

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
359 Leonard Street N
West Salem, WI 54669

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 21

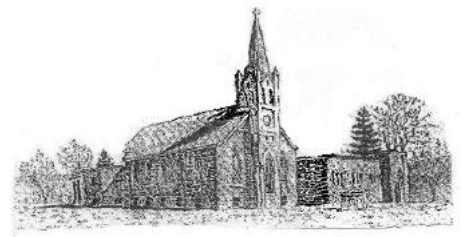
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



June 2015 NEWSLETTER

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEST SALEM, WISCONSIN
JUNE 2015

- ☼ Ordination of Bonnie Klos, June 7
- ☼ Synod Assembly, June 12-14
- ☼ Sugar Creek Campers in June
- ☼ Feed Our Children, Lunch Program
- ☼ Mission Trip & National Youth Gathering
- ☼ Peaches
- ☼ VBS Registration Form



Mission Statement:
To reach toward God
and to each other
for the sake of the world

OUR SAVIOR'S VOICE

Our Savior's Lutheran Church 359 Leonard Street N West Salem, WI 54669
www.oursaviorswestsalem.org 608-786-0030 oslcws@centurytel.net

JUNE 2015

PARSON TO PERSON

If you missed it, you *really* missed it! The first weekend of May, Pastor Ben Morris, the new Lutheran campus pastor at the three college campuses in La Crosse, came and shared the sermon with us. Pastor Ben is young, energetic, and passionate for the good news of Jesus. He's a great fit for campus ministry. Check out our web site to see the video of that service and his sermon.

Worship was great, but even better were the comments I heard afterward. A number of people told me how excited they were to see how Pastor Ben connected with young adults, proclaiming the gospel in a way that it would be heard by a younger generation. And, as he pointed out, his presence here is because five or six congregations, of which Our Savior's is one, stepped forward to make the commitment to campus ministry.

Your giving, your regular envelope offerings allow us to support campus ministry. That is how YOU make a REAL difference!

But not just with campus ministry. The summer lunch program is getting ready to roll again – thanks to generous support from Linda's Bakery, Hansen's, and the dairy coop, as well as the hours put in by lots of volunteers. We did one day a week last year, and it worked. So now...with God at work in our midst...we're tackling two days a week. And how did we do it? People have stepped forward, and as a congregation we have provided staff time (especially starting up last year), and space. We can do that because of

your regular envelope offerings. That is how YOU make a REAL difference!

And then there's Sugar Creek – a camp team will join us for VBS this year, with activities, music, and learning (watch for our float in the June Dairy Days parade). We will also send kids to camp, assisting them with campership support. One of our kids has never been there, and before this past year of confirmation, had never even been to Sunday School. Your regular offerings make that kind of outreach work. That is how YOU make a REAL difference.

Meanwhile, the youth mission trip is in the works...and Salvation Army service projects are happening...and worship is held at nursing homes and Salem Terrace reaching close to 80 per month...and Bible study at Salem Terrace drawing an eager crowd. Your regular offerings make that kind of outreach work. That is how YOU make a REAL difference.

Are you seeing a pattern here? Things happen through Our Saviors. When we gather together, work together, and share together, ministry takes place. That is how YOU make a REAL difference. That is how WE make a REAL difference together. And that happens through our regular offerings.

And not just during the busy nine months of the year. Some of our ministries are clearly summer ministries. They are planned for months, but its summertime when they reach out into the world.

But that also means that ministries for the busy part of the year, like confirmation, Sunday School, choirs and musicians, are all planning now, as summer unfolds, for the ministries they will carry out from September to May.

And still other ministries, like nursing home services, communion to the home bound, hospital calls, and worship as a gathered community, take place now and then – they are year round!

All of these ministries have several things in common...

- They all surround the good news of Jesus, the crucified and risen one.
- They all involve people, using the gifts of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the gospel of Jesus.
- And they are all powered by the sharing of gifts, and especially our financial gifts – our regular offerings!

Yes, it's true. Faith and life are not all about money, but there is no denying that our financial stewardship, our sharing with the dollars that God has entrusted to us, makes our ministry happen, and in that sharing YOU make a REAL difference.

As summer begins, as we get distracted and diverted by warm weather, travel and renewal, sports and recreation, don't forget to keep making a difference. Make a difference every day of your life, in the big and small things you do every day.

But don't forget, too, the difference made at campus ministry, in nursing homes and hospital rooms, through VBS and at Sugar Creek, on a mission trip and in planning confirmation and music for the coming year. Don't forget your financial stewardship, your sharing to make these ministries happen. YOU make a REAL difference!

And finally, don't forget...people who need a difference are depending on you...

