

# Church of the Savior

## The Messenger

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Next issue of the newsletter: Tuesday, January 21, 2003

Deadline for items: Friday, January 17, 2003

### Pastor's Letter

The new year is upon us, and we have a great deal to look forward to here at COTS. Installation and ordination of new officers will take place during worship on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Then following worship, we will celebrate COTS's anniversary with a potluck and a time of reflection, entertainment, and looking towards the future. The elders and I will then take your ideas, comments and suggestions and use these to enable our strategic planning for the ministry of COTS. We will be gathering together for the elders retreat January 31-February 1.

On Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, I would like to invite all the parents and children of our church family to attend a class on communion. We will meet during the Sunday School hour and prepare the children to participate in communion. While any baptized person is invited to the Table, I think that it is vitally important for children to realize that communion is not just a snack we get sometimes. The cost is \$5.00 for the cost of a book for the children to keep. Please call the office to register by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January.

Are you going to Heaven, or Tulsa? Are Presbyterians filled with the Spirit, or do we just drink spirits? Explore the answers to these and many other questions we Presbyterians are asked by our fundamentalist brothers and sisters. Beginning February 9-March 2, we will be studying the book, "Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt: A theological survival guide for youth, parents and other confused Presbyterians." The class will be held Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour and then repeated Monday evenings at 7:00 PM. (That way the choir can come too—I know we have a lot of confused people in that group!!! Only kidding ya'll.) The cost is \$14.00 for the book.

Often, families have little clue what to do when a loved one dies. All too often we fail to talk about death, because we're terrified of facing this unknown enemy. For the last 10 years I have watched as families needlessly rip each other apart, because no one knew what to do, or who to contact. To ease the burden our church family faces when a loved one dies, Joe Kernke with Smith & Kernke Funeral Homes, will help me lead a seminar entitled, "Final Planning." This is NOT a financial or legal planning seminar. This seminar will explore the following:

- \*theological understandings of a funeral service in the reformed tradition,
- \*what you need to know to accomplish and survive the initial 72 hours,
- \*and how to help your family in the instance of your death.

Also, each attendee will develop a confidential file which will be kept here at the church. This file will have the directions for your final service, and any other information you wish to include. Some people have put the numbers of friends & family, location of important papers, etc.

So, plan on attending "Final Planning," on Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 AM to noon.

And finally for the month of February, COTS is one of the sponsoring churches for "Financial Peace Live, at First Nazarene in Bethany. On Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 PM- 6:00 PM, join us for a dynamic teaching and worship opportunity. Cost is \$17.00 per person to cover materials. COTS will then sponsor one of the 13 week follow-up classes. Not only is this an opportunity for individuals to learn Godly and biblical money management; but also, we have an outreach opportunity. "Financial Peace Live" will list COTS in its radio, TV

and print ads, as a site for the follow-up course. “Financial Peace Live” will also be paying off \$3,000 of debt for an attendee of the seminar on the 15<sup>th</sup>. But you have to attend to be eligible for the drawing. Registration ends January 15<sup>th</sup>. Call the office, or get a sign up sheet from the back of the sanctuary.

As you can see, we have a lot going on, but you have to come, and bring your friends and family. YOU are the best evangelism tool any church can have.

Pastor Thea

To our dear COTS family,

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to thank you for your kindness in remembering us this Christmas. The individual cards and gifts, as well as and the generosity of the church is most appreciated. Also, thank you for all of your cards, letters and phone calls while I was in the hospital.

However, your greatest gift comes to us time and time again—your friendship, wrapped in warmth and laughter and love. You can not do better than that! We look forward to many more wonderful Christmases together with you. Our church family is awesome.

Thank you again. God Bless you all.

Aaron, Pastor Thea, Mike and Katie

#### STAYING SAFE

Don't ride in an auto – they cause 20 percent of all fatal accidents.

Do not stay at home – 17 percent of all accidents happen there.

Do not walk in the street – 15 percent of all accidents happen to pedestrians.

Do not travel by air, rail or water – 16 percent of all accidents result from these activities.

Only .001 percent of all accidents happen in church! Obviously, church is the safest place to be!!

### **In Our Prayers**

Will Kamp                      Fritz Kate                      Nancy Murphy  
Laurence Wellons      Charlene Ledbetter      John Robinson

If you know of someone who would benefit from a visit by our Caring Commission or Pastor, please contact the church office.

### **DEB'S PAGE**

#### **Youth Truth**

“Arise, Shine, for thy Light Has Come”

That's the way we should live every day. We have the light in our hearts! WOW!

Looking ahead:

The month of January will be spent planning our Contemporary Youth Service which will be Sunday evening February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Get ready to be strong leaders for Christ.

