

Life Together

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

From the Desk of Pastor Keith...

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On Easter morning we shout out, "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" And we celebrate - in worship, with Easter egg hunts, with friends and family. It is a great day.

But you know what? Easter isn't over when the day is over. Easter continues. Easter keeps on happening because Easter means Jesus is risen, alive, active in our lives and in the world. It is always Easter. We are Easter people. We are people who live Easter every day!

Yes, I know, there can be a let down after Easter day. After the intense time of Lent, Holy Week and the Festival of Easter, we may feel ready for a break. We may be tempted to slip back into old routines and habits. Let's resist such urges. Let's continue to bask in the glow of Easter and sing the praises of God who will stop at nothing, not even death, to be with us! Let's rise to new life with Christ each and every day! Let's stand in awe of what the Lord is doing!

The Risen Christ is certainly present and active in our two congregations. The Lord is blessing our congregations in many ways. We are witnessing growth and new life and vibrant, caring ministry. The Lord is

giving us opportunities to share our faith and serve our communities.

A valuable opportunity for ministry is coming up soon. Olsburg congregation will be offering a Vacation Bible School later this month and Walsburg will be offering Vacation Bible School next month. What an excellent time this is to invite neighbors and friends and family to bring their children to VBS where they will learn about God's love for them and have a great time with other children. VBS, though, doesn't just happen. It takes all of us working together - teaching, assisting, preparing food, providing transportation, supporting the work with financial contributions. Find out how you can help.

A different kind of opportunity is not far down the road. Both churches are facing challenging projects of repairing and restoring their facilities. Again, like VBS, these projects don't just happen. They will take all of us working together, pitching in with our labor and certainly with our financial contributions. A church that takes pride in its facilities is a witness to all that we intend to serve the community for many years to come.

We are Easter people. We live each day knowing that Christ is alive and active in our lives. Knowing that the Risen Lord is with us gives us confidence and courage to face whatever opportunities or challenges or troubles which may come our way. With St. Paul we say, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!" (Philippians 4:11)

Pastor Keith Wiens

Rejoicing with the following families

- ✠ We rejoice with David and Courtney on the birth of their twin sons, Hunter and Hayden.
- ✠ We rejoice with Macy Gibbs who graduates from Blue Valley High School.

The Festival of Pentecost

We will celebrate the festival of Pentecost on Sunday, May 20. Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of the church's ministry. The color of the day is red, symbolizing the fire of the Holy Spirit. Worshipers are invited to wear red for this festive occasion.

The church's worship revolves around three major festivals: Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. While Christmas and Easter receive considerable attention, Pentecost often comes and goes by unnoticed by most people. Christmas and Easter are popular secular holidays as well as religious holy days. Their popularity is assisted by shopping sprees and family traditions. Pentecost, on the other hand, is often overshadowed by Mother's Day, graduations, Memorial Day, end of school activities and the beginning of summer.

Nevertheless, Pentecost remains a major festival of the church. On Pentecost we come to worship, knowing that the Holy Spirit is essential for a vibrant Christian faith. We gather to thank God for the gift of

the Holy Spirit and to pray that God would continue to pour out the Spirit of Christ upon the church.

So, come to the Festival! Come and celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit!

Ponder the Mystery

The Festival of the Holy Trinity will be celebrated on May 27. This festival has been observed on the first Sunday after Pentecost since the ninth century. It is the only festival honoring a doctrine - the mystery of God - rather than an event.

Martin Luther said this of the Holy Trinity. "The other feasts in the year wrap our Lord up in the works and wonders which He has done. At Christ's nativity we celebrate that God was made Human, at Easter that He rose from the dead, at Pentecost that He poured out the Holy Spirit and instituted the Church, and so forth, so that all the other feasts of the year speak of our Lord God as He is seen clothed in some work. But this feast shows us how He is in Himself, in His divine nature without any wrappings and works. Here you must soar high above all reason, leaving all creatures far below, and must swing yourself up and listen only to what God says of Himself, and of His innermost being." from Day By Day We Magnify Thee, by Martin Luther

