

## Highlights

- Pastors' Messages
- Vicar's Corner
- Music Beat –

- Calendar
- Birthdays and Anniversaries

## Inside

- Attendance and Offering

*The Newsletter*  
*June 2010*

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# THE SONSHINE

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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

### Why Go the Extra Mile?

#### **The Answer: A Child Changed Through Confirmation Classes.**

Two weeks ago, a group of OSLC volunteers sat in a classroom. It had been a hard year for all the volunteers and they were doing an end of the year evaluation. All the things that didn't work quite like they should have were talked about and the mood was pretty dark until the follow-up question was asked, "So why do you do it?" One volunteer answered, "I thought I was going to let someone else take my place next year, until one of the confirmation students came up to me in the mall and gave me a hug. At the beginning of the year this student was a hardened young man

*who made it clear that the only reason he was in class was because he had to be. But somewhere over the nine months we broke through into his heart. He's now one of the first ones there on Wednesday night. He asks questions. He gives answers. He participates. At that moment I realized that what we do here on Wednesday nights really does make a difference in a person's life. I can't step aside. This is too important."*

Why do we go the extra mile as a congregation? Because our efforts impact young adults who need the foundation of Jesus Christ in their lives.

#### **The Answer: A Family Blessed Through Our LHLH Ministry.**

A short time ago an OSLC member shared this story: "I wasn't always for the Child Development Center at our church. My co-worker has her child enrolled at the church.

*So I asked her what she thought. I was surprised at her response. "It's the best thing we ever did!" she said. "What they do for my daughter each week is just awesome! My daughter's happier. We're happier. Our family is happier. We'd do it again in a heartbeat!"* It's a faith-based, child focused, life-impacting place.

Why do we go the extra mile as a congregation? Because our efforts impact children and their families with the person of Jesus Christ in ways that change their everyday living.

### **The Answer: Life-Changing Words on Sunday Morning.**

Two weeks ago, a young man sent me this email: *"Pastor, I don't normally send emails to people, but I wanted you to know the impact last Sunday's sermon had for me. I didn't realize how cutting my words have been until you said that our words can either tear people down or build people up. When you got done, I thought that you were talking right at me. My wife and kids have suffered a lot because of the careless things that I've said, and I didn't even know it. I want you to know that I'm going to ask God to help me love them not just with my actions but with my words too."*

Why do we go the extra mile as a congregation? Because our efforts impact husbands and wives in simple ways that bring profound changes.

### **The Answer: Leaders Who Create Life-Change.**

In April, thirty-two OSLC women gathered at Shepherd's Hill Retreat Center for the very first OSLC women's retreat. Tears were shared, bonds were formed, prayers were shared as these women grew deep spiritual connections for their lives. This was a project that came as a direct result of OSLC's investment in the Excel Leadership Conference. Empowered by the training, our leaders successfully created an environment to touch the lives of thirty-two others. Imagine the ripple effect of this powerful retreat in the homes of our church members.

Then, as a direct result of the Excel Leadership Conference, OSLC youth board members generate the funding to launch the "Every Kid to Camp" program and fund 30 full-ride camp scholarships. The impact of our summer camps are breathtaking in what they're able to do in a child's life and the great leaders of our church figured out a way to make that accessible to every family in our church regardless of cost.

Why do we go the extra mile as a congregation? Because our efforts create opportunities to transform hearts and lives with the life-giving Gospel of Jesus Christ and the connections that come when God's people believe that they are called to make a difference in the name of Christ.

I've often thought about putting a tag-line behind our church's name, *"Our Savior Lutheran Church, Touching Lives for*

*Eternity*” because that’s truly what happens each week. On any given day, something is happening through the ministry of our church to make Jesus Christ alive in the hearts and lives of a child, a husband, a family, a friend, and so many more.

Why do we go the extra mile as a congregation? Why are we willing to take risks where others might not? Why do we try new things? Discover new ways? Because our efforts impact every day people in extraordinary ways through the power of Jesus Christ. It’s what we do together! And doing it together makes a difference!

It’s an honor for me to share with you in such a vital ministry. I continue to look forward to your strong support and the great things that God will continue to do in our midst.

