

# Life together

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

## inside...

### page 2

Olsburg Council  
Highlights

### page 3

Members in Service

### page 4

Forums for  
Understanding the  
Human Sexuality  
Social Statement  
Holy Week Thank you  
Graceways Bible  
Study  
Prayer Requests

### page 5

Luther League Plant  
Sale  
Baptismal Service at  
Olsburg  
From Gordy  
Central States Synod  
Assembly

### page 6

Partnership for  
Missional Church  
Gordy's Learning  
Schedule

### page 7

Olsburg and Walsburg  
honor graduating High  
School Seniors  
Walsburg Lawn  
Mowing Ministry

### page 8

Walsburg Council  
Highlights

## A letter from the Pastoral Leaders

Acts 2: 1-4 *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them ability.*

I sometimes wonder what it must have been like to have been a member of the group during the outpouring of the Spirit – an unquestionable experience of God. It had to have evoked a sense of passionate response. Most of them gave all possessions to the movement, lived together and prayed together as a family. They served others unceasingly. They became our model for the Church – before Constantine made it a state religion.

Most days in the year 2009 haven't been quite that way for me. First of all, I don't live in a commune – except the three summers I spent working at camp. I have had experiences of the Spirit – glimpses of the Holy Spirit at work through me, but most of the time I am walking along with the question, "Okay, God what do

you want me to do today?" I came to a realization one day. I decided rather than having an amazing plan of action, I would simply keep my eye on God's vocation for my life – to love God and love others. Step two involved my surrender to just help others in any way I could. I hesitated in fear that it was shirking my duty to discern, but I realized that once I surrendered all the grasping that opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world were numerous and available. I don't always know what the day will bring or where the journey will take me, but I do know who I am following – that one that gives life.

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, the worshipping community will come together and hear the Good News through this text and through the offerings of the youth of our community. Our hope and prayer is that through their voices, stories and songs that the entire community will be ignited by the Holy Spirit and blessed with an itching to serve God and God's people boldly!

Bold blessings for the journey!  
Sonja



# Olsburg Council Highlights

The Olsburg Council met on March 18, 2009

*Life Together is published monthly by the Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish. Deadline for calendar and other items is the last Monday of each month.*

## Editor/Parish Coordinator

Shelly Burklund  
Cell 785-532-9853  
Home 785-468-3370  
sburklun@ksu.edu

## Pastoral leaders

Gordon and Sonja Sandquist  
Home 785-293-5603  
Gordy cell: 785-747-7831  
Sonja cell: 785-747-8084  
gsandquist001@luthersem.edu  
sonja80465@aol.com

## Parish Information

Olsburg 468-3500  
olc@olsburglutheran.org  
Walsburg 293-5367

**Members Present:** Mike Apley, Kirby Burklund, Joyce Cantrell, Laura Clifton, Jan Cooper, Jim Nelson, and Pastor Gordy Sandquist. Absent: Kristy Fronce, Willis Poppe, and Donica Nelson. Visitor: Coleen Esping.

Pastor Gordy opened the meeting with prayer. We invited our guest, Coleen, to speak first. Coleen wanted to order the new Lutheran Study Bible. If ten were ordered, a discount would be received. The consensus was to go ahead and order ten.

### Reports:

**Secretary's report:** It was moved and seconded to accept the secretary's report. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's report:** Treasurer Laura Clifton reviewed the report. It was moved and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. The motion carried.

**Pastor's report:** Pastor Gordy commented that mid-week services were going well. Mandy Thursday and Good Friday services will be held at both services.

### Committee Reports:

**Property committee report:** Kirby presented a bid from Midland Exteriors to replace all guttering, downspouts, etc., for an estimate of \$2,250. One problem is that the brackets for the guttering go underneath the singles so there is no place to anchor the guttering. Kirby suggested that the other members of the property committee look at the current guttering to determine if they can come up with some suggestions. Jim also discussed re-routing the downspouts since they all run out onto the sidewalks.

### Old Business

† Parsonage Fund-- It was decided that the Council needs to establish a task force to encourage congregational input for deciding what needs to be done with the funds from the sale of the parsonage. The task force's purpose would be to generate ideas of what to do with the funds and then

submit a report to council. Any action would need to be approved by congregational vote. Jim will write up an announcement for the bulletin and newsletter.

