



# *the Kindred Spirit*

March 2020

Newsletter of Our Savior's Lutheran Church · Albany, MN · 320-845-2405

## *Lent*

Sunday Worship  
8:00 & 10:30 am

Education Hour  
9:15 am

Wednesday  
Lenten Services  
Noon and 6:30 pm  
Lenten meals following





John 17:20-21

*“I ask not only on behalf of these [disciples], but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”*

Dear Our Savior’s,

I have been reflecting over the last month on the sorrow of saying goodbye to a pastor here at Our Savior’s.

I know that it was a tough decision for your council and a tough decision of the congregational meeting, even though everyone appeared to be on the same page about this decision financially. It is always tough when the community needs to change it’s staffing, and this was a big decision for you. And for your prayerful discernment and responsible decision-making, let me say that I see how hard that

work was and still is. And I am proud of you for entering into it.

This decision to let the Associate Pastor position go was one that clearly needed to be addressed, in order to bring the congregation back to financial health. And yet, when it comes to a Pastor leaving there will always be more to the story. This is about a person, a person who is beloved to you and who has offered her gifts to you over the past three years. Pastor Bobbi is to be honored for all the time and effort she has put into partnering in ministry with you here at Our Saviors.

I also know that when a new pastor or manager in any setting comes into the picture, there will be some staff who are more adaptable than others. It is important for you to know that as I worked with Pastor Bobbi, there was some tension in our working relationship. It is for this reason, and out of respect for Pastor Bobbi and her ministry among you that I was not present for her celebration day on February 23rd.

It is also very important for you to know that this kind of tension is normal. Not only normal, but expected. When a new leader comes into an organization, change is inevitable. It is expected that some of the staff will move on. Some of that is because they are inspired by the change to try something entirely different, and

sometimes it is because they realize their gifts won't fit within the new constellation of staff, and sometimes, like this time, it is budgetary. In this way, a lead pastor is no different than any other business manager.

In fact, this is just one small example of how congregations are like family systems. One of the common messages folks shared in the focus groups we completed in February was that OSLC is a "Second Family." So I am sure you understand that families have their good points and their bad ones. Families include complicated relationships and generations—old patterns. The work of leadership in a congregation, like a healthy parent, is to help the people in the congregation function in healthier ways, which includes:

- having their own sense of self as individuals, knowing your God-given gifts and using them
- having differences of opinion and conflict constructively and lovingly
- keeping clear boundaries around who makes which decisions and how and who does which things
- growing in maturity in terms of taking responsibility for one's self and the roles one plays in the family (or refuses to play)

The goal is always to help the family not just get along, but to be real in their relationships and be able to work through any troubles

that arise. This is where deep and lasting relationships can develop and endure. And, maybe most importantly, when we develop authentic relationships, we witness to the wider world the unity and love that Jesus speaks of in John 17 (quoted above). For in this witness of a healthy community, we show the world that God's love is powerful, real and can create a community that truly loves and respects one another.

As I hope you already know, I am always more than willing to work through any conflict or concern that anyone has. So if there is anything about this change that you would benefit from talking through, I encourage you to reach out. I cannot share specific personnel information, but I would love to listen and care for you as you do this hard thing and grieve a pastor that you loved.

As we learn together about the ways that organizations work, I want to share with you a reflection wrote by a pastor about his experience: "A church isn't a blank slate and neither is a pastor" Found at this link: <https://thrivingministry.org/a-church-isnt-a-blank-slate-and-neither-is-a-pastor/> Or ask the office for a copy and we can print one for you.

God's peace to you, Children of God, for your Father desires that you might be one.

Pastor Kirsten

*Lenten Special!*  
Adult Education  
Sundays, 9:15 am  
*between services*

Dear Our Savior's People,  
What do you know "by heart"?  
Are there songs you love to bust  
out in your car? Or sayings you  
have memorized over time, that  
you lean on when you need them?  
Do you know the Lord's Prayer  
by heart? Do you know what each  
line means?

I am writing to invite you to join  
us for an adult conversation at  
9:15 am Sundays this Lent  
(between 8 & 10:30 worship  
services). We will study together  
"by heart," a series of  
conversations centered on Luther's  
Small Catechism and what it  
means to know God's love by  
heart. This is a chance to ask your  
questions about the basics of the  
faith and how what we believe  
came to be. A conversation for us  
to gather as those who are new to  
the faith, and those who know  
it deeply.

