



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.

May 2020 Newsletter Highlights

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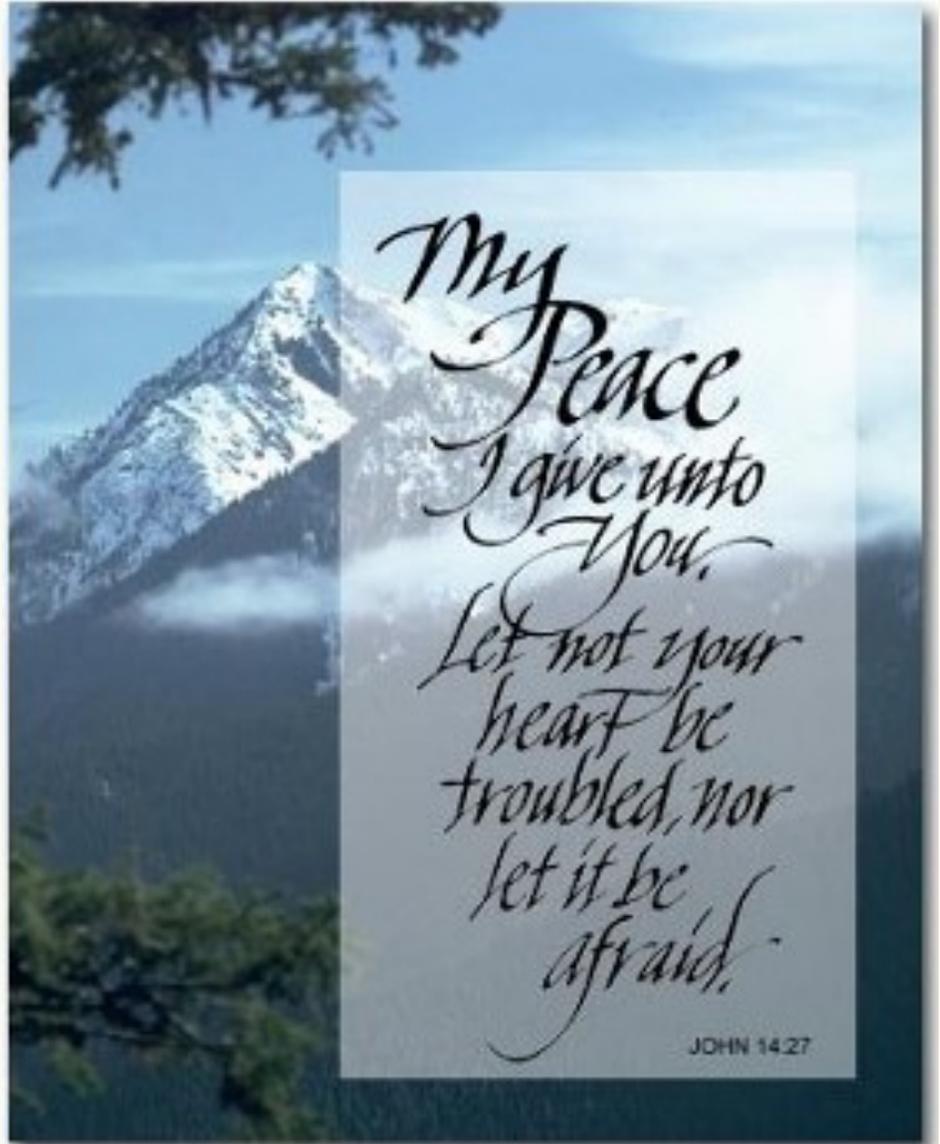
[Children & Families](#)

Are you receiving the Daily Devotions from Pastor Tim and Pastor Seth via e-mail?



Daily Devotions
If not, please e-mail the church office so that we can make sure we have your most current e-mail in our records.
(darlene@oslc-elca.org)

Also, please let us know when you have address or phone number changes as well. Thank you!



Look for our Wednesday and Sunday virtual worship services with Pastor Tim, Pastor Seth, and musical accompaniment by John Krueger.

These are posted each week on the Our Savior's Website and Facebook until we can once again be together for worship.

