

The Stream

FALL/PENTECOST 2011
VOL. 1, NO. 1



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 &
The Crossing*

Contemporary Services

Communion

1st & 5th Sundays: All services

3rd Sundays:

8:00 & 9:15 am services

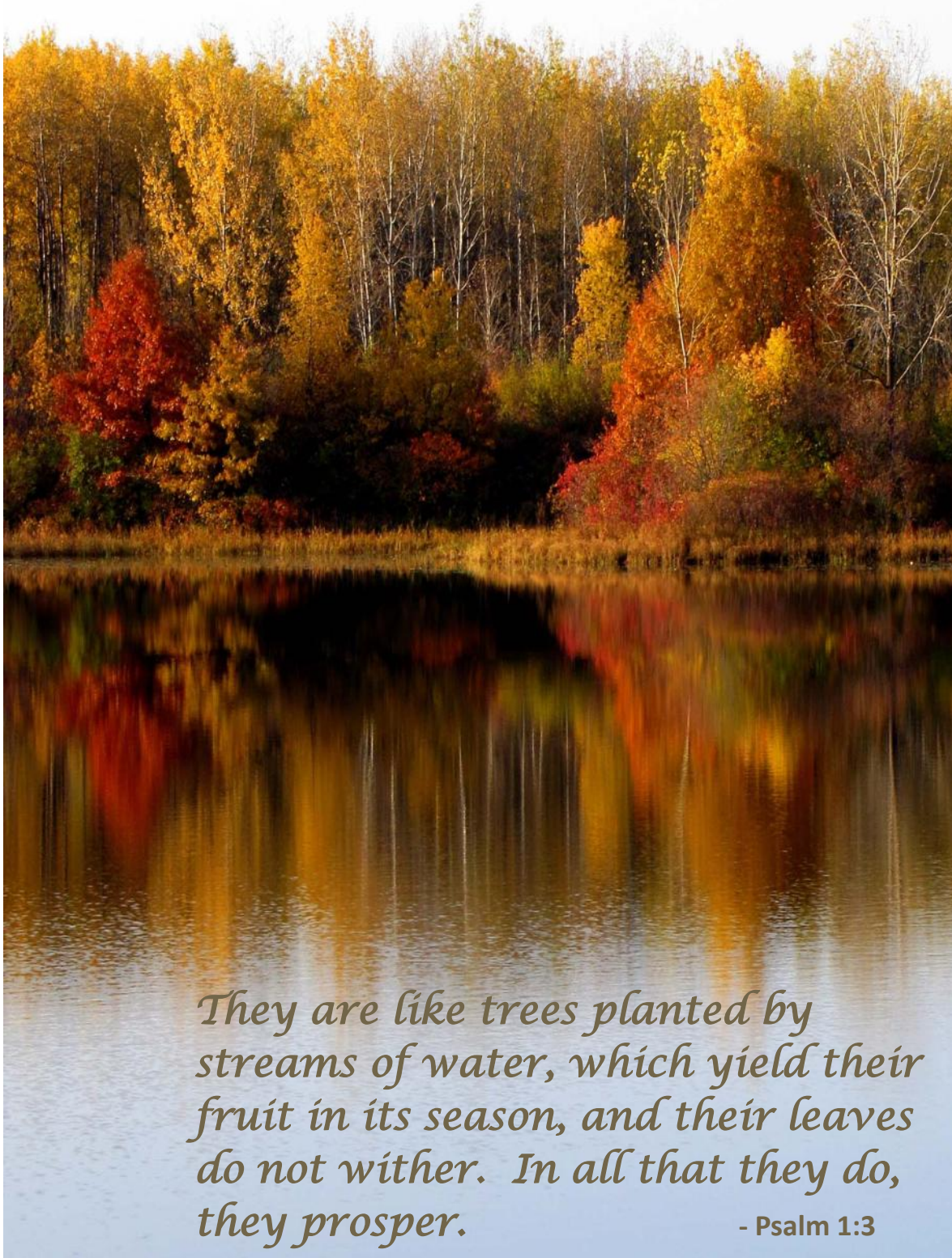
Grounded in Faith
Gathered in Love
and Sent with
a Purpose
So that others
may gain
the Kingdom



Like
Us!



Follow
Us!



