



To Gather | To Send | To Serve

The Crossroads

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Sun Prairie WI

Greetings family of Our Savior's!

In this email you'll find the August edition of 'The Crossroads' newsletter. The links below will bring you to some highlights of things happening in the upcoming month at Our Savior's. There's a lot going on as this summer is winding down so be sure to check it out!

August 2014 Newsletter Highlights

[From Pr Blomker: What Do You Know?](#)

[Call Committee Update](#)

[Lay Visitation Training](#)

[Sunday School & Confirmation Registration](#)

[40,000 Lutherans in Detroit](#)

[Ushers & Nursery Help Needed](#)

[Sunshine Supper Coming in August](#)

[Women's Circles Forming](#)



RIOT youth say THANK YOU!

11 senior high youth and 3 Adult Leaders have recently arrived back from their Mystery Mission Trip, which took them up into the UP, through Michigan. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support of our fund raisers and for your continued prayers. Along the way our group stayed at bible camps, universities, churches and even had a night's stay at a hotel. They performed service projects at each destination and learned more about how God is calling them into the world to serve in love. If you want to know more about their trip check out the [OSLC facebook page](#) which shows more pics from their journey.

Those participating include: *Ashley Holland, Hannah Holland, Rachel Jorgensen, Rebecca Janczak, Nora Lelivelt, Katrina Mittelstadt, Jaelyn Potvin, Gabriela Strobel, Alicia Theide, Luke Woloszyk, Colton Wagner, Adult Leaders: Brett Christensen, Garth Jorgensen, Mallory Davidson*

From Pastor Blomker

Financial Update

Offerings as of June 30, 2014

2014 Actual YTD: \$260,964

2014 Budget YTD: \$296,000

Baptismal Anniversaries

Carson Jacob Blanchard

August 4, 2013

Adalyn Mae Kautza

August 4, 2013

Samuel Vincent Kube

August 4, 2013

Hoyt Matthew Murphy

August 11, 2013

Riley Pamela Gruber

August 18, 2013

Blake Michael Midthun

August 18, 2013

Prayer Requests

Do you have a prayer request you would like to pass along? You can share your requests with [Kenzie](#) or [Pastor Krahn](#) or call the church office. When you submit prayer requests, they can be sent to the Our Savior's Prayer Chain via email/phone and added to prayers during worship. Please let us know if you would like your request to remain confidential to the Pastor.

Worship Times

5:30pm - Saturdays

8:00am & 10:30am - Sundays

Sunday School

Sunday School is on break for the summer - see you at worship!

What Do You Know?

Because we will be all thinking about the fall schedule, sometime in August, and because August will mark my first six months with you, and because I am hearing that there are a number of items at church that a lot of members might not know, it's certainly time that everyone does. It's time that you know so that you can begin to prepare for your participation at Our Savior's Lutheran Church this fall.

First of all, I join a lot of others who think this is a great congregation that is filled with members who have so much to offer. It is an exciting place to be as a pastor, and will be for those pastors whom you will interview to be your next Sr. Pastor, sometime next year. It's also an exciting and challenging place for me to be as your interim pastor.

Congregations during interims have a lot in common. There is always a certain level of anxiety and anticipation as they prepare for the future. It is not unusual for many members to miss the pastor who has retired or taken another call. One of the first things that they do is to worship less and because they usually give to their congregation in the form of an offering when they worship, it's not unusual for the offerings to be less than the previous year. That seems to be the case here. But September will soon be here and over six months will have passed. Fall is a great time for a new start!

Do you know that on May 22 your Church Council selected ten very gifted members to serve as you Call Committee? They've already met three times and sometime this fall they will begin to ask you to be part of the process. When a pastor has served a long time in a congregation and leaves, it usually takes between a year and a year and a half to have a new pastor in place.

Here are some things you may not know. The building has gotten a lot of attention this year, projects waiting to happen. At a congregational meeting June 1 you voted to borrow \$150,000 to pay for those projects. The money was added to your present mortgage.

The first project was re-shingling the whole building. It is now completed and came in under bid. The Narthex Project is now up and running because the roof no longer leaks. We are finishing a building leak project begun last fall and will also doing a larger project on the north side of building foundation and the chapel area to fix some long term leaking. Some members are also digging up part of the roof drain tile on the north side of the building that has collapsed.

