

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
359 Leonard Street N  
West Salem, WI 54669

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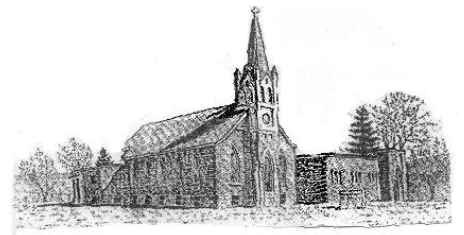
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

March

MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WEST SALEM, WISCONSIN  
MARCH 2016

- ▶ New Officers Elected
- ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Classes
- ▶ Lenten & Holy Week Worship
- ▶ OWLS, March 24
- ▶ Garden Plots Available
- ▶ Vacation Bible School, August 8-11



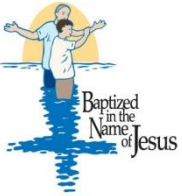
**Mission Statement:**  
**To reach toward God**  
**and to each other**  
**for the sake of the world**

# OUR SAVIOR'S VOICE

Our Savior's Lutheran Church 359 Leonard Street N West Salem, WI 54669  
www.oursaviorswestsalem.org 608-786-0030

## MARCH 2016

### PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS



"Child of God,  
you have been  
sealed by the  
Holy Spirit and  
marked with the



cross of Christ forever."

"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."

As I write this, we have just finished being marked with the cross in ashes, being reminded that "we are dust and to dust we shall return." As you read this, we will be hip deep in Lent on our journey to the cross. And at the end of this month, we will once again be able to say the "a" word as we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

For our family this Lenten journey is especially poignant as we walk with heavy hearts to the cross. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, my aunt (one of Dad's sisters) died in Texas and her memorial service was held on Ash Wednesday (how appropriate). On February 13<sup>th</sup>, one of Rebecca's classmates from Gladstone died down at the children's hospital at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. One 90 years old, having lived a good long life, despite being in the darkness of Alzheimer's disease these last few years; one 14 years old, just beginning to experience life, despite being in the darkness of a defective heart since birth and enduring several surgeries these past years.

During the season of Lent, we are on a journey towards darkness – a journey that will take us to the darkest of days – Good Friday and Jesus' death on the cross. As we walk the journey these 40 days, we take time to **reflect**, to **repent**, and to **pray**.

We **take time** to do these things that are pushed aside the rest of the year in our routine of life:

- ✦ Too much going on to waste my time **reflecting** on my life, wondering if I have been the person God calls me to be, reaching out to others, rather than focusing on myself.
- ✦ Too self-centered, believing I am always doing the right thing, rather than to take the time to think about **repenting** and asking for forgiveness for the "things we have done and the things we have left undone."
- ✦ Days too packed with things to do, to intentionally fit in a time to **pray** and ask God to be present with me, those around me, and those hurting in other parts of the world.

We are very eager to live our lives as Easter people, basking in the light of the risen Christ. But we forget what it took to get that light – we forget the darkness of the journey. We forget to **take the time to reflect** on the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made for us; we forget to **take the time to repent**, receiving forgiveness because Jesus took our sins upon himself and he took them to the cross; we forget to **take the time to pray** to God, giving thanks for life and for the new life we receive in the resurrected Jesus.

When I think about my aunt and our young friend, about the darkness they endured in their lifetime and the light that now shines for them, I am reminded that in baptism they were grounded in the love of Jesus. In faith, they had great confidence in the forgiveness of sins, and welcomed the new life given to them in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

For Carol and Hunter, Easter came early this year. They truly know the meaning of “remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” And now they live in the light of the promises made to them at their baptism as we proclaim on Easter morning “Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!”

I invite you to take the time to be intentional on your journey to the cross ... reflect, repent, pray. And on Easter morning bask in the light of Christ boldly proclaiming “Alleluia!”

Walking to the cross with you, eager to proclaim, “Christ is risen! Alleluia!”

*Pastor Jean*

## ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW



The 2016 Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, January 31, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. President Char Buelow called the meeting to order, with 51 voting members in attendance. The meeting began with devotions and an exercise in assessing the vitality of the congregation. The average score was 3.8 out of 5. A more extensive report will be in the March newsletter.

A number of reports were shared, reviewing our ministry in 2015 from a variety of angles. Significant discussion was held regarding the rental arrangement with Childfirst, especially given that they are now several months in arrears in their rent.

The following individuals were elected to positions of leadership:

*Congregation Council:* Jason Stefferud, Linda Arentz, Dan Roemhild, Jim Quamme  
*Bethany Home Corporation:* Larry Blunck, Jim Michelson  
*Sugar Creek Bible Camp:* Marty Frank, Jeff Haldeman  
*Mission Endowment Fund Committee:* Denise Jones, Carl Wallace  
*Nominating Committee:* Char Buelow, Marjorie Anderson, Lynette Ender, Candice Tlustosch, Eric Ender

The meeting also approved the proposed 2016 budget, and thanked outgoing council members (Char Buelow, Marjorie Anderson, and Sandi Stavlo) for their service.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Social Committee hosted lunch. Thanks to all who were a part of our shared leadership, and all who are partners with us in our mission and ministry!

