

The

intention

In Church and Community

From the Senior Pastor Speaking of Stuff



I have a confession to make: I have long been intrigued with fasting as a spiritual discipline. As an aging athlete, I have a great appreciation for the idea of committing myself to a regimen as a way of working toward

a higher goal. Fasting, to me, has always seemed like a workout for the “spiritual athlete,” adopting a practice—in this case, eliminating a meal or a particular food and replacing it with prayer and/or meditation—as a way of centering myself spiritually in order to grow closer to God and become more aware of God’s will for my life.

This curiosity, however, has not necessarily led me to adopt fasting as a routine in my life. Food, it turns out, is something my body needs (!) on a fairly regular basis, and on those occasions when I have attempted to fast as part of a spiritual exercise, the rest of my life has suffered to the extent that any potential growth I may have experienced in my spiritual life was compromised by the side effects of being overly hungry.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6, and in the church Lent has traditionally been a season of focusing on spiritual practices like fasting as a way of preparing our bodies, minds, and souls for the celebration of Easter. These practices tend to focus on giving up something, sort of an exercise in decluttering our lives so that there’s

more room to reflect on and accept our need for a savior.

Often this naturally leads to an unintended consequence: the adoption of a negative attitude toward the stuff that fills our lives, like it’s inherently evil, always putting us at risk of losing our spirituality if we happen to develop a liking for it.

But here’s the deal. We need stuff. We need food and water. This time of year it’s clear we need a warm coat, and wool socks come in pretty handy too. Most of us need a car to get to work, everyone needs a place to live, and a few things like a table and a bed make life a whole lot more comfortable. So even if leaving some of that behind for a period of time can lead us on a journey of spiritual discovery and renewal,



eventually we’ll need to come back to at least most of it as a matter of survival.

Much of the time, however, the stuff we have tends to fade into the background where we just sort of take it for granted. The anthropologist

Daniel Miller calls this *the humility of things*. Miller says, “The less we are aware of [things], the more powerfully they can determine our expectations.... They determine what takes place to the extent that we are unconscious of their capacity to do so.” (*Stuff*, p. 50) In other words, even without our knowing it, stuff can set the stage for our lives, and because of that, we almost never understand how much stuff controls our lives.

But... if we ever want to understand our relationship to each other, or if we ever want to grow in our relationship with God, we need to have a healthy relationship with stuff.

This Lent, we’ll notice the stuff around us. Once we notice it, we can begin to understand how much it controls us. Then we’ll look to scrip-

ture, where we’ll find that God doesn’t want us to abandon all our things after all.

Instead, God wants us to put our stuff to godly

continued



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Connecting Faith to Everyday Life

continued from p. 1

use, like when we share things we have to help one another. God uses things to show us signs of God's promises. God gives us things to help us remember that God is here with us, right now. And God wants us to use things to enjoy the life God gives.

What kinds of stuff are we talking about here, anyhow? Well, anything. We'll talk about food. Our bodies, the thing we can't live without. Clothing, which controls us in ways we rarely consider. Religious items like crosses and Bibles. Even our houses, which are the biggest things most people own.

Once we notice things, we can acknowledge their power over us. Only then can we find release from their power as we turn the stuff in our lives to God's holy purposes.

I invite you to join us this Lent for what promises to be a journey of reflection and renewal. Weekend worship will keep the usual schedule, Saturdays at 5:00 P.M. and Sundays at 8:45 and 11:00 A.M. On Wednesdays during Lent, starting March 13, we will also gather at noon in the Chapel and at 6:40 P.M. in the Sanctuary for mid-week Lenten worship. On Ash Wednesday, March 6, worship including the imposition of ashes will take place at noon, 5:30, and 7:00 P.M., in the Sanctuary.

Together let's explore how we can use the stuff in our lives for godly purposes.

