



The *intercom* In Church and Community

The Monthly Newsletter of Our Savior's Lutheran Church

From the Senior Pastor Lent 2018: Pursuing the Heart of Jesus



At its core, the season of Lent is an exercise in spiritual growth, a time when followers of Jesus become intentional in the things they do as believers in order to go deeper in their experience of the faith.

Traditionally the disciplines of Lent include repentance, prayer, fasting, and acts of love. As with exercise, these spiritual practices build “spiritual muscles” and draw the believer into what many would describe as a closer relationship with God.

This year's Lenten theme, “Pursuing the Heart of Jesus,” is all about helping each of us to develop a more intimate relationship with God and with Jesus, the One whom God sent into our world to convey the depth of God's love for us and for all creation.

While Lutherans tend to be very good about learning about God and lifting up the value of doctrinal documents like Luther's Small Catechism, we tend to be less adept at expressing our love for God.

The truth of the matter, though, is that the heart sometimes knows truth that the head does not fully comprehend. Lent then, by its very nature, can be a time, a season, when we follow our hearts and throw ourselves into the arms of a God whose love for us is endless and thereby experience a deeper intimacy with Jesus that can be elusive when we live lives that leave us little time for anything spiritual.

Mark Allan Powell, in the introduction to his book *Loving Jesus*, gets to the heart of this:

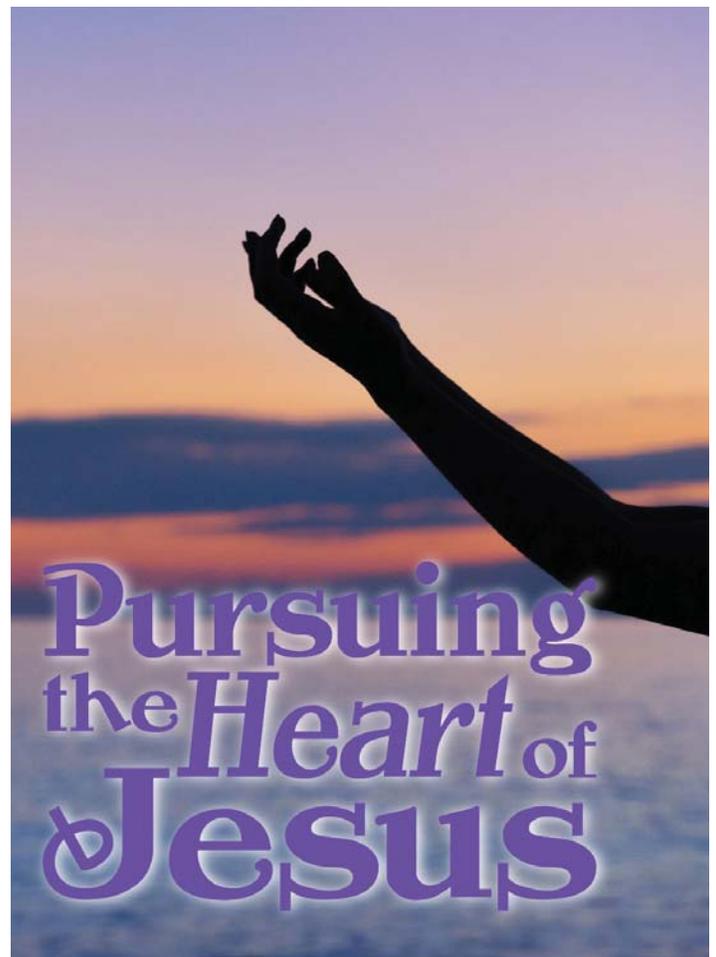
The essence of spirituality is loving God. The Bible, the Talmud, and the Qur'an all direct their followers not merely to believe in God, to trust God, to obey God, or to serve God... but to *love* God. Spirituality may be *more* than this, but it can be nothing *apart* from this.

Many people today seem to be interested in becoming “more spiritual,” and there is an abundance of spiritual advisors who help people with their inner lives. Oprah Winfrey has featured a regular segment on her television program called “Caring for Your Spirit.” As near as I can tell, she and others like her offer good tips for pursuing the spiritual life (for becoming “more spiritual”). Yet I want to say this: *when caring for the spirit, do not neglect the heart.* What your spirit needs most is to love. Our spirits, our innermost beings, our true selves, yearn to love the God who made them. Satisfying spirituality, I believe, is found when the spirit and the heart come together as one and our innermost being is

imbued with the capacity for adoration and ardor that the heart is so adept at providing.

