The Messenger

Volume 227, Issue 1 July 2016

Our Savíor's Lutheran Church

612 Division St.; La Crosse, WI Church Phone: (608) 782-3468 **www.oursaviorslutheranchurch.net** Office Hours: 8:30–3:30, Mon.–Thurs.; 8:30–2:30, Fridays

"Our mission is to make the love of Christ known to <u>all</u> as we worship, serve and grow together."

Special points of interest:

- Memorials & Special Gifts p. 8
- Special Invitation p. 3
- Membership News p. 5
- Dorcas News p. 5
- WELCA News p. 10
- Letter From Bishop Eaton p.15
- Worship Notes p. 10
- Youth & Family Ministry p. 12
- Sugar Creek Bible Camp p. 13
- Social Ministry News p. 5, 14
- Art & Faith p. 4
- Walking the Labyrinth p.11

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Inside this issue:

Notes from the Pastor	2-	-3
Council Minutes	e	6
Financial Summary	4	1
Prayer Ventures	7-	-8
Event/Birthday Calendars	9-	10

All are welcome in this church!

The Good News of God's grace is for all, regardless of age, abilities, physical & mental health, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, education, income or strength of faith. There is nothing we do, have done or will do that can separate us from the love of God. God makes no exceptions, nor do we. Come join us in praise, prayer and the work of our Lord!



MARK-INGS

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for calling me in December 2005 to be your pastor. As I have said on a few occasions, in the fifteen prior years, I had never done a "what if" – what if I were to be pastor at Our Savior's. This wonderful place simply wasn't on my radar. As soon as I interviewed with the call committee, I knew it would be a great place to call a church home and engage in shared ministry. So from never thinking about being here, I have come to the place of saying this: I can't imagine being anywhere else. Thanks again for ten and one half years of sharing God's love and mercy in the worship, serving and growing together that we have been allowed to experience here at Our Savior's.

You have shaped me as much or more than I have probably shaped your life's journey. The commitment to being a Reconciling in Christ congregation happened a few months before Pastor Mithelman left you. In reality, then, the opportunity to live out that commitment and lead our advocacy work for a fully inclusive ELCA was entrusted to me in your call to be your pastor. At the same time, we needed to constantly work at our own unity so that this would never be an issue that would cause us to stumble. Thank you for teaching me so much on this journey together. The recent mass casualties in the horrific shooting in Orlando are as much as hate crime against the LGBTQ community as any act could be. We link arms in the ongoing work of being an inclusive, welcoming and healing place.

I have learned so much about the needs of our neighbors, those with economic disadvantages and mental health challenges and those who are homeless and those with a different racial heritage. I don't have comprehensive answers to all these big life issues, but I know a God who in Jesus walked toward those in need and opened the table to people on the margins. Jesus has been nudging me daily to listen to my neighbor. We cannot be silent when we see people hurt by our actions or our indifference.

I do not find myself jumping up and down with excitement about retirement, but it clearly is the right time. Yes, there are some things I still want to accomplish in life, and that does include work in some different form as a proud member of the ELCA. I have some ideas of how to contribute to life in this synod after retirement, but those will wait until after I have had time to try to regain health and strength that have been tested over the last few years. And yes, I do intend to take much more time to be a husband and dad and grandpa. All my family members have stories about coming in second to my vocation. Those who know my percussion background might be happy to know that I will be celebrating retirement by heading toward Indianapolis and the World finals of Drum Corps International.

I do grieve. This 24/7 position is a calling, and I know that I will not as regularly get to be involved in some things I love doing: leading worship, preparing sermons, leading Bible studies, conducting adult education. I will miss the practice of regularly looking for ideas to share with others.

Most of all, I will deeply miss the individual stories that represent relationships with so many of you built around life events and life activities, including the youth trips and the times you have asked me to pray with you, in joy and in sorrow. I will miss a long parade of volunteers who come by during the week to do incredible but often unknown things to keep our church life working so well: washing dish cloths, watering plants, setting up Holy Communion, washing windows, mowing the lawn, weeding the Peace Garden, fixing the plumbing, working with the boilers, and so many, many more ways that the people of this church show you love this place of God's grace.

Having said all this, I want to be clear about this point: I hope you will not miss out on these things. Do not miss a chance to volunteer. I believe it to be entirely possible that 80% of our church members have yet to work at a Come For Supper meal. Try it! There are so many other things you can do to find your place of service and joy right here.

