

The

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## In Church and Community

### From the Senior Pastor You Won't Want to Miss This!



Can you go to church too much?

Sometimes I'm convinced that the prevailing attitude among many of us when it comes to answering this question is, "It probably doesn't

hurt to go to church more than I do, but actually getting to church doesn't seem to fit into the rest of my life very well."

Certainly there is more to life than going to church. I get that. But this month we have the

opportunity to gather with Christians around the world to celebrate and remember a story of love and redemption unlike any other—the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. And unless we carve out time in our lives to attend worship each day that it's offered during Holy Week, we will miss one of the richest blessings the Church receives year after year as it reenacts the ancient tradition of the liturgy of the "Three Days."

Traditionally the Triduum (or the Three Days) begins with Maundy Thursday and concludes with the Easter Vigil on Saturday night of Holy Week. The liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter form a single

celebration of Jesus' Passover from death to life. Though they span three days, these liturgies are related elements of one extended worship service that prepare us fully to hear again, or perhaps for the very first time, the dramatic and life-saving news of Easter morning, "Christ is risen!"

For centuries the tradition of celebrating the Three Days was lost in the Church, perhaps because folks found it challenging, for whatever reason, to attend worship that frequently in one week. During this time other traditions

*continued*

## Palm Sunday and Holy Week at OSL

### Palm Sunday Weekend

Saturday, April 13, 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 14, 8:45 and 11:00 A.M. — Celebrate and Festive worship

### Holy Week

Tuesday, April 16, 6:30 P.M. — Healing Service, Chapel

Maundy Thursday, April 18, 12:00 and 6:30 P.M.

Good Friday, April 19, 3:00 P.M. — GIFT (Generations in Faith Together)  
Family worship

6:30 P.M., Tenebrae worship

Holy Saturday, April 20, 5:00 P.M.

### Easter — The Resurrection of Our Lord, Sunday, April 21

7:00 A.M. — Sunrise Worship

8:45 and 11:00 A.M. — Celebrate and Festive worship

## Is It Spring Yet?

The winter of 2018–19 may be remembered locally for some time. Weather-related closures and delays became commonplace and the realities of prolonged below-normal temperatures, prolific snow, strong winds, and heavy rain and flooding all taught us how to adapt and be flexible until warmer weather arrived.

Worship attendance numbers for the first quarter of 2019 certainly reflect the challenges this winter gave us and as a result, our first-quarter contributions income is below projections. As the weather warms, let's celebrate the arrival of spring by returning to worship, rejoicing in the gift of community we share here at OSL as well as the good work of ministry we're known for, and catching up on our offerings and pledges while enjoying the blessings that come with living joyful, generous lives.

*Randy*

Pr. Randy



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

developed that created “stand-alone” Holy Week worship experiences:

Protestant Holy Week rites have tended to accentuate the role of the preacher in telling the story of Christ’s passion. Services based on the Franciscan devotion of the Stations of the Cross trace the way that Jesus walked. The Devotion of the Three Hours, created in 1687 by a Jesuit priest in Peru, combines the four gospels and presents sermons based on the seven last words of Jesus. A Lenten devotion called Tenebrae developed out of the morning prayers of medieval monastic communities and includes psalms of lament, the reading of the passion, the extinguishing of candles, and a frightening crash. These rituals consider the death of Christ as an event separated from his resurrection. To balance these services of penitence and mourning at the cross, Easter Day came to focus attention on the moment of Christ’s resurrection. Moravians developed the Easter sunrise service, and West Coast American Protestants popularized this ritual of celebrating the resurrection as they observed the sun rising. Many churches developed Easter Day into an extravagant celebration, with banks of flowers often obscuring the place for the meal and external musicians hired to provide extraordinary music for the largest worshipping assembly of the year (Gail Ramshaw and Mons Teig, *Keeping Time: The Church’s Years*, p. 95).

