

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Volume XXIV, Issue 10

October 2009

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Our Savior Lutheran Church Living Faith Center

WORSHIP WITH US

Gospel of John Study 8:15 AM
Sunday School Classes 9:15 AM
Lineage of Grace Study 9:30 AM
Traditional Worship 9:30 AM
Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM
Lutheran Class 12:00 PM



2nd Annual Blessing of the Animals
Saturday, October 3
11:00 a.m. in the Courtyard

Bring your pets for a brief liturgy and individual blessing on the day before the Day of St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 4.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN STAFF

MINISTERS	ALL PEOPLE OF OSLC
PASTOR	STEVEN HERZBERG
OFFICE MANAGER	SUE WADGYMAR
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	STACY GONZALEZ
ORGANIST/PIANIST	LINDA TODD
YOUTH DIRECTOR	DAWN EVERSON
BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR	ESTHER OLSEN
NURSERY ATTENDANT	JILL RIVAS

COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT	LYNNE WATKINS
VICE PRESIDENT	JIM OFFERDAHL
TREASURER	TOM RIESTERER
CONGREGATION SECRETARY	SANDY HUSTON
BORDER MISSIONS	JIM OFFERDAHL
OUTREACH	BRUCE TAYLOR
	WENDY FOWLER
PUBLICITY	SANDY HUSTON
FELLOWSHIP	KATHY SALINAS
LEARNING & YOUTH	DAWN EVERSON
	TERRI JENSEN
PROPERTY	RICK GALES
	JIM OFFERDAHL
STEWARDSHIP	LYNNE WATKINS
WORSHIP & MUSIC	BETTY COOKSLEY
	JANET WEST

Pastor's Notes

Greetings to the congregation,

Rally Sunday has passed and the programs have begun. Thank you to all the volunteers who work to make this progress possible. It is all done in God's name to reflect the Kingdom in which God desires us to live. . . . As you can tell, we are putting a special emphasis on Adult Education this year. We have been lacking in that area in the past. Please avail yourself of the new course offerings that are listed in this newsletter. . . . We will have our 2nd annual Animal Blessing in

the courtyard on Oct. 3rd at 11am. It is placed close to the Day of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4) -- a lover of animals, nature, and God's creation. . . . This month also includes the 20th Anniversary of Comfort House, a ministry we have supported for many years. If you can make it to their Anniversary Celebration on the 16th, call them ahead of time for reservations. . . . Faith Journeying will also begin this month. Note the article in this newsletter. Come share how God has been active in your life on Oct. 15th. . . . Finally, the Covenant Players, a professional acting group, will be with us for both services on

the 25th to present a drama on the Reformation Theme. . . . We will be a busy place throughout the year. Come and See and Participate.

Pastor Steve (home phone 956-631-0273)

Janet's Chat Room

Janet's Chat Room will be open on Monday mornings from 9:30 until Noon. Come and visit with me and share your thoughts, ideas, concerns or suggestions for our church as we go forward in Ministry together. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex to schedule your time. If you would like to speak with me in the evening we can arrange that as well. I am so looking forward to working with you all. God Bless this community of Our Savior. Janet



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Healing: Virgil Mullins, Tim Smith, Branch Zuniga. **Shut-Ins:** Mary Ann Hadan, Gwen Preston. **Family Members:** Carol Bitner, Arlo Buckley, Gerri Craig (Linda Todd's mom), Lorraine Petersen, Bob & Lorna Rainey, Kelli Travers. **Friends of Congregation:** Ashton Arizpe, Joyce Barnhart (friend of Diana Clark), Stephanie Engler, Cassie Hovland, Sally Houston, Wyatt Anthony Kamp, Lamborn family (Ervin's), Howard Lingg, Arlene & Jonathan Luna, Debbie Martin, Karen Montzka (Virg & Rose Mullins' daughter), Bob Phillips, Patty Schneider, Midori Schnose, Lucy Snearly, Ed & Gloria Speck, John Stegall, Mike Taylor, Jon Young. **In military service:** Anthony Carter (friend of Liljedahls), Cody Crumpler (relative of the Todd's), 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 (Linda Todd's grandson), Tony Soderquist (nephew of Delaneys), and David Westfall (grandson of Gwen Preston).

