

THE CROSSROADS



Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 550 Lincoln Drive, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590
oslc-elca.org 608-837-3111

Soon it will be Easter Day and we will come together as God's people and celebrate! We will celebrate the Light that shines in the darkness of our world, the resurrected Savior. We will sing and dance and shout, "Christ is risen from the dead! No more is death to be feared! Praise God! Alleluia!"

On Easter morn, the sun will dance in the sky. The earth will awaken in joy for the Savior has been released from its grip. Death cannot and will not be victorious. God has raised Jesus from the dead.

On April 12, we will come together to celebrate Christ's victory over death. In that victory we received new life. This victorious God gifted us with a gift beyond our wildest dreams, beyond our wildest imaginations.

In our Baptism, we are connected to Jesus' death and resurrection. Through Baptism, the old Adam and old Eve dies and rises to a new life. We drown in the waters of Baptism and emerge from the water a new person in Jesus. And on Easter morn, we will praise the God who defeated death. We will thank God for God's amazing love. We will celebrate our new life in Christ as God's forgiven people.

We will celebrate for 50 days throughout the Easter season. We will sing for joy and celebrate the gifts we have been given. We will celebrate the signs of new life around us. How might you celebrate at home, with your family, with an eye for the new life around you? Here are some ideas to try:

1. Go to the park or zoo and look for signs of new life within creation: buds, larvae, young animals, seedlings. Think about, discuss, or draw a picture that shows similarities between this newness and your own new life in Christ.
2. Pray for those whose lives and/or commitments express newness: newborns, new Christians, new parents, new neighbors, the newly married or employed. Send a note, an email, text, or visit to let them know they are in your prayers.
3. Reassess your involvement within our congregation. What needs have emerged in our community? Are your gifts better utilized in a new way? Find new connections to answer these inquiries.
4. Read the story of the disciples walking the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) and take a walk in nature yourself. Find new signs of spring. Find a body of water and visit it. Think about the merciful waters that poured over you in baptism and made you a new creation. Get wet!

Enjoy your new life!

Pastor Julie A. Krahn

Keeping the Mission Strong

The commercials call these “uncertain” economic times. That may be true, yet those of us who live in faith know that all times are uncertain. What is certain is our salvation through Jesus Christ. Our redemption has been bought and paid for by the suffering and death of Jesus.

The way we continue to support our mission reflects our faith in the certainty of mercy. The economy has hit some folks hard with layoffs, cutbacks, and fear which rightly shows up in their offerings. So others will need to step up to fill the void so that there is no slack in the mission.

In February we celebrated an income of about \$43,000 and expenditures of \$54,000. That gave us a negative cash flow for the month of \$11,000. For the year we are down by \$16,000.

Our debt reduction picture shows an income of \$8,500 for February with an expenditure of \$13,300.



Mark your calendars now for the delicious Easter Breakfast Sunday, April 12. We will be serving from 7:15am until 9:30am. Egg strata, fresh fruit, toast, bagels, juice, coffee and more will be served!

Senior Choir Presents *At the Ninth Hour*

On Palm/Passion Sunday, April 5, the Senior Choir, instrumentalists, and narrators will present *At the Ninth Hour* by Allen Pote and Tom Long. This work captures the last week of Christ's life on earth that is revealed in the Gospel of Mark. It is a story that begins with exuberant celebration as Jesus triumphantly enters Jerusalem, and will take you on a journey to the depths of pain and betrayal leading to the Crucifixion. This moving musical work will be part of our worship at 8:00 and 10:30am.



April is Easter

The first week of April journeys through Jerusalem and on to Calvary. Then, on April 12 the gloom of death fades quickly into the light of Christ's resurrection. You are invited to experience the fullness of Holy Week and the first Sundays of Easter with us.

Holy Week -

Passion Sunday, April 5: Come and experience the Passion story in the music of our Senior Choir as they present *At The Ninth Hour* at 8:00 & 10:30am. The Saturday night service will appreciate the Passion according to Mark.