Our current Lutheran worship resources, however, seek to reclaim the ancient traditions of

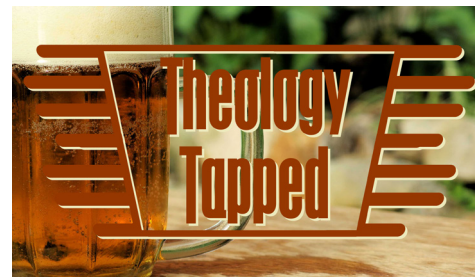
the Three Days. They call us back to a practice that honors and remembers the dramatic events that form the very core of our Christian faith. In the liturgy of the Three Days we are given a gift that takes us deeper in our relationship with the One who was crucified for our sake not only in the retelling of an ancient story but by connecting us with the faithful around the world and across time whose lives were forever changed when they, like us, encountered the risen Christ in the waters of baptism. It is the high point of the church year; to celebrate Easter without first walking the path of the Three Days essentially robs us of a spiritual practice, the only purpose of which is to deepen and enrich our experience of the mystery of our faith.

The prevailing attitude of our day may be that we can go to church too much. But I invite you to walk a different path this month, to attend worship throughout the Three Days as well as Easter morning, here at Our Savior’s or wherever you find yourself during Holy Week. The promise to those who do is nothing less than the renewal of our life in Jesus Christ, and that sounds to me like something we wouldn’t want to miss.

See you in church.



Pr. Randy Gehring



## Theology Tapped

Looking for engaging conversation on matters of faith and life in a fun, informal setting? Well, you’ll have to wait just a little longer—Pr. Randy will be gone at the usual Theology Tapped date in April, but look to join him again next month!



### 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 79<sup>th</sup> birthday.



### January 20, 2018

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

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## Thoughts of a Flawed Bricklayer

### by Larry Budahl and Joan Bacon

It happens! We come to church to worship, but random thoughts swing through our heads like monkeys in a tree:

*Lunch in or out?  
Gotta make dentist  
appointments!*

*Remember to*

*swing by Menards!* But sometimes a distracting “monkey” is a nudge from God to be shared, as did Larry Budahl, a bricklayer and OSL Stephen Minister, on Facebook:

“Me thinking in church today...chipped bricks. When bricks are made, they are fired in a kiln to tremendous heat to make them strong, cooled, and stacked in packs. The packs are loaded onto trucks, hauled to the jobsite, unloaded, and moved to the material plank to be used. If

bricks get chipped, cracked, or broken, they are rejected by the mason in a process called culling. Some of these bricks are stacked back on a pallet to be used for other purposes like support under bar joists or backing support in columns and piers.

“Why these thoughts would not leave me alone during church, I don’t know. But the thought

also came that we get cracked, chipped, and sometimes even broken by life. Is our purpose over?

Or is God there picking us

back up and putting us on a pallet to serve him in another way? We all have flaws, but God finds ways for us to be useful to him and to others.”

If life’s rough handling has left you feeling chipped, cracked, or broken, talk to Pr. Tim Lemme or Deb Harlan in the Church Office, 336-2942, about finding a Stephen Minister whom the Good Mason can stack beside you on that pallet to renewed purpose.



## stephen MINISTRY



No one should hurt alone.  
That’s why we have Stephen Ministry.



Dr. Melissa Johnson will be speaking about her work with veterans and their families at the VA Hospital at this month’s Friendship Club gathering, on April 16 at 10:30 A.M., in the Friendship Room. 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](mailto:mianderson@oslchurch.com).

### Footcare Clinic

Cost is \$25 per person. Wednesday, April 3, 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](mailto: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, April 10 and 24, 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](mailto: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.

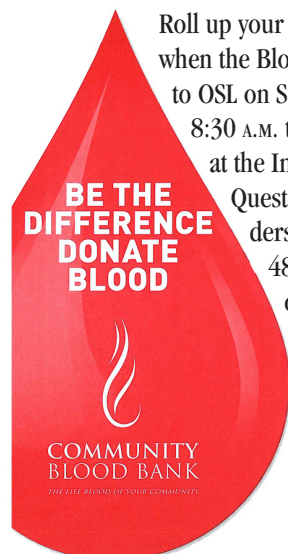
### Memory Care Support Group

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.