In Christ's love,

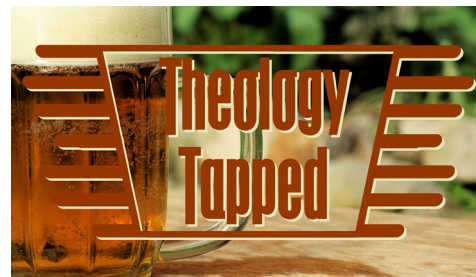


Pr. Randy Gehring



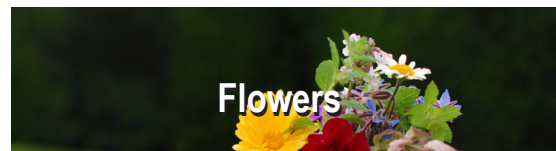
Silent Auction Banquet and Youth Talent Show

Everyone is invited to the Silent Auction Banquet and Youth Talent Show on March 3. Doors open at 5:00 P.M., with dinner at 5:30 and the Youth Talent Show at 6:00. Tickets cost \$10 each. Questions? Contact John, jschomberg@oslchurch.com.



Theology Tapped

Looking for engaging conversation on matters of faith and life in a fun, informal setting? Join Pr. Randy for Theology Tapped on Thursday, March 28, from 8:00 to 9:30 P.M., at Monk's House of Ale Repute, 420 E. 8th St.



January 13, 2019

Flowers are sponsored in loving memory of Warren Jensen, whose birthday would be January 10, by his family.

February 3, 2019

Flowers are given by Lone Svendsen in memory of her son Darrell Svendsen, whose ashes are being buried at Black Hills National Cemetery on February 4, which is his 79th birthday.



January 20, 2018

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

OUR SAVIOR'S STAFF DIRECTORY

Church Office: (605) 336-2942 • oslchurch.com

Maribeth Anderson
Visitation Minister (PT)
336-2942 (Church Office)

Michelle Anderson, ext. 28
Faith Community Nurse
miaanderson@oslchurch.com

Stella Curry, ext. 10
Office Manager
scurry@oslchurch.com

Denny Gale, ext. 39
Celebrate Band Coordinator
dgale@oslchurch.com

Randy Gehring, ext. 11
Senior Pastor
rgehring@oslchurch.com

Deb Harlan, ext. 48
Caring Ministries Coordinator
dharlan@oslchurch.com

Nancy Heesch, ext. 42
Nursery Director
robertheesch@yahoo.com

Barb Haugan, ext. 23
Business Administrator
bhaugan@oslchurch.com

Sami Johnson, ext. 12
Pastor of Youth and Family
sjohnson@oslchurch.com

Duresa Kabato
Custodian
336-2942 (Church Office)

Justin Kosec, ext. 44
Pastor of Outreach and Communication
jkosec@oslchurch.com

Don Lehmann
Pastor of Visitation (PT)
336-2942 (Church Office)

Tim Lemme, ext. 19
Pastor of Caring Ministries
tlemme@oslchurch.com

Gene LeVasseur, ext. 40
Director of Worship
glevasseur@oslchurch.com

Deb Merxbauer, ext. 25
Library Coordinator
dmerxbauer@oslchurch.com

Nicole Mindt, ext. 33
Youth Coordinator
nmindt@oslchurch.com

Loretta Nelson, ext. 14
Congregational Life Coordinator
lnelson@oslchurch.com

Melissa Nesdahl, ext. 17
Director of Faith Formation
mnesdahl@oslchurch.com

Lloyd Olson
Facilities Manager
336-2942 (Church Office)

Bill Reynolds, ext. 15
Director of Communications
breynolds@oslchurch.com

John Schomberg, ext. 35
Director of Youth Ministry
jschomberg@oslchurch.com

Debbie Theis, ext. 43
Food Coordinator
dtheis@oslchurch.com

Matthew Tylutki, ext. 31
Organist and Associate
Director of Music and Fine Arts
mtylutki@oslchurch.com

Deanna Wehrspann, ext. 37
Music and Worship Professional
dwehrspann@oslchurch.com

Lavada Woods, ext. 49
Financial Assistant
lwoods@oslchurch.com

Looked at but Not Being Seen

By Joan Bacon

Lately, I've been reading about "a national epidemic of loneliness." If it is an epidemic, our nation is not the only one afflicted: in 2017, Prime Minister Theresa May appointed Britain's first Minister for Loneliness to develop programs to improve social connectedness!



stephen MINISTRY

not. The worst thing in life is to end up with people that make you feel all alone." Over time, that kind of loneliness can cause physical and psychological problems including a mindset in which the lonely person sees rejection where there really is none, and becomes suspicious, wary of social interactions, and overly sensitive. This mindset adds to their spiral of isolation.