Maundy Thursday, April 9: Noon and 7pm is our witness to the Last Supper, the command to serve one another, and Jesus arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. Can you hear the Lord calling you to come with him to pray?

Good Friday, April 10: Noon and 7pm today is the bleak realization that the crucifixion cannot be denied. Yet, in the harshness of Jesus' death, we know our sin is dying, too. Walk the way of the cross and meditate upon the cost of salvation.

The Resurrection of our Lord, April 12: The journey is over. The tomb is empty. With a 6:30am sunrise service added to our regular schedule, we come and fall down to worship the Lord of Life.

Second Sunday of Easter, April 19: Welcome this year's confirmation class of students to the pulpit for their final assignment of preaching.

Third Sunday of Easter, April 26: We see the disciples upon seeing the resurrected Jesus for themselves move from fear to doubt to wonder to witnessing. Together we will ask, "How might we witness today?"

Affirmation of Faith, April 26 noon: All are welcome to witness this time of affirming faith for students who have completed their confirmation journey.

The final Soup Supper will be on Wednesday, April 1. Soup is served from 5:00-6:30pm. All are invited!

Taste of Our Savior's

Vendors are needed for the Annual Taste of Our Savior's. It will be held on Sunday, April 19 from 11:45-2:00pm. A sign up board is in the narthex for you to add your name. We are looking for appetizers, entrees, or desserts. This would be a great chance to let everyone try the prize winning recipe you submitted for the Our Savior's cookbook or a recipe you love but want to keep secret. Of course taste testers are also needed so plan on attending. A percentage of the proceeds will go to the Sun Prairie Food Pantry. If you have any questions regarding being a vendor, please contact either Tom Hanser 242-8819 or Kay Bailey 837-2816.



50th Anniversary Cookbook

The last day to get your recipe in for the anniversary cookbook is April 19. We would love to see a recipe or two from each family in our congregation. If you have not done so, please submit your recipes on the forms located on the Ministry Opportunity Table. If you have any questions please contact Kay Bailey at 837-2816.

Summer Stretch 2009

Summer Stretch is a summer mission awareness program for youth completing 6th and 7th grades. Starting June 17, on Wednesdays during a 5 week stretch, youth will be responsible for Christ-centered ministry at one of over 20 different mission sites throughout Dane County. After completing a morning of hands-on mission work, an afternoon of fun awaits the youth and adult chaperones (mini-golf at Vitense, Duck riding in the Dells, etc.) The program culminates on the fifth week with a day-long fun activity at Mt. Olympus. Lunch is provided by the participating churches. T-shirts and transportation are included in the registration fee. Registration forms will be mailed during the month of April. Registration deadline is May 21. This wildly popular program fills quickly so register early. See Brett with questions.



Annual Retreat

The Youth and Family board is once again sponsoring an annual retreat. Sign up on the youth table if you are interested. This year's retreat will be at Bethel Horizons camp on May 8-9. This adult retreat will feature time for respite, reflection, devotion, fellowship, and updating the Youth and Family long-range plan. The cost of \$30 includes lodging and activities; we will have a sign up for food. Couples are encouraged to attend, but anyone is welcome. You do not have to be active in the Youth and Family Board to attend. Come, relax and unplug and listen to the still small voice of God. Talk to Brett if you are interested in this popular event.

Our Savior's Turns 50!

Our Savior's kicks off its 50th anniversary celebration on the weekend of May 10 & 11 with Bishop Burnside of the South-Central Synod as our guest preacher. This date coincides with the date fifty years ago that Our Savior's was officially brought in to the then Evangelical Lutheran Church at its district convention. Charter members will be honored at worship on Sunday, May 11.

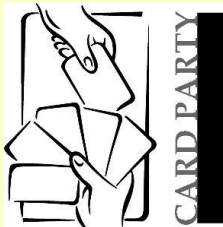
Any charter member who is willing to share stories of the beginning years of Our Savior's will have the opportunity to do so at Temple talks during the month of May, if you are a charter member and are interested please contact Muriel Arms or Pastor B.