- † Cemetery upkeep – Mike report that he's waiting on a date from Tom Nelson to set up the work day but the work day will be sometime in April.
- † Cemetery mowing—Mike moved and Kirby seconded to accept Donny Cobler's bid to mow the Olsburg Cemetery and to accept Nick Cooper's bid to mow the Mariadahl Cemetery. Motion carried.
- † Church mowing—Jim Nelson was going to check with the Monsers to determine if they would continue mowing the church yard.
- † Constitution—Pastor Gordy will work on this after Easter.

### New Business

- † Open Council position—Donica will be unable to fulfill her obligation to serve on church council since she is working on her Master's degree for the next year or so and her class meets on Wednesday evenings. Several suggestions were made and council members will follow up with the individuals who were suggested to determine if they would be willing to serve.
- † Church Work Day—Scheduled for April 19 after church services. Need to look at the wood floor under a couple of the pews where the finish has worn off.
- † Exterior lighting—two lights still need to be installed on the exterior of the church. An electrician will need to do the work. Jan will check with Mitch Webster to determine if he has the time to complete the job

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

# May birthdays and anniversaries

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

## Birthdays

- 2 Jessa Kulp (W)
- 2 Cindy Olson (W)
- 3 Zachary Holt (O)
- 4 Vincent Alstatt (W)
- 8 Bryon Nelson (O)
- Crystal Strauss (W)
- 10 Dan Holt (O)
- Rich Vargo (O)
- 12 Cassie Miller (W)
- 13 Kim Nelson (W)
- 14 Clayton Neilson (W)

- 15 Donise Peterson (W)
- 17 Clifford Johnson (O)
- 20 Kermit Sundgren (W)
- Dusty Holt (O)
- 21 Alice Marie Gibson (O)
- Sandy Zoeller (O)
- 24 Emily Cook (W)
- 26 Raymond Anderson (O)
- Shari Holt (O)
- Kathy Monser (O)
- 27 Lynn Burklund (O)
- Ashtyn Kulp (W)
- 28 Wes Holt (O)
- 28 Woody Kasselmann (O)
- 29 Donald Holt (O)
- 30 James Nelson (W)

- 30 Lila Bestwick (W)
- 31 Jordy Nelson (W)

## June 1-7

- 1 Emma Kasselmann (O)
- 2 Barbara Burklund (O)
- Jordon Hagenmaier (W)
- 3 Amy Pultz (W)
- 4 Nicki Beadle (O)
- 6 Marvin Johnson (W)
- 7 Gary Hargrave (W)

## Anniversaries:

- 3 Doug and LaRae Kraemer (W)
- 4 Dustin and Jessica Holle (W)
- 5 Arlo and Wava Peterson (W)
- 7 Bill and Kathy Monser (O)
- 9 Warren and Georgia Carlson (W)
- 10 Jim and Diana Nelson (O)
- 14 Russell and Lynne Berry (W)
- 15 Willard and Fern Johnson (W)
- 15 Donald and Rita Nelson (W)
- 15 Rob and Alicia Scofield (W)
- 16 Alan and Sharon Hubbard (O)
- 26 Jon and Emily Cook (W)
- 28 Robert and Ramona Johnston (O)
- 29 Allen and Loree Allen (W)
- 30 Gene and Mary Kay Henry (W)
- 31 Rich and Jan Cooper (O)

## Members in service this month

**T**hank you to these members for their service to the parish during May.

### Walsburg

**Ushers:** Don Campbell, Bill Neilson, Doug Kraemer, Brennan Bestwick, Jerry Erickson

**Greeters:** Aneta Hagenmaier, Theresia Hagenmaier, Don and June Campbell, Jerry and Pat Erickson

**Communion Ushers:** Kim Nelson, Jay Peterson, Dennis Peterson, Doug Kraemer, Larry Bestwick

**\*Acolytes:** 5/3 Cajsa Larson, Emily Lee; 5/10 Cassie Miller; 5/17 Garrett Olson; 5/24 Rachel Peterson; 5/31 Alexis Reed

**\*Lay Assistants:** 5/3 Jay Peterson; 5/10 Alicia Scofield; 5/17 Gavin Hargrave; 5/24 Debbie Hagenmaier; 5/31 Jerry Bohnenblust