Fellowship News

First of all, a big thanks to everyone who has signed up for coffee host between the 9:30 and 11:00 services. Good job!!

A potluck lunch will be held after the Covenant Players presentation on Oct. 25 at noon. Bring a dish to share.

Sunday Nov. 1 is Mortgage Reduction Sunday for the Living Faith Center. You can help by giving a special offering marked Mortgage Reduction during worship and/or at our **All Saints Day BBQ/Potluck** at 4:00 pm. Our HOMBRES will be cooking up hamburgers & Hotdogs. Be sure to bring your favorite side dish, casserole, or dessert. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Following the BBQ, please join us the 1st Annual "Trunk or Treat" gathering. Check the insert and look for more information on this fun activity for young and old!

Let's all celebrate our faith, with food, fellowship and fun for all!

Your servant in Christ, Kathy Salinas



Bible Classes for Everyone

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN: Pastor Steve will be looking at John's Gospel Sundays at 8:15 am in Classroom C.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES meet at 9:15 am in the LFC.

"A LINEAGE OF GRACE": This adult class meets at 9:30am in Classroom C through Oct. 18. We're on the last book in the series, *Unafraid: Mary*.

ORIENTATION/DISCIPLE CLASS: Find out about OSLC and it's ministries at 12:00p.m. Oct. 4 & 11 we'll touch upon Teachings, Oct. 18 upon Worship and the church year, & Oct. 25 on Expectations of Disciples.

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

"HOW LUTHERANS INTERPRET THE BIBLE": A study of our unique approach to theology, an ideal entry into the Book of Faith, meets Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the Library. Janet West leads.

"A GARDENER, TWO TRAVELERS, & A CHEAT": Pastor Steve leads a study of People of Faith on Adam, Abraham, Sarah & Jacob, Thursdays at 10:00 am in the Library.

THE LEARNING COMMITTEE will meet Thursday, Oct. 1 at 6:30 pm in the Friendship room.

Super Savings Fiesta

Sharing and Caring will be offering the books with coupons valued over \$2,500 for \$5 each. Look for them.

Treasurers Interim Report

July, August, 2009

I normally issue a financial Summary Quarterly. Interim reports become necessary when financial patterns change. Pattern changes have occurred during July and August regarding overall giving as follows.

Income YTD-Thru August

Actual \$195,001

Budgeted \$198,497

Difference \$3,496 Income less than planned by 1.76%

The YTD shortfall in income (compared to plans) was caused by a 15% income drop in August. August totals were:

August, 2009-Income

Actual \$18,131

Budgeted \$21,433

Difference \$3,302 Income less than planned by 15%

The September results may indicate if lower income was a one Month occurrence or a trend.

On the expense side the YTD totals are within the planned levels even though there was an electric bill that exceeded plans by about \$1000 during August.

YTD through August

Actual \$199,001

Budgeted \$200,436

Difference \$1,106 Expense less than plan by .55%

I have asked all Council members to restrict spending to essential items only till we see September income results.

Peace my friends, Tom Riesterer, Treasurer



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN....

I am always in awe of the speed of the passing seasons. It seems like we anticipate a season's arrival for so long, then, surprise, suddenly, it's here. I wonder if this will be true when we see Jesus face to face. Now, we anticipate, but then we will see clearly. Will we be surprised? I have to think we will be and I have to believe the joy and peace will overwhelm us. September brought us some wonderful rain and now we are looking forward to some cooler temperatures in October. We will need those to keep our winter people from melting on the spot when they get back to us. I have talked to some who will be back this month. (Hooray!) We are anxious to have you all back with us soon. We have started our Fall activities and are planning some new things this year. One of the new things we have added are some adult Bible Study classes. We have one scheduled on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and one scheduled on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. These are in addition to our Sunday morning adult class and the women's Bible study classes. Come and join us! Please read the Council Clips and Tom Reisterer's financial update. Our resources have been impacted by this puky (Can I say that?) economy. Any extra financial help you can give will be greatly appreciated. We are diligently trying to curtail our spending to just essential items here at Our Savior as well as at home. I am sure many of you have had to make adjustments to your household budgets as well. ... There has been much talk this month regarding the ELCA assembly meeting and its decisions. These discussions and our prayerful consideration of them will help us reach a consensus that will work for us at Our Savior. And, as it says in 2 Corinthians 5:9, 'So we make it our goal to please Him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.'

