

Life Together

March/April 2015

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

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*Next newsletter items and
articles will be due April 21*

*Life Together is published bi-
monthly by the Olsburg-
Walsburg Lutheran Parish.
Deadline for calendar and
other items is the last
Monday of each month.*

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From the Desk of Your Interim Pastor...

Lent: A Time for Renewal

Each year we set aside forty days as a time for spiritual renewal. There is so much in life that pulls us away from God. Our faith is constantly challenged and our love for God grows cold. We need Lent because Lent is a time to be close to God - closer than we've ever been.

Lent is a very special time for us because it gives us an opportunity to grow in our understanding of what Christ has done for us. It is a time when we can worship and pray more often. It is a time to renew our baptismal vows and recommit ourselves to Christ and his mission.

We will gather each Wednesday evening during Lent for a soup supper at 6:00 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m. (See the schedule of locations printed on page 2 in this newsletter.) These worship services will feature the Holden Evening Prayer Service and a series of messages designed to help us discover (or rediscover) who we are as Lutheran Christians. Come and be part of these midweek services.

Take advantage of this time to draw close to God. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful!

The Great Feast of New Life

The word "Lent" is derived from the Middle English word "Lenten" which means "springtime."

Spring is coming! Soon we will be waking up in the morning and hearing the birds singing their praises to God. Green shoots will be sprouting up from the winter earth. Buds on the trees will appear as warm breezes chase away the icy cold. Signs of spring. Signs of new life.

Our ultimate hope for new life, though, comes not from the arrival of spring. We have hope for new life, life without decay and death, because Jesus rose from the dead! This event is such an earth-shattering, life-changing event that we celebrate it each year.

We will observe the event of Christ's death and resurrection this year with a whole week of worship services. We will gather at our respective churches on Palm Sunday, March 29, when we cheer Jesus on as he enters Jerusalem. On Maundy Thursday, April 2, we will gather at Walsburg Church at 7:00 p.m. to begin the liturgy of the Three Days. The liturgy continues on Good Friday, April 3, when we will gather at Olsburg Church at 7:00 p.m. This liturgy then culminates in the great celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord on Sunday, Easter Day, April 5.

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The worship services on the three days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday are to be considered one sustained service of worship. The worship on each day needs the other two to tell the full story and proclaim the profound truth which is at the heart of our Christian faith.

Holy Week is a time like no other for Christians. This is the week when we follow Jesus into Jerusalem, then to the upper room for the Last Supper, then to his trial and onto the cross and into the grave, and then out of the grave on Easter morning. This is the holiest of times for us, for this is the time when we recall and enact the central events of Christ's work of salvation.

A Personal Word

I look forward to sharing the days of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter with you! It is a great joy to serve as your Interim Pastor and to share these special times together. I pray that our observance of these days will draw you ever more closely to God and help you faithfully live out your calling as a baptized child of God.

Again I want to say - please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of help to you or your family. Let me know if you are going into the hospital, desire communion at home, seek baptism for yourself or someone you know, have concerns, or simply want to talk. Phone numbers to reach me are 785-776-5348 (home) and 785-341-1600 (cell). My email address is keithw4870@gmail.com.

God's blessings to you,

Pastor Keith Wiens

Midweek Worship

March 11th – Olsburg
March 18th – Walsburg
March 25th – Olsburg

Gather for soup, sandwiches, and fellowship at 6:00 P.M. each evening followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will begin at 7:00 p.m.
Maundy Thursday April 2nd – Walsburg
Good Friday April 3th -- Olsburg

Easter Sunday

April 5th
Walsburg **SonRise** @ 6:30 community breakfast will follow!
Olsburg celebration of Easter and Holy Communion @ 9:00 A.M.
Walsburg celebration of Easter and Holy Communion @ 11:00 A.M.
Invite your friends and family as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

God's Sonflower Cluster IIE Spring Meeting

God's Sonflower Cluster IIE Spring meeting will be held on Saturday April 25, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm at St Mark Lutheran Church, Waterville
Registration: \$4.00
Theme: Life in the Body of Christ
Offerings: Love Offering to Synod AND Free will offering for Faith Quest - St. Mark's Wednesday night educational ministry for children

Schedule:

8:30 - 9:00 Registration and Coffee hosted by the women of Trinity Lutheran, Greenleaf
9:00 - 10:00 Bible Study
10:00 - 11:00 Election of Officers, Synod news, other business
11:00 - 11:30 Worship
11:30 - 12:30 Lunch

There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex at Olsburg, RSVP is due April 20.