**Flowers for Church:** Volunteers

**Altar Committee:** Carla Hageman; Lila Bestwick; Diana Hargrave

### Olsburg

**Ushers:** Myron Larson, Bill Monser, Kirby Burklund, Nick Cooper

**Communion Assistants:** 5/3 Willis Poppe; 5/17 Mike Apley

**\*Acolytes:** 5/3 Jacob Nelson; 5/10 Makayla Vargo; 5/17 Blake Vargo; 5/24 Shane Adams; 5/31 Nick Cooper, Shelby Adams, Douglas Apley

**\*Lay Assistants:** 5/3 Luellen Kasselmann; 5/10 Madison Vargo; 5/17 Makayla Vargo; 5/24 Mary Rosell; 5/31 Mike Apley

**Altar Committee:** Sandy Zoeller, Kristi Fronce

**\*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 Community Memorial Day Service and Potluck Dinner

The Olsburg community will hold a service of remembrance for those who have passed away in the past year and those who have served and lost their lives in the military on May 25 at 11:00 a.m. at Maridahl cemetery. There will be a potluck dinner and short program at the Olsburg American Legion following the service.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to all high school, college and Vo-tech graduates!

## Forums for Understanding the Human Sexuality Social Statement

All are invited to join Bishop Mansholt and others from the area for conversation about the "Report and Recommendation on Ministry Policies" and "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust." These documents can be found on the synod website at [www.css-elca.org](http://www.css-elca.org) or you can request a copy from your pastoral leaders. All participants are encouraged. You are strongly encouraged to attend if you have questions or seek greater understanding. Please read both documents prior to the gathering so that you have a working knowledge of the content and the process that is in place for the upcoming synod assembly and national church assembly. Forums will be offered two times daily (except where noted)

**1:30 – 3:00 PM or 7:00 – 8:30 PM** at the following locations:

### St. Charles – May 11

Hope Lutheran, 1975 Hwy. 94 S., St. Charles, MO 63303

### Wichita – May 14 (7:30 PM only)

Reformation Lutheran, 7601 E. 13<sup>th</sup> St., Wichita, KS 67206

## Holy Week Thank You!

Countless people pulled together to add their gifts, time and talent in an effort to engage the community in both a faithful and a memorable Holy Week experience. You are amazing and you are appreciated.

## GraceWays Monday Bible Study

Thank you for the faithful participation in Monday Night Bible Study. The group will break until next Fall. Keep reading and wondering. God doesn't take the summer off!



**From Gordy:** Dear Olsburg Congregation, Thank you for the scholarship monies that you have contributed toward my seminary education. I appreciate your support and your prayers as I negotiate these waters of both academic and experiential learning. You have directly contributed to the coursework I have completed this past Spring – and I passed them all! I am glad to be on the journey with you.

## Prayer Requests

We lift the following people in prayer for God's peace and God's merciful will:



The family of Florence Carlson who completed her baptismal journey on April 21<sup>st</sup>;

The family of Greg Lee (a former resident of Riley) who died suddenly this past month;

Kathy Sundgren and family at the death of her mother in Massachusetts;

Those who are ill or who are recovering: Kathy Edwards Moore, John Hanson, Myron Larson, Valerie Buelle, Sandy Playmale, Kirby Barrett, Gordon Dowell;

Those in nursing home or hospital care;

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

## We give thanks and praise for:

The baptism of Gracie Scofield on Easter Morning;

The dedication of new altar clothes from the Wieters Memorial;

The birth of Jarin Dean Brenner, born to April and Jacob Brenner on April 7<sup>th</sup>;

The birth of Ida Elaine Kasselmann, born to Kraig and Monica Kasselmann on April 15<sup>th</sup>;

The birth of Nora Cassel, born to Dustin and Emily Cassel on March 15<sup>th</sup>;

The countless births, baptisms and celebration that shape the community and immerse all in thanksgiving;

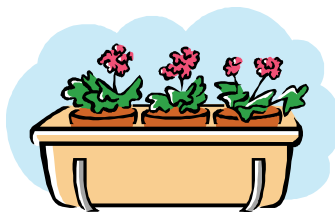
The graduations, scholarships, awards and continuations of students;

Safe celebrations during prom;

The rain, the sun, the green fields, the ever present signs of life, and good neighbors who join us for the journey.

Into your hands, we commend all for whom we pray trusting in your love and your mercy. Amen.