Pastor Jon

SERVICE OF ORDINATION

Called by God and moved by the Spirit, Bonnie Blue Klos will be ordained for the ministry of Word & Sacrament in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. God's people of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Port Huron, MI have called Bonnie as their pastor.



You are invited to Bonnie's Service of Ordination on Sunday, June 7, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. at her home congregation of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in West Salem, WI. Whether in body or in spirit, all are welcome. Clergy and other rostered leaders are invited to vest, and everyone is welcome to wear red.

A light reception will follow the service in the church basement.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

Rev. Roger Grow, a former interim pastor, is being honored on June 7 for the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination into the ministry of the Lutheran Church.

He is presently doing his tenth interim, after completing five official calls, at Joy Lutheran Church, 1435 St. Croix Street, Prescott, WI 55021.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

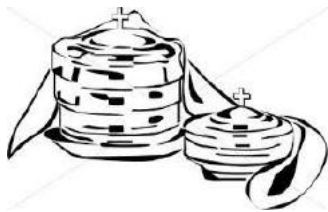


From Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day we use our summer worship schedule.

Saturday at 6 p.m. and

Sunday at 8 a.m. remain the same, but 10:30 a.m. moves to **10 A.M.** Summers are busy, but make time to connect with God's gifts of life in Word, Sacrament, and the Body of Christ gathered together!

WEEKLY HOLY COMMUNION



At its May meeting the Congregation Council spent considerable time discussing weekly Holy Communion. The council noted that there are a number of

people who have appreciated having the Sacrament available at each worship service. It also noted that there are others who are either uncomfortable with weekly communion, or who do not believe that it should be offered that frequently.

The council decided to continue with weekly Holy Communion through the summer months, recognizing that for many schedules keep them from regular worship, and this allows them to have access to the Sacrament when they otherwise might miss that opportunity. It also noted that Holy Communion will only be offered two Sundays in June due to Synod Assembly and the pastors' vacation. The council will continue to seek input from the congregation, and will revisit the issue at its August meeting. We appreciate your patience as we seek to listen to many voices and to discern God's calling. As always, your voice is important – we encourage you to share your thoughts with the pastors.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATING SENIORS!

2015

Congratulations to all of our graduating seniors here at Our Savior's! Your witness of Christ in your life has served as an inspiration to us all. We pray for your continued devotion to your faith as you venture into this world!

A special congratulations to the following seniors that received a scholarship from our Our Savior's Scholarship Program. Each has demonstrated a dedication to their faith here at Our Savior's and in the world around them. Each recipient will receive \$750 in scholarship funds. Funds are made available from the Marking Scholarship, Jim Michelson Scholarship, Doris Michelson Scholarship, and Piper Scholarship funds. May Christ go with you in your continued education!

Allison Skrentny

Leif Ender

Mariah Arneson

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE HOMER MOE SCHOLARSHIP!

Congratulations to Kathy Anderson as the first recipient of the Homer Moe Scholarship! Kathy is a non-traditional student, going back to school for a degree in Supervisory Management.

She is already accepted and working through the program. The Homer Moe Scholarship will fund 50% of her remaining tuition for the next 4 semesters. The Scholarship Committee is proud to present her with a deserving scholarship for her hard work and dedication to her calling in Christ. Congratulations, Kathy!



SYNOD ASSEMBLY



The 2015 La Crosse Area Synod Assembly will be held Friday through Sunday, June 12-14. Parts of the assembly are designed for the public (that includes you), so read on!

Friday the assembly begins at Riverside Park, with a concert by the Christian band, "Lost and Found," at 7 p.m. Come early, bring a picnic meal, and follow the "Walk the Word" trail. Invite friends and family to join you. In the event of rain, the concert will be at Central High School, in La Crosse.

Saturday is the business day, with Corey Sjoquist, Cathryn Bottem, Paul Ranum, Mike Larson, and Bev Bockenhauer, joining Pastor Jon and Pastor Jean as voting members at the assembly.

Sunday, a little more business, then Sunday School and worship – and you are welcome to join us at the Lunda Center, at Western Technical College, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 (or so!)

Worship at Our Savior's will be as usual, with a variety of worship leaders, using materials designed by Bishop Arends. Please keep the assembly in your prayers as it gathers, meets, and returns to homes around the synod.

E-COMMUNICATIONS



Did you know that **110** people receive the newsletter by email instead of a paper copy?

Interested in helping us save paper and postage? One way we can do that is to send you an email each time we post the newsletter on our website. Give us your email address, let us know you don't want a paper copy of the newsletter, and we'll do the rest. You can find the website at www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

MISSION DISCERNMENT UPDATE

Mission Discernment continues! A task force exploring our space issues is connecting with ministries in the congregation to document needs, explore dreams, and consider how our current space can be used to make mission happen.

