



The Carillon

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church - NALC

connecting families to Jesus
www.oslfamily.org connect@oslfamily.org

February 2018



Ash Wednesday Service
February 14th
6:30pm

Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion

*Remember that you are dust
And to dust you shall return.*





LETTER ANNOUNCING SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Dates: Sunday, February 18th and Sunday, April 22nd

Time: 9:45am between services

Purpose: To vote on our departure from membership in the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) denomination.

Justification: There is no provision in the governing documents of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) for dual-rostering of member congregations.

Please plan on attending this meeting.

In Christ,
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Council

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Women of the NALC

WNALC is an organization for all women and women's groups of the North American Lutheran Church. A ministry of the North American Lutheran Church, WNALC offers guidance to the local congregational women's groups in their efforts to grow in faith and mission, through prayer and evangelism, with the Bible as God's ultimate authority.

Mission

WNALC encourages its members in their congregations to:

- Love God, develop a deeper relationship with Him, and study His Word;
- Love our neighbors—local, domestic and around the world—lending them assistance with their life and spiritual challenges;
- Spread His Gospel throughout the world by supporting His missionaries in prayer and assistance as needed; and
- Foster numerous personal relationships with our Sisters in Christ.

Purpose

A place for women to find spiritual guidance, support, mission and fellowship. WNALC links NALC women's groups together as a community of faith, hope, and love as they focus on their individual organization and assists them in God's mission, studies of His Word, service to others in Christ's name, and fellowship with each other and other Lutheran women. To learn more visit their website at www.wnalc.org.



Midweek Lenten Services

Join us Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 21st for our midweek Lenten services at 6:30pm.

Soup Suppers



Just Around the Corner

Our first Soup Supper of the 2017 Lenten season will be held Wednesday, February 21st.

Delicious homemade soup, sandwiches, apples, cheese & ice cream will be served each Wednesday evening before our Midweek Lenten Worship Services. Serving starts at 5:30pm and continues until 6:15pm with worship beginning at 6:30pm.

To make this event happen we need your help in these areas:

- 5 people each week to bring their favorite soup and serve it.
- 2 sandwich makers each week.
- Serving & clean-up crews.

This would be a great servant event for Confirmation groups, families or Cursillo groups. Consider helping out one week during Lent and give the office a call.



Lenten Devotional

Thanks to Tracy Husing for calling and encouraging you (our members) to write Lenten devotionals. She did such a great job we have more than we needed to fill our booklet! So, you will have a few bonus days after Easter. Thank you to everyone who took the time to write and share a devotion with us. It is greatly appreciated.



Meet our newest member of Our Saviour's, Douglas Luoma. He is from Minnesota and has been a Lutheran his entire life. Doug has had many careers, but is now enjoying retirement. He and his wife, Dixie reside in Kingsford. Doug said he joined OSL because of the love and God's presence he felt here. Welcome Douglas!



Pastor Paul Strom, Sonya Nelson, Chuck Vercoe, Tracy Husing, Eileen Anderson, Larry Swartout, Dave Bradley, Steve Faust, Tim Grunlund, Greg Jarski, Joy Nasi, Nancy Buchcusi, Mark Klossner, Recording Secretary – Terri Shoquist

Action

- Approve the 2018 budget
- Approve Jim Husing at the nominee for the vacant seat on the Endowment Board.
- Approve Vic & Joann Seppi as Fortune Lake Camp delegates.
- Approve Tim Grunlund, Tracy Husing, Chuck Vercoe & Larry Swartout as the Nominating Committee.
- Approve Kathy Kelm & Dodie Wagner as the Auditing Committee.
- Approve the agenda for the 95th Annual Meeting - Sunday, January 28th.
- Approve the Committee System recommendations.
- Approve the \$500 retirement gift for Financial Secretary, Dawn Tramontin.
- Approve the replacement of the Fire Panel with UP Security, not to exceed \$2,000.

Motion tabled on UP Security & Tech Solutions quotes.

- Begin the process to dissolve our affiliation with LCMC which will involve a letter in the February Carillon and two special Congregational Meetings to be held on Sundays, Feb. 18th & April 22nd between services.
- Approve the Resolution to dissolve our affiliation with LCMC.
- Approve contracting Nicolet Staffing to obtain a Financial Secretary.

