

The *intercom*

In Church and Community



From the Senior Pastor We Need to Talk



The first sermon I preached at Our Savior's in December, after returning from a ten-week sabbatical, was a sermon I never imagined preaching. It was a sermon that addressed the reality of white privilege and white supremacy in our American culture.

To be honest, I wondered how it would be received. I referenced how the history we've been taught is inaccurate and devoid of details that implicate our own government in the genocide and ongoing oppression of the indigenous people of this land. I spoke of how our history lessons are missing key tales of how this country was built on the scarred backs of our dark-skinned brothers and sisters who were unjustly and inhumanely enslaved. And I pointed to how all of this selective history-telling has given rise to an "American Exceptionalism" under banners like "Manifest Destiny" and "Make America Great Again." But even though saying these words out loud made me shake in my shoes, never had I felt so convicted to preach a particular sermon as I did that one.

We who are white and Christian in this country live with great privilege, whether we recognize

it or not. The lie that allowed our government and subsequently its citizens to carry out policies and practices so evil and so counter to our Christian faith—the lie of the narrative of racial differences—has allowed this country to develop in ways that make life fundamentally easier for those of European descent than it is for those who are not of European descent. Statistics starkly tell the story:

Incarceration rates, 2016 (Source: Pew Research Center)

272 white inmates for every 100,000 white adults
823 Latino inmates for every 100,000 Latino adults
1,549 black inmates for every 100,000 black adults

Household median net worth, 2016 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

\$143,600 for white households
\$21,240 for Latino households
\$12,920 for black households

Home ownership rates, 2016 (Source: The Urban Institute)

71% for white households
45% for Latino households
41% for black households



College education rates, 2016 (associate's degree or higher) (Source: National Association for Education Statistics)

44% for white people
29% for black people
21% for Latino people

Poverty rates, 2018 (Source: Poverty USA)

10.1% for white people
17.6% for Latino people
20.8% for black people

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I believe with all of my heart that our call as Jesus-followers is to confront this reality, call it what it is—racism, and do everything we can to dismantle the privilege we enjoy and benefit from so that the church and our communities may be safe places for *all* of God's children.

To that end, I began leading a class on Wednesday nights (6:00 to 7:00) during January that is teaching us how to have these difficult conversations around realities we'd rather not admit. I was pleasantly surprised when 61 people showed up for the first session. But I would welcome even more of you to the table over the next few weeks (the final class will be on February 19), if it would mean that together we are beginning the faithful work of dismantling white

privilege and white supremacy.

Now more than ever, we need to talk, especially about the things nobody wants to talk about. Together, let's follow where the Holy Spirit is leading us, prayerfully following her lead and striving above all else to listen to the cries of our neighbors who have lived for so long under a system that relegates them to a place of relative disadvantage.

In Christ's love,



Pr. Randy Gehring

Mortgage Reduction and Refinancing Update

The Mission: Possible and the Mission: Possible Reignite mortgage-retirement campaigns were successful in reducing our mortgage from over \$4 million to \$1.8 million. Thank you to those who led the campaigns for their dedicated and tireless efforts: Pam and Dennis Hanneman, Jill Franken, Bob and Joan Thimjon, Scott Boyens, and Tom Berkland.

Even with the success of the campaigns, our former Congregation Council realized we would likely not generate enough funds to pay off our loan entirely; therefore, the council initiated a plan to absorb the remaining principal and interest payments into future annual ministry plans (operating budgets) as early as 2017. The first step was to include just the interest payments in the annual ministry plan and designate all remaining pledged capital and debt retirement campaign funds to principal reduction. This phased approach has given us time to develop capacity to pay our debt obligations with little or no impact on ministry programming.

The next step in the process is to include mortgage principal payments into future ministry plans once the remaining pledges are completed. The Finance Committee will continue to monitor our progress and recommend appropriate action to ensure we meet our obligations.

In August, Thrivent approached Our Savior's with some very attractive mortgage refinancing options. At that time, we also sought refinance

options from our existing lender, Great Western Bank. Based on all the offers presented to us, the Finance Committee recommended to the Governing Board to refinance our mortgage with Thrivent at a 2.99% fixed rate for five years, which will be reset at that time at the market rate for an additional five years with no prepayment penalty. The previous interest rate was 3.75% and the interest savings based on this option is approximately \$13,680 annually. The monthly principal and interest payment is approximately \$3,000 less than our previous payment. The Governing Board approved this recommendation and we closed on the refinanced mortgage on November 21, 2019.