When people say that they want to be “more spiritual,” what exactly do they mean? They probably have some idea regarding how spiritual people talk or act or think and they want to be more like that themselves—but there's

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Memorials and Honoraria November–December 2017

In Memory of Sigmund Elle
Don and Coryill Weeg

In Memory of Joan Hilmo
John Hegg
Arlen Viste

In Memory of Bernice Nelson
Dorothy Sittig
Don and Coryill Weeg

In Memory of Irene Peterson
Frances Kilen
Norman and Clarice Eitheim

Baptisms

December 30, 2017
Sunny Thi Nguyen, the daughter of William Knutson and Kiem Ngoc Nguyen.

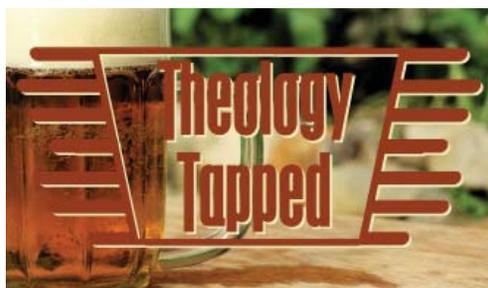
January 14, 2018
Evan Robert Wallner, the son of Joel and Krysta Wallner.

Telecasts

January 14, 2018
Telecasts sponsored by the family of Deloris Harmon in celebration of her 91st birthday.

January 21, 2018
Telecasts sponsored in loving memory of Lou Madsen from Helen Madsen and family.

January 28, 2018
Telecasts sponsored by Bryan Peters and Safe-N-Secure Security Equipment in memory of Marilyn Peters.



Theology Tapped

If you're looking for engaging conversation on matters of faith and life in a fun, informal setting, join Pr. Randy for Theology Tapped on Thursday, February 22, from 8:00 to 9:30 P.M., at Monk's House of Ale Repute, 420 E. 8th St.

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more. They want to be changed *within*. They don't just want to copy the way spiritual people act or talk or think; they want to *be* spiritual people themselves, transformed from the inside out. What they want, I think, is to love God. Richard Foster says that true spirituality "comes not from gritting our teeth but from falling in love." The *reason* spiritual people act and talk and think the way they do is that they love God. Becoming people who love God is the only reliable path to being more spiritual. Loving God transforms people from within and connects them to something eternal and ultimate.

People also say that they want inner peace. They feel disconnected from a world where so much seems to be superficial. The routines and rituals of daily life become ways of passing time while something deep within yearns for life to be more meaningful. There is an element of fear. The *most* meaningful aspects of our lives are often our relationships, and these are fragile. Friendships sour, marriages end. People move away and lose touch. And people die. Even people we care about and depend upon. They die, and someday we will die. So how can our hearts find peace? The Bible speaks of a peace that "surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7) and of a joy that yields contentment in all circumstances (Philippians 4:12-13). Such joy and peace are the result of loving God, a consequence of being in a relationship with a God whom we have come to know as a real being who inspires our devotion and affection.

For Christians, such devotion is often directed to Jesus Christ, through whom God is made known. Christians may describe themselves as people who "follow Jesus" or who "believe in Jesus"; such expressions, however, can be euphemisms for what they really mean but avoid saying because the language is so intimate. Christians are people who *love* Jesus. Indeed, the Bible practically *defines* Christians as people "who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 6:24).

The Christian faith is not just a religion (a system of rituals and beliefs), but a *relationship*—a relationship of love with Jesus Christ who is risen from the dead. When this basic point is missed, the Christian religion becomes hollow and staid. Jesus warned against a day when the love of many would grow cold (Matthew 24:12) and, in a mem-

orable passage from the book of Revelation, he told a church, "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance. . . but I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first (Revelation 2:2, 4). When Christianity is not, first and foremost, a relationship of love, it becomes a matter of works and toil and patient endurance — all worthwhile, perhaps, but a far cry from the spiritual experience of joy and peace that it is supposed to be.

But how do we do it? Love God? Love Jesus?

Powell goes on to answer that question by suggesting that it has to do with a healthy dose of piety, a way of living the faith that combines commitment and sentiment in a "spiritual mélange" that emphasizes the experiential dimension of faith. He writes (p. 19), "... pious people (or people who want to be pious) are typically unashamed of their emotional devotion to Jesus, and yet they know better than to ground that devotion in their emotions. Their commitment to faith as something to be experienced prompts them to temper the emotion with an appropriate sense of obligation (duty). They do what they do (go to church, read the Bible, say their prayers) whether they feel like it or not—and yet they often do feel like doing such things and are not embarrassed by those feelings. There is something healthy, something appealing about this."

Could Lent this year be a time when you unashamedly throw yourself into an experience of greater intimacy with Jesus? Might there be something healthy, even appealing about pursuing more actively the heart of Jesus?

I would suggest there is, and I along with the OSL pastoral team invite you to join us for midweek Lenten worship on Wednesdays, beginning on February 21, at noon or 6:40 p.m., for a 35-minute worship experience designed to reunite each of us with a God whose love for us is deep and wide and never-ending. Together let's explore where a closer walk with Jesus might take us.