### **Transforming Mud Into Pavement**

Spring 2010 has been nothing but water, wind and rain, and nowhere has its effects been felt stronger than in the OSLC parking lot. The weekly showers, combined with a rising water table have created a literal sea of mud that leaves worshippers fighting for elusive dry ground.

OSLC’s Board of Directors has been looking at options to take care of this ongoing problem. Everything from adding gravel to redoing the entire parking lot with full pavement and underlay has been discussed. Right now

the Board is working on coming up with the best plan to take care of the situation. This plan will be presented to the congregation for further input at the June 6<sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting. In the meantime, please continue to be patient as we work for solutions.

### **Terry Voeller Steps Down as LHLH Director**

In May, Terry Voeller announced her resignation as Director of OSLC’s Little Hand’s Loving Hearts Child Development Center. Getting this ministry up and running was a step of faith on behalf of Terry and her husband, Doug. Together they brought the ministry from a simple idea to a life-changing reality as they identified problems, created solutions, and pressed on in faithfulness to see the center become a reality. Together they served as stellar examples of trust and persistence to the team of leaders who made the ministry take root. As a congregation we are grateful for Terry’s leadership and the loving-heart through which led the start up efforts. Thank you Terry for your faithful service! Karla Ross, who directed the center in Terry’s absence, has stepped up into the director’s position. We welcome Karla to this exciting ministry!

VICAR’S CORNER

## **A Translation for You**

As Christians we believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God. As such we read and study the Bible as God's guide for our lives. It is a foundational part of our faith and our lives and rightfully so, but there are hundreds of Bibles to choose from.

When I speak of "hundreds of Bibles" I am referring, of course, to the many different translations. The Bible was originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. As most people in the United States have some difficulty reading these languages, we rely almost exclusively on English translations of the biblical texts. This is where the choices come in. How do you know which translation is best for you?

There are two main aspects of a translation that must be considered both by the translators and the readers. These aspects are accuracy and readability. Accuracy describes how closely the translation follows the original text in form and meaning. A translation that aims primarily at accuracy will usually be a "literal" or "word for word" representation of the original languages. This may preserve the structure and meaning of the original documents, but it often results in translations that are awkwardly worded and difficult to read in English.

Readability refers to the presentation of the text. A text aimed at being primarily

readable may sacrifice the original word order or "word for word" representation of a text in favor of presenting a text that is easily read and understood by many people. This is very helpful at communicating the message of God's Word, but a translation that only tries to be readable with no regard for accuracy runs the risk of losing the integrity of the original documents.

The trick is to find a translation that has the right combination of accuracy and readability for your own needs. For casual reading and basic study you may want a translation that is easy to read and understand. For more in-depth study you may prefer a translation that is as faithful to the original documents as is possible. The translation you choose is all up to your personal preferences and needs.

To help you decide which translation works best for you, I have included a list of several of the most popular English translations and some information about them.

### **King James Version (KJV)**

The King James Version, first translated in 1611, became the standard for English translations until the 20 century and is still in wide usage today. The KJV, while prolific, has several problems. First, its age (400 years old) contributes to a translation that is not entirely recognizable as English today. If

you know your “Thees” and “Thous” this may not be a problem for you, but it can be a challenge for many. Secondly, again due to its age, the KJV suffers from some accuracy issues. At the time of translation there were very few Greek and Hebrew manuscripts available, and those available were recent and less reliable. Even with these issues, the KJV continues to be the Bible of choice for many people; and with its artistic and poetic style it can be a very worthwhile translation.

### **The New International Version (NIV)**

Completed in 1978 by a team of 115 scholars, the NIV is a contemporary English translation. The NIV is currently the best-selling English translation on the market. This translation is easy to read and is somewhat of a standard for other resources such as Bible studies and devotional readings. The NIV was an attempt to balance readability with textual accuracy and for the most part the translators were very successful. The one issue some have with the NIV is that the translators were only selected from one Christian background. This has resulted in a few passages that can lead a person to an understanding of the text which reflects the specific beliefs of the translators. These passages are very few and far between and are not of huge significance so the NIV remains the majority favorite for reading and study.