A second task force is working to identify our values and our vision, listening to a variety of people and groups within the congregation. Both groups hope to complete their work later this year.

Please continue to hold the work of Our Savior's in your prayers, asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we seek to be faithful to our calling to be disciples of Jesus!

WEB SITE AND E-MAIL CHANGES

Check out our web site – www.oursaviorswestsalem.org – to see the new features, especially our worship services. Under the resources tab, go to "video" – links to youtubes are there, usually by Wednesday of each week.

Check, too, the new "news" page – news items will be posted as they become available during the month.

Finally, make note of our new e-mail addresses for staff at Our Savior's. You can find them on the last page of this newsletter. Start using them soon!

DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING	SUNDAY SCHOOL
May 2 & 3	260	\$8,835	49
May 9 & 10	374	\$8,540	58
May 16 & 17	334	\$4,685	49
May 20 & 21	268		

PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms

✝ **Emma Violet Phillips**, daughter of Andrew and Kristin Phillips, was baptized May 17. Her baptismal sponsors are Heather Garbers and Alex Phillips.

✝ **Aubrey James Johnson**, daughter of Garrett and Erin Johnson, was baptized May 23. Her baptismal sponsors are Adam Smith, Andrea Ihle, and Michelle Izdepski.

Funeral Services

✝ We express our sympathy to the family of **Beverly Nelson** who died April 29. Services were held May 5 with burial in Neshonoc Cemetery.

✝ We express our sympathy to the family of **Vicki Olson** who died May 4. Services were held May 8 with burial in Neshonoc Cemetery.



- We thank the **MAILING CREW** for assembling the Newsletter. The members who helped this past month were Connie Blunck, Bev Bockenbauer, Bonnie Ender, Sandra Holthaus, Inger Michael, Judy Morzinski, Carol Noel, Paul and Marilyn Ranum, Mary and Rich Storandt, and Betty Whitlock.

- Thank you to Jim Michelson for the gift to the Endowment Fund in memory of Randy Lokken.

- Thank you to friends and family of Vicki Olson who designated memorial gifts to the Kitchen Fund, Dorcas Sewing Circle, and the Endowment Fund.

- Thank you to Todd Michael for again roto-tilling the garden plots for congregation members. All gardeners appreciate starting off the season with a weed free parcel of ground.

- **BIG NEWS!** The results are in, and it was a big success! Our Lenten suppers this past year raised over \$750 for World Hunger. Thank you to all who provided meals, served and cleaned up, and supported our outreach. What a great win-win...great food, wonderful time together, and ministry provided – all in the name of Jesus!

- **Lawn Mowers ~** After many years of sharing the lawn mowing duties, Bud Ewing, Larry Blunck, and Wayne Affeldt are putting their energy into other ventures. We thank them for the faithful service over the years as they have kept our grounds looking crisp and sharp. Liam Sjoquist takes over this summer – we welcome Liam to the team!

PEACHES

Peaches are coming! Look for peach order forms in the Gathering Area and your mailbox the beginning of June. The BEST Georgia peaches are picked in July, so our delivery will come the week of July 27! Peaches



are the #1 fundraiser for our youth programing. Peach sales make it possible for programs such as the summer mission trips, youth group, and after school program. Each program has a distinct impact on the faith of our youth. Thank you for making this programing possible!

RECENT BOOK DONATIONS IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY



CHILDREN'S:

Hedlin: Questions Kids Ask About God

FICTION:

Connealy: Over the Edge

Higgs: Thorn in My Heart

Kingsbury: Redemption

Kingsbury: Remember

Kingsbury: Rejoice

Martin: Chasing Fireflies

Monninger: The World as We Know It

Pella: Bachelor's Puzzle

Peterson: Hope Rekindled

VanLiere: The Angels of Morgan Hill

Wick: Cassidy

Wick: Sabrina

Wick: Jessie

Woodsmall: The Harvest of Grace

NONFICTION:

Eggerichs: Love & Respect in the Family

Colopy: 99 Ways to Fight Worry & Stress

SIMPLY GIVING

Simply Giving works! Simply Giving is an automatic payment program that allows you to support the work of Jesus through Our Saviors, easily and automatically, at the amount and timing that works for you. There is no charge to you, and it is a safe and efficient way for you to make your contributions. For more information see Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean, or speak with Kay in the church office. Setting up Simply Giving is easy, and you can change your contributions or end your participation at any time. Check it out!

