

# The Stream

SPRING 2012  
LENT/EASTER  
VOL. 1, NO. 3



*Drawing Us into the Deeper Waters of Ministry*

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## Worship Schedule

### Sunday Worship

8:00 am Classic Worship,  
Liturgy & Hymns

9:15 am Liturgy with Old and  
New Hymns

10:30 am *The Edge*  
Contemporary Service

### Communion

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays:

8:00 & 9:15 am services

4th & 5th Sundays:

10:30 am service

Grounded in Faith  
Gathered in Love  
and Sent with  
a Purpose  
So that others  
may gain  
the Kingdom



*They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.*

- Psalm 1:3



Like  
Us!



Follow  
Us!

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

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**OSLC Church Board Members**

**Doug Smith**  
President

**Kim Corbett**  
Vice President

**Keith Anderson**  
Treasurer

**Chris Peterson**  
Secretary

**Corinne Colburn**  
Member-at-Large

**Paul Garms**  
Member-at-Large

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Member ELCA Congregation  
St. Paul Area Synod  
[www.spas-elca.org](http://www.spas-elca.org)



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Cover photograph by Dave Fabio

**Women's Groups****Deborah/Naomi Circle**

Next Mtg: Second Thursday of month at 7:00 pm  
Contact: Donna Peterson (439-5903)

**Hannah Circle**

Next Mtg: First Tuesday of month at 9:30 am  
Contact: Becky Maier (439-4459)

**Lydia Circle**

Next Mtg: First Thursday of month at 7:00 pm  
Contact: Paula Barber (651-351-1907)

**Ruth Circle**

Next Mtg: First Thursday of month at 9:30 am  
Contacts: Barb Loudon (644-7240)

**Sarah Circle**

Next Mtg: Second Thursday of month at 1:00 pm  
Contact: Donna Carlson (351-5052)

**Morning Quilters**

Next Mtg: Thursdays at 9:00 am  
Contact: Audrey Reed (430-2744)

**Mission Quilters**

Next Mtg: Third Thursday of month at 9:00 am  
Contact: Audrey Reed (430-2744)

**Piecemakers (Evening Quilters)**

Next Mtg: Wednesdays at 7:00 (schedule varies)  
Contact: Valerie Kubal (998-3973)

**Card Recyclers**

Next Mtg: Last Tuesday of month at 9:00 am  
Contact: Doris Freeman (439-7876)

**Prayer Shawl Knitters**

Next Mtg: Third Tuesday of month at 6:30 pm  
Contacts: Sherry Yahner (430-9863)  
Kitty Roettger (777-4192)

**Men's Groups****Men's Bible Study**

Next Mtg: Thursdays at 6:00 am at Our Savior's  
Contact: Luke Schlosser (439-8432)

**Friday Guys**

Next Mtg: Fridays at 6:30 am at Joseph's Restaurant (Hwy. 36)  
Contact: Pastor Steve (439-5704, ext. 14)

**Bible Study Groups**

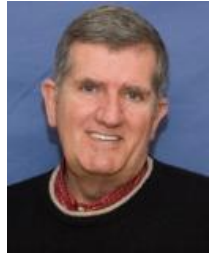
**Prayer** by Philip Yancey (Tuesdays)  
Contact: Nancy Robertson (651-430-2006)

**Beth Moore Study** (Wednesdays)  
Contact: Judy Goldstrand (651-439-3267)

**Esther** by Beth Moore (Thursdays)  
Contact: Barb Schlosser (651-439-8432)

## Facing Death, Anticipating Life

**First Word**  
Pastor Steve Molin



Dear Church and Community,

It's this stretch of days...from February to May...that gives me fits every year. In part, it is because these months coincide with the Season of Lent; the season of death. Everything around us in February seems dead; the grass, the trees, the shrubs and the fields. The journey we share in worship leads us along a path of introspection and repentance, and ultimately takes us to a place of death; the cross. After thirty years of this, frankly the only thing that gets me through it is the promise that comes at the end of Lent: the empty tomb, the arrival of green grass, the renewal of Life.

But what else will happen between now and May? Other than the return of baseball, the continued rhetoric of political candidates, and preparations for graduation open houses, what else? We don't know. There are no guarantees of employment, or health, or smooth sailing, or family harmony. So the question is this: how do we live in a world of uncertainty?

I suppose one option would be to live a guarded life, taking no risk, tiptoeing around the sensitive issues; locking your doors by night, locking your heart by day. Don't make plans, don't make commitments, and don't invest in anything or anyone that you can't control.

But another option is to recognize that we don't actually control much of anything in this life. Stuff happens that we don't see com-

ing. No matter how healthy we are, health can go south in a heartbeat. No matter how financially secure we think we are, the economic downturn of the last decade has revealed our vulnerability. Worry doesn't make it better. Planning and posturing and fretting do not insulate us from all crises. And neither, might I add, does faith. The Jewish idiom is true; "Rain falls on the just and the unjust alike."

Ah, but there is another place to stand. In the presence of God and God's people, we find strength to cope with the craziness of life. In the scope of God's grace, we find comfort in spite of our guilt and shame and the mistakes we have made along the way. In the fellowship of God's people, we find acceptance and a sense of community that help us weather the storms. And then there is this; the promise of eternal life when this life ends. Everything that happens between now and May will be comprised of surprise, disappointment, joy and distress. As you and I endure the journey of these coming days, may we know this: God has us...and we have each other. May that be enough!

Peace,

*Pastor Steve Molin*

## BREAKING NEWS: THE LIFE OF JESUS!

### Lent 2012

The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Again this year, worship will be offered at 11:30 AM (followed by a Lenten lunch) and 7 PM (preceded by a soup supper at 6 PM). Our Lenten theme, "Breaking News: The Life of Jesus", will be creatively broadcast each week, as members of our congregation offer eyewitness accounts of the ministry of Jesus.

This is a time to invite neighbors, family and friends to join you in worship. The hospitality of a delicious meal, the beautiful "Holden Evening Prayer" liturgy, and the innovative messages will be a gift to you, and those whom you invite. Please join us.

February 22	"Salt, Light, and Other Stuff"
February 29	"The Kingdom of God is a Party!"
March 7	"A Small Lesson"
March 14	"What's in the Sack?"
March 21	"Alive!"
March 28	"The Anger of God"



You can sign up to share soup or desserts! Find the easel in The Gathering Area. Thank you!

## Meet our Church Board for 2012

### Doug Smith, *President*

Since 2006, Susan (my wife), Parker (son, age 10) and I have been members of Our Savior's. Susan's parents, Ken and Charlene Oberman, were already members here. We joined because we immediately felt at home here, because the church places such an emphasis on children, family and youth ministry, and because worship here is such a meaningful experience. Our home is just north of Stillwater, on Big Carnelian Lake. We absolutely love the St. Croix River Valley and Stillwater. When I am not working at HealthPartners, where I am in charge of health plan sales and account service, I enjoy spending time with Susan and Parker at home, or skiing, fishing or motorcycle riding with family and friends. Over the last six years, OSLC has become a significant fixture in our lives. We are so thankful for those pastors and staff who have worked so hard to build the marvelous church programs that we all enjoy today. Serving on the board has been an honor. Last year I served as the Board president, and 2012-13 will be my third and last year of my term.



