



**THE  
NEW SENSE**

The Monthly Newsletter

**OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

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**JUNE 2016**

**Summertime?**

*"as soon as they put forth leaves, you see it and know for yourselves that summer is now near." (Luke 21:30)*

Sunday School for the Fall/Winter/Spring has come to an end. VBS is fresh on the hearts and minds of many. Public and private schools are letting out even as we speak. Even though evening breezes tend to have some coolness about them, we know that summer is not too far away.

Prognosticators of weather are saying that it's going to be a hotter than normal summer. Are you ready for it?

With the change of seasons, there usually is a change around the household. Children's sleep habits change, (the older they are the longer they sleep!), the need for childcare arises, changes of work schedules to accommodate such needs, vacations to be planned (if not already), oh—so much more to be considered.

Summer, for our church household is about to change. As you should have already heard, beginning June 5, and running through the end of August, our Sunday worship schedule will temporarily change.

Traditional worship will be set for 9:30 a.m. Heartsong Contemporary worship will be set for 10:45 a.m.

Why do such a thing? Why disrupt what we have come to accept as our normal patterns for worship?

As we have already said, I will say again. Someday we will have only one pastor. (I've been here 21 years and the prospects for another 21 are not good!). We need to have "a flavor" of what the Sunday morning worship experience could be (there are a number of other scenarios for what that could permanently be). We ask that you be patient. Trust in God. And, trust in your leaders.

Change can also be helpful, and, make you grateful. That is certainly the case in the arrival soon of a new Office Administrator! Pastor Ed has worked very hard on this and I'm not going to steal his thunder about who it is! Look elsewhere in this newsletter for more details! Needless to say, we are truly grateful for her arrival!

So, read on. Learn what's happening at OSLC for June, and, then – come – and see where you fit into all the fun, fellowship, and other types of ministry!

Remember, God loves you and so do we!

**JWN**  
Pastor Jim

## Highlights from the Council Meeting – May 9, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.

Pastor Ed opened with devotions.

We read our purpose statement: "Make disciples and grow in grace!"

Vision Team Update: Sean Golden shared vision thoughts from the team's recent meeting. There is a definite desire to see that the church be totally handicapped accessible, and that worship for the future needs to be addressed (looking at the number of worships on Sunday). Much of their vision is built around the OSLC Purpose Statement (see above). Council continues to have conversation together in helping further develop/generate ideas for priorities for the future.

Technology/Office update: Pastor Ed (with Gene Maddox present) answered questions about the new design for the office (internet, computer, phone systems, etc.) happening immediately. IT Decisions, a local company, was chosen to proceed with the installation.

Costs approved by Council were as follows: Network improvements: \$1,931.16; Phone System \$4,557.66; Labor Block (\$4,000); and new desktop (for new office administrator) \$596.42. The total cost is \$11,085.24.

Upcoming dates were discussed and a thank-you read from Crumley House.

Thank you's and compliments that were shared at this meeting are included in this newsletter.

Monthly reports and minutes were approved.

Due to the lack of funding council voted to suspend "Feed the Souls" for the summer months. Through the years we have had anonymous donors support this fellowship. That currently is non-existent. We hope to revive the fellowship in the fall.

Council gave permission to Nancy Shilling to place a table in the church during the next few months for people to share produce from their gardens.

Plans are being made to have a presentation of the recent church safety seminar. Tom Marshall to help plan it.

Offerings received for summer VBS approved: OSLC Food Pantry; Family Promise; Haven of Mercy, and Good Samaritan Ministries.

Barry Fetterolf offered what Property Committee doings to make the building more efficient.

Office Administrator interviews begin this week. Prayers requested.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

***God's work; our hands!***

# Youth and Family Ministry



**VBS coming soon.** Check the Christian Education section for more information on how to register or volunteer.

## **Summer Camp Opportunities - Sign-up Today!**

**Scholarships Available:** For any of our students headed to one of the following church camps this Summer, we have scholarships available. Do not let cost be an issue. We want to provide every young person the opportunity to go to camp each year.