Of the 8 or so baptisms I have  
done in my 7 months at OSLC, I  
have heard people asking to  
connect with others who are also  
forming the faith of their children  
or joining the church newly or  
new again. Whether you are a new  
or seasoned Christian, I hope you  
will consider being here for  
Sundays in Lent a spiritual  
practice and opportunity to grow

not only your own faith, but the  
future faith of our children.

If you would like to attend and  
are in need of childcare, please let  
me know. I love to arrange  
childcare! :)

God's Peace,  
Pastor Kirsten

*OUR MISSION:*

*Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
is one people united in Christ,  
empowered by God's grace  
through worship and the study  
of His Word, to glorify God by  
serving and witnessing in the  
community and the world.*

## Baptisms

*February 2nd*

**Hudson James Bredeck**

Born 11/19/2019

Son of Kelly and Jesse Bredeck

Sponsors: Chad & Jackie Thielen.

*February 23rd*

**Raelynn Sue Schmitt**

Born 12/3/2019

Daughter of Kara and Alexander  
Schmitt

Sponsors: Amber Fischbach and  
Hannah Schmitt.

## Worried about losing an hour on March 8?

Don't worry! We are here to help! It is time to SPRING FORWARD, so what a better way to save time and start the new time change off with a blast than **Pajama Day** at OSLC. Everyone is invited to wear your favorite pajamas, robes, and slippers for our fun Pajama Day! Don't forget your stuffed friends!

## GIFT – Sunday, March 8

9:15am in the Sanctuary

*Generations In Faith Together*

An education and worship experience for all ages.

\*Songs of praise \* prayers \* biblical lessons\* faith building\*

Love grows from Generation to Generation. Spend time sharing the GIFT of faith with others.

Fleece Needed! We are looking for cuts of cozy fleece 1.5 yards to make fleece tie-blankets for Lutheran World Relief during our GIFT hour on March 8th. Please bring to the office before March 6! Thanks for helping with this project.

Psalms 78:4

*We will not hide them from their children;  
we will tell to the coming generation  
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and  
his might,  
and the wonders that he has done*

# OSLC YOUTH & FAMILIES

## Sunday School

*Sundays 9:15 to 10:15 am*

March 1 - Lost Sheep

March 8 - The Prodigal Son  
*Pajama Day!*

March 15 - Mary & Martha

March 22 - Zacchaeus

March 29 - The Last Supper

*Sunday School Sings at 10:30  
Worship on March 15!*

## Joyful Noise

### Children's Church

*Sundays during 10:30 am Worship*

## Confirmation, Grades 6-8

*Schedule during Lent:*

6:00 - Worship Service

6:35 - Soup & Sandwich Meal

7:05 - Lesson

7:45- Depart Home

\*\*During the month of March the confirmation students will be learning about the parts of worship, designing their own worship, and preparing to lead a youth worship on Sunday, April 19th at the 8:00am service. Please pray for the ongoing education of these middle schoolers.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church,  
Albany, MN

## Communication Covenant November 19, 2019

In order for us to build healthy, open relationships throughout the congregation and solve any concerns, the Council & Staff have adopted the following communication covenant to encourage equal voice, diversity of opinions, consensus and support for the group decision. In order to accomplish this task, we agree to the following:

- We offer and seek clarity in communication. We will not make assumptions about one another because they can damage our relationships and prevent us from doing God's Work.
- We will be honest and straightforward with each other. We will not manipulate each other.
- We will bring our contributions to the whole group, not burdening individuals with a concern the whole group needs to figure out together.
- To maintain strong relationships in our fellowship, we will go directly to any person with whom we have a concern and speak with them about it in Christian love. (Matthew 18)
  - If someone has a problem with an individual and comes

to you instead, encourage them to go to that person.

- If someone consistently will not go to the person they have a concern with, go with them to meet with the person.
- We will respect confidentiality.
  - Reasons to share confidential information include:
    - A person that is going to do physical harm to someone else or themselves.
    - A child has been physically, emotionally or sexually abused.
- So that we might respond, we expect signatures on any written critiques or letters.
- Council meetings are open and welcome for all congregation members to listen.
  - We will utilize executive sessions for discussions that need to be confidential.

