

Lifetogether

March 2019

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

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From the Desk of Pastor Keith...

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you!

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, March 6. On that day, each congregation will observe Ash Wednesday with evening services. The service at Olsburg will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the service at Walsburg will begin at 7:15 p.m. The following five midweek services will alternate between the two churches, with Olsburg hosting on March 13. A soup supper will be served beginning at 6:00 p.m. with worship following at 7:00 p.m.

The Seasons of our Lives

This Lenten season we will gather each Wednesday evening for worship and explore "The Seasons of our Lives."

The word "Lent" comes from an Old English word meaning "to lengthen." This is the season of the year when the earth begins to awaken from its winter sleep. The days lengthen, the sun's rays begin to warm the earth, and ground is broken in preparation for planting seeds. This is also the time when the church observes a season called Lent, a time of turning over the crusty soil of sin in our lives and awakening to God's gift of new life. This is the time when the church prays for God to renew our

zeal in faith and life.

Not many weeks ago the days of autumn were giving way to the days of winter. The days were growing shorter and the earth was growing colder. In the midst of those days the church observed a season called Advent, a word which means "to come." It was dark and cold outside, but our lives were filled with hope, the certainty that the Son of God is coming to bring us into the Light of God's new day.

Before long summer days will be upon us, days of sunlight and warmth, days just right for growing crops and gardens. Summer time is when the church observes the long "green season." The green paraments on the altar and pulpit remind us that the Spirit of God is working in our lives, growing strong, fruitful people.

There is a strong connection between the seasons of nature and the seasons of the church. As the marvelous hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* declares:

Summer and winter
and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars
in their courses above
join with all nature
in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness,
mercy and love.

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God is at work in the seasons of nature and God is at work in the seasons of the church to bring us to a deeper awareness of God's work in our lives and in the world around us.

Come and be part of the Lenten experience each Wednesday evening beginning on March 6.

Awaken To Grace!

This is the time of the year when the earth begins to awaken from its winter sleep. In the church, we call it Lent. During this Lenten season we will gather each Sunday and "Awaken To Grace!"

The Scripture readings for these Sundays follow Jesus from his temptation in the wilderness to days just before he was arrested and nailed to the cross. We watch and listen as Jesus addresses questions about how we should respond when tragedy strikes and how we should handle feelings of resentment and the urge to seek revenge and much more. And what we witness is grace in action!

The Lenten journey will invite us to awaken to God's grace. We will be challenged to plow the crusty soil of our lives, pull up the weeds of sin, and plant fresh seeds of life. All the while we will keep our eyes on the cross and the empty tomb and let the light of Christ's death and resurrection awaken us to the work of God's grace in our lives and in the world.

Join the gathering each Sunday morning and let seeds of new life be planted and the new shoots fed and watered by the Word of God and our Lord's Holy Meal.

Let Us Pray

Please pray with me. *"O God of grace, you bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to your children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."*

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Keith

A Good Word

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

- John Wesley

Receive The Newsletter

We want you to get the newsletter - either by email or by postal mail. If want to receive the newsletter by email, send your email address to Shelly at sburklun@ksu.edu. If we already have your email address, but you want to receive the email by postal mail, please inform Shelly.

The Season of Lent Begins March 6!

You are invited to gather with us on Wednesday evenings as we explore "The Seasons of our Lives"

Ash Wednesday services will be held at Olsburg, Wednesday, March 6th beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday services will be held at Walsburg, Wednesday, March 6th at 7:15 p.m.

Our Lenten Services will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a soup supper followed by worship at 7:00 p.m. Olsburg will host the soup supper and worship on *March 13, 27 and April 10th*. Walsburg will host the soup supper and worship *March 20 and April 3rd*. We look forward to worshipping with you.

Walsburg Fellowship Event

McCain Performance Series - "Rise Up, O Men" at 2:00 pm on Thursday, April 18 at McCain Auditorium in Manhattan. Sixth in the Church Basement Ladies series, this is a brand-new musical comedy featuring the men of the church and your favorite church basement ladies who serve them. As these hardworking farmers discuss their scrap lumber piles and benefits of weld versus solder, they unintentionally disrupt the order of the kitchen. But that's what happens when you let the rooster in the hen house!

If you are interested in attending, the tickets are \$30.83 if at least 10 people attend. Please let Rita Nelson or Donise Peterson know by March 17. Payment for the ticket will be due at that time.