### **The English Standard Version (ESV)**

First published in 2001, the English Standard Version is still very young. This translation is the work of more than 100 scholars with the goal of providing a very accurate translation of the biblical texts. The emphasis on accuracy has led to some readability issues. For the average English reader the ESV has some very difficult passages and some archaic phrases. The translation team for the ESV was selected from all areas of Christianity and scholars from conservative backgrounds were deliberately chosen to try avoiding the problems encountered by the NIV. The ESV is still in its infancy as a translation, but the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has decided its scholarship is worthy of being used for major publications. You will find the ESV in the new “The Lutheran Study Bible” and in all worship materials printed by Concordia Publishing House.

### **The New Living Translation**

The New Living Translation, published in 1996, is the product of 90 scholars from all over the world and from a variety of Christian traditions and backgrounds. The result of this team is a very readable translation that is also more faithful to the original texts than its predecessor, The Living Bible. The NLT

does provide a very contemporary style, but this can make the text sound unfamiliar for many readers and its updated language and word choices can lead to some uncertainty in its meaning.

The previous list contains some of the most popular translations, but this is far from an exhaustive list of current English translations of the Bible. So which translation is the best? All translations have both benefits and disadvantages. Personally I prefer the NIV for general reading. When doing more in-depth study I consult several different translations, such as the NASB (New American Standard Bible), the NKJV (New King James Version), as well as the ESV (English Standard Version), and the CSB (Holman Christian Standard Bible). Bibles can be found in a vast variety of formats from the Old English King James Version to completely illustrated Bibles such as The Picture Bible and the Manga Messiah. Finding the translation that is right for you may take time, but as the Bible is a clear presentation of God's grace in Christ and His provision in our lives, selecting the right translation will be a blessing to your daily walk in faith.

→ MUSIC BEAT →  
SMALL GROUP AND  
VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES

## **Music Ministries**

Are you a Daddy who loves to sing with his daughter? Are you a daughter who loves to sing with her Daddy? Well, I have a great opportunity for you. On Father's Day, June 20<sup>th</sup> I am planning to have an ensemble of dads and daughters sing for the worship services. All you have to do for now is just let me know you're interested and I'll contact you with the rehearsal schedule. There are already 5 dads and daughters signed up, so you won't be alone! You don't have to have a great voice – just a desire to share some faith time together. Call me at the church office at 852-6404.

Would you like to provide some special music for our summer worship services? Give me a call (852-6404) and we'll get you scheduled.

## **Small Group Ministries**

We have just completed our six-week journey called 40 Days of Love. I pray that this forty-day journey has introduced some new ideas to help you add health and richness to your relationship with Jesus and all of the relationships in your life.

The Beth Moore ladies' Bible study will be meeting June 7<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. This will complete the lessons, but watch for additional opportunities in the fall. Thank you to Laura Larson for getting this organized and leading the women through this wonderful study!

## Volunteer Ministries

All hands on deck! Or should I say all heroes on deck? We still need volunteers to make this year's Vacation Bible School an unforgettable experience. Can you help? Give Crystal Voth a call at 715-554-2313.

If you're the contact person for a ministry team, don't forget to join your fellow church leaders on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-12:00 for Imagine . . . In fact bring someone from your ministry team along with you! We will be learning how to improve our communication with others, exploring new directions for our church and celebrating the successes God brings to our ministries here at OSLC. Don't miss it!

Here's a whole new ministry opportunity in which to serve. We will need people to run the projection system during our worship services. This is done on a computer, so if you enjoy working with computer programs, this might be just the place for you! How about you high school kids – very few of us adults are better at computers than you, so why not think about helping out in this vital area. Call the church office at 852-6404 to sign up and I'll make sure you get the training needed to do a great job. Thanks!

We also still have lots of open Sundays for you to sign up to serve as an usher or greeter for our worship services. Please

see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Your warm greeting is key to overcoming the fears or misconceptions many people have when they visit a church for the first time. And you know what? I've been coming to church here for 26 years, but I LOVE being greeted every Sunday. It's an easy way to share God's love with others and it makes a BIG difference.

Have you found your niche here at OSLC? You all have amazing gifts and abilities given to you by our Creator. I would like to encourage you to use them by leaving you with a quote from Nelson Mandela: *Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small doesn't serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are born to make manifest the Glory of God that is within us.* So let your light SHINE and may **God** be glorified!