Please, do not miss worship. There are many ways to deepen your faith and commitment to following Jesus,

but they start at the place where we receive forgiveness, grant one another peace, share our prayers, eat God's meal of strength and love, and hear God's word that helps us shine as lights in a dark world. Good people, probably better than I, will be leading worship and preaching sermons and teaching classes. Don't miss them! It would be easy to use my absence as an excuse to stay away. Ignore those feelings and come anyway. Your life of faith depends on it, and this community depends on you.

Please do not miss a chance to give for the joy of it all. Acknowledge before God that all we have is a gift from God entrusted for our use, and be generous with your time and your finances and your support. Please do not let my retirement keep you from experiencing any of this joy.

Sharon and I will still be living in this community. Early in the 1990's, Sharon, the big city girl from Cleveland who became the biggest support person for this small town Iowa boy, told me that this would be a wonderful place to retire. Little did we know that this indeed would come true. So in the months and years ahead, our paths will cross, perhaps even frequently. I will no longer be your pastor. Yes, you can call me Pastor Mark, but in truth, I won't be pastoring you, nor should I. That means that I will not be coming back for funerals, weddings, and other activities at Our Savior's, nor performing them for members at other locations, unless specifically invited by the new pastor or the church council. I will always love this place, and that is the reason I cannot come back. There are professional boundaries that need to be honored, and your new leadership needs your total welcome and support, just as you gave it to me. Yes, we can talk together in the grocery store. We can always be friends. I won't turn the other way when I see you, I promise. I just cannot be your pastor.

Thank you again for the deep, deep privilege of being partners together at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, being God's hands and doing God's work together.

With a heart overflowing with love, Pastor Mark Jolivette

You're Invíted!

Come join us on Sunday, July 17th for a day of celebration for the ministry of Pastor Mark. As a way to honor Pastor Mark and his ministry a full day of events have been planned. Below is the schedule of events for July 17th (please note change in service time):

10:00 am - Pastor Mark to preside over his final OSLC service
11:30 am - Lunch served to the congregation by the Come for Supper team
2:00 pm - Retirement service for Pastor Mark at Our Savior's
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Community open house at Our Savior's

If you are interested in assisting in the day, sharing a photo or story about Pastor Mark, please contact either Sheila (srz6212@gmail / 608-317-0406) or Tracy (tracyonsrud@gmail.com / 507-450-7270).

ART AND FAITH (Card Makers) Art and Faith is a small ministry of Our Savior's that sends hand made cards every month to our shut-ins, elderly, college students, seminarians, military and others of our church. We are currently sending out 45-50 cards each month. Debbie Dukatz designs the cards and gets the materials ready. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 PM and assemble the cards. We stamp images, glue parts together, write notes and hand sign each one! Each card is lovingly made by Paula Tippery, Rachel Balow, Kim Richards Marquez, Jessica Zinniel, Betty Linse, Sandy Winterfield and others. Colleen Pitz is our "comptroller" - she makes sure each card is signed, each envelope addressed and stamped. Dorcas generously donates postage stamps to Art and Faith every year. You are welcome to join us at any time!



DORCAS NEWS

July always means it is picnic time in Dorcas Society.

We will have our annual picnic on July 6th at 6:30pm. Do not worry about the weather or the insects, we plan to meet in the Fellowship Hall. This is a pot luck meal, please bring a dish to share, the beverages will be provided. We will be playing BINGO, please also provide a white elephant prize in a paper bag. Come join us for a fun evening! Dorcas Board

Category	May Actual	May Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	2015YTD Actual
General Envelope Income	\$19,899	\$20,500	\$89,110	\$101,250	\$89,374
Special/Loose Offering	\$671	\$1,386	\$8,231	\$6,929	\$8,583
Other Income	\$917	\$ 1079	\$4,317	\$5,395	\$5,081
Operational Memorial Fund Transfers	\$6411	\$2,083	\$16,051	\$10,417	\$14,989
Benevolence Envelope	\$1,835	\$1,917	\$7,718	\$9,583	\$6,869
Other Benevolence	\$695	\$1,263	\$5,605	\$6,315	\$4,774
Total Income	\$30,428	\$27,978	\$131,032	\$139,889	\$129,670
Expenses	\$28,505	\$27,978	\$137,911	\$139,889	\$138,263
Net Income/Deficit	\$1923	\$0	(\$6,879)	\$0	(\$8,953)

