

# OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

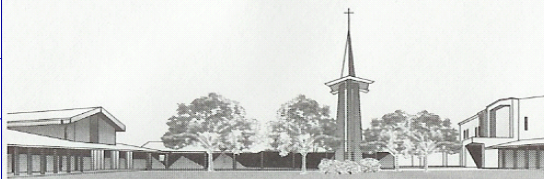
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Volume XXV, Issue 4

April 2010

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Our Savior Lutheran Church Living Faith Center

### WORSHIP WITH US

**Beginning April 11:**  
**Journeys in Mexico Class 8:15 AM**  
**Traditional Worship 9:30 AM**  
**Sunday School Classes 9:30 AM**  
**Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM**

*Alleluia! He is Risen!*  
**EASTER SUNDAY, April 4**

**8:00 Communion**  
**8:15 Gospel of John Class**  
**9:00-11:00 Breakfast**  
**9:30 Sunday School**  
**& Easter Egg Hunt**  
**9:30 Communion**  
**11:00 Contemporary Communion**

## OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN STAFF

MINISTERS	ALL PEOPLE OF OSLC
PASTOR	STEVEN HERZBERG
ASSOCIATE IN MINISTRY	JANET WEST
OFFICE MANAGER	SUE WADGYMAR
CHOIR DIRECTOR	BARBARA McCLELLAN
ORGANIST/PIANIST	LINDA TODD
YOUTH DIRECTOR	DAWN EVERSON
BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR	ESTHER OLSEN

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT	RUDY LOSOYA
VICE PRESIDENT	SANDY HUSTON
TREASURER	TOM RIESTERER
SECRETARY	RAYNA DELANEY
BORDER MISSIONS	WENDY FOWLER
OUTREACH	LYNNE WATKINS
PUBLICITY	SANDY HUSTON
LEARNING & YOUTH	TERRI JENSEN
	KATHY SALINAS
PROPERTY	RALLAND HARRISON
	JIM OFFERDAHL
STEWARDSHIP	RAYNA DELANEY
WORSHIP & MUSIC	BETTY COOKSLEY

## Pastor's Notes

Contact Rudy Losoya at rlosoya2@rgv.rr.com, or his home 956-687-7839 or cell 956-605-0592.

"He is risen!  
 He is risen indeed!"  
 I hope you are ready to shout out those responses on the first Sunday of this month. That Good News continues to echo in the midst of a world that would seem to spend way too much time on Good Friday and death. St. Paul reminds us that we are to be Ambassadors for Christ. We are to remind the world that Christ has conquered the powers of death and evil and we get to begin in that reality already on this side of the grave.

In our adult class on Romans, we have heard that good news over and over with respect to the reconciliation that has been

given to us in Christ – not only with God our Father but also with our fellow human beings, including our enemies. For St. Paul, that was especially relevant for the relationship between Jew and Gentile. For us, that is relevant in countless ways for all the divisions we have today. We have been reconciled with God and each other in Christ. Let's begin to live in that reality!

Know that you are invited to be with us on April 4<sup>th</sup> for worship, breakfast, and an Easter Egg Hunt. On the following Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, we will return to two services – 9:30am and 11:00am.

Yes, the Winter Texans are heading out, and many have already reached home. But that doesn't mean that we stop being the people

of God in this place. We just transition into a little different atmosphere until the summer months when we transition again to another period in the life of our congregation. We need you, and God needs you.

"Alleluia" we will sing again and say again after our Lenten Journey.

Pastor Steve  
 Home phone 956-631-0273

## THANK YOU

to all who sent my friend, Letha Gibson, a card for her 100th birthday. She was surprised and happy. Vi Greenwald

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OSLC MEMBER JEANNETTE SMITH

on her appointment to the Executive Board of Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants and to their Nominating Committee.