### Kim Corbett, *Vice President*

My husband, Matt, and I, along with our four sons, have been OSLC members for the past five years. I have served as a volunteer in Children and Family ministry, as well as most recently on a Children, Youth and Family Ministry team. In addition to raising our family, I work as a team and strategy development consultant for both "for profit" and "non-profit" organizations. Prior to this, I worked for Carlson Companies, Anderson Consulting and The University of St. Thomas. I also enjoy running, participating in my book club, watching my kids in sporting and musical activities and getting out for "date night" with Matt! I look forward to serving on the OSLC board again this year as I feel there are great things happening amongst this community . . . a community that continues to ground and teach me how to better serve!



### Keith Anderson, *Treasurer*

My wife Karla, son Kasen, and I became members of OSLC in 2002. We have embraced the spiritual guidance and the friendly, inviting community fellowship provided by Our Savior's. We moved to the St. Croix Valley in 1999, enjoy outdoor activities and love to spend time with our many friends and neighbors. I am grateful for the many opportunities at OSLC to deepen and strengthen my faith through service to Christ and to my church family. Accordingly, I look forward to applying my many years of commercial real estate experience and accounting background to the duties of Treasurer.



### Chris Peterson, *Secretary*

My husband, Brent, and I are both Stillwater High School graduates. We have been married for 22 years and have two daughters, Anna (a Sophomore studying Music at Augsburg) and Sarah (a Senior at SAHS). We have been members of OSLC since 2004. For the past eight years, I have worked as a High School Business Teacher. Becoming a teacher was a second career for me, after many years in the business world. Becoming a teacher was one of the best career decisions I ever made, as I enjoy working with young people in a way that will help them grow to be successful, knowledgeable and empathetic adults. In my spare time, you can find me volunteering at the Valley Outreach Food Shelf or digging in the dirt of my gardens.



### Corinne Colburn, *Member-at-Large*

Seven years ago, I moved with my husband Dave and three boys, Dan (17), Andy (14) and Christian (11), to the Stillwater area. We thought it would take us a long time to find a new church to join, but the first church we visited was Our Savior's and we have never left. I enjoy being involved in the OSLC bell choir and altar guild. I have a BA in Computer Science from the University of Minnesota. I currently work as a Software Engineer for Lockheed Martin, developing and testing Air Traffic Control Software for the FAA. In my spare time, when I am not running my kids to their various activities, I enjoy reading and spending time at our "shack" in Grand Marais.



### Paul Garms, *Member-at-Large*

My wife, Melanie, and I have been members of Our Savior's ever since moving to this area from Maryland in 2008. During our many trips to see Melanie's family (also OSLC members) prior to moving here, we worshiped at Our Savior's and always felt welcomed and energized by the service. There was never any question as to where our church home should be. We have three children, Abby (6), Max (4), and Lilly (2), so strong family and children ministry is important to us. I have a science and business background and currently am a marketing manager at Bosch in the packaging technology division. I look forward to joining the board this year and helping further the mission of Our Savior's.



## Annual Meeting held on January 29th

The Annual Meeting of Our Savior's Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, Jan. 29. Here are the highlights:

- The Board was thanked for their service over the past year, and in particular, Steve Ordahl and Rick Peterson, who have completed their terms.
- Treasurer Keith Anderson presented the financial report from 2011, which indicated a year-end surplus of \$40,454. Though contributions did not meet the anticipated goal of \$815,000, substantial savings were realized in personnel costs and in prudent staff spending. A budget of \$815,000 was adopted for 2012, which includes staff salary increases of 2.5%.
- Upon board recommendation, the congregation agreed that, though the anticipated amount of revenue was not met, an additional 2% (14% total) would be directed to Mission & Outreach; this, because of the year-end surplus.
- The following were elected to the board for 2012: Kim Corbett, Chris Peterson, Keith Anderson, Doug Smith, Paul Garms and Corinne Colburn.
- The Mission & Outreach Committee is now comprised of Brad Kruse, Chair, Ray Valley, Glen Hill, Dave Shaw, Sherry Yahner, Gary Woeltge, Gwen Johnson, Carol Durtschi and Mark Olson.
- The Nominating Committee for 2012 will be Jim Nelson, Doug Smith and Chris Peterson.
- Doug Smith, Sherry Yahner and Becky Maier were selected as voting members for the Synod Assembly, May 18-19.
- The Mission Endowment has adopted a new name; The Legacy Committee. Current members include Nancy Appel, Chair, Randy Carlson, Bill Snyder, Joel Ortman and Jim Meier.

## Legacy Fund News and Events...Mark Your Calendars

At our Annual Meeting on January 29, the bylaws of our church were updated to reflect the improvements and changes made to what was formerly called the Mission Endowment Fund. The name is now *The Legacy Fund* which better reflects the purpose of the fund as an intentional program of planned giving. A *Gift Acceptance Policy* was also incorporated into the bylaws as a guideline for acceptance of planned gifts and bequests for the work of the church. A portion of these proceeds are earmarked for annual grants. In 2011, grants were dispersed to ELCA's Haiti Disaster Relief and to St. Paul Partners for well drilling in Africa.

**What does all of this mean to you?** What do you want your legacy to look like? You can find out at the upcoming **Legacy Fund Informational Meeting on April 22** at Sunday Morning Magazine.

For those members who have already expressed their intention of planned gifts to the Legacy Fund of Our Savior's, a **Legacy Recognition Event will be held on May 1**. We hope you will join us!

## Thyme for Grace Kitchen Ministry Needs You

It has been over a year since Thyme for Grace Kitchen Ministry was born. It is because of this special ministry of making meals for the church freezer that many members and friends of members have had a meal brought to them when times have been tough. Now, the freezer is nearly empty and it is time to do some more cooking. Do you have a love for cooking along with a love for caring for others? A team of people is needed to keep this special ministry going. Cooking sessions are held 3 times/year. Please let the church office know if you can help!



## Not much white out there so let's be thinking ORANGE!

Be thinking where to plant your pumpkins, your own yard or somewhere else? Ken Oberman is clutching the trophy for the second year. Who's up to challenge him? Or maybe you can write an anthem to be sung? It'll be our 8th year of friendly (or not) competition. Contact Charlene and Ken Oberman at 651-275-0771 or Barb and Luke Schlosser at 651-439-8432 for ideas or to be part of the pumpkin team.

## The Legacy of Bethlehem

Read about "Ministry in the Midway" in the January 2012 issue of the St. Paul Area Synod publication, FaithLink, and see how a group of seniors from Our Savior's partners with Open Hands Midway. From the article: *"We are more blessed by the time we spend volunteering than the people coming in for the services," said the Rev. Keith Lentz, retired pastor and member of Our Savior's. "We learn about ourselves and are given the chance to see God in the other. Service keeps us vibrant."* A poem by OSLC member David Shaw is also featured in the article.

(<http://www.spas-elca.org/news-and-calendar/newsletters>)

## Life as an Intern Pastor

by Ann Zastrow



Hello, OSLC Friends!

I am still on internship, and it is going well. I have had lots of preaching opportunities, and have also helped out with a wedding, a couple of baptisms, several funerals, a middle school lock-in, Advent mid-week worship services, and many other activities. It is a challenge keeping everything straight – with 8 congregations, it is important to know where to go when, for what, with whom are you meeting, etc. The pastors and congregation members are wonderful to work with, and very forgiving when I make mistakes or drop the ball on something. One of the neatest things is 2-3 times a month I join a group of mostly older women who gather to do hand quilting. I helped them finish a quilt that they had been working on for over 2 years! I also enjoy my group of nine 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation students. I will be helping to lead Wednesday night Lenten services. I will do some preaching, but am looking forward to helping them learn Holden Evening Prayer. I am grateful for the experiences I had at Our Saviors doing just that!