Those who still want to contribute funds toward mortgage reduction, either through a current campaign pledge or a new gift, may do so at any time by clearly indicating "Mortgage Reduction" on your contribution. For assistance, contact Barb Haugan in the Church Office, 336-2942, ext. 23, or bhaugan@oslchurch.com.

With these plans in place, we are now well positioned to take on the Bell Tower Project, an initiative to repair and renew the bell tower scheduled to begin this spring. In addition to leveraging funds from the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Foundation, we will need to raise and/or borrow funds to cover the cost of the project. A congregational appeal likely will be made later in 2020, inviting each of you to prayerfully consider contributing to this important project.

Memorials and Honoraria November–December 2019

In Memory of Phil Miedema
LeRoy and Janet Halstenson

Baptisms

January 5

Bodie Miles Missal, whose parents are David and Sarah Missal. Sponsors are the Tara and Scott Petersen family.

Flowers

January 12

Flowers in the Sanctuary and a telecast gift were given in loving memory of Warren Jensen, whose birthday was January 10, by his family.

January 19

Flowers in the Celebrate Center are given by Jim and Catherine Nelson in memory of their great-grandson, Witten Klingenberg, who would have been one year old on January 19.

Flowers in the Sanctuary and Celebrate Center are given in memory of Evelyn Wierenga, whose funeral will be Sunday, January 19, by her family.

Telecasts

January 19

Telecasts are sponsored in loving memory of Lou Madsen, from Helen Madsen and family.

January 26

Telecasts are sponsored by Bryan Peters, Lori Melin, and Safe-N-Secure Security Equipment, in memory of Marilyn Peters.

Thank you for your ongoing and faithful financial support of our mission to proclaim Christ and nurture faith that connects with everyday life.

You Were So Generous, We're Starting a Food Pantry

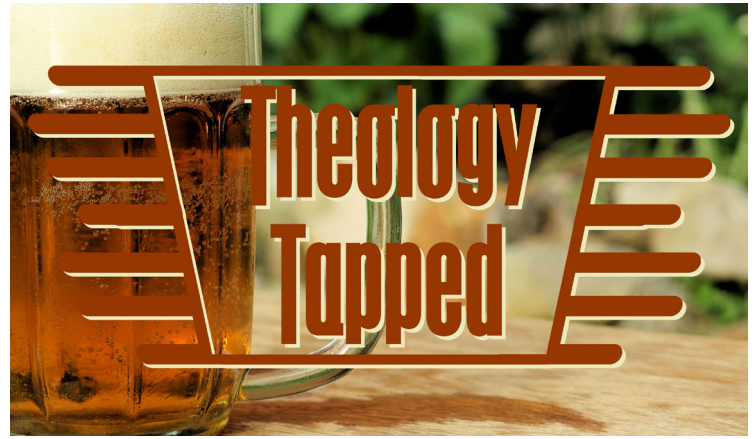
In December, the Love in Action Core Ministry Team began conversations with Augustana University administration, staff, campus ministry, and students to discuss if there was a way Our Savior's could provide food, companionship, and hospitality for Augie students.

In response to those conversations, we invited you to help collect care packages for Augie students who stayed on campus over the Christmas break. Your generosity was astonishing! You responded with several dozen care packages. Additionally, OSL collected several hundred dollars in cash, all of which went to purchase food for additional care packages.

Then we invited Augustana students to Wednesday midweek meals in December, and to the meal served on Christmas Eve. We also took about twenty care packages to Augie for the administration to distribute to students over the break.

Here's what's next. In light of your enthusiastic response and our ongoing conversations with our partners at Augustana, we have decided to begin a food pantry for Augustana students. Details are still in development, but we envision a space stocked by OSL members, run by students, and open to all students throughout the year—any time they find their fridge empty and their meal plan used up. We hope to launch the food pantry over spring break, just a few short weeks away.

Now the Love in Action team needs your help again! Watch for your opportunity to donate to the project; or volunteer to help coordinate this ministry, which would involve organizing the space, helping shop for food, and working with Augie students and staff. Contact Pr. Justin, jkosec@oslchurch.com, to find out more.



Theology Tapped

Don't miss Theology Tapped, an engaging conversation on matters of faith and life in a fun, informal setting, with Pr. Randy. This month's installment will be on Thursday, February 27, from 8:00 to 9:30 P.M., at Monk's House of Ale Repute, 420 E. 8th St.

