

Life *together*

March/April 2016

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

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*Next newsletter items and
articles will be due April 21*

***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...

I want to extend a personal invitation to you to worship during Holy Week and Easter.

There are commercials on TV which say, "it doesn't get any better than this." Christians reserve such praise for Easter! Easter is the crown of the whole year, the queen of feasts, the highest Christian festival. Easter is the richest and most joyous season of the year. Truly, it doesn't get any better than this!

It doesn't get any better than hearing the Easter story of Jesus rising from the dead. It doesn't get any better than experiencing the Presence of the Risen Lord in bread and wine. It doesn't get any better than gathering with other Christians to share in the hope and the promise of Easter.

So don't miss out. The Festival of Easter, followed by the season of Easter (which lasts seven weeks), is time to awaken from sleep, to come alive, to begin anew. Don't let lesser concerns crowd out the joy and excitement of Easter. Don't let anything separate you from the God who delights in Easter surprises. Don't let anything keep you from singing Easter alleluias! Make Easter worship your top priority.

And certainly, Easter is all the more wonderful when you have followed Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, and then to the Upper Room on Maundy Thursday (which we will observe on Wednesday this year), and then to the cross on Good Friday. These holy week services make Easter all the spectacular!

Midweek Lent

What is worship? Why is it important? Why do we do what we do when we worship? We gather each Wednesday evening during Lent at 7:00 p.m. for worship filled with beautiful music and a message about worship that is centered in God's love for each of us. Come early for a delicious soup supper at 6:00 p.m. Walsburg will host on March 2 and March 16. Olsburg will host on March 9.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday (March 20)

Follow Jesus as he enters Jerusalem and the crowds cheered and waved branches of palm. Jesus, though was on a mission - he was coming to Jerusalem to die for you! What a Lord! What love!

Maundy Thursday (observed on Wednesday, March 23)

On this day Jesus and the disciples gathered in the Upper Room to eat the Passover Meal. While observing this ancient practice, Jesus commanded us to love one another and gave us the Meal we call Holy Communion. The service begins at 7:00 p.m. at Olsburg.

Good Friday (March 25)

On this Friday we call Good we gather at 7:00 p.m. at Walsburg to tell the story of that day when Jesus gave his life to connect us with God. Do not hurry by the cross on your way to Easter joy, for we know the Risen Lord through the Crucified Christ.

Easter

Son Rise Service on Easter (March 27)

As the sun rises in the east, we gather in front of the Walsburg Church at 6:30 a.m. to praise God for the rising of the Son, our Savior Jesus Christ! A community breakfast will follow.

Easter Festival Worship at Olsburg (March 27)

The resurrection of Christ is celebrated through joyful music, the powerful Word from Scripture, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This festive service begins at 9:00 a.m.

Easter Festival Worship at Walsburg (March 27)

The resurrection of Christ is celebrated through joyful music, the powerful Word from Scripture, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This festive service begins at 11:00 a.m.

Olsburg/Walsburg Lutheran Churches rejoice with the following members!

- † Jason and Katie Werner on the birth of their daughter Olivia on December 29, 2015. Grandfather is Kevin Burklund.
- † Congregations to Taellor and Andrew Hammeke on the birth of their son Warryn on February 4, 2016. Grandparents are Tami and Jeff Howland.

Olsburg/Walsburg Lutheran Churches express sympathy to the following families.

- † Sympathy for the family of Harold Storer who died on January 10, 2016
- † Sympathy for the family of Derek Buell who died on January 26, 2016

March and April birthdays and anniversaries

Birthdays

March

- 1 Katie Burklund (O)
Raymond Nelson (W)
Jared Henry (W)
Roberta Hartford (W)
- 2 Donna Nelson (W)
Brianna Olson (W)
- 6 Garrett Nelson (O)
- 9 Taellor Howland (O)
- 10 Donald Campbell (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)
- 21 Ashley Rice (O)
- 23 Jonathan Nelson (O)
- 27 Kent Burklund (O)
- 28 Kylie Gibbs (O)
- 29 Timothy Zoeller (O)
Amanda Esping (O)
Stacy Deetjen-Dawes (W)
- 31 Rich Cooper (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 Kasselmann (O)
- 19 Russell Peterson (W)
- 20 Trenton Hargrave (W)
- 28 Kevin Burklund (O)
Kirby Burklund (O)
Jacob Nelson (O)
Rob Scofield (W)