Peace be with each of you as we transition to Lent and then Easter, walking with Jesus through the passion, and to the resurrection.

CALLED TO CARE — LAURIE GRAU

## HEART HEALTH

*"Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life." Proverbs 4:23 NLT*

### CORONARY HEART DISEASE

Did you know that heart disease is the number one killer and major cause of disability in America for both men and women? The most common type of heart disease is coronary artery disease. It frequently develops silently and gradually, typically over many years. In fact, this disease often goes unnoticed until it produces a heart attack. Each year, approximately 800,000 Americans have their first heart attack. For about 1/3 of these people, that first heart attack is fatal. Coronary artery disease occurs when the arteries that supply blood to the heart become narrowed and hardened. This process is called atherosclerosis. Atherosclerosis is caused by the gradual build up of cholesterol-containing fatty deposits or plaques inside the artery wall. As plaque builds up inside the coronary (heart) arteries, less blood can flow through the arteries. As a result, the heart can't get the oxygen and blood it needs. Eventually, this diminished blood flow may cause you to experience angina. Angina is chest pain or discomfort and is the most common symptom of coronary artery disease, especially when you exert yourself or are under stress. If the plaque breaks open and a blood clot forms that blocks the flow of blood, a heart attack occurs.



### SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

The classic signs and symptoms of a heart attack include crushing pressure in your chest and pain radiating down your shoulder or arm, sometimes with shortness of breath and sweating. Women who suffer from heart attacks are more likely to experience symptoms that are considered atypical, including nausea or vomiting, unexplained fatigue and back or jaw pain. Sometimes a heart attack can occur without any noticeable signs and symptoms. If you suspect you are having a heart attack, seek medical attention immediately by calling 911. Every minute counts.

### RISK FACTORS

Common risk factor for coronary artery disease is older age (55+), smoking, high blood pressure and cholesterol levels, diabetes, obesity, stress and having a family history of heart disease. The more risk factors you have, the greater the risk of developing coronary heart disease.

### TREATMENT

The good news is that you have the power to delay or prevent heart disease. Treatment for coronary artery disease usually focuses on lifestyle changes and if necessary, medications and medical procedures that open the arteries. Lifestyle

changes that can help prevent or slow the progression of coronary artery disease include:

- **Quit smoking.** This may be the most important thing you can do. Stopping smoking can *quickly* reduce the risk of heart disease.
- **Control your blood pressure and check your cholesterol levels.** It is recommended to have a baseline cholesterol check at age 20 and then every five years. Have your blood pressure checked at least every two years. Check more frequently if high.
- **Eat a heart-healthy diet.** Focus on fruits, fish, beans, vegetables and high fiber grains and breads.
- **Manage your diabetes.**
- **Exercise.** Regular exercise helps you maintain a healthy weight, and control coronary artery disease risk factors such as diabetes, high blood pressure and cholesterol. Exercise does not have to be vigorous. Walking 30 minutes or more a day can improve your health.
- **Manage stress.** Practice stress reducing techniques. Stress can hurt your heart.
- **Consume alcohol in moderation.** Drinking more than one to two drinks a day can raise blood pressure. Suggested guidelines for women are no more than 1 drink a day, 2 drinks a day for men.

Old habits die hard. They may not be easy to change, but it is important to help you live a healthier and longer life. Decide today that a healthy heart is going to be your top priority and take action. Your heart is worth it!

Yours In Christ,  
Laurie Grau, Parish Nurse

For more information on this topic and heart healthy recipes, check out the parish nurse bulletin board.

**Sources:** [www.mayoclinic.com](http://www.mayoclinic.com), [www.WebMD.com](http://www.WebMD.com), [www.nhlbi.nih.gov/index.htm](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/index.htm), American Heart Association, Parish Nurse Resource Center

## P.E.P. (People Enjoying People 55+)

**PEP SMALL GROUP** continues to meet the third Saturday of each month at Gorman's Cafe in Lake Elmo at 9:30 am for breakfast and then to discuss one of the chapters in "The Gift of Years" by Joan Chitister. Please feel free to come to any of these monthly gatherings. We do not meet during the summer months.

**PEP TO "OPEN HANDS MINISTRY"** at Bethlehem Lutheran in the Midway on the first Monday of each month leaving OSLC at 9:15 am and returning by 3:00 pm. Please sign up on the PEP bulletin board. *NOTE: The Bob and Leslie Wolfgram family volunteered on the first Monday in February. What a great idea for any family to volunteer together to make a difference to those in need!*

**PEP TO FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN** on Monday, March 26, leaving the church at 8:30 am. This is a vital ministry to those who are starving in our world. Sign up on the PEP bulletin board to join us.

**PEP MEMBERS ARE AGAIN INVITED TO THE ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR** held at OSLC on Tuesday, April 17. This informative morning is a great way for Seniors to come together in fellowship, learning, and sharing in a noon lunch. Details will be provided by our Parish Health Nurse.

**PEP JOINS WITH CLUB 56 FOR A TWINS BALL-GAME** leaving the church at 11:30 am on Sunday, April 29 and traveling by bus to the Twins/Kansas City baseball game at Target Field. What a joy for us as Seniors to go with our Junior High students from OSLC. Sign up soon on the PEP bulletin board since the number going is limited.

**PEP TO THE CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES "A Might Fortress Is Our Basement"** on Thursday, May 24. This has been a favorite outing for the PEP group in the past and from reports this play is just as great. The show begins at 1:00 pm. The time, cost, and transportation will be shared with you in the coming weeks. Reserve the date!  
*For PEP questions/suggestions contact: Pastor Keith Lentz, 651-275-0815 or [Klentzlot@aol.com](mailto:Klentzlot@aol.com).*

## Sticky Faith

Have you ever wondered what makes faith “sticky”? What helps the faith that we have as children become a part of our daily life and grow as we become adults? While we completely trust that God gives us the Holy Spirit in baptism and then offers us the opportunity to take part in God’s work in the world, we also know that sometimes it seems as though that faith isn’t strong enough to get us through the things we encounter in daily life. The Children, Youth and Family Team, along with the Faith Formation Team, have been reading a book called *Sticky Faith: Everyday ideas to build lasting faith in your kids* by Kara Powell and Chap Clark. As we have been reading and praying together, we have realized that it’s not just the things we learn in Sunday school – although that is certainly important! – but also our relationships with each other in all areas of our lives. Each one of us, including our youth, need faithful people to surround us with God’s love and grace, people who can help us see God when things are tough. As we worship, work, play and learn alongside each other, all generations together, we have the opportunity to share our stories of God’s faithfulness and presence in our lives, shining God’s light wherever we go.

**What does this mean for faith formation at Our Savior’s?** A lot! While our faith formation team is dedicated to building and supporting those traditional Sunday morning and Wednesday evening programs, we are also being creative in ways that we connect and support the entire community of Our Savior’s together. This spring and summer you will see opportunities to gather together for fun, worship and learning. Here are a few examples:

- On March 2 and April 27 we will be having community fun nights. In March, we will be watching the movie *The Incredibles* and eating popcorn (pillows and footie pajamas are optional). In April, bring your favorite board or card games to just hang out together.
- We are continuing to find ways to move our children and youth into leadership and ministry positions that they are interested in. Does your child or youth like to sew? Cook? Sing? Let Dawn know and we’ll connect them with passionate ministries and adult leaders already serving at Our Savior’s.
- Maybe you’d like to deepen your own adult faith so that you feel more confident working with our children and youth. There are many ways to connect with other adults including book clubs, activity groups, parenting classes and adult education opportunities. Talk to Dawn or Pastor Linda to explore where God is calling you.