A Note of Thanks

This comes from Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota:

To the Members of Our Savior's Lutheran:

We thank you for the bottom of our hearts for your continued support of the mission of LSS. Your generosity makes it all possible.

Thank you!

LSS Board of Directors

Have Something to Eat!



Photo by Katherine Chase on Unsplash.com

OSL Food Ministry serves breakfast on Sundays in The Gathering Place, starting at 9:30, and Wednesday supper starting at 5:00. All are welcome!

OSL Food Ministry is entirely supported by freewill donations. Thank you for your \$6 contribution to cover expenses.

Sunday Breakfasts

- 2 – Bacon, scrambled eggs, roasted diced potatoes, yogurt, orange juice, and donut holes
- 9 – Breakfast burritos, yogurt, orange juice, and donut holes
- 16 – Bacon, scrambled eggs, roasted diced potatoes, yogurt, orange juice, and donut holes
- 23 – Cheese omelets, sausage patties, tri-taters, yogurt, orange juice, and donut holes

Wednesday Suppers

- 5 – Beef Stroganoff, jasmine rice, tossed lettuce salad, and dessert
- 12 – Chicken burrito bowls, tossed salad, and dessert
- 19 – Lasagna, tossed salad, breadsticks, and dessert
- 26 – Ash Wednesday (no meal)

Chorus-pondence from Gene LeVasseur

As we celebrate the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ—the church term is Epiphany—I would like to share some things that have come to light in the worship area:

- We have an incredible worship team at Our Savior's. Over 200 people serve regularly to make worship work for the congregation. Most recently, we had 37 volunteers help decorate for Christmas, and 20 volunteers put the decorations away. This made the enormous task of decorating so easy and *fun*. Thank you! The leader of this huge

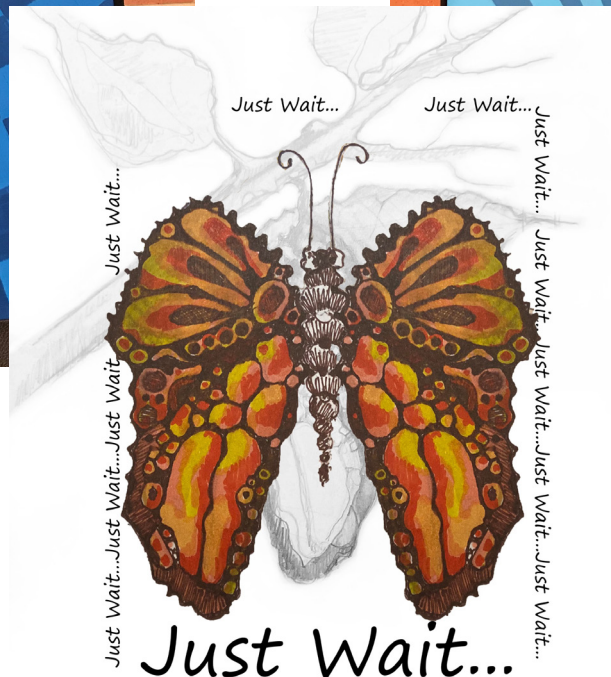
you musicians to contact me and discuss ways to participate! Singers, bell ringers, and instrumentalists are crucial to the worship services, and when you serve you are also filled.

- During Advent and Christmas, Gary Gaede created a progressive bulletin cover that was a beautiful burst of color. The picture was a cocoon that grew each week in color and on Christmas Eve burst into a butterfly (center). Thank you, Gary, for sharing your amazing



task for several years has been Harold Breitag. Harold and his wonderful family serve many ministries here, and Harold provides most of the flower arrangements, runs the computer for Festive worship screens, and leads the Christmas decorating. He serves faithfully and joyfully, and does everything his very best.

- We have a wonderful team of musicians who faithfully serve our five worship services and lead congregational singing. Some have extensive training, but most are talented volunteers who have had little or no training after high school. All of our music teams have room for many more to serve, and I am inviting all



talent with us. We also built two large canvas flats for the Celebrate Center (upper left and right), which we painted to fit the Advent theme, *Just Wait*. These were a wonderful burst of color for the space, and we would like to continue to make these. The current Epiphany set will be used through February 23, and then we will need a new set for Lent. If you love to draw,

doodle, sketch, and/or paint, this is a wonderful opportunity for you to use your talents for worship. I look forward to meeting many of you artistic folks. Contact me, Gene LeVasseur, Director of Worship, glevasseur@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 42.