On Sunday, May 31 a church picnic is planned at Sheehan Park from noon-3pm. Watch for details on the picnic and a full schedule of anniversary events.

Time and Talents

Enclosed in this newsletter is a sheet that highlights our immediate needs for volunteer opportunities at Our Savior's. We ask that you fill out the sheet initialing next to the areas you are willing to assist with and return it to the Ministry Opportunity Table where you will find a complete list of our needs.





Volunteer Appreciation

Thursday, May 7 at 6:00pm will be the annual Volunteer Dinner here at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. A fun night is being planned by the staff. We would love to see all of our wonderful volunteers there so we can express in a small way our thanks for all you do. A sign up sheet will be out on the Ministry Opportunity Table in April.

Family Movie Night

The Youth and Family Resource Team would like to invite you and your family to another movie night at Our Savior's. On Friday, April 17 from 6-8 pm we will be showing the movie *Ratatouille* in our Mission Matinee. Come for an evening of entertainment, popcorn, and family fun. Please sign up on the Family Resource bulletin board by the library. See Brett with questions.

Upcoming New Member Class

Our next new member class is set for Mondays at 6:00pm beginning Monday, May 11 and continuing May 18, June 1 and June 8 with new member reception on Sunday, June 14. If you are interested in becoming a member of OSLC please contact Pastor Krahn, 837-3111 or pastorkrahn@oslc-elca.org



National Youth Gathering Meeting Reminder

The youth attending the National Youth Gathering will be meeting at the church on Saturday, April 25 at 10am. We will discuss this month's topic for the gathering, finances, and the final fund-raiser. RSVP to Brett.

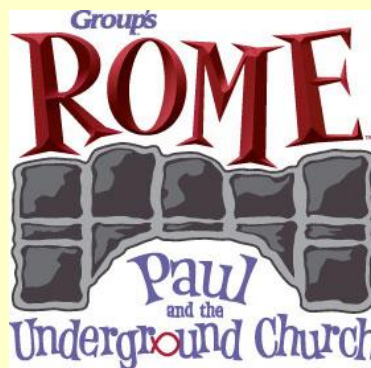
America's Best Coming Soon

If you ordered a gift card from America's Best Flowers to support our senior high youth, THANK YOU! Gift cards can be picked up between services on April 5 and 19.

VBS June 15-19

Get ready to pack your bags and go to Rome. Visit with Paul, worship with the underground church, sing some great songs, and visit the Roman Marketplace. The time is from 9-noon each day. All students, age 3 by September 1, through those going into 5th grade are welcome to join us for the journey.

Registration forms will soon be available. This should be a great Vacation Bible School. To make this journey successful we will need merchants, Roman soldiers, a drama group, Roman family leaders, and opening worship leaders. These can be students or adults.



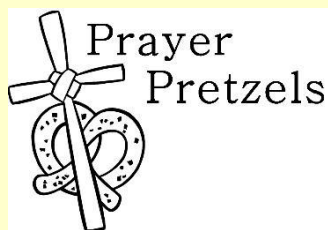
Those students in confirmation willing to assist will earn one credit for confirmation. Any volunteer willing to assist can contact Muriel Arms or sign up near the roman pillars display which will be up shortly.

VBS Needs List:

Canopy tents, colorful blankets, baskets of any kind, imitation fruit, flowers, berries, and decorative jugs are needed for props for VBS. Your items will happily be returned to you as long as you label them so we know who to return them to. We could use people wishing to make Roman costumes as well. Please check with Muriel.

S.P.Y.N. meeting in April for RIOT and Chaos

The youth ministers in Sun Prairie have gotten together again for the monthly Sun Prairie Youth Night (S.P.Y.N.). On Sunday, April 5 instead of RIOT or Chaos, Brett will meet you at the Youth Zone (in the basement of the old YMCA by the high school). The SPYN meeting time for middle school is from 4:00-5:30 pm and the high school time from 6:00-7:30 pm. This schedule will be posted on the RIOT and Chaos Web site, along with directions. Remember RIOT will meet for coffee with Brett at Beans 'n Cream at 6:30am on April 14. Chaos resumes on April 19. See Brett with questions.