## Blood Mobile Returns!

Roll up your sleeve and save a life when the Blood Mobile returns to OSL on Sunday, April 7, from 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Sign up at the Information Center.

Questions? Michelle Anderson, 336-2942, ext. 48, or [mianderson@oslchurch.com](mailto:mianderson@oslchurch.com).



## Lenten Recent Loss Series

OSL's Recent Loss group will meet on Wednesdays in Lent, 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, 336-2942, ext. 28, or [mianderson@oslchurch.com](mailto:mianderson@oslchurch.com), 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.



*Caring Friend Joani Nelsen (right) visits Donna Beuckens.*

Through phone calls, mail, personal visits, and prayer, Caring Friends extend the Love of Christ to those who may find 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](mailto:tlemme@oslchurch.com), or Deb Harlan, 336-2942, ext. 48, or [धारलन@oslchurch.com](mailto:धारलन@oslchurch.com).

## Advanced Care Planning Review

If you or family members are walking through this process, Michelle Anderson, RN, Faith Community Nurse, can assist you.

Caring Ministries has forms available from "Five Wishes" (an approach to advanced care planning that provides ways to discuss and document your care and comfort choices) and as Sanford and Avera health systems that make this process easy and fun. The Caring Ministries/Sanford Lending Library also has "The Go Wish Game," which can help you and your family decide together what's important.

If it's been more than ten years, or you have had a major life change, now is the time to review your wishes, update your forms, and discuss these with your family. The words of Ash Wednesday are fresh in our minds: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return". Contact Michelle to learn more about Advanced Care Planning or updating directives: 336-2942, ext 28, or [mianderson@oslchurch.com](mailto:mianderson@oslchurch.com).

## The Big Squeeze

April is "Live Well Sioux Falls Big Squeeze" month, and OSL Caring Ministries is encouraging everyone to get their blood pressure checked by a professional this month. The Caring Ministries Blood Pressure Station is available to anyone whenever OSL is open. Knowing your numbers can be life-saving, and you will also help provide important data our region's public health research.

## Poverty Simulation on April 16

The University of Sioux Falls and Center of Hope are sponsoring a Poverty Simulation on April 16, from 12:15 to 3:30 P.M., at the USF Stewart Center. Poverty Simulations are designed to give those who have never experienced the realities of living in poverty a greater sense of what the poor in our community must live with. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Maddie Borah, RN, Center of Hope Faith Community Nursing Coordinator, [maddie@centerofhopesf.org](mailto:maddie@centerofhopesf.org) or 334-9789.

## 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](http://oslchurch.com/events).**



## 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.

## A Gift Becomes a Gift

OSL Quilters recently received donations of fabric and quilts from Donna Jean Rentschler, and immediately set to work turning that gift into another gift—this beautiful quilt, the perfect gift for the Red Hawk family as they are gathered to support their two-year-old *takoja* (grandson) at the Sanford Castle.



## 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 next meets, on April 6 and 20.

For more details, contact Pr. Tim Lemme, [tlemme@oslchurch.com](mailto:tlemme@oslchurch.com) or 336-2942, ext. 19.

## What's Your Vision?

A creation by the artist Palmer Eide was strategically placed on the campus of Augustana College (now Augustana University) many years ago. The sculpture depicted three owls, generally associated with wisdom, representing *Hindsight*, *Insight*, and *Foresight*.

I would say that nearly everyone has *Hindsight*—in fact, for most of us it's probably 20/20. I am also quite sure that we all have some *Insight*, since the variety of our experiences gives us a vision that can be told only from our own point of view.

Now *Foresight*, I expect, is more difficult to measure, but I certainly can think of an example that is right before our very eyes. That, of course, is the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Foundation. In 1978 a group from our congregation saw the need for a vehicle that would boost the ongoing mission of OSL. It didn't happen overnight, but with the support of many contributors over the last 40 years, the OSLC Foundation endowment has grown substantially.