**We’ll be talking more about this Sticky Faith in a couple of ways.**

- On March 18 and 25, Pastor Linda and Dawn will be leading Sunday Morning Magazine as we talk more about what faith formation looks like in this age of busy schedules.
- We are also putting together groups to continue reading the book and dreaming about what this ministry looks like in our homes and at church. Contact Dawn if you are interested in taking part in one of the reading groups.
- As always, we treasure our conversations with you – people of all ages brought together by the Holy Spirit – in discerning what God is calling us to do. If you have ideas or concerns about faith formation please schedule some time to connect with one of our faith formation team members (Pastor Linda, Dawn, Chad, Kayla or Courtney).

## Time Shift for The Story on Wednesdays

Each Wednesday evening, we have been gathering together to share a meal, worship together, and hear God’s big story from Genesis to Acts. This schedule will change during the season of Lent as we explore what Jesus’ life and death means for us today.

### The Story Schedule for February 22nd - March 28th

**4:30-5:30 The worship and gathering areas will be open** for confirmation youth to meet with their mentors. No meal will be served during this time.

**5:30-6:15 Worship breakout time:** the learning time that we typically have after worship will move before worship. If you’ve ever wondered what it would be like to know more about the Bible before experiencing worship, here’s your chance!

**6:15 Soup Supper**

**7:00 Lenten service:** we’ll be using the Holden Evening Prayer format and exploring Jesus’ ministry

**7:45 The worship and gathering areas will be open** for confirmation youth to meet with their mentors.

**Exception to the schedule above:** There will be no worship breakouts on February 22 (Ash Wednesday). There will be a meal and worship on this night.

### Stations of the Cross on April 4

We will return to our normal Wednesday evening schedule with a very special worship experience. We will share a simple meal together at 5:00, and then walk the Stations of the Cross at 5:30. This service moves through the entire church as we retrace the journey that Jesus walked when he went to the cross. After the walk, there will be no formal learning time, but everyone is welcome to come back to the CLC for a time of questions, wonderings, and prayer.

## Camp Sunday is February 19th

Even with the mild winter, I know that many of us are thinking about warmer weather and sunshine. No worries – Camp Sunday is just around the corner! On February 19, we will be rolling out all of our summer ministry opportunities and giving everyone a little taste of what we have planned.



The Daybreak Team from Camp Wapo will be here to give us a flavor of camp worship at all three services. Break out your Hawaiian shirts and flip-flops and do some summer dreaming!

Watch for the special brochure “*Running the Summer Race*” that will include all the details of our summer activities!





Imagine your kid trusting in God forever because the sky is the limit. This year's theme is *SKY: Everything is Possible with God*. Kids will have the opportunity to play a bunch of games, do experiments, sing, and even some other fun activities. Watch for our summer brochure for details!

You may be wondering what it is about VBS that kids go wild about. **Sam McCoy**, a VBS veteran and confirmation student tells both adults and kids why YOU should be a part of VBS this August!



**How many years have you attended as a kid?** 3 years **And as a volunteer?** 2 years

**What is your favorite VBS memory as an attendee?** *My favorite time in VBS was when I was in CLUB 56 and we got to go offsite for VBS rock climbing.*

**What is your favorite memory as a helper?** *My first summer helping was amazing. I loved working with kids who had special needs.*

**What is one thing you learned from VBS?** *I have learned through VBS how to better work with people because there is so much you do with other people.*

**Why should kids come to VBS?** *Kids should come because there are a ton of opportunities to meet friends and it is a lot of fun!*

**Why should people volunteer to help with VBS?** *It is an awesome time. You get to work with kids and at times even act like a kid.*

## StrengthsExplorer Comes to Club 56!

As a parent, imagine being able to help your child do what they do best. The StrengthsExplorer program is designed to do just that: help young people learn about their greatest God-given talents. StrengthsExplorer can have a lifelong impact on our kids. Based on decades of research, this program helps kids discover their talents — the ways in which they naturally think, feel, and behave — giving them the confidence to excel in their areas of natural ability. This strengths-based model can:

- help kids think about their talents and how to use them in everyday life
- encourage kids to focus on what they do right, rather than what they do wrong
- help kids understand and appreciate one another's talents and, in doing so, help them build and strengthen relationships

Join us at 9:15 in the CLUB 56 Room on the following dates:

**February 26th** - Parents and students will join together to learn about the StrengthsExplorer tool and then go online to take the assessment and send us the results. This can also be facilitated at church.

**March 4th, 18th** (no class on March 11th) - Kids bring in their results and we explore together how their talents are lived out in the world.

Any questions can be directed to Kayla ([kayla@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:kayla@oslcstillwater.org)) or Pastor Linda ([linda@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:linda@oslcstillwater.org)).

## Family FaithMarkers for Spring 2012:

### Baptism - Walking Wet!

**Monday, March 12th at 6:00 pm**

Are you planning a baptism at Our Savior's? The first step is to attend the *Baptism - Walking Wet!* Faith Marker class. This class is offered for those being baptized, their parents, sponsors, godparents, or other important people in the life of the one being brought into God's kingdom through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. This will be a time to discuss the meaning of baptism in the Lutheran Church and for our daily lives. Call the church office to sign up.



### First Communion Retreat - All ages

**Monday, April 2nd at 6:00-8:00 pm**

Children of all ages are invited to participate in and learn about the Sacrament of Holy Communion together with their family. Families choose when their children are ready to join others at God's Table, and gather with other families to learn together the gift of Holy Communion. If you have any questions or are interested in participating in the retreat, contact Pastor Linda 651-439-5704, ext. 24, [linda@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:linda@oslcstillwater.org); or Dawn Alitz 651-439-5704, ext. 23, [dawn@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:dawn@oslcstillwater.org).

### Martin Luther - 6th Grade

**Monday, May 7th at 6:00-7:00 pm**

## Nursery Time Fun!

**Who:** Ages 11 months-23 months and their parent(s)

**What:** Come meet other families your child's age, share/talk about your child during group time, age appropriate table activities for your child, and small snack. Parents stay with their child during this event.

**When:** Saturday, March 3rd, 2012 from 10:00-11:30 am.

**Please RSVP to the church office. Join us for fun in the nursery!**



## Club 56 - Mark Your Calendars

**March 4th:** Come prepared for a fun afternoon at Doug Smith's house. We will send out details about transportation but there will be games, treats, and more. The event will start around 11:30 or 12 and will be done by 2.

**April 29th:** CLUB 56 and PEP join together for a rally at the Twins vs. Royals game. We will be leaving church at 11:30 and taking a bus. The space is limited to 14 students and the cost will be around \$25. More details will follow as we know them. The postcard will let you know the first day to sign-up.

Questions? Contact Kayla at [kayla@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:kayla@oslcstillwater.org).