Kevin Gansz, the curator of education at the Siouxland Heritage Museums, will be the guest presenter at the next Friendship Club meeting, on February 18. Kevin's presentation, "Then and Now Sioux Falls," explores the history of Sioux Falls from the 1860s to 1910 by compar-

ing historic photographs to contemporary images. The program will begin at 10:30 A.M., in the Friendship Room, followed by lunch in The Gathering Place. Come and enjoy this glimpse of history, and some good fellowship together, at Friendship Club!

Taking the First Step by Joan Bacon

"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step."
—Martin Luther King Jr.

On January 7, I visited the first session of the 2020 Stephen Ministry Training Class. Nine people, eight from OSL and one from Wesley United Methodist, were there, under the direction of Pr. Tim Lemme. The class will meet weekly through March 31, for a total of 50 hours. While the participants can't yet "see the whole

staircase" of what Stephen Ministry involves, or the circumstances of the people they may serve, they are taking "the first step in faith" just by attending. And for that, we can rejoice!

Dr. King's words apply to all of us, too. We take "the first step" into new jobs, relationships, parenting, or communities—all without the ability to "see the whole staircase." Sometimes the staircase leads to deep joy or unexpected opportunities; other times it wanders in the wilderness, tunnels in depression, or passes through the valley of the shadow of death. If you find yourself on a difficult stretch of stairway, remember—you aren't alone! God is with you at every step! And Stephen Ministers are available walk with you as, together, you walk by faith, contact Pr. Tim Lemme (336-2942, ext. 19, or tlemme@oslchurch.com) or Deb Harlan (336-2942, ext. 48, or dharlan@oslchurch.com).

Steven Ministry Class of 2020: *Front:* Sara Curry Stevenson, Carrie Aaron, Karen Renken, Kathleen Soldwisch; *back:* Liz Toomajian, Loren Tschetter, Kevin Tollefson, Martha Rossing, Ron Rossing.



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 5, 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 Caring Ministries. 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). Wednesdays, February 12 and 26, 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., in the Conference Room. For caregivers of those Office with Alzheimer's and dementia, a place to share and to receive understanding and empathy. Contact Caring Ministries, 336-2942, for information.

Recent Loss Series The next Recent Loss Series will be held on Wednesdays in March, at 5:30 P.M., in the Chapel, ending in time to attend Lenten worship at 6:40. Participants are welcome to partake in the OSL community meal before class, beginning at 5:00 in The Gathering Place: look for the group's sign. To register, contact Michelle Anderson, mianderson@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 48.

We Are Called! by Nancy Krueger

Gather Magazine's current Bible study is "We Are Called!" I find this an interesting title as I am the new WELCA president for the next two years. What makes us take on such a role? How are we called to take on a new



challenge? I hope that as you look at the Bible study in the following months, you examine in yourself what Jesus is calling you to do in your life and the lives of those around you. Below are some opportunities for you to participate in if you are feeling the call.

February Bible Study: "We Are Called!" by Kathryn A. Kleinhans.

Theme Verses: 1 Samuel 3:1–10, Isaiah 6:1–8, 2 Kings 22:8–20, Judges 4 and 5, Jeremiah 1:1–8 (source: gathermagazine.org).

Prayer: Gracious God, open our minds and our hearts to your word that we may learn together and grow in faith. Open our mouths to your word that we may share the good news of Jesus Christ with everyone that we meet. Open our arms to your word that we may show our faith through our actions. Amen.

Board Position Opening: We are searching for a Vice President. Please let me know (nancy.krueger9@gmail.com) if you would be interested in serving on the board. We would love to have you as part of our team.

"Sweets for Your Valentine" Sale: The decadent sweets sale will be held on Sunday, February 9, 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 and supports WELCA's Unit Wide Mission Projects. If you wish to donate chocolate treats, have them to The Gathering Place by 8:45 on February 9, or leave them, labeled, in the Friendship Room kitchen before then.