FINANCIAL REPORT—May 2016

PASTORAL ACTS

<u>The Messenger</u>

Marriage:

Sheila Zentner & Tracy Zentner

Charlotte S. Duresky

Funerals: Ellen A. Nedvidek Robert A. Theile Ervina B. Spika

Burials:

JULY 2016—ALTAR GUILD

Cheryl Vieth (Chair) Nance Klapper (Co-Chair) Dan Lintin Elaine Lee Cindy Vieth Nancy Winberg



COME FOR SUPPER

Thank you to all of the volunteers who help serve all of our guests. You do a GREAT job!

July 2016 Sponsors:

07/05/16: OSLC / English Lutheran 07/12/16: OSLC / Prince of Peace / 1st Presbyterian 07/19/16: OSLC / N. Conference Church 07/26/16: OSLC

For the month of June, CFS is asking for **5# flour donations.** The flour may be left in the kitchen or given to *Nance Klapper, Gretchen Crary* or *Rod Tisthammer*. In the last four weeks, CFS has served over 900 meals! Here's the breakdown by each Tuesday:

May 17-? May 24-271 May 31-287

June 7—245 June 14—?

WOMEN'S CLOTHES CLOSET

The WCC hours are: Monday 9 am to 2 pm, Tuesday 2 pm to 6:30pm, and Saturday 9 am to 1 pm. If you would like to be a member of the style show committee (Fashion Cornucopia) and join in the fun, please contact Sherry Taylor.

	WCC Nunbers	WCC Nunbers			
Month	Clients Served	Donations			
May	164	57			

COUNCIL MEMBERS 2016

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary Christian Education Worship & Music Membership/Evangelism Property Social Ministry Stewardship Sheila Zentner Dan Lintin Rod Tisthammer Nancy Pohlman Courtney Cameron Sue Staples Tracy Zentner Lois Losby Laurie Engen Mark Zellmer

WAFER food for those in need

WAFER

Since Our Savior's is a consistent donor to WAFER, we want to keep you updated on the services WAFER provides. Remember, a gift of \$20 will help purchase a bag of groceries.

May 2016 Food Service Report

Total Packages	1,390
New Households	56
Total People Fed	3,114

<u>July Items</u>

Soup & Crackers, Baked Beans, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Hygiene items, particularly Razors

Attention families of Servicemen & Women...

Please call the church office if you have a family member in the armed forces. As we pray for peace, we also want to specifically pray for the safety of the sons, daughters and friends of our congregation. Also, if these designations have changed, please help us to change our lists accordingly. Thank you!

MESSENGER DEADLINE: MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016

Articles for the August Messenger must be turned in to the church office **NO LATER than 12:00 p.m.** on Monday, July 18, 2016. The Messenger will be assembled on **MONDAY**, July 25th at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for those interested in helping.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Unapproved Council Minutes for Thursday, June 16, 2016

PRESENT—Pastor Mark Jolivette, Lois Losby, Sue Staples, Laurie Engen, Shelia Zentner, Rod Tisthammer, Courtney Cameron, Mark Zellmer, Dan Lintin, Tracy Zentner EXCUSED—Nancy Pohlman

President Shelia Zentner called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

Devotions: Pastor Mark.

Secretary's Report presented from May 12, 2016. Motion (Lintin/Engen) to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report for May was reviewed. Motion (Losby/Zellmer) to approve Treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously. Pastor's Report

Thank you to Sue for the tremendous number of hours she is working and the job she is doing while we continue our search for a new administrative assistant

Will attempt to make a personal visit to everyone on the shut in list prior to his retirement

Working on active member list. An active member is someone that participates, communes or contributes within the past two years.

Board and Committee Reports

Worship and Music – Sue Staples, chair.

Laity Sunday went well – thank you to everyone that assisted

WELCA will start collecting school supplies for Hamilton and will have a list available in July

Stewardship – Mark Zellmer

Social Ministry – Laurie Engen

Discussion regarding La Crosse Area Food Deserts

AMOS and Share the Bounty updates

Property - Lois Losby

The labyrinth is complete and is beautiful. Be sure to take a look the next time you are at church

The light and outlet have been repaired in the parking lot Grass seed will be added to the front lawn where the sign used to be

Membership and Evangelism – Tracy Zentner.