Causes of loneliness range from spending too much time on social media to "situational variables" like physical isolation, moving to a new location,

divorce, retirement, or loss of a significant person. Stephen Ministers are trained to help people get through loneliness-inducing situations by providing a listening ear, confidentiality, and compassion grounded in Christian faith. If you feel lonely—"looked at but not being seen as a whole person"—talk to Pr. Tim Lemme or Deb Harlan in the Church Office, 336-2942, or any Stephen Minister. They are there to help.

I had assumed elderly people suffered the most loneliness. But some researchers reported that the younger generation's scores on loneliness scales suggest their generation is lonelier than people 70 and above. Even extroverts can be at risk for loneliness. Case in point, the late actor Robin Williams, who said, "I used to think the worst thing in life was to end up all alone. It's



Gretta Van Schepen, Augustana Woman's Softball Coach, will be the guest speaker at this month's Friendship Club, March 19 at 10:30 A.M., in the Friendship Room. She will speak about her experiences coaching young adults, Augie's transition to Division 1 Softball, recruiting, coaching at the collegiate level, and much more. Lunch will follow the presentation, at 11:30, in The Gathering Place. Come and enjoy this wonderful time together, and bring a friend—or two!—to Friendship Club!

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, March 6, 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, March 13 and 27, 9:30 A.M., Sonshine Room.

Recent Loss Group

Wednesdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 P.M., in the Chapel. Contact Michelle Anderson, 336-2942, ext. 28, or mianderson@oslchurch.com, to preregister. OSL Community Supper is available before the meeting, at 5:00 in The Gathering Place.

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.

Walking to the Cross

A walking program has physical benefits, and also may draw us closer to God by adding an intentional reflective or devotional element.

Stepping away from the demands of our daily routines to walk, reflect, and pray reminds us that God created us and wants to come near to us. The spiritual benefits of a walking program include a time to pray, give thanks for creation, share with a companion walker, and gain a sense of stewardship for God's gift of life. The health benefits of walking include weight loss, stress management, improved mental health, lowered blood pressure, restorative sleep, and cardiovascular health.

This Lenten season, join your OSL friends for Walking Workout Wednesdays, at 10:00 A.M., in Fellowship Hall, beginning on March 13 and continuing through April 10. Using a Leslie Sansone DVD, the group will walk in place with

easy-to-follow moves for shaping the waistline, flattening the tummy, and strengthening the back. Following the DVD workout, everyone will be invited on a 30-minute walk around the building—inside, of course!

As the author Butch Odom puts it, "As you walk with Christ through the season of Lent, we pray that you may become healthier in body and spirit with each step you take toward the cross."

Questions? Contact Deb Harlan, dharlan@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 48.



Photo by Lindsay Henwood on Unsplash.com

It Pays to Check!

This comes from OSL member Marilyn Anderson:

Last November, Our Savior's partnered with Sanford Health to offer



vascular and heart scans to the congregation. I decided to do both vascular and heart, and asked my husband, Richard, to go with me. At first he declined, but after thinking about it for a couple of days, he decided he would have both scans. Richard's heart scan was 1400: it should have been under 200.

The following week Richard saw a cardiologist to have a stent put in, but the blockages were too significant. Within a couple of hours, he was talking to a cardiac surgeon, and it developed

that he needed a triple bypass operation. He'd never had any symptoms of heart disease, and may well have had a heart attack or stroke except for the scan! Thank God he decided to go have the scans, and thank you, Our Savior's, for offering them!

Spring

OSL Women's Retreat

Saturday, April 13

9:00 A.M. to Noon

The Gathering Place

Brunch, Devotions, Music, and Speaker

Featuring

SANAA ABOUREZK

Gourmet Chef, Author, Restaurateur,

Nutritionist, and Blogger who is

passionate about the art of cooking and

fighting child hunger.

Tickets are \$10, and are available in the Church Office or via the link at oslchurch.com/events.

Hope For Living with Illness or Cancer

People living with long-term or chronic illness or disabilities come together at OSL on Tuesdays at 2:00 P.M. in Caring Ministries to share news, sorrows, and triumphs in a lively, often very spiritual ongoing conversation.