OSL WELCA 2020 Schedule of Events:

- Sweets for Your Valentine Fundraiser – Sunday, February 9
- Annual Spring Luncheon – Saturday, April 25
- Group Activity – Wednesday Night, July, TBD
- Fall Gathering – Saturday, September 10
- Lefse Making – November, TBD
- Pie and Lefse Sale Fundraiser – TBD
- Christmas Luncheon – Saturday, December 12

2020 Unit Wide Mission Projects: "Just Love" is the theme of the triennial conference in Arizona this year. This also is our theme for the year. We will continue to support the groups that we have supported in the past: Project CAR, WestSide Lutheran, Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota, USD Luther Center, St. Dysmas, Heartland House, Union Gospel Mission, University Lutheran Center, and Prison Congregations of America. We will continue to support our partnership with Susan B. Anthony Elementary, and hope to grow that relationship this year. We are also looking at helping with monetary contributions for outfitting a new kitchen in the Friendship Room. Please remember these groups when considering your offerings for the year.

WELCA Board Members: Nancy Krueger, President; *open*, Vice President; Karen Zimbeck, Secretary; Lori Tendler, Treasurer; Sherry Roth, Mission Action; Jodie Nielsen, Advisor

Tune in to OSL!

You'll find recent videos of worship services, weekly information updates, and special events at osl-church.com/media, but in addition you'll want to subscribe to OSL's YouTube channel, where videos are archived for easy access. Visit youtube.com/oslchurchsf.





OSLC Foundation

The Multiplier Effect

A recent trip to the Black Hills included an invigorating hike to the top of Black Elk Peak. The temperature was rather mild for early January, however steady winds in the 40 mph range, gusting to the mid 50s, didn't allow ample time to survey the incredible 360-degree views. On the way down I recalled the first time I ventured up the then Harney Peak, in 1972. The hike was with an OSL youth group and part of a week-long camping experience at Ft. Courage (part of Atlantic Mountain Ranch). Not really thinking about the long-term effect of that hike at the time, I now somewhat grasp the multiplier effect as a result of the outing: two of those hikers became integral to my future and remain close friends today.

The following is a list of people who have given to the OSLC Foundation since September 1. In 2019, more than 100 made gifts to the Foundation. Each of those gifts have the same multiplier effect as the recent hike. When gifts are made they honor our loved ones. Those gifts also help us with the grieving process as we recall and cherish memories as we press on without them. The monetary support serves the OSL congregation for years and years, sometimes seen, sometimes unseen.

It is important for you to know that your gifts are greatly appreciated and stewarded with the utmost care by the OSLC Foundation board. Please contact me, joien@sio.midco.net, and together we can talk about your multipliers.

Gifts to the OSLC Foundation Endowment

Ralph and LaVonne Johnshoy
Donald and Sarah Abbas
Robert and Rita Elmen Foundation
Dan and Margretta Van Schepen

In Honor of Pauline Nelson's Birthday

Curtis and Elaine Sandvall

In Memory of Charles Dawdy

Don and Sharon Lehmann

In Memory of Ed Sessler

Leslie and Carolyn Svendsen

In Memory of Charles Kinnunen

Darlene Kinnunen
Lloyd and Donna Knutson
Marsha Millage
Jim and Rosalie Ryan

In Memory of Stella Curry

Robert and Joan Thimjon
Jim and Rosalie Ryan
Dorothy and Brian Peterson
Curtis and Elaine Sandvall
Dennis and Pamela Hanneman

In Memory of LeRoy Schriever

Dorothy and Brian Peterson

In Memory of Jeff Hazard

Leslie and Carolyn Svendsen

In Memory of Lois Ahrendt

Ruth Olsen
Beverly Petersen
Alan and Arlys Stanga
Bruce and Wendy Hasche
Richard and Gloria Landborg
Rita Elmen
Jim and Leann Kvernes

In Memory of Don Pearson

Beverly Budahl
Ruth Olsen
Richard and Gloria Landborg
Curtis and Elaine Sandvall

In Memory of Bev Miller

Ronald and Martha Rossing
Jon and Julie Oien
Phyllis Harmsen
Ronald and Anne Larson

In Memory of Mandeline Gaede

Robert and Joan Thimjon

In Memory of Norma Joyce

Conrad and Helen Dice

In Memory of Rita Elmen

Ronald and Martha Rossing
Jackie and Howard Wickett
Conrad and Helen Dice
Donald and Coryll Weeg
James and Carol Oakland

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An OSL Youth Christmas

We had quite the finish to 2019 at OSL Youth Ministry. Before Christmas break, our middle schoolers had their second annual Christmas



Games and White

Elephant Gift Exchange. With over twenty MSYG students in attendance, we played such games as “Christmas Antlers,” “Unwrap a Kiss,” and “O Christmas Tree” before eating some Christmas pizza, talking about the



nativity, and opening
(and stealing) our white elephant gifts.

