

Life Together

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Next newsletter items and articles will be due May 23.

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

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Both Olsburg and Walsburg are in the midst of a six month process called "Standing at the CrossRoads." Last month (in April), a group from each congregation traveled to Salina for a day of learning, listening, study and discovery. One of the things we were reminded of, is that a congregation is like a living organism in that it goes through times of growth, rest, and decline over and over again. This is normal and, we have a tendency to focus on programs and administration which are not bad things, but mission and relationships are what really make the difference. This month, we gathered at Walsburg for an online "web" conference for an hour last week. We are focusing this month on the "peaks and valleys" which each of these congregations have gone through over the past 100 or so years, in relation to what was happening in the surrounding community and in the world.

WE NEED YOUR HELP – Please take some time in the week ahead, to share some of your memories and stories about your time at Olsburg or Walsburg. Who was the pastor and how did the leadership seem to function. Were there things going on "behind the scenes?" What could have been different? Remember, this exercise is not only about the good and happy things, but also about the struggles and challenges.

Another thing that would be helpful in this exercise is to know how you came to this congregation. Fewer and fewer have been born and baptized in the church they still attend, and the stories of how you became a part of

the congregation are important. Include your impressions and feelings as you entered into a "new" church community.

Remember, things that were going on in the surrounding community as well as in the world are important to this exercise. Also, names are important in telling stories and making connections, but any challenging information will have the names changed. Our goal is to shape an understanding.

What follows is a snapshot of your assignment:
Have a conversation, write a note or e-mail your church memories to Pastor Gordy or Pastor Sonja.

What is your memory at a particular time (good or bad)?

How were you connected to the church?

What was happening in the world at that time? Please name the decade in which this happened.

For the more ambitious:
Create a decade timeline according to your life.

During each decade name both a highlight (good and bad) in the church and a highlight (good and bad) in the community / world.

The leadership team will compile the stories to help us better understand our history and how that influences the future mission.

Thanks for helping with this project!
Blessings and Hope
Gordy & Sonja

Summer Seminary

As the Spring Semester comes to a close, the Sandquist are busy finishing up papers and finals. There is a slight break between Spring Semester and Summer Intensive, but not much.

Sonja will be engaged with two classes and one training event this summer:

Contemporary Issues in Children, Youth and Family (CYF) Ministry: *This is a directed reading/seminar collaboration course. Each year a contemporary topic in the area of Children, Youth, and Family ministry is chosen. Students will then read from the bibliography associated with that topic. They then meet in plenary session at predetermined times during the term with a faculty member who helps them to teach each other what they have learned about a specific challenge and seek insight from each other, as well as other outside resources as applicable, in meeting the identified challenge.*

Worship: With the aim of preparing competent evangelical leaders of public worship, the course combines shared worship experience, as well as reflection on that experience, drawing on the broad range of Christian worship theologies and practices. Through consideration of biblical foundations, theological development, and historic and contemporary practice, students achieve well-grounded understanding for guiding parish practice.

Crossways Bible System Training: *The goal of Crossways International is "to help people read the written Word to understand and believe in the Living Word and demonstrate Him in their daily lives." Throughout, the textbook is the Bible; the key word is grace; the focal point is Jesus the Messiah. To help God's people achieve this goal, CI offers four biblical narrative survey courses of varying depth. All Luther Seminary Students are able to take this training course for free this summer (normally \$325) which allows the trained leaders to order materials and lead the studies in their home congregations.*

Gordy will be taking two classes and attending Synod Assembly instead of taking the Crossways Training:

Exercises in Biblical Theology: *A study of the Bible as a living Word that informs the imaginative framework through which we encounter the world and*

engage in Christian ministry.

Through lectures, case studies, and field projects, students and instructors engage in doing biblical theology in the context of the practice of ministry, including such specifics as the care of souls, moral deliberation and action, community formation and conflict, evangelism and mission.