My question for you is simply this: What's your vision? Do you have the *Foresight* to become a member of the Foundation's Jubilee Society? It all begins with your thoughts, followed by a conversation, at your convenience, with me, Jon Oien: [joien@sio.midco.net](mailto:joien@sio.midco.net).

I look forward to hearing about your vision!

## Time Grows Short!

Only a few openings remain to join Prs. Randy and Shelly Gehring next year on a cruise to the Greek Isles and Europe, including the Passion Play of Oberammergau—so don't delay! Contact Pr. Randy, 336-2942 or 595-4335, or [rgehring@oslchurch.com](mailto:rgehring@oslchurch.com).

### GREEK ISLES CRUISE & EUROPE

INCLUDING THE PASSION PLAY OF OBERAMMERGAU

**11 Days: May 27 - June 6, 2020**



Hosted By  
**Pastors Randy & Shelly Gehring**

Athens \* Mykonos \* Ephesus \* Patmos \* Crete  
Santorini \* Corinth \* Munich \* Salzburg



**\$5299 FROM SIOUX FALLS**

(Air/land/cruise tour price is \$4699 plus \$600 government taxes/airline surcharges)



Featuring: Roundtrip airfare from Sioux Falls, first class (Category 1) admission tickets to the Passion Play, accommodations at first class/select hotels (hotels & guesthouses in Oberammergau) on the land portion, accommodations on the cruise in inside cabins, most meals on land portion, all meals & a standard drinks package on cruise, comprehensive services of a professional English-speaking tour director, all hotel service charges, value added taxes, portage where available & entrance fees per the itinerary.

## Transformed by Faith

### by Jodie Nielsen

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

gospel," *Meetings with Jesus* by Julie A. Kanarr, wraps up this month. Session four:

"Seeing the Risen

Christ: Coming to Faith." Through stories from the disciples and others, "we reflect on how the Risen Christ remains present among us, blessing us and inviting us to live in his name."

Theme/focus verse: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." John 20:29b

Prayer: "Gracious God, draw us into your love. Bring us from our places of doubt and fear into the light of your peace. Breathe your Spirit into us and give us new life in you. Amen."

**Sweets for Your Valentine**, WELCA's first fundraiser of the year, was held on Sunday, February 10; \$506.12 was raised. Thank you to

the WELCA women who provided the treats for the sale, and to the OSL members for purchas-



ing the sweets and supporting WELCA's 2019 Unit Wide Mission Project, "Every Day Samaritan—Helping Your Neighbor."

**Donations for Rebel Hurd and Family.** A huge hug to all who generously donated money to Rebel Hurd from Church on the Street. Your donations, which totaled \$956, will assist Rebel and her family during their time of rebuilding following a fire that destroyed their home.

All women are cordially invited to WELCA's annual **Mother & Daughter Luncheon**, on Saturday, May 11, from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. The event will be held in The Gathering Place and will feature The Church Ladies from Clear Lake, S.D. Tickets will go on sale in mid-April.

The **Crossroads WELCA Spring Gathering** will be held in Sioux Falls, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, on Saturday, April 27, from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Registration will begin at 8:15. This year's guest speakers are the Rev. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl, former bishop of the South Dakota Synod, and Diane Nesselhuf. The cost is \$10, which includes lunch.

**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 April menus (subject to change):

### Sunday Breakfasts

- 7 – Bacon, scrambled eggs, and roasted potatoes
- 14 – Egg bake (Palm Sunday)
- 21 – "Rejoice for Christ has Risen" (Easter Sunday: no breakfast)
- 28 – Breakfast pizza

### Wednesday Suppers

- 3 – Soup and pie
- 10 – Soup and pie
- 17 – No meal (AGAPE Banquet)
- 24 – Taco bar



Photo by Katherine Chase, via Unsplash.com



## The View from Left Field

Greetings OSLers! (That's maybe not as catchy as Googlers, but I'll keep working on it.) I am writing to provide an update on the Governance Conversion process and the work occurring in the inaugural OSL governing board. With three meetings already under our belt, we are quickly realizing the work we have ahead of us. We are blessed to have an energetic and devoted church staff along with committed lay volunteers who are adjusting to the new model while providing substance and feedback. Ministry Teams are being created and have been focused on the work that connects faith to everyday life.