## CONGREGATION COUNCIL REVIEW

The Congregation Council met on Monday, February 8, with Vice President Vernetta Moe calling the meeting to order. At this meeting the council:

- Welcomed Jason Stefferud, Linda Arentz, and Dan Roemhild as new members, and Jim Quamme as a re-elected member.
- Reviewed the duties of the council, and how it operates.
- Elected officers – Jim Quamme (president), Steve Ahles (vice president), Dan Roemhild (secretary), and Jill Iliff (treasurer).
- Turned the meeting over to Jim Quamme.
- Received the treasurer’s report, along with reports from the pastors.

- Discussed issues regarding Childfirst. Decided to seek a proposal for paying the rent and the amount in arrears, along with a first installment, by March 1.
- Approved the minutes from the annual meeting.
- Assigned council members to various committees.
- Appointed Mike Larson and Cathryn Bottem as voting members to the 2016 La Crosse Area Synod Assembly, with three more to be appointed.

The council meets again on Monday, March 14. See Jim Quamme or one of the pastors if you have any questions.

### NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

At its February meeting, the Congregation Council elected officers for 2016. Elected to one-year terms were:

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| President      | Jim Quamme   |
| Vice President | Steve Ahles  |
| Secretary      | Dan Roemhild |
| Treasurer      | Jill Iliff   |

Thanks to all our officers for their service, and please keep them in your prayers as they seek to be faithful to God's calling.

### SO, JUST WHAT IS OUR VITALITY SCORE...AND WHAT IS IT ANYWAY?

At the annual meeting in January, participants were asked to share in a "congregational vitality" survey. Over the years, as our society has changed, the measures for how much life and vitality a congregation has, have also changed, and sometimes become hard to determine. In response, the ELCA asked congregations to "self-evaluate" their vitality. We'll talk more about this in the April newsletter, but for now, here are the results.

*On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 as "hardly at all," 3 as "somewhat," and 5 as "very well," the average score for each statement:*

- Worship nurtures people's faith – 4
- There is a clear sense of mission here – 3.75
- There is excitement about the future – 3.9
- This congregation is a positive force in the community – 4.3
- This congregation is always ready to try something new – 3.7
- This congregation works for social justice/advocacy – 3.4
- This congregation helps people deepen their relationship with God – 4

*Then, using another scale, where 1 is "poor," 3 is "moderately good," and 5 is "great," how well are we at:*

- Building strong, healthy relationships among members – 3.6
- Incorporating newcomers into the congregation's life – 3.5
- Seeking out and using the gifts of members of all ages – 3.7
- Equipping members to share their faith with others – 3.6
- Addressing social concerns – 3.9
- Managing disagreements in a healthy, respectful manner – 3.6
- Interacting with the local community – 4.2
- Helping members live out their faith in daily life – 3.9

Thanks to all who participated – more next month!

| DATE              | ATTENDANCE | OFFERING | SUNDAY SCHOOL |
|-------------------|------------|----------|---------------|
| Feb. 6 & 7        | 304        | \$5,363  | 57            |
| Ash Wed., Feb. 10 | 238        |          |               |
| Feb. 13 & 14      | 248        | \$4,869  | 58            |
| Lent, Feb. 17     | 185        |          |               |
| Feb. 20 & 21      | 285        |          | 64            |

## MISSION DISCERNMENT

After a healthy conversation at the annual meeting on space issues and our vision for ministry, the Vision and Space teams have postponed the planned "Congregational Conversation." We still expect to gather for conversation, but will wait until after Easter to allow further consideration of space, mission and ministry. Watch for details in the April newsletter!

## THANK YOU!



◆ Thank you to these Our Savior's folks who have shared their time with us from mid-November to early February. We thank them for serving during coffee hour and/or providing treats.

Servers: Marjorie Anderson and Shannon Wiese; Becki Murphy and Lori Hammes with their confirmation groups; Jim Michelson and Melody Schmitz; Carrie Johnson and Sara Jeranek with their confirmation groups, Ellie, Madison, Mallory, and Natalie; spouses of the Senior Choir members; Angie Hemker, Anna Johnson, and Tina and Sam Thompson; Pam Gresens and Jim Michelson; Scarlet Fullwood, Stephanie Subjek, Dottie Baumgartner; the Michelson family; Michelle Giblin and confirmation group; Tim and Karen Tiber.