April

- 6 Lee Hartford (W)
- 7 Roger Bohnenblust (W)
Travis Hageman (W)
Jarin Brenner (O)

Members in service

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

Walsburg

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

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

March Communion Ushers: Trenton Hargrave; Sandy McCool

April Communion Ushers: Norman Johnson & Alicia Scofield

***March Lay Assistants:** 3/6 Mary Kay Henry; 3/13 Jerry Baer; 3/20 Lynne Berry; 3/27 Mary Larson

***April Lay Assistants:** 4/3 Linda Toomire; 4/10 Don Nelson; 4/17 Alicia Scofield; 4/24 Janet Neilson

March Altar Committee: Lynne Berry

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

March Ushers: Jacob Nelson; Shane Adams; Karl Kasselmann; Lee Cantrell

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

March Communion Assistants: 3/6 Mary Nelson; 3/20 Ashley Rice 3/24 Diane Nelson; 3/27 Gregg Gibson

April Communion Assistants: 4/3 Becky Avery; 4/17 Kraig Kasselmann

***March Lay Assistants:** 3/6 Kathy Monser; 3/13 Kraig Kasselmann; 3/20 Kristi Fronce; 3/27 Laura Clifton

***April Lay Assistants:** 4/3 Luellen Kasselmann; 4/10 Patty Nelson; 4/17 Tom Nelson; 4/24 Becky Avery

***March Acolytes:** 3/6 Skyler Zoeller; 3/14 Grady Kasselmann; 3/20 Kaden Gutsch, Skyler Zoeller, Jace Ricketts; 3/27 Kylea Ricketts, Landry Zoeller, Emma Kasselmann

***April Acolytes:** 4/3 Brooklynn Zoeller; 4/10 Skyler Zoeller; 4/19 Grady Kasselmann; 4/24 Jace Ricketts

March Altar Committee: Donica Nelson, Mary Nelson

April Altar Committee: Coleen Esping; Joyce Cantrell

March Anniversaries

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

Editor/Parish Coordinator

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Walsburg Sunday School

What a joy it is to have an average of six young children in Walsburg Sunday School each Sunday. Every week the children participate in singing children's songs, hearing a Bible story, enjoying a snack, and creating an art project related to the day's Bible story. They are even reciting The Lord's Prayer and learning a small portion of the prayer each week.

The Bible Stories for the next eight weeks include:

- The Sower
- The Wedding Banquet
- Jesus Feeds 5,000
- The Transfiguration
- The Greatest Commandment
- Holy Week
- The Empty Tomb
- The Great Commission

If you would like to help with Sunday School, please talk with Sheri Storer or send a note to sheriastorer@gmail.com.

Walsburg 2016 Vacation Bible School

Plans are underway for Walsburg's 2016 Vacation Bible School. The date is June 20-24. The Walsburg Education team will be participating in a VBS workshop at Manhattan's Christian Gifts on Saturday, March 5. At this workshop, the curriculum will be chosen. Please share the VBS date with your family, friends, and neighbors!

Time to Think About Summer Church Camp

The Olsburg WELCA group voted to offer \$100 to any Olsburg Lutheran youth member wanting to attend ELCA church camp this summer. There are brochures about Camp Tomah Shinga in the Narthex. For more information, please contact Kathy or Luellen.

Olsburg WELCA Plant Sale

The Olsburg WELCA group will be having a plant sale the morning of April 30th.

There will be a nice selection of flowers, vegetables, and hanging baskets. The proceeds will benefit charitable projects. Please come and help us support our church and community.

Dillons Fundraiser Update

The 2015 4th quarter Dillon's Fundraiser total is in, and we received \$259.67 with 27 households participating, going into the Olsburg Cemetery Fund. Thank you for your participation!!! Remember anyone can register their Dillon's Plus card online and choose our Church to support the Olsburg Cemetery fundraiser. A reminder that after January 1, Dillons requires you to go to your on-line account and "re-enroll" with our organization. Thank You!