



The Crossroads

To Gather | To Send | To Serve

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Sun Prairie WI

Greetings family of Our Savior's!
Here is the latest edition of 'The Crossroads' newsletter.

November 2020 Newsletter Highlights

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Would you like to receive a DVD of our virtual worship services to watch on a DVD player? If you do not have Internet access to watch our online services and would like us to mail you DVDs of these services, **contact the church office (608-837-3111).**



**“Live at Five with the Pastors”
each Wednesday on *Facebook Live***

**Online Worship Services posted on
OSLC website and Facebook/our You Tube
channel each week**

Drive-in Worship Sundays at 9am!

**See “Latest Worship
Information” on
Website & Facebook
for updates and to
sign up to volunteer!**





From Pastor Hansen

Sometimes it is eerie how things come back around. This month's reflection comes from 2018 and other than adding some comments which would make sense concerning the current pandemic, racial and social injustice, the article speaks to us today too! Please know that you are in my prayers and that you are loved.

It Takes Courage

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"¹⁴ Wait for the LORD; be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!" (Psalm 27:1, 14)

To say we live in rather tumultuous times might just be an understatement. It is difficult to avoid the news these days. When I was a kid there were four networks (CBS, NBC, ABC and PBS) and the daily newspapers. Growing up, we had the morning *Milwaukee Sentinel* and in the afternoon was the *Milwaukee Journal*. We also had radio, but it seems that I spent more time listening to bubble gum stations like WOKY and rocking out to the Jackson 5! LOL

The sixties were even more tumultuous than our current era, I think. I had to grow up understanding what curfews meant and I saw death, firsthand through servicemen who were killed in action in Viet Nam. Because of the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, we wondered if our life would ever be the same. It was scary. It seemed that there was little we could do.

I suspect that there is some of this feeling creeping back into our lives again as we see the horrible things that people do to each other, and the earth that we have been given to steward. There seems to be a hunger for hate and an itch for a fight that worries me the most these days. I do get afraid, sometimes for what we do to each other and the lack of civility. For many, I think it is built from fear. People look around at the lifestyles of others and they are afraid that they are falling behind. They are afraid that their families aren't going to have the same opportunities and they are afraid that they have no voice in what it means to be citizen these days. Fear seems to play itself out in destructive ways in our relationships and in our communities around this country.

Fear is a poor motivator in the end. It only leads to more destruction. The psalmist is facing suffering at the hands of his enemies. The psalmist looks out at his situation and wonders if he is alone in his struggle or not. He remembers who and whose he is in this psalm. He says, "The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" If we believe that we are secure in the love of God, then why are we fearful? Paul says in Romans 8 that there is nothing that can separate us from God in Christ...not even ourselves. So if this is true

Prayer Requests & Hospital Notifications

Do you have a prayer request or hospital notification you would like to pass along? You can share your requests with Pastor Tim (tim@oslc-elca.org) or Pastor Seth (seth@oslc-elca.org) or call the church office. When you submit prayer requests, they are sent to the Our Savior's prayer chain via email and are added to the prayers during weekend worship. *If you would like your request to remain confidential to a pastor, or would not like it shared with the prayer chain or included in worship prayers, please note your wishes in your request.*

Pastoral Acts

Weddings:

Katie Isaksson and Tim Heuer, in Baraboo—October 10, 2020

From Pastor Hansen—continued

and we believe it, then why are we consumed by fear? Fear is used by those in power to make people give in to their power. However, fear is not sustainable. It will consume itself in the end. So, what do we do?

We live out each day the callings of our God. We live to love God and others in the best way possible, because we are secure in God's love. The psalmist concludes the psalm with: "Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord." We can live in this love and service of God and others through the courage that we have in a God who is as near as our breath. We live boldly in the midst of those who want us to be fearful and stand ready to reach out to those in need, because that is what it means to be a follower of Jesus. So have courage fellow believers and live for others. In our loving and serving our fears fade away.

Peace,

Pastor Tim

All Saints Sunday—November 1

The death of Jesus upon a cross outside the city wall of Jerusalem opened the gates of heaven. His death evaporated the power of sin to condemn us. All Saints Sunday brings home this very basic tenant of Christian faith. On Sunday, November 1, we will name those of our faith community who have died in the last year. Through Christ, they have new life.