**Affirm (Summer Camp with students from across our Southeastern Synod) Registration is now open.** You can register via the Southeastern Synod Youth website: [www.sesyouth.org](http://www.sesyouth.org). Everyone who has completed 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades is eligible to go! See Pastor Ed for details. To register for Affirm, go to [www.sesyouth.org](http://www.sesyouth.org).



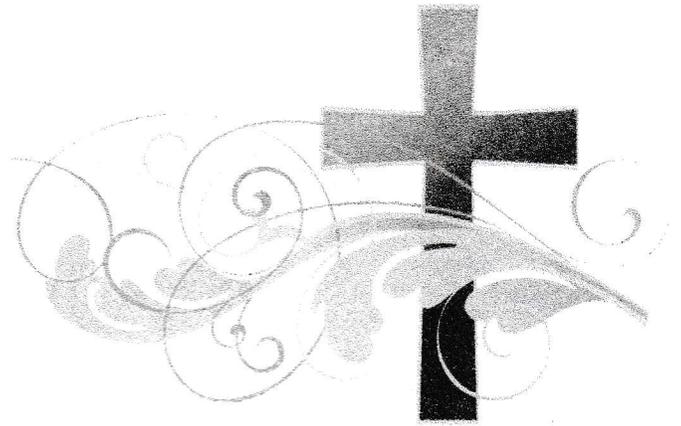
**WOW, (Win Our World)**, is an urban mission ministry experience in the heart of downtown Knoxville. It is a mission trip - but so much more! Youth Groups from across the region come to St. John's Lutheran Church to participate in five days of faith formation, leadership development activities and hands-on mission work with the homeless and less-fortunate folks in our neighborhood. It's an incredible opportunity for growth in our faith, our leadership, to serve others - and to have a lot of fun! To learn more about WOW and how to get involved please contact the Ministry Team, at 865.809.2405, or [info@urbanministry.org](mailto:info@urbanministry.org) or visit their website at [www.sjlcknox.org/ministries/wow.aspx](http://www.sjlcknox.org/ministries/wow.aspx)



We are also only a 1 ½ hours away from two of the greatest Lutheran Outdoor Camps in the world – Lutheridge and Lutherock offer a wide variety of summer camps for all school age youth. To learn more about their many summer opportunities visit [www.novusway.com](http://www.novusway.com) or [www.lutheridge.com](http://www.lutheridge.com).

**If you are interested in going to Affirm, WOW, or Lutheridge/Lutherock, contact Pastor Ed. Our Saviour wants to help you fund your faith forming experience.**

# Christian Education



The Christian Education committee celebrated the end of another successful Sunday school year on Sunday, May 22, with about 60 participants. Fellowship Hall was filled with the sound of music, laughter, and good-natured cheering. The children's class beat the adults' class in Bible Jeopardy, and we ended the hour with root beer floats.

Our Christian Education offering this year was given to Cap the Gap, an organization that assists foster children in Carter, Johnson, and Unicoi counties. Through the generosity of our students, we were able to contribute about \$950 to this worthwhile cause.

Our Christian Education programming would not be successful without the work of many volunteers. The Christian Education committee would like to thank the following people for sharing their time, talents, and treasures during the year:

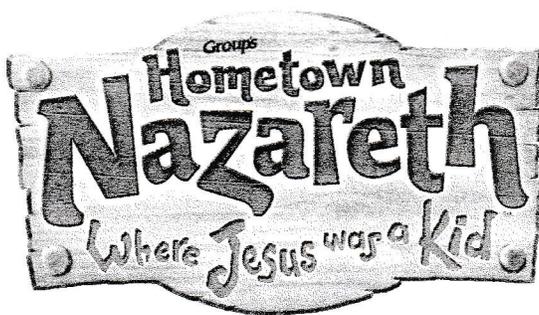
Adult Class: Pastor Jim

Women's Class: Kay Scheurer

The High Road Class: Sean Golden & Deb Soike

Children's Class: Pastor Ed, Melissa Malenda, Patti Wessner, Bridget King, Brenda Myers, Laura Arredondo, Nick Arredondo, Jacob Aaroen, Cat Hopper

