church school gave offerings totaling $1109.64. These were donated to Lutheran Social Service of Illinois to be used for providing foster children with Lifebooks.

Lifebooks are used by the children, foster care parents, and case workers, to record important days like birthdays and special outings with pictures and written entries.

To My Friends,
I like people being nice to me. I like to share stuff with kids and my sister. It's really, really cool to share. Thank you.

To the kids that donated English. They have to be able to understand the classes, and of course speaking English on the construction background. How would this work if they moved several miles away? Away from friends, family, work, carpools, and family babysitting. Perhaps even more fundamental is the mindset for planning ahead. For many refugees who have spent years in refugee camps, the thought of planning for next month, much less next year, is beyond what they can grasp.

It is a long process (6-12 months) to become a Habitat homeowner, starting with attending classes, individual counseling, and providing lots of documents. Nonetheless, 3 refugee families have begun the process so far. While a number of families do not meet minimum criteria, we continue to explore the possibility with other refugee families. Stay tuned for updates.

PDO Campers Enjoy God's Wonderful Creation
By Kelly Gilligan
The temperatures were high but so was the energy level as twenty-six children made the most of their “fun in the sun” watching “things with wings!” Those were the themes of the two Parents Day Out (PDO) summer camps for two and three year olds. As the children played in the sun, sand and “sprinkler surf” they were reminded that God created a wonderful world and we are all happy to be a part of it. Binoculars were created and used to discover things with wings and magnified containers helped us better examine them. Even airplanes and angels made the list of things with wings. And did you know that parachutes and beach balls are fun to play with, but if you don’t hold on to them, they will “fly away” too?

The week ended with fun in the sprinkler and ice water pool as we got some relief from the hot sun and cooled down all the while enjoying popsicles, friends and lots of bubbles! This may have been the first year for PDO Summer Camp, but after a successful two weeks we can’t wait to see what next summer will bring as we build on the discovery and fun that took place this year. We thank God for His wonderful creation and for the beautiful children He has given to us with whom to share it.

Local Missions

Refugees and Habitat for Humanity
By Anne Wentz
Many of you may be familiar with Habitat for Humanity. It is a non-profit organization that helps provide a way for low income families to buy a house. Our Saviour’s has supported Habitat for years by sending work crews of 12-15 people once a month during the spring and summer to help construct the houses.

So it seemed like a natural fit to explore the possibility of Habitat being a way for refugee families to buy a home. There are many criteria for selection to be a Habitat “partner”, a recipient of a Habitat house. There is a financial range the family must meet, each applicant must be willing to put in 250 hours of “sweat equity” (attending classes, and helping in the construction), the family must have a “pretty good” credit score, and other selection criteria.

In addition to all of these criteria, refugees have some additional challenges. They need to be able to speak English. They have to be able to understand the classes, and of course speaking English on the construction site is a safety issue. Also many refugees currently live in a community with lots of families from their cultural background. How would this work if they moved several miles away? Away from friends, family, work, carpools, and family babysitting. Perhaps even more fundamental is the mindset for planning ahead. For many refugees who have spent years in refugee camps, the thought of planning for next month, much less next year, is beyond what they can grasp.

It is a long process (6-12 months) to become a Habitat homeowner, starting with attending classes, individual counseling, and providing lots of documents. Nonetheless, 3 refugee families have begun the process so far. While a number of families do not meet minimum criteria, we continue to explore the possibility with other refugee families. Stay tuned for updates.

Habitat for Humanity Impacts Volunteers
By Bob Turnquist
I had been on a mission trip to Guatemala several years ago. I helped with the clean up after the mud slides washed away homes and villages. It was shortly after I retired that Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf coast. Our church put together several groups to help with the clean up and rebuilding. Since I had been on a trip of this type before, I felt I could help. I knew from my experience in Guatemala that this was a similar disaster and knew the people who lived there needed help and hope. We could do both for them. Rebuilding is one thing we can do, but visiting with the people and hearing their story can be just as rewarding. I have since made several trips to the Gulf coast that I put together, and some were not thru our church. I did stay at the same church in Biloxi where our church stayed. A couple of the trips were with my siblings. It was great that I could spend time with family members and at the same time help those in need. As a result of my trips to the Gulf coast, I have felt a need to help those that are not as fortunate as myself. I have been to Iowa twice to help clean up after the floods in 2009. Habitat has been a main cog in every region. As a result of their involvement, I have gotten connected with their work locally. I try to help out with the work site in West Chicago whenever I am available. It gives me a great feeling think I have given hope to someone in need.