★ **Our Jr. High Youth are Fasting!** On February 24th-25th, our youth are taking on the challenge of not eating for 30 hours! They will be taking part in an event called "The 30 Hour Famine" to raise money and awareness for hunger! During this event our youth will participate in many different activities that focus on hunger in our community and in our world. Each meal we do have will consist of water and/or juice and following the famine they will be treated to a spaghetti dinner prepared by our own Robin Sobczak. This is a multi-church event which means we will be partnering with numerous different churches from our area. **We do need drivers for Saturday the 25th for a few hours so if there are any parents or adults who could help, please contact Chad Larson at 651-439-5704!**

★ **Sr. High Service Days!** Hello High School Youth and Parents! As a part of our vision for the Youth and Family Ministry program here at OSLC, we believe that service is a very important part of our faith. With that said, our high school youth group will be participating in monthly service projects within our community and the St. Paul area. In the month of January, we had the opportunity to serve Valley Outreach in organizing and sprucing up some area of their facility. We can't wait to see what God has planned for future projects so stay tuned! If there are any projects you think our high school youth might be able to participate in, feel free to contact Chad Larson our Director of Youth and Family Ministry!

★ **Winter Wipe Out: An Awesome Experience!** In January, eleven of our Jr. High youth had the amazing opportunity to head up to Motley, MN for a weekend of broomball, dodgeball, floor hockey, and amazing worship! It was a weekend of teambuilding as well as growing in our relationship with Christ. A big thank you to Cheryl McCoy for her leadership on this trip and to all the youth who participated. Get excited for next year!

★ **Our Events Calendar is online!** Have you ever wondered what events are happening in the youth program? Well now the information is just a click away! If you go to [www.oslcstillwater.org](http://www.oslcstillwater.org) you will find a link to our youth and family ministry calendar on the right side of the page! It is very important that everyone can see what awesome things are happening in our program and this is just another way to do it!

★ **Youth Group Meetings!** Generally, Junior High Youth Group meets on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am and Senior High Youth Group meets on Sunday evenings at 5 pm. Check the Events Calendar for the current schedule.

For any questions about youth activities, contact Chad Larson, Youth and Family Director, [chad@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:chad@oslcstillwater.org) or 425-281-8315.

For all your questions about Children, Youth and Family Ministries, Faith Formation classes, FaithMarkers, summer programming, child-care, preschool programs, and more, please contact:

**Dawn Alitz, Minister of Faith Formation**

Phone: 651-439-5704, ext. 23 or email: [dawn@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:dawn@oslcstillwater.org)

## Lake Area Discovery Center at Our Savior's



### MARCH:

Thursday, March 1: Conferences, No classes  
Friday, March 2: Conferences, No classes  
March 12-March 16: NO SCHOOL (Spring Break)  
Thursday, March 29: LADC Circus  
Friday, March 30: LADC Circus

### APRIL:

Friday, April 6: NO SCHOOL (Good Friday)  
Monday, April 9: NO SCHOOL (Staff Development Day)

### MAY:

Monday, May 28: NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)  
Thursday, May 31: LADC Graduation and Picnics  
Friday, June 1: LADC Graduation and Picnics

## A Peek at Summer W.O.W. Camps for LADC!

For more information, call the LADC office at 651-762-7884.

### June:

**June 4-8** at OSLC: *ALL GOD'S CREATURES - God Loves All, Great and Small!*

**June 11-15** at OSLC: *ROCKS AND FOSSILS - God is Awesome*

**June 18-22** at Trinity Lutheran: *COOKING UP SOME FUN WITH JESUS! - The Science of Cooking*

**June 25-29** at Trinity Lutheran: *SUPER SCIENCE - God's Love is Powerful!*

### July:

**July 2-6** OFF (Independence Day)

**July 9-13** at OSLC: *OUT WEST WITH THE SAVIOR - Saddle Up with Jesus!*

**July 16-20** at OSLC: *BAYOU BLAST - We are Fearless in God's Light!*

**July 23-27** at Trinity Lutheran: *FIESTA FRIENDS - Jesus Fires up our Hearts!*

**July 30-Aug 3** at OSLC: *SKY VBS - Everything is Possible with God*

### August:

**Aug 6-10** at Trinity Lutheran: *SKY VBS - Everything is Possible with God*

**Aug 13-17** at Trinity Lutheran: *BUGGY FOR CAMPING - Exploring God's World!*

**Aug 20-24** at OSLC: *SUMMER OLYMPICS - All Stars for Jesus!*

**Aug 27-31** NO CAMPS, OPEN HOUSES/ROOM SET UP

## FAMILY FUN CORNER!

As the weather warms, enjoy time together outside as a family!

1. Family walks and bike rides.
2. Family chalk night: create your own chalk city on the family driveway!
3. Family dinner picnics outside.
4. Family drives through new neighborhoods or to a favorite place.
5. Family park night: travel to a favorite park and enjoy watching the sunset!

*"Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals; praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD."*

Psalm 150



Most of us engaged in church music, whether it be directing, playing, singing in the choir, leading children, or singing hymns in the pews, occasionally get a glimpse of the power and potential of music to form and transform lives. We know that music has the ability to move, to provoke, to soothe and calm, and to teach. Martin Luther stated: *"I am not ashamed to confess publicly that next to theology there is no art which is the equal of music, for she alone, after theology, can do what otherwise only theology can accomplish, namely, quiet and cheer up the soul of man, which is clear evidence that the devil, the originator of depressing worries and troubled thoughts, flees from the voice of music just as he flees from the words of theology."*

For our times of great distress, God provides us, not a sermon or a prayer, not a speech or a reproach, but a song. We are the inheritors of the power of a song. It is not a trifling matter to select our hymns for worship, to accompany them, to lead them, and certainly to sing them. We are engaged in nothing less than the formation and transformation of a person, the saving of a soul, the healing of a body, the teaching of a mind, and the renewing of a spirit. If there ever was a time to use that terribly overused adjective "awesome," it is now.

I have the great honor and privilege to lead some wonderful groups here at Our Savior's. These musicians give their all every week to bring the message of Jesus Christ to everyone. Please join me in thanking them for their ministry.

I can't wait to continue to make music with you each week. I invite all of you to come join us in the choir loft; we are always in need of new singers. Please make music part of your Our Savior's life!

May the music of God fill your hearts today and always.

Joshua W. Rau, Choral/Orchestra Director

## Instrumentalists Needed

We need the following instrumentalists for Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday:

February 22: Flute, Clarinet, Violin, Viola, Cello  
April 8: Trumpet I II, Horn if F, Timpani

If you can play or you know someone who might like to help us out, please give them the dates.

Contact Joshua at [joshua@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:joshua@oslcstillwater.org) for more information.



## Wednesday Lenten Services

**February 22nd (Ash Wednesday) - March 28th**

11:30 am Lent Worship

12:15 pm Lunch

6:00 pm Soup Supper (5:30 pm on Ash Wednesday only)

7:00 pm Lent Worship

We will again use the beautiful "Holden Evening Prayer" and special music will feature various choirs, soloists and musicians.