As a reminder, the Governing Board for 2019 includes Pr. Randy Gehring, Dan Van Schepen,

Alison Sahly, Anne Rieck-McFarland, Brian Sittig, Bruce Hasche, and Charlie Nesdahl.

The board began by nominating and approving committee roles for Finance, Stewardship Development, and Policy & Leadership Development. These groups will start meeting in early April to begin the support tasks necessary in each respective aspect, which will include advising and providing recommendations to the board. We are also focusing on training board members, committee members, and church staff to provide greater capabilities in working within the new model. Next steps involve creating policies, job descriptions, and financial reports that will reflect the new model of governing. This will

help to clarify the roles and expectations of all segments of OSL's ministry.

So what does this mean to you? First, listen and discern where God is calling you. There will be changes. Help will be needed in familiar and entirely new areas throughout our shared ministry. I urge you to act when you feel the tug. Second, the Governing Board will soon be inviting the congregation to participate in the process of "open questions." This will be our way of engaging the full congregation to get feedback on the future vision of OSL. Please attend these sessions and share your perspective to clarify our work in Christ. Together we can continue furthering God's mission for Our Savior's.

—Dan Van Schepen

## Volunteer Appreciation Sunday

Volunteers are appreciated all the time at Our Savior's, but Volunteer Appreciation Sunday is the congregation's big opportunity to really show it!

This year's Volunteer Appreciation Sunday will be on April 28, from 9:30 to 11:00 A.M., in The Gathering Place. All OSL volunteers, in all ministry areas and activities,

are invited to come sign the guest book, receive a pin, and enjoy a complimentary breakfast.



appreciated by everyone!

Thank you, volunteers, for sharing your time and talents throughout the year! Your dedication and service to the OSL community are

## Bells of Our Savior's

Lent has been a busy season for OSL's choirs, and the Bells of Our Savior's is no exception! Tuesday evenings find the choir's members hard at work, preparing to ring out a joyful noise during OSL's worship services.

For more information about OSL's choirs and other worship music opportunities, contact Gene LeVasseur, Director of Worship and Music, 336-2942, ext. 40, or [glevasseur@oslchurch.com](mailto:glevasseur@oslchurch.com).



Photos by Michelle Anderson



## 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.



**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.

**Fourth- through Sixth-Grade Recharge Camp at Okoboji April 26–28.** Recharge Camp is 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. Deadline to register is April 12. Visit <https://conta.cc/2DUYKt3> for more information.

**What's happening in April and beyond?** Check out your April Youth Happenings emails for great information about Recharges for grades four through six, middle-school youth, 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](mailto:jschomberg@oslchurch.com),  
336-2942, ext. 35

## Faith Formation Notes

Fifth-graders will be celebrating their **Holy Communion milestone** this month. Augustana University Chapel Outreach will lead them in an exciting Augie fun night on April 12, from 6:00 to 10:00 P.M. The following morning, the fifth-graders will return to OSL, from 10:00 A.M. to noon, for Holy Communion instruction, which will include making communion bread for Maundy Thursday worship. Then, on Wednesday, April 17, the students and their families, sponsors, and faith mentors will gather for the Agape Meal, in The Gathering Place, from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M.



And on April 18, students will celebrate their milestone in Maundy Thursday worship. A SignUpGenius was emailed to families to provide more details and RSVP for each event. Contact me if you have any questions.

—Melissa Nesdahl,  
Director of Faith Formation  
[mnesdahl@oslchurch.com](mailto:mnesdahl@oslchurch.com)  
336-2942, ext. 17

## And a Child Shall Lead Them

“How much are we going to give, Daddy?”

