

This month we will be celebrating “life passages”. In October, I will be officiating at the weddings of two of our members. On separate Saturdays, Amanda Weiss and Brandon Cooper, and Jonah Kimmes and Taylor Harn will share vows and become husband and wife. Weddings are truly a joyous occasion. Before God and family and friends they will begin a new life together. Pray for them and offer blessings for this important day in their lives. This also would be a great occasion to recommit yourself and God’s presence in your relationships. This works wonders for a marriage.

Then, at the end of October, I will have the pleasure of presiding at the Confirmation of 14 of our 9th graders. We call this Reaffirmation of Faith. When these young people were baptized, parents and sponsors spoke for them. Now, they will speak for themselves. At this ceremony, all of the confirmands will make some promises. Here is what they will promise, with God’s help.

*“You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:
to live among God’s faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?”*

To which each confirmand says, “I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.” What they are promising is to be an active part of Our Saviors, come to worship, walk the walk in the world, treat all people as children of God, and to promote justice rather than injustice. A tall order for sure but, remember, it’s with God’s help.

You might remember your Confirmation day. You, no doubt, made the same promises. Is it time to recommit yourself? Again? Pray for these young people. Rejoice in their day. Elsewhere in this newsletter we have included their names so that you can pray and rejoice for each one of them individually.

We give thanks to God for all of our “life passages”.

God Bless you and your loved ones,

Interim Pastor Dennis E. Ellisen

Confirmation News

Grade 8 Families— Just a reminder that you are helping with Confirmation Sunday. The task assignments were covered at the parent meeting in September. If you are unable to do your part, please find another family to switch with you.

Grade 9 – Rehearsal for Confirmation Sunday is on Sunday, October 21 at 9:00 AM

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 28 AT THE 10:30 SERVICE.

God bless our 2018 Confirmands -

Jordan John Cole,
Jared James Fellbaum,
Addie Marie Fredrickson,
Cammi Lynn Kreuter,
Bryce Brett Mau,
Marissa Diane Myska,
Wyatt Alexander Paulson,
Tori Elizabeth Rondeau,
Mc Kenna Jean Schabo,
Sophia Rieann Schmidt,
Erynn Claire Spanbauer,
Matthew Thomas Whitmer,
Lauren Marie Wilharm,
Lauren Elayne Woller

May you continue to ask questions ... grow in your faith ... stay connected to your church family ... talk to God often... be thankful... read God's Word... love and serve others... lean on Him in the tough times... and realize that God's plan for your life is better than anything you can imagine yourself!

Sunday School News

Our new Sunday School year is off to a great start! Thanks to all the teachers who have volunteered to help with the children this year—we appreciate you.

We are still looking for about six teachers to help with our Pre-School, Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms. Please contact Ruthie at 725-3956 if you are willing to help out. Remember, it's only a five-week commitment, and you can sign up for as many sessions as you'd like.

Mini-Class for 3-4 Year Olds

The mini class, "Growing in Faith," will be held for all pre-school and pre-kindergarten students and their parents on October 14 at 9:15 a.m. The children will also be honored at the 10:30am service

Kindergarten Mini Class—How to Pray

Children and parents will talk about prayer and learn about the importance of talking to God. The class is Sunday, October 21, at 9:15 a.m. The students will also be honored at the 10:30 worship service.

Church Nursery is Up and Running

Thank you to all of the volunteers who signed up to help each week in our church nursery. Nursery staffing is offered at both the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. worship services each Sunday, and will continue into next May. If you haven't had a chance to sign up yet, please do so. Contact Ruthie for more information.

Blessings for Backpacks Update

Last month, we held our annual Blessings for Backpacks worship service before the new school year began. We had approximately 20 students bring in their backpacks to be blessed. We also had three backpacks donated that were also blessed and then donated to Wilson School. We received a warm thank you from Wilson for the donation.

“God’s Work. Our Hands” - Yes, YOU can make a difference! Here are some opportunities to share God’s love in our community.

Supporting Our Missions

Guatemala 2019

Our Savior’s is sending a group to Guatemala March 23-31, 2019 to build two homes for very deserving families. If you’d like to hear more about this ministry, contact Rich & Pam Garman at pam-garman2@gmail.com, 920-915-2272 or Marcie Kimmes at mkimmes@our-saviors.org, 920-725-3956.