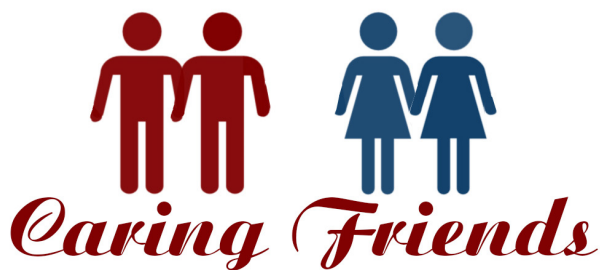
The group is open to anyone dealing with long-term health issues, as well as their spouses or other supporters or caregivers. No registration is required. Come participate in this fun and caring group! Questions? Contact Michelle Anderson, mianderson@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 28.

Lenten Recent Loss Series

OSL's Recent Loss group will meet on Wednesdays in Lent—March 20 through April 10—from 5:30 to 6:30 P.M., in the Chapel. You may join the group for soup and pie Lenten supper at 5:00 in The Gathering Place (look for the designated table), and are invited to worship at 6:40 in the Sanctuary. Contact Michelle Anderson, mianderson@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 28, with questions.

A Ministry of Presence

OSL Caring Friends are volunteers who reach out monthly to members residing in care facilities in the Sioux Falls area. This ministry program was created as an opportunity to minister to those who can no longer participate in worship and fellowship opportunities, to make them feel connected, and remind them they are a vital part of their church family.



Through phone calls, mail, personal visits, and prayer, Caring Friends extend the Love of Christ to those who may themselves alone or disconnected. This outreach is an essential part of OSL's mission: *Connecting Faith to Everyday Life*.

You are invited to be part of the Caring Friends Ministry Team, and serve as a living reminder of God's presence and love! Contact Pr. Tim Lemme, 336-2942, ext. 19, or tlemme@oslchurch.com, or Deb Harlan, 336-2942, ext. 48, or dharlan@oslchurch.com.

Have You Ever Missed a Deadline?

The odds are that we have all missed a deadline or two along the way—this article is no exception! In fact, this article may not even appear in the March *Intercom* because of my tardiness. Like the Kidtalk from a few Sundays ago, there are certain circumstances or events or duties that can be frustrating to us, and they cause delays in getting our math homework finished. Or filing our tax return on time. Or throwing the line in the water one more time, hoping to get a fish after a long day of coming up empty-handed. Or missing out on _____ (you fill in the blank).

If you missed the Foundation's annual meeting on January 27, you may not have heard about the great financial support the Foundation provide for OSL. In 2018, the Foundation gave \$122,000 to boost the mission of Our Savior's. We can all be grateful that the Foundation didn't miss that deadline!

The month of March contains the only command of the year: *march forth!* That's what Jesus was saying when he told the disciples to cast their nets in the water one more time: *march forth!* Try one more time. Keep at it.

So I'll march forth and invite you to visit with me about the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Foundation, to sit down together and visit about the past, present, and future work of Our Savior's and the Foundation. What's your deadline? Whenever it works for you! Contact me, Jon Oien, joien@sio.midco.net, and we'll march forth together!

Service of Healing

For anyone who has experienced any type of loss, OSL's Healing Service offers comfort and support. This year's Healing Service will be on Tuesday, April 16, at 6:30 P.M., in the Sanctuary. A blessing will be given to those who come forward for individual prayer and anointing.

Men's Bible Breakfast

OSL's Men's Bible Breakfast 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 March 2 and 16.

For more details, contact Pr. Tim Lemme, tlemme@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 19.

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 later this spring. For details contact the Church Office, 336-2942, or check oslchurch.com.



Olivia Bisel



Marlin and Betty Smith



**Chaz Palmer
and Lindsey Buehner**



Kymberlee Selzler

Not pictured: Bryan and Meagan Hentges



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Connecting Faith to Everyday Life.

Neighbors by Pr. Justin Kosec

A few months ago, I had the joyful opportunity to attend the citizenship ceremony for our ministry partner Maria Cabello-Solomon, pastor at Pueblo de Dios. The wood-paneled courtroom was packed, and the judge beamed as she administered the oath to several dozen new Americans. When these new citizens introduced themselves, I was astonished at the number of countries they represented—Mexico, Iraq, Nepal, Congo, China, Canada, and many more.