Treat Providers: Shannon Wiese, Marsha Bateman, Marjorie Anderson, the Hammes/Murphy 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group, Velma Schmidt, Melody Schmitz, Jim Michelson, Johnson/Jeranek Small Group, Angie Hemker, Anna Johnson, the Drury's, Pam Gresens, Jim Michelson, Shannon Wiese, Norma Piper, Eleanor Lee, Betty Whitlock, Kay Osiecki,

Pam Willer, Michelle Giblin's confirmation group, and Tim and Karen Tiber.

A special thanks to Erik Peterson for providing complimentary coffee from Kwik Trip.

The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board beside the kitchenette door. We welcome any offerings of homemade, bakery made or store-bought treats, individual portions of ready to eat fruit, or anything you'd like to contribute!

Your generosity is appreciated!

***Ilene Pavelko***

◆ We thank the **MAILING CREW** for assembling the Newsletter. The members who helped this past month were Connie and Larry Blunck, Bev Bockenauer, Bonnie Ender, Sandra Holthaus, Inger Michael, Judy Morzinski, Carol Noel, and Carol Peterson.

◆ Thank you, thank you to all the ladies that have sewed quilt tops. You can take squares from the basket in the Gathering Area or down stairs and pick out your own squares. The Dorcas really appreciates all that you are doing! Don't quit now.

◆ Thank you to all who sent get-well cards or who phoned or visited at Mulder's Health Care during my continuing rehabilitation for a broken arm. Thank you also for the many birthday greetings and to the nearly 200 individuals, including Sunday school students, who signed the displayed birthday cards.



***Doris Michelson***

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Don't forget to turn your clock ahead one hour on Saturday evening, March 13. Or...wake up at 2 a.m. on Sunday morning and change it! Either way, change your clock, go to bed early, and join us in worship as we thank God that while the time changes, God's love never does!



## PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS



"Prayer around the Cross" is a new, Sunday evening worship we offer once a month, giving us a quiet, contemplative worship opportunity. We gather to reflect on the

darkness around us, and on the light that shines through Jesus. Our next "prayer around the cross" will be on March 13, at 7 p.m., as we reflect on the final steps to the cross of Calvary. We meet in the sanctuary – come as you are, regardless of where you are in life, and share in times of silence, prayer, and music.

## LENTEN WORSHIP

*Continuing the journey  
toward the Cross*

Wednesdays in Lent  
March 2-9-16

11:30 a.m.

Mid-day contemplative worship

5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer Worship  
and conversations around the holidays

5:45 p.m.

Soup supper with proceeds toward  
fighting hunger by  
buying a cow(s) for God's Global Barnyard

## Triduum



## THE TRIDUUM

*Remembering and Celebrating  
God's Work in Jesus!*

### Maundy Thursday – March 24

Holy Communion and stripping of the altar  
7 p.m.

### Good Friday – March 25

Worship of the Word  
1:30 p.m.

Service of Tenebrae  
8 p.m.

### Easter Sunday

Festive Celebration of Holy Communion  
6:30 + 8:30 + 10:30 a.m.  
(NO Saturday worship)

## ADULT STUDIES

Wednesday Bible study – 9:30 – 11 a.m.  
Meets in the Library  
Currently studying stories from Luke

Sunday morning study – 9:15-10:15 a.m.  
*No class on Easter!*

Meets in classroom next to bathrooms  
on lower level

Exploring the basics of our faith

Salem Terrace study and WELCA Circle studies  
Check the calendar for details!



## LOOKING...FOR YOU???



Our Savior's has some ministries that are looking for new energy, ideas, and spiritual gifts. Maybe, they are looking...for you???

*Property Committee* – looks after the asset of our building, ensuring that we have the space we need to do the ministry to which we are called. Hard to teach Sunday School in the parking lot in January! The committee meets once a month, for about an hour.

*Youth Committee* – a ministry that works with the Youth Director to create ministry opportunities to, with, and by young people, especially middle and high school age. One of our core ministries – care to join in?

*Family Ministry* – a new ministry to meet the needs of younger families. Lots of young families are in our midst. What are their needs, and how can we be the presence of Jesus in their midst?

So...got the gifts? Got the calling? See Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean. You can make a difference in the world, using the gifts God has entrusted to you!



*My Offering*

***From the  
counters ...***

Please remember to use your offering envelopes if you have them. If you need some, let Kay know in the office.

## NEW MEMBER CLASS

Interested in membership at Our Savior's? We would LOVE to have you join with us in community, as we seek to be faithful to God's call together as a church, and individually in our everyday lives.

If you come from a Lutheran background, it takes a transfer or, if a transfer cannot be obtained, a "reactivation" by the Congregation Council (really, it's not as bad as it sounds!)

If you come from a non-Lutheran background, we ask you to attend a new member class. This winter we will use the "Basically Fundamental" course on Sunday mornings in March, during the Sunday School hour. For more information contact Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean.