Informational Items

- Annual Meeting on January 28th with soup luncheon served & provided by the Church Council.
- Light at the Inn - Sunday, Jan. 21 - 27th.
- Pastoral Acts for December



We just completed our second week of hosting Light at the Inn Homeless Shelter. We had 2-4 guests each of the 7 nights. Thanks to all who worked shifts, made food, and helped setup and take down. If you didn't get called this time you will have another opportunity to help the last week of March.



Thursday Bible Study continues at 10:30am & 6:30pm with Pastor Paul. The coffee's on and you're invited.

God Club



With the new year came a new set of God Club lessons, based on our library's *What's in the Bible*

DVD series. Phil Vischer, creator of the longtime popular *Veggie Tales*, and a bunch of hilarious new (mostly puppet) friends will eventually take us through the whole Bible in a fast-paced fun-filled way. Each DVD has two 25-minute episodes, so each will take two weeks for us to complete.

We started with *In The Beginning*... In our first lesson we learned that with 783,137 words, 1,189 chapters, and 66 books of the Holy Scripture, the message of the Bible can be summarized in one sentence – with 25 short words...

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16

That's it--the Gospel message in a nutshell. We created laminated bookmarks, listing all of the books of the Bible and a John 3:16 cross.

On the second Wednesday in January we read, prayed and crafted about God's wonderful creation. We had a blast reading Noah's story, complete with crazy sound effects and then we cut out and put together a hanging dove carrying a branch for Noah.

Next came the *Let My People Go* DVD... Our first lesson centered on Abraham's faith in nearly sacrificing his precious son, Isaac. We made adorable Trusty Rusty sheep pillows to help us remember that we should always trust that God will provide.

On our final January meeting, we read about Moses and the burning bush. We crafted our own burning prayer bushes with stemmed glasses, fire-colored tissue paper, and battery candles. Our DVD and flash-cards talked about such words as Salvation, Sin, Exodus, Pharaoh, and Tabernacle.

February will find the God Club kids continuing with the *What's in the Bible*, but taking breaks to make Valentines for Veterans and whatever else Miss Joy has in mind.

Please know that we always have room for more students, grades 2-5, each Wednesday in the Creation Station classroom, after school until 5:00pm. Come and gather together to learn about, practice, and celebrate God's love – and bring your friends too!

Miss Joy



Kids will break from Confirmation beginning Ash Wednesday, February 14th through Lent. They will resume, Wednesday April 11th. Youth are encouraged to attend mid-week services and help out with ushering and lending a hand at the soup suppers.



FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Andrea Celello | 11 | Andrew Watkins | 19 | Katelyn Charette |
| 2 | Adam Buchcusi | 13 | Judy Johnson | | Kyle Kruppstadt |
| | Kevin Londo | | Pamela Larson | | Kerry Tushoski |
| | Ben Schroeder | | Connie DeGroot | | Chuck Vercoe |
| 3 | Paul Edlebeck | 14 | Angela Counter | 20 | Nathan Johnson |
| | Emma Ellis | | Jim Meier | | Ward Lindeman |
| | Sandra Fontaine | | Katie Mendina | | Ethan Metras |
| | Amy Ramme | | Colin Watkins | | Malin Pontbriand |
| | Britt Slade | | Hallie Wendt | 21 | Monica Chartier |
| 4 | Brianna Peterson | 15 | Jack Bowles | | Evelyn VanGuilder |
| 5 | Landon Heyrman | | Chris Harris | 22 | Ryan Pepin |
| | Angela Marchetti | | Donna Poupore | | Bob Truscott |
| | Joanne Reid | | Georjeana Swartout | 23 | Daryl Nelson |
| 6 | Brad Ellis | 16 | Seth Carlson | | Sonya Nelson |
| | Tyler Walimaa | | Matthew Richer | 24 | Susan Anderson |
| 7 | Margaret Petrick | | Brian Watt | | Lynne Reed |
| | Colleen Sleik | 17 | Jacob Czerwan | 25 | Cheryl Pugh |
| 8 | Sarah Forstrom | | Deena Lindeman | | Caylee Shogren |
| | Hugh Harris | | Lydia Ohlsen | | Peter Yake |
| | Pat Wickman | | Thomas Tomasi | 26 | Amy Englund |
| 9 | Richard Anderson | 18 | Mike Berglund | | Jorgen Klefstad |
| | Carol Bates | | Terry Grippen | | Al Westman |
| | Rebecca Hirthe | | Bob Johnson | 28 | Lori Patterson |
| 10 | Julia Bowles | | Gabe LaFreniere | | Josie Scott |
| | Steve Faust | | | | |
| | Alayna Pietrantonio | | | | |
| | Madison Raiche | | | | |



Our three-four year old Preschool Class worked on number recognition during the month of January. Each day we had a craft that involved counting or one to one correspondence. We counted the letters in our names, made a mitten with snowflakes and counted the snow flakes, and counted beads to make a snowflake necklace. Our Bible stories were *Jesus Brings a Dead Girl Back to Life*, *Jesus Feeds 5,000 People*, *Jesus Teaches Peter to Trust*, and *The Good Samaritan Helps a Hurt Man*.