It’s Time to Spice Things Up At OSLC

We’re going to spice things up with our annual Chili Supper on Tuesday, November 6 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. The Chili Supper is one way that OSLC supports three different organizations who help those in need – locally, nationally and globally. Your support – whether it’s volunteering your time, donating food items and/or coming to the Chili Supper —is the key to the success of this community event.

A Message From the H.O.P.E. Team...

Mental Health Awareness Week—The first week of October is Mental Illness Awareness Week (MIAW). The goal is to end the stigma associated with mental illness and to ensure better understanding and access to diagnosis and treatment. As a faith community, we are committed to replacing misinformation with truth, prejudice with love, and fear with hope to all who are touched by mental illness. If you are interested in learning more about our H.O.P.E. (Help Open People’s Eyes to brain illnesses and mental health issues) TEAM, please contact Marcie Kimmes.

People with mental problems are our neighbors. They are members of our congregations, members of our families; they are everywhere in this country. If we ignore their cries for help, we will be continuing to participate in the anguish from which those cries for help come. A problem of this magnitude will not go away. Because it will not go away, and because of our spiritual commitments, we are compelled to take action. (Rosalynn Carter)

Card Ministry

Need a greeting card to send to someone special? Check out the card kiosk in the Gathering area. Cards for all occasions are available. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. This ministry is sponsored by the women of the church. Contact people: Barb Gossen and Ardy Kreuter.

Fox Valley Lutheran Homes News

Our Fall Fundraiser, ‘Vacation - Sports - Quilt Auction’ will take place on Sunday, October 14, 2018, at the Riverview Gardens, 1101 S Oneida St., Appleton. There will be a live auction at 2:00 p.m. featuring vacations from around the state and beyond, sports tickets and sport opportunities around the state and beautiful quilts to purchase!

All the items available for purchase will be available to view on our website approximately one month ahead of time, as well as an hour ahead of time on the day of the auction. Mark your calendars now, for an enjoyable Sunday afternoon.

Fox Valley Warming Shelter’s Fundraiser

FVWS’s 7th Annual Fundraiser will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2018, from 5-8 p.m. at Liberty Hall, 800 Eisenhower Drive in Kimberly. A Social Hour will begin at 5:00 with dinner at 6:00 and a program to follow. There will be silent and live auctions as well as raffles. Cost is \$50 per person or \$450 for a table of ten. Entertainment provided by the Fox Valley Symphony Youth Orchestra. Call Connie at 419-0928 or email vcfws@gmail.com to purchase tickets.

Men's Breakfasts

The men's Bible study meets on the second and fourth Saturday of every month. We meet at 8:00 a.m. in the meeting room of Perkins Restaurant across from Wal-Mart. This month we meet on October 13 and 27. Come and join us. All men welcome.

OSLC Mission Quilters

Come see how much fun we have! This month we meet in the church gym on:

October 4, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

October 18, 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Women's Book Club

The book club at OSLC welcomes you to join our friendly group of 10 to 12 women. We generally meet at 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the church library. This month we meet on October 23. Come join us!

Services at Island Shores

Pastor Dennis and Ruthie conduct worship services once a month at Island Shores. If you have an elderly family member that would like to attend a Lutheran service, bring them to Island Shores at 11:00 on the third Tuesday of each month.

Farewell to Cheryl Timm

We will be holding a reception to thank Cheryl Timm for her years of service as our Office Manager on September 29 after the 5:00 worship service, and also on September 30 between the services. Come and help us wish Cheryl well.

CHECK IT OUT!

Our new website is 'live' as of October 1. Go to www.our-saviors.org to check it out.

Wanted! Musicians and Vocalists!!

If you love to sing, want to share your talent with the congregation, enjoy fellowship with a fun group, or just want an opportunity to praise God, we've got the spot for YOU! *Chancel Choir* is for youth in 9th grade and up and adults. Reading music is helpful. We rehearse every Wednesday night from 7-8 pm and sing at Worship two or three times a month. Twice a year we sing at all three services, Advent Lessons and Carols, and Palm Sunday weekend. **We are really in need of soprano and alto voices. Please prayerfully consider joining!!** If you want to join our choir for just Lessons and Carols or Palm Sunday weekend, this is a short commitment that is encouraged.