Joan Feaster

Ravern (Phil) Wedige

Mildred (Millie) Dalgard

Frances (Fran) Sharpee

Lorraine (Carol) Haas

Louise Lemke

Wayne Burmeister

Nancy Novotny

Sheila Innes

Mary Abitz

Richard (Dick) Spilde

Jane Barnes

Baptism Remembrance Sunday— November 1



BAPTISM

While days like these often commemorate the saints who have died over the course of the last year, it is also important that we are reminded of those who have been received into God's family too—a reminder of our own hope that we have in Christ and his resurrection.

We will be celebrating our newest saints who have been baptized during the past year and reading their names at our on-line and drive-in services on November 1.

lissát Joshua Marsden

Carina Adele Elliott

Saylor Grace Kautza

Weston Gerhardt Beecher

Arthur Emery Kriesel

Council News

October 15, 2020 Council Notes

- The Council has agreed to postpone plans for in-person worship until further notice. The situation with COVID spiking in our state has put the safety of our congregation above all else in deciding how best to deliver worship services. We will continue with on-line and drive-in (weather permitting) worship for the time being.
- Confirmation Zoom classes have started and are going well.
- Stay tuned for our annual Spirit of Giving drive providing gifts for local children. Directions will be coming regarding how we will proceed during this time of social distancing.
- We will be looking for some people interested in helping with Altar Guild.
- The Sunshine Suppers have been a tremendous success as well as the Sock and Underwear drive. Well done Our Savior's.
- Our Confirmation Service that was delayed from last spring will be held on October 25th.

Tim Svendsen
Congregation Council President



Are you receiving the Daily Devotions from Pastor Tim and

Pastor Seth via e-mail?—If not, please e-mail the church office so that we have your most current e-mail in our records (darlene@oslc-elca.org)

If you do not have e-mail and would like to be added to our list of those we send devotions to each week via U.S. mail, contact Darlene at the church office.

Poinsettias Update

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we will not be offering poinsettias for sale this year.

Financial Progress Report for September 2020

1) General Fund:	2) Building Fund:
Giving: \$42,711.42	Giving: \$10,048.50
Expenses: \$44,665.05	Expenses: \$7,103.00
Net Cash Flow: \$<1,953.63>	Net Cash Flow: \$2,945.50
YTD Cash Flow: \$<12,200.95>	YTD Cash Flow: \$3,565.50

Support our work and enjoy the convenience of electronic giving—

Our church offers electronic giving, which allows you to make donations on a scheduled, automatic basis. If you are writing checks and preparing envelopes every week, you will especially appreciate electronic giving. It is convenient for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for our church.

Enrollment forms and instructions can be found on our OSLC Website under the **Support Our Work** section. Or, if questions, call Bonnie Shema at the church (837-3111) or e-mail her at bonnie@oslc-elca.org.



I proudly give electronically through *Simply Giving!*

Outdoor Mailbox at OSLC—If you prefer to drop off your weekly offerings rather than mail them, you are welcome to drop them off in our mailbox located next to the brick pillar on the west side of the carport entrance. Staff checks this mailbox regularly. Thank you!



Stewardship

Built Up in Love

Our Savior's Lutheran Annual Stewardship Drive
Virtual 2020

"But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." (Ephesians 4:15-16)

Our fall stewardship time is upon us as your Finance Board looks to make every effort to develop a hopeful and faithful spending plan for 2021. Because of the pandemic and our current situation, we will be doing things a bit differently this year. We are learning new technologies and developing new processes for accomplishing this task. As our ministry continues in a different way, we are thankful for the support that you have given and continue to give. Thank you!

Look for the Stewardship 2021 e-mail to arrive in early November. We are excited to roll out a new way to do stewardship this year. It will contain a letter about why we are doing it this way, and several links, including a video from Pastor Tim and several members of Our Savior's. Another link will be to a Google form that will be a secure pledge form that only Bonnie Shema will receive. Finally, for those who do not receive e-mails, we will be sending out by mail the letter and pledge form. **If, for some reason you do not receive our email, call the church office and we will get a packet out to you.**

The Stewardship Committee



Here is the pledge form for 2021 (which will also be included in the Stewardship mailing via e-mail or mail):

In 2021, I/we plan to support the work of Christ through Our Savior's Lutheran Church. My/our commitment for this mission is:

For the *General Fund*: (Please circle one or use the fill-in option)
\$10/wk \$25/wk \$50/wk \$75/wk \$100/wk \$ _____/wk

or
\$25/mo \$100/mo \$200/mo \$300/mo \$500/mo \$ _____/mo

For the *Debt Reduction Fund*: (Please circle one or use the fill-in option)

\$10/wk \$25/wk \$50/wk \$ _____/wk

or
\$50/mo \$100/mo \$250/mo \$ _____/mo

For Electronic Givers:

I will change my 2021 Vanco account.