June 26th is Our Savior's night at the Logger's game. Half of the ticket cost is returned to OSLC

Christian Education – Courtney Cameron

Planning to send a survey via Survey Monkey (online) to readers and families that participated in the Sunday School program

- Chris Krueger will be stepping down from Christian Education position to focus on the call committee. Will be looking for additional assistance.
- Youth mission trip to New Orleans begins on Saturday, July 23rd

Capital Campaign – Mark Zellmer

Bathroom renovation has begun

Discussed security including light beams within main hallways and exterior doors. Will need further study and proposals before making final recommendations

LED street light replacement

Old Business

- 1 Audit Committee has been formed and members include Dennis Baehr, Gene Linse and Mike Hampel. Audit will occur this summer
- 3 Lutheran Social Services (LSS), has occupied the former Associate Pastors' and is working out well

New Business

- 1 Sheila provided updates on call committee including chairperson and those that have agreed to serve on the committee thus far
- 2 Dan provided updates on the administrative assistant position
- 3 Sheila provided updates for pastoral coverage for after Pastor Mark retirements and her hopes that within a couple of weeks will be able to share with congregation
- 4 Pastor Mark's retirement celebration will be on Sunday, July 17th. Next planning meeting is on Tuesday, June 21st at 630 pm in the fellowship hall.

Next council meeting July 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Sheila Zentner, President



A prayer concern for each day of the month.

July + 2016

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the church. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

I Many congregations are tending community gardens and are now harvesting vegetables and fruit to share. We pray for abundant harvests and blessings on their efforts to engage members and neighbors in gardening—and learning to garden—for the benefit of those who are hungry.

2 We ask God to watch over youth and adults who venture into unfamiliar places on mission trips and service learning experiences, that they be safe yet open to unexpected opportunities for seeing the world through God's eyes, having assumptions and prejudices challenged, and experiencing mutual care.

3 As we are sent into the world and everyday life to do God's work, we pray that we be willing servants and disciples, trusting in the presence and power of God with us and in us—for the sake of the world.

4 Independence Day We give thanks to God for the freedom and abundance that we experience as a nation and pray that we will continue to challenge ourselves to embrace and demonstrate in our lives and laws values of freedom, justice, equality and care for all people.

5 ELCA Glocal Mission Gatherings take place across the country throughout the summer and help equip us for God's work—globally and locally. We pray the Spirit will fill participants and gathering leaders and musicians with energy, hope and wisdom for God's mission in the world.

6 We pray for The Episcopal Church, an ELCA full communion partner, and for the continuing growth of our relationship as we work together and discover how our gifts, leaders and ministries complement each other in sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

7 The Rev. Elisabeth Johnson, Anne and Willie Langdji and Susan Smith are ELCA missionaries serving in Cameroon and the Central African Republic. We give thanks for their ministries and faithful service and ask God to bless their work in education, health ministries, sustainable development and in helping our partner churches prepare leaders.

8 We remember in our prayers families, communities and nations recovering from natural disasters, including the earthquakes in Japan, Nepal and Ecuador, wildfires in Canada and the U.S., severe weather and flooding in the U.S., and areas of drought around the world.

9 In the midst of our presidential campaigns, we ask God to create in us mutual respect, wisdom and concern for each other, particularly for people—of all ages and situations—who are often excluded, unnoticed or reviled.

10 The "neighbor" that Jesus directs our attention and concern to goes beyond the familiar person next door. We pray God will open our eyes and hearts to our neighbors who are strangers, who cause us discomfort, who disagree with us, who live in places we'll never see or who are scorned by society.

II We ask God to forgive us when we stray from God's truth and ways, that we will stay on paths of humility, love and justice.

12 We remember in our prayers leaders of the church in the past and present who have committed themselves to furthering ecumenical unity and a united Christianity, in the name of Jesus Christ.

13 For our parks, wilderness areas and public lands we give thanks to God; we praise God for the wonders of the earth and the heavens that inspire us and give us joy in every season.

14 There are regions of the world and the United States continuing to suffer from drought conditions. We pray they receive the rain and water necessary for life and self-sufficiency and for the wisdom and creativity to manage limited water resources in new ways.

15 We pray the Spirit will help us discern what is true and consistent with God's Word in the mix of all the messages and influences that come at us each day and that we will have clarity and courage in sharing the gospel.