Children's Choir: Patti Hembre,Carolynn Bailey, Ann Cunningham, Sylvia Beckelhimer, Fred Beckelhimer



"There's no place like home." Our church will be transformed into the village of Nazareth, so we can study what Jesus's life might have been like as a child. Join us Sunday, June 12, through Thursday, June 16, from 5-8. In order to help us in our preparations, please fill out a registration form (found on the Christian

Education bulletin board) if your child(ren) will be attending. Also check out our sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities and items we need during the week. If you have any questions, contact Sean Golden or Marcy Aaroen.

# Parish Nurse News

## National Safety Awareness Month



- Wash your hands to prevent the spread of germs and infections
- Eat lots of fruits and veggies
- Practice water safety
- Beat the heat and sun; avoid dehydration
- Use effective insect repellent
- Wear protective safety equipment when riding bikes, skateboards, ATV's, etc.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times

### **LIFE IS WHY \*\*\*CPR certification!**

CPR classes in July – I need to know who wants/needs to be certified or recertified. Let me know if you are interested so that I can schedule a date/time that best meets everyone's schedules. Please call or email me ASAP! ([Melissa024@comcast.net](mailto:Melissa024@comcast.net); 276-210-4670)

\*\*\***Thanks** to all who participated in the education presentation on May 10 and also for your participation in Holy Yoga. Both were a success because of you. Thanks!

\*\*\***Thanks** to Staff and Walk/Talk for making my birthday one that will always be remembered.

### **Happenings for June:**

- **Friends in Grief** will meet in the OSLC library June 14 at 10 a.m. We will meet for lunch on June 28. Time and place to be determined!
- **Blood Pressure Checks** June 19 for everyone. This is highly encouraged to prevent and manage blood pressure issues that could lead to death!
- **Ministries in Motion:**
  - Yoga** on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the youth room. Please bring your yoga mat.
  - Walk/Talk** meets Fridays at 10:00 a.m. All are invited. This event is to promote health/wellness beginning with devotions and then following with exercise to include either walking or chair yoga. Exercise is vital for proper blood circulation to provide our organs with oxygen needed to function effectively. Regular exercise can also have implications for emotional and spiritual well-being.
- **Care Bear Ministry** This ministry reaches out to people who need a little extra tender loving care. If you need a bear and one is not available in Heart Song or in the sanctuary, please see Pastor Nipper, Pastor Ed or me and we will be sure to get you one

*If I can be of help, please call me! Love to all ~Melissa Malenda, RN*

## Lector Schedule for the Entire Summer

June 5 & 12 Don Clemons  
June 19 & 26 Marilyn Proffitt  
July (entire month) Pat Wolf  
August (entire month) Janeen Pennell



## Ushers

6/5/16: Peg Pickens; Janeen Pennell; Larry Ecklund; Bill Brooks  
6/12/16: Dale Cannon; Janeen Pennell; Larry Ecklund; Bill Brooks  
6/19/16: Dale Cannon; Tom Marshall; Larry Ecklund; Bill Brooks  
6/26/16: Ronda Keffer; Peg Pickens; Larry Ecklund; Bill Brooks

## Communion Assistants

9:30 a.m. June 5 & 12 – Pam Ross & Richard Koepper  
June 19 & 26 – Patty Neas & Tedd Stephens



## Families of the Week

June 5: Mitch & Bridget King (Natalee, Owen)  
June 12: Tom & Marianne Smonson, Duane Williams & Alice Sulkowski  
June 19: Terry & Teresa Sweet (Matthew, Theresa)  
June 26: Beverly & Tony Gugliotta, Patricia Parsons-Tomita





