

Life together

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

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ELCA Synod Assembly

Reflections by Pastor Kaylie

Thank You!

I wanted to thank you all for such the gracious welcoming to this wonderful community! It has been an overwhelming amount of joy to become your pastor! I look forward to all that comes in our future together. Thank you for all the notes, cards, and goodies!

Boundless Forgiveness

I had the great honor to fill in as the evening speaker at the Central States Synod "No Coast" Youth Gathering. The theme of the day was "Boundless Forgiveness."

Such a theme is significant today. In a world that seems to be filled with so much hurt and hate, it is hard to find forgiveness.

Forgiveness for ourselves and each other. Every Sunday, we attend church and recite the ELW "Confession and Forgiveness." We confess our sins in the presence of one another and the presence of God. Then the pastor tells of the Good News that Jesus absolves our sins, and God frees us to love as God loves. Our God takes delight in forgiving us and chooses to forgive us *every day!* What good news that is, God is BOUNDLESS FORGIVENESS. Our God forgives without limits and does not hold judgment against us or any person. On Sunday, it is easy to be forgiven because we do not have to do anything but show up and say the words. But what about after Sunday?

After Sunday, we can get lost in the noise of the world and feel lost. We can intentionally and unintentionally harm our neighbors. We are human. We are sinners and saints. Made perfectly in God's image and still flawed. We cannot help but be in sin. God who is boundless in love is also boundless in forgiveness. Despite our flaws, offenses, and mistakes, God forgives us. Even if we cannot forgive ourselves, God is there already forgiving us. Our God is a mighty God. Our God is the one who chooses us. Who chooses to show up and seek us out. When we call ourselves unworthy, broken, stupid, or horrible, God says, "We are Beloved. We are Worthy. We are Enough!" Our God is beyond all measures, and shows us endless love and boundless forgiveness. There is nowhere we can run or hide, nothing we can do, and there is no person out of God's reach. God chooses every day even when we cannot face ourselves. God forgives, which is the greatest news we can hold on to. Thanks be to God for being God!

The Feast Day of Mary Magdalene

July 2022 is the feast day of Mary Magdalene, Beloved of Jesus and “Apostle to the Apostles!” She is the first person to see the risen Christ in the gospel of Matthew, John, and Mark. Mary Magdalene became one of the first preachers of the Good News that Christ had risen! Mary was the first person to run and shout this news to the disciples. However, they did not believe her or want to listen to her. She was insistent on telling them Christ had risen. Yet, all the men only believed when Jesus revealed himself to them. There are many rumors about who Mary Magdalene and which Mary story belongs to her. The Bible is filled with many Marys. While there are many Marys to know and learn, we know Mary Magdalene was the first to proclaim the Gospel. She was the first to see the risen Christ and share the Good News. On her feast day, may we go out into this world with the joy of Mary shouting the love of the Risen Christ. May we know our God conquered the grave for the sake of love. In doing so, we have been freed to go out into this doubting world and share the love with everyone!

Stay Connected

If you use email, we would greatly like to add you to our church’s email list. In this way you would receive the weekly bulletin, the monthly newsletter, and other congregational announcements.

If you are not currently on this list and would like to be added, give you email address to our parish coordinator, Shelly Burklund. Her email address is sburklun@ksu.edu.

A Reminder

If you are not able to make it to our worship gatherings on Sunday morning, you may mail your offering to your respective congregation.

Olsburg people may send their offerings to the financial secretary at:

Becky Avery, 6015 Hwy 16, Olsburg, KS 66520

Walsburg people may send their offerings to the financial secretary at:

Lynne Berry, 14180 Crooked Creek Rd., Leonardville, KS 66449.

We are very grateful for your support which enables us to do the work of Christ in many ways!

Walsburg's Annual Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 28, is the date for Walsburg's Ice Cream Social! Donations of homemade pie and ice cream, toppings, sloppy joe mix, chips will be needed. Volunteers will also be needed for setup, serving, and cleanup. Check the sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board. Plan to attend this fundraiser for the children and youth of our congregation and invite your family, friends, and neighbors! It is always a great time for fun and fellowship!

Blessing of Backpacks at Walsburg

It is close to time for students and staff of all ages to return to school and our blessing of the backpacks! All students and staff are encouraged to attend the 11:00 worship service on Sunday, August 21, and participate in the Blessing of the Backpacks!

Walsburg Sunday School Begins Soon

Sunday, August 21, at 10:00 a.m. is the date for the start of Sunday School for children from ages 3 (must be potty trained) - 6th Grade. We are looking forward to beginning a new Sunday School year with children returning to learn about Jesus' love for them and how we are to love each other. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors' children to participate in Sunday School. We would love to have them join us!