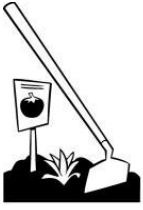
## CELEBRATE WEST SALEM BUSINESS EXPO

The annual Celebrate West Salem Business Expo will be held on Sunday, March 20 at the West Salem High School gymnasium from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. This impressive event features a wide variety of businesses and organizations from the area. Look for fellow church members at a number of the booths and be sure to stop by the Our Savior's Lutheran Church table to sample the best lutefisk and meatballs you can fit in a 3 oz. cup!

## SYNOD ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS

The Congregation Council has appointed Mike Larson and Cathryn Bottem as voting members to the 2016 La Crosse Area Synod Assembly. We need three more! The 2016 assembly is in Decorah June 10-12. Expenses are covered. Assemblies involve business, fellowship, worship, and a lot of learning about the work of God's people! See Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean if you are interested.

## GARDEN PLOTS



### GARDEN PLOTS

As I write this note in mid-February 2016, we are enduring temperatures and wind chills at least 20 degrees below normal, very similar to mid-February 2015. But spring did arrive in 2015, followed by summer, as I'm certain it will this year also. So, it's time to at least start thinking about gardening. For an eighth year, a parcel of land will be available for members of the congregation interested in planting a garden. Seven families did so in 2015. The plot is located 1½ miles north of the fairgrounds off County Road M. If you are interested in reserving a parcel or have questions, call Jim Michelson at 786-1236.

## JUNE DAIRY DAYS



June Dairy Days is June 3, 4 & 5. We will need your help to work in the Food Stand and the Run/Walk.

We are also looking for people to be the lead person or persons for the Food Stand and Run/Walk.

As our students are either away from home or studying in challenging environments, we

**college+**  
connection



keep them in our thoughts and prayers. This month please pray for **Erica Rich** (UW-Milwaukee), **Eric Trautman** (UW-L), and **Kelsey Novak** (UW-L).



**Remembering those who serve in the military ...**

This month we pray for **Sam Fellom** (Navy) studying in Pensacola FL.

## ATTENTION, HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!



Our Savior's has several college scholarships available to graduating high school seniors. Scholarships are awarded during worship on May 29, as we honor our graduates. Application forms are available in the office, and are due by May 1. See Pastor Jon, Pastor Jean, or Tim Bowman for more information.



## FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

5<sup>th</sup> grade parents and students – First Communion instruction will be on **Sundays, March 6 and March 13**. Class runs **from 1:30 to 3 p.m.** each day. Parents are asked to join us. We will learn about Holy Communion, bake the bread for our first communion, and create our own communion cup. First Communion will be a part of our worship on Maundy Thursday (March 24). For more information, see Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean.



## CONFIRMATION AND AFTER SCHOOL

6-8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation classes are off for Lent, resuming on Wednesday, March 30. After School begins that day as well.



9<sup>th</sup> graders are working on their confirmation banners. Work sessions are scheduled for Wednesdays, March 2-9-16, from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m.

### SCRIP CARDS



Scrip Cards are now available for Kwik Trip, Woodman's, and Festival. Cards are generally available before and after Saturday worship, and between services on Sunday. Cards make great gifts, and at the same time, a percentage goes to our youth ministry or to support the Summer Lunch program. You can fill up, eat up, and gift up – and support our kids at the same time!

A sign up is outside Pastor Jon's office if you would be willing to sell cards. Kids need a parent present, and their "cut" goes into their account for future mission trips. Adults are also welcome to sell cards – their portion will go toward the Summer Lunch account. See Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean for more information.



## SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP - 2016 "The Jesus Way"

Check out the brochures for camp on the kiosk in the Gathering Area!

### OUR SAVIOR'S CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE

\$100 full week – \$50 half week

**Request forms due in the office NO LATER  
than April 28<sup>th</sup>**

(Forms available in the church office, on the kiosk in the Gathering Area, or on the website – [www.oursaviorswestsalem.org](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org))

**Camperships distributed in worship  
May 7 & 8**

(You send the campership to Sugar Creek directly.)

### SALVATION ARMY DINNER SERVING

Our Savior's continues to take the second Friday of the month to serve the meal at the Salvation Army in La Crosse. We are there from 4:15-5:15 p.m. – no preparation or clean up, just serving and being the presence of Jesus as we do "God's work with our hands." We look to have six servers, and families are welcome, including children as young as ten. A sign-up sheet is on the youth bulletin board outside Pastor Jon's office.





# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

## Sunday School Offering

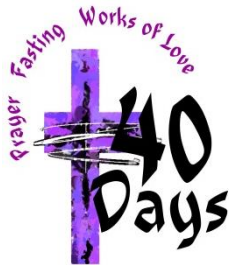
Sunday School offerings are being collected for **God's Global Garden** through the work of the ELCA. Start with a large plot of land, add special drought-resistant seeds, and top it off with tools and training for all. The result – plenty of fruits and vegetables to go around! Extra produce and seeds are shared with neighbors in need. **Check it out!** We now have two garden plots filled with carrots, cabbage, beans, and melons, plus fruit tree saplings. Now we need the tools to tend the garden (rake, hoe, and shovel). How about another plot?



During the season of Lent, we work our way from light into darkness, until only the light of the resurrected Jesus is lit. Last month we ended our opening session together being reminded that Jesus loves us as we placed the cross on our foreheads remembering our baptism. At the end of our sessions in Lent, we will pray the prayer Jesus taught us - the Lord's Prayer. Join us and our friends from *Whirl* as they share stories to help us learn about the seasons of the church year and about Jesus' life. We are always eager to welcome new students - it's never too late - come join us!



Are you using your **Lenten calendar** these 40 days? If you didn't get one, Pastor Jean has one for you.



**Parents**, we invite you to spend an hour in your child(ren)'s Sunday School class.



## Mark Your Calendar

- Sunday, March 20** – Kids sing in worship at 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday, March 27 (Easter)** – Kids sing in worship at 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday, March 27 (Easter)** – **NO** Sunday School class

## Friendly competition ... Attendance ... Offering ...



*After 22 weeks (mid-February) ...*

Our **Pre-K and Kindergarten** classes are tied for the most weeks of "near perfect" attendance at 4 weeks. We still have **1 child who has perfect attendance** and another **3 who only missed once!** Way to go kids!! Keep it up!

Our **5<sup>th</sup> grade** is pulling away from the pack at \$120.30, followed by the **1<sup>st</sup> grade** at \$105.75. Our **4<sup>th</sup> grade (Ms. Kane/Ms. Schmidt)** is right behind with \$102.70! The vegetables are all planted in our second garden plot and we just need to get our tools! Check out the bulletin board outside of Pastor Jean's office to see our gardens growing.



## Hungry Jar Offering for March ELCA World Hunger

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Sunday School class chose ELCA World Hunger as the recipient of March's Hungry Jar monies. The La Crosse Area Synod World Hunger Sub-Committee has challenged each of the 74 congregations in the synod to raise \$500 to purchase a cow from God's Global Barnyard. Cows can be an important part of alleviating hunger in some parts of the world. Milk, cheese, and butter are used by the family and the excess sold to others. Meat may be added to the diet. And, don't forget the fertilizer that's the by-product of owning a cow!



Our Lenten soup supper monies will also be designated for this project in hopes that we can buy at least two cows for the herd. Each congregation will receive a plywood cutout of a cow that we can decorate as we wish. The cows will be brought to Synod Assembly in June at Luther College and "pastured" on the lawn there.

## NURSING HOME SERVICES

Thursday, March 17: 10:30 a.m. – Lakeview  
1 p.m. – Salem Terrace  
2:45 p.m. – Mulder's

Sunday, March 27: 1:30 p.m. – Lakeview

Come and join us as we share the good news with faithful folk around our community! See Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean for more information.

## CIRCLE NEWS

RUTH CIRCLE

Monday, March 21, 9 a.m.

Leader: Connie Blunck

Hostess: Caryl Loughan

## CHECK IT OUT ...

**Can't see the bulletin ...**

we have large print bulletins



**Can't hear the worship service ...**

we have a hearing assist device

**Missed worship ...**

check out the website –  
[www.oursaviorswestsalem.org](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org) – to see the service.



Save the dates ...

**Vacation Bible  
School**  
Sugar Creek Counselors  
**August 8-11**



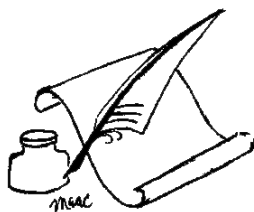
**Bible Trivia &  
Breakfast  
@ Salem  
Terrace**

**Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.**

Join us in the small kitchenette room off the parking lot between the two buildings.

## Cards for shut-ins

Don't forget to stop by the "Card Ministry" table (located outside of the Church Office) each weekend when you are at worship to sign the cards for our shut-ins.



## Safe Driving for Seniors

(those 55+)

April 28

12:30 PM-4:30 PM



Cost: AARP member's \$15 -  
non-members \$20 -  
scholarships available

Registration required - class limited to  
20-24 people

Watch for details in the April newsletter

## SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Plans are being made for the summer mission trip, this time to a multi-cultural neighborhood in the heart of

Minneapolis. There we will learn about racism and poverty, how they impact peoples' lives, and how we, as people of faith, can make a difference. And...we will go out and MAKE a difference! The dates for the trip are July 3-9, and the cost will be around \$300. Registration is due March 20.