16 We remember in our prayers people who devote their lives to caring for, restoring and understanding nature and the environment, and we give thanks for the ways in which they draw our attention to the beauty and wonder of God's amazing handiwork.

17 We give thanks to God, creator of all things in heaven and on earth, for reconciling all humanity and creation through the sending and sacrifice of Jesus Christ—an undeserved gift of love and forgiveness.

18 We pray for the end of oppression, enslavement, inhumane treatment and practices that victimize people for economic gain, power or personal advantage and that we will instead behold and treat each other as beloved and valued brothers and sisters in Christ.

19 We remember in our prayers and give thanks for the more than 900 women and men who have studied at colleges, universities and seminaries in the United States and around the world with the assistance of global companion churches and the ELCA International Leadership Development Program.

20 In the face of persistent gun violence in the United States, we remember the victims and their families in our prayers and pray that God will strengthen our will to tackle the complex causes of violence for the sake of human lives and safe communities.

21 When we feel weak, experience trouble or fear our enemies, we pray to God for strength, giving thanks and praise for the promise of God's enduring love and refuge.



July + 2016 Continued ...

22 We remember in our prayers the six young adults serving in Cambodia through the Young Adults in Global Mission Program. We pray that God will guide and bless their work with local congregations and organizations in areas of rights-based development and teaching English.
23 Throughout history women have served in orders, organizations and ministries serving the poor, hungry, sick and oppressed. We give thanks and affirmation for their faithful service and devotion to doing God's work in the world in some of the most difficult situations.

24 We come to God in prayer, trusting in God's patience and responsiveness to our concerns, appeals and expressions—spoken and unspoken—and ask that God will deepen our faith and teach us to pray without hesitation or self-consciousness.

25 James, the Apostle James, a son of Zebedee, is remembered for his humanness and martyrdom as a follower of Jesus. We pray that we too, imperfect as we are, will trust in God's mercy and be fearless in sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor in the name of Jesus Christ.

26 We remember in our prayers the youth of the United Church of Christ, an ELCA full communion partner, who are gathering in Florida for their National Youth Event. We pray for God's blessings on their experience that all may envision God's purpose and plan for their lives.

27 We give thanks for the growing impact of Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA and the generosity of members eager to share the gospel and grow the church, as demonstrated by the 62 new-start ministries welcomed into the ELCA.

28 For the faith and gifts of all musicians and composers who bless our lives and worship, helping us praise God, sing for joy and express our faith, we give thanks to God.

29 As congregations, pastors, leaders and delegates prepare for our Churchwide Assembly, we pray God's Spirit will ready their hearts and minds for fruitful discussions and work to advance the ELCA's mission of sharing the gospel, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in the world.

30 World Day Against Trafficking in Persons We ask God to embolden us in our actions and advocacy to end crimes of human trafficking that exploit women, children and men everywhere for purposes including forced labor and sexual exploitation. We pray for freedom, healing and hope for all victims.

31 We pray that our identities are not wrapped up in the comforts of personal success, abundance of possessions or greed but rather in the love of God that grounds our lives in generosity, service, concern for others and humility.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Prayer Ventures is produced by ELCA Mission Advancement in cooperation with other units of the ELCA. Contact info@elca.org for additional information: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Marketing Communications, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.

Memorials & Special Gifts:

Undesignated Memorials

In memory of Charlotte Duresky by Bev Sanborn

In memory of Ellen Nedvidek by Teresa Hollnagel

In memory of **Ervina Spika** by Deb Rieneke, Ruth Olson, Martha Sesvold, Karen Sampson, Dorothy Gray, Doug & Karen Galster, Roy & Doris Modahl, Bev Sanborn, Myra Smaby, Bernice Powell, Darlene Dayton

Peace Garden

In memory of **Donald Dolan** by the Steven Dolan Family

In memory of Ervina Spika by Mavis Stafslien, Ardelle Ender

W-ELCA

In memory of Charlotte Duresky by Kaye Kjome

Capital Campaign

In memory of Ervina Spika by Jim & Rachel Balow

In memory of Ervina Spika by W-ELCAs

In memory of Charlotte Duresky by W-ELCA

Organ Fund

In memory of **Ervina Spika** by Marie Beissel In memory of **Charlotte Duresky** by Marie Beissel