Walsburg Youth Ministry

Thanks to members of our congregation who have volunteered to help with a youth ministry program in our congregation! If you would like to help in any way through volunteering in activities or donating funds and/or supplies for this ministry, please see Pastor Kaylie, Amber Befort, Amanda Campbell, Becky Nelson, Alicia Scofield, Linda Toomire, or Sheri Storer. Thanks for your prayers and support of this ministry!

August birthdays and anniversaries, joys and sorrows

If you know of a member whose birthday is not listed, please contact the church office.

August Birthdays

- 1 Lori Rogge (W)
Trea Jameson Schultz (W)
- 2 Caleb Cantrell (O)
- 4 Harper Befort (O)
- 6 Kim Gibbs (O)
- 7 Mickey Burklund (O)
- 8 Hadley Cooper (O)
- 11 Kathy Ricketts (O)
Don Nelson (W)
- 12 Erin Stanfield (W)
- 14 Lee Cantrell (O)
Diana Nelson (O)
Becca Simon (O)
Janice Johnson (W)
- 15 Justin Befort (O)
- 18 Justin Campbell (W)
- 23 Pastor Kaylie Ines
- 25 Mike Nelson (W)
- 26 Pat Erickson (W)
Ryan Gibbs (O)
Jeana Gibbs (O)
- 28 Devon Sundgren (W)
Veronica Hillocks (O)
- 30 Scott Kulp (W)
Brett Kulp (W)
Addison Plummer (O)
- 31 Bill Monser (O)

August Anniversaries

- 1 Tim and Sandy Zoeller (O)
- 5 Scott and Jennifer Kulp (W)
Lynn and Marla Webster (O)
- 12 Josh and Tricia Cantrell (O)
- 13 Trenton and Lynn Hargrave (W)
- 17 David and Courtney Gibson (O)

Members in service for August

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

Olsburg Lay Readers: 8/7 Ashley Rice; 8/14 Kristi Fronce; 8/21 David Gibson; 8/28 Kraig Kasselmann

Olsburg Acolytes: 8/7 Skyler Zoeller; 8/14 Jarin Brenner; 8/21 Jordyn Gutsch; 8/27 Brooklyn Rice

Olsburg Ushers: Marvin Johnson; Nick Cooper; Karl Kasselmann; David Gibson

Assist Pastor during Communion: 8/7 David Gibson; 8/21 Sandy Zoeller

Altar Guild: Kathy Monser; Becky Avery

Walsburg Ushers and Greeters: Brad & Dena Haller; Carl & Jane Larson; Dale Larson

Walsburg Communion Ushers: Jeremy Hinkle; Don Campbell

Walsburg Lay Assistants: 8/7 Linda Toomire; 8/14 Rita Nelson; 8/21 Gracie Scofield; 8/28 Lori Rogge

Walsburg Acolytes: 8/7 Izabel Nelson; 8/14 Harper

Befort; 8/21 Mason Scofield; 8/28 Teske Nelson

***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.**

Next newsletter items and articles will be due Aug 22.

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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Facebook page: <https://Facebook.com/Walsburg-Lutheran-Church>
<http://www.walsburglutheranchurch.org>

Walsburg Women to Visit Neot Ephratah Academy

Walsburg women are planning a road trip to Wilsey, KS, to tour Neot Ephratah Academy, a Biblical Heritage Discovery Center on Saturday, August 20. Plans are to leave about 8:00 A.M. for the day trip. Contact Jane Larson at 785-293-5714 for questions and to add your name to the list for carpooling. A head count is needed for reservations. All are welcome!

Join the Walsburg Walkers

On October 15 at Manhattan's City Park, the Walsburg Walkers team will join other individuals and teams in supporting Manhattan's Walk to End Alzheimers in supporting the vision of the Alzheimer's Association - "A world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia". The Alzheimer's Association was formed in 1980 and is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support, and research. To register, go to alzwalkmanhattan.org and search for the Walsburg Walkers Team. For more information, contact Linda Toomire or Sheri Storer.

Submit Your Recipes by August 7 to Rosie Johnson

The Walsburg Lutheran Church is still accepting recipes for the **150th Anniversary Cookbook** Committee through Sunday August 7. Please ask your family members to submit recipes to Rosie Johnson, Linda Toomire, Jan Neilson, Lori Rogge or Donise Peterson. You may also email to any of the following addresses: Linda Toomire - l_toomire@yahoo.com; Jan Neilson - neilson@twinvalley.net; Lori Rogge - lori@genefrancis.com; or Donise Peterson - petersond53@gmail.com. Anyone sharing a connection or history with our church is welcome to submit recipes.

Help Olsburg LCW collect school supplies

The Olsburg congregation is invited to help the LCW gather school supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits. Donations can be left in the box in the narthex.