**Virtual
WORSHIP
Service**

From Pastor Hansen

Be Thankful

"I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:4-6)

As we move toward the end of April (as I write this) there is some value in stopping, for a moment, and taking stock in where we are at. I saw a tweet yesterday about the understanding of time. March, seemed to drag on forever as we began to see the virus begin to work its way across the country, and now it seems as if April has flown by. It has not been easy. Our lives have been upended; parents have had to learn how difficult it is to be a teacher. Some have discovered the difficulty in job furloughs and lay-offs. Others have had to learn how to create their work from home in the midst of an internet bandwidth stretched to the limits. Too many of us have had to figure out how to use ZOOM and other video conference meetings. I had one the other day that wanted all of us to shut off our cameras because we needed to concentrate on the conversation at hand. All of this has been a challenge. One day at a time we are told. Breathe deeply.

I think it has also been a good time to wonder about our faith life. Many scholars feel that the Apostle Paul was writing this letter to the church in Philippi from his prison cell. Talk about isolation! The ability to endure, even grow in such isolation is buoyed by the depth of his faith. For Paul, it is about relationship with the one who created him, and the ones for whom the creator brought opportunity for relationships. The people of the church at Philippi helped Paul get through his time in prison because of their relationship. His fondness for them was of great comfort during his incarceration. They were a gift to him from a loving God.

While we are not in incarceration, we do feel a sense of isolation as we cannot simply get together as a worshiping congregation. How we continue to get along during this time, however long it may be, is dependent upon how we see the power of our faith at work. As you know I am a bit of an extrovert (39 out of 40 on the Meyers-Briggs.) I am strengthened however as I continually think about you in my prayers and have conversations with you on the phone or email and text. While we may not be able to be physically close to each other, we have the opportunity to keep connected in other ways. All of this is a gift from a loving God who will not let us be alone. While we may not be together in this sanctuary, we are together in our faith.

May God continue to find ways to let you know that God is present with you in many ways, and may you find ways to be thankful for this presence and love. Please know that we continue to lift you up in prayer and look forward to a time when we can celebrate together this ever-present loving God, and the gracious relationships God has given to us in each other.

Peace,
Pastor Tim



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

Graveside Committal Service:
Phil Wedige—April 13

Geraniums for Pentecost

Help decorate the Sanctuary with red or white geraniums for Pentecost on Sunday, May 31. **If you would like to donate a geranium plant, please mail a check to the church (or drop it off in our new mailbox outside).**  The cost per geranium plant is \$15.

Orders will be accepted **until Sunday, May 17.** Also, please include a note regarding who the plant is given for (in memory of, in honor of, or thanks to God for). **Please specify which color(s) you would like to donate for planting at church.**

Council News

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.

GivePlus Text Service

You can make a contribution to Our Savior's Lutheran Church with a quick text message! Simply send a text to **855-627-6481** with the amount you would like to contribute. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. Example: \$25. Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt via e-mail. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically!



New 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 new mailbox located next to the brick pillar on the west side of the carport entrance. Staff is checking this mailbox regularly. Thank you!

April 16, 2020 Council Notes

This has been our second meeting held on Zoom. A special thanks to Ken Sodemann for the technical set up.

We spent a good deal of time checking in with everyone and making sure members are doing well. We also want to ensure that we are reaching out to any parishioners who have any needs that are not being met. Please contact the church if you know of anyone who needs to be contacted.

Future schedules are still very fluid with the extension of the "Safer at Home" order. This is a different/difficult/unique time for all; we want to give a special thanks to health care workers from our congregation who are helping us during this time.

We appreciate the work of the church staff to continue to provide worship services for the congregation.

We are also thankful for the generosity of our members for continuing to provide offerings and gifts so OSLC can continue its work.

Tim Svendsen
Congregation Council President

Financial Progress Report for March 2020

1) General Fund:	2) Building Fund:
Giving: \$59,144.49	Giving: \$7,046.50
Expenses: \$54,849.28	Expenses: \$8,294.00
Net Cash Flow: \$4,295.21	Net Cash Flow: \$<1,247.50>
YTD Cash Flow: \$<16,350.80>	YTD Cash Flow: \$2,717.00

A Note from Bonnie Shema, Financial Secretary:

Vanco is also providing an additional service during this challenging time. Vanco's Client Service Department is accepting calls to assist customers with giving at (800) 675-7430, then press 1. They will ask you to confirm the name of our church, and then gather your banking information for checking or savings accounts in order to automatically transfer funds.