In Christ's love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy".

Pr. Randy Gehring

Greetings from Pr. Justin Kosec

This week, I've discovered the practical limits of the cardboard box.

In 2010, my wife and I moved from Minnesota to Connecticut. My wife's parents kindly stored a few of our boxes in their attic. For years my father-in-law tried to engineer ways to deliver those boxes from their home in Bridgewater to our place in Connecticut—and then, to our place in New York.

As God would have it, the ministry called me to Our Savior's. Sensing the long-awaited moment, my father-in-law eagerly hitched up the horse trailer, loaded it with our itinerant boxes, and hauled everything to our lovely new home here in Sioux Falls.

It turns out moving boxes from Home Depot will contain your stuff for eight years, but you shouldn't expect them to be happy about it. Everything inside the boxes kept pristine, but more than one piece of cardboard disintegrated at my touch like a piece of ancient parchment.

When we moved so I could attend seminary, we

wondered if we would return to Minnesota. We never imagined God would call us to New York. Once we were at home there, we wondered if God would ever call us back to the Midwest—but we never imagined we'd find our way to Sioux Falls.

When any of us set out to follow God, we simply do not know where that call will take us. We will inevitably find ourselves in alien territory, far from landmarks we recognize. We will meet people who challenge our expectations and others who will validate our deepest calling. We will find success and make mistakes. Even when we feel we have languished in exile, we will discover God's faithful hand leading and feeding us along the way.

Now my family's journey has brought us here, to you. I am overjoyed to serve as your new pastor. I am excited to meet you and accompany you and wrestle together with life's challenges. We will take one another's hands, and together we will grasp for God.

Pr. Randy noticed I've had a smile on my face since we arrived here in Sioux Falls. How could we not? We're closer to family; we have received such a radiant welcome from your Call Com-



mittee and from the entire congregation; I feel abundantly blessed to work with the superlative pastors and staff and volunteers here at Our Savior's.

Plus, we have returned just in time to rescue all those old boxes. How could we not celebrate and be glad? What we once lost is now found again!

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New to the OSL Community

Welcome these new members, who were received into the OSL church family in January. The next new member orientation will be this fall. Contact the Church Office, 336-2942, for details.



Sherri Bloch



Daisy & Greg Doohen



Joan Nelsen



Robert & Barbara Roble



Doug Thesenritz



*Caroline Wermers
& Erik Nyberg*



Bruce & Beth Williams

Multiple Meanings: Learning from Other Interpretations (Session Two): Prepare the Way of the Lord by Tami Skorczewski

Mark Allan Powell of Trinity Lutheran Seminary writes, “Our study for this month will focus on meaning as both message and effect. Sometimes people find stories meaningful because of the moral or message they think the story conveys; other times they appreciate how the story affects them (emotionally or at some other level).”

Bible Study. Session two: Prepare the way of the Lord (Luke 3:3–17). Preaching of John the Baptist. (Source: gathermagazine.org.)

Closing Prayer: *Dear God, the Apostle Paul urges us to give thanks for all things and in all circumstances. We want to do that, but we especially want to give thanks for all people. Thank you for people who compliment us and for people who criticize us... for people who appreciate us and for people who take us for granted... for people who accept us as we are and for people who insist that we be better... for people who give us wings and for people who bring us down to earth. Thank you for people who surprise us. Thank you for everyone. Amen.*

WELCA's 2018 Unit Wide Mission Project is *Kids Are God's Gift*. Projects this year will support local children and their families with not only physical needs but also with emotional and spiritual support.

Sweets for Your Valentine Sale will be held on Sunday, February 11, from 8:30 to 11:00 A.M., in The Gathering Place. This is a great opportunity to purchase all types of sweets and chocolates for your favorite valentine. The sale is one of WELCA's annual fundraisers to support WELCA's Unit Wide Mission Project for 2018.

“LOVE makes our friends a little dearer.
JOY makes our hearts a little lighter.
FAITH makes our paths a little clearer.
HOPE makes our lives a little brighter.
PEACE brings us all a little nearer.”

Celebrating the Value of Community by Margot L. Nelson

The OSL congregation has a rare opportunity to celebrate a community anniversary: Stephen Ministry has been a part of this church community for 28 years! Currently active Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders are listed below in hopes that the entire congregation can recognize



stephen
MINISTRY

their ministry. Each person's tenure as a Stephen Minister is shown in parentheses, and Stephen Leaders

are denoted with an asterisk. The list does not include a large number of Stephen Ministers who are not currently active but who completed the training and served with diligence and compassion for a significant period of time. Please pray for all of them and give thanks for their ministry. Please also remember in prayer those who have elected to participate in the Stephen Ministry training currently underway.