Psalms: *A study of the Psalter that includes classification and analysis of the psalms, their place within the Bible and their theological significance. The course seeks to develop an appreciation of biblical poetry and provide tools for its interpretation. Consideration is given to the use of psalms in Christian ministry.*

May 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)
- 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)
Jason and Jamie Hageman (W)
- 28 Gordon and Sonja Sandquist (B)
- 29 Shane and Loree Allen (W)
- 30 Gene and Mary Kay Henry (W)
- 31 Rich and Jan Cooper (O)

June Anniversaries:

- 1 Don and Ardie Holt (O)
Woody and Luellen Kasselman (O)
Tom and Donica Nelson (O)
- 6 Lee and Beverly Stowell (O)
- 7 Daniel and Julie Higgins (O)
- 9 Raymond and Milly Nelson (W)
- 10 Kirby and Shelly Burklund (O)
Roger and Ruthie Stone (W)
Gary and Diana Hargrave (W)
- 11 William & Roseanne Johnson (W)
- 13 Brandon and Lori Rogge (W)
- 17 LeRoy & Claryce Bohnenblust (W)
- 20 Rabern and Aneta Hagenmaier

May and June birthdays and anniversaries

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

May Birthdays

- 2 Jessa Kulp (W)
- 2 Cindy Olson (W)
- 3 Zachary Holt (O)
- 8 Bryon Nelson (O)
Crystal Strauss (W)
- 9 Sonja Sandquist (O/W)
- 10 Dan Holt (O)
Rich Vargo (O)
- 12 Cassie Miller (W)
- 13 Kim Nelson (W)
- 14 Clayton Neilson (W)
- 15 Denise Peterson (W)
- 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)
- 28 Wes Holt (O)

- 28 Woody Kasselman (O)
- 29 Donald Holt (O)
- 30 James Nelson (W)
- 30 Lila Bestwick (W)
- 31 Jordy Nelson (W)

June Birthdays

- 1 Emma Kasselman (O)
- 2 Barbara Burklund (O)
Jordan Hagenmaier (W)
- 3 Amy Pultz (W)
- 4 Nicki Beadle (O)
- 6 Marvin Johnson (O)
- 7 Gary Hargrave (W)
- 8 Kiffnie Holt (O)
- 9 David Gibson (O)
Travis Bohnenblust (W)
Trevor Bohnenblust (W)
- 12 Dorothy Johnson (O)
- 14 Laurine Catt (O)
- 15 Coleen Esping (O)
- 17 Deanna Barnes (O)
- 18 Nettie Classon (W)
William Johnson (W)
- 19 Erin Gutsch (O)
Ruthie Stone (W)
- 20 Brooklynn Zoeller (O)

- 20 Lorraine Oman (W)
- 21 Destinee Cantrell (O)
Dena Haller (W)
- 22 Nick Cooper (O)
Monique Sandquist (B)
Adam Larson (W)
- 23 Josie Stone (W)
- 24 Tyson Strauss (W)
Haley Neilson (W)
- 28 Linda Toomire (W)
Jacob Hagenmaier (W)

The church office would like to wish a belated Happy Birthday to Russell Peterson from Walsburg. His birthday was April 19th.

July 1-8

- 1 Joan Schweer (O)
- 2 Carl Larson (W)
Delores Grater (W)
- 6 Gregg Gibson (O)
- 7 Blake Vargo (O)
- 8 Sharon Hubbard (O)

Members in service this month



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

Walsburg

May Ushers and Greeters: Bill, Janet and Cindy Neilson; Jerry and Pat Erickson

June Ushers and Greeters: Jamie and Kristi Hageman; Bill and Roseanne Johnson

May Communion Ushers: Dennis Peterson, Carl Larson

June Communion Ushers: Don Nelson, Gary Hargrave

***May Lay Readers:** 5/1 Cassie Miller; 5/8 Rita Nelson; 5/15 Mary Kay Henry; 5/22 Kim Bulk; 5/29 Church youth

***June Lay Readers:** 6/5 Jane Larson; 6/12 Cassie Miller; 6/19 Jamie Hageman; 6/26 Brianna Olson

Olsburg

May Ushers: Kirby Burkland, Nick Cooper, Bill Monser, Woody Kasselman

May Communion Assistants: 5/1 Kristi Fronce; 5/15 Shari Holt

June Communion Assistants: 6/5 Jim Nelson; 6/19 Jan Cooper

***May Acolytes:** 5/1 Kylee Ricketts; 5/8 Brooklynn Zoeller; 5/15 McKenzie Goff; 5/22 Makayla Vargo; 5/29 Madison Vargo

***June Acolytes:** 6/5 Shane Adams; 6/12 Symone Sandquist, Codie Webster, Callie Webster; 6/19 Morgan Vargo; 6/26 Jonathan Nelson

***May Lay Readers:** 5/1 Jacob Nelson; 5/8 Jan Cooper; 5/15 Jonathan Nelson; 5/22 Joyce Cantrell; 5/29 Kathy Monser

June Lay Readers: 6/5 Kathy Ricketts; 6/12 Kristi Fronce; 6/19 Kyle Clifton; 6/26 Laura Clifton

May Altar Committee: Kathy Monser, Kristi Fronce
June Altar Committee: April Brenner, Shelly Burkland

***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.**

Youth Happenings

Confirmation Car Wash Work Night and Pizza Party

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Pick up in Randolph at 5:15 PM

Confirmation Mission Trip Car Wash

Saturday, May 7th

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

All youth who are attending the final mission trip are encouraged to help!