I authorize OSLC to change my 2021 Vanco account for me.



Built up in Love!

Name _____ Env. # _____

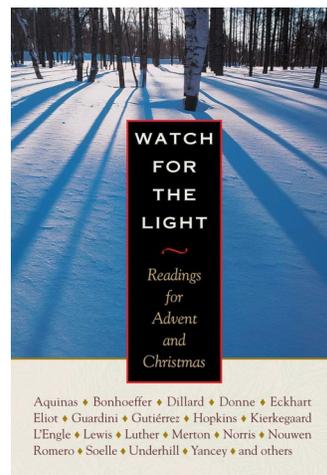
Complete this card even if you plan to contribute your offerings electronically. You can sign up for electronic transfers on our website (oslc-elca.org) and click Online

Christian Education

Adult Bible Studies Continue in November

Brown Bag Bible Study continues, led by Pastor Tim on November 4 and Pastor Seth on November 11 and 18 (off November 25). We will continue to meet online each Wednesday at 11am via Zoom. Please contact either pastor or the church office if you would like to be added to this online class, and we will send you the Zoom login information!

From November 11–December 23, we will be reading together in "*Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas*" during the Brown Bag Bible Study meetings. Copies will be provided by the church.



Lectionary Text Study will continue meeting online on Thursdays at noon via Zoom to study the upcoming Sunday's scripture text. (The pastor scheduled to present the sermon for that week leads this study group on the Thursday before.) If you haven't already joined this group and would like to be added, contact Pastor Tim (tim@oslc-elca.org) or Pastor Seth (seth@oslc-elca.org) and they will send you a link.

Attention Fellow Squircle Men!

Men's Bible Study



(seth@oslc-elca.org) and they will send you a link.

Squircle (our Men's Bible Study Group) meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 17th at 8 p.m. If you're interested in gathering via Zoom this month, contact Pastor Tim (tim@oslc-elca.org) or Pastor Seth

Children & Families

R.O.C.K.

Worship

(Reaching Out to
Christ's Kids)

Great Fun has been had in our parking lot Sunday mornings at 10:30am, even with our Covid 19 protocols!

We have been starting with a welcome, then learning and singing repeat after me songs with motions at the top of our lungs in or on the driver's side of cars.



Allie and Lin, two of our Peer Ministers, have been leading interactive Bible Stories and planning fun activities for the kids that help solidify the Bible message beautifully. Activities have included drawing with chalk, writing/drawing fears on sticky notes, praying for God's help, and then bouncing ping pong balls to knock out our fears akin to David and Goliath. Interestingly, our bubbles seem to blow sideways, but once our prayers begin, they rise. It is as if they needed our prayers to reach their full potential, JUST LIKE US. I think there is just something special about celebrating Communion outdoors in God's creation. My favorite part of the service though, is getting to witness "OSLC Families" enjoy meaningful time together, discussing how they, as a family, are living out Jesus's commandment to love their neighbors and actively learn more about their faith. It warms my heart to see such joy bubbling up in these little Lutherans as they smile, wave, and chat with their families and me. We are truly blessed to have found this small way for us all to connect!

Attention Parents & Guardians of Children under 3 years

Please let me know, shelly@oslc-elca.org of your exciting news, so we can support you as you begin the journey of forming the faith of your little Lutheran.

We'd love to deliver a special age appropriate song CD and monthly newsletter to help!



Youth & Family Ministry

Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of 2020!

On Sunday, October 25^h, 15 students affirmed their faith after completing three years of confirmation classes and activities! We want to congratulate these students on completing yet another milestone on their faith journey and we look forward to seeing what these students do in the future. Congratulations!



Morgan Alyssa Bradley
Jaxen Duncan Buie
Andrew Earl Gratz
William Timothy Komberec
Adrien Robert Kreitlow
Micah Jesse Olson Jr.
Helen Grace Perkolup
Nolan Michael Lewis Sauey

Tyler Ransom Schick
Tyler Jay Schluter
Trevor John Schulz
John Joel Schulze III
Logan David Spahos
Zachary Oscar Svendsen
Hannah Mei Wilson

Deliveries to 2020 OSLC Graduates

Volunteers from our congregation created colorful tie blankets for our graduating seniors at the beginning of the summer. Matt and Shelly delivered 23 blankets to the houses of our seniors while remaining socially distanced. Shown below are two of the graduates (Jordan and Elise) with the blankets they received from OSLC. Congratulations to all the graduates and best wishes!



