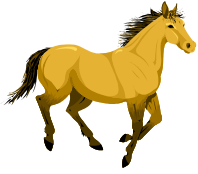


Church of the Savior



Messenger



Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Next issue of the newsletter: Tuesday, December 3, 2002

Deadline for items: Wednesday, November 27, 2002

Pastor's Letter

There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things "in order," she contacted her minister and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes. Everything was in order and the minister was preparing to leave when the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her. "There's one more thing," she said excitedly. "What' that?" came the minister 's reply. "This is very important," the young woman continued. "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand." The minister stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say. That surprises you, doesn't it?" the young woman asked. "Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request," said the minister. The young woman explained. "My grandmother once told me this story, and from that time on I have always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement. In all my years of attending socials and dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, 'Keep your fork.' It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming...like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!' So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder "What's with the fork?" Then I want you to tell them: "Keep your fork ...the best is yet to come." The minister 's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She had a better grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice her age, with twice as much experience and knowledge. She KNEW that something better was coming. At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and they saw the cloak she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the minister heard the question, "What's with the fork?" And over and over he smiled. During his message, the minister told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her.

Next Thursday, when you're giving thanks and eating turkey and you reach down for your fork let it remind you, ever so gently, that the best is yet to come. Even in the midst of unknown futures, economic hardships, difficulties with family, health problems, or the possibility of war, remember to give thanks and count your many blessings. The best is yet to come, so-- "Keep your fork."

Happy Thanksgiving,
Pastor Thea

In Our Prayers

Helen Lanius

Will Kamp

Tim Kate

JonEvah Murray

Laurence Wellons

John Robinson

Charlene Ledbetter

Leona Kamp

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

We are having a great time and we're growing spiritually and that is exciting to me. We have wonderful things ahead as a group.

Looking Ahead:

Sunday, November 24th at 6:00 p.m. – Youth and Parents night – Deb cooking.

Sunday, December 1st – All church Hanging of the Greens.

Friday, December 13th or Friday, December 20th – Christmas Lock in.

I will let you know soon about working at PUM and our "Light Your World" project here at church.

Joyful Noises

Are you ready for a beautiful Christmas season? We will be doing the Christmas section of "Celebrate Life" in a beautiful way by enjoying singing selections each Sunday of Advent.

I love you all and appreciate your hard work and time.

Kids Korner

I want you guys to be a special part of our "Light Your World" project plus... I want to take you out to do something special in the month of December for Christmas so... stay tuned!

NEEDED

Refrigerator for the Youth Group

Thanks to Lucille Whiteturkey for providing a fridge for the Youth Group.

Children's Moments

Please help our children during worship. Sign up for Children's Moments. We need volunteers December 1st, 22nd, and 29th. Pastor Thea has ideas and information. Please call Mary Webster at 728-0520 for questions.

COOKS NEEDED

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

Old Working Computers

The Child Care Center is in need of old working computers that are new enough to run children's software. Please contact Rachel Brand, Deb Roberts, or Paula Pons if you have one to donate. Thank you.

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.

PUM Santa Store

The Santa Store for Presbyterian Urban Mission will be at the back of the sanctuary through December 1st for the following items: Stuffed animals is not a need for us this year.

New toys, ages 4-12 (Please no war toys), Teen gift items, Mom and Dad gifts, Story books, Hats, socks, gloves, mittens (any size), Crayons and coloring books, Barbie dolls, Legos, trucks, Stocking stuffer items, Basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, Christmas decorations (new/good used). Board games, Money to buy toys.

First Sunday Mission Collection

December's First Sunday Mission Collection will be taken to Presbyterian Urban Mission. They are asking for peanut butter, jelly, canned meat, canned fruits, dry beans, rice, soups, etc. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

WHAT'S GOING ON

50 Plus Trip to Muskogee

On Saturday, December 7, the 50 Plus Group will take a trip to Muskogee to see the Christmas lights in Honors Park. We will leave the church at 1:30 p.m. We will also tour the Three Rivers Museum and have dinner at Harmony House. The cost is \$5 plus your dinner. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board with a limit of 14 only.

WOC Luncheon

All women of the church are invited to attend the Salad Luncheon given by the Women of the Church. Bring your favorite salad on Tuesday, December 10th and enjoy lunch and entertainment by the children in our Child Care Center.

ADVENT EVENT – Note: Time Changes

Advent is almost upon us on December 1st. Rev. Thea is having a Hanging of the Greens during the Worship Service. We will then have the Advent Event. This will hopefully start around 1:30 p.m. I would like each Commission to pick a craft and take care of the supplies and the teaching of that craft at the Advent Event. We will decorate the tree and sing carols. Caroling will begin at 3:00 p.m. This is a family affair and we always have a great time. Invite your friends, family, and neighbors. Please call Mary Webster at 728-0520 with any questions. Sign up sheets for the potluck and crafts are coming. Let's remember the reason for the Season.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is Sunday, December 8th and not the 1st of December. We will still have Hanging of the Greens and Advent Event on December 1st.

FYI

Lost Keys

Willie Sydner lost his keys in our South parking lot on November 5, 2002. If anyone found them, please contact him at 821-5451.

B. C. Clark

Remember - When you buy gifts, etc., from B. C. Clark that our church gets a percentage of the amount of the purchase. You need to ask but they gladly will give it.

HELP!

Please call us with any corrections, additions, subtractions to the name tag list, so we can print more tags. Our apologies for errors, or missing names. Thanks to all of you and especially Danny Smith our computer "whiz". Margo and George Whiting, 721-8959

Church of the Savior
5600 NW 63rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73132

November 19, 2002

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

Church e-mail: cots@sbcglobal.net

Pastor e-mail: ta-mckee@iwon.com