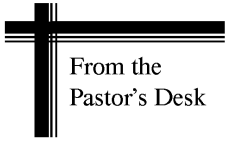




December 2022/January 2023

Northern Notes

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Outing, MN



From the
Pastor's Desk

As many of you know, Donna and I became empty nesters this year. It is quite a transition to go from full-time parent to, well, "what do we do now?" We were able to fend it off for a little while during the first year of the Covid pandemic, but the time eventually came to for all of our children to launch out on their own. Sure, we keep a bed ready for any one of them to come home (and a couple of air mattresses). We anticipate a stay here and there. Still, for all intents and purposes, Donna and I are back where we began: it's just the two of us.

I didn't spend much time reflecting on being an empty nester until recently. To be honest, I was kind of looking forward to it (sorry, not sorry if you're reading this, kids). Now that it's been a couple of months, I find myself missing the hectic lifestyle of family life a little bit. It's actually been difficult to settle into a calm, predictable home life. I guess that I'm not used to it. Don't get me wrong, I'm not asking for complete chaos, but a little unpredictability would be nice from time to time. I guess I am now officially reflecting on this new reality.

Here's what I've come up with: love is portable. We send our love with our children. They are wrapped in it as they navigate a life that is completely new to them. Our challenge is to balance our impulse to get involved in their lives too much. They each need space to emerge as adults. Through all of it, I know my love is with them and, more importantly, they know it too. All those times of making sure they were up in the morning, fed, and on the bus is now morning prayers and a good morning text. Instead of going to their plays, concerts, and sporting events, we plan occasional visits (but not too many). Instead of daily conversations around the dinner table, we have bi-weekly family chats via Zoom and we are all just a phone call or text away for one-on-one conversations. When we get extra lonely for them, we pull out a photo album and reminisce. Sure, it's not the same, but it is still love and we are still connected. Most importantly, I know they are going to be OK. They are becoming...

All of this reminds me that Jesus sent his love with us when he left the earth. In this scenario, we are like the children launched into the world. If you really think about it, that's what a disciple is, an emerging adult. We go into the big, scary world and we try to do our best, remembering all the things he taught us. Though we mess up from time to time, we know that we are never alone. The love and support of Christ are with us. We check-in with him during worship, prayer, and scripture reading. Prayer is like calling him or sending a text message. When we gather in worship, his Holy Spirit connects us all together, like a Zoom call. When we read scripture, it's like looking at a photo album or reading a love letter. We are all doing our best to love and honor God and neighbor, just like he said we should. We are growing and learning what it means to be his beloveds. We might not always get it right, but we keep trying because we know that his undying love is with us. This is why we strive to be our best selves day in and day out. Jesus is the source of all love. Love is portable. Now send your love into the world.

The Women held their business meeting in November and the 2023 Financial budget was reviewed. A motion was made and passed to accept the budget. Several dollars were donated to local, national and worldwide causes. Officers elected for 2023 are Coordinator: Caroline Switzer, Co-Coordinator: Judy Werner, Secretary: Jackie Hagel, Treasurer: Kathy Pfaff, Mission Growth: Cheryl Lokken, Joleen Nelson, and Shirley Singh. Our Women's Thankoffering was held on November 20th with Pastor Trish Jorgenson from Salem Lutheran in Longville sharing the message. Thank you to Robin Purgett, Tom and Marlies Brinkman for decorating the altar, Shirley Singh and Joleen Nelson for planning the service and to everyone who took part in it. Total monies received was \$803.00. Thank you Pastor Luke serving in Longville that day. We will decorate the church, pack cookies, have lunch and exchange prayer partner gifts on December 2nd beginning at 10:00. All men and women are invited to attend. I wish you a wonderful Christmas and may the Lord bless you with all good things in the new year.

Coordinator Caroline Switzer



The Annual Meeting was held in October. The following were nominated and voted in to serve. Council Members: Jane Matheson, Dick Omann and Jim Remington. Alternates: Jackie Hagel, Galen Wittenberg. Endowment committee: Laurie Baalson and Robin Purgett.

The council met on the 12th and elected Kami Genz-President, Jan Peterschick-Vice President, Barry Pederson-Secretary and Kathy Pfaff remains our Treasurer.

We held a special congregational meeting and motions were made to add Creation Care as one of our committees and to move the Annual meeting to January. Both motions passed.

The 2023 Council members are: Kami Genz, Cy Kruse, Jane Matheson, Dick Omann, Barry Pederson, Jan Peterschick, Jim Remington and Shirley Singh. Alternates: Jackie Hagel, Jane McKinley & Galen Wittenberg. Council minutes and treasurer's reports can be found on the table in the narthex.

