

FEBRUARY 1 | ISSUE 1

THE OSL OBSERVER

The Newsletter of Our Saviour Lutheran School

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STUDENTS SHARING GIFTS & THE WORD: CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

When we challenged our school community to provide a toy to change Christmas for 100 kids in the Bronx, we were expecting to meet our goal. When we surpassed our goal for a total of 185 toys, we were overjoyed to share with our community. By surpassing our goal, we got a chance to be proud, and to multiply our reach. Thanks be to God for the generosity of those who were able to donate and volunteer.

OSL students, faculty, and staff spent their day on December 21, serving God's people together. We joined together to sort, to wrap, to label, to pray over, to pack and to deliver gifts to Bronxworks. Students served by their after-school program come from families residing in shelters who struggle financially around the holidays.

Incorporating service into chapel time was an opportunity for students to spend time doing something meaningful for others. We are excited to continue partnering with the team at Bronxworks to be a part of positive changes in our community.

DEVELOPING STUDENT-ATHLETES: MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

OSL has been blessed over the years with strong athletic programming and has become a basketball powerhouse here in NYC. We continue to pray for the safety and development of our student-athletes on our 5 teams: OSL National, OSL Prep, OSL Regional, OSL Varsity (2022-23 Fall Champions), and our OSL JV Middle School Team. Our youngest rising student-athletes, the 8th grade class, are part of what is putting Our Saviour Bronx on the Move!

The Center for Urban Education Ministries (www.cuemnational.org), a national non-profit organization, focused on relentlessly strengthening urban education has awarded three Our Saviour students with "The Jake Nelson Achiever Award". This award honors select 8th graders attending an urban school, who perform academically and behaviorally at a high level, and plan to attend a Lutheran High School.

The students, Kaedyn Spence, Ryan Anderson, and Zaire Johnson were given this high distinction. Our Saviour continues to exceed expectations and moves forwards with great joy.

See their video and hear more about each student's story on our Socials: @TheRealOSL on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

Our renowned athletic prowess is matched by our individualized approach to building up lifelong learners in a small, safe, family environment."

***Coach Pete Wehye,
Director of Programs &
Head Coach OSL National***

WHAT'S UP NEXT: JOIN US!

- February 14th 2pm- **Playoffs Pep Rally**
- February 15th- **Senior Night OSL National**
- February 21 **OSL Talent Show Auditions**



OSL WELCOMES NEW MINISTRY PARTNER IN THE "CITY TO COME PROJECT"



Have you ever connected with a friend from the past and picked up right where you left off? This fall, Pastor Gonzalez and Deaconess Bolling reconnected with ministry friend, Pastor Jason Taber, who formerly served in Brooklyn, NY as pastor and urban missionary. He is OSL's newest partner in the ongoing "City to Come" project.



Our Saviour Lutheran School in the Bronx, NY is undergoing a season of intentional revitalization marked by deliberation, engagement, and Christ-centered outreach. The "City to Come" Partnership Project is a way for us to be in fellowship with churches and organizations who share a heart for urban education, youth development and ministry, and the joyous interruptions to life's trajectories that only God can bring!

Contact Pastor Gonzalez or Deaconess Bolling(mgonzalez@oursaviourbronx.org; jbolling@oursaviourbronx.org) for more information on the C2C Project.

The "City to Come" Partnership Project is a way for OSL to be in fellowship with churches and organizations who share a heart for urban education, youth development and ministry.

We had a brief interview with Pastor Taber from Cornerstone Lutheran Church in Indianapolis, IN who shared insights on urban education and partnerships.

Pastor Taber explains what excites him about the ministry work here at OSL: *I'm excited about the work at OSL because meeting people where they are with the Good News of Jesus is happening every day.*

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Continued from pg. 3.....*That is especially true with the school: Leading with a focus on sports to meet young people with something they're passionate about and also setting them up with a solid, well-rounded education that will positively impact their life is priceless. All of these connection pieces that the administration, faculty, and coaches pour into the young people earns the right to speak into their lives with the hope and joy of Jesus!*

Pastor Taber speaks to what ministry gifts are important for BIG CITY impact: *One of the greatest things about NYC is its openness to all kinds of people with all kinds of cultures, backgrounds, and life experiences. People make a positive impact in the city when they are willing to be open and flexible, and to find opportunities to lead with the Good News of Jesus in ways that meet people where they are.*

We ended with prayer requests for the ministry of our new partners at Cornerstone Lutheran Church, IN. *I routinely see God at work in my ministry at Cornerstone through the people He moves to step up in support—with their time, their expertise, and their finances. Over and over again, God shows me that He can and does provide for the work of His church through His people. Pray that I continuously learn the lesson that God provides, and pray that our people continue to respond to God's call with action and attention.*



ACADEMICS IN ACTION

January Midterms/Regents week is a time for students to share what they have learned in a formal assessment format. Many people hear the word "assessment" or test, but do not have a good idea of what it means. Assessment most simply put is "measuring what learners know."

Assessment is an important part of the educational journey—especially instruction. It helps teachers to know if the learning goals are being met.

On an admin level, it affects decisions about grades, placement, advancement, instructional needs, curriculum, and scholarship funding. Testing can be stressful, and parents are encouraged to support students during this time!

January 23-27th please pray for all of our students as they take state Regents exams and school midterms for their classes. As we look forward to Quarters 3 and 4, we ask these questions:

Teachers: "Are we teaching what we think we are teaching?"

Students: "Am I an active participant in my learning?"

Parents: "Am I keeping in touch (the bad AND the good) with my child about their education?"

Feel free to share your answers with any member of the Executive Leadership Team. We look forward to hearing from you!



PHOTO CREDIT: (ANITA FORD, JAN. 2023)



WORD IN THE HALLWAYS :

Do you have a story, photos, news, or highlights to share in our February issue?

Speak with our Writing/Journalism teacher (Ms. Ford) or Mr. Colon (Communications and IT) for student submissions.

- OSL Regional Guard **Donzell "DJ" Hamilton ('23)** breaks the home scoring record with **51pts** against Broome St. Academy.
- Senior Jaden "JDN" Rodriguez leads the class with **9 acceptances** and counting!
- **OSL Winter Gear is OUT.** Support our athletics programs by purchasing a hoodie, sweater or quarter zip for \$40.