Who is this trip for? Kids entering high school – and adults too! We want to make this an intergenerational trip, with kids and adults learning and working together. As an added



bonus, see how Minneapolis celebrates the Fourth of July!

For more information, see Tim Bowman or Pastor Jon. Check it out soon – summer is coming quickly!

## OWLS

The OWLS will meet on March 24 at 1:30 p.m. to hear Roger Fish do a humorous presentation entitled "It's Your Attitude, It's Your Day, Make It a Good One."

Roger Fish is an energetic and humorous speaker who melds more than 30 years of teaching, administration and leadership experience in the field of public professional speaking. Roger's enthusiastic style challenges the audience to pursue a positive outlook on life and its many challenges.

More about Roger...

- \*Educational Leader (34 years)
- \*State conferences keynote speaker
- \*Past President of the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators
- \*Award winning educator and administrator
- \*Graduate adjunct professor at Viterbo University
- \*Strategic Educational Leadership Coach
- \*Facilitator for Love and Logic effective parenting classes

If you are not "humor impaired," you will definitely leave with a smile on your face.



As usual, there will be coffee and sweets following the presentation. So please mark the date on your calendar!



*Senior  
Spotlight!  
Celebrating*



*our Resident Theologians...*



Disciples come in all shapes and sizes. We have much to learn from our “elders” as these resident theologians have insights and stories to share. Dawn Andres graciously allowed us to share a glimpse into her story. Dawn, 89 years young, sang in the choir and was the choir director at Our Savior’s for 25 years.

***Dawn’s advice to new disciples of Jesus ...***

You have to have faith to get you through this world, to keep you on the straight and narrow. Faith keeps family together. That was instilled in Dawn as a child, and Dawn’s children are faithful in their church now because they grew up in a faithful home.

***Dawn’s favorite Bible passage ... because***

... Dawn likes John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son” – because there is a song with these words, and it is one of her favorites.

***Dawn’s earliest memories of church ...***

Dawn moved to West Salem from La Crosse when she was five years old and joined Our Savior’s at that time. Anna Marie Ottersen, the daughter of Pastor Ottersen, was involved with teaching Sunday School and choir and she made an impression on Dawn. Dawn’s family moved in with her grandmother so her mother could take care of grandma. Dawn remembers learning to play the piano with her grandmother sitting beside her. The first song she learned was “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.” Music has been an important part of Dawn’s life and she has shared that love in the life of the church, too. Dawn said, “I love music. I love this church!”

Thank you for sharing, Dawn! Please keep Dawn and all of our “senior” members (and “resident theologians”) in your prayers.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

In April, I will be 80 years old. I guess that qualifies me as a senior citizen. I used to think that people who were in their eighties were very, very old. Maybe too old to contribute anything useful to society.

Of course, I was wrong. There are many ways we can be useful and productive even into our nineties and yes even older as long as we remain alert and somewhat healthy in mind and body.

I happen to know many elderly people, including some relatives, who are very involved in their church and community. Why are these folks so active and happy? I believe it all has to do with ATTITUDE! We need an attitude of gratitude! We need to see our glasses as half full instead of half empty. We need to be good stewards of the many gifts God has given us.

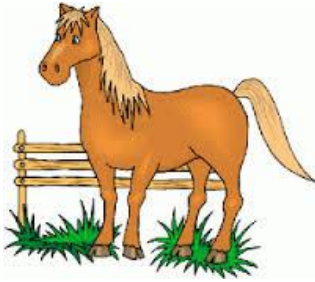
When we think of stewardship, we usually think of possessions, time, and talents. I believe attitude is also important. With a positive attitude towards life, we can be an excellent example of how we show our love to God for all the gifts He has given us. Of course, the greatest gift is Jesus.

***Paul Ranum***



## SUGAR CREEK HORSE PROJECT

Summer camp is just a few months away, and Sugar Creek is getting ready! You can help support the ministry of Sugar Creek by helping with the horse project. In



the Gathering Area are two "horse posters." Your gift of \$20 for each square will help fill in the horse and, more importantly, make a difference in the lives of campers of all ages. Put your name in a square, and then make your gift – checks can be made out to Our Savior's, but put your gift in an envelope clearly marked "horse project" and include your name. Thank you for your support of our ministry together!

## SIMPLY GIVING

Available now: Simply Giving! Simply Giving is a direct payment service, which allows you, at no additional cost, to have your support for our ministry made automatically weekly, monthly, or twice monthly, in whatever amount you choose. Signing up...changing your giving...or discontinuing is easy. For more information, contact the office or speak with one of the pastors.

## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS



Thrivent members are reminded to check to see if you have "Thrivent Choice Dollars" to direct. Our Savior's is one of the many potential recipients of your choice dollars, but your direction needs to be made each time. A number of Our Savior's folk direct their choice dollars – do you? See Thrivent's web site for more information or stop by the office and we will help you out.