A few days later, our high school youth celebrated the holidays with their second annual Progressive Dinner. Thirty-five kids and adults were able to join in this year as we took the festivities up a notch by renting a bus and visiting homes around the Sioux Falls area. The bus was a blast, host homes were so welcoming, the food was amazing, and gift-giving was filled with smiles. As usual, the white elephant gifts were a hit, with items such as socks, games, candy, and my personal favorite, a box full of firewood. Both events were a reminder of what a blessing it is to serve these wonderful youth and how grateful we are to be in a congregation that provides the opportunity to grow in our faith, serve the world around us, and have a lot of fun.

—John Schomberg,
Director of Youth Ministry



Four- and Five-Year-Old Preschoolers Walk with Jesus

The grocery store. Disney Land. Dance competitions. School. Building LEGOs. The doctor.

These are a few of the places Jesus has gone with OSL's four- and five-year-old preschoolers—well, Jesus goes everywhere with everyone, all the time: we mean *Plush* Jesus, going with preschoolers participating in the Walk with Jesus Milestone.

Every child at Our Savior's through grade five is invited to participate in a milestone. Each one carefully aligns with the stage they are at in their life.

These milestones help nurture faith formation, bring families into relationships with the Youth and Family Pastor, and celebrate new seasons of understanding.

When students enter preschool, their world changes. For some it is their first time away from home. For all, it is a time of growing conceptual awareness.

At OSL, we celebrate this new understanding—and work to calm feelings—with reminders that Jesus is very present with us always. So for one week students carry Plush Jesus with them wherever they go. While they have him, their parents document where Plush Jesus

went with their child and take pictures that help share their story, which are later used for a video to be shown in worship services. As students go through their days, constantly having Plush Jesus by their side, they are reminded that *real* Jesus is a part of everything they do. That there is nothing they experience that the Lord is not present for. In the midst of their fun, Jesus' presence and love for them is reinforced.

This month and into March, you will see students carrying Plush Jesus. When you do, encourage them to have fun and let them know that you think it is special that Jesus is with them. This is one way to make them feel special and for us as a congregation to live out our promise, made in their baptism, to cheer them on in the faith. And enjoy the video, which will be presented at all services on March 29.

If you are the parent of a four- or five-year-old preschooler and you need the SignUpGenius link for your child to walk with Jesus, email me, Melissa Nesdahl, Director of Faith Formation, mnesdahl@oslchurch.com.

Plush Jesus reminds us what a beautiful gift milestone ministry is. Know that Jesus walks with you always.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

and

The South Dakota Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists

present

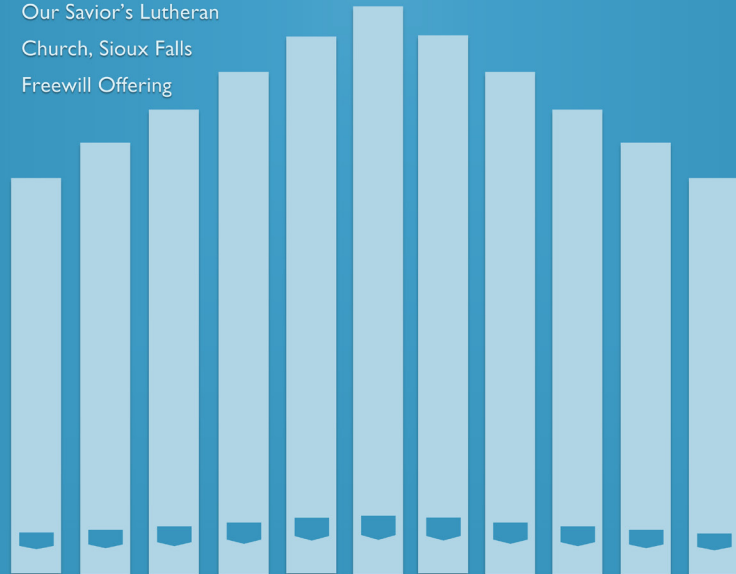
Tyler Boehmer

Organ Recital

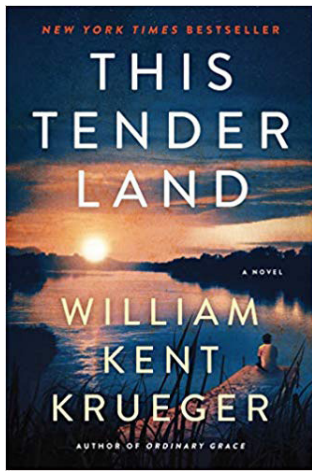
February 15, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Our Savior's Lutheran
Church, Sioux Falls
Freewill Offering