Did you know that we have some Church Council vacancies and a number of the Church Boards are in need of more members? Your Stewardship Board will be asking you to consider serving in these areas as well as others as we begin anew this fall.

Did you know that Pastor Krahn and I divided the pastoral ministry of the congregation up differently back in February. It's going very well. We have been working more as co-pastors continuing to share preaching and worship leadership and dividing oversight of boards and



The Call Committee received the updated Ministry Site Profile document from the synod. This is an 84 page document which allows us to drill down about our church as well as our greater community. It is the first opportunity candidates have to get to know us, and is a very important piece in the call process. We have begun working on the first section, which contains demographic information.

Several members of the committee are working on obtaining information from multiple sources including Sun Prairie Public Schools, Chamber of Commerce and the synod. Once we complete this section, we will move on to the more detailed information about our congregation. It is at that time we will be soliciting input from the congregation.

Please keep all of the members of the call committee in your prayers: Mike Baldwin, Timara Budack, Judy Fenske, Jeni Hanser, Jaelyn Potvin, Zach Preboski, Scott Singletary, Kathy Stoffregen, Craig Wilcox, and Ron Unmacht.

If you have questions or comments for the Call Committee, you can email callcommittee@oslc-elca.org.

What Do You Know? (continued from pg 2)

other ministry as well as sharing visitation to homebound members and hospitalized.

By now you know that we have been running a financial deficit this year. You have been asked to respond to help out. You are beginning to respond to this need. Thank you. And, because it has been a few years since you have had a major stewardship campaign, your Church Council, at the recommendation of your Stewardship Board, is preparing for a major campaign this fall. There will be increased expenses in 2015, some just happen when a new pastor is called to a congregation and others happen when congregations listen and increase their giving in response to the Spirit's call to new and expanded ministry.

Well, I really do know more than this, and so do you. The most important thing that we all know is why we are here. Through the good news of Jesus Christ we know how much God loves us and the whole world. We also know how privileged we are to be called to share this ministry as members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. It will soon be fall and something new "is in the air". Come, and see, and share!

Blessings,

Pastor Blomker

To contact Pastor Blomker, call the church office at [608-837-3111](tel:608-837-3111) or email Interim@oslc-elca.org.

Lay Visitation Training Thursday July 31

Have you ever felt a call to visit with those who are homebound or sick? We are in need of several lay visitors (sometimes known as "Eucharistic Ministers") who will visit homebound church members and offer them communion. This is an important ministry of being the body of Christ to those who can no longer come to church to worship. We will offer a lay visitation training on Thursday, July 31st from 6:00pm-8:00pm. If you are interested in attending the training, please let us know by calling 837-3111 or contacting [Judy Nolde](#), [Pastor Krahn](#), or [Pastor Blomker](#).

Can't Wait To See the New Carpet?

Our Welcoming Place, a.k.a. Narthex, will soon get a face-lift. You'll soon see new carpet appear and the walls will have a brighter coat of paint with new colors! Our fundraising efforts continue however because we are only halfway through the list of needs to make the space truly welcoming for guests and members alike. If you are interested in helping purchase the welcome center furniture or tables, chairs and or any of the other needed items, the fund remains open and we would be ever so grateful. Contact Pastor Krahn at pastorkrahn@oslc-elca.org or 837-3111.



It isn't too late to register for VBS August 4-8, but it's getting close! **Vacation Bible School** will be held August 4-8, 2014 (9:00am-12:00pmeach morning) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Registration forms are available in the Narthex, and online at www.oslc-elca.org.

Please pray for all the children who will be attending VBS, the staff, and all the many volunteers who help make VBS happen. Remember that on Friday, August 8th, we will be meeting at Orfan Park for a celebration event with other area churches, and parents are to drop off and pick up their children at Orfan Park, and not at church.

Sunday School Starts in September!

It might seem far away but fall is right around the corner and Sunday School starts in September. Some classes fill up so be sure to register now so you get the time you want (9:15am or 10:30am). The registration form for next year's Sunday School (2014-2015) is available on the Ministry Opportunities Table and at www.oslc-elca.org.

Rally Day!

A planning committee is meeting to plan "**God's Work, Our Hands**" for Rally Day which is to be held September 7th. "**God's Work, Our Hands**" is part of an ELCA initiative happening on September 7 across the country to devote time to community service and caring for our neighbors in need. Stay tuned for more information.