FEED OUR CHILDREN-WEST SALEM



The Summer Lunch program is underway again this summer! Last year we served on average 85 students a week with a nutritious lunch option. This

year, our corporate sponsors have stepped up in a huge way to provide enough core meal components to serve 2 lunches a week. We will also be adding a new pick-up location in the Anderson Mobile Home Park. We are so grateful for the generosity provided to make this program happen! You can get involved in the summer lunch program in the following ways:

Volunteer: We need volunteers to help package, transport, and serve the lunches. See the sign up in the Gathering Area!

Food Donations: We have a new list of items we will need to fill in our lunches. See the list in the Gathering Area and bring it along when you do your family's grocery shopping. All donations accepted!

Monetary Donations: Each week we supplement the donated items to complete the lunches with money from cash donations. You can write checks out to Our Savior's with "Summer Lunch" in the memo line. Drop it in the offering plate on Sunday, or turn it into the office anytime.

Thank you so much for your incredible generosity to make this program happen!

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES

The new pictorial directories are here. If you did NOT have your picture taken, but would like a directory, we have some available. A \$3 donation to world hunger and it's all yours! See Kay in the office or one of the pastors.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

SALVATION ARMY

God's work, our hands. It is stewardship in a nutshell. Here at Our Savior's we seek to provide ways for our members to live out their faith. One way to live out our faith is in service to the community we live in. Here in the La Crosse area, 14% of our population is living below the federal poverty line and 41% of households receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits.* 37% of households receiving food assistance have at least one working adult.*

Food stability continues to be a problem for our local neighbors. The Salvation Army of La Crosse helps to meet those needs through daily meals at the Salvation Army Shelter in downtown La Crosse. Every day they serve breakfast to the shelter residents and lunch and dinner to all community members needing a meal that night.

Every second Friday of the month, Our Savior's provides the volunteers necessary to serve the meal that evening. You can join us by signing up at the youth board in the Gathering Area or contacting Dana.

The time and effort given to support these programs is not only rewarding, but necessary to meet the needs of our community. As you serve, you will come to find that the homeless and food challenged population of La Crosse is a widely diverse group. People from all ethnic and religious backgrounds, ages ranging from small children to young adults and seniors. Putting warm food on their plate with a smile will change the way you see poverty in our community, and allow God's love to show through your work. We all meet challenges at different points in our life. It is our job as good stewards of God's gifts, to serve those

experiencing their challenging season of life with love. Serving at the Salvation Army is one

way to show God's love to our community. God's work, our hands.

*Wisconsin Department of Health Services



SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP AND NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

July 11th-19th
a group of 13
will travel to
Atlanta, GA to
work with



Team Effort serving the homeless population of Atlanta. They will work on food distribution routes, shelters, and basic home repairs. This is a first time mission experience for many and it proves to be life changing as we continue our preparations. Please keep this group in your thoughts and prayers as they experience the amazing gift of loving others through their work.

July 15th-19th three students from OSLC will travel with Holmen Lutheran to the National Youth Gathering in Detroit, MI! They will encounter a life changing experience through music by Royal Tailor and incredible speakers. The theme for the NYG is "Rise Up Together." Our students will "Raise Up Detroit" as they seek to grow deeper in their relationship with Christ and serve Detroit along the way. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they represent OSLC in Detroit!

ZAMBIA WATER PROJECT

In April, Al and Jess Bateman were able to visit Mtali-Manja, the town where the well, funded by Our Savior's, was drilled. They have sent a letter to the congregation detailing the process of drilling the well and their day in the town. The full letter can be found on the kiosk, along with some pictures.



Here are a few excerpts from their letter:

"We started the day by meeting with a water282 employee who went with us to film a 'thank you' video for OSLC. We then picked up Mr. Phiri one of the members of the drilling crew, to be our navigator: in an area with virtually no road signs, few straight roads, few paved roads and no maps, it is difficult to find a small village if you haven't been there before!"

"We went directly to the well, and found a group of people using it – they were happy to show us that it was working, and so thankful that they had a nearby source of clean water! The well was drilled on December 16, 2014. There were buckets of many shapes and sizes, people sang and danced as they pumped water... We asked the villagers what has changed since the well was drilled. The first thing they said was that there is less diarrhea in the village overall and particularly among children."

"To facilitate two-way sharing of cultures, we brought along a laptop with some pictures of the OSLC building and pictures of us presenting to OSLC members about a well in Zambia, from August 2014. They were really interested in seeing the pictures of Our Savior's and in hearing that most of the people in West Salem are "mazungus" (white people)!

"We would like to thank everyone at OSLC who participated in the fundraising for this project. Our day-to-day work with our non-governmental organizations (CRS and CIDRZ) in Zambia has been rewarding, but we know that providing clean water to Mtali-Manja will

stand as one of the best contributions we participated in during our time in Zambia. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for showing your generosity and Christian love for others."