*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

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

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The Stream and OSLC website inquiries to: publish@oslcstillwater.org

OSLC Church Board Members

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Member ELCA Congregation
St. Paul Area Synod
www.spas-elca.org



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Stream is published four times annually; Fall (Pentecost B), Winter (Advent, Christmas and Epiphany), Spring (Lent and Easter), and Summer (Pentecost A). Electronic copies and previous issues are available at www.oslcstillwater.org. Direct comments or questions to publish@oslcstillwater.org

Cover photograph by Dave Fabio

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

Next Mtg: First 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: John Rock (747-0311)

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

Mocha on the Mount by Sandra Glahn and **Prayer** by Philip Yancey (Tuesdays)

Contact: Nancy Robertson (651-430-2006)

Esther It's Tough Being a Woman by Beth Moore (Thursdays)

Contact: Barb Schlosser (651-439-8432)

Between Classic and New: A Family

First Word
Pastor Steve Molin



In 1985, Coca-Cola decided to make a change. Pepsi was gaining on them with a sweeter version of soda, so in April, Coke's recipe changed, and a massive marketing campaign began. For awhile, New Coke was okay, but soon the hype ended, and the stakeholders who drank Coke by the gallons began to voice their dismay. Interestingly, the voices were heard. Immediately! In less than 3 months, the Coca-Cola Corporation reversed itself and brought back the old, favored recipe, under the label Classic Coke. The takeaway? Change is hard; change can be good; consumers have a voice.

If you look around Our Savior's Lutheran Church this fall, you will notice many, many changes. Some are as slight as the re-stripping of the east parking lot, or the absence of the Pony Football Dinners after 26 years at OSLC. But other changes may seem monumental:

- The new faces on our staff (Kayla, Joshua, Laurie, Chad, Dawn, Courtney, Tessa and Bob)
- The name and face of the newsletter; now called *The Stream*, it will be published quarterly and mailed to everyone on our members and friends list
- The 10:30 worship service will still be contemporary, but two different worship teams will lead us each week; and in addition, Faith Formation students will start worship in the CLC, and be dismissed to their classes

I don't know what the boardroom thinking was at Coke in 1985 that triggered their dramatic change, but I can tell you what the thinking was in the Our Savior's boardroom, staff offices, hallways, restrooms and church parking lot: We were thinking of you, our members and friends. These sorts of sweeping changes have not occurred since about the time I arrived in 1999. In my mind, we had grown a bit stale, perhaps a bit predictable, and...can I say it...boring. Some of this change was predicated by the departure of previous staff persons. Other changes were made from a gut feeling that change was

necessary to keep our congregation relevant, vibrant and strong. We have made these changes because we believed they were in the best interest of our congregational family. How can we minister to a changing culture, a changing world, and a changing church, all at the same time? We believe this is how.

Now, first I want to say that I hope you agree. In a perfect world, every change that has been made, every new program that has been offered, and every person put in place will be enthusiastically accepted by you. But because we do not live in a perfect world, I expect that some will not be happy with some of the new directions. As your lead pastor, on behalf of my colleagues and our church board, I ask you to give these new plans time to percolate. Know that we will tweak things along the way, making adjustments that allow our congregation life to be smooth and effective. But also know that we want your input along the way. Not the first week! But along the way. Let us know what you like, and what you wish, about the ministries around Our Savior's. Support this ministry as best you can, by being present at worship and other activities, by liberally using your time and abilities to have the best ministry programs we possibly can, and by your generous financial gifts that support all of us to do what God has called us to do in this, our corner of the Kingdom. We promise to listen to you, promise to balance what we hear from you with what we are hearing from God. And we promise to pour our hearts into this great church, and expect that you will do the same. Because somewhere between "Classic Our Savior's" and "New Our Savior's" is this: A family of believers, grounded in faith, gathered in love, and sent with a purpose, so that others may gain the Kingdom!

Pastor Steve Molin

NEW at 10:30 Worship!

Set aside whatever you thought you knew about the 10:30 am worship hour at Our Savior's Lutheran Church!

Beginning Sunday, September 11th, the service will begin with adults and children enjoying the first moments of worship. For 15 minutes, children will bop and sway with the music, share the weekly offering, and be sent off to Faith Formation class with a prayer and a smile. Others will stay behind for the message, the application, and the sending out to mission each week.

All of this...in 55 minutes or less!



On the 1st (communion) and 3rd Sundays of each month, Bob Evanoff and his band will lead us in contemporary songs and upbeat hymns with his unique way of drawing us into the presence of God.



The 2nd, 4th and 5th (communion) Sundays will appreciate Joel Setterholm's piano accompaniment, and the worship leadership of Tessa Boettner.

Mark your calendars: September 11th. It's a whole new deal!

Tanzanian Travelers by Jim and Marilyn Meier

The excitement is building! On October 22nd, nine travelers representing Our Savior's will be leaving on a two week mission trip to visit our Companion Congregation in Mlafu, Tanzania. The purpose of the trip is to continue to build relationships and strengthen programs with our brothers and sisters in Christ who participate in the Bega Kwa Bega (BKB - "Shoulder to Shoulder") partnership. Our Savior's has been in this St. Paul Area Synod-sponsored program since 2001, and 11 members from our church have had the privilege of visiting there over the last 10 years.