Endowment Committee Members: Laurie Baalson, Jackie Hagel-Treasurer, Pat Maranda-Tuition Assist, Sheldon Matheson-Publicity, and Robin Purgett-Secretary.



Thank You Money Counters

On Sunday mornings following the worship service there are always two people who count the Sunday offerings. Thank you to our church tellers here at Our Savior's for giving their time.

Kami Genz, Jackie Hagel, Gary Nelson, Jan Peterschick, Dave Purgett, Shirley Singh, LeAnn Werner, and Galen Wittenberg.

The Day Our Lives Changed....

On May 25th Dan suffered a stroke and was airlifted to St Mary's hospital in Duluth. After a week there he was moved to Miller Dwan for 55 days of rehabilitation.

He then came home July 21st and continued outpatient rehab all summer. On September 29th he had heart surgery to have his mitral valve repaired. He then had 21 days of cardiac rehab, again at Miller Dwan. He is home now and doing outpatient rehab 2 days a week.

We want to thank you for all your thoughts, prayers, cards, gift cards, money, phone calls and visits. So many of you have done so much for us we cannot express how much we appreciate it. The meals brought to our home, the errands ran, yard work, bringing him to appointments, house and dog sitting just name a few. Thank you Pastor Luke for coming up to Miller Dwan and to our home to visit Dan and give him communion. We do ask for continued prayers as he has a very long road ahead of him.

God bless you all~ The Switzer Family

December Birthdays

31 Grace Schuller

December Anniversaries

22 Paul and Gracia Jensen

January Birthdays

1 Jane McKinley

1 Janis Judd

3 Alice Wittenberg

16 Jerome Anderson

21 Sue Townsend

22 Sandy Helmer

26 Charly Richters

29 Nancy Knox

January Anniversaries

7 John & Nancy Elmquist



The tree is up with the Good Gifts ornaments.

You can choose your gift and then take the corresponding ornament and give that to the one you are honoring or put it on your own tree as remembrance of the gift you have given.

The ELCA Good Gift program is a great option for some of your Christmas shopping.

You can buy a gift in honor of a loved one and the proceeds go to help someone who is in real need.

Please fill out a form and check the box of what you are purchasing and put it in the pail along with your check made out to

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

[Shop Christmas gifts that make a difference.](#)

SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANINGS

1) Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.

That is faith.

2) When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them.

That is trust.

3) Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up.

That is hope.

4) We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.

That is confidence.

5) We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children.

That is love.

6) On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.

That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!

DECEMBER		SUNDAY WORSHIP LEADERS		JANUARY	
Ushers					
4 Tom & Marlies Brinkman 11 Lee & Bobbie Midthun 18 Sheldon & Jane Matheson 24 Cy & Nancy Kruse			1 Galen & Alice Wittenberg 8 Sheldon & Jane Matheson 15 Jerry & Jackie Hagel 22 Brad Buchanan & Jan Peterschick 29 Jim & Lynn Remington		
Lectors					
4 Tom Brinkman 11 Lee Midthun 18 Sheldon Matheson 24 Cy Kruse			1 Caroline Switzer 8 Jane Matheson 15 Janis Judd 22 Brad Buchanan 29 Lynn Remington		
Communion Assistants					
4 Tom Brinkman 11 Lee Midthun 18 Jane Matheson 24 Caroline Switzer			1 Caroline Switzer 8 Jane Matheson 15 Jackie Hagel 22 Jan Peterschick 29 Lynn Remington		
Tellers					
4 Shirley Singh & Galen Wittenberg 11 Kami Genz & LeAnn Werner 18 Jackie Hagel & Jan Peterschick 24 Gary Nelson & Dave Purgett			1 Shirley Singh & Galen Wittenberg 8 Kami Genz & LeAnn Werner 15 Jackie Hagel & Jan Peterschick 22 Gary Nelson & Dave Purgett 29 Kami Genz & Jackie Hagel		
USHER TIPS					
BEFORE THE SERVICE: Arrive at the church early to allow enough time to complete your tasks. Shovel front sidewalk and spread salt as needed. If needed turn on the handicap ramp heater located to the right of the front doors and marked as such. Turn off when ramp is clear of snow and ice. Distribute Sunday bulletins. Ring the church bell with three sets of three strikes each after the pastor asks for a moment of silence & ringing of the bell. Light the candles before church or during the opening hymn. DURING THE SERVICE: Take count of persons in attendance. Record the number on the office door.			On the first Sunday of the month, put the center communion rail in place after handing the pastor the offering plate. And then remove it after all have been served communion. Place as many people at the communion rail as possible, which is approximately 14 people. On the Sunday of intinction, ushers should first direct all people from the left side pews single file first. Then the right side pews. Collect offering when pastor announces. AFTER THE SERVICE: Pick up any bulletins and dispose of them. Turn off all the lights and lock the front door. Thank you for serving.		



