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The Newsletter
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THE SONSHINE

A Monthly Publication of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Minot, North Dakota 58701
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- Rev. Paul A. Krueger, Pastor • Rev. Daniel Voth, Assistant Pastor • Rick Jones, Vicar
- Bonnie Rennich, Director of Music & Congregational Ministries • Peggy Trondson, Administrative Secretary/Editor

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Cardboard Love?

During the marriage ceremony of a British couple, the best man remained motionless. Even after vows were exchanged, he didn't move. The still figure was a racecar driver who was trying to be in two places at one time.

Because of contractual commitments, Andy Priaulx, three-time world touring-car champion, had to break his promise to participate in his friend's wedding. So, believe it or not, he sent a life-size cardboard cutout of himself, as well as a prerecorded speech. The bride said she was moved by his effort to honor their marriage. (Our Daily Bread, April 2009)

Priaulx's gesture was certainly creative, and we shouldn't second-guess his actions. But Jesus gave us another standard by which to gauge our friendship with Him. Jesus asked His disciples to show their friendship to Him by loving one another as He had loved them. Then, He raised the bar. In anticipation of His death on the cross, He said, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends" (John 15:13).

As our congregation continues the spiritual growth journey, "The 40 Days of Love", we're discovering that love is about more than simply doing the right thing. It's about a heartfelt sacrifice for the good of another. For the child of God, it's about sacrifice that follows out

of a relationship with Jesus Christ who truly did lay down His life for us.

Life withers without this kind of love. That's why our recent focus has been upon building the connections of godly love within our church family. Our *40 Days of Love* Spiritual Growth Emphasis, the *Fathered by God* men's retreat, the *Sweet Life Café* women's retreat, the *Excel! Leadership Conference*, the emphasis upon Small Group and volunteer ministries, all serve the same purpose, **to connect us deep with the God who loves us and with other believers who share the journey of life with us.**

If life withers without love, then certainly it thrives with the love of Christ!

Congratulations to Anders Davidson, OSLC Vicar 2008-2009

Anders has opted to continue his education rather than to receive a call into parish ministry this spring. Anders has been accepted into a PhD program in Marriage and Family Counseling in Minnesota. Upon completion he will become one of only a handful of LCMS pastors specializing in counseling at this level. During his next years of school, he and Sarah will be living in the Twin Cities where they will be close to parents and family. Congratulations Anders!

Vicarage Placement 2010-11!

On April 27th, the Vicarage Placement Service will take place at Concordia

Seminary and another vicar will be assigned to serve at OSLC for the year 2010-11. Like our previous vicars, he will serve the congregation for a one year internship, most likely beginning in August, returning for his final year of school one year later. He will also serve in an approximately 10 hour per week partnership with the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch as our previous vicars have done. It's been an outstanding year with Vicar Jones on board and once again we're looking forward to another outstanding year with the next vicar as well.

Technology Fund Update

The generous gifts continue to come in for our Technology Fund. **Over \$12,000 for technology improvements has been received since December.** Thanks to you, our 25 year old microphones, cables and stands have been replaced; we've updated the recording equipment for CD's provided to those who are homebound; our classrooms have been enhanced with screens, video projectors, and wireless access, which are already in use with confirmation classes, Bible studies, C.L.A.S.S. 101-301, Foundations of Faith, and more. These communication tools have added significant quality to our classroom settings. Funding goals for audio/visual improvements in the sanctuary have already been met with

even more generosity, allowing us to invest additional quality in these communication tools. Sometime in May the temporary set-ups that we've been using on Sunday mornings will begin their transition to a more quality communications system. Thank you for your gifts to this special fund so far.

**“Every Kid to Camp!”
Summer Bible Camps
Shepherd's Hill @ the Crossroads**

If you haven't done it yet, now's the time to get your registration forms in for the ND District's Bible camps at Shepherd's Hill @ the Crossroad Retreat Center. Check out the web site www.shr-lcms.org for the full listing of camps and outdoor ministry opportunities! If you have 4th-6th graders, you'll especially want to check out the ND District “Kid's Camp.” The dates are July 25-29. 7th-9th graders? Then check out the Encounter Camp, June 13-18. Leadership Quest for 9th-12th graders is August 1-7. Vicar Jones is the featured presenter for the “Creation Camp”, June 20-25! Don't forget Grandparents Camp, Horse Camps, Geocaching Adventure Camp, and more! There's a lot to discover! Check out the website or call the camp at 701-263-4831. Don't forget to get your registrations in early!

