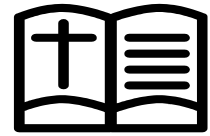


Church of the Savior



January 8, 2004

Pastor's Note:

Happy New Year! We have so much to be excited about. A new year is at hand. I am excited about what God is doing in and through our COTS family. Our building project is (as of right now) one month ahead of schedule and we expect to be finished in July instead of August! Our anniversary dinner is scheduled for the 25th of this month and we will be "Dancing Through The Ages" February 6th. COTS will also host a Scottish Pipe and Drum Concert this month, with bands traveling in from as far away as Arkansas. We've got a lot going on. But let's not forget the main reason we are here – to worship God and to mature in our relationship with our Creator. The last year and a half, our primary emphasis was to focus on the cross and not the distractions the world throws at us. This year, we are going to focus on God's vision for us as His church body. From now through Lent, we will be addressing God's vision for His people, and how do we know we are walking in the anointing of God or our own desires. We will then be looking at how each of us is a leader in the church and what God expects from His leaders. All in all, I see an exciting and Spirit-filled year ahead of us. May we praise God together in the coming year(s)!

Pastor Thea



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!
~ JANUARY ~**

Cindy Kienlen ~ 1st
Lou Ann Rice ~ 6th
Barbara Kamp ~ 7th
George Reeves ~ 8th
Mary Louise Davis ~ 8th
Byron Hoon ~ 11th
Richard Jenkins ~ 11th
Barbara Klein ~ 13th
Howard Swanson ~ 16th
Ruth Murray ~ 17th
Pat Murray ~ 24th
Deb Roberts ~ 26th

Church of the Savior ANNIVERSARY DINNER



When: January 25th



Time: 6:00 p.m.



Cost: \$7.00



Entertainment:

PC High School Choir

Please sign up so we can advise the caterer.

A Free Will Collection will be taken for the choir.



Notes from Deb-

Youth Truth: Okay, guys! Are you ready for a great 2004? Here are some spiritual guidelines for your year ahead:

- 1- Walk with God – daily through devotional time, prayer, and how you live
- 2- Exercise your mind, heart, and body
- 3- Stay active at church...it's a good teacher for all of life to have a church home and interact with all ages.

Rehearsals begin January 11th for "Godspell" – also parents' meeting for the ski trip and C.O.T.S.Y. Café!

February 6th – Dance Through The Ages

March 28th – Choir Cantata "A Festival of Hymns" - Stay tuned for other event dates!

Joyful Noises: Well, it's rehearsal time again and we've got a great spring ahead. Mark your calendars now to be present at rehearsals and get ready for a wonderful spring Cantata "A Festival of Hymns". Thanks for all your hard work.

Kids Korner: Hi guys! Well...Children's Choir starts back Wednesday, Jan. 7th and our next kids time together will be Sunday January 18th from 4 PM to 5 PM. See you then!

- Deb

In Our Prayers...

Dorothy Reeves
Will Kamp
Nancy Murphy
John Robinson
Wes Baxter (in Belize)

**if you know of someone who would benefit from a visit by our Caring Commission or Pastor.*

"Thank you to everyone for your visits, cards, and prayers. Thanks to the doctors and nurses at Mercy Heart Hospital, I'm back at work and feeling great." – Steve Etzkin



THANK YOU

to the following for your donation with the
Living Christmas Tree:

Helen Lanius, Marge and Glenn Van Wyngarden, George and Wenoa Harber, Esther Spencer, Mike and Donna Deming, Myrl and Betty Perkins, Beth Dietz, John and Sharon Reeves, Jerry and Nancy Williams, Margaret Horany, Howard and Margaret Swanson, Lucille Whiteturkey, Elsie Williams, Sulie Andres, Pat and Ruth Murray, Helene Swaim, Clarence and Vera Feightner, Shirley Hammil, and Chet and Laverne Smith.

“Thank you to all of the church family for your generosity this Christmas. We have truly been blessed to be called to ministry with our COTS family. “
Blessings, Pastor Thea

“You may not be the largest, but you are absolutely the greatest congregation and the most generous one I can imagine. Thank you, thank you!” – Lou Ann Rice

“Thank you so much for the terrific Christmas bonus. It was incredibly thoughtful and very helpful to me and my family. You’re such a generous congregation and I continue to love it here.”
Love, Deb Roberts

“I sincerely hope you all realize how much your generosity during Christmas has helped my family. I feel extremely fortunate to work here and you all are truly a wonderful group of people. Thank you!” – Dale Gomez


Is This A Great Church Or What?

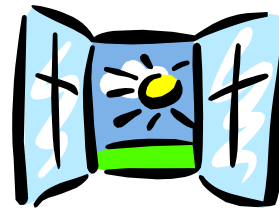
If you are reading this note in the newsletter, then the church staff has agreed to make this a regular feature. I am submitting this totally anonymously. I feel that this is a GREAT church and that there are times when we get caught up in being too busy or even the politics of what is going on to realize it. That is why I would like to start this feature to help us all remember what it is we have here.

I feel there is a tremendous spirit that is alive and well in this church. I have seen great amounts of generosity in both money and in time spent by many of the members. There have been times, recently, that I personally have been down in the dumps and it is the members of this church that have pulled me through. This is a part of what our Savior has called us to do and I want to give my deepest thanks to this entire group of special people.

While I will continue to submit articles for this, I also want all the members of this church to also take on this task. If there is any person, group, or event that has made you feel that this is a GREAT church, then please submit an article to this column and share it with all of us. You can either give your name or do so anonymously. It will be up to the discretions of the church staff as to what articles will get published and when.