The kindergartner looked into his father's face, awaiting response to the news just shared from the pulpit.

“Rebel Hurd, the pastor and mission developer with our mission partner, Church on the Street, lost her home and belongings in a tragic house fire this week. As a congregation, we are going to collect for her family. If you'd like to contribute, please stop by the WELCA table on the west end of The Gathering Place after worship.”

Unzipping her small, quilted backpack, another child hearing the announcement whispered into her mother's ear, “I'm going to give my dollar from the tooth fairy.” And with the sending song complete she beelined for the table, pulling out her rolled-up cash and handing it to the woman at the table before making her way down the steps to Sunday School.

Announcements, a time when we might assume that children will

*continued*



# OSL Youth and Family

disengage, are exactly when little ears are perking up. Though they may whisper and wiggle and lose their crayons under the pew, these busy, growing children are learning to make sense of the world in our worship spaces. They're melding Jesus' teaching to give with the example of need they hear and their auto response is to act.

Those children congregated downstairs, wide-eyed and ready to make a difference with all their Sunday School friends. Together we said an echo prayer for Rebel and her family and discussed how they body of Christ can remind her that she doesn't walk this challenging experience alone. That, every day, many people will be praying for and with them.

Then, dipping a finger in their favorite paint color, each child placed his or her print on a canvas, creating beautiful cross art for Rebel's office



symbolic of our care for her each time she looks at it. They were so excited about their finished work.

"How much?"

The relinquishing of the cherished tooth fairy money.

Contributing their messy fingerprint to the gift.

Spontaneous responses reminding us all that a living faith is about doing what we can from where we are to bless another.

Thank you, OSL children, for motivating us all to better live out our core value, Generosity!

—Melissa Nesdahl

A poster for the 'Taste of Cultures' event. The top features a row of colorful geometric patterns. Below this is the logo for the 'LSS Center for New Americans' and the title 'taste of cultures' in a large, stylized font. A photo of a man playing a guitar is shown in a hexagonal frame, with the text 'Sioma's Congo Music' below it. To the right, it says 'JOIN US SAT., APRIL 13 SIOUX FALLS, SD' and 'THE DISTRICT'. The event details are listed: '6:30 PM > DINNER' (enjoy cultural cuisine catered by Lalibela Restaurant, games), '7:30 PM > ENTERTAINMENT' (music by Sioma's Congo Music, keynote speaker: Sara Damjanovic), and 'AFTER 9:00 PM' (stay and enjoy the evening with music, friends and family). Ticket prices are 'GENERAL ADMISSION > \$40' and 'VIP TICKETS > \$80' (includes premium seating and wine service). It also states 'Proceeds support refugee families new to the country.' At the bottom, it says 'For tickets Text TOC to 51555 or visit LssSD.org' and 'Original artwork by Hector Curriel'.

## Tune in to OSL!

You'll find recent videos of worship services and special events at [oslchurch.com/media](http://oslchurch.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](http://youtube.com/oslchurchsf).



## 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 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!



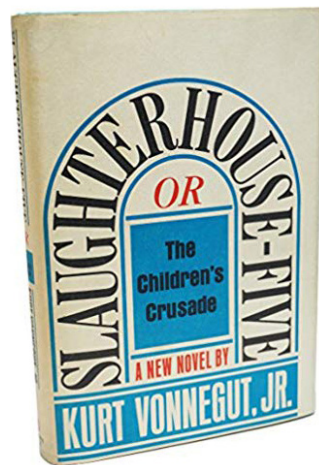
## Spring Book Sale

Come stock up on your summer reading, viewing, and listening materials at the OSL Library Spring Book Sale! You'll find a wide assortment of books, movie DVDs, and music CDs for all ages. The 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. Don't miss it!