This has been implemented during the COVID-19 situation as a way to help those who may not have internet service or a smart phone to still be able to set up a gift to the church. If you have questions, please call Bonnie at the church office. Thank you.



I proudly give electronically through
Simply Giving!

Other News/Outreach



Sunshine Supper—Monday, May 18th—Our next turn to provide a Sunshine Supper (a free community meal) is coming up on Monday, May 18th. As you may know, this happens once each quarter and many of you have donated food in the past and others have volunteered to help prepare and serve the meal.

Well, these are different times and the process is very different as well as the number being served. They have asked Our Savior's to prepare 300 meals. Everything has to be prepared in the Sunshine Place kitchen and we can only have five people. That is a very daunting task.

However, because we know some very generous people who never seem to get tired of giving, we have come up with a plan. Al Neumann (Brakebush Chicken) will be providing us with 300 chicken breasts and Patrick DePaula (from Salvatore's) is putting together the rest of the meal for us in their kitchen! It will be prepared and delivered to Sunshine Place so all we have to do is serve it up in carryout containers. Because of these amazing people, we will be able to fulfill our commitment to Sunshine Place and provide a great meal.

Obviously there will still be costs involved so if instead of buying food as you usually do, it would be wonderful if you would just send that money to OSLC and indicate that it is to be used for the Sunshine Supper (**by attaching a note saying that it is for the May 18th supper**). Please make checks payable to OSLC. All donations would be much appreciated. God bless and stay safe.

Something to Consider—The stimulus checks are now being sent out or deposited to our accounts. I've talked to a couple of people who have received theirs. I'm sure some of you have as well. If you need the money for rent or food or whatever, God bless you. I hope it helps. But if you, like Gretchann and me, have been fortunate enough to be largely unaffected financially by what's going on, I would really encourage you to spread that money around. Don't put it in the bank or spend it on something that you probably don't really need right now. Send some to a food bank or your church or to your favorite charity. Support your local restaurants. Give it to someone you know who is out of work and struggling. I just found out recently that servers who work in restaurants and who rely on tips for the majority of their income, are not eligible for unemployment. So please consider putting that money where it will do the most good.

Thanks for listening,
Gary Dalgaard

Days for Girls Sewing Continues!

Thank you to Linda Frautschy for delivering sewing supplies to the doorsteps of our faithful sewers so that they can continue the great work that they are doing for Days for Girls! We appreciate her organizing and taking care of this so that this project work can continue.

Here is a photo of what the OSLC Days for Girls sewing group has completed for Days for Girls: 200 shields, almost 500 pads, and 55 pockets. On their regular sewing days, they have had 18 people participating on their phone tree. Thank you to Linda for organizing this network and for the porch drops! And thank you to all the Days for Girls sewers for continuing your good work!



Worship & Music

18th Century Music for This Time

In a cantata written by Johann Sebastian Bach for Sunday, August 29, 1723, his first year at the St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, Bach set to music a text which sounds remarkably apt for us in this time of pandemic.

Here is a part of that text: "Now the entire world is but a hospital, where an uncountable great number of people and even children in the cradle lie in severe sickness. One person is tortured in the chest by a raging fever's angry appetite. Another lies ill because... . Where can I find medication? Who will stand with me in my time of need? Where is the doctor who can help me?"

Although the text is talking about a pandemic of sin and the gospel for that August Sunday was Luke's story of Jesus' cleansing of the ten lepers (who, by the way, practiced social distancing from Jesus), is there a lesson here for us in this time of COVID-19?

The hearer of the cantata is directed to go to Jesus for comfort in the time of gloom and depression. Jesus is the physician and helper of all who are ill. The Bach cantata here is cantata number 25 "Es ist nichts Gesundes an meinem Leibe" (There Is Nothing Healthy in My Body). The music, which begins as mournful, ends in joy and praise. Here indeed is music for us in this time.