Signed by the 2019 Council  
& Staff.

Tuesday, March 17  
All-Committee Night  
Any committee reports or  
information can be sent to  
the office to be shared.

## Lent GIVING 2020

For OSLC's Lent Giving 2020, we ask you to support the ministry of Kristin Wolford's Ministry Expansion for the Water Center:



The total cost of the Water Center is \$145,000. \$101,000 has already been raised. **The amount needed to complete the center \$30,000.**

This business will allow the ministry to:

- Sell safe and affordable drinking water to our neighbors and the surrounding community
- Disciple and empower more youth to lead as agents of change in their neighborhoods
- Expand our ministry to reach more children with the Gospel and academic tutoring
- Provide full-time jobs for at least nine people
- Add sustainability to our ministry right here in the Dominican Republic

You can support the Water Center during Lent by:

**Wednesday Lenten Meals and Easter Breakfast**—please be generous with your free will offerings at these meals.

**Coin Bottle**—pick up a bottle in the Narthex for your home to collect coins or money when you enjoy your meals.

**Noisy Offering in Five Gallon Bottle**—in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to participate.

**By check**—write a check payable to “Ramas Vivas” and place it in the offering plate.

**Online**—[www.igo-worldwide.org/ramas-vivas](http://www.igo-worldwide.org/ramas-vivas).

*Thank you so much for all your love and support!*

## Easter Breakfast April 12th

Join us between services for a delicious breakfast. We will be serving from 8:30 to 10:00 am.



## "Give Kids the World" Mission Trip · April 13–20

We are looking for four more people to join us in Florida April 13–20th. Help children who are medically fragile and their families to enjoy a vacation they will remember forever. No special training is necessary and no job is hard. Make awesome memories! Open to non-member and other congregations in the area; let Carissa Stark, 320-249-9221 or Deb Solarz, 320-250-0273 know if you are interested.

## Holy Yoga

Join us on Mondays, 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the lobby/narthex. We have one class left in the current session on **March 2**.

A new March four-week session will be **March 9, 16, 24 and 31**, with a four-class donation of \$32.00. Walk-in are always \$10.00 per class. *All are welcome!*

## Albany Food Shelf

*The following items are needed this month at the Albany Food Shelf:*

Brownie Mix  
Saltines

*Remember...*the first Sunday of every month is Food Shelf Sunday. Bring a food item donation for our local food shelf. The need is great, and with your help, people right here in our community are able to provide food on the table for their families. Donations can be dropped off in the designated bins in the Narthex. *Thank you!*



*A Shelter for Hope and Healing*

Terebinth Refuge is a Christ-centered shelter and safe home that brings hope, healing services, and freedom to sexually exploited and trafficked women.

CeCe Terlouw, Executive Director visited our Our Savior's on February 9. If you are interested in learning more or supporting this ministry, visit: [www.TerebinthRefuge.org](http://www.TerebinthRefuge.org).

Newsletter deadline  
is the 15th of the month

Spring Cleaning?  
Remember the Church  
Garage Sale is in May

Spring is almost here and with that comes Spring Cleaning! Once again we will have a large garage sale in May. As you pack your items for the sale, mark them and they will be ready to bring to church when the time comes. Think warm thoughts.

Quilt Auction at  
Luther Crest Bible Camp

On August 1st, Luther Crest will be having a quilt auction at the camp. If you would like to donate a quilt of any size, please contact Deb Solarz at 320-250-0273 for more info. The quilts need to be at the camp May 31st, so they can be put online for display. Money from the quilts will go for camper scholarships.

Ladies Gathering

In the beginning of April there will be a Ladies Gathering at Salem Lutheran in St. Cloud. Watch for more information and sign up list.

Women's Ministry

*Lady Generators*

Tuesday, March 17,  
9:00 am



Mary's Circle Bible Study  
Wednesday, March 18,  
1:15 pm



Quilting Squares are so happy that we could present 12 quilts that CeCe Terlouw, executive director of Terebinth Refuge when she spoke during the services at our Savior's on February 9th. We are blessed that our quilts can be part of the healing process for the women at the refuge.

I have a sign in my quilt room:  
"Those that sleep under a quilt,  
sleep under a blanket of love."

Our group meets on the second  
Wednesday of the month.

**March 11, 1:00 pm**

Come and tie quilts with us!