On February 3, a small crew of OSL members joined the team at Peace Lutheran to distribute the 2,784 rolls of toilet paper Our Savior's gathered in January for the Necessities for Neighbors program. Some of the team stocked toilet paper; some handed out laundry detergent; and others helped the clients "shop" for the goods provided there.

I worked in the waiting area, answering questions and helping direct traffic.

Many came for diapers, but we had to turn them away. The previous week's bad weather meant the diaper shipment was stranded in Des Moines. Over 340 *families* stayed. At one point, nearly 200 people patiently waited in the narthex at Peace.

I was astonished at the diversity of the crowd. If you spoke English as a first language, you were definitely in the extreme minority. It reminded me of that day months before, when people from all over the world took their oath of loyalty to this country in the courtroom downtown.

I recognized many of them from the citizenship ceremony.

One man came up to me and showed me Christmas literature he had found in the narthex at Peace. He didn't speak English, but he beamed as he pointed at the brochure with the baby in the manger. He showed me his phone; he had pulled up videos of Nepali Christmas carols. He gestured to himself, and to me, and he said, "Brothers! Brothers!"

On the surface, one might wonder if this man and I shared anything in common. The accident of our birth gave us different language, different culture, vastly different privileges. I have two bundles of Costco toilet pa-



The OSL team at February's Necessities for Neighbors distribution

per in my basement; this man waited two hours to take home four rolls.

But he wanted me to know that if we dug a bit further, if we went beneath the language we spoke and the cars we drove and the nametags we wore and the reasons we attended Necessities for Neighbors, we would discover something much more important.

We were countrymen. And we loved the same God. He gave me a hug—the first I had received that day.

Necessities for Neighbors is a program that provides certain essentials that SNAP (food stamps) does not cover. To learn more about Necessities for Neighbors and how you may get involved the next time OSL helps with the distribution, contact Pr. Justin, jkosec@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, 44.

Transformed by Faith

by Jodie Nielsen

Gather magazine's March Bible study is a four-part study "*in* John's gospel, rather than a comprehensive study of John's gospel":

Meetings with Jesus

by Julie A. Kanarr. Session three: "Friends for Life in Christ": "In the Gospel of John, we see how the lives of a woman who committed adultery, a blind man, and three friends of Jesus are transformed by faith."

Theme/focus verse: "[Jesus said], 'I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have learned from my Father.'" John 15:15

Prayer: "Gracious and loving God, you have come among us in Jesus. You meet us with mercy and love. You name us as your friends and raise us up to new life in Christ. Lead us to new insights through our study of your Word. Open our lives to your presence, deepen our faith, and renew us in hope. Amen."

In looking at the titles of articles in the March

Gather magazine, some thoughts that came immediately to mind—having not read the articles yet—were, "That's a rather interesting title"; "that seems to be pretty straightforward"; "that's the name of a song"; and, "I have no idea what this article is about, but it sounds interesting."

It made me think of how my day, week, month, year, life would be titled regarding God and my relationship with God. What about you? What would your title(s) be?

Here are article titles from the March *Gather* magazine. See what your first impressions are:

"Welcome: Jesus in Three Dimensions" by Sarah Carson

"Give Us This Day: Trash Talk" by Helen Hollingsworth

"Soup's On: So Be Stretched, Be Filled, Be Warmed, Be Mindful" by Cara Strickland

"Not Just Friends: Jesus Sees Friendship as Much, Much More" by Anna Madsen

"Calla Lilies and Crosses: Healing Came to Us in the Land of St. Patrick" by Dave Daubert

"Beloved Community: In John's Gospel, We

Find a Love Beyond All Labels" by Angela T. Khabeb

"Family Matters: You've Got a Friend" by Susie Gamelin

"Earth Wise: Reseeding and Cross Pollination" by Terry L. Bowes

"Make Prayer a Habit: What Might It Look Like to Design Life Around Conversations with God?" by Donna Schaper

"Grace Notes: Celebrate Women's Strength" by Linda Post Bushkofsky

"Amen: Our Frailty" by Catherine Malotky

Board Position Opening. We are searching for a Mission Action Chair. Please let me know if you would be interested in serving on the board: jodie.nielsen@gmail.com. We would love to have you as part of our team.