## Holy Week

**Palm Sunday, April 1**

8:00, 9:15, 10:30 am

**Maundy Thursday, April 5**

11:30 am, 7:00 pm

**Good Friday, April 6**

7:00 pm

**Easter Sunday, April 8**

6:30, 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 am

## Worship Ministry Volunteer Opportunities

### Altar Guild

The Altar Guild's responsibilities include preparing the Sacrament for Holy Communion and the general readiness of the Chancel and Altar throughout the Church Year

Contact: Susan Bragstad, [bragstad2@frontiernet.net](mailto:bragstad2@frontiernet.net), 651.351.7027

### Communion Server

A Communion Server works with the Pastors in distributing the Sacrament at Worship

Contact: Valerie Kubal, [vkk1009@hotmail.com](mailto:vkk1009@hotmail.com), 651.998.3973

### Greeter

A Greeter welcomes worshipers as they arrive for worship and bids them farewell as they leave

Contact: Kathleen Johnson, [bkjohns@comcast.net](mailto:bkjohns@comcast.net), 651.770.5107

### Reader

A Reader reads the appointed lessons for Sunday Worship and at other times throughout the Church Year

Contact: Sheri Prigge, [sprigge@comcast.net](mailto:sprigge@comcast.net), 651-210-2652

### Usher

An Usher assists those arriving for worship, distributes bulletins, provides direction for seating, receives the offering, guides communicants forward

Contact: Cameron Kelly, [ckelly@cameronkellylaw.com](mailto:ckelly@cameronkellylaw.com), 651.705.6277

## New Compositions from our Composer-in-Residence

Composer-in-Residence Bill Beckstrand has provided us with 2 new compositions!

*Christ Alone*: Anthem for Children's Voices, Keyboard & Handbells  
*Ring Alleluia*: 5 Octave Handbell Setting of the tune *Sing Alleluia*





## Sunday Morning Magazine

An adult learning opportunity for you on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary! Our topics vary from Mission to Bible Study, local authors and experts. Learning is a life-long process!

Upcoming Topics:

- **February 26 and March 4: Love and Respect**

Dawn Alitz will be presenting a brief look at Love and Respect, a series on marriage that has launched a revolution in how couples treat each other. Developed by Emerson Eggerich, *Love and Respect* offers husbands and wives a way to change the way they talk to, think about, and treat each other. Experience marriage the way God intended with the help of these materials!

- **March 18 and 25: What is Sticky Faith?**

Most churches in America would give anything to develop a deep, growing faith in kids that “sticks” and continues to mature long-term. That interest is dwarfed only by parents’ desire to develop a deep, growing faith in their own kids. Dawn Alitz and Pastor Linda will explore the new research on what makes faith stick and how the church can be a partner in this new revolution!

- **April 22: Legacy Giving**

Join the Legacy Fund Committee in learning what it means to care for your church using planned giving.

- **April 29: ABC’s of Skin Care, Cancer Screens and Sun Screens**

Join the Rustad’s (members of OSLC) from Advanced Dermatology Care to learn more about this organ (our skin!) and how to care best for it.

Questions? Contact Pastor Linda: [linda@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:linda@oslcstillwater.org)



## OSLC Book of the Month Club

It’s simple! Read the book during the month and then come and discuss.

**Children’s Selection - February’s pick:** *The Boy in the Striped Pajama’s* by John Boyne. An eye-opening account of the persecution of Eastern European Jews as seen through the eyes of a nine-year-old. Discussion dates: Monday, February 27th at 1 pm or 7 pm.

**Additional Book Selections for Spring:**

March - Leader’s Choice:

*Traveling Mercies* by Anne Lamott

Discussion dates: March 26 at 1 pm or 7 pm

April - Let’s Have fun!:

*Life Among the Lutherans* by Garrison Keillor

Discussion Dates: April 30 at 1 pm or 7 pm

## Women @ the EDGE



Are you a woman in need of some ME time? Are you on the EDGE—whatever that might mean?

Join us once a month for a time of learning, sharing and breathing. This year we will be using Parker Palmer’s book, *Let Your Life Speak*, as our guide. You do not need to read the book to be part of our discussion. We meet once a month on Mondays at 8:00 pm. Join us any time!

**NEW LOCATION:** Starbucks at 5890 Neal Ave N (Hwy 36 & 5)

**March 5th- All the Way Down**

**April 2nd- Leading from Within**

**May 14th- There is a Season (NOTE: This date may change)**

Contact Pastor Linda with questions! ([Linda@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:Linda@oslcstillwater.org))



A look at selected treasures shelved in the OSLC collection

### Conflagration Everywhere

Markus Zusak’s award winning novel *The Book Thief* transports the reader into the turbulent environment found in Nazi Germany in 1939. Liesel, a young woman, finds herself in possession of a book and a purpose for her life -- saving literature for future generations. (Locate the book under Category 1-Fiction in the library by the narthex.)

### Spiritual Awareness and Growth

Caroline Myss in *Anatomy of the Spirit* (Category 13-Personal Problems, Social Welfare, Self-Help, Death) and John Ortberg in *The Life You Always Wanted* (Category 3-Inspirational) provide guidelines that will help an individual embrace spiritual disciplines which will lead to true transformation.

### An Insider View

Karen Armstrong, a cloistered nun for seven years, provides a view of life within the brick walls of a British convent, as she shares her experiences in *Through the Narrow Gate* (Category 4 -Autobiography & Biography)

### Giving not Receiving

What would you do if you were a greedy and wealthy king and desired a gift that you could not have? You would learn that it is better to give than receive in *The Quiltmaker’s Gift* by Jeff Brumbeau (Category 1-Fiction)

## Sent to Lily Lake Elementary School

by Susan Oberg

"Why do you always pick me?" asked the little girl bouncing happily beside me. "How could I not pick you!" I said. "You are cooperative, like to learn, fun to be with and you make me happy each time I see you." Another fulfilling day at Lily Lake School had begun.



Martha Kline, Kathy Johnson, Maxine Enfield, Pastor Linda Friesen, Susan Oberg, Carla Teetzal. Not pictured: Heidi Puckett.

### Why are we there?

Stillwater Cares for Kids is a tutoring program designed to help students achieve in school. The program began with the vision of Dr. James D. Hainlen, a retired orchestra teacher, and was implemented at Oak Park Elementary School with tutors drawn from First Presbyterian Church. Our Savior's has partnered with neighboring Lily Lake Elementary. Tutoring takes place Wednesday mornings from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Tutors work in reading and math with students selected by teachers, one on one, for 15-30 minutes. Training is provided by the district staff. The program allows for flexible scheduling so tutors are able to plan appointments and trips during the year and still be able to volunteer.



ship, discussion time, and tutor mentoring completed our day.

Each Wednesday, a group of volunteers from Our Savior's is welcomed at Lily Lake. We sign in, pick up our name tags and check our schedules for the day. In November we were invited for school lunch. There are choices now but none of us were brave enough to try the Banana Dog. Fellowship, discussion time, and tutor mentoring completed our day.

### Do we make a difference?

"Our students look forward to their special time with the tutors each week! These tutors are an essential element in providing that extra support and encouragement children need to become successful learners."

Jane Dickinson, Reading Intervention Teacher

"I find it exciting to see the welcome smiles of the boys and girls with whom I work. It is well worth my time to see any improvement in their math or reading skills."

Maxine Enfield, Volunteer

"This year's volunteers at Lily Lake are outstanding! Volunteers provide many of the extras that enhance the work done by our teachers and staff, and it's hard to imagine what our school would be like without volunteers. Our volunteers have contributed to our students' learning by sharing their time and expertise. Our students benefit so much from our community's willingness to get involved in their education and in their lives. I know that my thank you can't match the smiles and gratitude of the students and staff at Lily Lake Elementary, but I do want each of our volunteers to know they are valued and appreciated."

Malinda Lansfeldt, Principal

"It's good! It's nice. They help us learn."

Lily Lake Kindergartners



Principal Malinda Lansfeldt with Lily Lake students.

"Anyone who does anything to help a child in his life is a hero to me."