When we receive the video, it will be shown during church services on a weekend this summer. On another note, we hear that our original village match, Chazwe, will be the first well to be drilled this year!

CIRCLE NEWS

RUTH CIRCLE

Monday, June 22, 9 a.m.

Leader: Ilene Pavelko

Hostess: Carol Stekel

SUMMER COFFEE SERVING SCHEDULE

Ruth Circle June 7, 14, 21

Miriam Circle June 28

Rebecca Circle July 5, 12, 19, 26

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY



Wednesday morning Bible study continues to explore the Gospel of Mark. We meet Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Library, and YOU are invited! See Pastor Jon for more information.

VACATION

Pastor Jean and Pastor Jon will be on vacation from June 24 through July 3. Worship on June 27 & 28 will be led by Cathryn Bottem and the SOS Band. Come and renew your soul, as we get ready for July and the dog days of summer! During the pastor's absence if you have need of pastoral care, please contact the office.

NURSING HOME SERVICES

Outreach at area nursing and housing facilities continues in June. Pastor Jon and Pastor Jean will lead worship services on Thursday, June 18:

10:30 a.m. – Lakeview
1:00 p.m. – Salem Terrace
2:45 p.m. – Mulder's

You can be a part of this ministry – your presence adds to the Body of Christ gathered at that place and at that time. See Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean for more information.

TOP TEN



After enjoying the choir's "top ten" in mid-May, June is the congregation's turn. The results of the hymn survey taken in May will be reported in the July newsletter, but FIRST you will get to sing (with gusto) the top ten hymns as part of a hymn sing on June 20 & 21. Come and

enjoy good music, and relish the message of God's love and grace that the hymns share with us.

WEST SALEM BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, June 15
12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Presbyterian Church –
625 West Franklin Street

To schedule an appointment,
call Connie at
786-0684



PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR...

- With July 4th on a Saturday, we will NOT have worship that evening. Celebrate the freedoms we cherish, and then join us on Sunday, July 5 to give thanks to God for all we have!
- Pastor Vern Skarstad, our former visitation pastor, celebrates 50 years of ordained ministry this July, and Bells Coulee Lutheran Church welcomes you to share in that celebration on Sunday, July 19, from 1- 3 p.m. out at Bells Coulee. No gifts – just come and rejoice in God's work through Pastor Vern!



EMAIL FROM PASTOR JON



Pastor Jon sends out occasional emails with announcements about happenings at Our Savior's, and a weekly reflection on God, life and faith. If you are not already on the email list from him, and would like to be, please send Pastor Jon your email address, or speak with him. We will never sell your email address, and if you want to get off the list, we'll do that too!

CONGREGATION COUNCIL REVIEW

The Congregation Council met on Monday, May 11, with President Char Buelow presiding. At this meeting the council:

- Heard about the ministry of the Food Pantry, and toured the Food Pantry room.
- Reviewed and approved the April minutes, financial reports, and pastors' reports, and the minutes of the special meeting of May 5.
- Received from the Executive Committee and approved the defining of committee roles and procedures.
- Designated signers for the youth financial account.
- Received an update on property changes, including the sale of Johnson North.
- Tabled action on revisions to the Emergency Procedures to the June meeting.
- Continued its ongoing conversation on same gender marriages.
- Heard an update on Bonnie Klos' ordination plans.
- Received Kristen Phillips and her daughter as members, and approved the 2015 confirmands as voting members.
- Received a recommendation from the Worship Committee to continue weekly communion. Decided to continue communion weekly through Labor Day, and to revisit the issue later in the summer.
- Decided to not meet in July unless business arises that needs to be addressed.

The council meets again on Monday, June 8. See Char Buelow or one of the pastors if you have any questions.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

The Congregation Council met in a special session on Tuesday, May 5, with President Char Buelow presiding. The council met to consider an offer to purchase the Johnson North property. After moving to Executive Session, the council returned to approve a counteroffer and to direct the congregation's attorney to prepare the appropriate documents.

PROPERTY UPDATES

As we reported last month, the purchase of the Mill Street property is now complete. The council is now in the process of selling "Johnson North," the home next to the parsonage. We received an offer on the home in early May. A counteroffer was accepted by the buyer, and we hope that the sale will be complete by the beginning of June. We expect the sale price will be greater than the purchase price of the Mill Street property.

Special thanks to Kathy Schmidt, serving as our attorney in this matter, and Mike Alumbaugh, for showing the property and doing the legwork for us with the buyer and the attorney.