Christian Education

We're gearing up for Confirmation!

This year SRU Confirmation classes will begin on September 24th and orientation sessions will help parents and students become familiarized with this awesome "university!"



First year students at SRU - All Year 1 students and parents will have an orientation session to our confirmation program where you will learn how our university style confirmation program is designed and become familiar with the program. You'll be introduced to the courses for Year 1 students and sign the confirmation covenant. *Parents and students are required to attend the orientation meeting together.*

Year 1 (Names A-J) - Tuesday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Year 1 (Names K-Z) -Wednesday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Returning SRU students - Students, together with their parents, will meet with Pastor Krahn or Brett to select their courses for the entire year, as well as signing the year's confirmation covenant. *It is crucial that parents and students attend these meetings together.*

Course selection meetings and orientation times are as follows:

Year 3 (Names Si-Z) -Tuesday, September 9 at 6 p.m.

Year 3 (Names D-Sh) - Tuesday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Year 3 (Names A-C) - Tuesday, September 9 at 7 p.m.

Year 2 (Names C-H) - Wednesday, September 10 at 6 p.m.

Year 2 (Names M-R) - Wednesday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Year 2 (Names S) - Wednesday, September 10 at 7 p.m.

Year 2 (Names I, J, T) - Wednesday, September 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Please mark your calendars accordingly and if you have questions, contact Pastor Krahn at 837-3111 or pastorkrahn@oslc-elca.org.

Mentoring Returns to the SRU program - Finally, adult mentors and coaches are always welcome in our SRU ministry. If you want to have a positive impact on today's youth, please talk to Pastor Krahn. A small commitment of time and a love of kids is all that is required.

Ready, Set, Pray!

Praying with all the Weird Animals is right around the corner. Can you spare an hour or two on one or more of the mornings of our VBS, August 4-8 to pray for your OSLC family and its neighbors, the children and leaders? Then this is for you. Talk to Diane Padrutt or Pastor Krahn (pastorkrahn@oslc-elca.org) with any questions or inquiries. Sign up to walk on the Ministry Opportunity Table.

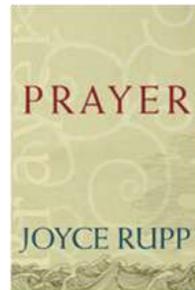
Prayer Walkers Wanted for Rally Day Too!

We're also gathering a team of people who will pray for our congregation as we gather on Sept 7 for Rally Day. Prayer-walking is simply "intercessory prayer on location." We'll be asking the Spirit to be active and alive during our Sunday School time and as members take the leap of faith and begin the activities of the fall program year. Talk to Diane Padrutt or Pastor Krahn (pastorkrahn@oslc-elca.org) with any questions. Please sign up today for a time slot that suits you.

Prayer Group to Discuss "Prayer" by Joyce Rupp

For four weeks in October, the Prayer Small Group will be looking more closely at prayer. For many people, the Unbinding the Gospel experience was powerful because it introduced prayer to them in a new way. Prayer was no longer scary or intimidating, but rather an opportunity to open minds and hearts to one another and the Spirit of God.

Please consider continuing that experience from Unbinding the Gospel and join the Prayer Small Group in October to talk about prayer using Joyce Rupp's book on prayer as a guide. Weekly topics from her book include: entering into a relationship, the tidal patterns of prayer, keeping the vigil of mystery, and turning prayer inside out. The small group will meet Wednesdays, Oct 1-22 at 6:30pm. Sign-up sheets will be available soon in the narthex. For more information, contact Judy Nolde.



Youth & Family Ministry



RIOT and Chaos

As summer draws to a close in August, look to the RIOT/ chaos bulletin boards and web site for a fall schedule. See Brett Christensen for details.

Attention High Schoolers - Join 40,000 Lutherans in Detroit!

It is time to think about the ELCA Youth Gathering. Next year we will travel to Detroit to hang out with 40,000 other high school youth for a week of fun, learning, service and worship. If you are curious about this once-in-a-lifetime experience come for our informational meeting on Sunday, August 17 at 5pm. We will share pizza and good conversation. Get all your questions answered. Look for the sign-up sheet for the gathering on the RIOT bulletin board. See Brett Christensen with questions.