March birthdays and anniversaries, joys and sorrows

Birthdays

- 1 Katie Burklund (O)
Raymond Nelson (W)
Jared Henry (W)
Roberta Hartford (W)
- 2 Donna Nelson (W)
Brianna Olson (W)
- 5 Justin Ricketts (O)
- 6 Garrett Nelson (O)
- 9 Taellor Howland (O)
- 10 Donald Campbell (W)
Rowdy Berry (W)
- 11 Tami Howland (O)
Christy Nelson (O)
- 12 Bev Stowell (O)
Mike Hagenmaier (W)
- 14 Janet Neilson (W)
- 16 Marla Webster (O)
- 17 Floyd Munson (O)

- 18 Bart Coutermarsh (W)
Cindy Neilson (W)
- 20 Peggy Johnson (O)
- 21 Richard Gibbs Jr. (O)
Ashley Rice (O)
Carol Wiens (W)
- 23 Jonathan Nelson (O)
Brooklyn Rice (O)
- 26 Gracie Scofield (W)
- 27 Kent Burklund (O)
- 28 Kylie Gibbs (O)
- 29 Timothy Zoeller (O)
Amanda Esping (O)
Stacy Deetjen-Dawes (W)
- 31 Rich Cooper (O)

March Anniversaries

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

Joys and Sorrows

- ✠ We rejoice John and Deb Lowry who became members of Olsburg Lutheran on Sunday, February 24.
- ✠ We sorrow with Lynn Hargrave and her family on the death of her grandmother, Erma Leuthold.

Members in service

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

Olsburg Lay Readers: 3/3 Kathy Monser; 3/6 Luellen Kasselmann; 3/10 Patty Nelson; 3/17 Jace Ricketts; 3/24 Tom Nelson; 3/31 April Brenner

Olsburg Acolytes: 3/3 Jace Ricketts; 3/6 Jarin Brenner; 3/10 Addison Lee; 3/17 Jordyn Gutsch; 3/24 Landry Zoeller; 3/31 Brooklynn Zoeller

Olsburg Ushers: Jacob Nelson; David Gibson; Karl Kasselmann; Lee Cantrell

Assist Pastor during Communion: 3/3 Kristi Fronce; 3/17 April Brenner; 3/31 Kirby Burklund

Altar Committee: Donica Nelson; Becky Avery

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

Walsburg Communion Ushers: Trenton Hargrave; Valerie Hoehner

***Walsburg Lay Assistants:** 3/3 Rita Nelson; 3/10 Gracie Scofield; 3/17 Jerry Baer; 3/24 Carol Wiens; 3/31 Amber Befort

Walsburg Acolytes: 3/3 Harper Befort; 3/10 Gracie Scofield

Altar Committee: Janet Neilson

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STAINED GLASS WINDOW FUNDRAISING

Do your hobbies include sewing, quilting, baking, photography, jewelry making, painting, or other creative ideas/projects? If so, the Walsburg Women of ELCA and Hope Circle would appreciate your willingness to donate your created item(s) to Walsburg's craft fair booths at the Covenant Church, Clay Center, on Saturday, June 15. All proceeds from Walsburg's craft fair sales will go to our church's Stained Glass Window Restoration project. In mid-March, look for a sign-up sheet (volunteers/items to donate) in the Narthex. For information, contact Marlene Jenkins, Sheri Storer, Linda Toomire.

WALSBURG VBS NEWS

Walsburg VBS: June 24-28, 2019!
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
(Ages: 3 years - 6th Grade)



ROAR VBS is this summer's mane event! This epic African adventure engages the whole herd. At Roar, kids will explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. There will be a week full of fun, superb music, and a wild setting that come together to celebrate God's goodness!

Get involved to discover a wildly refreshing understanding of how God is good—touching lives, changing hearts, and drawing kids and adults closer to our God who loves them.

Invite children of your family, friends, and neighbors to Walsburg's VBS. Volunteers are needed in all age levels. To volunteer or for information, contact one of the Christian Education team members: Sarah Diamond, Alicia Scofield, or Sheri Storer.

Olsburg LCW collecting items for Health Kits during Lent

The Olsburg congregation is invited to partner with LCW in collecting items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits during Lent. Donations may be left in the box in the narthex.

- **ONE** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended;
- **TWO** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping;
- **ONE** adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging*;
- **ONE** sturdy comb, remove packaging;
- **ONE** metal nail clippers (attached le optional), remove packaging.

Items may be left in the box in the Narthex.

Olsburg Vacation Bible School - May 28 - 31

Start making plans to go on an epic African Safari themed adventure. This year **Roar** will be the theme where our VBS kids will explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life we're living. Kids will learn that when "Life is Wild, God is Good!"

All children ages 3 (and potty trained) through the 6th grade are invited, and encouraged, to attend.

We NEED adult and youth volunteers to make this VBS time a success! So, please, volunteer to help this year whether you've helped in the past or not. Should you be able to help us out just one or two days, please, give Luellen a call and let her know what day (s) you'd be available.

For any questions, or to volunteer, please contact Luellen Kasselmann at woodyk@twinvalley.net or 785.565.1240.

Editor/Parish Coordinator

Shelly Burklund
Cell 785-532-9853
Home 785-468-3370
sburklun@ksu.edu

Interim Pastor

Keith Wiens
Home 785-776-5348
Cell: 785-341-1600
keithw4870@gmail.com

Parish Information

Olsburg 468-3500
olc@olsburglutheran.org
Walsburg 293-5367

Next newsletter items and articles will be due March 25

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