

Lift *together*

February 2019

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

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From the Desk of Pastor Keith

You were made to serve God! God has shaped your life for ministry. You are not a sponge, here just to soak up as much as you can from others. God put you on this earth in order to make a contribution. God designed you to make a difference!

And I do mean *you!* For some reason, many people have a difficult time recognizing what they have to offer. This is not new. The Bible is full of people who thought that God couldn't use them. Moses thought he couldn't be the leader of the Israelites because he couldn't speak well. Esther thought she couldn't help her fellow Jews because she believed she didn't have any power to change the political situation. Jeremiah thought he couldn't tell others about God because he was too young. Mary thought she couldn't be the mother of Jesus because she wasn't married. But God had a ministry for each one of them and God has a ministry for you.

God made you for ministry. In fact, God has carefully designed your life for ministry. I like the way Rick Warren in his book *The Purpose Driven Life* describes how God has shaped you for your particular ministry. He uses the letters S-H-A-P-E.

The letter **S** stands for spiritual gifts. When you became a Christian God gave you some special skills that you can use to help others. You may have the gift of encouragement or the gift of communicating God's Word or the

gift of compassion, to name just a few of the spiritual gifts.

The letter **H** stands for heart. This includes your desires, your hopes and dreams, your passions. What are you interested in? What do you love to do? Your heart plays an important role in your ministry.

The letter **A** stands for abilities. These are the natural talents you were born with. Some people are good with words. Others are good at working with their hands. Still others are good at mathematics or music or mechanics. God has a ministry where your abilities can shine and you can make a difference. Remember - what you are able to do, God wants you to do.

The letter **P** stands for personality. God made introverts and extroverts. God made thinkers and feelers. God made some to be spontaneous and others to be very deliberate. Your unique personality is a gift from God. It is the way God made you and it will affect how and where you use your spiritual gifts and abilities.

The letter **E** stands for experiences. You have also been shaped by your experiences: your family experiences, your educational experiences, your vocational experiences, even experiences that have been quite painful. God can and will use your experiences in your ministry.

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God has shaped your life for ministry. God has given you spiritual gifts, interests and passions, natural abilities, a unique personality, and a ton of experiences. God has given you all this so that you have what you need for your ministry. Right now, you have what you need!

You may think you don't have what it takes. But God has chosen you for a life of ministry. In fact, even now God is calling you to particular ministries where you are needed. You can be sure when you look at the cross. There you see the depth of God's love for you. You are not just a number in the crowd. You are special to God. Not only did God carefully shape your life, you are so special to God that Jesus died on the cross to claim your life for God!

But wait, there is even more. God has promised to be at work in your life through the Holy Spirit. You received the Holy Spirit when you were baptized. The Holy Spirit is the power and energy of God. The Holy Spirit will empower you to do what God wants you to do.

Do you know what your ministry is? Do you know what God is calling you to do? If not, spend some time finding out.

First, open your eyes. Take a look into a mirror and see how God has made you. What are your spiritual gifts? What natural abilities did God give you? What interests do you have? What kind of a personality do you have? What life experiences have you had?

Second, open your ears. What do other people say about you? What do they compliment you on? What do they encourage you to do? Don't be afraid to talk it over with a trusted friend. Often, other people see us better than we see ourselves.

Then, open your hands. Experiment with different areas of service. Try doing some things you have never done before. An important way of learning how God has shaped you for ministry is to start serving. If it doesn't work, try something else. You will never know what you're good at until you try. No matter how old you are, never stop experimenting. Many people have

discovered new "talents" to serve and new avenues of serving and new joys of serving when they were in their seventies or eighties.

Whenever God gives us an assignment, God always equips us with what we need to accomplish it. Discover how God has shaped you. Unwrap your spiritual gifts. Listen to your heart. Apply your abilities. Use your personality. Employ your experiences. And enjoy!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Keith

Origin of our Liturgy

Where does our Sunday morning liturgy come from? Much of it comes from the Bible! Certainly the First Lesson, Psalm, Second Lesson and Gospel Reading all come from the Bible. Check out the following parts of the liturgy which also come from the Bible.

APOSTOLIC GREETING - "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ..."

2 Corinthians 13:14

KYRIE - "In peace, let us pray to the Lord ..."

Luke 17:13

HYMN OF PRAISE - "Glory to God in the highest ..."