**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**Healing:** Kristi Allen (Janet Young's daughter), Donna Dwyer, Tim Smith, Eleanor Stapf, Joyce Tokkesdahl, Branch Zuniga. **Shut-Ins:** Gwen Preston. **Family Members:** Gerri Craig (Linda Todd's mom), Olivia Ervine, Norm Frey, Ernie Greenwald, Gordon Hutchinson, Doug Magnussen, Bob & Lorna Rainey, Kelli Travers. **Friends of Congregation:** Evelyn Davidson, Eric Doanldson, Diana Fugh, Cassie Hovland, Ila Howe, Wyatt Anthony Kamp, Derek Keniston, Howard Lingg, Debbie Martin, Bruce Moilan, Greg Shartle, Dustin & Julie Shourds, Gloria Speck, John Stegall, Mike Taylor, Bob Wagg, Jon Young. **In military service:** Preston Atwood (grandson of Russ Sandry), Cody Crumpler (relative of the Todd's), Justin Garcia, David Lamborn (Jerry & Vicky Ervine's grandson), Sgt. Elizabeth Nyquist (Danny & Lydia Olsen's daughter), Bryan Phillips (Esther Olsen's grandson), Ramiro Sandoval (Burnhams' son); Brian Ruiz (cousin of Ruiz family), Michael Sanchez (Carol Todd's son), Tony Soderquist (nephew of Delaneys), and David Westfall (grandson of Gwen Preston).

**Bible Classes for Everyone**

**GOSPEL OF JOHN:** We'll look at John's Gospel Sundays at 8:15am in Classroom C. Jim Offerdahl facilitates through Easter Sunday.

**JOURNEYS IN MEXICO:** Pastor Steve will share his insights and experiences of Mexico from his years as pastor in Mexico City, beginning April 11 at 8:15am in Classroom C.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** are at 9:30 am in the LFC

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** meets Wednesdays at 5:30pm in the choir room.

**THE GOSPEL OF MARK:** Join Janet West in exploring the Gospel of Mark in a new and unique way as Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones acts out the entire Gospel on Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Library beginning April 7.

**ROMANS:** Paul's letter to the Romans is very different than any of his other letters. Paul addresses many of the important questions that arise when one considers the relationship between God and creation. Pastor Steve will lead the study of Romans on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall through April 8. We'll discuss which of the studies in the Book of Faith series we'll begin after that.

**THE LEARNING COMMITTEE** will meet Thursday, April 8 at 6:30pm. Help us plan classes and/or activities for every age group.

**Council Clips for March:**

These notes are a highlight of items discussed at the most recent council meeting. They are not official minutes. The complete record will be available after they have been approved at the next council meeting. Council meetings and committee meetings are open to anyone interested in attending.

Our treasurer, Tom Riesterer reported that February's income was greater than expenses and we have a good financial start of the year for our church.

**PREPARE THE WAY DAY**

Come Saturday, April 3 at 9:00am to prepare the Sanctuary for Easter. We'll do some cleaning, put up the cross & load it with flowers, and arrange the lilies.

Pastor Steve reported that average attendance for February was comparable to last year. Garage sale for Pastor's Benevolence raised over \$1900! Pastor Steve is meeting with Pastor Ryan Peterson of Grace, Harlingen as his mentor. Men's Ministry (HOMBRES) Sunday was March 14, and included a presentation of Century Club check for Listening Hands. The second quarter dimes ministry proceeds will be given to the HOMBRES for their projects

**Women of the ELCA**

The Rio Grande Valley Women's Spring Gathering was held on February 27th. A Big Bear Hug of thanks to everyone who brought one of the 61 teddy bears for Estrella's House. A total of 178 bears were collected. We were also able to give Estrella's House, which is an advocacy center for abused children in Edinburg, over \$200 from the registration fees. Our Women's Conference went extremely well. The offering collected \$561 for the Southwest Synod Women's Organization to be shared with Comfort House. Thank you to all who participated and especially those who worked to make it a success with 78 attending.

Janet West's commissioning as our AiM will be held on Passion/Palm Sunday, March 28 at the 9:30 am service with a reception to follow the service. This is an exciting day for our church! After Janet's commissioning as AiM, she will continue to be on council, yet not be a voting member. Motion passed by council to not seek a replacement at this time for this council position which ends January, 2011. Janet continues work with Listening Hands as they provide English lessons and a breakfast and food pantry service will begin the last Saturday of the month, including a Bible study and craft project for the children

President Rudy Losoya reported that Bonnie Christian resigned her position as council member. Motion passed to appoint Ralland Harrison to fulfill this term.