"By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another." John 13:35

WELCA Board Members: Jodie Nielsen, President; Michelle Schuknecht, Vice President; Nancy Krueger, Treasurer; Karen Zimbeck, Secretary; Tami Skorczewski, Advisor.

OSL Food Ministry

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! Thank you for contributing to the freewill offering to help cover expenses.

Here are the March menus (subject to change):

Sunday Breakfasts

3 – Pueblo de Dios will fix a special breakfast!

10 – Egg bake, caramel rolls, yogurt, orange juice, and donut holes

17 – Scrambled eggs, roasted potatoes, bacon, orange juice, and donut holes

24 – Breakfast sandwiches, tri-taters, fruit, and donut holes

31 – Cheese omelets, sausage patties, hash browns, orange juice, and donut holes

Wednesday Suppers

6 – Ash Wednesday – no meal

13 – Soup and pie

20 – Soup and pie

27 – Soup and pie



Youth Ministry Notes



Middle School Youth Group. Students in grades six through eight are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings, from 10:00 to 10:50, in the Youth Room. Grow in faith through games,

activities, and opportunities to serve, all while learning about God and having a lot of fun.

High School Youth Group. All students in grades nine through 12 are welcome to join us on Wednesday nights, from 7:00 to 9:00, in the Youth Room. This month we are continuing a series about humor in the Bible, led by our own Elle Weg.

High School Girls' Bible Study meets on Sundays, at 10:00 A.M., in the Oasis Room. High-school girls are invited to join Elle, Takara, and Katie to work through different books of the Bible while having opportunities to talk about life and create lasting relationships.

Spring Recharge Camp at Okoboji. There will be three great opportunities for three different age groups at Recharge Camp, a weekend youth retreat *packed* with fun chapel services, comical skits, high-energy praise and worship, stimulating Bible studies, delicious and healthy meals, and Christ-centered fellowship, led by an awesome staff. Come and discover the great God we serve and have a blast with others. High school: March 29–31; middle school: April 5–7; grades four through 6: April 26–28.

What's happening in April and beyond? Check out your March Youth Happenings emails for great information about Recharges for grades four through six, middle school, and high school youth; what is coming up in youth groups; and other great information about OSL's ever-growing Youth Ministry

—John Schomberg,
Director of Youth Ministry
jschomberg@oslchurch.com,
336-2942, ext. 35

Faith Formation Notes



Everyone is welcome to join in the **Button Cross Canvas Cross+Gen event**, on March 10, at 10:00 A.M., in Fellowship Hall. Come explore the

Lenten theme through meaningful discussion while designing your own cross!

The First Grade Lord's Prayer Milestone will be on March 17. Students and their parents or caring adults will attend a pastor-led Family Time at 10:00 A.M., in the Friendship Room, where you will make beautiful "Our Father" wooden cross ornaments and discuss this milestone in faith. Then, during the 11:00 Festive worship service, you will lead the congregation in the Lord's Prayer. Family Time will be in lieu of Sunday School for Sunday learners on March 17.

All students age four through fifth grade will sing in the 11:00 A.M. Festive worship service on March 17. If your child is a Sunday learner, please pick him or her up from Sunday School, show your child where you will be sitting in worship, and then help him or her line up outside the Library to sing.

The Four- and Five-Year-Olds Preschool Walk with Jesus Milestone will be celebrated in all worship services on March 31, with a video highlighting the students' moments shared with Plush Jesus. If you have not yet signed your child up to carry Plush Jesus for the week, email Melissa Nesdahl, mnesdahl@oslchurch.com, to plan a time. All four- and five-year-old preschool students will go to a pastor-led Family Time at 10:00 A.M. to talk through and celebrate this milestone in faith. Family Time will be in lieu of Sunday School for Sunday learners.

—Melissa Nesdahl,
Director of Faith Formation
mnesdahl@oslchurch.com
336-2942, ext. 17

ASHES TO GO!

1. DRIVE IN (UNDER THE CANOPY).
2. RECEIVE ASHES AND A TREAT.
3. GO!

**ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6
7:00 TO 9:00 A.M.**

Eggs-on-the-Shelf

Lent and Easter activity

To keep God's grace at the heart of the Lenten season, come check out items from the OSL Library each Sunday and Wednesday from March 6 through April 21, find one of the Resurrection Eggs hidden among the shelves, and answer a question about the Easter story to receive a prize!