With love and peace, Lynne

OSLC Dime Ministry: The dimes from the 3rd quarter will go to Comfort House, a non-profit hospice for those with terminal illnesses. The funds will be used for much needed supplies. So far we've raised \$218. Save your dimes and bring them to church on the last Sunday of every month. God bless you all.

HOMBRES DINNER & MEETING: Thursday, October 8 at 6:30 pm in the home of Curt Liljedahl, 1606 Terrace Drive in Mission, 585-5401. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. All men are welcome.

A Word of Thanks...

With heartfelt thanks for all the kindness and love you have shown our family during this difficult time. We'd like to thank everyone who catered the lunch for Ron's funeral. The Ortenstone Family

COUNCIL CLIPS FOR SEPTEMBER: These notes are a highlight of items discussed at the most recent council meeting. They are not official minutes. The complete record of council minutes 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 our income year to date is \$195,000.00 and our actual expenses year to date are \$199,000.00. This makes our year to date shortage about \$4,000.00. He will be preparing a report for the congregation to be put in the bulletin and newsletter. He encouraged all the committee chairmen to curtail any spending that isn't absolutely necessary. Pastor Steve reported on the meeting he attended in Seguin after the Assembly decisions. He would like to have an Open Forum for any of the congregation that would like more information regarding the decisions that were made at the Assembly. The council agreed. Watch the bulletin for time and date. He informed us that the membership roster has been reviewed and will be updated after receiving responses to all attempted communication. The Council will have four vacancies to fill this year. The nominating committee that was elected at our last Congregation meeting will begin meeting to find possible candidates to fill these positions. Committee chairman were asked to begin work on their preliminary budgets for 2010. Property committee reported completion of the repairs to the south end of the Narthex overhang. Repairs have been made on the leaks in the Sanctuary roof. Repairs have also been made to 9 heads on the sprinkler system. BAMB reported our food contributions on communion Sundays have been declining. Education committee has teachers in place for Rally Sunday. Plans are being made for some adult Bible Study classes. Fall L.O.S.T. activities will include a New Orleans reunion in Seguin and a family gathering. Fellowship and Education committees are working together to plan a LFC mortgage reduction fellowship in November. There was no report from the Outreach committee. Other committee reports were for upcoming meetings and events that will be announced in the bulletin and on the church calendar. The next scheduled council meeting is October 13th. Respectfully submitted, Lynne Watkins

BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Tom Riesterer
- 4 Jesse Herzberg
- 5 Signe Beaty
- 5 Paul Braham
- 5 Harry Gray
- 5 Phyllis Shartle
- 10 John Fraser
- 10 Ann Grimsted
- 10 Les Watkins
- 11 Levi Garcia
- 12 Adrienne Fowler
- 12 Terri Jensen
- 12 Richard Kohler
- 12 Lauren Milligan
- 13 Marlene Hahn
- 13 Janet Young
- 14 Pam Lindholm
- 16 John Hemmer
- 16 Orlyn Johnson
- 16 Kailey Kaufman
- 18 Kermit Andrews
- 19 Bill Emry
- 19 Jason Von Rosenberg
- 20 Haleigh Niittula
- 21 Austin Getschmann
- 22 Sandy Schultz
- 23 Bonita Wells
- 26 Colton Kaufman
- 27 Jan Offerdahl
- 29 Haley Ball
- 29 Javier Fuentes
- 31 Jerome Garcia
- 31 Teri Klein