Come For Supper

In memory of Daniel Duresky by Mrs. Anna Duresky In honor of Sonja Simonson Schrag by Cheryl Vieth In honor of Jeanne Johnson by Pr. Mark & Sharon Jolivette

July 2016

LEGEND: HC = Holy Cor CF = Coffee Fe CFS = Come Fo SS = Sunday Sch YG = Youth Gr	llowship or Supper 100l				1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9am Worship/HC 10:15am CF 10:30am Popcorn & Movie	Office Closed	5pm CFS OSLC/English Lutheran	Noon Worship/HC 6:30pm Dorcas Meeting			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9am Worship/HC 10:15am CF 10:30am Bingo	10:30am Cooking Class	9am Quilters	Noon Worship/HC			
	6:30pm Priscilla Circle	5pm CFS OSLC/ Prince of Peace/1st Presbyterian		6pm Council Meeting		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10 am Worship/HC 11:30am Luncheon 2pm Retirement Ser- vice 3-5pm Open House	MESSENGER DEADLINE!	5pm CFS OSLC/North Confer- ence Church 7pm Art & Faith	Noon Worship/HC			Youth depart for New Orleans Mission Trip
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9am Worship/HC 10:15am CF	1pm Messenger As- sembly	9am Quilters	Noon Worship/HC			
		5 pm CFS/OSLC				

31

9am Worship/HC 10:15am CF

Youth arrive home from New Orleans Mission Trip





	.)		
lst	Alexis Brantner, Dala Hynek, Doris Modahl		
2nd	Erv Dukatz		
4th	Constance Garson, Robert Miller, Alexis Negrete, William Panek, Pamela Tennant		
5th	Jessica Jeffers, Alex Kjos		
6th	Caitlin Crary, Mark Jolivette		
7th	Meghan Riley, Amy Thornton		
9th	Ryan Kadera, Torynn Wells		
llth	Alicia Fair		
l 2th	Jessica Hanson, Rebecca Kadera, Shawna Reynolds, Kayla Tripp		
l 3th	Ruth Carlson, R Cavell Gartner, Renee Heser, Alec Hynek		
l 4th	Danielle DeLeon, Selma Jenks		
l 5th	Samuel Turner		
l 6th	Madison Brown, Meagan Crary, Karissa Grapes, Lisa Smaby		
l7th	Katherine Caucutt, Shianne Fair, Rayone Moyer		
l 8th	James Butterfield		
l 9th	Brenda Devine		
20th	Renata LaSeure		
2lst	Robert Hansen		
22nd	Kurt Kopp		
23rd	Samson Fair, Angela Piazza, Jill Wesener Dieck		
24th	Lois G. Nelson		
25th	Lindsay Olson, Scout Zinniel		
26th	Roberta Lee		
27th	Darlene Kolbo		
29th	Byraius Moyer		
30th	Howard Gardner		
3 st	Kevin Crary		

July2016







July 2016

Thank you to all who helped with the planning of and participation in laity Sunday on June 12th; Colleen Pitz, Cheryl Olson, Kim Grapes, Jessica Zinniel, Mark Zellmer and Louise Temte. Thank you also to the congregation.

We are all going to miss the fellowship of Pr. Mark and Sharon when they leave our congregation. Pr. Mark is very good about picking up the ball when there aren't any volunteers for a duty. This is a good time for each of us to make a bigger contribution in terms of time and talents. I'd like to make a couple of suggestions of duties that seem small but are such a big help: 1) acolytes—during the summer it is difficult for Jessica to find youth volunteers. It doesn't have to be a kids' job! Adults may volunteer! When you look at the bulletin on Sunday morning if there aren't acolytes listed, ask the ushers to find me and I can get you set up. It isn't mandatory to sit on the altar bench. 2) Ushering—this task involves greeting friends and visitors as they enter the sanctuary, handing out bulletins and collecting the offering. Again training isn't required but if you'd like to know the "ins & outs" ahead of time, just ask me or another usher.

Family here at Our Savior's may or may not be blood relatives but we all are children in the family of God!

WELCA NEWS

There will be no WELCA meeting in July. What a good time to gather some school items for Hamilton School. Contact Sue Staples (788-8249) for items needed and have them to the Church by Sunday, July 31.

Friday, August 12 WELCA will be helping with Bingo at Hillview Health Care Center. Contact Doris (784-5238) or Carol (786-2040) to sign up. It's always a fun time.