## HELP PROVIDE AN EASTER GARDEN

Again, this year we are inviting members of the congregation to consider providing a plant for our Easter worship. While lilies have often been used in the past, more recently we have begun using a variety of flowering spring plants to beautify our worship center and to proclaim the new life we find in Jesus Christ.

You may provide a plant or we will order plants together so that we might have a variety. We are encouraging donations of \$20 to help provide this Easter Garden. In our Easter bulletin, we will acknowledge these gifts. You may designate your gift in memory of someone or in honor of someone.

Thank you for helping to beautify our Easter worship. Please return this form by March 14.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_



## E-COMMUNICATIONS OR PAPER COPY



Did you know that **112** people receive the newsletter by email instead of the **448** people who receive a paper copy?

Interested in helping us save paper and postage? One way we can do that is to send you an email each time we post the newsletter on our website. Give us your email address, let us know you don't want a paper copy of the newsletter, and we'll do the rest. You can find the website at [www.oursaviorswestsalem.org](http://www.oursaviorswestsalem.org)

## E-MAIL AND WEB SITE



Any e-mail address at Our Savior's using "centurytel.net" is no longer operating. Please use addresses to "oursaviorswestsalem.org" instead.

Remember too to check our web site for videos each week. Sunday worship videos are usually posted by Tuesday, so if you miss worship, check it out!

## HOSPITAL REMINDER

Being hospitalized is never easy. Our goal is to visit each member during this difficult time.



At Gundersen, please be sure to alert the hospital of your church affiliation when they ask and they will then release your name to us when we call. At Mayo Clinic Health System/Franciscan Healthcare, it is important that you or a family member contact the church office to notify us of your stay. Mayo is no longer able to give out that information.

# MARCH

## ACOLYTES

|          |  |   |
|----------|--|---|
| March 2  | Lent<br>5 p.m.<br>7 p.m.                       | Trenton Foreman<br>Kessler Goodenough   |
| March 5  | 6 p.m.   | Olivia Haun                             |
| 6        | 8 a.m.   | Dagan Hemker                            |
| 6        | 10:30 a.m.                                     | Anna Johnson                            |
| March 9  | Lent<br>5 p.m.<br>7 p.m.                       | Kamryn Kane<br>Alayna Kennedy           |
| March 12 | 6 p.m.   | Josh Knudtson                           |
| 13       | 8 a.m.   | Megan Larson                            |
| 13       | 10:30 a.m.                                     | Ashlie Lockington                       |
| March 16 | Lent<br>5 p.m.<br>7 p.m.                       | Dylan Mann<br>Tyler Marcou              |
| March 19 | 6 p.m.   | Andrew Murphy                           |
| 20       | 8 a.m.   | Dalton Peters                           |
| 20       | 10:30 a.m.                                     | Jordyn Schurhammer                      |
| March 24 | MAUNDY THURSDAY, 7 p.m.                        | Connor Strainis                         |
| March 27 | EASTER<br>6:30 a.m.<br>8:30 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m. | _____<br>Stephanie Tiber<br>Jared Witte |

**BASKET HOLDERS**

|                |                         |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| March 6<br>6   | 8 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m.    | Wesley Leren<br>Katie Murphy        |
| March 13<br>13 | 8 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m.    | Autumn Pfaff<br>McKenna Riley       |
| March 20<br>20 | 8 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m.    | Ellie Sloten<br>Madelyn England     |
| March 24       | MAUNDY THURSDAY, 7 p.m. | Skylar Williams                     |
| March 27       | 8:30 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m. | Angela Vick<br>Delaney Christianson |

**READERS**

|                      |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|
| March 5<br>6<br>6    | 6 p.m.<br>8 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m.                 | Kay Niemeier<br>Eric Ender<br>Melissa Haldeman   |
| March 12<br>13<br>13 | 6 p.m.<br>8 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m.                 | Bev Bockenbauer<br>Dennis Manthei<br>Fred Meyer  |
| March 19<br>20<br>20 | 6 p.m.<br>8 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m.                 | Bonnie Gensch<br>Lynette Ender<br>Todd Michael   |
| March 27             | EASTER<br>6:30 a.m.<br>8:30 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m. | Errol Kindschy<br>Bonny Goodenough<br>Eric Iliff |

**ALTAR GUILD**     Cindy Aeverbeck  
                              Jaime Fortier

**HOME COMMUNION SERVERS**

|             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| March 5/6   | Judy Gilbert  |
| March 12/13 | Pam Gresens   |
| March 19/20 | Iloff Family  |
| March 27    | Ilene Pavelko |