20–25 years

Arlen Viste (26 years) *

10–14 years

Curt Olson (11 years) *

Suzie Rusch (11 years)

Pr. Tim Lemme (10-year leader) *

5–9 years

Karen Zimbeck (years)

Brenda Beninga (7 years)

Kristi Mader (7 years)

Joan Bacon (6 years) *

Larry Budahl (6 years)

Erin Kaiser (6 years) *

Margot Nelson (6 years) *

Janiece Peterson (6 years) *

Arlette Villaume (6 year leader) *

1–4 years

Allison Boyd (Hauck) (5 years)

Paul Davidson (5 years)

Mitzi Drey (5 years)

Marino Melsted (5 years)

Sharon Dannenbring (4 years)

Deb Harlan (3 years) *

Rhonda Anderson (3 years) *

Dennis Franz (3 years)

Arlys Johnson (3 years)

Pam Johnson (3 years)

Betsy Sittig (3 years)

Ellen Smook (3 years) *

Barb Vogel (3 years)

Janice Petterson (1 year)

Michelle Anderson (1 year)

“Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

Health Ministries

Our Savior's has a number of ongoing health ministries that meet on a weekly or monthly basis. Feel free to join any of the following sessions. For more information, contact Michelle Anderson, Faith Community Nurse, 336-2942, ext. 48, or mianderson@oslchurch.com.

Footcare Clinic

Cost is \$25 per person. Wednesday, February 7, 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Call the Church Office, 336-2942, to schedule your appointment.

Hope for Living with Illness or Cancer

Every Tuesday at 2:00 P.M. in the Friendship Room. People and their families who have or are experiencing the challenge of cancer are welcome. If you cannot attend, but would like to be on our prayer and devotional mailing list, contact Michelle Anderson, 336-2942, ext. 48, or mianderson@oslchurch.com.

Knitting/Crocheting Ministry

Learn how to knit or crochet prayer shawls (to be given to people to remind them of God's presence and love in their lives) and mittens and scarves (for missions). Wednesday, February 14 and 28, 9:30 A.M., Sunshine Room. 2nd Saturday Knitters, February 10, 9:30 A.M., Sunshine Room.

Good Grief

Every Thursday at 10:00 A.M. in Room 103. This group is for anyone dealing with loss and crisis in life.

Memory Care Support Group

Saturdays, 10:00 to 11:00 A.M., Conference Room. For caregivers of those with Alzheimer's and dementia, a place to share and to receive understanding and empathy. Contact Caring Ministries, 336-2942, for information.

Pickleball

OSL-sponsored Pickleball: Mondays, 8:00 A.M. to noon and 5:00 to 9:00 P.M.; Tuesdays, 8:00 A.M. to noon; Wednesdays and Fridays, 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.; Thursdays, 1:00 to 5:00 P.M.

Caring Ministries

Getting Dinner to the Doors

A dedicated group of volunteers and Caring Ministry board members braved blizzard conditions last month to help make another successful Dinner to Your Door meal preparation session! Almost 50 meals were prepared. Dinner to Your Door meals are given to OSL members who might benefit from a having a ready-to-heat meal during a time of illness or situational challenge or crisis. Thank you for your generous support of this ministry!



Prepare Yourself: Chili Cook-Off Returns!

Everyone had so much fun last year at the first OSL Chili Cook-Off that it's coming around again: Sunday, March 4 (note date change), in The Gathering Place, immediately after the 11:00 A.M. worship services. Whip up your best recipe and enter it for judging, or just bring in a pot of your finest to share for lunch (chicken noodle soup will be available, too). People's Choice voting, from noon to 1:00, will be done by placing money in containers in front of each entry. There also will be secret tasters who will award first-, second-, and third-place prizes. Sign up at the Information Center, or contact Loretta Nelson, lnelson@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 14. The Cook-Off is a fundraiser for Mission: Possible.

Recent Loss Group

The next Recent Loss Group series will meet on Wednesdays, February 28 through March 21, from 5:30 P.M., in the Chapel. Members may partake of OSL Community Supper before the meetings, at 5:00 in The Gathering Place. Also, members of the group are invited and encouraged to attend the Lenten Healing Service on March 28.



OSLC Foundation

Foundation Notes

For your convenience, memorial cards are available at the Church Office or the Information Center in The Gathering Place. Use them as freely as you wish to remember and honor loved ones with gifts that endure to the Our Savior's Foundation.