## 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 April 25 selection will be *Slaughterhouse-Five* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

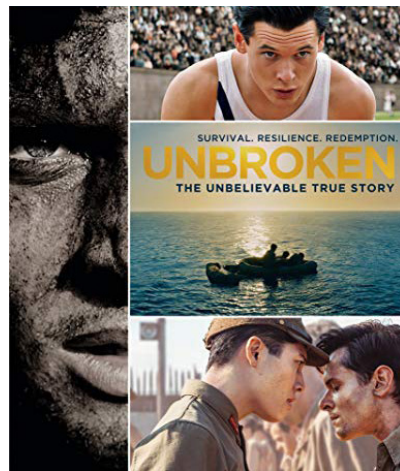


*Slaughterhouse-Five* is a satirical anti-war novel published in 1969. The novel represents Vonnegut's personal experiences as a prisoner of war during the fire-bombing of Dresden during World War II. *Slaughterhouse-Five* features the author's perspective in the first and last chapters and briefly throughout the novel, but for the most part is told from the perspective of a fictional character, Billy Pilgrim, who has "come unstuck in time."

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

## Second Saturday Movie

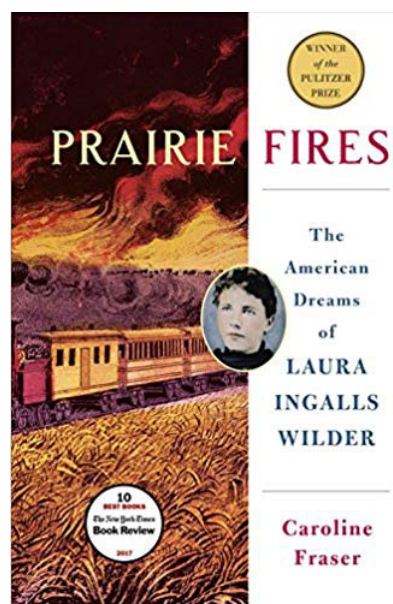
This month's feature, on April 13, will be *Unbroken* (postponed from last month due to weather), an epic drama that follows the incredible life of Olympian and WWII hero Louis "Louie" Zamperini (Jack O'Connell). When his Army Air Force bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, Zamperini and two other crewmembers 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 May 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!

## New for Adults

*Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder* by



Caroline Fraser. Millions of readers of *Little House on the Prairie* believe they know Laura Ingalls—the pioneer girl who survived blizzards and near-starvation on the Great Plains and the woman who wrote the famous autobiographical books. Revealing the grown-up story behind the most influential childhood epic of pioneer life, Fraser also chronicles Wilder's tumultuous relationship with her journalist daughter, Rose Wilder Lane, setting the record straight regarding charges of ghostwriting that have swirled around the books.

The Little House books portray the pioneer spirit as triumphant against all odds. However, Wilder's real life was harder and grittier than the books. *Prairie Fires* is a story of relentless struggle, rootlessness, and poverty. It was only in her 60s, after losing nearly everything in the Great Depression, that Wilder turned to children's books, recasting her



hardscrabble childhood as a celebratory vision of homesteading—and achieving fame and fortune in the process, in one of the most astonishing rags-to-riches episodes in American letters.

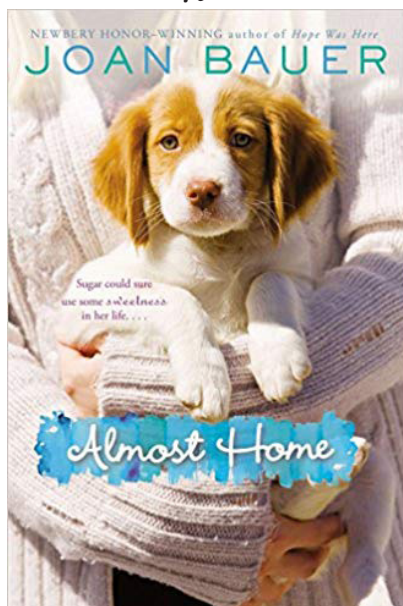
Spanning nearly a century of epochal change, from the Indian Wars to the Dust Bowl, Wilder's dramatic life provides a unique perspective on American history and our national mythology of self-reliance. With fresh insights and new discoveries, *Prairie Fires* reveals the complex woman whose classic stories grip us to this day.

