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Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

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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.

## From the Desk of Pastor Keith...

Each year I approach Holy Week and Easter with a heightened sense of anticipation. It is always a very special time for me. During Holy Week and Easter the church traces the footsteps of Jesus from the time he entered Jerusalem ono Palm Sunday through his death on the cross and his resurrection on Easter morning. This is a sacred journey for me, as I know it is for you. Each year I am more awestruck by the journey. I have come to realize how essential this journey is for my faith.

Please join me in the journey to the cross and the empty tomb. Make every effort to take in the whole journey by attending all the services of worship. It will make Easter all the more special and your faith will be grateful!

## Palm Sunday - April 9

Follow Jesus as he enters Jerusalem and prepares to die for you. What a Lord! What grace! It is this grace which heals the heart and gives new life. This service prepares us for the week ahead, a week that is truly Holy!

## **Maundy Thursday - April 13**

On this night Jesus gave his followers the command to love one another and prepared a special meal called Holy Communion. We gather at 7:00 pm at Walsburg to remember the events of that night and to break bread with our Lord and with one another.

## **Good Friday - April 14**

On this Friday we call Good we gather at 7:00 pm at Olsburg to retell the story which is at the heart and center of our faith. Because of Good Friday, we are justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Do not hurry by the cross on your way to Easter joy, for we know the Risen Lord only through the Crucified Christ.

## Festival of Easter - April 16

The Easter season begins with the story of Jesus rising from the dead! Come, share the joy and exhilaration of Easter. The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! The Easter SonRise service begins at 6:30 am at Walsburg. The Festival Service of Worship at Olsburg begins at 9:00 am. The Festival Service of Worship at Walsburg begins at 11:00 am.

## **Share the Good News!**

Holy Week and Easter are great opportunities to invite family, friends and neighbors to come and hear the good news of Christ's death and resurrection. These services are powerful ways of revisiting the events which are at the center of our faith. Extend an invitation! Let them know that there is a place for them at worship on Easter morning!

## The Catechism and your Daily Life

In 1529 Martin Luther wrote two different catechisms simultaneously. The longer of the two, known as the Large Catechism, was written primarily for pastors and teachers. It is sort of a teacher's guide to the Christian faith. The shorter of the two, known as the Small Catechism, was written to be used in homes and churches. He hoped that all Christians would use it as a basis for instruction, discussion, and worship in their own homes, as well as in their churches.

The best known use of the Small Catechism is in the preparation of young people for confirmation. It would, however, greatly sadden Luther to think that this association with confirmation has led many to think that the Small Catechism is not for adults but just for young people, or that once confirmed one doesn't need to bother with the Catechism any longer. Luther often said that no one outgrows the need to study the Catechism.

The Catechism is intended to be a companion in daily life. If you keep it in mind and close at hand you will that it can be an able and faithful guide to the basics of the Christian faith and help you have a faith made for real life.

Make sure you have one (copies are available at the church). You can also get a Catechism app for your phone. (Go to Augsburg Fortress website and search for Catechism app). Then read the Catechism often (perhaps read a part of it every day). Study it. Mull it over. Poke at it with questions. Talk about it with others. Commit it to memory. Use it in prayer and worship. Make it your own and you will find it a rewarding companion for life.

Here are three ways the Catechism can help you live as a Christian in today's world.

#### 1. A Guide to the Bible

In a very brief form the Catechism summarizes what the Bible teaches. In fact, what we find in the Catechism all comes from the Bible. In the Catechism you will find the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, which summarizes what the Bible teaches about God, and the Lord's Prayer, as well as teachings on Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confession and Forgiveness. If you learn the Catechism by heart you will have committed to memory key parts

Life together of the Bible. This will help you

interpret and understand other parts of the Bible that are not as easy to remember or understand.

## 2. A Devotional Aid

The Catechism can be a tool for use in daily devotions. It contains prayers for morning and evening, as well as table prayers. Here, for example, is the Morning Blessing.

#### THE MORNING BLESSING

In the morning, as soon as you get out of bed, you are to make the sign of the holy cross and say:

"God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen."

Then say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer (other parts of the Catechism can be added as well). If you wish, you may in addition recite this little prayer:

"I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen."

After singing a hymn, or whatever else may serve your devotion, you are to go to your work joyfully.