The Prekindergarten Class learned about Arctic animals, penguins and polar bears and how they live and survive in cold climates. We watched videos, read about, and made projects for each animal. We also completed a unit on measurement. The kids learned about height, length, weight and capacity. We measured the height and length of various objects using nonstandard units of measurement. We even drew penguins and measured how tall they were using marshmallows! The students also took turns measuring each other to find out how many building blocks tall they were. Our Bible lessons were about Moses and we learned how God helped and provided for him and His people all of the time. Our stories included, *God all of the time*. Our stories included, *God Takes Care of Baby Moses*, *God Chooses Moses*, and *God Leads His People through the Red Sea*.

Ms Sarah



Pastor Paul & Council President, Sonya Nelson presenting \$1,000 to St. Vincent DePaul for their food pantry and \$2,000 to them to help the community with heating expenses.

february

Anniversaries

Every wedding anniversary is a special one and we wish that God's rich blessing and love will continue to sustain and fill each marriage.

35 Years - Feb. 4th

Teck & Wanda Khor

20 Years - Feb. 21st

Dan & Paula Swartout

Sincere Sympathy to:

** Patrick & Donna Tanguay on the death of his grandmother, Beverly Rossato.



We Welcome into our Church Family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

- ** Charlie Mendina, son of Andrew & Katie Mendina.
- ** Alexis Stanley, daughter of Nicole Stanley.



If you would prefer receiving the Connections through email, please call the church office 774.2733 or send an email to connect@oslfamily.org.

Thank You from:

Joy Flaherty

LWR

North American Lutheran Seminary

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

Marci Veale

St. Vincent De Paul



God's Love Gift Wrapped

The February donation for our Lutheran World Relief Health Kits will be:

A sturdy wide tooth comb



THE LYDIA CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, February 20th at 1:00pm at church.

Cursillo Weekends

The Non-Roman Men's & Women's Cursillos are just around the corner. The Men's is February 15 – 18th and the Women's is March 1st – 4th. Everyone is welcome to attend.

If you would like more information or are interested in going, please call Terri in the church office.



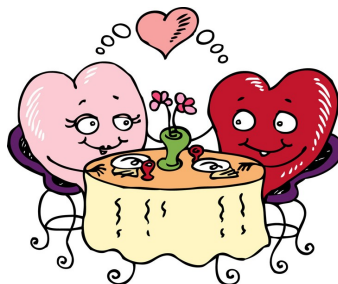
We continue to collect non-perishable groceries for the First Lutheran Food Pantry in the cart outside of the Fireside Room. If each person

brings just one food item to church with them each Sunday we can fill the basket. The groceries get delivered to First Lutheran when the basket is full.



The BASIC kids are busy catching up on confirmation lessons, playing silent ball (not very silently), and learning how they can help around our church. They are great helpers! They lent a hand setting up for our Annual Meeting dinner, served dessert and helped clean up. Now we can't wait for the Lenten soup suppers to start! We are also going to look for other ways we can use our gifts and abilities to help others.

BASIC meets every Sunday between services from 9:40 to 10:40 in the youth room upstairs and is for grades 6-8.



Financial Report

Dec. Budget	\$28,833.50
Dec. Receipts	\$48,397.26
Dec. Expenditures	\$36,911.66
Balance	\$11,485.60

Monthly Benevolence	\$ 300.00
Disbursed	\$1,582.80

Attendance

Jan. 7	227
Jan. 14	202
Jan. 21	206
Jan. 28	189

Alpha Omega	Local
AGAPE Fund	



Feb. 4th - To Move, To Touch, To Heal
In Mark 1:20-39, Jesus tells his disciples that he is supposed to proclaim the message. But the Rev. David Hodges says that proclaiming the message means not just telling people what the kingdom of God is, but showing them--by reaching out and touching people who, because of their disease, their behavior, or their demons, were suffering.