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

### **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible School is quickly approaching. "Hero Headquarters, *where kids join forces with God!*" begins on Sunday, June 13! Each evening we are inviting children ages 4 through having completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade to join us for an evening of fun, music, games, arts and crafts, Bible stories, and food. There will be a meal provided from 5:30 to 6:10 pm. Program starts at 6:15 pm and ends at 8:30. Parents are welcome to come to join us for the closing, approximately each evening from 8:10 to 8:30.

We still need help and volunteers from the congregation!

- 1) We are looking for small groups, boards, or families that would like to prepare a meal and serve the kids. The Board of Ed will provide the ingredients for each evening meal so all you have to do is come in and prepare it. Times are approximately 4:30 to 6:30 pm.
- 2) Decorating is simple and easy under Crystal Voth's leadership. She will always have something for you to do, something that doesn't require great art skills (but if you have them, she will make good use of them!), and

something that will help transform our building into an everyday hero headquarter. Decorating will run Wednesday, June 9, to Friday, June 11, from approximately noon to 10 pm each day.

- 3) Crew Leaders are still needed. This is the simplest easiest job during VBS and yet one of the most important jobs. You will lead 8 to 10 kids of various ages from one area of VBS to another (i.e. from opening to games then to Bible Study, to crafts and to the closing) with another adult or teen. There is no preparation needed. Just be here about 6 pm to prepare crew items (water bottles, name tags, and capes) and then join them in the fun of each station.

If you have any questions, please call Pastor Dan at the church or on his phone: 715-607-0116.

### **Sunday School**

Thank you to all our Sunday School and Kids For Christ teachers and helpers for another great year of teaching our children the wonders of God's Word and the gift of salvation in Jesus Christ! We pray you will continue to serve next year and share your ideas of how we can make it even better.

### **Father Son Rocket Build and Launch**

Join us on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 11:30 to make time to build a

model rocket together in preparation for launch on Father's Day (June 20<sup>th</sup>) following worship. Bring a rocket and any supplies you need for building (glue, paint, knife, patience) and some junk food for our Junk Food Buffet while we build. If you have never built one before, what a perfect time to come learn some tricks and spend time together as Fathers/Sons!

## SEWING DISCIPLES

We just packed and shipped our spring shipment to Lutheran World Relief. We were able to ship the following:

54 Quilts  
 10 Layettes  
 14 Health Kits  
 22 School Kits

In addition we also donated 5 quilts to our local Red Cross. What an exciting mission project to be involved with!

We would like to say a very special thank you to Midwest Motor Express. They provide free shipping to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in Minneapolis, MN. They are an incredible blessing!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 1	Hailee Conklin
June 2	Eric Westman Heather Polsfut Thad Manuwal Sydney Poppinga Dayton Kent
June 3	Loretta Esquibel Melissa Gilseth Christian Sickler Vianne Strandlien
June 4	Kale Hedberg Neil Labrensz Ashley DeMakis Brock Nelson Alivia Spitzer
June 5	Betty Hahn Mary Olson Michaela Spaulding Shyann Fleck Maria Goodvin
June 6	Earl Fink Thomas Hauf Alex Hair Peggy Trondson
June 7	Rev. Paul Krueger Gary Trueblood John O'Connor Lisa Buican
June 8	Sandra Williams Chloe Allred
June 9	Susan Adkins Kelly Sorensen Mya Olson
June 10	Nathan Eraas Reese Plesuk