**Luther League  
Plant Sale,  
Saturday,  
May 9**



The Luther League is having a bedding plant sale Saturday, May 9 beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the Olsburg church lawn. They will be at Walsburg following worship service on May 10. There will be a variety of plants to choose from. Mother's Day is May 10th. Plants make **GREAT** Mother's Day gifts. Proceeds benefit the Luther League's trip to New Orleans to attend the National Youth Gathering.

**Special Baptismal Service  
at Olsburg**

Wednesday, May 20 at 7:00 PM  
A Worship Service to Celebrate the Baptisms of:



Norah Cassel  
Campbell Cassel  
McKenna Cassel  
Please join the family and sponsors for this special day!

being "Stirring Up the Waters" which happens to be a favorite at the Sandquist household.) Last but not least, there will be updates about the work that the synodical leaders are doing all year long. There will be stories from the congregations that have chosen to participate in the Partnership for Missional Church (an intentional discernment process for lay church leaders with pastors) as well as updates from the four task teams that are working on initiatives that will strengthen the work of the Lutheran Church in the synod.

The mission statement and initiatives are as follows:  
*God calls us to be a people...changed by love, sent in love, to serve:  
Igniting spiritual renewal;  
Raising up leaders of all ages for the church;  
Building bridges across the differences that divide our society;  
Inspiring and equipping people to be a part of what God is up to in their everyday lives.*

Both Walsburg and Olsburg will be sending two delegates from each church. According to the synod bylaws, each church should be sending a male and a female delegate. Due to availability, we have written for special dispensation and will be sending four female delegates to represent the congregations. We are grateful for their willingness to participate in the work of the larger church.  
Olsburg Synod Assembly Delegates: Mary Rosell and Jackie Frintrup  
Walsburg Synod Assembly Delegates: Debbie Hagenmaier and Terry Peterson

Please note that next year's assembly will be in Wichita (at the Hilton – I think). Any Confirmed member can attend as a delegate (yes, that means that even our youth qualify). We hope to send equal representation next year so consider the call.

If you have further questions about the work of the Synod, do not hesitate to ask. Gordy Sandquist serves on Synod Council and Sonja Sandquist serves with the Igniting Spiritual Renewal Task Team and on Campus Ministry Task Team.



**Central States Synod  
Assembly  
*Changed by love...Sent  
in love...To serve!*  
June 4 – 7, 2009  
Bethany in Lindsborg,  
Kansas**

The leaders and delegates of approximately 200 congregations, representing about 62,000 Lutheran Christians which span the distance of Kansas and Missouri will gather at Bethany this summer to do the work of the Central States Synod. There will be worship, bible study, budget considerations and votes, elections, anniversaries of professional leaders (Sonja is celebrating 10 years as an AIM) and resolution hearings. Highlights will include music from Peter Mayer (a member of Jimmy Buffet's band and a wonderful Lutheran Christian from Gethsemane Lutheran in St. Louis. He has some great albums out, one



# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

## Partnership for Missional Church (PMC)

**Informational Meeting: May 13 at 7:00 PM at Redeemer Lutheran in Salina, Kansas**

Please note your interest and attendance at the information meeting by May 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be communicating numbers of participant to the logistics people in Salina. Contact Sonja or Gordy Sandquist.

*Who should attend?* Church Council Leaders, Pastors, Lay Leaders, Anyone who wants to “be” the Church in an authentic way. Partnership for Missional Church is a journey of spiritual discernment that empowers churches to respond to God’s mission. It is expected that 12-15 congregations join the third cluster on a three to five year journey of discovering God’s specific call to them for moving beyond doing mission to being missional in attitude, vision and action. The intent is that nine PMC cluster meetings will happen over the course of the three years in the Salina area.

**Benefits:** The Partnership for Missional Church helps congregations grow by developing:

- ✦ A God-centered, biblical vision for mission
- ✦ A greater sense of God’s activity in their congregation and community
- ✦ Ownership of the mission of the congregation by more members
- ✦ Both a vision for mission and a practical action plan to achieve it
- ✦ Planning for the future that recognizes strengths of the tradition of the congregation
- ✦ Practical skills for managing change and attending to conflict
- ✦ Dramatic expansion of lay involvement
- ✦ A decision-making process for planning activities and budget
- ✦ A faithful and hospitable congregation
- ✦ Relationships with other partner congregations and partners in the broader community

## Gordy's Learning Schedule

Summer is approaching which means that Gordy Sandquist is heading off for his two week stay at the Luther Seminary Campus. This is both a time of refreshment and a time of great challenge. He gets to see people he has been in class learning with all year long, yet they all engage in challenging on-site classes that happen at break neck speed.