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

|          |                         |                         |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| March 5  | 6 p.m.                  | Paula Heilman           |
| 6        | 8 a.m.                  | Vicky Johnson           |
|          |                         | Eric Iliff              |
| 6        | 10:30 a.m.              | Wendy Kane              |
|          |                         | Vernetta Moe            |
| March 12 | 6 p.m.                  | Jennifer Iliff          |
| 13       | 8 a.m.                  | Jim Quamme              |
|          |                         | Larry Blunck            |
| 13       | 10:30 a.m.              | Kim Hunter              |
|          |                         | Tim Tiber               |
| March 19 | 6 p.m.                  | Judy Morzinski          |
| 20       | 8 a.m.                  | Mike Alumbaugh          |
|          |                         | Pam Gresens             |
| 20       | 10:30 a.m.              | Wayne & Darlene Affeldt |
| March 24 | MAUNDY THURSDAY, 7 p.m. | Judy Gilbert            |
|          |                         | Michelle Witte          |
| March 27 | EASTER                  |                         |
|          | 6:30 a.m.               | Linda Arentz            |
|          |                         | Carla Burkhardt         |
|          | 8:30 a.m.               | Marjorie Anderson       |
|          |                         | Bonny Goodenough        |
|          |                         | Peggy Trautman          |
|          | 10:30 a.m.              | Eric Iliff              |
|          |                         | Corey Sjoquist          |
|          |                         | Kristin Tschumper       |



## OFFERINGS

|          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| March 2  | Lent<br>5 p.m.<br>7 p.m.                       | Carlie Burkhardt<br>Tracey Beckley         |
| March 5  | 6 p.m.   | Tracey Beckley                             |
| 6        | 8 a.m.   | Jim Quamme                                 |
| 6        | 10:30 a.m.                                     | Carlie Burkhardt                           |
| March 9  | Lent<br>5 p.m.<br>7 p.m.                       | Dan Roemhild<br>Tracey Beckley             |
| March 12 | 6 p.m.   | Rich Clements                              |
| 13       | 8 a.m.   | Jim Quamme                                 |
| 13       | 10:30 a.m.                                     | Steve Ahles                                |
| March 16 | Lent<br>5 p.m.<br>7 p.m.                       | Jim Quamme<br>Tracey Beckley               |
| March 19 | 6 p.m.   | _____                                      |
| 20       | 8 a.m.   | Jim Quamme                                 |
| 20       | 10:30 a.m.                                     | Steve Ahles                                |
| March 24 | MAUNDY THURSDAY<br>7 p.m.                      | Linda Arentz                               |
| March 25 | GOOD FRIDAY<br>1:30 p.m.<br>8 p.m.             | Kay Niemeier<br>Tracey Beckley             |
| March 27 | EASTER<br>6:30 a.m.<br>8:30 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m. | Linda Arentz<br>Vernetta Moe<br>Wendy Kane |

## USHERS

|          |                         |  |
|----------|-------------------------|--|
| March    | 6 p.m.                  | Don and Cooper Addington                               |
|          | 8 a.m.                  | Jim, Beth, and Jon Quamme<br>Dennis Sprain             |
|          | 10:30 a.m.              | Wayne Affeldt<br>Duane Witte<br>Paul and Jaime Fortier |
| March 24 | MAUNDY THURSDAY, 7 p.m. | Corey and Liam Sjoquist                                |
| March 25 | GOOD FRIDAY             |  |
|          | 1:30 p.m.               | Tom & Kay Niemeier                                     |
|          | 8 p.m.                  | Larry Blunck<br>Dennis Baumgartner                     |
| March 27 | EASTER                  |  |
|          | 6:30 a.m.               |  |
|          | 8:30 a.m.               | 8 a.m. Ushers  |
|          | 10:30 a.m.              | 10:30 Ushers   |

Web Site: [oursaviorswestsalem.org](http://oursaviorswestsalem.org)

### OUR SAVIOR'S STAFF

Pastor Jonathan Schmidt, Senior Pastor      612-0217      Email: [pastorjon@oursaviorswestsalem.org](mailto:pastorjon@oursaviorswestsalem.org)  
Pastor Jean Schmidt, Associate Pastor      612-0217      Email: [pastorjean@oursaviorswestsalem.org](mailto:pastorjean@oursaviorswestsalem.org)  
Kay Niemeier, Parish Secretary      Church Office: 786-0030      Fax Number: 786-0951  
Email: [office@oursaviorswestsalem.org](mailto:office@oursaviorswestsalem.org)  
Jill Iliff, Treasurer      Email: [treasurer@oursaviorswestsalem.org](mailto:treasurer@oursaviorswestsalem.org)  
Linda Berg, Organist      Email: [linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org](mailto:linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org)  
Eric Sorenson, Senior Choir Director  
Karen DeSchepper, Counter  
Tim Bowman, Interim Director of Youth Ministry      Email: [youth@oursaviorswestsalem.org](mailto:youth@oursaviorswestsalem.org)  
Sherri Neal and Garrett Hazlett, Custodians