TIPS FOR WORSHIPING ONLINE

MAKE SPACE

Do whatever you can to create a space that feels calm.
Clear off a surface to place your screen. Open a Bible.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Just like in an in-person service, silence your devices (phones, tablets, computers) so that you can quiet the noise that creeps in.

LIGHT A CANDLE

Light a candle in your space. Light is a reminder of the presence of God with us.

REMEMBER, THIS WILL TAKE SOME GETTING USED TO.

We are all figuring this out one week at a time.
God's people have worshipped in all circumstances. So can we.

A Note from Kathy Foss

Hi Church! Wow it seems like a very long time since we have all been together. I miss fellowshiping, choir rehearsal, and seeing everyone in our congregation. When we finally get to be together, choir will have finished our regular rehearsals. But we will be singing together again this summer. Our dinner theater of course had to be postponed. Thank you to all who sponsored the play. Be assured, we are very grateful and will let you know the new dates we will be performing. All are welcome to join us anytime and especially in the fall when we will be singing new repertoire. In the meantime, keep singing and see you soon! **Kathy**

Children & Families

Hi Everybody!!!! I miss my OSLC FAMILY!

I put together a few resources that I thought were pretty cool. I know kids are on tech a lot right now, so I included some tech free options too!

If your family would like a chalk message from Shelly, please email me your address and I will be happy to drop by!
shelly@oslc-elca.org

Oh, and parents-I feel you! We are in this together-while physically apart.
Let me know if you need/want to chat & decompress!
Hang in there- We CAN do this!- Shelly

I am so excited to share MY FAVORITE video Bible Series for kids is offering free family devotions for 8 weeks.

<https://www.gominno.com/lp/church-at-home/series/jesus-messiah-teacher-king-5-minute-family-devotional>

Video Devotions to complement OSLC Waiting...through Easter Worship



Sunday, May 3rd **Jesus Serves the Last Supper**

Sunday, May 10th **Jesus Dies for Us**

Sunday, May 17th **Jesus is Risen**

Kid Friendly Activities and Worship

<https://www.gominno.com/lp/church-at-home>

Also-the streaming service looks to have lots of really great kid shows that my kids watched when they were younger!
"3-2-1 Penguins" anyone?



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-Great for Adults, Teens & Kids!

<https://www.illustratedministry.com/flattenthecurve>

Praying In Color/Praying in Black & White

<https://prayingincolor.com/praying-in-color-praying-in-black-and-white>

I'm sure you've doodled before, but have you used it as a way to pray?
Check the above link for some easy fun, no matter what colors you have at home!

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When you're shopping on Amazon, you can support OSLC! There is no additional cost to you, but OSLC receives a small percentage of each purchase you make through the Amazon Smile link. After selecting OSLC as your charity of choice, bookmark smile.amazon.com to be sure you're supporting us with your purchases every time you shop on Amazon. It's that simple! Thanks for your support!



Would you like to join the Prayer Chain?—Many of you are praying for Our Savior's, its ministries and members, as well as concerns of the world. Are you willing to add the prayer needs of Our Savior's members or friends? We have an electronic prayer chain that your name could easily be added to. A request is received by the office and the email prayer request is sent. The email includes the person to be prayed for, a short reason for prayer being needed, and their relationship to Our Savior's. If you are interested in joining the Our Savior's Lutheran Church prayer chain, please contact the office to be added to the list at office@oslc-elca.org or 608-837-3111. If you have a prayer request that you would like shared with the prayer chain, email office@oslc-elca.org and we will pass that along.

2020 Relay For Life—The 2020 Relay for Life event that was scheduled for July 17 in Windsor has been cancelled. This event may be rescheduled for the fall. Watch for more information as it becomes available.

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

Kathy Foss
kathyfoss9@gmail.com

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

Finance: Emily LaFleur

Lay Ministry: Kathryn Derauf Olson

Property: John Gould

Public Relations: Dawn Bradley

Stewardship: Bryan Loney

Youth & Family: Tim McCarthy



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OSLC Offerings Online

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



www.facebook.com/OurSaviors

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



God's work. Our hands.

Worship
5:30pm Saturday
8:00am & 10:30am Sunday

Sunday School
9:15am Sunday (Sept.-May)

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 4:30pm

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

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