"Welcome to Middle school" trip

If you are entering 6th grade, you are invited to travel to Mt. Olympus in Wisconsin Dells on Monday, August 11th for the day. Join your friends from OSLC, UMC, Bristol Lutheran, Sacred Hearts, and St. Albert's, as they spend a day of fun, sun and fellowship. Sign up on the youth and family table if you are interested. Parent driver/ chaperones are needed and go free. See Brett with questions.



6th Grade Pre-Confirmation Class Orientation

An orientation class for our incoming 6th graders will take place on Sunday, September 7 at 9:15 in Ben's Underground. The orientation will lay out the class schedule and goals for the year. Registrations can be found on the youth table by the office or on the website under education. Please drop your [registrations](#) into the main office as soon as possible. If you have any questions please see Brett Christensen.

Worship & Music



Calling Senior Choir Members New & Old

Start warming up those vocal chords! Rehearsals for Our Savior's Senior Choir will restart on Wednesday, September 3. Rehearsals are in the sanctuary. They begin at 7:30 and end at 8:45.

New members (high school age through adult) are always welcome. No audition is required, only a desire to serve the Lord with music.(and have some fun). For any questions, please e-mail Director of Music and Organist John Krueger at: j.krueger@att.net or call him at 608-358-4677 (cell) or 608-249-0679 (home).

Cherub Choir Singers Needed

Singers needed, ages 4 through 1st grade for Cherub Choir. Bring your voice on Wednesdays from 5:30-6 pmt to the chapel starting Wednesday, September 17, 2014.

Ushers & Nursery Help Needed

- **USHERS:** Ushers serve visitors, guests, and the church family alike, helping each person to find a place that meets their needs, offering a worship book, answering questions, and a warm welcome. We're looking for a few servants to add to our usher rotation for the 5:30pm Saturday service. You'd be scheduled about every 6 weeks. Contact Brandy in the church office at 837-3111 or brandy@oslc-elca.org to sign up.
- **NURSERY:** The nursery is looking for more volunteers to staff our services as we enter fall. We can use help at all service and you could even just say periodically when needs come up, like 9:15 education hour or baptismal classes. Youth are welcome to assist in the nursery as well. Volunteers serve about once every month to six weeks. Thank you for considering serving our youngest members! Please contact Kelly Preboski at haddoski@hotmail.com or 608-333-7071 if you are interested or have any questions.

Summer Music Continues

The month of August continues to offer opportunities to make music and lead worship at Our Savior's. Here are two of them:

1. Summer Choir (sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses) will rehearse and sing on Sunday, August 17. All are welcome.
2. Impromptu Choir will rehearse and sing on August 10, 24 and 31. Open to all high school age and up. Rehearsals for each of these groups will be in the sanctuary on Sundays from 9:45 a.m. until 10:15. Each group will then help lead worship at 10:30.

Solos and ensembles, both instrumental and vocal, are also welcome at any 8:00 a.m. or 5:30 p.m. worship service. For any questions about these and to schedule, please e-mail Director of Music and Organist John Krueger at: j.krueger@att.net or call him at 608-358-4677 (cell) or 608-249-0679 (home).

Black Marigold Comes to Our Savior's

Outstanding woodwind quintet Black Marigold will present a concert at Our Savior's on Wednesday, August 27, at 7:00 p.m. Founded in 2012 by five musicians with a desire to perform woodwind quintet music at a high professional level, Black Marigold presents captivating concerts with personality and flair.

Members of the group include Laura Medisky, who was the oboist for the Rutter Requiem at Our Savior's in April, and bassoonist Cynthia Cameron-Fix, daughter of OSLC member Sherry Cameron. Other members are flutist Elizabeth Marshall, clarinetist Bethany Schultz, and hornist Kia Karlen. For more info visit www.blackmarigold.com. Admission for the concert is free and no tickets are required. Donations will be accepted.



Our Savior's is a member of the American Red Cross **One-A-Week Blood Donor Club** with an annual goal of giving a minimum of 52 blood donations a year. Remember to sign the One-A-Week binder for our club # 80 after you donate.

