April 2022

The NewSense

Worship Schedule
9:30am-Worship/communion
10:30am-Sunday School
11:15am-Heartsong/communion

Staff
Mark Cerniglia-Interim Pastor
Marcy Aaroen-Faith Formation
Carolynn Bailey, Music Director
Martha Hawk, Heartsong Music Dir.
Cindy Watkins, Office Admin.

Council and Officers
Dave Soike, President
?????? Vice President
Patty Wessner, Secretary
Susan Reaves, Treasurer
Karen Wilson, Fin. Secretary
Cheryl Milliken, Christian Ed.
Mitch King, Outreach
????? Finance
Johm Stamm, Media/Technology
Barry Fetterolf, Property
Cat Hopper, Social Ministry
????? Stewardship
Patti Hembre, Worship/Music
Ronda Keffer, Shepherd/Inreach
Logan Hopper, Youth Rep.
????? Youth Ministry

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
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Web: www.oslc.church

News articles are due by April 21 to appear in May's NewSense.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Dear Partners in Ministry

In the Adult Sunday School Class that I taught on the Book of Revelation, I pointed out the significance of numbers in John's book. As we begin the month of April, we are completing the 40 days of Lent, reminding us of Jesus' 40 days of preparation for his ministry and the Hebrews' 40 years of preparation for the Promised Land.

Another significant number is the number 7, the number of days in a week. God completed the creation of the world in 7 days, so 7 is a number that represents completion or wholeness. The Easter season, which begins April 17 this year, lasts for 7 weeks—a week of weeks. It reminds us that a New Creation has been completed in us. Not only was Jesus resurrected, but the same holds true for us. We are the resurrected people of God.

During the 7 weeks of the Easter season this year, we will be reading passages from the Book of Revelation. It begins on April 24 with John's initial vison of the risen Christ in Revelation 1:4-8. In the class I taught that this vision is meant to give us hope during times of challenge and difficulty. This book is not a series of revelations or prophesies, but rather one Revelation about Jesus Christ who will return to set everything right in the end.

y favorite words from the Book of Revelation are in the 21st chapter:

See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;

He will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

Mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

For the first things have passed away.

See, I am making all things new.

I hope you will begin to see things in a new way as we go through Holy Week and the

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season of Easter. I hope that you will see the images that we read from the Book of Revelation as glimpses of hope in the Kingdom of God.

Hopefully, we are emerging from quarantine like butterflies emerging from their cocoons, ready to embrace a beautiful new reality. God has accompanied us through our days of wandering in the wilderness, and now may we enjoy the milk and honey of new life.

Shalom,

~Pastor Mark

A Message from the Council President….

Wow, what a difference a month makes! The last time I sat down to write something for the newsletter, the war in Ukraine had not even started. That seems like a long time ago now. Two things come to my mind when I see images of this war. The first is the increasingly destructive power of modern non-nuclear weapons. The second is the physical appearance of columns of refugees and/or prisoners. The slumped body posture, due to either mental despair or having to carry a heavy load of possessions, along with the frightened or blank facial expressions are timeless. Museums around the world are full of pictures and paintings going back centuries and millennia that depict people with similar sorrowful expressions whenever the effects of war are recorded from previous human conflicts. The issues that face us as a congregation at OSLC are less dramatic compared to the millions suffering in Europe now. Nevertheless, I wanted to circle back to some of those local issues….

1) The Ministry Site Profile has been submitted to the Southeastern synod. Over the next few weeks and months, the OSLC Call Committee will become involved in evaluating pastoral candidates. This is a confidential process at this point so please refrain from asking Call Committee members, “Hey, how is it going?” Once the Call Committee has selected a candidate to present to the rest of the OSLC congregation, the rest of us will become involved in the selection and approval process. As previously mentioned, this can take weeks or months.

2) The restroom and back entrance renovation projects are awaiting scheduling with the contractor. As of March 13, a total of about $68,000 has been gifted to the renovation funds for these projects. Our goal is set at $85,000.

3) Pastor Mark, Carolyn, Martha and various other members of the congregation have made a series of Lenten YouTube videos that are available through a link on the homepage of the OSLC website. These are brief and thought provoking messages.

4) We give thanks to the many people who contribute time, talents, and funds to the ongoing missions of the church!

Please continue to pray for all those in need.