May birthdays and anniversaries

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

May Birthdays

- 2 Cindy Olson (W)
- 3 Zachary Holt (O)
Nathan Wiens (W)
- 8 Bryon Nelson (O)
Crystal Strauss (W)
- 10 Dan Holt (O)
Rich Vargo (O)
- 12 Cassie Miller (W)
- 13 Kim Nelson (W)
- 14 Jackson Hoehner (W)
- 15 Donise Peterson (W)
- 20 Kermit Sundgren (W)
Dusty Holt (O)
- 21 Alice Marie Gibson (O)
Sandy Zoeller (O)
- 25 Mason Scofield (W)
- 26 Raymond Anderson (O)
Shari Holt (O)
Kathy Monser (O)
- 27 Lynn Burklund (O)
- 28 Wes Holt (O)
- 28 Woody Kasselmann (O)
- 29 Donald Holt (O)
- 30 James Nelson (W)
- 31 Jordy Nelson (W)

- 31 Calley Berry (W)

May Anniversaries:

- 3 Doug and LaRae Kraemer (W)
- 5 Arlo and Wava Peterson (W)
- 7 Bill and Kathy Monser (O)
- 10 Jim and Diana Nelson (O)
- 14 Russell and Lynne Berry (W)
AJ and Calley Berry (W)
- 15 Donald and Rita Nelson (W)
- 15 Rob and Alicia Scofield (W)
- 16 Alan and Sharon Hubbard (O)
- 26 Jason and Jamie Hageman (W)
- 29 Shane and Loree Allen (W)
- 31 Rich and Jan Cooper (O)

Members in service

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

Walsburg

May Ushers and Greeters: Mary Kay Henry, Jared Henry; Bill & Roseanne Johnson; Andy & Valerie Hoehner

May Communion Ushers: Lee Hartford; Marlene Jenkins

***May Lay Readers:** 5/6 Sheri Storer; 5/13 Mary Kay Henry; 5/20 Rita Nelson; 5/27 Sandy McCool

Olsburg

May Ushers: Bill Monser, Kirby Burklund, Lee Cantrell, Woody Kasselmann

May Communion Assistants: 5/6 Ashley Rice; 5/20 Gregg Gibson

***May Lay Readers:** 5/6 Jan Cooper; 5/13 Joyce Cantrell; 5/20 Kathy Monser; 5/27 Kraig Kasselmann

***Acolytes:** 5/6 Jordyn Gutsch; 5/13 Kaden Gutsch; 5/20 Skyler & Landry Zoeller, Jace Ricketts; 5/27 Grady Kasselmann

May Altar Committee: Kathy Monser, 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.**

Walsburg's VBS: *Come sail away . . .*



June 25 – 29
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Children: Ages 3 - 6th Grade

At Walsburg's Shipwrecked VBS, kids will discover how Jesus rescues us through life's storms. Shipwrecked is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Cool Bible stories and songs, fun crafts, team-building games, and tasty treats and lunch are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. We will help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings.

Kids will also participate in a hands-on project, through a program called ELCA's Good Gifts program, that will provide funds for low-income families to purchase small animals.

Parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to join us at the closing program on Friday, June 29, at 1:00 p.m. which will be followed by an ice cream sundae party.

So mark these dates on your calendar: June 25 – 29. The fun starts at 9:00 a.m. and will end at 12:00 noon each day. Lunch will be served to the children. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors.

Online registration begins on May 1. Registration forms are available in the Narthex or register at <https://www.vbspro.events/p/walsburg>.

For more information, call Sheri Storer, Alicia Scofield, or Sarah Diamond.

Life together

Walsburg VBS Trivia . . .

In what year did Walsburg hold its first Vacation Bible School?

Supplies and Helpers Needed for VBS . . .

If you would like to donate food items and/or supplies for VBS, please see the sign-up sheet located in the Narthex. Items should be brought to the Walsburg Kitchen by Wednesday, June 20.

Walsburg Sunday School

Sunday School children enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 1.



Sunday School children displaying hearts they made: "My Heart is Full of Jesus"!