Fred Rogers, Mr. Rogers Neighborhood

People from Our Savior's are invited to join our group of volunteers. Presently we have seven tutors helping forty children each week. Lily Lake has 535 children with diverse needs. If you feel called to this service in our community, please contact Pastor Linda.

Susan Oberg has been a member of Our Savior's since 1978. She retired from teaching after 25 years at Lily Lake School.



## Sent to Mlafu

by Sue Hedlund

Jambo! (Swahili “hello”) On March 4, please join our travelers to Africa (Jim and Marilyn Meier; Mike Reynolds; Pastor Linda and Mark Friesen; Carol Durtschi; and Sue Hedlund) as they share pictures and stories from their mission trip to our companion congregation in Mlafu, Tanzania.

### Report to the Congregation:

#### Mission Trip to Mlafu

Sunday, March 4

11:45 am – 12:45 pm

Followed by a Potluck Meal  
RSVP requested, not required, to  
the church office by March 1.

**Please join us!**

Our trip started on Saturday, October 24, but due to aircraft mechanical problems we did not leave until 1:30 am on Sunday, October 25. We first flew to Amsterdam then to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. After a brief (8 hour) night at the Free Pentecostal Church in Dar, we traveled by bus for 9 hours to Iringa—our home base for the next two weeks. With the loss of one day in Tanzania because of the flight delay, we had to rearrange our schedule and make sure rooms and transportation would be available. A big thank you goes out to Bo and Juli Skillman, our hosts in Iringa from the St. Paul Area Synod’s Bega Kwa Bega (Shoulder-to-Shoulder) program.

We got started learning about the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) by receiving an orientation at the Iringa Diocese Head Office. This was a great way to start off understanding the importance of the Bega Kwa Bega companion congregation program and relationships that are being built among people of Christian faith. Did you know the ELCT has just as many members as the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America? God has really been working!

Our group learned a lot about the Tanzanian educational system during the trip. We visited the Tumaini University with a campus tour of the computer lab, library, administrative offices, dormitories, lecture halls and even saw the construction underway for a new science building. It was very impressive to see how much the people value education and the sacrifices they make to get it. A big highlight of our trip was the visit to the Image Secondary School. Several members of our congregation sponsor students here so it was great to meet them. All of the students greeted our bus with singing, drums and dancing. They even got us to join in with them! Everyone there was very warm and welcoming to us and it made our visit go by way too fast. We did have time to meet the students that our church sponsors, take their pictures with Pastor Linda, and give them backpacks filled with school supplies. **These backpacks were made possible by your generous donations to our trip! Asante sana (thank you very much) for your gifts!**

Another significant mission the St. Paul Area Synod supports is the Ilula District Hospital. This 70-bed hospital serves a large geographic area with over 100,000 people. Most of the patients here are children with pneumonia, malaria and intestinal disorders—all preventable problems!

But the big, big highlight for all of us was the week-end we spent in the village of Mlafu. We still today marvel at the incredible hospitality they showed to us and the sacrifices they made to make us feel comfortable. Mlafu was about a 2-3 hour bus ride from Iringa. When we arrived, we were once again greeted with a throng of people who were singing and dancing. All ages, men and women. **The joy and love of Jesus they showed to us was overwhelming!** The children were particularly loving and engaging.

We stayed in the home of Pastor Dyson and his family which was next door to the church. They let us sleep in until 6:30 am on Saturday morning but every morning there starts with devotions together in the church. What if we did that? We took a rough bus trip to another village area known as a “preaching point.” These are small churches served by an “evangelist” instead of an ordained pastor. This allows people to learn about Jesus and worship together without having to walk for miles to the church in Mlafu. Pastor Linda was given a live chicken as a gift and “Little Stevie” (named for our Pastor Steve) came back with us on the bus.



Interpreter Pastor Imelda and villagers at Mlafu preaching point.

For Sunday worship, we gathered in the Pastor’s home at 9:45 am and then processed with singing and drums into the church service which started at 10:00 am. The service lasted 3 hours and they had 3 offering times! How would that work here? The offering included eggs, chickens, bananas, tomatoes and yes, some money. After the service, these items were auctioned off to raise money for the church. Jim even bought a live chicken! **Come to our presentation to hear what happened to Pastor Linda’s and Jim’s chickens!**

A trip to Africa wouldn’t be complete without time for a safari. We had a chance to relax for a couple of days at the Mwangusi Safari Camp in the Ruaha National Park. It was incredible to see the animals and once again, experience the humble hospitality of the African people. At our presentation you will see fantastic pictures of these animals in their homes.

At the end of our second week, we journeyed back to Dar es Salaam for one last night in Tanzania. We sat on the shores of the Indian Ocean and gave thanks to God for our trip of many blessings. **When our congregation prays on Sunday morning for our companion congregation, it means something much, much more now.** We can see their faces, hear the singing and remember all of God’s love they shared with us. We hope we can also share that feeling with all of you at our presentation. Maybe God is calling you to Tanzania too!

*Sue Hedlund has been a member of OSLC for 20 years. She is a Public Health Nurse and works for the Washington County Public Health Department in Stillwater. Sue went to Mlafu to learn about a distant culture very different than her own, experience public health in a new way, and see what our church is actually doing there. More importantly, she wanted to meet the people that we pray for every Sunday morning!*



## Mark Your Calendar

Mission Trip to Mlafu Presentation	March 4, 2012
New Member Sunday	March 4, 2012
YoungLives Fundraising Tea Party & Boutique	March 24, 2012
Senior Health and Faith Day	April 17, 2012
The Stream deadline	May 1, 2012
Legacy Recognition Event	May 1, 2012
Trunks and Treasures Sale	May 19, 2012

## Babysitting Training

**Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 9-1 pm**

Provides youth, ages 11-15, with the necessary skills to care for infants/children. Certificate upon completion. Cost \$10. Pre-registration required. For more information, contact Laurie Grau at [laurie@oslccstillwater.org](mailto:laurie@oslccstillwater.org).

## Gratitude Boxes

*Gratitude: feeling, emotion or attitude in acknowledgment of a benefit that one has received or will receive (Wikipedia).* Once again, Our Savior's Lutheran Church women will be expressing gratitude for our many blessings as we collect our coins throughout 2012, and share with others. The monetary offerings collected for 2011 totaled \$239.53, and were shared with the following groups:

Thyme for Grace:	\$109.05
Somalia:	\$ 73.15
Minot, ND floods:	\$ 57.33

We thank you for your past giving. Many people have benefited from your gracious giving.

During February we will have special containers available that you can take home for your collections. Watch the church bulletin and email blasts announcing when the containers are ready. In the meantime, don't hesitate to begin collecting your extra change now.

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for is steadfast love endures forever."*

- Psalm 136:1

## Our Savior's Monthly Calendar

Copies will be available at the Welcome Desk after the first Tuesday of each month.

## The Stream

### Deadlines & Publication Dates

Issue	Deadline	In the Mail	Months included
Summer	May 1	May 15	June - Aug
Fall	Aug. 1	Aug. 15	Sept - Nov
Winter	Nov. 1	Nov. 15	Dec - Feb
Spring	Feb. 1	Feb. 15	Mar - May

## Mother Daughter Banquet

**May 10th at 6:15 pm**

*Featuring: Three Stories Tall*

All women are encouraged to attend the Mother Daughter Banquet as we will have a most special program. Jeremiah Gamble will be bringing several delightful stories to life. He will tell three stories he has written:

- ♦ *Hold the Boat*, a comical account of a young boy trying to sneak onto Noah's Ark
- ♦ *How the Groo Grew* – an original tale about monsters, forgiveness and sibling rivalry
- ♦ *The Tale of Three Trees* - a folk tale

Jeremiah is part of the Gamble family, which has been doing Christmas concerts in the metro area for 25 years and is now doing theater with his wife Vanessa. This will be a program for everyone! Mark your calendars now and watch for more information as the time gets closer. Tickets will go on sale in April. It will be good to see you there!