Kim Beasley gave a presentation on Cinderella's Closet, a ministry that would accept donations of new or gently used formal dresses and accessories that would in turn be donated to worthy students for their use at proms. Motion passed to accept the proposal for Cinderella's Closet to be a ministry under the oversight of the BAMB board.

LOST will have a fund-raising breakfast on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010.

The number of Sunday services will decrease to two on April 11 and back to one service on May 30. The next regularly scheduled council meeting is April 13 at 6:30 pm.

**UPDATES ON DOUG:** Many of you have asked how Doug Magnussen is doing in san Antonio. Macel has set up a website to keep us all informed. It is [www.caringbridge.org/visit/dougagnussen](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/dougagnussen) . Notes to them may be posted also.



### Jottings from Janet

I pray that you all have a happy and blessed Easter season. I love this time of year as spring arrives with all its promises of new beginnings and new growth. Everywhere we look we see the hand of God.

We are beginning a new chapter in our Listening Hands ministry and thanks to a second grant from the Century Club we will have the necessary funds. We will be having a food pantry on the last Saturday of every month for our families in need. Not just a food pantry but the moms will be encouraged to bring their children and we will serve breakfast to everyone, have a Bible study for the kids and a craft for them to make and take home as well. We are building bridges not just handing out food.

In addition Sam Smith and our SS kids are planting tomatoes for our garden, which we hope to get under way in April as well. Another new beginning will come to life. We will plant with the help of the families receiving food from the food pantry the kinds of things they use most often. The gentleman in charge of the McAllen Community Garden has agreed to consult for us and I am very excited about this project. I spent over an hour with the Poverty Task Force who visited on Saturday afternoon to hear about Listening Hands and they were very pleased with our plans. As you may remember it was the Poverty Task Force that awarded us a grant at last year's Synod Assembly to assist in this ministry.

Ruth Bjork continues with the English classes and currently has 3 or 4 students. They have been very faithful in their attendance and are happy and excited to be learning. Ruth is certainly a blessing to this program.

Our Healing services continue each month for any one in need of healing, whether it is physical, emotional, or spiritual. All are welcome. God is always with us and wants to heal us; all we need to do is ask!

May God's richest blessings enrich you all in this glorious Easter Season.

Janet West, AiM

### BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Linda Frazer
- 3 Brandon Milligan
- 4 Justin Wendel
- 7 Jeanette Smith
- 8 Bill Cowsky
- 8 Zari Liljedahl
- 9 Sylvia Groom
- 12 Barbara McClelland
- 12 Etta Mooney
- 12 Jaret Von Rosenberg
- 13 Jerry Ervine
- 13 Lois Thompto
- 14 Birger Olson
- 15 Daniel Almquist
- 19 Delores Ness
- 20 Ruth Casey
- 27 Hal Case
- 28 Leona Smith
- 29 Sasha Shourds



Enclosed with your April Newsletter you will find a list of the **Ministries & Committees of OSLC** and a **Person Record/Time & Talent form**. Take a moment to notice all the activities our church offers for using our gifts and talents. Please complete the top part so we can see that our records are straight, and then tell us about yourselves and where you would like to serve. Bring them on Sunday, Mar. 21 or return them to the office. Thank you.

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Steven & Tonya Garza
- 17 Rowan & Twila Wiltse



**The Century Club** was established by **Lutheran Men in Mission** to provide a source of funding to congregations within the Southwest Texas Synod to fight hunger in children. Individuals can join the Century Club by donating \$100 annually. Congregations can apply for a grant from the Century Club to support their programs to fight hunger in children. On March 14 HOMBRES member Base Huston presented a check from the Century Club for \$650 to Pastor Steve for Janet West's Listening Hands Ministry. Pastor Steve commissioned all men to be fishers of men.



**HOMBRES** will meet on Thursday, April 8 at 6:30pm in the home of Les Watkins, 112 W. Wisteria, McAllen, 956-687-5588. All men are welcome.