Another annual meeting has come and gone—copies of the Foundation financial report are available in the Church Office. Please take time to pick one up and see how the growth of the Foundation is supporting the day-to-day work at OSL. Remember, as you contemplate giving to Our Savior's, your support flows to three areas of need:

- **Today:** The doors are open wide each day

Men of God

OSL's Men's Bible Breakfast and Lutheran Men in Mission group meets on the first and third Saturday of each month at 8:30 A.M. in the Conference Room. A continental breakfast is provided by members at each gathering. Men of all ages are invited to attend this one-hour Bible study when it meets on February 3 and February 17. For more details, contact Pr. Tim Lemme, tlemme@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 19.

Where to Find Yoga Classes?

Yoga is not currently available at OSL, but for those who wish to continue or begin yoga exercise, First Lutheran offers classes with certified instructors who integrate faith and exercise. Yoga at First Lutheran is offered on Monday evenings, from 5:45 to 6:45; Thursday afternoons (chair yoga), from 1:30 to 2:30; and Fridays, from noon to 1:00 p.m. Cost: a freewill offering (\$5 suggested). For information about Monday and Thursday classes, contact Jeff Nelson, 940-6008; for Friday class, contact Gretchen Borgum, (515) 421-5242.

serving members and the community alike through worship and arts, education, and benevolence. In addition, your gifts fund daily staff activity and facility operations. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

- **Tomorrow:** The physical plant, which includes offices, Sanctuary, Narthex, The Gathering Place, Chapel, Friendship Room, Fellowship Hall, Sunday and Wednesday School rooms, Gym, Youth Room, music rooms, restrooms—everything. The ongoing cost of this maintenance is paid by your support of the annual stewardship appeal. However, there remains an outstanding obligation after we were able to build and expand. The Mission: Possible team is working with members to eliminate the remaining debt by

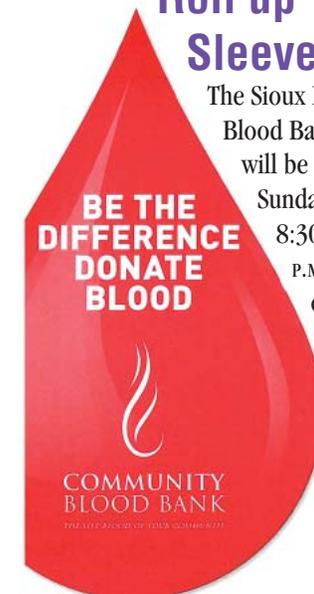


FRIENDSHIP CLUB

OSL's Friendship Club will meet as usual on the third Tuesday of the month, at 10:30 A.M., in the Friendship Room. Lunch will follow the presentation. Details are still being worked out as *The Intercom* goes to press, but you can be certain that the February 20 presentation will be informative and the fellowship will be fun. Don't miss it! Bring a friend!

For more information, contact Pr. Tim Lemme, 336-2942 or tlemme@oslchurch.com.

Roll up Your Sleeve!



The Sioux Falls Community Blood Bank Blood Mobile will be back at OSL on Sunday, April 8, from 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. At some point on that date OSL will hit its 1000th donation milestone, and you can help make that happen and help save lives to boot! Watch for sign-up details soon.

2021 and free up current interest payments to ongoing service and growth initiatives. Our church home was built for service and to last and last. Thank you once again for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

- **Timeless:** Memorial gifts, honoraria, and estate gifts add to a growing endowment that year after year produces a payout to support the needs identified above. Gifts given since the inception of the Foundation in 1978 join with others to make a strong witness to the living legacy of Our Savior's. Members past, present, and future give thanks for legacy giving.

Please connect with Jon Oien, joien@sio.midco.net or 212-5261, to discuss the process of giving!



Faith Formation Notes

Fourth graders will celebrate their Apostles' Creed milestone on Sunday, February 4, at the 11:00 A.M. Festive worship service. Parents and students will meet for Family Time at 10:00 A.M. in the Friendship Room with Pr. Sami in lieu of Sunday School.

Rotation students (pre-K through grade three) will sing at the 11:00 A.M. Festive worship service that same Sunday, February 4.

Everyone is invited to Lutherans Outdoors Cross+Gen event in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 18, at 10:00 a.m. Staff will be on hand to lead in fun conversation and an activity, and share 2018 camp possibilities with you! This event for all is in lieu of Sunday School that morning. Fifth-graders and younger must have a parent or caring adult with them.

Play and Pray

Life as a mom or caregiver for children of any age can be joyful and fulfilling, but also hectic and isolating. Play and Pray is a ministry for moms and caregivers who gather to support one another, laugh and cry together, and grow deeper in relationship with God and one another. All while the children, from birth through preschool, enjoy supervised play in the Nursery. Play and Pray meets on Thursdays at 10:00 A.M., in Room 102, next to the Sanctuary. Contact Pr. Sami, sjohnson@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 12, with questions.

An Easy Way to Support OSL Youth Ministry

When you purchase gift cards at the OSL Youth Ministry table on Sunday mornings, for yourself or to give to others, you support youth programs while receiving full value for your purchase—the amount rebated to Youth Ministry comes from the retailer!