This past semester (still in progress) has consisted of:

*Reading the Audience*, a practical course on how individual congregations can be more missional in their life together.

*Hebrew*, the last of the language course requirements for a Masters of Divinity (MDiv).

During the first two weeks in June, Gordy will be registered for four classes which involve learning on campus and then follow-up learning at home:

*Mission 2: A Look at Other Religious Worldviews and How They Relate to our Christian Identity* (taught by the President of Luther Seminary)

*Youth and Family Ministry: How the Family and Congregation Work Together to Foster Faith and Life in the Church;*

*Independent Study: The Book of Revelations*

In addition to the final papers required for the previous three classes, he will engage in the following class online, at home:

*Prophets: A Survey of the Prophets and How to Use Them in Christian Teaching and Preaching*



## Olsburg and Walsburg honor graduating High School Seniors

Olsburg Lutheran Church will host a reception for graduating High School senior Blake Fronce on Sunday, May 10 following worship. The graduate will be treated to cake and punch.

Walsburg Lutheran Church honored graduating High School seniors Jacob Hagenmaier, Bruce Field and Becca Tittel with a potluck dinner on Sunday, April 19 following worship. Congratulations to all graduates!

Blue Valley High School will hold a graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 16 at 1:00 p.m.

Riley County High School will hold baccalaureate services Wednesday May 13 at 7:00 p.m. Graduation ceremony will be held Sunday, May 17 at 3:00 p.m.

## Birth Announcements

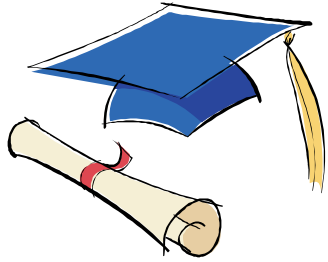
Kraig and Monica Kasselmann are proud to announce the birth of their third child, Ida Elaine, born on April 15. She weighed 8# 12 oz and was 19 ½" long. Ida was welcomed home by her 4 year old sister, Emma, and 2 year old brother, Grady.



Dustin and Emily Cassel are proud to announce the birth of their third daughter, Norah Ashley Cassel. Norah was born March 15, she weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces.



Jacob and April (Burklund) Brenner are proud to announce the birth of Jarin Dean Brenner. Jarin was born April 7, 2009. He weighed 9 pounds 4 ounces and was 21" long.



## Walsburg Lawn Mowing Ministry

Some people are called to make wonderful dishes for potlucks, some are called to teach Sunday School. Still, others are called to visit the sick, to preach or to make quilts. And so it is that some are called and now equipped to mow the church lawn. In an effort to make this a safe and effective ministry, the Walsburg Council has approved the purchase of a 50+ inch riding lawn mower that will help keep the grounds of the church and the parsonage looking great throughout the summer months.

All adults are encouraged to contact a council person to get on the schedule. They will provide as much training as you need so the mower can stay in good working condition.

## Olsburg Sunday School News

Olsburg Sunday School will be meeting for the last time on May 17th. We will resume classes in September.

## Walsburg Council Highlights

**T**he Walsburg Council met on March 25, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Albert Lee. Previous Month's Minutes and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

From the committee reports, the floor was repaired in the church sanctuary by Richard Strauss, Don Nelson, and Carl Larson. The council is awaiting a bid on an A/C unit for the parsonage.

### Old Business:

The church pasture land was rented for five years, by Gary Hargrave.

Church bell tower and exterior repairs will be made by Mid-Continental Restoration.

After discussion the council decided to purchase new mowing equipment for the church and parsonage grounds. A bid to paint the parsonage was accepted by Rob Scofield.

### New Business:

The Easter sunrise service was scheduled for 7:00 A.M. followed by a light Breakfast.

Meeting was adjourned.

**Life** *together*

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish  
12410 Union Road  
Leonardville, KS 66449

Address Service Requested



---

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Olsburg, KS  
Permit No. 2

---