Thrivent News...

Thrivent says... "You have a Choice" when you own a Thrivent Financial product you earn dollars that may be directed to benefit a qualified organization of your choice. One choice may be your own church that may be used for specific needs.

You may designate current available "Choice Dollars" by March 31, 2015. Phone: 1-800-847-4836, say Choice Dollars to receive personal help naming the organization to receive the dollars (or) by computer, at: www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

March and April birthdays and anniversaries

Birthdays

March

- 1 Katie Burklund (O)
Raymond Nelson (W)
Jared Henry (W)
Roberta Hartford (W)
- 2 Donna Nelson (W)
Brianna Olson (W)
- 4 Marian Smith (O)
Jeanette Pultz (W)
Jennifer Kulp (W)
- 6 Garrett Nelson (O)
- 9 Taellor Howland (O)
- 10 Donald Campbell (W)
- 11 Tami Howland (O)
Christy Nelson (O)
- 12 Bev Stowell (O)
Mike Hagenmaier (W)
- 14 Janet Neilson (W)

- Gary Hageman (W)
- 16 Maria Webster (O)
- 17 Floyd Munson (O)
- 18 Bart Coutermarsh (W)
Cindy Neilson (W)
- 20 Peggy Johnson (O)
- 21 Richard Gibbs Jr. (O)
- 21 Ashley Cooper (O)
- 23 Jonathan Nelson (O)
- 27 Kent Burklund (O)
- 28 Kylie Gibbs (O)
- 29 Timothy Zoeller (O)
Amanda Esping (O)
Stacy Deetjen-Dawes (W)
- 31 Rich Cooper (O)

April

- 6 Lee Hartford (W)
- 7 Roger Bohnenblust (W)

- Travis Hageman (W)
- Jarin Brenner (O)
- 8 Irene Johnson (O)
Roger Sundgren (W)
- 9 Aneta Hagenmaier (W)
- 11 Kelsey Lawrenz (W)
Christopher Hubbard (O)
- 13 Brian Johnson (O)
- 15 Ida Kasselmann (O)
- 19 Russell Peterson (W)
- 17 Tristin Kraemer (W)
- 20 Trenton Hargrave (W)
- 26 Doug Kraemer (W)
- 28 Kevin Burklund (O)
Kirby Burklund (O)
Jacob Nelson (O)
Susan Adams (O)
Emma Bohnenblust (W)
Rob Scofield (W)

Members in service

Thank you to these members for their service to the parish during March and April.

Walsburg

March Ushers and Greeters: Lee & Roberta Hartford; Gary & Diana Hargrave

April Ushers and Greeters: Harold & Sheri Storer; Richard & Shirley Strauss
Mary Kay Henry

March Communion Ushers: Vern Bulk; Sandy McCool

April Communion Ushers: Norman Johnson & Alicia Scofield

***March Lay Assistants:** 3/1 Sandy McCool; 3/8 Diana Hargrave; 3/15 Jerry Baer; 3/22 Sandy Glessner; 3/29 Linda Toomire

***April Lay Assistants:** 4/5 Lynne Berry; 4/12 Mary Larson; 4/19 Don Nelson; 4/26 Alicia Scofield

March Altar Committee: Lynne Berry

April Altar Committee: Diana Hargrave

***If you are unable to be present for your assignment, please find a replacement and contact the church office so the correct name will appear in the bulletin.**

Olsburg

March Ushers: Jacob Nelson; Shane Adams; Karl Kasselmann; Lee Cantrell

April Ushers: Brian Clifton; Tom Nelson; Mitch Adams; Blake Vargo

March Communion Assistants: 3/1 Mary Nelson; 3/15 Becky Avery; 3/29 Ashley Rice

April Communion Assistants: 4/2 Coleen Esping (Maundy Thursday); 4/5 Gregg Gibson (Easter); 4/19 Kraig Kasselmann

***March Lay Assistants:** 3/1 Kraig Kasselmann; 3/8 Kristi Fronce; 3/15 Laura Clifton; 3/22 Patty Nelson; 3/29 Tom Nelson