Christa Dison & Richard Koepper

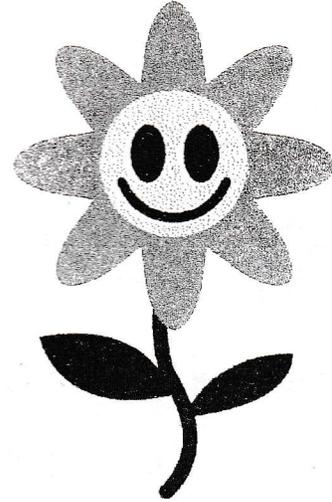
**Altar Flowers:**

June 12: Maggie, Josiah, Brandi Flint – in memory of Jim's Birthday (HS)

June 19: Tim & Judi Boebel Anniversary (HS);

Jim, Denise & Emma Montage in memory of Jim Montag and Donald Boudreau (trad)

June 26: Chris & Wayne Epperson Anniversary (HS)



**Remember:** We need nursery  
volunteers every week!  
Please sign up!

*Congratulations*

To Anne Stafford, daughter of Jay and Nancy Stafford, granddaughter of Shirley and John Stafford on her earning a Master's degree in Management from Wake Forest University. She graduated on May 16 and already has employment with FedEx in Memphis. Anne will begin on July 1 as a financial analyst!



## Food Pantry

In March and May, we had to purchase food to keep the pantry full. Please remember the pantry when you are food shopping. Just one or two items from everyone will keep our pantry full and ready to serve. Monetary donations are always welcomed. Your generous donations to our food pantry have made a difference in many lives. Needed items are:

**Crackers**

**Macaroni & cheese**

**Soup**

**Dry beans**

**Cornbread**

**Canned veggies**

**Peanut butter**

**Spaghetti sauce**

**Canned fruit**

**Jello**

**Cookies**

**Canned meat**

**Cereal**

**Spaghetti**

**Rice**

**Raisins**

**Apple sauce**

*Groceries given in March - 19 bags*

*April - 11 bags*

*May (23rd) - 21 bags*

**Melting Pot - May 11, 2016 - 134 meals Served**

**Blood Drive: June 22, 2016** If you can donate blood, come on June 22 and donate for a good cause. Several of our members have received blood recently while hospitalized. All donors in June will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 Visa gift card. Your donation is both needed and appreciated.

## WELCA NEWS

**Where Did They Go?** We recently were able to track the Baby Care Kits, Personal Care Kits, and quilts that OSLC sent to Lutheran World Relief last year. The Baby Care kits, quilts, and some of the Personal Care kits were sent to Angola. Many of the Angolan families who received these items are refugees and asylum seekers. Some of the Personal Care Kits also went to Georgia (the country, not the US State).

**WELCA** volunteers assembled over 250 Personal Care kits this year. These kits will be sent to Lutheran World Relief for distribution to needy families. Thanks to everyone who donated time, money and supplies for this year's kits. Special thanks to Phyllis Farst for organizing the project and to Tom Marshall and Thrivent for the generous donation for purchase of items packed into the kits. Stay tuned for their destinations!

**Katie Circle and Hannah Circle** will meet for their June meeting for a picnic at the home of Berla Smith at 1904 Kenwood Drive in Johnson City. The picnic will be on Wednesday, June 22 starting at 11 a.m. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship.

**Reminder for July!** Remember the annual WELCA Retreat, "Garden Getaway" on July 9 at the Neas' Farmhouse in Parrottsville. You can register on the WELCA bulletin board.



...Gene Maddox, for setting up our new OSLC website (check it out at [www.oslc2.cc](http://www.oslc2.cc)...better hurry because the website name is changing soon!)

...All who worked on the Youth Service – Marcy Aaroen, Sean Golden, Deb Soike, Pastors Ed and Jim, Ann Cunningham, Sylvia Beckelhimer, Patti Hembre, Tony Mowell, and the Heartsong Band.

...All youth (especially the High Road Sunday School Class & Sunday School Choir, ushers, communion assistants, and altar guild members) for the Youth Service on Mother's Day..