Spring Book Sale

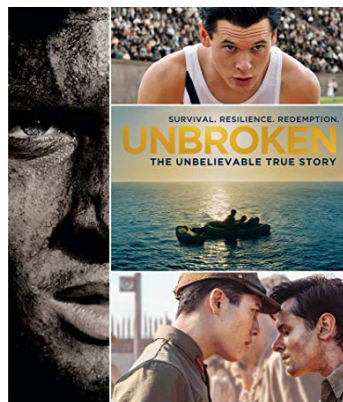
The OSL Library will be accepting books, movie DVDs, and music CDs from March 3 through March 31 for its spring book sale. The book sale will run from 10:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. on Saturday, April 6, and from 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. on Sunday, April 7, in the Friendship Room.



A large selection of children's and adult fiction and non-fiction books will be for sale along with music CDs and movie DVDs. Don't miss it!

Second Saturday Movie

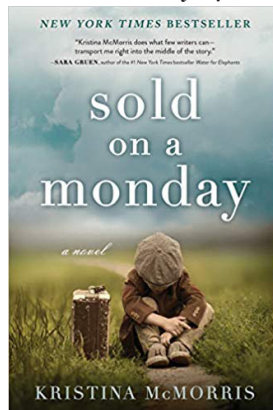
This month's feature, on March 9, will be *Unbroken*, an epic drama that follows the incredible life of Olympian and WWII hero Louis "Louie" Zamperini (Jack O'Connell). When his Army Air Force bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, Zamperini and two other crewmembers survived on a foundering life raft for 47 days. The men faced thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, thirst, starvation, and enemy aircraft. Beyond the raft, they faced a trial even greater—they were caught by the Japanese navy and sent to a prisoner-of-war camp. Driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini answered desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; and brutality with rebellion. (The follow-up movie *Unbroken: Path to Redemption* will be the April Second Saturday Movie.)



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!

Winter One Church One Read

Sold on a Monday by Kristina McMorris is the OSL Library committee's selection for the Winter One Church One Read title.



"Two Children for Sale." The sign is a last resort. It sits on a farmhouse porch in 1931, but could be found anywhere in an era of breadlines, bank runs, and broken dreams. Any mother facing impossible choices could have written it.

For struggling reporter Ellis Reed, the gut-wrenching scene evokes memories of his family's dark past. He snaps a photograph of the children, not meant for publication, but when it leads to his big break, the consequences are more devastating than he ever imagined.

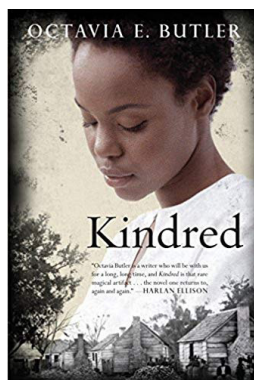
At the paper, Lillian Palmer is haunted by her role in all that happened. She is far too familiar with the heartbreak of children deemed unwanted. As the bonds of motherhood are tested, she and Ellis must decide how much they are willing to risk to mend a fractured family.

Inspired by an actual newspaper photograph that stunned the nation, *Sold on a Monday* is a powerful novel of love, redemption, and the unexpected paths that bring us home.

Copies of the book are available for checkout in the Library; the discussion will be at 10:00 A.M. on March 24 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 book. The March 28 selection will be *Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler.

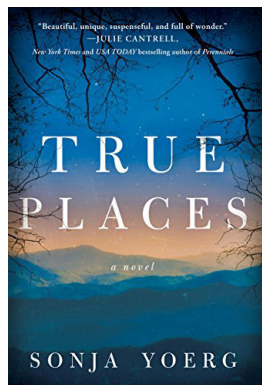


Dana, a modern black woman, is celebrating her 26th birthday with her new husband when she is snatched abruptly from her home in California and transported back in time to the antebellum South. The son of a plantation owner is drowning, and Dana has been summoned to save him. Dana is drawn back repeatedly through time to the slave quarters, and each time the stay grows longer, more arduous, and more dangerous until it is uncertain whether Dana's life will end, long before it has a chance to begin.

Join this exciting community of readers! A list of 2019 selections is available in the OSL Library.