Hy-Vee and Fareway cards are available for purchase on Sunday mornings; cards from many other stores (Barnes and Noble, Best Buy, Kohl's, Bed Bath & Beyond, etc.) are available to order, at the Youth Ministry table or in the Church Office. Cards ordered by 2:00 P.M. on Monday will be available for pick-up on Thursday. Check out the Youth Ministry table in The Gathering Place for details.

Youth Notes

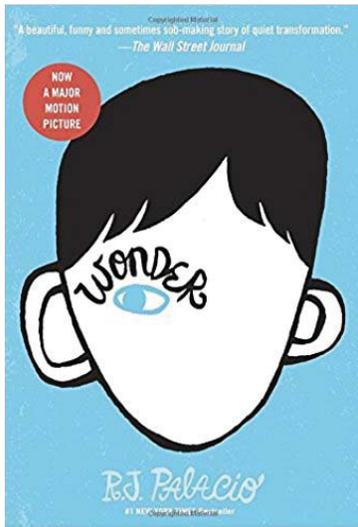
Help young adults living away from home know that OSL cares about them and remembers them! Consider a donation of items for care packages to be assembled by the youth team: spiral-bound 3x5 index cards, mechanical pencils, highlighters, travel-size hand sanitizer, lip balm, microwave popcorn, and individual packages of conversation hearts will be collected at the Youth Table in The Gathering Place and in the Church Office through February 4. Financial donations to help with postage would be appreciated too! If you know someone who would appreciate a care package, share his or her name and address with Pr. Sami.

The Silent Auction, which is the fundraiser to support the 36 students going on mission trips and to the ELCA Youth Gathering, will begin on February 16 and will end on March 4. Be sure to check out the items on Saturday nights, Sunday mornings, and Wednesday nights, and bid on your favorites. Join us on Sunday, February 25, at 5:00 P.M. for the Silent Auction Banquet, complete with a meal, student talent, and entertainment, and a bonus opportunity to bid on items! On March 4, your breakfast ticket will go to support OSL youth as well. If you would like to donate items for the auction, bring them to Pr. Sami by February 4 with the completed form you will find at <https://tinyurl.com/ybcxdumf>.

Questions about OSL Youth Ministry? Contact me, Pr. Sami Johnson, 336-2942, ext. 12, or sjohnson@oslchurch.com.

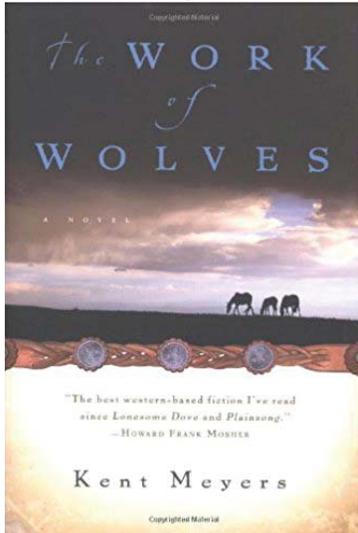


Winter One Church One Read Selection



To help make adults aware of some of the outstanding junior novels available, and to encourage families to discuss junior titles, the OSL Library Committee has selected *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio as its intergenerational Winter One Church One Read title. Twelve books and two picture books are available for checkout from the Library. The book discussion is scheduled for March 18, at 10:00 A.M., in the Conference Room.

Monthly Book Club for Adults



The Book Club for Adults meets at 7:00 P.M. on the fourth Thursday of each month in the OSL Library to discuss that month's novel. The February 22 selection will be *The Work of Wolves* by Kent Meyers.

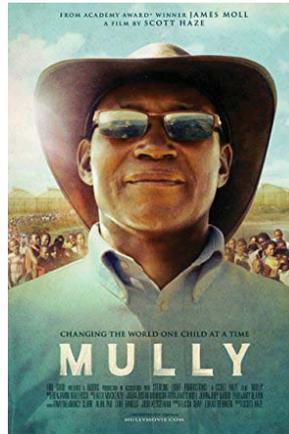
When fourteen-year-old Carson Fielding bought his first horse from Magnus Yarborough, it became clear that the teenager was a better judge of horses than the rich landowner was of humans. Years later, Carson, now a skilled and respected horse trainer, grudgingly agrees to train Magnus's horses and teach

his wife to ride. As Carson becomes disgruntled with the power-hungry Magnus, he also grows more and more attracted to the rancher's wife, and their relationship sets off a violent chain of events that unsettles their quiet South Dakota reservation border town. Thrown into the drama are Earl Walks Alone, a Native American trying to study his way out of the reservation and into college, and Willi, a German exchange student confronting his family's troubled history.