HOSPITAL REMINDER

Being hospitalized is never easy. Our goal is to visit each member during this difficult time.



At Gundersen, please be sure to alert the hospital of your church affiliation when they ask and they will then release your name to us when we call. At Mayo Clinic Health System/Franciscan Healthcare, it is important that you or a family member contact the church office to notify us of your stay. Mayo is no longer able to give out that information.

Senior Ministries

We have what you need ...

When you're at church ... feel free to ask an Usher for ...



- ❖ a **large print bulletin** for use during worship – everything is included in the bulletin, no need to fumble with heavy hymnals

- ❖ a **hearing assist device** available for use during worship



For those who can't get to church ...

- ❖ we have large print copies of the daily devotional **"Christ In Our Home"** that comes out quarterly
- ❖ a **DVD** is made each week of the **Sunday worship service** and we have a DVD player to lend out with the DVD



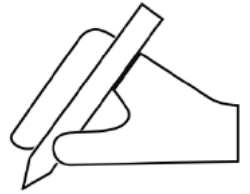
If you would like to receive either of these, please call the church office and let us know.
We are happy to deliver!



**Bible Study @
Salem Terrace
Monday, June 8 at
9:30 AM**

Before we break for the summer, we will partake in a tasty breakfast, followed by a rousing game of Bible Trivia! Come with your thinking caps on ... *prizes for the winning team!* We meet in the small kitchenette room off the parking lot between the two buildings.

In case you didn't know ... we send cards to two shut-ins each week to let them know we are thinking of them and praying for them. We invite all of our members and friends to stop by the "Card Ministry" table (located outside of the Church Office) each weekend when you are at worship to sign the cards for that particular week's shut-ins. The thoughts and prayers expressed on the cards are much more meaningful when those gathered in community are the ones signing them.



CAN YOU HELP?



Lakeview Health Center in West Salem is currently in need of volunteers for the following activities; assist with outings (i.e. shopping, dining out,

rummage sales), evening lounge program on week nights (5 p.m. - 7 p.m.), assisting people to/from Sunday Church Service in our Chapel followed by Bingo (1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.). We are also in need of volunteers in various other areas and times you may have available. Please contact Luann Rose at Lakeview for more information.

Card Ministry

**Senior
Spotlight!
Celebrating
our Resident Theologians...**



Disciples come in all shapes and sizes. We have much to learn from our “elders” as these resident theologians have insights and stories to share. Gertrude Johnson graciously allowed us to share a glimpse into her story. Gertie, 91 years old, was the first resident at Mill Street Manor – she has a picture of herself and two others digging the first shovels of dirt for the building construction.

Gertie’s advice to new disciples of Jesus ...

Pray before you do things and feel God’s presence. Gertie has a “prayer” she says every time she gets in the car to drive someplace ... the gist of the prayer talks about *placing the white light of Christ’s protection all around this car, so that it not harm anyone or anything, and so nothing can harm it or the contents inside.* She believes the prayer works and says it’s a blessing to get back home safely.

Gertie’s favorite Bible passage ... because

... Psalm 23 ... she’s not sure why it’s her favorite, it just is. Her wish is for the hope that it brings.

Gertie’s earliest memories of church ...

Gertie was raised in a strict Roman Catholic home in Iowa and went to Catholic school as a child through 8th grade (that’s as far as the school went). Gertie’s grandfather was a devout Catholic, and because she was married by a justice of the peace, Grandpa made her get married again, but this time in the church – he didn’t think it counted by the justice of the peace. Unfortunately that marriage ended in divorce, so in 1949 Gertie joined the Lutheran Church when she married her second husband thinking that would be better. Unfortunately that didn’t work either; but Gertie has remained a Lutheran ever since.

Gertie lived in La Crescent for 60 years, where she raised her family, sold Amway, and attended Prince of Peace Lutheran Church; she has been in West Salem for 7 years. Gertie enjoyed square dancing in her “younger days,” retiring from that 15 years ago, but she still enjoys dancing occasionally.

Thank you for sharing, Gertrude! Please keep Gertie and all of our “senior” members (and “resident theologians”) in your prayers.

SCHOOL KIT PROJECT

Please think of our Lutheran World Relief school kit project as you see items on sale this summer. Each school kit contains the following:



- 4-70 sheet notebooks (no loose leaf paper)
- 1-30 cm ruler
- 1-pencil sharpener
- 1-blunt scissors
- 5-unsharpened pencils
- 5-blue or black ball point pens (no gel ink)
- 1-box 24 crayons
- 1-2½ inch eraser

More details will be forthcoming in the July newsletter. Thank you!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Remember that if you are a Thrivent member you may have “Thrivent Choice Dollars” to direct. Our Savior’s is one of the many potential recipients of your choice dollars, but your direction needs to be made each time. See Thrivent’s web site for more information or stop by the office and we will help you out.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School is taking a break for the summer months of June, July, and August. We had a lively May as we did some learning the first week, then we made flower pots and cards for our Mom's on Mother's Day, and we celebrated the last day of Sunday School with an ice cream social ... and of course we sang ... and sang ... and sang some more! The kids can really raise the roof as they share the gospel in song!