Feb. 11th - The Happiest Place on Earth

In his sermon for Transfiguration Sunday, the Rev. Cuttino Alexander explains that the word "transfiguration" means to elevate something and make it more beautiful, make it shine. And that's what happened on the mountaintop with Jesus, and Peter, James, and John. But after those moments in life we're back at the bottom of the mountain, smack dab in real life.

Feb. 18th - He Was With the Wild Beasts

In his sermon for the first Sunday in Lent, the Rev. Gordon Stuart says Mark's account of Jesus' wilderness retreat simply says Jesus 'was with the wild beasts, and angels ministered to him.' We can draw both comfort and challenge from that, because we all face times when the beasts of life are all too real, when faith falters, when despair gnaws at us, and hopelessness nearly destroys our sense of well being.

Pastors Link



Lent looms ahead of us as a time to turn away from things that do not bring life and to turn to Jesus Christ as we anticipate the Passion Week, the death of Christ on the cross and ultimately his rising from the grave on Easter Sunday. So with Martin Luther we ask; "What does it mean?"

Many Lutheran theologians regard Luther's *"The Bondage of the Will"* as his most important work. In this writing, Luther is responding to assertions that support our natural moral ability to 'obey' the gospel and 'choose' Jesus. Many fundamentalists believe that all of God's commands to obey go to prove that we have the "free-will" to do so. Luther, in "The Bondage of the Will" exposes the accepted concept of 'free will' as an erroneous, unscriptural doctrine which ultimately undermines the gospel itself, and puts the attainment of salvation on the works of humans instead of solely on the grace of God, through the cross of Christ. Luther in this treatise hits the core of the issue: whether grace alone saves, or whether salvation is a mixture of a human's ability to choose their salvation, along with little sprinklings of grace. This is still extremely relevant for today's Christian, for many carry the unbiblical assumption which concludes that any command from God to believe or obey the gospel somehow implies the moral ability of human beings to do so (see: Noah).

Large numbers of evangelicals today make this same jump in logic and build a whole theology on it; assuming that God's commands somehow automatically implies that we have the moral ability to do it. This belief includes ironically, many Lutherans, but as Dr. Luther said, "When you are finished with all your commands and exhortations, I will write over the top of it all. "By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not a work of your own, lest anyone boast." In other words, the commands of God exist to show what we cannot do rather than what we can do; this includes God's command of all people everywhere to repent and believe the gospel, an impossible act of will apart from the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit uniting us to Christ through Word and sacrament. Only the grace of Jesus Christ applied by the Spirit can illumine the scripture in such a way as to open blind eyes and deaf ears. By this work of the Spirit we are able to see Christ's absolute, unconditional free gift of salvation through His cross and resurrection. Those who cannot yet see Christ's gift are wholly dependent on God to translate them from darkness to light. It is as if we were to come across a non-swimmer who was drowning and shout to him; "You MUST swim!" He cannot.

The irony of this comparison is the fact that if a person who is drowning can totally relax themselves, meaning giving up the struggle completely; they will naturally float. Our struggle with our human nature and the idea that we have the power to control it, apart from the Spirit of God, is what sinks us. We can try to be good, but we can't. We try to believe, but apart from the Spirit we cannot.

And the person who tells us that we must be good, do good and 'choose' God is pouring a bucket of cold water on a drowning man. To "Let go, and let God" is to surrender our earthly human efforts to save ourselves. To realize that salvation is God's work, and God's work alone through Jesus Christ, is to surrender the struggle and in doing so, to float.

In Martin Luther's explanation of the Third Article of the Apostle's Creed, he states; "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith." i.e. we cannot do it...but God can... and does.

Our surrender to God must be unconditional. We cannot 'choose' to believe or to follow Christ, this is the gift and work of the Holy Spirit. Any belief system that holds that Jesus Christ would turn his back on anyone...leper, prostitute, tax collector...a-n-y-o-n-e...is false. "I believe, that I cannot believe", and in that surrender of our human pride, the Spirit enters in.

In Christ - Pastor Paul



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Church Fax: 774.4069
Email: connect@oslfamily.org
Website: oslfamily.org



Tuesday, February 13th
5:00 - 6:30pm
Pancake Supper

Pancakes, sausage, applesauce and beverage will
be served from 5:00 – 6:30pm.

Cost is \$4 - adults, \$2 – children under twelve or \$12 per family.
Proceeds will go to Lutheran World Relief.
8th grade confirmands will be serving.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