May 16th Confirmation Sunday

Congratulations to the 16 young adults who will be confirmed at a special 2:00 p.m. Confirmation Service on Sunday, May 16th. You're invited to join us for that Sunday to help make it a special occasion for them. Our congratulations to each young adult as they make their public promises as followers of Jesus Christ:

Sierra Summer Erdman
Brita Teresa Erie
Austin Derras Hahn
Holden Francis Hartley
Alexis Rae Jenner
Briahna Michelle Johnson
Nicole Christine Johnson
Shawn Gregory Marshall
Leandra Grace Olson
Travis John Olson
Molly Joyce Rylander
Jordyn Marie Schaefer
Bailey Thomas Uleberg
Tayler Ervin Wallstrum
Marissa Loret Williams
Sarah Regina Willoughby

VICAR'S CORNER

**Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow:
The Power of God's Word**

As I walked into the dimly lit interior room of the museum, I could feel my excitement. My pulse quickened. I could feel my blood surging through my veins.

Around the perimeter of the circular room stood five heavy-duty display cases specially designed to protect their contents from the museum patrons and any other potential threat such as dust, moisture, and even certain types of light.

I walked over to the first case, my sense of awe producing a slight fluttering to arise in my chest. I took a quick breath to steady myself as I leaned over and peered into the case. This is why I was here. This was a dream come true. This was a moment I had only dreamed about. As I gazed down into the display case through several layers of pressure and temperature controlled glass I was now face to face with nearly three thousand years of history—tradition, culture, knowledge, art. I was staring at three thousand years of life.

Peering up at me were fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Passages from God's Word recorded two hundred years before Christ's birth were in that museum display case. This was a moment that transcended time and space. I was looking at three thousand years of God's revelation to humanity—God's revelation to you and to me.

At first glance this sentiment is not necessarily grasped. A few scraps of papyrus (paper made from the interweaving of thinly cut reeds) with some faded handwriting on them hardly screams "This is the very truth of God!" But as I stared at the Hebrew script a line of the text began to make sense. The

words before my eyes were these: "Forever, O LORD, your word stands in the heavens." This is Psalm 119:89 and it was the perfect verse to have on display at this exhibit.

Here are manuscripts of the Old Testament that date to two centuries before Jesus ever preached His promises to the people of Judea. These are the exact same words we still see carefully preserved in our Bibles today. God promises to be faithful to us for all time and this exhibit at the Science Museum of Minnesota demonstrates how God has fulfilled that promise with the Bible.

The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in the late '40s at Qumran (a small settlement at the northern tip of the Dead Sea). Until that time the oldest manuscripts of the Old Testament documents—the documents used to make the Old Testament in our Bibles—only dated back to about eight hundred years **AFTER** Christ. The manuscripts they found in the caves at Qumran however, bring that date back one thousand years. We now have manuscripts that place every book of the Old Testament (except Esther) two hundred years before the birth of our Lord.

With a thousand years of coping and human interaction separating these two sets of manuscripts, one would suspect these two Old Testament traditions would be drastically different (*If you don't believe me just think about the telephone game*)

but the Dead Sea Scrolls match up nearly word for word with the documents that make up the Old Testament we are familiar with. That is miraculous. If the words of the Old Testament were merely the propaganda or wisdom of man there is no way the message would have survived intact...but it has! God clearly has His hand in the preservation and translation of the Bible. It truly is His Word and the Dead Sea Scrolls attest to that fact.

The Bible is a way that God has revealed Himself to us. It is His clear Word to humanity and as 2 Timothy 3:16 says, "All scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness." The Bible does more than just give us the Word of God. It also unites us with all of God's people throughout all of history. The words we read in our Bibles are the same words that Jesus read in the synagogues and preached to his followers. They are the same words that Paul used to show people all over the ancient world that Jesus is the Messiah. They are the same words that St. Augustine used to illustrate faith to his students. The words we read today are the same words that Martin Luther studied to help set the Church back on the right track during the Reformation. And they are the same words our children and grandchildren will read and hear in their churches as the Bible continues to present God's grace to the

world. God's Word is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow!