Peace to all! Dave Soike

Council meeting minutes

February 7, 2022

Devotions by Pastor Mark.

Gratitude and compliments:

...to all of you who attended the monthly informal congregation meetings; your input is appreciated.

...to property Committee for keeping our church working and organized.

...the Proffitt family for the donation of the lovely cross.

...to Lu Mattson and WELCA for all they do for our church.

The Property Committee: Records Retention Policy needs reviewing. Meeting with groups that have saved old records. Obtaining a fireproof safe to store documents. Capital Fund Campaign emails have been sent for raising funds. Removal of Halloween decorations.

Christian Education: Cheryl Milliken and March Aaroen met to discuss upcoming events. Motion approved for collection for Second Harvest Food Bank

Worship and Music: Christmas services had good turnout.

Outreach Committee– Looking for community events

Old Business-Storage of medical equipment was donated to Haven of Mercy.

Synod meeting in Chattanooga attendants are Diane Bolger, Pastor Mark and we need one other person to step forward. Expenses are paid for.

New Business-Restructuring Constitution. Council retreat for Feb. 26; WELCA confirmed as an established organization of OSLC; Resolution to continue Pastor's contract through June 30, 2022.

WELCA Care Kits

It's collection time for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. Kits contain a bath towel, tooth brush, large toothed comb, nail clipper and 2 bars of floating soap, (like Ivory). It is easier to retrieve a floating soap bar if you drop it in the river while bathing.

WELCA buys items in bulk and tax free so we would like the congregation to donate money and we'll buy the items. Please make checks to WELCA and give them to Patty Neas, Lu Mattson, Kathy Bass, or Cheryl Milliken. They also accept cash. If you prefer to purchase towels, Wal-Mart has the best buy for DARK colored towels at $2.74.

WELCA will be collecting the months of April and May. For more information see the bulletin board in the hallway.

Our Heartfelt Sympathy to:

Karin McCoy for the death of her brother, Wilfried Bober.

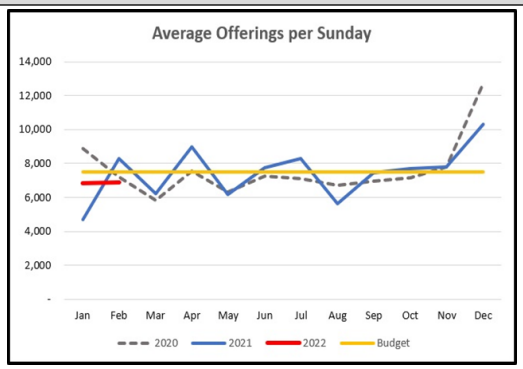
Financial Recap: February 2022

Offerings & Expenditures

	Month of February			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
Regular Offerings	$ 27,526	$ 32,609	$ (5,083)	$ 61,866	$ 65,217	$ (3,351)
Total Operating Expenses & Other Items	19,961	31,092	11,131	43,957	65,299	21,342
Excess of Offerings over Operating Expenses	$ 7,565	$ 1,517	$ 6,048	$ 17,908	$ (82)	$ 17,991
Capital Improvement Fund -	23,550	-	23,550	42,390	-	42,390
Special Expenditures: Major Maintenance	-	500	500	15,000	1,000	(14,000)
Special Expenditures: Capital Expenditures	-	500	500	-	1,000	1,000
Excess of offerings over Exp & Special Items	$ 31,115	$ 517	$ 30,598	$ 45,299	$ (2,082)	$ 47,3819

February 28 Balance Sheet

Assets		Liabilities & Equity	
Checking & Readily Available Cash	$ 198,925	Current Payables	$ 5,247
Savings (Council-Restricted Cash)	146,454	Mortgages & Long-Term Debt	-
Total Operating Cash	$ 345,470		
Endowment Funds	41,789		
Other Donor-Restricted Cash	70,492	Other Liabilities	-
Total Cash	$ 457,751	Total Liabilities	$ 5,247
Facilities and Other Fixed Assets	$ 1,383,322		
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(1,001,738)		
Net Fixed Assets	$ 381,584	Equity	$ 834,088
Total Assets	$ 839,335	Total Liabilities & Equity	$ 839,335



On an average-per-Sunday basis, and as shown by the graph, regular offerings for January and February were virtually identical. Offerings for the two months together were unfavorable to the budget by $3,351, but exceeded last year by $3,126, or 5.3 percent.