3. A Way To Share Your Faith With Others
Giving the Small Catechism to a friend, a neighbor or a co-worker is a great way to share your faith.
The Pocket Edition is small enough to fit in a pocket, a purse, or lay on a night stand or the kitchen table. You can give a copy and say something like this: "I have found this Catechism to be a helpful summary of what the Bible teaches."
Or you may say, "This Catechism has been very helpful to me in focusing on the key teachings of the Christian faith. Perhaps it will be helpful to you as well." The Catechism is a great gift, a gift which can help everyone grow in faith.

# Olsburg/Walsburg Lutheran Churches rejoice with the following members!

+ We rejoice with Abigail Hagenmaier who was baptized at Walsburg on March 5. Her parents are Jordan and Katie Hagenmaier and her baptismal sponsors are Jacob and Grace Hagenmaier.

## April birthdays and anniversaries

## Birthdays 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 Kasselman (O)
- 19 Russell Peterson (W)
- 20 Trenton Hargrave (W)
- 28 Kevin Burklund (O) Kirby Burklund (O) Jacob Nelson (O) Rob Scofield (W)

## **April Anniversaries**

- 2 Vern and Kim Bulk (W)
- 11 Kevin and Barbara Burklund (O)
- 18 Ray and Jennifer Miller (W)
- 21 Steve and Peggy Johnson (O)

## Members in service

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

## Walsburg

April Ushers and Greeters: Sheri Storer; Sandy McCool; Richard & Shirley Strauss

**April Communion Ushers**: Gary Hargrave & Alicia Scofield

\*April Lay Assistants: 4/2 Mary Larson;4/9 Carol Wiens; 4/16 Linda Toomire; 4/23 Don Nelson; 4/30 Rita Nelson

**April Altar Committee:** Janice Johnson

\*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**

**April Ushers:** Curtis Gutsch; Tom Nelson; Kraig Kasselman; Blake Vargo

April Communion Assistants: 4/2 Becky Avery; 4/9 Karl Kasselman; 4/13 Kirby Burklund; 4/16 Kraig Kasselman; 4/30 Gregg Gibson

\*April Lay Assistants: 4/2 Coleen Esping; 4/9 Jan Cooper; 4/13 Joyce Cantrell; 4/16 Kathy Monser; 4/23 Kraig Kasselman; 4/30 Kristi Fronce

\*April Acolytes: 4/2 Landry Zoeller; 4/9 Grady Kasselman, Skyler Zoeller, Jace Ricketts; 4/16 Brooklynn & Landry Zoeller, Emma Kasselman; 4/23 Jarin Brenner; 4/30 Jordyn Gutsch

**April Altar Committee:** Coleen Esping; Joyce Cantrell

#### **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

## Lenten Soup Supper and Worship

Wednesday, April 5 at Olsburg. Please join us at Olsburg at 6:00 p.m. for soup and sandwiches. Worship will follow at 7:00.

# Walsburg Council meeting Date Change

Walsburg Church Council meeting on Thursday, April 6th @ 7:30 to avoid conflicts with Lenten Services.

# Walsburg Lutheran Church to lead Worship at Leonardville Nursing Home

Walsburg will lead worship at Leonardville Nursing Home on Easter Sunday, April 16. The worship will begin at 2:00 p.m., all are invited to join.

Would you share an Easter Lily at Olsburg?

If you would like to share an Easter Lily with the congregation on Easter Sunday, April 16, please have your Easter Lily at church before church begins on Easter morning. If your lily is in memory or in honor of someone, please provide that information to Joyce Cantrell or Coleen Esping no later than Sunday, April 9, so we can include the information in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

## **Quilt Tying to begin at Olsburg Lutheran Church**

The Olsburg Women of the ELCA will start tying quilts for Lutheran World Relief after Easter. Watch the bulletin for dates and times

Here is a little information about LWR quilts -

- First and foremost, recipients use their LWR Quilts to shield against the cold and rain, and for warm bedding. But their versatility also makes Quilts useful as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back.
- Finished size should be 60"x80".
- One or both sides may be pieced, lighter weight quilts need a filler.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your congregation's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

More information is available at <a href="https://lwr.org/get-involved/quilts">https://lwr.org/get-involved/quilts</a>.

Everyone is welcome to help with this project! Have questions? Ask Kathy Monser or Alice Gibson.

# Plant Sale

May 6 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

at Olsburg Lutheran Church

Nice selection of flowers, vegetables, and hanging baskets