O Lord, your words truly do stand firm in heaven FOREVER, and thank you for it. Amen.

The Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit will remain at the Science Museum of Minnesota until October 24th, 2010. If you have the chance to go see this exhibit—to learn about the discovery of the scrolls, their translation, and their importance, I strongly encourage you to do so.

→ MUSIC BEAT →
SMALL GROUP AND
VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES

Music Ministries

The choirs of St. Mark's, St. Paul's and Our Savior Lutheran presented a beautiful Easter cantata entitled *Who is This King* on Palm Sunday. You can purchase a CD of that Easter cantata for only \$3.00. If you're interested, just catch me between services, call the church office or sign up at the welcome table in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you to all the musicians who helped to make our Holy Week/Easter worship services so beautiful! I praise

God for each and every one of you. You are appreciated!!!!

The adult choir will be singing on May 9th and 16th. Our last rehearsal will be May 12th – but an end-of-the-year celebration is being planned for the 19th. I'll let you know more details on that as the event draws closer. Thank you to both the men's and adult choir for your dedication to faithfully bringing the message of Christ's love in song to so many.

And just for fun . . .

KNOW YOUR HYMNS:

Dentist's Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Weatherman's Hymn

There Shall Be Showers of Blessings

Contractor's Hymn

The Church's One Foundation

The Tailor's Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy

The Golfer's Hymn

There is a Green Hill Far Away

The Politician's Hymn

Standing on the Promises

Optometrist's Hymn

Open My Eyes That I Might See

The IRS Agent's Hymn

I Surrender All

The Gossip's Hymn

Pass It On

The Electrician's Hymn

Send The Light

The Shopper's Hymn

Sweet Bye and Bye

The Realtor's Hymn

I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop

The Massage Therapists Hymn.

He Touched Me

The Doctor's Hymn

The Great Physician

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

45 mph.....God Will Take Care of You

65 mph.....Nearer My God To Thee

85 mph.....This World Is Not My Home

95 mph.....Lord, I'm Coming Home

100 mph.....Precious Memories

Small Group Ministries

We are a few weeks into our six-week journey called *40 Days of Love*. It is all about relationships – and no one understands them better than Jesus. Based on an exhaustive study of what Jesus did and said about relationships, this forty-day journey will bring new health and richness to your relationship with Jesus, your spouse, family, friendships, and all the relationships in your life. You can still purchase the book, *The Relationship Principles of Jesus* by catching me at church or giving me a call at 852-6404. It's not too late to be a part of this congregation-wide campaign as we discover together a love that is patient, kind, forgiving, unselfish and always speaks the truth in love.

Volunteer Ministries

All hands on deck! We will need lots of volunteers to make this year's Vacation Bible School an unforgettable experience. Can you help? Give Crystal Voth a call at 715-554-2313

We also still have lots of open Sundays for you to sign up for service as an usher or greeters for our worship services. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Be that friendly face that conveys the love of God to everyone who walks through our doors!

Thank you to all who use their gifts and abilities in ministry here at OSLC. It takes many hands for things to happen – You are appreciated!!

In His service,
Bonnie Rennich
Director of Music and
Congregational Ministries

*“My purpose is that they be encouraged in heart
and united in love*

in order that they may know Christ.”

Colossians 2:2

FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

Volunteer Appreciation

Were you involved with Sunday School or KFC this past year? You are cordially invited to come and join us as we celebrate your service to the Lord and His children with food and fellowship! KFC Appreciation will be held Wednesday, May 19th at 6:00 p.m. Sunday School Volunteer Appreciation Brunch will be Sunday, May 23rd. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for these special events!

Vacation Bible School June 13-17

Are you a hero? Would you love to be an everyday hero to someone? Come join us in **Hero Headquarters** where kids join forces with God! We need everyday heroes to help lead our children in a discovery that they too can be heroes for God in the way that they live their

life. We are looking for volunteers to lead the Bible story time and games, along with helpers in those areas.

Look for more details on the display in the church fellowship hall or online via Facebook – “Our Savior Lutheran Church VBS” page. Registration forms, posters, volunteer lists etc. are available in both locations. Or talk to Crystal Voth in person, by phone (715-554-2313), or online, or any other members of the Board of Ed (Joan Hance, Cindy Bitz, Tanya Cowart, Kim Haugen, or Joyce Goodvin).