...Jay Stafford for the design of the input cards to collect info for the "One Call" database.

...Richard Koepper, for downloading all the input for "One Call."

...Pastor Ed for all his work on the new office system and the office administrator search.

...Laura Arredondo for her work with the LYO on Wednesdays.

...the Search Team for a new Office Administrator: Pastor Ed, Pastor Jim, Joni Cannon, Nick Arredondo, Mitch King, Marcy Aaroen, andCarolynn Bailey.

...all our Sunday School teachers, music leaders, helpers, and students (especially coordinator Marcy Aaroen!) for another great year!

...Sean Golden for coaching our CoEd softball team and all who supported the games.

...Michael Leonard for the new design on the softball jerseys

...all who help with the Melting Pot each month.

...all who help with the Newsletter mailings.

...all who help with the quilt making on Mondays.

...all of our PDO staff and children, and parents, for another great year. (Thanks, Cat!)

...The Rev. Anna Butler and Mr. David Holland for preaching on May 29 while the pastors were at Synod Assembly.

...all our instrumentalists, soloists (Joan Blackmer, Sylvia Beckelhimer), and the choir (which is now on summer sabbatical).

Dear Friends at Our Saviour Lutheran Church,

Many, many heartfelt thanks for all the tokens of love and concern shared with me: during my recent total hip replacement surgery. The prayers, phone calls, visits and delicious food gifts all buoyed me up to a haven of peace and calm. Special thanks to Pastor Jim for his special visits. I am so blessed to share in the love and community of the special group of people that is Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

Sincerely, Margaret Allown

*Dear Pastor,*

*The darling white Teddy bear was such a surprise and delight and brings a smile to my face! Thank you so much for the church and the Proffits for remembering old members and old friends.*

*Peace and blessings! Ken Schoening*

## Thoughts on Music

There's a certain feeling of giving, a certain feeling of generosity in love songs. When you sing a song of love, you're actually giving something to yourself, too. You're singing and casting these affirmations of love out into the universe. **Jason Mraz**

For me, singing sad songs often has a way of healing a situation. It gets the hurt out in the open into the light, out of the darkness. **Reba McEntire**

This is for us who sing, write, dance, act, study, run and love  
and this is for doing it even if no one will ever know  
because the beauty is in the act of doing it. Not what it can lead to.

... this is for you who write or play or read or sing by yourself with the light off and door closed when the world is asleep and the stars are aligned and maybe no one will ever hear it or read your words or know your thoughts but it doesn't make it less glorious.

It makes it ethereal. Mysterious. Infinite.

For it belongs to you and whatever God or spirit you believe in  
and only you can decide how much it meant and means and will forever mean  
and other people will experience it too through you.

Through your spirit. Through the way you talk.

Through the way you walk and love and laugh and care...

Don't try to present your art by making other people read or hear or see or touch it; make them feel it. Wear your art like your heart on your sleeve and keep it alive by making people feel a little better. Feel a little lighter. Create art in order for yourself to become yourself and let your very existence be your song, your poem, your story.

Let your very identity be your book.

Let the way people say your name sound like the sweetest melody.

So go create. Take photographs in the wood, run alone in the rain and sing your heart out high up on a mountain where no one will ever hear and your very existence will be the most hypnotising scar. Make your life be your art and you will never be forgotten. **Charlotte Eriksson**

*Love,  
Carolyn*

## Meet Cindy Watkins, OSLC New Office Administrator

Cindy grew up all over the US, Europe, and the Middle East because her dad was career military. She came to our area about 16 years ago from Charlotte, NC. She has two grown children, a daughter, Leigh who is married and works for ETSU, and a son, Stuart who is engaged to be married in November, is living in Delaware, and working at a nuclear power plant as an engineer.

Cindy started working for St. John's Episcopal Church, Johnson City when she moved here. Shortly thereafter, an opportunity arose at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Kingsport. She has been at Holy Trinity for 15 years.