Excluding transactions related to capital projects and major maintenance, Total Operating expenses and Other Items were favorable to the budget by $11,131 for February, and $21,342 for the year to date. Key factors including these:

—YTD Staff Expenses was favorable to the budget by $8,198. The Parish Nurse and A/V Specialist positions remain vacant.
—Only one month of Benevolence Covenant was recorded for the two months, creating a favorable budget variance of $3,250/
—Media & Technology Expense for the year to date was favorable by $2,265.
—YTD Pastoral Ministry Expense was favorable by $1,879.
—YTD Property Expense was favorable by $1,536.
We continued in a solid financial position, with total cash (including restricted cash) of $457,751 as of the end of February. OSLC continues to be debt-free, as it has been for the past decade.

Volunteers For April

Traditional	Heartsong
Acolytes	**Acolytes**
3, 10, 17-Susan Reaves	3-Audrey Price
24-Richard Koepper	10-Brinley Price
	17, 24-Logan Hopper
Ushers	**Usher**
3-C. Paulson, B. Patteson	3-Doug Huff
10-B. Fetterolf, T. Petti	10-Doug Huff
14-Maundy Thurs. Patti Hembre	17-Maggie Flint
15-Good Friday, Dave Soike	24-Doug Huff
17-D. Hamilos, D.Williams	
24-Travis Pennell and Karin McCoy	
Lectors	**Lay Leader**
3-Jim Brunke	3-Bob Hembre
10-Laura Patrick	10-Faith Akin
14-Maundy Thurs. Diane Bolger	17-Dave Soike
17-Brenda Whitson	24-Maggie Flint
24-John Stamm	
Crucifer	**A/V**
	3-???
10-???	10, 24-Bob Hembre
17-Tom Marshall	17-Mat Hopper

Financial Tellers
3-J. Stamm, S. Raye
10-K. Wilson, M. Miller
17-C. Huff, J.Pennell
24-Joe and Lu Mattson

Families of the Week
3-Tom & Marianne Simonson; Caleb & Grady Hoyle
10-Tom, Jean, & Ken Loveday; Dave Herting
17-Wessners, Bargers
24-John & Jackie Stamm; Fred & Sylvia Beckelhimer

PRIME TIMERS
Senior Adult Ministry

Primetimers will meet in the fellowship hall at 11:00 on Wednesday, April 6. They will meet in fellowship hall first, then depart for Wok and Hibachi, 101 E. Unaka Avenue. Please RSVP to Sharon Harshman at sharonharshman1@gmail.com or call 423-282-0400.

Heartsong

If you enjoy learning new music, pick, strum, beat out rhythms please feel welcome to join with us in lifting songs of praise. The rehearsal times provide an opportunity to visit and learn the songs. It is a great worship experience to be able to share our music together. We meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm to rehearse music for the Heartsong services. As always, please feel welcome to email me at c.hawkvolcalstudio@gmail.com or text 423-646-1233 with any questions or suggestions.
Martha Hawk

Cover Girls

Cover Girls meet on the second and forth Tuesdays in each month. Meeting time is 10 am and the dates April 12 and 26. Masks are optional.

No quilting skills are needed. Contact Lu Mattson at 928-4386 if you are interested in helping.

VBS 2022

Bible Story Time @ OSLC

We are excited to offer a new format for VBS this summer. Instead of the week-long format used in the past, we are going to host story times during the months of June and July. Each story time will last for 60-90 minutes and include a bible story, music, a related activity, and snack.

Details will be posted in the coming weeks but right now we are STILL IN NEED of three volunteers willing to share their favorite Sunday school bible story with our youngest church members and PDO families. If you would be willing to read your favorite Sunday school Bible story, please contact Marcy Aaroen at 423-483-0352 or faithformcoord@oslc.church.

FIRST COMMUNION

Emmie-Grace Arredondo completed her First Communion class and will receive her First Communion on Thursday, April 14, during our Maundy Thursday worship service. We hope you can join us as we welcome her to the Lord's table at 6:30 p.m. Please keep Emmie-Grace and the Arredondo family in your prayers as she takes this next step in her faith formation.