In this unforgettable story of horses, love, and life, Carson and the entire ensemble of characters learn, in very different ways, about the bonds that connect people to each other and to the land on which they live.

Join this exciting community of readers! A list of the 2018 selections is available in the OSL Library.

Second Saturday Movie



Mully will be the Second Saturday Movie, on February 10 at 2:30 P.M. in the Holy Word Theatre.

Mully is the true story of Charles Mully, whose unlikely rise to wealth and power leaves him questioning his own existence and searching for meaning in life. Against the better judgment of family and community, Mully sets out to enrich the fate of orphaned children all across the land. Jeopardizing his own life and the security of his family, Charles Mully risks

everything and sets in motion a series of events that is nothing short of astonishing.

Make a day of it with the movie, followed by worship at 5:00 and dinner afterward!

Almost Finished!

Libby Hintgen was the first to guess the picture in the OSL Library's Stick Together intergenerational mosaic: it's a picture of a dove. Over 3,585 of the 4,195 stickers have been placed on the mosaic so far. Together we will complete the mosaic, which reveals one of God's many blessings—peace.



Eggs-on-the-Shelf Lent and Easter Activity

To help keep God's grace at the heart of the Lenten season, each Sunday and Wednesday from February 14 through April 1, patrons who check out items and find one of the twelve Resurrection Eggs hidden among the shelves in the Library will receive a prize after they explain the way the picture of the item inside relates to the Easter story.

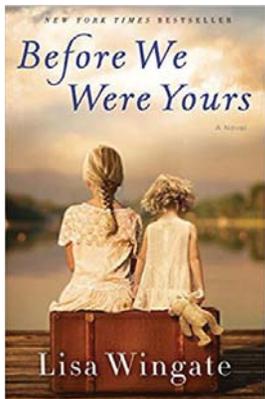


Lent and Easter Displays

Enrich your Lenten journey with seasonal books, movies, and music from the Library. To make your selection easy, a large array of items is on display for children, youth, and adults.

New for Adults

***Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate.**



Memphis, 1939. Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live a magical life aboard their family's Mississippi River shanty boat. When their father must rush their mother to the hospital one stormy night, Rill is left in charge. Unfortunately, strangers arrive in force.

Wrenched from all that is familiar and thrown into a Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage, the Foss children are assured that they will soon be returned to their parents, but they quickly realize the dark truth. At the mercy of the facility's cruel director, Rill fights to keep her sisters and brother together in a world of danger and uncertainty.

Aiken, South Carolina, present day. Born into wealth and privilege, Avery Stafford seems to have it all: a successful career as a federal prosecutor, a handsome fiancé, and a lavish wedding on the horizon. When Avery returns home to help her father weather a health crisis, a chance encounter leaves her with uncomfortable questions and compels her to take a journey through her family's long-hidden history and on a path that will ultimately lead either to devastation or to redemption.

The story is on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country. This riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong.

Additional New Titles for Adults

- *After* by Joy Ohagwu
- *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan
- *Hannah's Hope: A Mully Children's Rescue Story* by Paul H. Boge

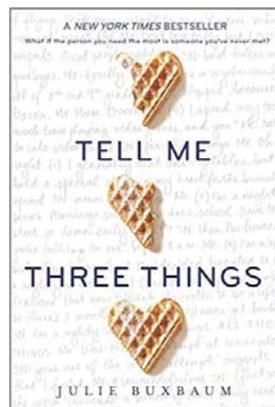
It's been barely two years since her mother's death, and because her father eloped with a woman he met online, Jessie has been forced to move across the country to live with her stepmonster and her pretentious teenage son, and to start at a new school where she knows no one.

Just when she's thinking about hightailing it back to Chicago, she gets an email from a person calling himself/herself Somebody/Nobody (SN for short), offering to help her navigate the wilds of Wood Valley High School. Is it an elaborate hoax or can she rely on SN for some much-needed help?

In a leap of faith—or an act of complete desperation—Jessie begins to rely on SN, and SN quickly becomes her lifeline and closest ally. Jessie can't help wanting to meet SN in person. But are some mysteries better left unsolved?.

New for Middle- and High-School Youth

***Tell Me Three Things* by Julie Buxbaum.**



With the perfect mix of comedy and tragedy, love and loss, and pain and elation, the characters in *Tell Me Three Things* come to feel like old friends who make any day better.

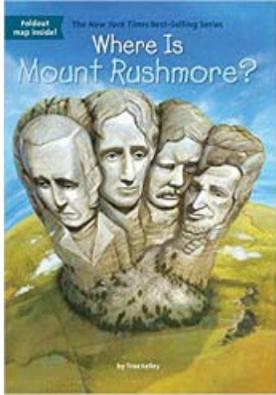
Everything about Jessie is wrong. At least, that's what it feels like during her first week of junior year at her new ultra-intimidating prep school in Los Angeles.