On Thursday, August 18 instead of a meeting, we will be going for a boat ride on the La Crosse Queen. What a wonderful way to spend a summer afternoon. The I and I/2 hour cruise includes pizza and unlimited beer, pop, and lemonade. The cruise starts at 1:30, but be at the north end of Riverside Park by 1:00. The cost is \$18.25 and is due to Sue or the Church Office by August 7. Call Sue (788-8249) or Patti (788-2914) with questions. This should be so much fun, so we are inviting the whole congregation.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WALKING THE LABYRINTH



- 1) Relax your mind. Give yourself time in the labyrinth without thinking about work or schedules or what's for dinner. Be attentive to whatever experience the labyrinth brings.
- 2) Be aware of your intention. Say a prayer, ask for guidance, or just decide to walk the labyrinth for fun.
- 3) Walk at your own pace. It is OK to pass someone in front of you if they are going slower than you wish to go.
- Be aware of how you feel. Notice your thoughts, your breath, your footsteps.
- 5) When you reach the center, stay as long as you would like. You can meditate there.



- 6) There are two possible ways to exit. One is to retrace the path you took to the center. The other is to walk straight out the top of the labyrinth, crossing over the paths.
- 7) As you walk out, cooperate with others who are walking in.

ADDITIONAL POSSIBILITIES

- Wear a Sony Walkman or other device to have music while you walk
- Wear a scarf over your head like a tent, creating your own private space
- Write in your journal both before and after walking the labyrinth
- Walk barefoot or in your stocking feet
- Dance or skip or run, as long as you don't disrupt others on the labyrinth
- Close your eyes and have someone lead you through the labyrinth
- Walk the labyrinth in procession with others
- Sit for a while and watch others walk the labyrinth
- Meditate after exiting the labyrinth



After walking, draw mandalas or write with your non-dominant hand to express how you feel.

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Y[®]UTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

POPCORN & MOVIE

Join us Sunday, July 3rd, after worship, on the Fellowship Hall stage for a movie and popcorn. This movie will be rated G. Anyone, of any age, who loves movies is welcome! Bring a friend.

BINGO SUNDAY FUNDAY

On Sunday, July 10th, after worship, in the Fellowship Hall join us for BINGO. Anyone age 3—106 is welcome to participate.

MISSION TRIP SENDING

Join us Sunday, July 17th, during worship, to help us send our 18 youth and adults attending the mission trip this summer to New Orleans, Louisiana.

PLAY-DOH PLAY

On Sunday, July 17th, after worship, in the Fellowship Hall, join us for some fun with Play-Doh. Anyone age 3—106, who likes to have fun is welcome.

Sunday School may be done for the summer but the fun doesn't stop there. Check us out on the web www.oursaviorslutheranchurch.net.

DATES TO REMEMBER

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION

Wed., September 7th, 6:30-7:30pm

CONFIRMAND'S ORIENTATION Wed., September 7th, 7:30—8:30pm

RALLY SUNDAY Sunday, September 11th

CONFIRMATION BEGINS

Wednesday, September 14th

YOUTH KICK OFF (6TH—12TH GRADES) Sunday, September 18th

IST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, September 18th

IST DAY OF YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, September 25th

For more information on these events please contact Jessica at 782-3468 ext. 7 or zinn6@juno.com.

These events are sponsored by the Y[®] uth & Family Ministry Team.



SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP Where all generations encounter Christ through God's people & creation

FAMILY CAMPS

Sugar Creek is an excellent place for this year's summer vacation as a family. Enjoy valuable time with your family in your choice of modern housing facilities or fun, rustic camping. Family camp is for everyone no matter how diverse your family might be. **Parent & Child Horse Camp** July 6–8 **Family Camp #1** July 3–6 **Family Camp #2** Aug 14–17 **Grandparent/Grandchild Camp** Aug 18–20

SUMMER CAMPS...

Amazing God Awesome Love Summer camp programs are designed for youth entering grades 1—12. Small groups of 6—10 join with a counselor for a week of exciting activities. Depending on the program campers stay in cabins, covered wagons, tents, or houseboats. While every week at camp is different, campers might go creek stomping, play village games, camp out, swim, hike, do crafts & nature activities, have a pool party, campfire, canoe, bike, go on a horse ride & much, much more. Register Now

BUS TRIPS & RETREATS Fireside Dinner Theatre—Singing in the Rain July 27

UPCOMING EVENTS Golf Outing Fundraiser August 27th—*Drugan's, Holmen* Annual Quilt Auction, 5k Fun/Run/Trail Walk, & Craft Fair Sept. 10th, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Please call or e-mail the camp for further information at 608-734-3113 or <u>camp@sgrcreek.org</u>.