***April Lay Assistants:** 4/5 Becky Avery (Easter); 4/12 Bill Monser; 4/19 Coleen Esping; 4/26 Jan Cooper

***March Acolytes:** 3/1 Emma Kasselmann; 3/8 Skyler Zoeller; 3/15 Grady Kasselmann; 3/22 Kaden Gutsch; 3/29 Jace Ricketts, Landry and Skyler Zoeller

***April Acolytes:** 4/5 Emma Kasselmann, Brooklynn Zoeller, Kylea Ricketts (Easter); 4/12 Skyler Zoeller; 4/19 Grady Kasselmann; 4/26 Jace Ricketts

March Altar Committee: Shelly Burklund; April Brenner

April Altar Committee: Coleen Esping; Joyce Cantrell

March Anniversaries

- 9 William and Janet Neilson (W)
- 22 Dan and Shari Holt (O)
- 23 Don and June Campbell (W)

April Anniversaries

- 2 Vern and Kim Bulk (W)
- 11 Kevin and Barbara Burklund (O)
- 18 Ray and Jennifer Miller (W)
- 20 Eldon and Beverly Sundgren (W)
- 21 Steve and Peggy Johnson (O)
Gary and Carla Hageman (W)
- 30 Jamie and Kristi Hageman (W)

Special Congregational meeting at Olsburg

Olsburg Lutheran Church will hold a special congregational meeting on Sunday, March 29 (Palm Sunday) immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting will be to adopt the updated constitution. A copy of the constitution with the proposed changes was emailed to members with emails on file. A hard copy is located in the narthex. Please do not remove the copy from the narthex. Thank you. If you did not receive an email with the attachment and would like one, please see Shelly.

Dillons Neighborhood Rewards Fund-Raising is CHANGING

Thank you for acquiring and using your Dillons Reloadable Gift Cards for the Olsburg Cemetery. It has been successful and raised funds to help provide maintenance for the Olsburg Cemetery. Please ask your friends and family to participate. You do not have to be a member of Olsburg Lutheran Church to help!

Now ... Dillons is changing the fundraiser a bit, beginning February 1, 2015.

First, the name changes from Neighborhood Rewards to Community Rewards.

Second, the reloadable gift cards can no longer be able to be reloaded after January 31st. The gift card, once loaded, has no expiration date, so you may use it anytime until it is empty, as the January 31st date has no effect on that.

Third, beginning February 1, 2015, as long as you have a Dillons Plus Shopper's Card, most of your purchases will credit to the Olsburg Cemetery Fundraising. BUT BUT BUT ... you must go online to set up an account and link the Olsburg Lutheran Church to your account in the Community Rewards tab. If you already have a Dillons on-line account, you simply add / link the Olsburg Lutheran Church #10319, under Community Rewards. If you haven't set up an account, it is quite simple, basically your name, telephone number, address, Dillons Plus Shopper Plus card, a valid email address, user name/password--are the required fields. Be sure you have entered your Dillons Plus Shoppers Card Number and selected our fund-raiser number on your on-line account, as that is what links your account to the Olsburg cemetery fundraiser account for the Community Rewards.

Fourth, once you have set up your on-line account at Dillons.com, beginning February 1, 2015, all you have to do is present your Dillon's Plus Shopper's Card when you make your purchases, and the Fund-raiser gets credit for the allowed purchases.

BASIC ON-LINE INSTRUCTIONS TO REGISTER YOUR DILLONS ACCOUNT

**Go to Dillons.com and select the "Register" tab at the right top.

**Enter your email address, password, zip code (select preferred store) and check the box if you desire to receive email communication.

**Click on "Create Account" at the bottom of the page.

You will receive an email confirmation to your inbox, to active your account click on the link in the body of the email and enter your sign in information to confirm.

ALSO it will ask you to add your Dillons Shoppers Plus card number name, address, user name/password, and then select the Community Rewards to link to your account. We are number Olsburg Lutheran Church #10319. Select enroll. It will then take you back to the information you entered at account summary, and as long as everything is correct, that is all you need to do.

And, remember if your family has one than one Dillons Plus Card (with different numbers), to link them together, and/or register them on-line as well.

And, if you have family or friends who shop at Dillons, share the information with them, ask them to register their cards, and select the Olsburg Lutheran Church under Community Rewards, and their purchases can benefit the fund-raiser as well.

If you have any questions, you may contact Mary Nelson, kmnelson@kansas.net.
Thanks.