Other Happenings

High School Graduations

Blue Valley High School will hold Baccalaureate on Wednesday, May 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the High School.

Blue Valley High School Graduation will be held Saturday, May 12 at 1 p.m. at the High School.

Riley County High School will hold Baccalaureate on Wednesday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the High School.

Riley County High School Graduation will be held Saturday, May 19 at 3:00 p.m. at the High School.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Again this year Olsburg Lutheran Church is asking for volunteers to mow the church lawn and the lot to the east. A sign up sheet is posted in the narthex. We hope you take this opportunity to sign up. Thank You!

Olsburg LCW News

The WELCA group is offering \$100 to any Olsburg Lutheran youth member wanting to attend ELCA camp this summer. For more information, please contact Kathy or Luellen.

May 5— The LCW is having a plant sale on the church lawn from 8:00 am - 11:30 a.m. The plants are from 5-H Greenhouse in Wamego. This is a great opportunity to get your Mother's Day flowers!

Memorial Day Service

The Olsburg Community will gather on Monday, May 28, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at Mariadahl Cemetery. Following the short service at the cemetery, all are invited to a potluck lunch at the Olsburg American Legion.

50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

You are invited to join **Woody and Luellen** as they celebrate their **50th Wedding Anniversary**

June 2
Olsburg City Park
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
No gifts, please.

Hosting the reception will be their children:
Kathy and her husband Justin
Karl and his wife Linda
Kraig and his wife Monica
and their grandchildren:
Chase, Kylea, Jace, Emma, Grady, Ida,
Creed, Witten, Colt

*Woody and Luellen were married
June 1, 1968
at Olsburg Lutheran Church*

Olsburg Vacation Bible School invites children to be SHIPWRECKED



May 29 – June 1
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Olsburg Lutheran Church

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

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR VBS at OLC

We are still in need of some adult volunteers for VBS this year. We would prefer someone who could help us out all 4 days, but, if you could only help us out for a day, or 2, or 3 we would still appreciate your help. Please call Luellen at 565-1240 if you can help us out.

Seeking Volunteers for Summer Food Program

Last year, Catholic Charities sponsored a Summer Food site during the month of June in Olsburg. We would like to sponsor a site again this year – at the City Pool – but are in need of volunteers and a site coordinator to run the program. We provide the food, training and materials – the volunteers would be responsible for setting up, serving the meals (pre-packaged), tracking meals and cleaning up. There is some paperwork involved – we operate in partnership with the USDA and Kansas Department of Education – but is easily managed by one person. Last summer an average of 40 kids a day received a lunch at our site.

Would anyone from our congregation be interested? Youth can volunteer too. Here are the site details –

Location: Olsburg City Park & Pool

Dates: June 1-June 29

Days: Monday-Friday from 11:30AM-12:00PM

Please forward to anyone in our community that may be interested.

If you have questions, would like to volunteer or know of someone in the community would like to volunteer, please contact Camille Pickhinke at 913.433.2083.

Plant Sale

May 5

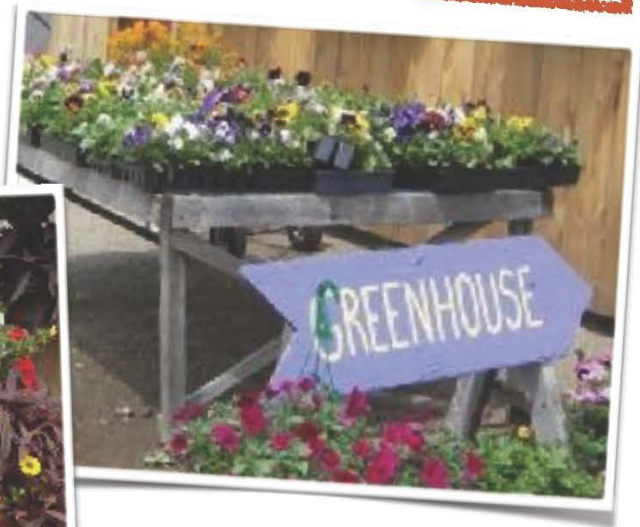
8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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