Grade 4-6 Lock-In News

In April, we hosted a lock in for grades 4 to 6. With only 8 signed up, it was amazing to see 25 kids running around, dodging flying balls, throwing “flaming arrows” (wads of paper in yellow fabric) at one another, and wielding the sword of God’s Word as we looked at the Armor of God! It was a fun night of learning, fellowship, and fun.

Thank you to those who helped make this a success. The kids can’t wait for another one (next week would be great according to them) while the adults and teens need a little more time to recover (next spring would be good)!

SPRING CLEANING TIME!

Many hands make light work and we need many hands!! We will be deep

cleaning our facilities inside and outside on Saturday, May 15th from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. (If weather does not cooperate for outside work, we will do the outside on May 22nd.) Please come out and join us! The Board of Trustees will be heading up our day so if you have any questions, please contact one of them!

If you are the contact person for a particular ministry and you have an area where your “stuff” is stored, this would be an excellent time to get your team gathered together to sort, clean, throw and organize!

Board of Trustees

Kurt Hauf
Eric Poppinga
Greg Marshall
Shawn Benham
John Walker
Dan Saunders
Paul Dodd
Van Tvedt
Mark Haugen
Tom Hauf
Phil Cowart
Jim Sanderson
Rudy Steinke

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Caring For One Another meets each Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. at OSLC from September through May. Our last Bible study for this season is May 11, 2010. Please mark your calendar. Watch the bulletins and newsletters for our start up date in the fall!

We are currently using the "One Page Bible Study." There is a lot of sharing and insights learned. It is indeed interesting! The attendance is great and the help in setting up and taking down again is so appreciated!! Thank you for your willing hands and hearts. Many thanks to Duane for making coffee each time, our thanks to those of you who bring treats, and thank you Clara for taking the time to write up and research the studies.

See you on Tuesdays!

Spring Joy and God Bless!
Duane and Clara Schell
838-4498

FOREVER YOUNG

Forever Young will be meeting May 14, 2010 for supper at 6:00 p.m. **at the Royal Fork.** When you arrive just pay

for your meal and tell them you are with the Our Savior Group in the back room! You can eat right away, or wait until we all get there so we can eat together.

We will not be meeting in June, July or August. We will meet again starting in September. Thank you to everyone who participated this past year! We've had many wonderful programs and great food for our potlucks, not to mention the wonderful fellowship. It's always a fun time and we look forward to our start up in the fall. If you have ideas for programs, please let us know! We would love to see our group grow in numbers so be sure and invite your friends!

In Christ's Love,
Duane and Clara Schell
838-4498.

SEWING DISCIPLES

We are getting ready for our spring shipment to Lutheran World Relief! We will be meeting on Monday, May 17th at 9:30 to pack. Boxes can be loaded on the truck provided by Midwest Motor Express on May 19th-20th for shipment to the Minneapolis warehouse...and then throughout the world!! We are so grateful for Midwest Motor Express partnering with Lutheran World Relief in providing free shipping to the

Minneapolis warehouse. We couldn't do what we do without them!

What an awesome ministry to be a part of! We will be shipping quilts, health kits, layettes and school kits. Be sure to watch for our display on Sunday, May 16th!

GRADUATION

Are you graduating from High School or College this spring? We would love to display your invitation/picture on our bulletin board! Please turn your items in to Peggy in our church office as soon as possible. Be sure and let her know if you need your items returned.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 1	Patti Detlaff Brittany Meckle
May 2	Marlene Knodel Austin Dahly Tayson Benjamin Jaxson Tohm-Jung
May 3	Rhonda Schmidkunz Ronald Tribitt Peggy Lentz Abram Hagenstein
May 4	Tom Webster John Stack

May 5	Stephanie Schoenrock Kristina Weber Margaret Fields Steven Hall Brooklyn Benno
May 6	Marlene Benton Donovan Womack
May 7	Joyce Herdt Kurt Christianson JuLie Reinisch
May 8	Cynthia McKay Tesa Feldman
May 10	Karl Bethel Benjamin Tohm Brianna Balster Danielle Sperling Keenon Brevik Jackson Johnson
May 11	Richard Tangen Damon Otto Gustave Voth
May 12	Joshua Mosser Andrew Erdman Jake Johnson
May 13	Harold Marten
May 14	Bethany Gebhart Eric Jungling
May 15	Julie Schaefer Derek Demke Nicole Johnson
May 16	Ethan Behm
May 17	Jill Schwan Jaedyn Rust
May 18	Christopher Vera
May 19	Mary Kent Angela Marten
May 20	Cecilia Howe