Additional New Titles for Middle- and High-School Youth:

- *Circus Mirandus* by Cassie Beasley
- *The Running Dream* by Wendlin Van Drannen
- *Wings of Fire The Graphic Novel: The Dragonet Prophecy* by Tui T. Sutherland

New Picture, Early Reader, and Chapter Books

Where Is Mount Rushmore? by True Kelley. It was world-famous sculptor Gutzon Borglum's dream to carve a 60-foot-high likenesses of four presidents on a granite cliff in South Dakota. Does that sound like a wacky idea? Many at the time thought so.



Borglum faced a lot of opposition and problems at every turn. The blasting and carving was carried out through the years of the Great Depression when funding for anything was hard to come by, yet Mount Rushmore now draws almost three million visitors to the Black Hills every year. This is an entertaining chronicle of one man's magnificent obsession, which even today sparks controversy.

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Additional New Chapter Books:

- *The Notebook of Doom: Battle of the Boss-Monster* by Troy Cummings
- *Tales from Deckawoo Drive: Where Are You Going, Baby Lincoln?* by Chris Van Dusen

New Early Readers:

- *No More Monsters for Me* by Peggy Parish
- *Amelia Bedelia Sleeps Over* by Herman Parish

New Picture Books:

- *Be Brave, Little Penguin* by Tracey West
- *Jilly's Terrible Temper Tantrums and How She Outgrew Them* by Martha Heineman Pieper

OSL Library Hours

Sunday	8:15 A.M.–12:15 P.M.
Monday	9:00 A.M.–noon
Tuesday	9:00 A.M.–noon
Wednesday	9:00 A.M.–7:30 P.M.
Thursday	9:00 A.M.–noon
Friday	Closed
2nd Saturday of the Month	10:00 A.M.–noon and 4:30–6:30 P.M.

Musical Events and Hosting Opportunities

The Gustavus Choir will present a concert at OSL on Saturday, February 3, at 7:00 P.M. (A freewill offering will be received.)

Luther College Nordic Choir will perform at OSL on Saturday, February 10, at 7:00 P.M. (Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for ages 65 and up, and \$5 for students. Reserve tickets via (800) 4-LUTHER or www.tickets.luther.edu. Some tickets will be available at the door.)

OSL members are always generous in opening their homes to two or four students—if you wish to help, contact Gene LeVasseur, glevasseur@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 40.

Parents' Night Out February 9

The next Parents' Night Out—your opportunity to spend a few hours together while the kids have fun in the OSL Nursery—will be on Friday, February 9, from 5:30 to 8:30 P.M. Register for Nursery care (infant through age ten) by contacting Nancy Heesch, robertheesch@yahoo.com, with the names and ages of your children.

Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza on February 10 at First Congregational Church

The South Dakota Chapter of The American Guild of Organists will present Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza, a hands-on opportunity for young musicians to learn about the pipe organ, how it works, and how it has developed through history.

This event, which will be held on Saturday, February 10, from 9:00 A.M. to noon, at First Congregational Church, 300 S. Minnesota Ave., is open to young musicians, fifth grade and older, who have some piano background. Students will have the opportunity to play organs at First Congregational, First Lutheran, and First United Methodist.

Registration is \$5, which includes materials and pizza. Preregistration is required by Wednesday, February 7. For more information, contact Marilyn Schempp, mmschempp@sio.midco.net or 521-9636.



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OUR SAVIOR'S
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In Church and Community

The Monthly Newsletter of Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Worship Services

Saturday Evening – 5:00 P.M., Sanctuary

Sunday Morning

Festive Worship – 8:45 and 11:00 A.M., Sanctuary

Celebrate Worship – 8:45 and 11:00 A.M., Celebrate Center

Lenten Services

Ash Wednesday, February 14 – 12:00, 5:30, and 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Worship, starting February 21 –
12:00 and 6:40 P.M.

Television and Internet

Celebrate: 9:00 A.M., KTTW (cable channel 9; channel 7.1)

Festive: 1:00 P.M., KSCB (cable channel 30; channel 53)

Website: oslchurch.com

Social Media: twitter.com/oslchurchsf · facebook.com/oslchurchsf ·
youtube.com/oslchurchsf

Your Offering Makes a Difference

Your generosity is making a real difference in people's lives through the mission and ministry of OSL. The pages of this newsletter tell that story in more depth. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving and your passionate commitment to God's work through this congregation. Your continued generosity helps us reach our congregational goal of fully funding our ministry of connecting faith to everyday life.

Ministry Support through December 31

Annual Giving

Pledged	\$2,008,616
Received YTD	\$1,933,651
Remaining	\$74,965
Projected YTD	\$1,966,285
Ahead/(Behind)	(\$32,634)