A tech nerd who loves getting involved with new systems, Cindy is excited about the opportunities available at OSLC AND we are excited to present her to you. First day at her desk will be June 6. Please make Cindy welcomed as a part of the OSLC parish family!



Congratulations to Kristy and Doug Huff on the birth of their son, Parker Reagan Huff, born May 3. He weighed in at seven pounds and 6 ounces, 20" long. Proud big sister is Gracie; Carolyn and Randy Parrish the doting grands!



Be sure to sign the Friendship Register OR complete a pew card when you attend Worships! Not necessary to do both!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>JUNE 2016</b>			1	2	3 Walk/Talk 10 am	4 Path Class 9-12 (DCS) State of TN
5 9:30 AM – Holy Communion (Trad) 10:45 AM – Heartsong/Holy Communion SUMMER SCHEDULE	6 PDO 9 – 2 pm CINDY WATKINS arrives!	7	8 Melting Pot PDO 9 – 2 pm	9 Yoga 6:30 pm	10 Walk/Talk 10 am	11 Path Class 9-12 (DCS) State of TN
12 9:30 AM – Holy Communion (Trad) 10:45 AM – Heartsong/Holy Communion Vacation Bible School 5 – 8 SUMMER SCHEDULE	13 PDO 9 – 2 pm Cover Girls 10:00 Prayer Shawl 2 pm Council 6:30 VBS 5-8	14 Friends in Grief 10 am VBS 5-8	15 PDO 9 – 2 pm VBS 5-8	16 Yoga 6:30 pm VBS 5-8	17 Walk/Talk 10 am	18 Path Class 9-12 (DCS) State of TN
19 9:30 AM – Holy Communion (Trad) 10:45 AM – Heartsong/Holy Communion Blood Pressure checks SUMMER SCHEDULE	20 PDO 9 – 2 pm	21	22 PDO 9 – 2 pm WELCA Picnic 11 a.m at home of Berla Smith Blood Drive 4 – 8	23 Yoga 6:30	22 Walk/Talk 10	25 Path Class 9-12 (DCS) State of TN
26 9:30 AM – Holy Communion (Trad) 10:45 AM – Heartsong/Holy Communion SUMMER SCHEDULE	27 PDO 9 – 2 pm Cover Girls 10:00	28 Friends in Grief 11:45	29 PDO 9 – 2 pm	30 Yoga 6:30 pm		<b>Remember: We are now in the summer worship schedule!</b>

	April			YTD 2016		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offerings	\$ 32,797	\$ 34,100	\$ (1,303)	\$ 139,124	\$ 144,900	\$ (5,776)
-Expenses	\$ (35,727)	\$ (37,911)	\$ 2,184	\$ (141,570)	\$ (153,185)	\$ 11,615
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (2,930)	\$ (3,811)	\$ 881	\$ (2,446)	\$ (8,285)	\$ 5,839

Total Cash on hand, end of month	\$ 399,577
Less: Liabilities and restricted funds	\$ (345,081)
Unrestricted cash	\$ 54,496

Notes:

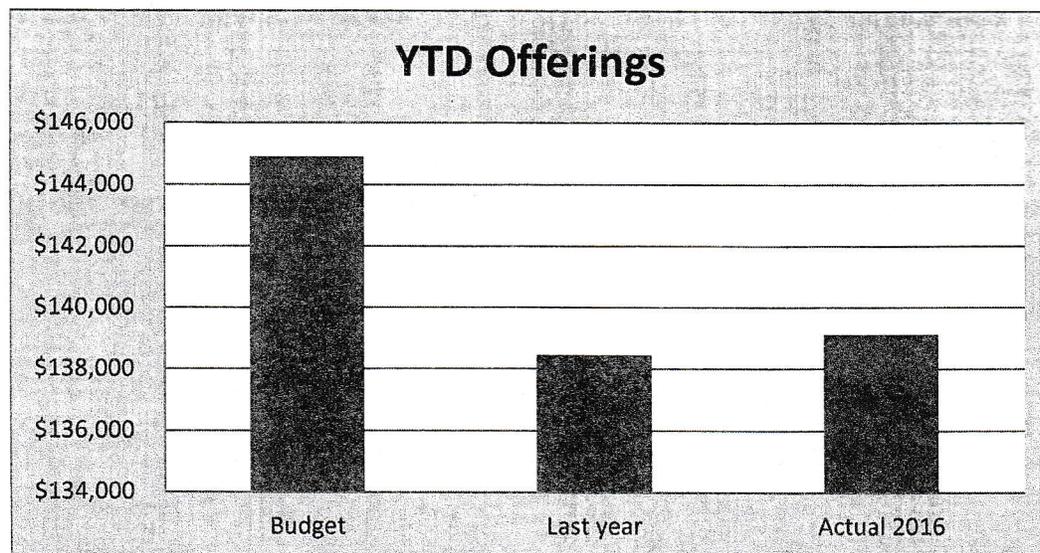
Unrestricted offerings were roughly \$1300 below budget for April.

For the first four months, our unrestricted offerings were \$5,800 below budget or \$341 short per Sunday

YTD expenses are \$11,600 under budget and we have a net operating loss of \$2,400 vs a budgeted loss of \$8,300.

Expenses are below budget mainly due to the timing of our benevolent covenant and property insurance payments, Marjene's position being open, and lower than expected utility costs.

Offerings are up slightly (1/2%) over last year



...All great spirituality is about what we do with our pain. So the first lesson of initiation is to teach the young man not to try to get rid of his pain until he has first learned whatever it has to teach him. By trying to handle all suffering through willpower, denial, medication, or even therapy, we have forgotten something that should be obvious: we do not handle suffering; *suffering handles us* in deep and mysterious ways that ironically become the very matrix of life. Suffering--and sometimes awe--has the most power to lead us into genuinely new experiences.

As Simone Weil said, "Grace fills empty spaces but it can only enter where there is a void to receive it, and it is grace itself which makes this void." [1] When life is hard we are primed to learn something absolutely central. Our wounds are God's hiding place and hold our greatest gifts. It is no surprise that a dramatically wounded man became the central transformative symbol of Christianity. Once the killing of God becomes the redemption of the world, then forevermore the very worst things have the power to become the very best things. Henceforth, nothing can be a dead end; everything is capable of new meaning. We are indeed saved by gazing upon the wounded one--and loving there our own woundedness and everyone else's too (John 3:14, 12:32, 19:37). We can dare to be mutually vulnerable instead of trying to protect ourselves and impress each other. This is the core meaning of the Christian doctrine of Trinity; the very character of God is mutual deference, recognition, and love, not self-assertion, much less domination or manipulation of the other.

The heart is normally opened through a necessary *hole in the soul*, what I call a "sacred wound." We see this enacted at Jesus' death: "One of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a lance, and out flowed blood and water" (John 19:34), which I would interpret as archetypal symbols of humanity and divinity. Our wound is the only way, it seems, for us to get out of ourselves and for grace to get in. As Leonard Cohen put it in his song, "Anthem," "There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in." Our wounds are

the only things humbling enough to break our attachment to our false self and make us yearn for our True Self.

Followers of the Crucified One will pray for the grace to do what he did: hold the pain until it transformed him into the Risen Christ. If you do not transform your pain, you will almost certainly transmit your pain to others through anger, blame, projection, hatred, or scapegoating.

**Richard Rohr; May 23, 2016 (excerpts)**



*important  
message*

Let's fill those cleaning baskets for *Family Promise* by **mid-June** so we can move ahead with the book bag project for

## *Good Samaritan Ministries.*

As in previous years, bags contain school supplies, 2 changes of clothes, and shoes. Thrivent will monetarily match this project for us. Make your check to OSLC, memo line "**Book Bag Project.**" This project ends **late in July**. Thanks for your support!