Making quilts with love,  
Elaine Randall  
320-260-8977

## Worship & Music Committee Notes

*Ash Wednesday and Wednesday evening services schedule:*

**Ash Wednesday** services are at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm

**Wednesday Lenten Services** with Soup/Sandwiches will be at Noon and 6:00 pm.

Sunday worship during Lent, the A/V team will be sharing videos from Kristin Wolford about the water project ministry.

**Palm Sunday**—We will be making Palm Sunday come alive with full cast and scripts. Pastor Kirsten is going to share the scripts that she has, so we know how many people we need to find to tell share the story.

**Easter Lilies and Flowers** order information coming soon.

### **A/V News:**

Kevin has been talking to a guy from the audio/visual company and we should have our first video proposal from him with in the next week.

If you are interested in learning more about what it takes to be a member of our A/V team contact Kevin Beuning (320) 492-0782

PrayGround has been talked about again and may be coming soon.

### **Holy Week Schedule:**

**Palm Sunday:** April 5th, Services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am.

**Maundy Thursday:** April 9th, Service at 7:00 pm.

**Good Friday:** April 10th, Service at 7:00 pm.

**Holy Saturday:** Sanctuary decorating at 9:00 am

**Easter Sunday:** April 12th, Services at 7:30 and 10:30 am. Breakfast served between services.

### **Worship Service Assistants**

If you would be willing to be a Reader, Usher, Communion Assistant, Assisting Minister or Greeter for any of these services please contact Lisa Beuning (320) 291-1114

### **Our Savior's Church Staff**

Interim Pastor

Kirsten Nelson Roenfeldt

cell: 508-422-6277

Pastor.OSLC2405@gmail.com

Ministry Associate for Youth & Families: Diana Brown

Music Coordinator:

Mike Aronson

Receptionist / Secretary:

Angela Mosman

Custodians:

Bestman & Josephine Dennis

Church Office Hours:

Monday–Friday · 9am–1pm

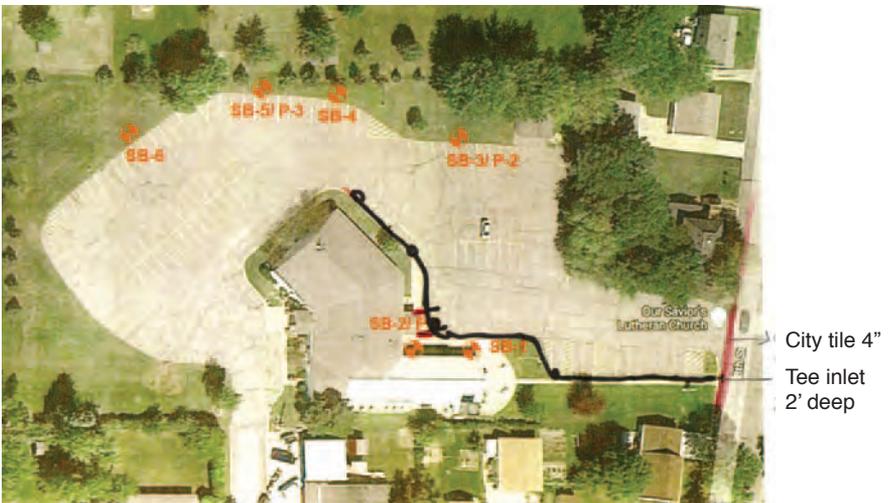
## Building & Grounds Committee Notes

Changes for the out side of the church are in the plans for the upcoming summer.

At the annual meeting, plans were shown to assist in keeping surface water from getting close to the building. Anyone wanting to use the landscaping rocks in the area being done is invited to check at the church office to be sure they are taking rocks from the correct area before taking away as many of the rock as wanted. The leftover rocks and shrubs will be removed and the church will be wrapped with ground guard. The soil level will be raised against the ground guard and a section of curbing replaced. These plans are set to go when the weather warms and the contractors are able to work.

Another project has arisen from the city's 8th street construction. The city will be installing a drainage tile below the new street curbing. There could be a tee installed at the street that would allow the church to drain surface water into this tile. This seems to be a feasible and cost effective answer to some of the other surface water problems in our parking lot. This issue has been discussed many times in the past. Building and ground committee members are looking at the what, where, and how of this project. Anyone with ideas/suggestions is invited to share your thoughts with building and grounds committee members or join our meeting the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Next meeting March 5th.