Confirmation Party in Waterville!

Wednesday, May 11

5:30 p.m. pick up at Blue Valley High School!

We will meet with our Waterville friends for a final class and a farewell party for Pastor Jeremie.

Confirmation Camp at Tomah Shinga

June 26 – July 2

Please hold the following people in prayer during their time at camp: Symone Sandquist, Monique Sandquist, Brooke Desbien, Tessa Henry, Casey Nelson and Pastor Gordy

Luther League Prepares for the National Youth Gathering “Citizens With the Saints”

Ephesians 2:14-20 is our guiding verse for the gathering: *Jesus is our peace. In his life and death on the cross, Jesus broke down the dividing walls so that we are no longer strangers and outsiders, but we are all citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God. The foundation of God’s house was built of apostles and prophets, and Jesus, the cornerstone, holds it all together.*

July 18 – 22nd, 2012

New Orleans, Louisiana

Please continue to hold the following youth in prayer as they discern their participation in the gathering: Shane Adams, Kyle

Clifton, Casey Nelson, Jon Nelson, Jacob Nelson, Callie Webster, Codie Webster, Makayla Vargo, Madison Vargo, Symone Sandquist and Monique Sandquist. And there is still space for more! Just contact your pastor!

Adults serving as sponsors for the trip: Ashley Cooper and Pastor Gordy Sandquist

Fundraising is beginning now. Please see below for all the upcoming events that we are working on this summer in preparation for next summer!

Fundraising:

Serving the Community: Maundy Thursday Seder Meal, April 21

Randolph Food and Lemonade Stand – July 2nd Organizers: Darnell Vargo and Sonja Sandquist. All parents and youth are needed to help!

Lemonade Stand at Leonardville Hulabaloo
Lemonade Stand at Olsburg's Fall Celebration

Basket Auction

Summer Car Washes

Valentine's Day Dinner

Calendars

Alma Bakery Orders (winter and spring)

National Youth Gathering Adult Volunteer Information

Registration happens May 15 and fills up fast!

Your food and house is paid while you serve at the gathering and you also receive a \$200 travel voucher.

Check out eligibility at www.elca.org/gathering

Youth Sunday

May 29th

All youth will serve as worship leadership during this Sunday.

Worship News

Walsburg S.A.L.T. (Stewards Attending Life

Together) Bible Study

Mondays, May 2nd and 16th

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Study on the Minor Prophets

Olsburg Monday Night Bible Study

May 16th at 5:30 p.m.

“Making Sense of the Christian Faith”

The doctrine of sin – good stuff!

Walsburg Graduation High School Senior Recognition Sunday

May 22nd

During worship our graduates and their parents will be invited to participate in a blessing ritual. Following worship, the community will celebrate the seniors with a *potluck*. (*Please note this change*). Each senior will have a chance to share their future plans with the congregation.

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 30 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.

Pentecost – June 12, 2011

WEAR RED TO WORSHIP!!!!

Pentecost owes its origins to an ancient agricultural festival of Israel in which first fruits of the barley harvest were offered to God. Added to this background is the Jewish Festival of Booths, which recalls God's faithfulness as the Hebrews journeyed through the wilderness from Egypt to the Promised Land. Each year during this festival, the Jews made booths or temporary shelters in which to live for a week in order to remember their heritage.

The outpouring of God's Spirit took place during a celebration of this feast, enlarging

its meaning for Christians. Luke describes the events of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-21. One hundred and twenty disciples were gathered to pray and wait for the promised Spirit, as Jesus had instructed them. Suddenly, the sound of a mighty wind filled the room, and tongues of fire appeared over the heads of the disciples, and all of them began praising God in different languages!

Pentecost is a day to be marked by fire, the color red, festivity and surprise, and a warm welcome extended to all.

Walsburg LCW May meeting

Walsburg's next LCW meeting will be 1:30 p.m. on May 12 . Leader - Claryce Bohnenblust Hostess - Shared Lunch (A-H)

LCW Sunday: June 5

The ladies of the church will lead the community in worship on Sunday, June 5, while the delegates and pastors attend the Synod Convention in Kansas City.