CHANGE TO CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE…

We will not have Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 17.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

April 6 & 20 (6:30-7:30)

April 24 (approx. 3-6): devotion, games, and dinner

May 4 & 18 (6:30-7:30)

May 15 (approx. 3-6): devotion, games, and dinner

Birthdays and Such

1-Harmoni Metcalf
2-Michael Rice
3-Annabelle Mason
Laura Patrick
4-Sean Golden
Margaret Allown
Adonis King
Rob Klix
6-Colton Leonard
7-Ed Wolff
9-Gary Gentry
10-Lisa Pritchett
Susan Kirkland
12-Tom Petti
15-Carmen Paulson
16-Alyson Ross
18-Darcy Flint
Bailee Jarrett
20–Barbara Diehl
21–Jannette LeSage
26-Christy Huff
27-Irina Gregory
Brody Jarrett
Ron Dickey
30-Taylor Hall

CONFIRMATION SPRING DATES

The confirmation classes meet on **April 3 and May1** immediately following the Heartsong service. Our second-year students will be confirmed on Sunday, June 5, during the Pentecost service.

All students need to complete the item below before the April 3 class:
Complete the Lord's Prayer quiz Pastor Mark sent home in March

YOUTH GROUP THANK YOUs

The Youth Group would like to thank Susan Reaves for helping in the kitchen during our beignet fundraiser. We would also like to thank everyone who donated that morning; we raised over $700 for our summer activities.

Unity Circle will meet on Monday, April 18 at 1pm in the church library. Deb Soike will lead our discussion as we continue the Seamless Bible Study. Prudy Zinser will be our leader in April to finish the study and in May we are planning on meeting on Nancy Shilling's deck to celebrate the completion of this study and to plan our next study. Please join us! Contact Sharon Harshman at sharonharshman1@gmail.com to be added to the email list for updates and details about the meetings.

Thank you to the Congregation of OSLC:

My family and I would like to Thank everyone who called and sent cards to us after Norman's death. What we have received from this congregation over the pass several years has been nothing short of amazing. Thank You from the bottom of our hearts!!

Diana Duncan
Amanda, Brooks, Grace and Jackson Hollifield
Audrey, Jason, Bailee and Brody Jarrett
Amber Duncan, Emmy and Remington Ebarb

News from Social Ministry

Food Pantry Needs

Monetary and food donations are always welcomed. Your donations make a difference in many lives. Food items needed:

Crackers	Rice	Macaroni & cheese
Soup	Pop Tarts	Peas
Dry beans	Apple sauce	Peanut Butter
Muffin mix	Hot/cold Cereal	Canned meat
Potato flakes	Vienna Sausage	Pancake mix
Pasta	Canned anything	Dehydrated soup
Pasta sauce	Oatmeal	Hamburger Helper
Canned fruit	Ramen noodles	

Fifteen boxes were given out March

Melting Pot

Our dates for cooking in April are the 13 and 20, with prep dates on the 12 and 19.

We are in need individually wrapped desserts. If you would like to help prepare food for the homeless, contact Sharon Harshman at sharonharshman1@gmail.com.

Charity for April

Crumley House

The Crumley house provides two types of services to brain injured men and women.

The Day Program offers classes in academic learning, computer training, and physical training. The goal of their day classes is to increase cognitive learning as well as increase physical agility. The staff at Crumley House also teach life skills such as household management, budgeting skills, personal hygiene, and time management, as well as many more.

The Residential Program is for clients who live at the Crumley House. This is a time to reinforce much of what has been learned during the day program as well as learning independent living skills.

They need the following items:

Toothpaste	Toothbrushes
Ibuprofen	Razors
Clothes Hangers	Rags
Personal hygiene products	
Flannel sheets	

A box are located in the hallway for your donations.

Blood Donation at the Marsh Center

All Types of blood are needed.