During the last rotation for this school year the O.S. Faith Odyssey youth will be making prayer pretzels as a reminder to pray. The children will hand out a

bag with a Prayer Pretzel history, a pretzel and a request for prayers after worship services on Mar. 29, Apr. 19, 26, May 3 and 10. They ask that you remember to pray during the week and especially for the people listed on the requests.

Book Club

Join us on Tuesday, April 7 when we'll discuss *The Friday Night Knitting Club*, by Kate Jacobs.

Georgia Walker has plenty on her plate between running her Manhattan yarn shop and raising her 12 year-old daughter. We'll meet Georgia and the five gals who meet at the yarn shop every Friday night and get a peek into their lives. May's book is *The Story of Edger Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski.



The book club meets at 7:00pm on the first Tuesday of each month for a book discussion and fellowship at the home of Sally Walter's, 57 Stonehaven Dr. #1 Sun Prairie. Please join us!

It's Your Night Out

The April event is scheduled for Friday, April 3 at 6:30pm. We are going to the Oak Leaf Restaurant located in the Oaks Golf Course Club House which is in Cottage Grove. It's located at 4720 Pierceville Road. Please sign up at the Ministry Opportunity Table. As always, everyone is invited.

Baptism Enrichment Session

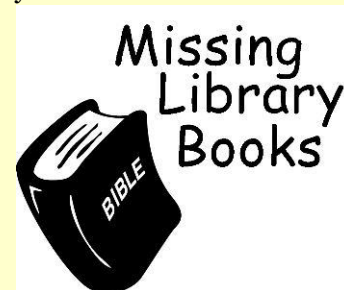
Saturday, April 18 at 10:00am is the next baptism enrichment session. If you are planning on scheduling a baptism at OSLC in the near future you need to attend a baptism enrichment session. The hour and a half session is required for all baptismal events. Expecting parents are also welcome. The session offered after that will be June 13, at 10:00am.

Library Reviews

Our library offers many Lent and Easter themed items for you to enjoy. Check them out on the display rack by Noah's Park! Here are just 2 to entice you... *Veggie Tales – The Easter Carol* is a Veggie Tales twist to *A Christmas Carol* into an Easter story. Greedy Ebenezer Nezzar, a scrooge equivalent and maker of such Easter items as plastic eggs and mechanical chickens, mounts a huge commercial campaign to reap further profits for a day that should be remembering the resurrection of Jesus. Bob the Tomato, Larry the Cucumber and an angel named Hope, take Nezzar on a ghostly journey to discover the real meaning of Christ's death and resurrection.

The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare is a story of hate and redemption. After witnessing his father's crucifixion by Roman soldiers, Daniel Jamin is fired by a single passion, to avenge his father's death and drive the Roman legions out of the land of Israel. Consumed by hatred, he joins a rebel band living in the hills outside of his village. In nearby Capernaum, a rabbi is teaching a different lesson. Time and again David is drawn to the teachings of Jesus, only to turn away, disappointed and confused by Jesus' lack of action in opposing the Romans. Will Jesus' teachings win David over? Read this Newbury Award winner to find out.

A reminder: Please don't take any library items without properly checking them out. Each item has a card in it for your full name, phone number and the date you checked the item out. If we don't have this information, we can't contact you to return the items. The rule is generally a two-week check out time. A couple of books we're specifically looking to be returned are, *90 Minutes in Heaven* and *The Book Thief*. If you borrowed these books, please return them to our library as soon as possible. Thanks.



