

When The Dust Settles



Pastor David Loesch's dedication Sunday sermon, "When Dust Settles," reminded LCEF Vice President Carole White once again that a building is but a tool to help proclaim the Gospel, administer the Sacraments and announce forgiveness to a world waiting to be touched. Members worshipping that day were also reminded that they themselves were being equipped to touch the world for Jesus.

And these members are out touching the world. Our Savior supports eight missionaries serving areas such as Los Angeles, Nigeria, Kyrgyzstan, Taiwan and Korea. Not only do they host a number of visiting missionaries, members are also active serving on short-term mission trips themselves at home and around the world.



The dark beams above display the original dimensions of the sanctuary before Our Savior's recent expansion.

LCEF assisted with Our Savior's new facilities initially by providing a small construction loan, and now permanent financing.

The congregation expanded their sanctuary, added a narthex, chapel and coffee space, new offices and work space. The fellowship hall was also expanded and additional classrooms will be finished in the future.

Baptized membership grew from 513 in 1999 to 850 today but worship attendance, while it increased, did not keep the same pace. Some potential growth in attendance may have been stifled by a lack of adequate sanctuary space. This expansion should help address the crowding issues. When a church is 80% full

(or more) it appears "too full" for visitors and it seems to create a glass ceiling on attendance. If visitors have to be split up between pews and not able to worship as a family, they probably feel less comfortable. While comfort is obviously not the main focus of our worship, avoiding discomfort for our guests IS a consideration. Though it was a tough decision since the entire church "family" would not be able to worship all at once, Our Savior added a Saturday evening worship service a couple years ago.



One of the new classrooms provides a bright learning environment for Sunday School and Our Savior Open Arms Preschool.

Our Savior's website announces four different Bible studies offered besides Sunday mornings. Our Savior is led by Rev. David Loesch who also serves as Iowa District West's Scholarship Committee Chairman. Other staff at Our Savior includes Deacon Jon Jacobsen and DCE Michelle McMullen. Another ministry of Our Savior is the Open Arms Preschool offering classes demonstrating Jesus' love to families of 3, 4 and 5 year olds.



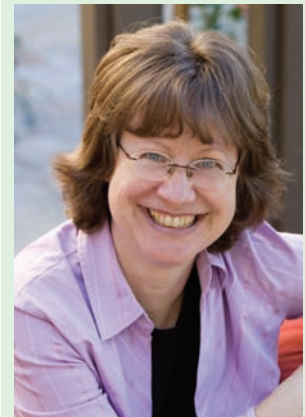
Our Savior Lutheran Church in Denison celebrated Dedication Sunday on September 13, 2009. Included in the construction is a new, spacious narthex.

Our Savior Mission Statement

"By God's Grace, Our Savior is a Christ-centered extended family, proclaiming the Good News of the risen Savior; by worshipping, teaching, reaching, and caring."



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