Joyful Noise is for 7th grade and up and adults. We rehearse Sundays at 9:15 a.m. and sing at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. We do not sing the first Sunday of the month. We also welcome instrumentalists to join us. Song selection includes Praise songs.

Something new this year.... We invite all of you talented "closet" singers or instrumentalists to sign up for a time you'd like sing or play once, once a month, or as often as you like, whatever works for you. Soloists, duets, etc., families, friends, youth of all ages are welcome to fill in where we need special music. We will work with you to pick music and arrange a practice time. We know you are out there.....just step right up and share your talent with us.

Look for a display and sign-up sheet sometime in October in the Gathering Area. Questions? Contact Roberta Golden or Ardy Kreuter

Watch for Shiny Altar Hardware

The church is using memorial money to replating all of our brass altar-ware, which includes vases, candlesticks and candelabras. John Stemper of the Stemper Company has already picked up a few of our pieces to begin the process. Watch for a shiny altar coming soon!

Temple Talk on Ministry Site Profile

The Synod requires that each congregation who is searching for a new Pastor develop a description of their congregation and church, kind of like a Craigslist for Pastors. This written description is called a Ministry Site Profile or MSP. Our Council designated six persons to develop the MSP for OSLC. Those persons are Lee Hillstrom, Tammy Rabe, Todd Hagner, Kim Jannusch, Guy Gruett and Sue Schultz. We convened in June and committed to meeting every two weeks for a total of seven meetings.

The MSP is a multiple section and page document that requires all the info a potential candidate would want to know about us. It includes everything about us as a congregation, including age, race, gender, how far our members live from church, statistics on our attendance in church and church programs, our budget and the configuration of our paid staff.

In addition to all the statistical information, we were required to write narratives answering the questions of: What our Vision for Mission is – this includes a description of the characteristics of our community, the changes or trends in our community or congregation the past 3-5 years, and the programs both within our church and in the community and world. Because we are an active mission driven church, it was difficult to stick to the space limitations in order to provide full answers to these questions – a good problem to have!

We were required to develop narratives on the goals of our church and describe the energy to accomplish them, along with what we are excited about as a congregation.

Our Purpose, Giftedness and Mission narrative section was written with the input from the many questionnaires that we asked you to answer - six in all over the course of the last three months. Thank you for that.

The response to the question of what type of leader we are seeking was taken directly from the feedback you gave us and what we all understood collectively from being members. We were able to select the top 10 ministry tasks, gifts and mutual expectations for our new pastor.

The final required piece of the MSP was a 75 word “Hook”, the only thing a candidate who is searching would see and that would make them want to know more about us. It is as follows:

Located in a progressive mid-size city in northeast Wisconsin, Our Savior's is known as a vibrant and generous congregation, boasting multiple opportunities for ministry and mission both within our walls and out in the community and world. Our congregation recognizes the Pastor as a leader who is strongly supported by volunteers, lay ministers and skilled staff. Together we will grow and expand our journeys in faith and fellowship.

We believed God was with us in each step along the way and we were called to complete the MSP for all of us and for our future as a group of people who are called and sent. We're excited to see what we are called to do next. If you would like a full copy of the MSP, please contact Sue Schultz, Council President.

For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. ~ 2 Corinthians 8:9

Generous People...

God's Work. Our Hands. Day

On September 9, Our Savior's participated in "God's Work.

Our Hands." Day with 142 people, serving at 15 different SERVE opportunities – both locally and globally. A Tailgate-To-Go was provided. Several of the organizations that we served have expressed their gratitude. Thank you to all of those who participated!

Generous Congregation...

Unified Budget YTD Through August

	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Income	\$290,666.67	\$255,375.81
Expenses	<u>\$290,571.81</u>	<u>\$293,314.91</u>
	\$ 94.86	(\$ 37,939.10)

Special Offerings ...

Noisy Coin

World Hunger
\$185,26



Generosity is...

...an act of thanksgiving. When we count our blessings, we cannot help but be overwhelmed by the good fortune and wealth in our lives. We have far more than we don't have. This fall, as we head into the holiday season, is a good time to remember to count our blessings and give thanksgiving for God's generosity.

Building Fund...

Through August

Remaining on Loan	\$374,747.15
Principal Paid on Loan	\$116,835.23
Total Contributions	\$156,130.96
Billed on Loan	\$ 25,751.84
Paid on Loan Over Billed Amount	\$ 91,083.39