Check out the Gamble family web site at [www.theaterforthethirsty.com](http://www.theaterforthethirsty.com).

## Women's Synodical Weekend

**April 20-21 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Burnsville**

*"Rejoice in the Lord always." Philipinas 4:4*

You are invited to join women from around the Saint Paul Area Synod for a weekend of Worship and Eucharist, Bible Study, learning sessions and business meetings. It is the 25th anniversary of Women of the ELCA so there will be lots of special opportunities to grow in your faith as well as to give to others. Bishop Rogness always has a wonderful Bible Study and the banquet speaker (Ruth Bachman) and luncheon speaker (Julia Mann) each promise to have a wonderful message for us. There will be learning opportunities as well as displays from many local non-profit agencies who will tell their stories. Material offerings will be Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief (information available on the women's bulletin board) and monetary offerings will go to the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Our Savior's is looking for one woman who would like to be the delegate from our congregation, whose registration fee will be paid, as well as others who would like to join us. Registration forms are also on the women's bulletin board. Come for the learning. Enjoy the fellowship!

## Spring Cluster Meeting: "Teaching in Tanzania"

**April 26 at Bethlehem Lutheran, Bayport**

The spring cluster meeting for the East Central Cluster of Women of the ELCA will be on April 26 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Bayport. Sally Harris has been interested in Tanzania since 1990. Sally will explain how she and her husband have traveled to Tanzania every summer since 2005 to teach at Tumani University. Come hear about the growth of the university to 4000 students, about the creation of a Christian radio station, FURAHA (now airing 24/7 to almost a million people), and about visiting and worshipping in the outlying villages. Sally will also highlight many other tasks begun during the 25 years of the Bega-Kwa-Bega relationship between our synod and Tanzania. The material offering will be hospice kits for global health ministries and the monetary offering will go to Bega-Kwa-Bega and the women's organization. All information is on the women's bulletin board.



**YoungLives Fundraising Tea Party & Boutique**

*Bring a friend and wear your favorite party hat!*

Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 11:30 am-1:00 pm  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1616 West Olive St

Childcare provided for infants to preschoolers

To RSVP or donate items for the boutique, contact:  
Darla Goble at 651-430-1873 or ylscvmn@gmail.com by March 10

*Proceeds from the Tea Party and Boutique will provide the opportunity for teen moms and their children to attend summer camp and support the YoungLives teen mom program in the St Croix Valley!*



We want to thank our amazing church family for the caring support that was provided during Ron's hospitalization and subsequent time at the Care Center. The prayers, kind words, cards, visits and meals were truly a blessing and very much a part of Ron's recovery. We especially want to express our appreciation to Pastor Steve, Pastor Linda, Laurie Grau and the Friday Guys. We are so blessed to be a part of this family of faith at Our Savior's.

**Ron and Jean Schad**



**A few thank you's from our Giving Tree recipients:**

- "Thank you for your gift of kindness at Christmas time, I was so happy."
- "Thank you for your gifts of love this holiday season and in our time of need...thank you for your role in making this Christmas special for 231 families." (Episcopal Community Services)
- "We cannot thank you enough for letting us be a part of your 'Giving Tree'! Our residents are blessed by all of you.." (East Metro Women's Council)
- "Thank you for sharing Jesus' love to the moms & children in our program." (YoungLives)
- "Your program literally made all the difference for our family." (Holiday Bureau)
- Thank you for sharing Christmas in February for 36 kids and staff at Garland Hall, Jamaica!



**Many Thanks to Nancy Healey**

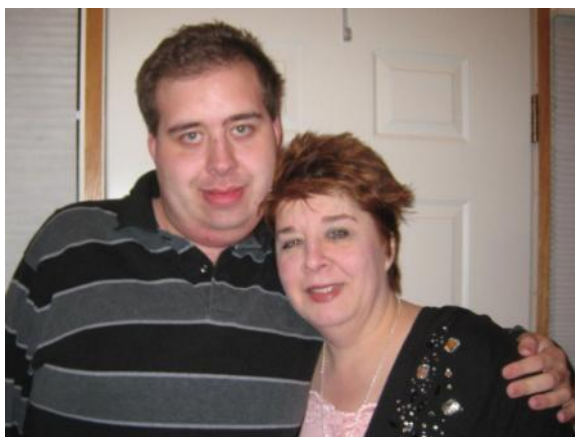
The women of Our Savior's send a huge thank you to Nancy Healey, who has been a very special member of the women's team. Nancy is a woman of vision and has been the spark plug to so many wonderful ideas and ministries, Thyme for Grace Kitchen Ministry being just one of them. Nancy's life has now taken her in new directions and she will no longer be a part of the women's team. Many thanks go to Nancy for her energy and vision. She will be greatly missed.

**Welcome, Tony!**

My son, Tony, was diagnosed with high functioning autism when he was 3 years old. For many years he was hard to handle and we weren't able to take him many places like church. As he grew older we were able to do more things and we wanted to attend church as a family. We weren't comfortable in the church we belonged to and were looking for a new one. We moved to Lake Elmo and our neighbor happened to be Pastor Steve. He invited us to visit Our Savior's and said our son would be welcome there. Tony hadn't received communion yet so Pastor Steve brought over a book about communion and talked to Tony about what it meant.

It is hard to describe the joy I felt the first time we all attended church together. I never imagined it was possible when our son was younger and now here we were. Tony was proud to be able to accept communion on Sundays and be a part of the church community. Isn't that what we all want? To be wel-

comed and accepted for who we are? That is why we are happy to be members of Our Savior's.



**The Final Word**

**Julie Tatro**



*Julie Tatro lives in Lake Elmo with her husband George, 22 yr old son Tony, 17 year old daughter Tara and their adorable dachshund/terrier Winnie. They are co-owners of PAC Finance, an insurance finance and tax preparation business. Julie enjoys travel, movies, scrapbooking and card making.*

*The  
Stream*

**The Stream — Spring 2012 (Lent / Easter)**

A publication of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Stillwater, Minnesota | [www.oslctillwater.org](http://www.oslctillwater.org)

**BREAKING NEWS:  
THE LIFE OF JESUS!**  
Lent 2012

This is a time to invite neighbors, family and friends to join you in worship. The hospitality of a delicious meal, the beautiful "Holden Evening Prayer" liturgy, and the innovative messages will be a gift to you, and those whom you invite. Please join us. (See p. 3 for details.)

- February 22 "Salt, Light, and Other Stuff"
- February 29 "The Kingdom of God is a Party!"
- March 7 "A Small Lesson"
- March 14 "What's in the Sack?"
- March 21 "Alive!"
- March 28 "The Anger of God"



**Holy Week:**

Palm Sunday, April 1	8:00, 9:15, 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday, April 5	11:30 am, 7:00 pm
Good Friday, April 6	7:00 pm
Easter Sunday, April 8	6:30, 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 am

*Grounded in faith, Gathered in love, and Sent with a purpose,  
So that others may gain the Kingdom.*