Call Marsh Regional Blood Center at 423-282-7090 for an appointment today

Mon & Thurs 10:30am-6pm; Tues, Wed & Fri-8:30am-4pm

2428 Knob Creek Road, JC, TN

*birthdays

2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 *Harmoni Metcalf	**2** 10am-Choir Rehearsal * *Michael Rice
3 9:30am-Worship/Comm. 10:30am– Sunday School 10:30 am-Q & A Council 11:15am-Heartsong/Comm. 12:00 Confirmation class **Annabelle Mason, Laura Patrick*	**4** 9-2-PDO 5-9pm-Girl Scouts 6:00 pm-NAMI *Sean Golden, Margaret Allown, Adonis King, Rob Klix	**5** 6pm-Worship and Music *	**6** 9-2-PDO 11am-Primetimers 6:30pm-Heartsong Reh 6:30 Youth meeting 7:00 pm-Property Mt *Colton Leonard	**7** * *Ed Wolf	**8**	**9** 10am-Choir Rehearsal ***Gary Gentry*
10 Palm Sunday 9:30am-Worship/Comm. 10:30am– Sunday School 11:15am-Heartsong/comm *Lisa Pritchett, Susan Kirkland	**11** 9-2-PDO 6:30pm-Council mtg.	**12** 10 am Prayer Shawls Melting Pot Prep. 10 am-Cover Girls *Tom Petti	**13** Melting Pot 9-2-PDO 6:30pm-Heartsong Reh *	**14** **6:30pm-Maundy Thursday** *	**15** **7:00pm- Good Friday** *Carmen Paulson	**16** 10 am-Choir Rehearsal *Alyson Ross
17 Easter Sunday 9:30am-Worship/Comm. No Sunday School 11:15am-Heartsong/comm.	**18** 9-2-PDO 1pm-Unity Circle mtg. 5-9pm-Girl Scouts *Darcy Flint, Bailee Jarrett	**19** Melting Pot Prep. *	**20 Melting Pot** 9-2-PDO 6:30pm-Heartsong Reh 6:30pm-Youth meeting *Barbara Diehl	**21 Newsletter articles due** *Jannette LeSage	**22** *	**23** 10am-Choir Rehearsal *
24 9:30am-Worship/Comm. 10:30am– Sunday School 11:15am-Heartsong/comm 3-6 Youth meeting	**25** 9-2-PDO	**26** 10am-Cover Girls Christy Huff	**27** 9-2 PDO 6:30pm-Heartsong Rehearsal *Irena Gregoryx, Brody Jarrett, Ron Dickey	**28** *	29	**30** 10am-Choir Rehearsal *Taylor Hall

Living In Faith Together

by Marcy Aaroen

Praying the Promises

God has made a great many promises. They are all "Yes" because of what Christ has done. So through Christ we say "Amen." We want God to receive glory. *2 Corinthians 1:20, NIRV*

I remember as a child crying inconsolably because my mom would not promise me she was going to live forever. Even as a child, I knew the weight the word "promise" carried, and I knew what it meant when she couldn't make that promise.

Your Bible is filled with examples of God's promises… Abraham, Solomon, the Israelites, David, Mary, etc. It also tells you God does not change (*Malachi 3:6*). If God made and kept promises in the past, He will do the same today. How can you know this? He hasn't changed!

What is your part in this process? You need to believe and trust that God keeps His promises. He may not fulfill them according to your timetable, so you will need to exercise patience. However, you can't just sit around waiting; you need to actively hold on to His promises. Here's how to do that:

1. Use this month's reading plan to find the promises that fit your current situation.
2. Meditate on God's promises deeply and carefully.
3. Personalize God's promises by making them yours.
4. Speak God's promises daily in faith because your words determine what will come to pass.
5. Exercise patience (remember Simeon and Anna).

As you complete this month's reading plan, hold fast to these two things: God is faithful and He has promised to never leave or forsake you.

Bible Reading Plan

4/1 2 Samuel 7:18-27
4/2 Hebrews 13:5-8
4/3 Romans 8:35-39
4/4 Isaiah 26:1-10
4/5 Joshua 1:1-9
4/6 John 16:23-33
4/7 Psalm 32:1-11
4/8 Jeremiah 29:10-14
4/9 Psalm 37:23-34
4/10 Philippians 4:6-10
4/11 Isaiah 40:28-31
4/12 Isaiah 43:1-12
4/13 James 1:5-8
4/14 1 John 1:5-10
4/15 John 8:31-46
4/16 Malachi 3:6-12
4/17 Mark 11:19-25
4/18 Philippians 4:10-20
4/19 Psalm 37:1-6
4/20 Proverbs 3:5-8
4/21 Psalm 103:1-5
4/22 Psalm 107:13-16
4/23 Ephesians 3:16-19
4/24 2 Chronicles 16:7-9
4/25 John 15:12-17
4/26 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5
4/27 Jude 24-25
4/28 John 6:35-40
4/29 Isaiah 58:3-12
4/30 Nahum 1:2-7