### EASTER LILY AND EASTER CROSS ORDER FORM

I/We \_\_\_\_\_ would like to order \_\_\_\_\_(how many) **Lilies** to decorate the church. Please make checks to Our Savior Lutheran Church and mark them Lilies. Each plant is \$7.00. Send your order slip to the office or place it in the box in the Narthex marked Lilies and Cross Flowers.

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

To the Glory of God ( ) And/or a donation toward **flowers for Easter Cross** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## SHARING AND CARING

Every communion Sunday we collect food for distribution to Las Milpas Colonia near the border on the US side or a Colonia in Reynosa: **April 4-Canned Fruit & Vegetables, and on April 18-Evaporated Milk, Rice & Beans.** Any food is appreciated and needed. Sharing & Caring is a group open to everyone at Our Savior Lutheran Church. We meet once a month to discuss projects and ideas. Our next meeting is Thursday, April 1st, at 6:00pm before the Maundy Thursday Service. Please come if you are interested in helping. In March we will have installed 6 doors, repaired or installed many windows, some siding, and many kitchen donated items. You don't have to have the "know how", just the desire to help. We also work on the garden at Comfort House. Your help in any way is appreciated by our group and the people we serve. Think about it for this fall. It is more rewarding than you can imagine to serve others. **Thank you** to everyone who helped improve the houses in Las Milpas. Sharing & Caring sponsors this work, but we have much help from the HOMBRES.

**PIECEMAKERS** If you would like to help make the quilts to be given to needy folks, we meet every Tuesday from 9:00am to 3:30pm. Bring your lunch. Can't stay for the whole time? Come when you can, leave when you must.



### EASTER BREAKFAST!!

**LOST (Lutherans Our Seeking Truth) is fixing breakfast for us** on Easter Sunday from 9-11 am in the Living Faith Center. Tickets will be on sale for \$5 adult & \$3 child. Come one and all! Funds raised will be used for youth events and the 2012 National Gathering in New Orleans.

**LOST** would like to thank all of you who joined us at the Killer Bees Hockey game for our Intergenerational gathering in March! There were 50 people there from OSLC, which allowed us to be the Fan Tunnel for the Bees as they hit the ice for the 3rd period (where Lauren Milligan actually felt "short"!!!!). We also got 4 ticket vouchers that Diana Herzberg won in a drawing, a ride on the Zamboni which Paul Jensen got the honors or riding after picking the closest number, and a Killer Bee hat signed by the players which the youth decided to keep in the LFC as a reminder of a great time together fellowshiping with all of you!!! Next year we are planning on doing at least one, maybe two games - so we hope more of you can join us in this fun time of fellowship!!!

Due to Easter being the 1st Sunday in April, the youth decided to meet on the 11th and 25th. The 11th we are hoping to go see the new faith based movie, Letters to God. On the 25th we will be meeting at Mr. Gatti's from 4:00-6:30 for pizza, fellowship and fun!

### SOLAR WATER HEATER RETREAT

Ebert Ranch, April 23-25

The caring For God's Creation Task Force of the Southwestern Texas Synod, in partnership with Men In Mission and Cross Trails Ministry, is sponsoring a solar water heater retreat, free of charge and open synod-wide. Come join us! You'll receive hands-on teaching and experience building and installing active and passive solar water heaters for home, offices or churches. We'll also participate in Bible study, nature hikes, and enjoy guest speakers. Register at [www.swtsynod.org](http://www.swtsynod.org)—look for the solar panel icon. Call task force chair Stacey Cone for more information at 512-749-6962.

### OSLC Dime Ministry:

Every dime we receive in change reminds of our tithes to God. The dimes from the 1st quarter of 2010 will be used to buy quilting supplies for the Piecemakers. Save the dimes you receive and bring them on the last Sunday of the month. The Dime Bear in the Narthex is the place to put them. Thank you.

*God is seen, Love is felt; Lives are changed.*

*If you received this newsletter in error, please contact the church office.*

**This newsletter was taken to the Post Office on March 18, 2010.**  
**Address service requested**

**DATED MATERIAL**

Need to send a fax? Call the office.  
www.oursaviorcallen.org  
Email: [osiceca@AOL.COM](mailto:osiceca@AOL.COM)  
Phone: 956-631-6121

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OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
1105 WEST FERN AVE  
MCALLEN, TX 78501