#### **Joyful Noises**

Hi choir – This promises to be a great Spring with lots of great music. Thank you for all of your hard work over Christmas and New Year. I appreciate all of you. See you each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Kids Korner**

Hi kids! Join me for an evening that belongs to just you. We'll have pizza, games and a Bible lesson.

When: Sunday evening January 12<sup>th</sup>

Be there at 5 p.m.

#### **The Group**

Hi Gang! I need your help with the Youth Group as we prepare our Youth Led Contemporary Service February 23<sup>rd</sup>. It will be a Sunday evening so please meet with us Sunday evening January 19<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. to plan.

### **NEEDED**

#### **COOKS NEEDED**

Mobile Meals request: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. Will consider Monday cooks also. Help us keep this Mission service going.

#### **Volunteers Needed**

We are in need of volunteers to help assist in answering the church office phones from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. when the church secretary is out of the office. Please call and leave your name with Karleta.

### **WHAT'S GOING ON**

#### **WOC Meeting**

All women of the church are invited to attend the coffee and meeting of the Women of the Church Tuesday, January 14, at 10:00 a.m. Coffee and refreshments will be served and good fellowship will follow.

### **THANK YOU**

#### **Thank You VERY MUCH!**

Thank you to the congregation of Church of the Savior for such a generous Christmas gift. Your love and support through the year was such a blessing for my family and me.

Love you all,

Karleta

## Living Christmas Tree

Thanks to those who donated cards to the Living Christmas Tree to help support The Evangelical Children's Home and Goodland Children's Home.

Margaret Horaney	JonEvah & Jerrel Murray	Lucille Whiteturkey
Vera & Clarence Feightner	Sulie Andres	Elsie Williams
Betty & Myrl Perkins	Ruth & Neil Pat Murray	LaVerne & Chet Smith
Charlotte & Jim Franklin	Reeves' & Williams' families	Margaret & Howard Swanson
Shirley Hammil	Beth Dietz	Helen Lanius
Lloyd Von Tungeln	Helene Swaim	Jo Ann & Will Kamp
Wally Kamp & Leona Kamp	Marge & Glenn Van Wyngarden	

## FYI

Dear Church Family,

Happy New Year 2003! It is time to put away the Christmas decorations for another year and take off those extra pounds we gained over the Holidays. Memories are still fresh in our minds of happy times celebrating the birth of the Christ Child with our families. We can look back at our failures and accomplishments. We can also live in the future, waiting for an event to happen, with hope or fear. A better alternative is to live in the present. Thomas Carlyle once said, "Our main business is not to see what lies mainly in the distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand." Theodore Roosevelt said, "Do what you can with what you have right where you are." Of course, we need goals, for goals give direction to life and vitality and depth to our thoughts. Today is a good day to make a new commitment to growth and achievement.

With God's help, we can accomplish these goals in our own lives and the life of our congregation. There are many opportunities for you to become active in the ministry of the Church of the Savior. The Commissions need members. Volunteers are needed for Mobile Meals. The Sunday Schools need teachers. Karleta could use help occasionally in the office. Since we no longer have a handy man on staff, volunteers are needed. The Choir needs more members. Deb needs volunteers to help with the Youth Program. You will receive a blessing, and today could be the best day of your life.

I wish you a Happy New You filled with Joy, Good Health and Many Blessings.

Cordially,  
Howard Swanson  
President

## 2003 Commission Chair Roster

**Adult:** Dot Rosson, Chair, Billy Rogers, Co-chair  
**Caring:** Marge Van Wyngarden, Chair,  
**Child Care:** Pat Martindale, Chair  
**Christian Ed/Youth:** Kelley Smith, Chair  
**Worship:** Barbara Klein, Chair, Sharon Reeves, Co-chair  
**Mission:** Ruth Murray, Chair  
**New Member:** George Whiting, Chair  
**Support:** Lloyd Von Tungeln, Chair

**President:** Howard Swanson  
**Vice President:** Paula Pons  
**Secretary:** Dave Webster

Church of the Savior  
5600 NW 63<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73132

January 7, 2003

**Ministers:** All Confirmed Members  
**Pastor:** Rev. Thea A. McKee  
**Director of Choir, Youth, and Young Families:** Deb Roberts  
**Organist:** Lou Ann Rice  
**Office Manager:** Karleta Doss

**Office hours:** Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m.- 4:00p.m.

**Office phone:** 405.721.5241

**Fax:** 405.722.7450

**Website:** [www.cotsokc.org](http://www.cotsokc.org)

**Church e-mail:** [cots@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cots@sbcglobal.net)

**Pastor e-mail:** [ta-mckee@iwon.com](mailto:ta-mckee@iwon.com)