Year to Date Donations: 78

Thank you June donors:

Kris Koskelin, Fritz Schunke (x2), Barbara Rathbun, Shane Seefeld, Diane Williamson, Dan Williamson, Brian Spredemann, Rita Yeazel, James Alt, Bryan Loney

Click here for more info on donating or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Summer Blood Donations

Summer is in full swing and blood and platelet donations often decline when schools are out of session and regular donors are on vacation and busy with activities. Blood donors at high schools and college blood drives account for as much as 20 percent of donations during the school year. Check out the **list of area blood drives** or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) for donation information, to make an appointment to donate or to ask about eligibility.

Outreach

Sunshine Supper

On Monday, August 18, OSLC will again be hosting the Sunshine Supper, a free community meal. Please check the narthex table for sign up information. Donations of food and helping hands are needed to help set up, serve, and clean up. Please contact Paul Thurston at or 608-335-7809 or paulthurston.mail@gmail.com with questions.

Help Needed at the Food Pantry

A few more helpers are needed at the Sun Prairie Food Pantry located within the Sunshine Place Facility-especially August 6 & August 20. Hours are 10-2. It can be done the entire four hours or from 10-12 or 12-2. Contact Scott Singletary at 837-3064 if you're available to help.



The 6th annual Stuff the Bus community campaign will again provide free school supplies to Sun Prairie families in need. Our Savior's is specifically being asked for 300 boxes of Crayola markers (8 count) and 400 pocket folders (red, blue, green, and yellow). If you can donate these or any other new school supplies, drop them off in the box in the narthex by Sunday, August 10th.

Go Back To School with the Clothesline Ministry

Usually back to school means sporting a new wardrobe, but some children don't have that luxury. While searching for sales or removing last years finds, please consider donating to the Clothesline Ministry where donations of new and gently used clothes are delivered to neighborhood schools where staff make sure that the items are given to students who need the outfits. To make a donation simply place your items on the display in the narthex. Currently; summer/fall wear is most needed in children's sizes 4-14. Thanks for continuing to support this on-going ministry!

Start Something Big...

The Big Brothers Big Sisters School Friends Program is currently in 4 Sun Prairie schools. Program times include lunch and after school. Mentors (Bigs) are matched one on one to their "Little" and meet with them weekly at the child's school. During their time together, matches can play board games, sports, do crafts, work on homework, or simply hang out. If you think you could spare a half hour per week to give a struggling student some extra support, please call Lindsey Weber at 608-661-4391 or lweber@bbbsmadison.org.

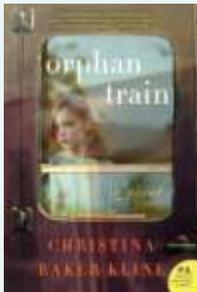


Big Brothers Big Sisters

Fellowship

Book Club Reads *Orphan Train*

The book club meets Tuesday, August 5 at 7:00pm. The August book is *Orphan Train* by Christian Baker Kline. Find a list of upcoming month's books on the Ministry Opportunity Table at church.



SISTERS



REJOICING TOGETHER

New Women's Circles to Form

Women's circles have long been an important tradition within Lutheran churches. Women have gathered monthly for fellowship and study. They have practiced Christian community and have been sisters in Christ to one another when they needed a helping hand. It is our goal to form more Circles at Our Savior's. Numerous women are already interested. If you would like to join them or simply learn more, please contact Tonya Koskelin (tkoskelin@gmail.com) or Pastor Krahn (pastorkrahn@oslc-elca.org). We hope to form both daytime and evening groups. You

can also express your interest on the sign-up sheet on the ministry opportunity table.

Parlor Dining on Dewey Street is Going Southern Style

Parlor Dining on Dewey Street is a great way to meet new people, connect to members of Our Savior's and the community, and do some good! For \$25/person, adult guests get a 4-course meal, an evening out, and great conversation (and 100% of your donation goes to the ELCA Malaria Campaign!)

Each month's experience will create an atmosphere and cuisine centered on a different theme, with the next meal "Southern Style" taking place on Saturday, August 9. Want to know more? Check out the display in the narthex and [email Brett](mailto:emailBrett) to reserve your spot! Like the Facebook page [Parlor Dining on Dewey Street](#).

Creative Connections Craft Night

Come enjoy an evening of fellowship and crafts Friday, August 22, 6-9 pm. We'll meet in the chapel and you are welcome to bring your own projects or work on cards for the CAT ministry. And bring your friends – all are welcome! *Future Craft Night dates: September 26, October 24, November 21, December 19*