Christmas Brunch
Sunday, December 4th
Following the 9:00 am worship service
Hosted by Lloyd and Shirley Singh



Christmas Caroling
Sunday, December 4th
Meet in the church parking lot at 3:30 pm
After caroling, all are invited to the home of
Jan Peterschick and Brad Buchanan
21379 Evening Star Lane (off Smokey Hollow Road).
Bring your own beverage and a snack or hors d'oeuvre to share.



Order a Christmas Poinsettia

Cost of the plant is \$10
Make your check payable to WELCA
Sign your name on the sheet on and indicate if
your plant is in honor or memory of someone
The last day to order is Friday, December 15th.



Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT
SERVICE 4:00 PM



There will be no Sunday worship service
on the 25th of December

Welcome new members



Jason, Jeanene, Avery and Addie Hodge

We live in Plymouth, MN and bought a cabin on Lake Washburn in 2020 during the pandemic. We have been coming to Our Saviors as visitors for the past year. Jason is probation officer for Hennepin County and Jeanene has worked for Allianz Life Insurance Company for over 15 years. Avery is currently in 8th grade. She loves to dance and just got her 4-wheeling license. Addie is currently in 3rd grade and enjoys gymnastic and cheer. We look forward to spending our weekends at the cabin and getting to know all the wonderful people within the Outing community.



Frank Kendall and Beth Moorhead

They currently reside in Minneapolis and are on Lake Washburn whenever they can run away from the cities. Beth, a native of Brainerd, is happy to be back home and in the northwoods by a lake. When she is not busy working for Optum/United Health Group in Marketing or spending time with close friends and family she is busy either playing her oboe, painting, spending time with Frank (biking, hiking, skiing, swimming), or working on her business egalleri.com. Frank works for Spartan Nash as a grocery buyer. Although he was born out East and has lived in several states, he has spent most of his life in the twin cities. When Frank is not busy working he enjoys meeting new people, being with close friends and family plus he LOVES being outdoors with nature. If you can name an activity outdoors he has either done it or is still doing it - including climbing a few mountains in the world and has visited almost every baseball park except one. Beth and Frank's blended family consist of 3 girls, 1 boy and Bergen (the dog) with Beth's daughter being the youngest.



Carolyn Oldre

I had the privilege of being a "summer kid" on Lake Washburn. My parents, Vern and Betty Bohrer bought land on Plummer's Point in 1952 along with their good friends, Dick and Hattie Hauser.

I have 2 children, Eric (Lyssa) in Alexandria and Elizabeth (Brian) in Duluth, plus 5 grandchildren. Camryn, Audrey, Emma, Evan and Kate. Now, I get to spend more time with them.

I taught Elementary and Parent Education. I had a group family daycare in Golden Valley for 40 years. I retired in July to make my dream of retiring at the cabin come true.

Hunter's Dinner 2022



Thank you to Jerry, Jackie, Dave,
Lloyd & Gary who
cleaned up Hwy 6 road ditch



Caroline Switzer
was honored for
20 years of service to OSLC



The Men's Bible Study Crew
(L to R) Jerry, Gordy, Galen, Jack, Cy,
Pastor, Kurt and Dick



Annual Congregational Meeting

Our Savior's Choir Janis, Nancy, Lynn, Dick and Tom



WELCA Sells Goods at Local Craft Fair



Fifty two were served at the Thanksgiving dinner



"Knotty Ladies" Quilting Day





Women of the
ELCA
THANKOFFERING
SERVICE

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Decorate the Church, Pack Cookies, Lunch, Prayer Partners gift exchange	3
4 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion Brunch Served 3:30 pm Caroling	5	6	7 9:00 am Men's Bible Study	8	9	10
11 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship	12	13	14 9:00 am Quilting and Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm Council Meeting	15	16	17
18 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship	19	20	21 9:00 am Men & Women's Bible Study	22	23	24 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service
25 No Service Today 	26	27	28 9:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Quilting 10:30 am Worship & Music Committee Mtg.	29	30	31

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship	2	3	4	5	6 8:00 am Men's Breakfast	7
8 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship	9	10	11 9:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Quilting 6:00 pm Council Meeting	12	13	14
15 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship	16	17	18 9:00 am Men's Bible Study	19	20	21
22 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship	23 9:00 am Outreach & Witness Meeting	24	25 9:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Quilting 10:30 am Worship & Music TBD Potluck/ Game night	26	27	28
29 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion Noisy Offering	30	31				