Olsburg Lutheran: Woody and Luellen Kasselman
Walsburg Lutheran: To be filled

Vacation Bible School

VBS is coming! Be sure to watch your bulletin and signs around town for details!

We would like to thank the congregation for the wonderful bridal shower. We truly appreciate all the gifts and best wishes they received. We would also like to thank the committee who provided the lovely table decorations and the good cake.

Thanks again. Calley Hewitt and AJ Berry

Friday, May 13th, 4 pm Graveside Memorial Service for Pastor Ken Carmichael will be held at Walsburg Cemetery. You are asked to meet in the church parking lot so we can proceed down the hill to the grave together. Following the service a lunch and a time of fellowship with Dorothy and family will be in Memorial Hall.

Camp Tomah Shinga Quilt Auction will be held Saturday, July 9, 2011

Join in this exciting day at Camp Tomah Shinga for our 10th Annual Quilt Auction! The day promises good food, great fun and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of Camp Tomah Shinga. The auction and barbecue will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends and families!

Quilts will be on display by 9 a.m. The auction begins at 10 a.m. We will continue until all quilts are sold. The quilts will have numbered cards attached indicating the order in which they will be auctioned. This way bidders can approximate when their favorite quilts will be up for auction.

The cards also include information about the quilt donor and the size, type and design of the quilt.

Every quilt, newly quilted or antique, will be sold during our live auction with the help of our faithful friend Harold Mugler at Mugler Auction Services.

You won't want to miss the wonderful lunch with dessert and beverage served at 11:30 a.m.

You are encouraged to attend the Quilt Auction so you can see your quilts sold and possibly meet the buyers. If you or someone else from your congregation cannot attend, you may call the camp office at 1-888-656-6254 to find out how much your quilt sold for, or check online at www.tomahshinga.com. Please wait about one week after the auction so we have time to get the results entered into the computer and can then quickly access the information when you call.

A Glimpse of Palm Sunday 2011 Service at Olsburg Lutheran Church

To view the whole slide show visit: <http://www.olsburglutheran.org/>



Church Bulletin Bloopers...

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement on Friday at 7 p.m. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Potluck supper: prayer and medication to follow.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the church help. The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 to 8:30p.m. Please use the back door.

The Rev. Merriwether spoke briefly, much to the delight of the audience.

During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.

Next Sunday Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on "It's a Terrible Experience."

Stewardship Offertory: "Jesus Paid It All"

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

Pastor is on vacation. Massages can be given to church secretary.

The choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 p.m. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Reverend and Mrs. Julius Belzer.

This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.

Tuesday at 4PM there will be an ice cream social. All ladies giving milk will please come early.

Wednesday, the Ladies Liturgy Society will meet. Mrs. Jones will sing "Put Me In My Little Bed" accompanied by the pastor.

Thursday at 5PM there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All wishing to become Little Mothers, please see the minister in his private study.

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mr. Vassilas to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

The service will close with "Little Drops Of Water". One of the ladies will start (quietly) and the rest of the congregation will join in.

Next Sunday, a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and get a piece of paper.

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?". Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The 1991 Spring Council Retreat will be hell May 10 and 11.

Please join us as we show our support for Amy and Alan who is preparing for the girth of their first child.

The Lutheran Men's group will meet at 6 PM. Steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread and dessert will be served for a nominal feel.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: " I Upped My Pledge-Up Yours."

Lifetogether

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Pentecost

Pentecost owes its origins to an ancient agricultural festival of Israel in which first fruits of the barley harvest were offered to God. Added to this background is the Jewish Festival of Booths, which recalls God's faithfulness as the Hebrews journeyed through the wilderness from Egypt to the promised land. Each year during this festival, the Jews make booths or temporary shelters in which to live for a week in order to remember their heritage.

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Pentecost is a day to be marked by fire, the floor red, festivity, and surprises, and a warm welcome extended to all.

A Pentecost Prayer

God of wind and fire,
Send your Spirit upon us.
Make our hearts burn with love
For all your children.
Rekindle our gratitude for this feast
And for every good gift,
So that we always have a spirit
Of generosity
Towards everyone we meet.
Fill our lives with joy and our faith
With courage.
Through Jesus, who with you
Sent us the promised Comforter.

Excerpts from: All Through the Day, All Through the Year, by David Batchelder