August 20, marks another opportunity for those at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church to volunteer their time and give other children yards in which to play in and homes in which to unite families. The build site is located at 695 W. Sherman St., West Chicago, IL, and we will be building from 8:00 am – 2:30 pm. No experience is necessary! You must be 16 years old to be on site and 18 years old to operate power tools. For more information please email Vic.Hildebrand@Thrivent.com or Tracy.Butler@Thrivent.com or BobCheriTurnquist@gmail.com to RSVP.
Vida Humana...The Farm
By Pastor Mark
A few years ago when a bunch of us started to develop the vision for our Africa Missions, we made two things very clear.

1. **Tangible Results** – We wanted to know that our partnership with a ministry in Africa would produce tangible results.

2. **Help a Community** – We also wanted to ensure that we did not dilute our efforts and resources by scattering them across multiple projects. We wanted to help a specific community.

Fast forward to June, 2011. I can say with 100% certainty that our efforts in Chimoio, Mozambique are “helping a community” and producing “tangible results.” Here are some pictures from the farm and the new short-term irrigation system. The food the farm produces will provide Vida Humana’s AIDS patients with the nutrition they need so that the medications they receive can work. If they produce enough food, they can sell it at the market and generate additional financial resources for the clinic. Currently Our Saviour’s bears the largest percentage of the burden to support Vida Humana, so we are hoping to bring more partners to the table. If you are interested in partnering or know of a church or group that would be, please free to contact me at pastormark@oursaviours.com. The long-term vision is an investment of thousands of dollars that would irrigate much more of the farm and provide a truck to transport the produce to market. We are making progress.

I thank everyone who has prayed for and contributed to our efforts to walk side-by-side with our brothers and sisters in Africa who are taking care of the sick and voiceless in Chimoio. Continue to pray for them!!!

Highlights from the Summer
Children’s Choirs Sing for Senior Lunch
Under the leadership of Jill Ryan, about 20 children from the Children’s Choirs, sang selections from “A Tale of the Three Trees” for the Senior Lunch on Monday, July 11. Connie Halgrimson accompanied the singers. In addition, the children had made up 3 rap-like songs on McDonalds, Subway and Portillos, that they presented, complete with hand motions and then taught to those in attendance. It was a GREAT day!

Valuable Experience for Children and Youth
By Lynn Panosh
What is the value of being in a church children’s choir? In this age of quantitative value and outcome based on assessments, how do we define such a value? In the book, The Mozart effect, we have scientific evidence of the positive affect music has on the academic and intellectual development of a child. But what does it mean to be part of the children’s music program at church? Does it really make a difference in the life of the child or of the church in the long run? How does the church choir compete with all of the other sports, dance, and music activities offered in our community?

At Our Saviour’s, we are blessed with a team of highly qualified and talented choir directors at all levels from preschool through High School in both vocal and instrumental music. Our Saviour’s has a long tradition of excellence in music in many styles. But the question remains, why church choir? Music is the vehicle by which children come to know God more intimately, as well as build relationships with their peers as they SERVE through their music. Notes and rhythms are taught, but also scripture through the texts of the songs, faith sharing through prayer and Christian fellowship is the most important. What a life-long lesson is learned when a child realizes that alone, their voice can barely be heard, but when combined with other voices, God’s message is proclaimed in a new and wonderful way! Faith, love, patience and a servant heart is modeled through the leadership of the adults that have a passion, not only for music and children, but for God.

As we begin our study of “What Matters?” consider giving your child/student a multiple of gifts in one fun package. The gift of music, of friends, of serving, of growing in their faith. Choirs will begin rehearsals in September, but all are welcome to join at any time.

**Children**
- Children’s Choirs, Wednesdays - 4:30-5:30 pm
  - Joyful Noisemakers (K) Stephanie Duesing, Director
  - Cherubim Choir (Gr. 1-2) Caryn Bortgetti, Director
  - Seraphim Choir (Gr. 3-5) Terry Thompson, Director

**Junior High**
- Praise Express Choir, Wednesdays - 5:45 - 6:30 pm
  - Denise Bercynski, Director
- Percussion Ensemble, Wednesdays - 6:30 - 7:15 pm
  - Shelley May Hutchison, Director
- Praise Bells (handbells), Wednesdays - 7:15 - 8:00 pm
  - Shelley May Hutchison, Director
- Hearts In Pupperty, Tuesdays - 6:30 - 8:00 pm
  - Kim Biegalski, Director

**High School**
- Eagle’s Wings Choir, Wednesdays - 7:00 - 8:00 pm
  - Lynn Panosh, Director
- Hearts In Pupperty, Tuesdays - 6:30 - 8:00 pm
  - Kim Biegalski, Director

Contact Lynn Panosh, 630-281-4236 or lynpanosh@oursaviours.com for more information or see the music brochure in the kiosks.