New for Adults

True Places by Sonja Yoerg. A girl emerges from the woods, starved, ill, and alone... and collapses. Suzanne Blake-more hurtles along the highway, away from her overscheduled and completely normal life, and encounters the girl. As Suzanne rushes her to the hospital, she never imagines how the encounter will change her—a change she both fears and desperately needs.



Suzanne has the perfect house, a successful husband, and a thriving family. However, beneath the veneer of an ideal life, her daughter is rebelling, her son is withdrawing, her husband is oblivious to it all, and Suzanne is increasingly unsure of her place in the world. After her discovery of the ethereal 16-year-old, Iris, who has never experienced civilization, Suzanne is compelled to invite Iris into her family's life and all its apparent privileges.

Iris has an independence, a love of solitude, and a discomfort with materialism that contrasts with everything the Blakemores stand for—qualities that awaken in Suzanne first a fascination, then a longing. Now Suzanne can't help but wonder: Is she destined to save Iris, or is Iris the one who will save her?

Additional New Titles for Adults

- *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict
- *To the Moon and Back* by Karen Kingsbury
- *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George

New for Middle- and High-School Youth

Five Feet Apart by Rachael Lippincott. Can you love someone you can never touch?



Stella Grant likes to be in control—even though her totally out of control lungs have sent her in and out of the hospital most of her life. At this point, what Stella needs to control most is keeping herself away from anyone or anything that might pass along an infection and jeopardize the possibility of a lung transplant. Five feet apart. No exceptions.

The only thing Will Newman wants to be in control of is getting out of this hospital. He couldn't care less about his treatments, or a fancy new clinical drug trial. Soon, he'll turn 18 and then he'll be able to unplug all these machines and actually go see the world, not just its hospitals.

Will is exactly what Stella needs to stay away from. If he so much as breathes on Stella, she could lose her spot on the transplant list. Either

one of them could die. The only way to stay alive is to stay apart. Suddenly five feet doesn't feel like safety. It feels like punishment.

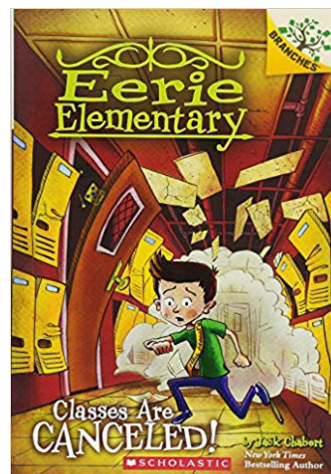
What if they could steal back just a little bit of the space their broken lungs have stolen from them? Would five feet apart really be so dangerous if it stops their hearts from breaking too?

Additional New Titles for Middle- and High-School

- *Speechless* by Adam P. Schmitt
- *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin
- *Dog Diaries* by James Patterson

New Chapter, Early Reader, and Picture Books

Eerie Elementary: Classes Are Canceled by Jack Chabert. Eerie



Elementary is falling apart! Floors are splitting, walls are crumbling, and students are in serious danger! Principal Winik announces that the school must be torn down. However, Sam, Lucy, and Antonio are not sure that is the answer. Could this all be part of Orson Eerie's plan to live forever? Sam and his friends must work fast to find out!

This series is part of Scholastic's early chapter book line, Branches, aimed at newly independent readers.

Additional New Chapter Books

- *Sorcerer's Apprentice* retold by Fiona Chandler
- *Terror of the Deep* by Alex Milway

New Picture Books

- *I'm a Dirty Dinosaur* by Janeen Brian and Ann James
- *Today I'm a Monster* by Trevor Judson

New Early Reader Books

- *David and Goliath* by Nick and Claire Page
- *Amelia Bedelia Treasury* by Herman Parish

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



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

909 West 33rd St.,
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

(605) 336-2942
www.oslchurch.com

INTERCOM (USPS311210)

Published monthly by:

Our Savior's Lutheran Congregation

909 West 33rd Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Periodicals Postage Paid at Sioux Falls, South Dakota

POSTMASTER:

Please send address change to INTERCOM,

909 West 33rd Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

The *intercom* In Church and Community

March 2019

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, March 3 – 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

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

Cover banner photo by Jeon Sang-O on Pixabay.com

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 January 31

Annual Giving

Projected Contributions	\$1,969,580
Received YTD	\$217,858
Remaining	\$1,751,722