Worship & Music

On Pandemic and Singing

An article by Mark Bangert in the most recent issue of *CrossAccent*, the journal of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, caught my eye. Here are some excerpts:

“By the rivers of Babylon—there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung up our harps. For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion!” (Psalm 137:1-3, NRSV)

The words of the psalmist reverberate poignantly in these days of COVID-19 as assembly hymn singers and their choir partners obediently and responsibly “hang up” their vocal chords in hopes of keeping the air free of potentially infectious particles. For most this is not an easy transition. Suspension of communal singing, an imposed fast from music-inspired spirituality, and nostalgic yearning for live musical assembly, individually and jointly, wounds souls. And while various forms of singing in virtual worship and brave spurts of musical output from family tables mitigate this particular fallout of the pandemic, wounded spirits are still moved to lament.

We are lamenting not just the loss of the pleasures of communal singing, not just the cherished memory of the choir we know and love. We are grieving the gospel, now uncontrollably muted by a virus.

(However) it is possible to think of this time of muteness not as something imposed but rather as a choice made by the believer for the sake of others. In this way we exercise our freedom in Christ by loving our neighbor.”

Mark Bangert is John H. Tietjen Professor of Worship and Church Music emeritus at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. If you are interested in reading his entire article, please let me know.

Thanks, and stay safe,
John Krueger

R.O.C.K. Worship Update

R.O.C.K. worship (**R**eaching **O**ut to **C**hrist's **K**ids)

ROCK worship is going on indefinite hiatus after October. The cold has made that service difficult, so we will be pausing it for the foreseeable future. Thanks to Shelly, our peer ministers, and everyone who's done a great job leading it these past several weeks!



Come Grow With Us

Interested in becoming a member of OSLC? Email the church office at office@oslc-elca.org or call 608-837-3111

WHAT MATTERS - Stay Connected To Synod Happenings, News, & Events! Grow in your faith and leadership! Stay connected to exciting events and stories of our faith in action in our synod! To sign up for synod news, please email Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Life, Deacon Vicki Hanrahan at vickih@scsw-elca.org to be added to "What Matters."

Staff at Our Savior's

Senior Pastor

Rev. Tim Hansen
tim@oslc-elca.org
Emergency Phone: (608) 576-2342

Associate Pastor

Rev. Seth Hecox
seth@oslc-elca.org
Emergency Phone: (608) 576-2342

Office Administrator

Darlene Thorstad
darlene@oslc-elca.org

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Matt Weber
matt@oslc-elca.org

Finance Secretary

Bonnie Shema
bonnie@oslc-elca.org

Children & Family Ministries Coordinator

Shelly Perkolup
shelly@oslc-elca.org

Director of Music, Organist

John Krueger
Cell: (608) 358-4677

Director of Adult Choirs

Director of Chancel Ringers
Angie Schmidt

Director of Youth & Alleluia Choir

Judy and Breta Saganski

Director of Cherub Choir

Diane Padrutt

Accompanists

Kaia Feldman, Diane Padrutt

Custodian

George Lazar, Jr.

Church Office Phone

(608) 837-3111

Congregational Council

President: Tim Svendsen

Vice President: Jen Spredemann

Secretary: Dean Sommer

Treasurer: Scott Breitenbach

Church in Society: Sara Klemme

Education: Brenda Wilcox

Evangelism: Ken Sodemann

Fellowship: Gary Dalgaard

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Property: John Gould

Public Relations: Dawn Bradley

Stewardship: Bryan Loney

Youth & Family: Tim McCarthy

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Return Service Requested

The Crossroads is the official monthly publication of Our Savior's Lutheran Church November 2020 edition, Volume 15, Issue 11. Membership is voluntary. We are located at 550 Lincoln Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590-1300, (608) 837-3111.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



God's work. Our hands.

Worship
 Online worship services each week
 Drive-in worship—Sundays at 9:00 am
 R.O.C.K. (Reaching Out to Christ's Kids) at 10:30 am

Office Hours
 Due to the Covid-19 virus health concerns, office hours are variable.
 Please call the church office before coming to church.

550 Lincoln Drive, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590-1399
 Phone (608)837-3111 Fax (608)837-9378 Web www.oslc-elca.org

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Sun Prairie WI

The Crossroads



November 2020

OSLC Offerings Online

Visit www.oslc-elca.org or scan this code with your smartphone for instructions to give your offering online!



Find us on:



www.facebook.com/OurSaviors