## Additional New Titles for Adults

- *When We Were Young* by Karen Kingsbury
- *The Lost Girls of Paris* by Pam Jenoff
- *Carnegie's Maid* by Marie Benedict

## New for Middle- and High-School Youth

***Almost Home* by Joan Bauer.** Twelve-year-old Sugar Mae Cole and her



mother, Reba, have never had a lot, but they've always had each other. That's always been enough.

However, when Sugar's grandfather dies and her gambling father takes off yet again, Sugar and her mother lose their home in Missouri. They head to Chicago for a fresh start, only to discover that fresh starts aren't so easy to come by for the homeless.

Nevertheless, Sugar's mother has taught her to be grateful no matter what, so Sugar does her best. With the help of a rescue

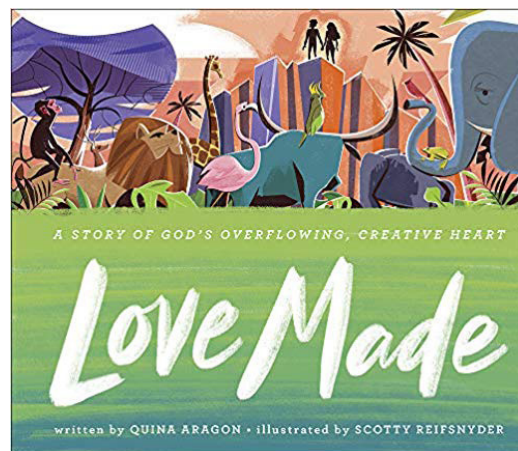
dog, Shush, a foster family, a supportive teacher, a love of poetry, and her own grace and good humor, Sugar comes to understand that while she can't control the hand life deals her, she can control how she responds.

## Additional New Titles for Middle- and High-School

- *Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy* by Rey Terciero and Bre Indigo
- *Middle School Born to Rock* by James Patterson
- *Lion Down* by Stuart Gibbs

## New Picture, Early Reader, and Chapter Books

***Love Made* by Quina Aragon.** The joy of the Trinity—Father, Son, and



Holy Spirit—has existed for all eternity. That indescribable joy bubbled over to make creation. God made so many wonderful things, but we are by far his greatest work of art.

Share that precious truth with your little one with this unique children's

book celebrating the miracle of God's creation. Boys and girls will learn about God as the Trinity, the Creator, and about how they are made in his image.

Beautifully illustrated and lovingly written, *Love Made* will become a story time favorite for your child or makes a thoughtful gift to give a parent-to-be. Help your child discover that out of all the amazing things love made, the most amazing of all is them.

## Additional New Picture Books

- *The Hug Who Got Stuck* by Andrew Newman
- *The Magic Hat Shop* by Sonja Wimmer

## New Early Reader Books

- *How Not to Babysit Your Brother* by Cathy Hapka and Ellen Titlebaum
- *I Spy: 4 Picture Riddle Books* by Jean Marzollo

## New Chapter Books

- *Highway Cats* by Janet Taylor Lisle
- *Zoey and Sassafra: Monsters and Mold* by Asia Citro

## 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 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month	10:00 A.M.—noon and 4:30–6:30 P.M.



OUR SAVIOR'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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April 2019

# The *intercom* 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*

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

## *Holy Week and Easter*

See front cover

## *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](http://oslchurch.com)

Social Media: [twitter.com/oslchurchsf](https://twitter.com/oslchurchsf) · [facebook.com/oslchurchsf](https://facebook.com/oslchurchsf) ·

[youtube.com/oslchurchsf](https://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. 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 February 28

### Annual Giving

Projected Contributions	\$1,969,580
Received YTD	\$348,637
Remaining	\$1,620,943
Projected YTD	\$428,676
Ahead/(Behind)	(\$80,039)