June 11	Theresa Schock	Lindsey Burdick
June 12	Susan Dodd	Cade Hoskin
	Kristi McNally	Cambree Hoskin
	Wyatt Deplazes	June 24
	Olivia Lade	Bonnie Plesuk
	Ramzey Plesuk	Candy Fleck
June 13	Dennis Krueger	Danielle Hance
	Holly Stein	June 25
	Michelle Glasgow	Ryder Dickens
	Matthew Eraas	Sharon Ellis
	JoLynn Azure	John Walker
June 14	Brenda Niess	Pamela Hagenstein
	Alex Westman	Leslie Wallstrum
	Jay Forbes	Daylen Benjamin
June 15	Phillip Cowart	June 26
	Jenna Johnson	William Tkachenko
	Ricky Melchert	Karen Johnson
	Bryce Haugen	Richard Messerly
June 16	William Reum	Sherrie Olstad
June 17	Brent Olstad	Mary Tvedt
	Carolyn Schweitzer	June 27
	Austin Esquibel	Allison Torbit
June 18	Zachary Schmidkunz	June 28
	Matthew Adkins	Laura Larson
	Tyler Olson	Brianna Gessner
June 19	June Martell	Adam Dodd
	Dorlee Vinnard	June 29
	Zachary Burdick	Marilyn Eaves
	Kyler Buican	Colin Marshall
June 20	Alma Jungling	Megan Walsh
	Amy Krueger	Kaleb Rosenbaum
June 21	Ludvig Bachmeier	Keegan Hemstad
	Scott Williams	June 30
June 22	Tammy Uleberg	Gerald Wickman
	Tonya Anderson	Vernette Sanderson
	Debbie Denatdeale	Gregory Hahn
June 23	Vicki Vincent	Michael Orvik
		Donna Chester
		Chelsea Erie
		Cherish Morin

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

June 1 Steve & Teresa Srighit  
Brian & Lynette Otto  
June 2 Michael & Jan Haugen  
Norman & Sherry Braaten  
June 3 Wayne & Karen Aga  
Kelly & Penny Brandt  
June 4 Jason & Teina Rust  
Robert & Alyson Preston  
June 5 Brent & Patti Detlaff  
June 6 Michael & Sandra Deplazes  
Jason & Alyssa Proper  
June 8 Tom & Cynthia Bitz  
Jeramy & Rachel Leifson  
June 9 Todd & Laura Larson  
Earl & JuLie Reinisch  
June 10 Paul & Lisa Olson  
Jeremy & Angela Benjamin  
Jeb & Candi Fredriksen  
Vicar Rick & Betsy Jones  
June 11 David & Joan Hance  
Thomas & Mary Hauf  
Eric & Kimberly Poppinga  
June 12 Todd & Nancy Wegenast  
June 13 David & Jodi Krueger  
John & Yvonne Stack  
Brent & Tami Mattson  
Gregory & LouAnne Schell  
William & Erna Tkachenko  
June 14 Herbert & Irene Schumaier  
June 15 Earl & Viola Fink

June 16 Kale & Jeanne Hedberg  
Terry & Kedrin Dosch  
Phillip & Tanya Cowart  
Jason & Vanessa Strandlien  
June 17 Eric and Deanna westman  
Aaron & Katie Krueger  
Ted & Peggy Trondson  
June 18 **Duane & Clara Schell**  
**\*\*Happy 50<sup>th</sup>**  
**Anniversary\*\***  
Rudy & Vicki Steinke  
Marty & Nicole Hoskin  
June 22 Mylon & Barbara Racine  
Tim & Lori Voeller  
June 23 Todd & Tracy Awalt  
Leslie & Torin Berge  
June 25 George & Susan Saltsman  
June 26 Michael & Kimberly Hoffart  
Leon & Vicki Vollmer  
June 27 Allan & Joyce Thurston  
Robert & Marcella Ludwig  
June 28 Jason & Patricia Schwarz  
June 29 Joel & Rochelle Howard

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### Serving Away From Home

Amelia Hunter (Betsy Jones' Sister)  
Noel Allen (Lavetta Melchert's Brother)  
Chris Gade (Friend of Steinke's)

### Health Concerns

Tammi Benno

Carol Dahly  
Kevin Dahly  
Warren Howe  
Teya Rust  
Art Sather  
Gloria Schmidt  
Jean Tohm  
Carol Tribitt  
Archie Zahursky  
Curt Williams  
Sandy Williams

**8:30 a.m.**  
Dennis Krueger

**9:45 a.m.**  
David Hance  
Angela Vera

**11:00 a.m.**  
Jim Adkins  
Kurt Hauf  
Debbie Denatdeale  
Mike Orvik

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING AVERAGES

### *Attendance:*

April Average: 422  
May Average (so far):404

### *Offering (General Fund):*

April Average:  
\$7,794.44/Week  
Designated Fund Average:  
\$1,384.37/Week  
May Average:  
\$7,188.32  
Designated Fund Average:  
\$861.37 / Week

### *Children's Sunday School:*

April Average: 49  
May Average: 38

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!

## JUNE USHERS