October

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 David & Carmen Bourbois
- 5 Harry & Betty Gray
- 6 David & Kay Paulson
- 6 Ramiro & Amanda Sandoval
- 10 Jack & Dorothy Wittcamp
- 13 Perry & Helen Ellefson
- 15 Dick & Barb Rush
- 16 John & Signe Beaty
- 21 Bob & Lorna Rainey
- 30 Rick & Ann Gales

WOULD YOU LIKE A FUN JOB FOR SUNDAY MORNING? BE A GREETER! It's a great way to get to know your fellow worshippers. Sign up sheet in on the table in the Narthex. Don't make me call you! Vi Greenwald, 581-7675.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING: We'll meet Tuesday, October 6 at 6:00 p.m.

SHARING AND CARING

ON COMMUNION SUNDAYS we collect items for our outreach programs. On October 4 please bring **CANNED VEGETABLES AND RICE** and on October 18 it's **CANNED TOMATOES AND PINTO BEANS**. You may leave them on the "Our Savior Cares" table in the Narthex. The committee will meet again in October. Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry.

PIECEMAKERS are hard at work every Tuesday from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Bring your own lunch and join us for good fellowship as we make the quilts that warm the needy. Come when you can, leave when you must.

THE SHARING & CARING COMMITTEE will meet Thursday, Oct. 1 at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Join us!!



Jesus Justice Jazz: The Tour features music by ELCA Youth Gathering artists [Agape](#), [LOST AND FOUND](#), and [Rachel Kurtz](#), and powerful youth testimonies. This event promises to be an effective way to re-ignite the hearts of Gathering participants and others that need encouragement on their faith journey. Our LOST group will go to the event at TLU in Seguin on Saturday, Oct. 24 and be back in time for the Covenant Players on Sunday! Remember our regular LOST events on Oct. 4 and Oct. 18 also.



Angel Food Ministry Orders are due by October 11 for pick up on October 24. Thank you!

Our Savior's Healing Ministry

Healing comes to us from God and is a gift freely given to us all because He loves us. We need to have faith, believe healing will come and ask God to send His healing Spirit to us. Everyone needs healing at sometime in their lives. We need healing because of illness, or loss, for separation from family, friends or God Himself. Whatever the cause of the need for healing God can and will heal us if we ask and believe that He will heal.

This year we are adding a new service to our Healing Ministry service. We will continue on the odd numbered months with a service of song, prayer, scripture, communion, and laying on of hands and individual petitions for healing for those who come forward.

On the even numbered month we will begin a new type of healing service that focuses on sharing our Faith Journeys. This will be a more intimate service as we will gather in a circle around the communion table to pray and praise God from whom all healing comes. We will share our Faith stories with one another and will grow closer in community with God.

Join us on **Thursday, October 15th** at 6:30pm for this special service. Faith is the cornerstone of Healing. God is with us in our suffering. Thanks be to God!

OSLC's newest ministry is the "Listening Hands Ministry".

This ministry was born in Pastor Steve's office as we brainstormed to decide how we could reach the people in our neighborhood and their pre-school children. The name of this ministry reminds us that our hearts are connected to our hands as well as our ears. It isn't enough to just hand out food when people come asking for food. We plan to provide a nutritious breakfast for pre-school kids and their moms or dads and teach them about good nutrition. Then we will send them home with a bag of food that is appropriate for that age group.

We will start with a once a month event and increase it if needed. We need volunteers to help us make breakfast, shop for food, and meet and greet the children and their moms or dads. If you would like to be a part of this exciting new ministry please let me know as soon as possible. We would like to have the first breakfast before the end of October. Please sign up in the Narthex on the Listening Hands sign up sheet. I will need your name and your phone number. God's blessings as you consider your participation in this event. Janet

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

This newsletter was taken to the Post Office on September 24, 2009.

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Need to send a fax? Call the office.
www.oursaviorcallen.org
Email: oslceca@AOL.COM
Phone: 956-631-6121

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