Winter One Church One Read



The Library committee has selected *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger as its Winter One Church One Read title. Copies are available for checkout in the Library, and the discussion is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. on March 22 in the Office Conference Room.

This Tender Land is a magnificent novel about four orphans on a life-changing odyssey during the Great Depression. In 1932, the Lincoln School in Minnesota is a pitiless place where hundreds of Native American children, forcibly separated

from their parents, are sent to be educated.

It is also home to an orphan named Odie O'Banion, a lively boy whose exploits earn him the superintendent's wrath. Forced to flee, he and his brother Albert, their best friend Mose, and a brokenhearted little girl named Emmy steal away in a canoe, heading for the mighty Mississippi and a place to call their own.

Over the course of one unforgettable summer, these four orphans will journey into the unknown and cross paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds. With the feel of a modern classic, *This Tender Land* is an enthralling, big-hearted epic that shows how the magnificent American landscape connects us all, haunts our dreams, and makes us whole.

Second Saturday Movie



This month's Second Saturday Movie, on February 8, will be *Champion: Victory Begins in the Heart*.

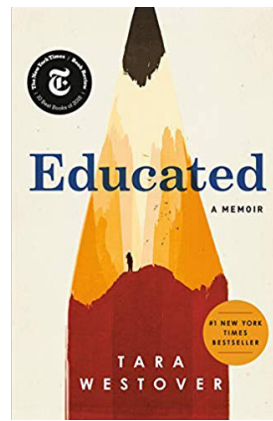
Sean Weathers is a hotshot dirt-track racer with a thriving career, adoring fans, and a loving daughter. Jack Reed is a successful businessperson working to reconnect with his estranged son. When a single mistake results in tragedy, the paths of these two men cross, and an unexpected bond forms between them. Together, they must work through

the painful journey toward healing.

Make a day of it with the movie at 2:30 in the Holy Word Theatre, followed by worship at 5:00 in the Sanctuary, and dinner afterward in The Gathering Place!

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 book. The February 27 selection will be *Educated* by Tara Westover.



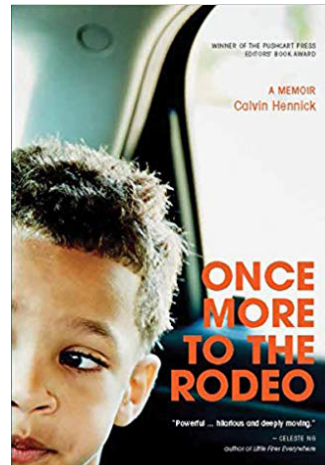
Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent.

When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she had traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

Join this exciting community of readers! A list of 2020 selections is available in the OSL Library.

New for Adults

***Once More to the Rodeo: A Memoir* by Calvin Hennick.** Five



years into fatherhood, Calvin Hennick is plagued by self-doubt and full of questions. How can he teach his son to be a man, when his own father figures abandoned him? As a white man, what can he possibly teach his biracial son about how to live as a black man in America? What does it even mean to be a man today, when society's expectations of men seem to change from moment to moment?

In search of answers, Calvin takes his young son on the road, traveling across the country to the annual rodeo in his small Iowa hometown. Along the way, a stop at the Baseball Hall of Fame turns into an impromptu lesson about racism and segregation.

In Niagara Falls, a day of arcade games and go-karts unexpectedly morphs into a titanic struggle between father and son. A stop in Chicago rips the scars off old wounds, and back in Iowa, Calvin is forced to confront the most difficult question of all: What if his flaws and family history doom him to repeat the mistakes of the past?