Mission Trip Dates

07/10 Getting Ready Meeting, 6:00—7:30pm Paperwork and payment due

07/17 Sending Service, 8:45am—11:00am

07/23-07/31 Mission Trip

08/03 Youth Meeting, 7:00pm OR

o8/o7 Youth Meeting, 10:30pm

Youth must attend either date to "unpack "our trip.

08/13 Celebration Rehearsal, 10:00—11:00am

o8/14 Celebration, 8:45am—11am

o8/28 Reflection & 1K Challenge, 10am

Social Ministries July 2016

LWR School Kits

As stated on the Lutheran World Relief website "A school kit may provide the only supplies for children returning to school after the disruption of war. School kits help parents continue their children's education, even while living in a refugee camp, for example. A school kit may also be used in adult literacy classes."

On Sunday July 10th, material/packing sheets for the kits will be available in the Narthex. Feel free to bring any or all of the items listed below:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college ruled paper approximately 8" X 10¹/₂"; no looseleaf paper
- **One** 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- **One** blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- **Five** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secured together with a rubber band
- **Five** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secured together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2¹/₂" eraser
- One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

Please, do not add other items. All items should be new and in good condition. An example of the school kit will be available in the Narthex. Please have all school kit items in by **Sunday September** 25th

LWR Baby Care Kits

A Baby Care Kit from LWR is like a promise. It says to that baby, **Your needs will not be neglected by this world. You matter to us.** When you send a Baby Care Kit, you provide encouragement by welcoming these little ones into an international community that cares.

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)

- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred (see the Diaper Tip Sheet for alternatives (.pdf)
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- Two or three bath-size gentle bars of soap equaling up to 8-9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins

Please include sizes between 6 and 24 months. Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit useful as the baby grows.

Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted from leftover yarn, or made from heavy double knits or fleece. Select a pattern that suits your skill level. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front.

Diapers can be made from flannel or even by recycling t-shirts.

If knitting or crocheting receiving blankets, including one knitted/crocheted blanket and one flannel blanket will provide maximum versatility.

Onesies can be cut and hemmed or serged to make a simple t-shirt.

Gowns, rompers or top/pants sets can be substituted for sleepers.

Contact Laurie Engen with any questions.

NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT OUT

August 2nd is Neighborhood Night Out. CFS will be serving dinner as usual and ice cream will be served in the tent across the street from church.



June 13, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them." Genesis 1:27

We are killing ourselves. We believe that all people are created in God's image. All of humanity bears a family resemblance. Those murdered in Orlando were not abstract "others," they are us. But somehow, in the mind of a deeply disturbed gunman, the LGBTQ community was severed from our common humanity. This separation led to the death of 49 and the wounding of 54 of **us**.

We live in an increasingly divided and polarized society. Too often we sort ourselves into like-minded groups and sort others out. It is a short distance from division to demonization. Yesterday, we witnessed the tragic consequences of this.

There is another way. In Christ God has reconciled the world to God's self. Jesus lived among us sharing our humanity. Jesus died for us to restore our humanity. God invites us into this reconciling work. This must be our witness as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The perpetrator of this hate crime did not come out of nowhere. He was shaped by our culture of division, which itself has been misshapen by the manipulation of our fears. That is not who we are. St. Paul wrote, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ." (II Corinthians 5:17-20)

Our work begins now. We need to examine ourselves, individually and as a church, to acknowledge the ways we have divided and have been divided. We must stand with people who have been "othered". We must speak peace and reconciliation into the cacophony of hatred and division. We must live the truth that all people are created in God's image.

This morning your churchwide staff came together to mourn and to pray. We prayed for those killed in Orlando and remembered the Charleston Nine killed only a year ago. We prayed for the family of the shooter, for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters and for our Muslim brothers and sisters who now face the threat of retaliation. And we prayed that the Prince of Peace will bring us to the day when we stop killing ourselves.

Your sister in Christ, Elizabeth A. Eaton Presiding Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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