

# Life Together

April 2018

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...

On April 8, Kylea Ricketts and Brooklynn Zoeller were confirmed during the morning worship at Olsburg. Since it has been some time since either congregation had a confirmation service, I thought it would be good for us to reflect on confirmation, why we do it, and most importantly, what it means for us personally.

I dare say, confirmation has been important for both of our congregations since the time when the congregations were formed. Just look at the confirmation pictures displayed in our respective fellowship areas. We don't display pictures of baptisms, or first communions, or weddings, but we do display confirmation pictures. There is something about confirmation which we value greatly.

Since the Reformation, the Lutheran Church has preserved the rite of Confirmation, but the rite has been variously understood. Confirmation has been seen as a time of instruction in the essentials of the faith as set forth in the Small Catechism. It has been seen as the time when one accepts Christ as personal Lord. It has been seen as a moment which adds to Baptism a fuller presence of the Holy Spirit. It has been seen as an act which entitles one to receive Holy Communion and become a member of the church. It has even been seen as a kind of graduation ceremony. Ask people what they

think about confirmation and you will get an amazing variety of responses.

So what is confirmation. Let's keep in mind that Jesus never told the church to confirm people. Confirmation is not a sacrament in the Lutheran church. Not all Christians are confirmed.

Look through the hymnal and you will not find a service of Confirmation. What you will find is a service called "Affirmation of Baptism." This gives us a great insight into what confirmation is. Confirmation has something to do with Baptism. In fact, it has a lot to do with Baptism! Baptism is God's act. In Baptism God gives us the gift of salvation and eternal life. In Baptism we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit who works faith in us. In Baptism these gifts are fully and completely given to us.

In the service of Affirmation of Baptism (confirmation) we affirm our Baptism. We affirm what God has done and continues to do for us. This service is a way of saying "Yes" to God's action in Baptism. The laying on of hands and prayer for the Holy Spirit in this service confirm that the gift of the Holy Spirit has been given. In response, we reject sin, confess our faith in God and God's saving action, and promise to continue living in the covenant God made with us in Baptism.

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I still remember my confirmation. It was, and continues to be, a very meaningful moment in my life and my relationship with God. It wasn't the beginning of my relationship with God, nor was it the end. It was a step along the way. A very significant step. I am very grateful for that step, for it has led to many more steps as my relationship with God has grown and enlarged and matured. This is what I pray will happen for Brooklynn and Kylea, and this is what I pray for you as well.

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

- ✠ We rejoice with Alexis Plummer who was baptized at Olsburg on Sunday, March 18. Her parents are Adam and Jennifer Plummer. She has an older brother Noah and an older sister Addison.
- ✠ We rejoice with Kylea Ricketts and Brooklynn Zoeller who were confirmed at Olsburg on April 8. Kylea is the daughter of Justin and Kathy Ricketts. Brooklynn is the daughter of Tim and Sandy Zoeller.

### **Olsburg Lutheran Women of the ELCA Plant Sale**

Just in time for Mother's Day and spring planting! LCW will have a plant sale May 5th, 8:00 - 11:30 am at the church. There will be a nice selection of flowers and hanging baskets as well as tomato and pepper plants.

### **Vacation Bible School Fundraiser at Olsburg Lutheran Church**

**April 21** – Vacation Bible School Pulled Pork Meal fundraiser at the Legion with serving from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. with a freewill donation. All are welcome!

The VBS committee is asking for donations of paper products for the fundraiser we are having to help with expenses for our Community Vacation Bible School. There is a signup sheet in the narthex.

### **Vacation Bible School Dates at Olsburg Lutheran Church**

**May 29 – June 1** – Kids will be SHIPWRECKED during Vacation Bible School at Olsburg Lutheran Church from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME who are 3 years old (and potty trained) through those who are in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade this year. Preregister your child by May 1<sup>st</sup> and they will receive a FREE T-SHIRT! Register your child at – <https://www.myvbs.org/olsburglutheran>

### **Walsburg Spring Potluck set for April 15**

Fellowship/Outreach Committee invites you to a "Spring Potluck" on Sunday, April 15. Please join us for food and fellowship immediately following the worship service. Drinks and table service provided.

### **Vacation Bible School Dates at Walsburg Lutheran Church**

Planning is underway for **Walsburg's 2018 VBS--SHIPWRECKED**, where kids learn that Jesus rescues! The dates/times are June 25-29, 9 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Children from ages 3 - 6th grade are invited to attend. Registration will begin on May 1. Share the good news and invite your family, neighbors, and friends' children to attend.

### **God's Sonflowers Spring Cluster Meeting**

God's Sonflowers Spring Cluster Meeting will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Washington, Kansas, April 28th with registration between 9-9:30 a.m. The registration fee/offering will be a free will donation for KSDS Service Dogs. The In Kind Gifts are for KSDS Service Dogs. A list of their needs is posted in the Narthex, the congregation is invited to participate. The speaker will be Pastor Bill Peterson, retired pastor of Hebron and St. Paul, Herington, KS. His topic is "Make a Joyful Noise, Having Fun with Worshipping and Praising Our Lord." The meeting will end after a free will donation Baked Potato Bar luncheon.

# April birthdays and anniversaries

## Birthdays

### April

- 6 Lee Hartford (W)
- 7 Roger Bohnenblust (W)  
Travis Hageman (W)  
Jarín Brenner (O)
- 8 Irene Johnson (O)  
Roger Sundgren (W)
- 9 Aneta Hagenmaier (W)
- 11 Kelsey Nelson (W)  
Christopher Hubbard (O)
- 13 Brian Johnson (O)
- 15 Ida Kasselmann (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 April.

### Walsburg

**Ushers and Greeters:** June Campbell; Sandy McCool; Sheri Storer; Ruthie Stone

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

**Lay Assistants:** 4/1 Carol Wiens; 4/8 Diana Hargrave; 4/15 Alicia Scofield; 4/22 Sarah Diamond; 4/29 Jennifer Byarlay

**April Altar Committee:** Kim Bulk

**\*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.**

**Lay Readers:** 4/1 Patty Nelson; 4/8 Tom Nelson; 4/15 April Brenner; 4/22 Emma Kasselmann; 4/29 Coleen Esping

**Acolytes:** 4/1 Kaden Gutsch, Skyler Zoeller, Grady Kasselmann; 4/8 Landry Zoeller; 4/15 Grady Kasselmann; 4/22 Brooklynn Zoeller; 4/29 Jarín Brenner

**Ushers:** Curtis Gutsch; Tom Nelson; Kraig Kasselmann; Blake Vargo

**Assist Pastor during Communion:** 4/1 Karl Kasselmann; 4/15 Kraig Kasselmann; 4/29 Mary Nelson

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

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Walsburg 293-5367

## Walsburg Spring Clean Up Saturday, May 5th

Come share in the fun and Fellowship of making the church yard beautiful! We have mulch to spread, bushes to clip and leaves to clean up. If that isn't enough to excite you, there will be rolls from Tasty Pastry.

Rain Date: Saturday, May 12th



# Plant Sale

**May 5**

**8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

**at Olsburg Lutheran Church**

Nice selection of flowers and hanging baskets  
along with some tomatoes and peppers

**Just in time for Mother's  
Day and Memorial Day!**

**Proceeds benefit  
charitable projects**



Plants are from 5H Greenhouse in Wamego