Pat Haugen
 Laureen Johnson
 LaRae Zahn
 Kaisa Messerly
 Ethan Forbes
 Noelle Overton
 May 21 Richard Kraus
 Jsason Haugen
 Joshua Leifson
 Adam Hayhurst
 Ben Kramer
 Riley Stair
 Makena Stair
 May 22 Joette Beck
 Linsey Jenner
 Hunter Christianson
 May 23 Teresa Seright
 May 24 Lori Voeller
 Olivia Orvik
 May 25 Pamela Kanyuh
 May 26 Edwin Haugen
 Jeremy Melchert
 Cody Heizelman
 May 27 Glenn Klebe
 Wendy Luckow
 Regan Graham
 May 28 Connie Nelson
 Carly Olstad
 Juan Goodvin
 May 29 Sharilyn Ogren
 Tim Voeller
 Grayson Annas
 May 30 Cheryl Coyle
 May 31 Nadine Dockter
 Kedrin Dosch
 Reid Plesuk

Happy Birthday and God's richest
 blessings to each of you! If your birthday
 is not listed, or if the date is incorrect,
 PLEASE call the church office
 and let me know!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

May 3 Rev. Tom and Marilyn Eaves
 Happy 25th Anniversary!!
 May 5 Jamie and Nicole Magnuson
 May 9 Brent and Nicole Podoll
 May 16 Ray and Sheree Mertz
 May 18 Wayne and Peggy Lentz
 May 20 Tyler and Jamie Thull
 May 22 Kelly and Julie Wetzell
 May 23 Tyler and Cheryl Ott
 May 24 Benji and Renae Johnson
 May 25 John and Pam Hagenstein
 May 25 Charles and Ashley DeMakis
 May 27 Kim and Sandra Nordstrom
 May 30 Kurt and Rhonda Christianson
 May 30 Dan and Angeline Wenzel
 May 31 Scott and Brandi Juma

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Serving Away From Home

Amelia Hunter (Betsy Jones' Sister)
 Matthew Voeller
 Noel Allen

Health Concerns

Tammi Benno
 ElRita Nelson
 Gloria Schmidt
 Jean Tohm
 Carol Tribitt
 Archie Zahursky
 Virgil Werner
 Sandy Williams
 Jaclyn Klebe
 Art Sather
 Kevin Dahly
 Teya Rust
 Barb Racine
 Joyce Hatlestad

In order to meet our 2010 General Fund budget, our goal is to receive \$8,573.67 per week in contributions. As of the end of April we have had 17 Sundays. $\$8,573.67 \times 17 \text{ weeks} = \$145,752.39$. As of the end of April, we have received \$137,020.06 toward our General Fund budget. That is a shortfall of \$8,732.33. However, all of our bills are “current” at this time.

Thank you for your giving to the mission and ministry of Our Savior Lutheran Church!

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING AVERAGES

Attendance:

March Average: 384
 April Average: 422

Offering (General Fund):

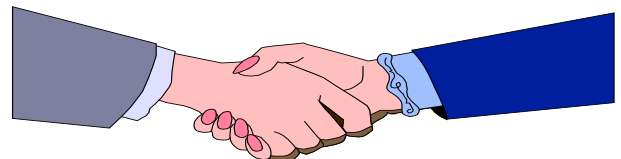
March Average:
 \$\$9,985.74/Week
 Designated Fund Average:
 \$1,138.75/Week

April Average:
 \$\$7,794.44/Week
 Designated Fund Average:
 \$1,384.37/Week

Children's Sunday School:

March Average: 56
 April Average: 49

MAY USHERS



8:30 a.m.
 Rudy Steinke

9:45 a.m.
 Tom Vera

11:00 a.m.
 Paul Ogren
 Michael Orvik
 Ted Krause

We need more ushers! If you are willing to serve in this vital area of

ministry, PLEASE call the church office at 852-6404 and let Peggy know or sign up on the bulletin board located in the Fellowship Hall!