

Life together

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

inside...

page 2

*Thank You!
Olsburg LCW
collecting items for
LWR school kits
Walsburg Plans 150th
Anniversary
celebration*

page 3

*Birthdays ad
Anniversaries
Members in service*

page 4

*Next newsletter items and
articles will be due Aug 22.*

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Editor/Parish Coordinator
Shelly Burklund
Cell 785-532-9853
Home 785-468-3370
sburklun@ksu.edu

Pastor
Kaylie Ines
Cell phone: 316-650-9225
E-mail: pastorkaylieines@gmail.com

Parish Information
Olsburg
olc@olsburglutheran.org
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Olsburg-Lutheran-Church>
<http://www.olsburglutheran.org>

Walsburg 293-5367
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Walsburg-Lutheran-Church>
<http://www.walsburglutheranchurch.org>

Reflections by Pastor Kaylie

Grace and peace to you all, my siblings in Christ!

As the days grow longer and the weather gets hotter, we have reached our summer hours during worship. From worshipping outside, renovations in the Church, and other miscellaneous projects that fill our time, may we be invited to indulge in resting this summer.

Recently, I have been invited to offer a presentation about caring for creation and how we are called to "Rekindle Our Spirit." In pondering how I can intersect nature with this idea of spiritual renewal, I remembered Jesus' words, "Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath." (Mark 2:27-28) Now, there is a whole story of Jesus breaking Sabbath laws prior to his words here, but "the sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath" inescapably lingered in my mind.

Sabbath is the act of taking time to rest, usually one full day of rest. In fact, God commands us to take a sabbath, as even God rested on the 7th day of creation. A day of rest was made for us, we were not made to work all the time and find rest. Rest finds us through the art of practicing the Sabbath. We are able to protect ourselves and our

world by taking a day of rest. In a busy world, creation needs a break from humanity.

What would it be like if we fully leaned into God's action of the sabbath, where we spent 1/7th of our lives resting? Not only would our world flourish, but so would our spirits. Imagine taking a full day to rest, intentionally, with and in God's presence. A full day to come back to yourself and pause from the noise of our world. We are invited to practice the sabbath, to heal, find health, and recover. Resting is the most holy thing we can do!

And preaching sabbath is much easier than practicing the sabbath! Believe it or not, many pastors are horrible at resting (myself included!) Realistically, it is not *always* possible to take one full day off. However, it is possible to find little pockets for sabbath throughout the week. Whether it is 30mins one day, or an afternoon the next, we can resist the urge to be busy and find small moments of rest daily.

As the church, practices slower and quieter movements this summer, may we also journey lighter, finding plenty of moments for the Sabbath. Be it resting, eating, communion, or reconnecting, take big and little moments to heal. Know that God sees you, loves you, and appreciates all the work you are

doing! Keep the faith going my friends and be well!

Pastor Kaylie
Vacation Bible School-

THANK YOU

A BIG thank you to ALL our Vacation Bible School volunteers and leaders! Both congregations had WONDERFUL weeks filled with joy, laughter, and *many* God moments. It was so great to welcome all our kiddos out for a full week of learning about God's love and how to Shine Jesus' Light! We had a Stellar time together, and so look forward to next year's program! Thank you, thank you, and thank you again for all the wonderful ministries we provide to our communities! You all rock!

Olsburg LCW collecting items for Lutheran World Relief School Kits

The Olsburg congregation is invited to bring supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits during July and August.

Items needed for each kit are listed below and may be left in the box in the narthex.

- **FOUR** 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- **ONE** 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- **ONE** pencil sharpener
- **ONE** pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- **FIVE** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- **FIVE** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- **ONE** box of 16 or 24 crayons
- **ONE** 2 ½" eraser

Walsburg Plans 150th Anniversary Celebration

SAVE THE DATE --- We will be celebrating 150 years of our Walsburg Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 7 with an evening anniversary banquet at Pottorf Hall in Manhattan. Sunday, October 8 will be a day of celebration with worship service, lunch, anniversary service, followed by a memorial service at the cemetery.

150th Anniversary t-shirts, sweatshirts and caps available to order

If you are interested in ordering a 150th Anniversary t-shirt, sweatshirt or cap, please pick up an order form in the narthex and return to Sheri Storer or Donise Peterson by this Thursday, July 13, and will be available by August 5. Another order will be placed in mid-August.

July birthdays, anniversaries

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

July Birthdays

- 1 Joan Schweer (O)
- 2 Delores Grater (W)
- 3 Carl Larson (W)
- 4 Evelyn Larson (W)
- 6 Gregg Gibson (O)
- 7 Blake Vargo (O)
- 8 Sharon Hubbard (O)
Connie Hunt (W)
- 9 Joshua Cantrell (O)
Amy Hageman (W)
- 10 Carrie Grater (W)
- 11 Julie Munson (O)
Richard Gibbs (O)
Alexis Plummer (O)
- 12 Jim Nelson (O)
Brett Dawes (W)
Owen Dick (W)
- 13 Jana Arellano (W)
Jeremy Dick (W)
- 16 Jennifer Byarlay (W)
Michael J. Hagenmaier (W)
- 17 Nicole Holt (O)
A.J. Berry (W)
Kristi Hageman (W)
- 19 Monica Kasselmann (O)
April Brenner (O)

- 21 June Campbell (W)
- 22 Kristi Fronce (O)
- 23 Steve Strauss (W)
Ella Simon (O)
- 27 Keith Wiens
Alan Bohnenblust (W)
Kyle Bohnenblust (W)
- 29 Kathleen Sundgren (W)
Brian Wurtz (W)
- 31 Amy Burklund (O)
Jennifer Miller (W)

July Anniversaries:

- 6 Roger and Kathleen Sundgren (W)
- 10 Justin and Amber Befort (O)
- 12 Keith and Carol Wiens
- 15 Victor and Cindy Olson (W)
- 21 Brett and Stacy Dawes (W)
- 22 Jessie and Kermit Sundgren (W)
Gary and Amy Feigley (W)
- 30 Karl and Linda Kasselmann (O)

Members in service for July

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

Walsburg

Ushers and Greeters: Sheri Storer; Mike & Becky Nelson; David Ahlerich

Communion Ushers: Roger Sundgren & Vern Bulk

Lay Readers: 7/2 Diana Hargrave; 7/9 Amber Befort; 7/16 Jane Larson; 7/23 Linda Toomire; 7/30 Jerry Baer

Acolytes: 7/2 William Sullivan; 7/9 Macy Berry; 7/16 Trinity Meader; 7/23 Kade Campbell; 7/30 Mason Scofield

Altar Committee: June Campbell

***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

Ushers: Jim Nelson; Gregg Gibson; Tom Nelson

Assist Pastor during Communion: 7/2 Sandy Zoeller; 7/16 Coleen Esping; 7/30 Jacob Nelson

Lay Readers: 7/2 Becky Avery; 7/9 Coleen Esping; 7/16 Jan Cooper; 7/23 Kraig Kasselmann; 7/30 Jacob Nelson

Acolytes: 7/2 Colt Kasselmann; 7/9 Tori Brenner; 7/16 Witten Ricketts; 7/23 Addison Gibson; 7/30 Creed Kasselmann

Altar Committee: Kristi Fronce, Deb Lowry