On our last day of Sunday School, we celebrated with Jesse Jothén (PreK), Lydia Jothén (1), and Jon Iliff (3) who had perfect attendance for the whole year! **Wow ... way to go!** We also celebrated Eddie Schmitz (5) who only missed one week ... and Kaleb Kendhammer (PreK), Brianna Mathison (K), and Elliot Sjoquist (3) who only missed two weeks! The fourth grade class of Mrs. Schmitz & Ms. Larson were recognized for having the most weeks of "near perfect" attendance at 6. And, the third grade class of Ms. Kane & Ms. Schmidt collected the most offerings for our God's Global Barnyard (\$240.60). That class had chosen to use their offerings to buy pigs for the barnyard and they were able to get eight pigs! *Now that's a lot of bacon!*

Have a safe, fun summer ... see you in church ... and mark your calendars for Rally Day, September 13!

Check this out!

Last year our Sunday School offerings were used for the ELCA Malaria Campaign – buying nets to protect the children (and adults) from the mosquitos that carry the deadly disease.



Dear Our Savior's Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your participation in the ELCA's Malaria Campaign. We are excited to celebrate the campaign's success with you at our synod assembly on June 13. Your generous support has made a difference in countless lives in our companion churches in Africa. Together we have surpassed our synod's goal of \$150,000 over the past three years, and with the whole church have almost reached our goal of \$15 million. Thanks be to God!

La Crosse Area Synod Malaria Campaign Team

SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP NEWS



The following youth will be attending Sugar Creek Bible Camp in June:

June 21—26

Ben Bakkum
Kitara Curran
Madison Hermann
Elliott Sjoquist

June 28—July 3

Emma Fortier
Reice Kammel
Kenzie Murphy

"Growing in Grace"

Vacation Bible School

**Sugar Creek Bible
Camp Presents**

August 10-13

Children entering grades 1-5:

9 AM - 3 PM

\$25/child or \$50/family*

Children entering

Pre-K & Kindergarten:

9 AM - Noon

\$10/child or \$15/family*



Join us for Bible stories, singing, crafts, games, snacks, service, and more. Bring a sack lunch.

Counselors from Sugar Creek Bible Camp will be here at Our Savior's to lead us for a week of Vacation Bible School. Because we are working with Sugar Creek, the registration forms are more involved and thus will need to be completed ahead of time. Registration forms are available in the newsletter and on the website (www.oursaviorswestsalem.org).

Completed registration forms are due to the church office by July 12th.

*Note that scholarships are available if the cost would be a challenge for a family. Speak with Pastor Jean for assistance.

Ways you can help ...

- ❖ We will be looking for people to house our three Sugar Creek counselors either for all four nights (Sunday, August 9 – Wednesday, August 12) or split nights. We need to provide meals for the counselors, a place to sleep, and maybe a fun activity.
- ❖ Volunteers to assist with the activities each day.
- ❖ Adults and youth to help with the morning camp for the youngest ones.
- ❖ People to provide the food for the snacks or monetary donations to cover the cost of the snacks.





Offerings shared ... lives saved ...

Check out the bulletin board outside of Pastor Jean's office to see

our final barnyard. The Sunday School children raised close to \$1300 with their offerings which allowed them to get: 230 chicks (\$1 each), 5 hives of Honeybees (\$20 each), 13 pigs (\$30 each), 4 goats (\$50 each), 2 sheep (\$125 each), and little bit more. Think of all of the people that can be fed and lives saved with your offerings!

Thanks ... and ...

We thank the members of the congregation who also shared their offerings at Christmas and during Lent to help buy cows for our barnyard. Each cow costs \$500 and we are **\$130 short** of getting 3 cows!! If anyone wants to throw in a couple more dollars between now and the end of June, maybe we can get that last cow!