Author unknown

Congratulations to **Michael Griffin** 
who received a Masters Degree in Accounting from OSU in December. Mike will work for Grant Thornton in their audit department.
Your church family is very proud of you!



Thank you, Thank you

to all those who participated in the Chili/Soup Cookoff. We had 18 entries and congratulations to Janie Thompson for winning the Golden Ladle Award. Mike Deming won for the heartiest, Aaron McKee won for the meatiest, and Ron Hobson won for the spiciest. Also, a special thank you to our judges: Nate Derosier, Shea Bainter, and Allison Rogers. We are going to make this an annual event, so get your chef’s hat ready for later this year. We are talking about having a Bar-B-Que cookoff in the Summer. Let me know what you think! – Mary Webster



IMPORTANT NEWS!



At the December Board of Elders meeting, it was decided to **change the COMMISSIONS MEETING from the second Tuesday of each month to the second Sunday afternoon of each month.** It was felt that this would help many members who are unable to attend evening meetings. This also worked out very well in that the Youth Ministry Team is also serving a lunch on that Sunday each month as part of the C.O.T.S.Y. Café.

Following the morning service, we will have C.O.T.S.Y. Café and then after lunch we will have the Commission meetings. We realize that this will mean a longer day for many members, however, with the fact that most members are already at church and that a meal is being served, it was felt this would be a positive step.

After this has been tried for a few months, the BOE will evaluate the effectiveness of this new idea.
Yours in Christ,
Dave Webster



E-mail from **Wes Baxter:**

Hello! Just wanted to thank everyone for being so helpful and working with my mom to get the funds (love offering) to me. Thanks to all- I can hardly believe my time is over half worked away. I am anxious to come back and tell all who care to listen, but also to come back to help. God has made my cup run over with blessings in support and joy in serving others.

God Bless. Love, Wes

A BIG THANK YOU

to everyone who helped with the Advent event. Also, thank you to Jim Kohout for doing the patterns for the Chrismsons. I feel our tree looked the best ever. Thank you for coming and taking part in the celebration of Advent. – Mary Webster

Social-Time Snacks

The Worship Commission invites you to sign up to bring after church refreshments for a Sunday. The sign-up sheet also has a place to put it is a special occasion or you can simply donate your loose change in the jar and it will help pay for coffee, cups, and other supplies.

Thanks - Barbara Klein



YOU'RE INVITED...



Local Pipe Band sponsors CEOLMHOR in Oklahoma City! The date of this concert is **Jan. 17th at 6:30 p.m.** The admission is only \$15 per person or \$25 per family (with children under 12). The Scottish Pipe Bands that will be featured and performing are: Lyon College Pipe Band (from Arkansas), Oklahoma Scottish Pipes and Drums, and Highlanders of Oklahoma City. Proceeds from this concert will benefit the United Scottish Clans of Oklahoma, Inc., a not for profit corporation. **AND earlier that evening at 5:00 p.m.**, they will celebrate the 245th Birthday of Robert Burns in the fellowship hall with a PL supper, fellowship, and entertainment.

Mark your calendars for this special event.

FINANCIAL NEWS:

In regards to the financial statements located in the Narthex, there may be mistakes in your statement. The treasurer's office is aware of this and if you notice a mistake in your statement, feel free to call the church office to speak to one of the treasurers.

As a reminder, the pledge cards are located in the Narthex next to the statements as well.

Thank you.

Pledge Budget needed per week: \$4,171.50
Actual pledges: 12-07: \$7,419.00 12-14: \$1,413.00
12-21: \$2,406.00 12-28: \$3,435.00

*special offering for UCC and Presbyterian Pastor's Pension Funds on 12-24: \$597.30



Youth Group Parents:

There will be a ski-trip meeting this Sunday, January 11th at 4:00PM
Important information will be shared – please be there!

~ WOC ~

Women of Church will meet Tuesday, **January 13th at 10:00 AM** for fellowship, fun, and Bible study. We would love to see you there!

Bible Study

Meet every **Monday at 9:30 AM** in the sanctuary for your weekly insight of the Bible. As a reminder, this Monday, January 12th, the south entrance will be closed due to construction, so please enter through the east door to the sanctuary (off of Grove). See you then!



Sunday Mission Collection **will go to Reaching Our City (ROC)**

They are in need of paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels...), hygiene items (toothpaste, deodorant, soap...) and non-perishable food items.

Please bring your donations to the church office or place in the wagon outside the sanctuary and thank you for your help!

Welcome 2004 Elders:

Beth Dietz, Georgia Gandall, Barbara Gaskin, Aaron McKee, Jerrel Murray, and Joe Thompson

To those Elders leaving, thank you for all your hard work during the last 3 years:

Jim Kohout, Pat Martindale, Ruth Murray, Kelley Smith, Howard Swanson,
and Marge Van Wyngarden

Church of the Savior
5600 NW 63rd
OKC, OK 73132

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:



SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:50 a.m.
Youth 5:00 p.m.

MONDAY

Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Mobile Meals 9:00 a.m.
Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Quilters 10:00 a.m.
Kids In Action 4:30 p.m.
Choir 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Men's Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
Mobile Meals 9:00 a.m.

Staff:



Pastor: **Rev. Thea A. McKee**
Director of Music, Youth & Young
Families: **Deb Roberts**
Office Administrator: **Dale Gomez**
Organist: **Lou Ann Rice**
Financial Secretaries: **Georgia Gandall**
& Janie Thompson
Treasurer: **Lucille Whiteturkey**

Office: (405) 721-5241
Fax: (405) 722-7450

cots@sbcglobal.net
Website: cotsokc.org

FYI:

Lucille Whiteturkey is a Notary Public.
If you need this service, please call the church office
to schedule an appointment.