+ One a Week Club+

The next blood drive in Sun Prairie is on Monday, April 13 from 9am-1pm at the Prairie Athletic Club. To make an appointment to give blood at this event or anytime call 1-800-give-life or visit givebloodgivelife.org

Thanks to Fritz Schunke(2) (aph), Patrick Matson, Ellen Devoe, Linda Hagen (2), Don Barman, Liz Thony, Julie Laurent, Kathleen Dickerson, Diane & Daniel Williamson, Michael Hall (dbl red cell), Bonnie Schunke, Mark Westerveld, and Colleen Fjelstad who donated blood this month. Aph designates Apheresis donations, a special donation of platelets.

Official Acts

Baptisms- celebrating new life through the sacrament of belonging

March 14 – Mya Olson
daughter of Allen & Krista Olson
Funerals – commending the faithful to the loving arms of God

March 16 – Edna Markstahler



Two Graduate from Youth and Family Certification School

Our Savior's own Brandee Christensen and Kelly B. Thompson have recently graduated from the Youth and Family Institute's Youth and Family Certification School. As part of the Bishop's Initiative for raising up the next generation of leaders in the ELCA, Kelly and Brandee have received training in the New and Old Testaments, Lutheran theology, identifying gifts in youth, empowering youth and families, long-range planning and giving presentations on the paradigm of youth and family ministry. Kelly will utilize his training to begin a young men's ministry here at Our Savior's, while Brandee hopes to start a pilot program for families interested in faith formation in the home. We are thankful for the sacrifice these two have undergone this past year and are proud of their accomplishment. Way to go youth ministers! Our Savior's now has 5 certified youth ministers.

Other certified youth ministers include Brett Christensen, Pam Gjersvig and Jay Wildner.



SCRIP Weekend at Our Savior's

The Youth and Family Fund-Raising Team will be in the narthex the weekend of April 18-19 to explain their newest fund-raiser for the youth: SCRIP. This very popular community program uses gift cards purchased for ALL of the places you shop and gives a portion of the sale to Our Savior's youth...at no additional cost to you. This on-line program will be explained that weekend and you will have the opportunity to have someone from the fund-raising team help you sign up. Come see how easy and safe this program is. See Brett or Tom Hanser for more information. Until then you are welcome to check out the SCRIP table set up near the elevator.

This month we will be highlighting a few local grocery stores who participate in the SCRIP program.



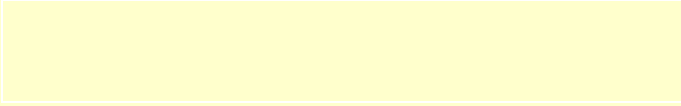
Grocery Stores

Copps provides a 3% return
Sentry provides a 3% return
Woodman's provides a 3% return
Whole Foods provides a 3% return
Cub provides a 1% return
Piggly Wiggly provides a 1% return

Hospice and Midwife Kits

The deadline to have the Hospice and Midwife kits in is April 19. Please take some time around the Lenten season and assemble a kit or two to be used in developing countries. We have always delivered several boxes of these important medical kits to our synod assembly. Let's do so again. Pick up directions for making the kits from the table in the narthex or visit www.ghm.org. Also on the table there is an abundance of extra items that can be used in assembling your kits.

Shoe Boxes Needed:
Common size (not boot or baby size), please drop them off by the Ministry Opportunity Table.



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Director of Youth, Alleluia & Senior Choirs- Kim Peterson

Director of Chancel Ringers – Angie Schmidt

Director of Cherub Choir – Kim Olander

Accompanists – Diane Padrutt, Elizabeth Kienitz, Catherine Abitz

Nursery Coordinator – Sandy Frei

Wedding Coordinator – Kay Bailey (608) 837-2816

Custodians – Eric Kubly and Curly Dederich

Congregation Council:

President: Vicki Hanrahan

Vice President: Mike Ferris

Secretary: Gail Niesl

Treasurer: Linda Frautschy

Church in Society: Helen Feaster

Education: Debi Peters

Evangelism: Chuck Cameron

Fellowship: Kay Bailey

Finance: Bill Rockeman

Lay Ministry: Linda Hagen

Property: Steve Smith

Public Relations: Shawn Bryant

Stewardship: Brian Loken

Youth: Art Fish

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April, 2009

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