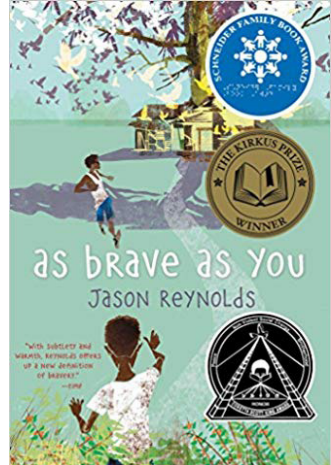
In this unforgettable debut memoir, Calvin Hennick holds a mirror up to both himself and modern America in an urgent and timely story that all parents, and indeed all Americans, need to read.

Additional New Titles for Adults

- *Lady Clementine* by Marie Benedict
- *The Pale-faced Lie* by David Crow
- *The Good Neighbor* by A. J. Banner

New for Middle- and High-School Youth

As Brave as You by Jason Reynolds. Genie's summer is full of surprises. The first is that he and his big brother, Ernie, are leaving Brooklyn for the very first time to spend the summer with their grandparents all the way in Virginia—in the country. The second surprise comes when Genie figures out that their grandfather is blind. Thunderstruck, Genie peppers Grandpop with questions about how he hides it so well (besides wearing way cool Ray-Bans).



How does he match his clothes? Know where to walk? Cook with a gas stove? Pour a glass of sweet tea without spilling

it? Genie thinks Grandpop must be the bravest guy he's ever known, but he starts to notice that his grandfather never leaves the house—as in never. When he finds the secret room that Grandpop is always disappearing into—a room so full of songbirds and plants that it's almost as if it's been pulled inside-out—he begins to wonder if his grandfather is really so brave after all.

Then Ernie lets him down in the bravery department. It's his fourteenth birthday, and Grandpop says to become a man, you have to learn how to shoot a gun. Genie thinks that is awesome until he realizes Ernie has no interest in learning how to shoot. None. Nada. Dumbfounded by Ernie's reluctance, Genie is left to wonder—is bravery and becoming a man only about proving something, or is it just as important to own up to what you won't do?

Additional New Titles for Middle- and High-School Youth

- *Free Lunch* by Rex Ogle
- *Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson
- *Dog Man: Fetch-22* by Dav Pilkey

OSL Library Hours

Sunday — 8:30 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.

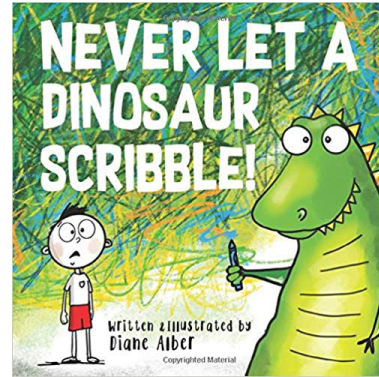
Thursday — 9:00 A.M.–noon

Friday — Closed

2nd Saturday of the Month — 10:00 A.M.–noon,
4:30–6:30 P.M.

New Picture, Early Reader, and Chapter Books

Never Let a Dinosaur Scribble! by Diane Alber. Dinosaurs are pretty strong and powerful, so why can't they scribble? This story is about a little boy who keeps hearing, "Never let a dinosaur scribble," but in his heart believes that people just don't understand how beautiful scribbling can be.



He wonders what would happen if he just gave a dinosaur one crayon to scribble with and realizes that the dinosaur had other ideas

in mind. The dinosaur ends up creating too much and creating a whole new set of problems. With a little imagination, this makes an amazing story.

Additional New Picture Books

- *The Pajama Zoo Parade* by Agnes Green
- *I Can't Eat This Stuff* by Liz Fletcher

New Early Reader Books

- *Big Snowman, Little Snowman* by Tish Rabe
- *Mission PAW (PAW Patrol)* by Random House

New Chapter Books

- *The Last Firehawk* by Katrina Charman
- *Unicorn Diaries: Bo's Magical New Friend* by Rebecca Elliott

Warm up With a Good Book

Be sure to visit the snow and winter book and movie displays in the OSL Library. To make your selection easy, a large number of items are on separate displays, one for children and youth and one for adults.



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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 26 – noon, 5:30, and 7:00 P.M.,
in the Sanctuary

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Worship – noon, in the Chapel,
and 6:40 P.M., in the Sanctuary

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

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youtube.com/oslchurchsf

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Your Offering Makes a Difference

Your generosity is making a real difference in people's lives through the mission and ministry of OSL.

Thank you for your faithful and passionate commitment to God's work through this congregation. Your generosity helps Our Savior's fully fund its ministry of connecting faith to everyday life.

**Ministry Support
Information for 2019 Is
Available from the Church
Office on Request**