Luke 2:14

SALUTATION - "The Lord be with you..."

Ruth 2:4; Luke 1:28

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - "Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?"

John 6:68

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

1 Timothy 2:1-2

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February birthdays and anniversaries

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

February

- 1 Dick Flohr (W)
Helen Wieters (W)
- 2 Julie Higgins (O)
- 4 Nicholas Allen (W)
- 4 Lynn Webster (O)
- 5 Dale Larson (W)
- 5 Daniel Higgins (O)
- 6 Lynne Berry (W)
- 7 Roseanne Johnson (W)
- 9 Becky Holt (O)
- 10 Phillip Monser (O)
- 13 Alicia Scofield (W)
- 16 Jessie Sundgren (W)
- 17 R.J. Bokelman (O)
- 23 Loretta Hoerman (W)

- 24 Brad Haller (W)
- 28 Makayla Vargo (O)
Madison Vargo (O)
Valerie Hoehner (W)

February Anniversaries:

- 14 Dean and Donna Nelson (W)

Members in service

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

Olsburg

Ushers: Casey Nelson; Marvin Johnson; Floyd Munson; Kevin Burklund

Communion Assistants: 2/3 David Gibson; 2/17 Gregg Gibson;

***Acolytes:** 2/3 Jordyn Gutsch; 2/10 Landry Zoeller; 2/17 Ida Kaselman; 2/24 Grady Kasselmann

***Olsburg Lay Assistants:** 2/3 Becky Avery; 2/10 Kylea Ricketts; 2/17 Coleen Esping; 2/24 Karl Kasselmann

Altar Committee: Kristi Fronce, Kathy Monser

Walsburg

Ushers and Greeters: Aneta Hagenmaier; Marlene Jenkins; Don & Rita Nelson

***Communion Ushers:** Marlene Jenkins; Lee Hartford

***Lay Assistants:** 2/3 Sheri Storer; 2/10 Jane Larson; 2/17 Alicia Scofield; 2/24 Janet Neilson

Acolytes:

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.**

Walsburg is taking Bids for the Pasture

Bids for the Pasture: The Walsburg Church pasture lease is up this year and open for a new bid for the years of 2019-2023. The terms of the lease will be as follows: the lease will be for the years 2019-2023, and the spraying, fence repair and optional burning will be done by the new leaser. The lease will also state that the pasture limit will be 8 head fall cows with no calves going to grass or 6 spring cow/calf pairs during the six month summer grazing season. Questions can be directed to Trenton Hargrave, Marlene Jenkins, or Donise Peterson. Sealed bids will need to be returned by the next board meeting March 7th to Marlene or Donise.

Reminder

Our LifeTouch Mobile Directory is available online at <https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/201152/walsburg-lutheran-church>. The access code needed to get in to the directory is 18wlc.

SHARING OF THE PEACE - "The peace of Christ be with you ..."

Matthew 5:23-24; Romans 16:16; John 14:27 & 20:21

OFFERTORY - "Let the vineyards be fruitful ..."

1 Corinthians 10:16; John 6:35

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE - "This is my body ..."

Matthew 26:17-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

LAMB OF GOD - "Lamb of God, you take away the sin ..."

John 1:29

HOLY COMMUNION - "The body and blood ..."

John 6:53-58; Luke 24:13-35

DISMISSAL - "Go in peace..."

Luke 7:50

Receive The Newsletter

We want you to get our church 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.

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.

World Day of Prayer—March 1, 2019

The LCW invites the Olsburg congregation to celebrate World Day of Prayer by joining us for a meal and short program on March 1 at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome but please sign the sheet in the narthex so we know how many to plan for.

WALSBURG SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Walsburg Sunday School children will hear the following Bible stories in February:

Feb. 3—Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

Feb. 10—Jesus Calms the Storm

Feb. 17—The Widow's Offering

Feb. 24—The Transfiguration

In January, one of the Bible stories was “Jesus Teaches about Prayer” and The Lord's Prayer. The Sunday School children are learning The Lord's Prayer petitions Sunday-by-Sunday as follows:

January 27

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

February 3

thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

February 10

Give us this day our daily bread;

February 17

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

February 24

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

March 3

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

WALSBURG VBS NEWS

Save the Date for Walsburg VBS: June 24-28, 2019!



Make your VBS the mane event! This epic African adventure engages the whole herd. At Roar, kids explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life.