Items needed for each kit are:

- Four 70-80 sheet notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- One ruler (centimeters or inches with centimeters)
- One pencil sharpener
- One pair of blunt scissors

- Five unsharpened pencils
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel pens)
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2 1/2" eraser

Blessing of the Backpacks at Olsburg

It is nearing time for students and staff of all ages to return to school and our blessing of the backpacks! All students and staff are encouraged to attend the 9:00 worship service on Sunday, August 21, and participate in the Blessing of the Backpacks!

Sunday School Resumes August 21 at Olsburg!

Sunday School will resume Sunday, August 21, at 10:00 a.m. for children from ages 3 (must be potty trained) - 6th Grade. We are excited to begin a new Sunday School year with children returning to learn about Jesus' love for them and how we are to love others. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors' children to participate in Sunday School. All are welcome!

Save the Date - Saturday, August 27 - 5:00-7:30 pm

Olsburg Lutheran Sunday School Ice Cream Social



Spaghetti supper, salad, bread, ice cream, desserts - PLUS bouncy houses!
Free-will offering will be accepted!

Olsburg looking to Construct a Blessing Box

In the next couple of months, the Council would like to construct or purchase a "Blessing Box" to be added somewhere on the church property or a location within the Olsburg community. What is a blessing box? A Blessing Box is a small box, typically made of wood, where individuals may leave donated goods for others to pick-up anonymously. Located in a prominent area, anyone in the community may add to or take items from the box. This is similar to the box located near the park and swimming pool that contains books. The intent is to help those in need by providing anything from non-perishable food to toiletries - even gloves or stocking caps in the winter. If you have carpentry skills and would be willing to volunteer some time in making this box, please contact a council member. Currently, we don't have a specific design or plan ... and we're open to any ideas! Without a doubt, this box will be a blessing to Olsburg community. Here are some examples.





2022 ELCA
CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY
August 8-12, 2022
Columbus, Ohio

Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will gather for the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Aug. 8-12 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. Meeting under the theme “Embody the Word,” the assembly will participate in plenary discussions to make decisions about the work of this church. They will also spend time in worship and Bible study.

The triennial gathering — the highest legislative body of the denomination — will be composed of more than 900 voting members serving on behalf of the 3.3 million members of the ELCA. The ELCA’s 65 synods elect voting members to serve at churchwide assemblies.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton will open the assembly on Tuesday, Aug. 9, with a land acknowledgment noting that the gathering is taking place on the original and ancestral homelands of the Shawnee, Miami and Kaskaskia peoples. Tribal leaders from the Miami Nation will bring welcome to the assembly.

The assembly will then commemorate the 35th anniversary of the ELCA, which was formed when the ELCA constitution was adopted during the opening session of the Constituting Convention in Columbus on April 30, 1987. The church was formed from a merger of the American Lutheran Church, the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches, and the Lutheran Church in America.

The day will include a nonlegislative session to offer a public apology to Iglesia Luterana Santa María Peregrina and a public commitment to anti-racism. This is in response to recent events in this church that have caused harm to people, communities and the whole body of Christ.

In other key assembly action, voting members will:

- Elect a vice president. The position of vice president is the highest a layperson can hold in the ELCA. Carlos Peña is serving as interim vice president following the death of Bill Horne last August. Horne was elected vice president by the 2016 Churchwide Assembly.
- Approve budget proposals for the 2023, 2024 and 2025 fiscal years.
- Vote on amendments to the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the ELCA.

Voting members will also receive:

- A report from the presiding bishop and officers of the ELCA.
- The first public in-person announcement of “A Declaration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to American Indian and Alaska Native People” and an update on the work of the

Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery Task Force. The declaration is a direct result of the social policy resolution adopted by the 2016 Churchwide Assembly.

- A presentation by Fawn Sharp, president of the National Congress of American Indians.
- Proposals (known as memorials) from the ELCA's 65 synods that address social justice issues and matters relating to the structure of the ELCA, including greenhouse gas reduction; gun violence; LGBTQIA+ welcome; pastoral counseling as a result of changes to Roe v. Wade; the land back movement; ELCA governance restructure; specialized ministries and on leave from call status; and review and revision of the ELCA social statement Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust, adopted by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly.
- Greetings from ecumenical and inter-religious guests, global partners and others.

The ELCA has established the following COVID-19 health and safety protocols for all assembly participants:

- Regardless of vaccination status, a self-administered rapid test is strongly encouraged no more than three days before departure for the assembly. Those who test positive for COVID-19 are asked to remain at home.
- Attendees must provide proof of being fully vaccinated for COVID-19. Unvaccinated individuals must provide upon arrival a negative test result taken one to three days prior to traveling to the assembly.
- N95, KN95, KF94 or medical procedure (surgical) masks must be worn while inside the convention center and attending worship. Exceptions will be made for those speaking at a microphone so that listeners with hearing impairments will be able to lip-read. Surgical masks will be provided to all attendees.

Visit the [ELCA website](#) for more information

[Live video of the plenary sessions will be accessible at **elca.org/CWA-2022**.](#)