Property Map: 3-4 drain basins (sumps) · 2 underground drain pipes from down spouts connect to tile from East entrance (need to cut sidewalk)





Blessings are both giving and receiving. God is the ultimate source of blessing: life, joy, peace, abundance, children, reputation, health etc. All of these create a deeper way into a special relationship with God.

“If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 2 All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God.”

—Deuteronomy 28:1-2

“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”

—James 1:12

“It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High, 2 proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night,”

—Psalm 92:1-2

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

—Galatians 5:22-23

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.”

—Jeremiah 17:7

“Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.”

—Romans 12:14

Dear Heavenly Father, I ask that You bless me with the faith to always believe, to affirm the Supreme Power of Your miracles, be they of a physical or spiritual nature glorified. Jesus, my existence is a wonderful miracle and I praise You for it. I open my heart wide to receive the love of God. I realize and accept the healing power of God as love, and I allow the healing power to penetrate my life. God is my limitless and abundant supply made manifest. I feel the outpouring of God's love in my body and mind. I feel God's love in my affairs, and I know all is well. Amen.

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

—Numbers 6:24-26

# Worship Ministers—March 2020

	Reader	Communion	Ushers
Sunday, March 1			
8:00 am	Lisa Beuning <i>Soundboard: Jerry Stark</i>	Lisa Beuning Mary Adelman Evie Fischer	Tom & Sue Koplin
10:30 am	Anna Sundet <i>Soundboard: Pat Johnson</i> <i>Joyful Noise: Eric &amp; Crissy Ruch</i>	Anna Sundet Jim & Deb Kurtz	Dave & Lori Grabmeier
Wednesday, March 4 · 6:00 pm <i>Soundboard: Kevin Beuning</i>			
Sunday, March 8			
8:00 am	Lunda Hartwig <i>Soundboard: Matt Rafteseth</i>	Lynda & Mike Hartwig Jolene Lobitz	Dwight & Donna Christen
10:30 am	Barb Fishcer <i>Soundboard: Pat Johnson</i> <i>Joyful Noise: Hope Aronson</i>	Barb Fischer Angie Aronson Alex Aronson	Dave & Lori Grabmeier
Wednesday, March 11 · 6:00 pm <i>Soundboard: Lisa Beuning</i>			
Sunday, March 15			
8:00 am	Sandy Paulsen <i>Soundboard: Kevin Beuning</i>	Sandy Paulsen Marilyn Stonehouse Lisa Halvorson	Dwight & Donna Cristen
10:30 am	Hannah Finkelson <i>Soundboard: Eric Ruch</i> <i>Joyful Noise: Matt Egert, Becky Thelen</i>	Hannah Finkelson Ray & Cheri Salzer	Kyl & Michelle Evenson & family
Wednesday, March 18 · 6:00 pm <i>Soundboard: Kevin Beuning</i>			
Sunday, March 22			
8:00 am	Jolene Lobitz <i>Soundboard: Matt Rafteseth</i>	Jolene Lobitz tbd tbd	Dale & Kelly Rafteseth & family
10:30 am	Haley Power <i>Soundboard: Eric Ruch</i> <i>Joyful Noise: Angela Mergen, Angie Berg</i>	Haley Power Kenzie & Kourtney Fauk	Paul & Karla Fauk & family
Wednesday, March 25 · 6:00 pm <i>Soundboard: Lisa Beuning</i>			
Sunday, March 29			
8:00 am	Kathy Hildreth <i>Soundboard: Jerry Stark</i>	Kathy Hildreth Kathy Schei Evie Fischer	Keving & Lisa Beuning
10:30 am	Dana Amdahl <i>Soundboard: Pat Johnson</i> <i>Joyful Noise: Kaye</i>	Dana & Al Amdahl Shelley Johnson	John & Anna Sundet & family



Sunday Worship: 8:00 & 10:30  
Education Hour 9:15 am

Pastor: Kirsten Nelson Roenfeldt  
Ministry Associate for Youth &  
Families: Diana Brown

Music Coordinator: Mike Aronson  
Receptionist/Secretary:  
Angela Mosman

Custodians:  
Bestman & Josephine Dennis

Church Office Hours:  
Monday–Friday · 9am–1pm  
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