Eggs, milk, and meat from farm animals will provide enough food to eat and sell on the market, helping a family **escape the cycle of hunger and poverty — for good.**

Hungry Jar Offering for June Feed Our Children Summer Lunch Program

Mrs. Schmitz' & Ms. Larson's 4th Grade Sunday School class has chosen Our Savior's Feed Our Children Summer Lunch Program as the recipient of the Hungry Jar offerings for June. Feed Our Children is the summer lunch program that provides free meals for children on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Village Park, Pineview Park, and Anderson Mobile Home Park. (You will note we have added a second day and a third location this year!) Our Savior's seeks to meet the nutritional needs of students during the summer months. The meals will contain food from each of the food groups detailed in the National School Lunch Program. Lunches will be served from June 9th through August 27th. Our Hungry Jar offerings will help purchase the food necessary to feed the children. *P.S. If you are interested in helping with those meals, please speak with Dana.*



June Dairy Days Float

Come join us ...

We are looking for families and young people to walk along the parade route with our float on Saturday, June 6th and pass out fliers promoting this year's "Growing in Grace" Vacation Bible School. We had a great time last year! Talk to Pastor Jean if you can join us!



JUNE

ACOLYTES

June 6	6 p.m.	Connor Strainis
7	8 a.m.	Samantha Thompson
	10 a.m.	Stephanie Tiber
June 13	6 p.m.	Jared Witte
14	8 a.m.	Cody Anderson
	10 a.m.	Allison Arentz
June 20	6 p.m.	Cassidy Bores
21	8 a.m.	Hannah Brenengen
	10 a.m.	Aidan Donahue
June 27	6 p.m.	Mahlivanh Fleckenstein
28	8 a.m.	Zach Friell
	10 a.m.	Kara Gavaghan

BASKET HOLDERS

June 7	8 a.m.	Connor Koepp
	10 a.m.	Zane Langrehr
June 21	8 a.m.	Wesley Leren
	10 a.m.	Madisen Mueller

ALTAR GUILD Karen Rich

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

June 6	6 p.m.	Jamie Fortier
7	8 a.m.	Bill and Dori Jensen
	10 a.m.	Jim Quamme
		Steve Ahles
June 20	6 p.m.	Karen DeSchepper
21	8 a.m.	Eric and Lynette Ender
	10 a.m.	Rich Clements
		Wendy Kane

HOME COMMUNION SERVERS

June 6 & 7	Pam Gresens
June 20 & 21	Iliff Family

READERS

June 6	6 p.m.	Karen DeSchepper
7	8 a.m.	Eric Iliff
	10 a.m.	Melissa Haldeman

June 13	6 p.m.	Lee Fernstaedt
14	8 a.m.	Jeanne Peterson
	10 a.m.	

June 20	6 p.m.	Ken Spraetz
21	8 a.m.	Char Buelow
	10 a.m.	Corey Sjoquist

June 27	6 p.m.	Angie Hemker
28	8 a.m.	Sharon Olson
	10 a.m.	Carla Burkhardt

OFFERINGS

June 6	6 p.m.	Marjorie Anderson
7	8 a.m.	Carlie Burkhardt
	10 a.m.	Jim Quamme

June 13	6 p.m.	Ken Spraetz
14	8 a.m.	Mike Alumbaugh
	10 a.m.	Sandi Stavlo

June 20	6 p.m.	Tracey Beckley
21	8 a.m.	Char Buelow
	10 a.m.	Rich Clements

June 27	6 p.m.	Steve Ahles
28	8 a.m.	Wendy Kane
	10 a.m.	Vernetta Moe

SATURDAY USHERS

		6 p.m.
June	6	Kurt and Heidi Strainis
	13	Jason Witte Family
	20	Tony and Ami Fullwood
	27	Steve and Sue Ahles

USHERS	8 a.m.	10:30/10 a.m.
June	Eric Ender	Todd Michael
	Leif Ender	Everett Michael
	Scott Friell	Corey Sjoquist
	Zach Friell	Liam Sjoquist

Web Site: oursaviorswestsalem.org

OUR SAVIOR'S STAFF

Pastor Jonathan Schmidt, Senior Pastor	612-0217	Email: Jon_oslc@centurytel.net pastorjon@oursaviorswestsalem.org
Pastor Jean Schmidt, Associate Pastor	612-0217	Email: Jean_oslc@centurytel.net pastorjean@oursaviorswestsalem.org
Kay Niemeier, Parish Secretary	Church Office: 786-0030	Fax Number: 786-0951
	Email: oslcws@centurytel.net office@oursaviorswestsalem.org	
Dana Roemhild, Director of Youth & Family Ministry	608-280-1200	
	Email: oursaviorsyouthws@gmail.com youth@oursaviorswestsalem.org	
Jill Iliff, Treasurer	Email: treasurer@oursaviorswestsalem.org	
Linda Berg, Organist	Email: linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org	
Eric Sorenson, Senior Choir Director		
Dave Nelson, Custodian	608-780-3946	
Karen DeSchepper, Counter		