Standing: Mick Ruffini, Carol Durtschi, Pastor Linda Van Eaton, Mark Friesen, Mike Reynolds; Sitting: Rhonda Ruffini, Sue Hedlund, Marilyn Meier, Jim Meier

As partners to Mlafu, we signed a covenant that focuses on five areas: prayer, communication, exchange visits, financial support, and scholarships for secondary and post-secondary education. We are also participating in an agricultural program between the University of Minnesota and Tumaini University in Iringa, Tanzania, that is helping our village learn better farming practices. Mlafu also boasts the first well drilled by the BKB/St. Paul Partners coalition in 2003. This access to clean, safe water has greatly improved the life and health of our congregation. And in 2011, Our Savior's and individuals sponsored an impressive 40 secondary scholarships for students who would otherwise have no access to education beyond elementary school!

Our mission to share Christ's love with our Tanzanian brothers and sisters involves all of us! In the coming weeks, we nine travelers welcome your help in providing gifts to our Companion Congregation, to our students, and to our hosts. A Giving Tree will be found in the Gathering Area on September 18th, and we encourage you and your families to select a tag that will specify items that we can take to Mlafu. There will also be future notes in the weekly eNewsletter about additional opportunities for you to participate. We thank you in advance for your generosity in sharing in this mission with us!



*Help us provide gifts to our companion congregation, our students and our hosts. Watch for the Giving Tree on **September 18th** in the Gathering Area at church!*

The Comfort of a Home-Cooked Meal by Nancy Healey

Thyme for Grace Kitchen Ministry began as an idea for a cooking circle, whereby six women of all ages and interests would gather at each other's homes to enjoy an evening of fellowship while preparing a meal for the group, with one for the church freezer. This idea took on greater aspirations after an article appeared regarding the kitchen ministry program at Gloria Dei Lutheran in South Dakota, where they prepared and packaged meals for their church freezer every few months. This sparked an interest and after many conversations throughout 2009 and 2010 on how this program could benefit Our Savior's congregation, the first cooking session occurred in November of 2010.



At the first session, a total of eleven volunteers prepared and packaged twenty-one meal packages, which contained turkey chili, cornbread and cookies for four people. The meals were distributed by pastors, care ministry volunteers and others throughout the months of November, December and January. In February, 2011 it was time to gather again for cooking meals.

On February 7, 2011, the volunteers for both the morning (9 people) and evening sessions (4 people) were abundant, as word had spread of this new ministry. The kitchen was a glow with the warmth of conversation, both women and men working together to create and package a Chicken and Rice Casserole (15 packages) and a Sloppy Joe Casserole (19 packages), for a total of thirty-four packages, with four servings each. In addition to the entrée each package contained dinner rolls and Snickerdoodle cookies.

In early July, the freezer contained only two packages of the meals prepared in February; this was a mixed blessing, as you wish the meals were shared for happy occasions versus sad. However, it is a blessing to have meals available when needed to provide comfort to those in our community.

On July 20, 2011, a team of core kitchen volunteers gathered to prepare three different entrées for the freezer. The meal package contains: Chicken Divan with Frozen Fruit Slush (31), Miniature Meatloaf, with mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, dinner rolls and brownie bites (18) and an Italian Chicken Pasta Salad with Frozen Fruit Slush (12). The result was a total of sixty-one meal packages, each serving four per package.

How are meals distributed?

The meals are available to all members of the congregation to share with individuals or families that are in need of a little comfort when going through times of difficulty or transition. Please include a prayer card and fill out the inventory sheet (on side of freezer), when selecting a meal from the freezer. Remember, there are many reasons for sharing a meal with someone, sometimes they just need a friend to visit.

How do I volunteer for Thyme for Grace Kitchen Ministry?

Everyone is welcome! Watch for information in the Sunday Bulletins, Yellow Pages or weekly eNewsletter announcing upcoming cooking sessions. If you find this project sparks a passion to share your gifts in an environment of Grace with the intention of nourishment, please contact Nancy Healey at nancy_a_healey@msn.com for additional information.

Supporting Lutheran World Relief

By Sherry Yahner

The OSLC Mission and Outreach Committee provides support to charities and ministries on behalf of OSLC. In 2010, \$500 was provided to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) to support the Mosquito Netting Initiative to prevent the spread of malaria.

Lutheran World Relief was formed to meet the needs of families and individuals left homeless in Europe following World War II. Today, Lutheran World Relief is one of the largest disaster responders. It has been said of LWR that they are one of the first to respond with help and the last to leave. More information about LWR can be found online at www.lwr.org.

LWR shares more than just relief supplies. Programs are set up for agricultural practices, low cost wells and how to protect the environment, as well as restore the environment in their local area. Over the course of the years, LWR has learned to walk with the people who have set out to better themselves and their families.

LWR centers their philosophy on "accompaniment, which means "working together" and not "for" those in need. LWR builds relationships with organizations and members that are based on trust, respect, and shared values and objectives.

As Lutherans we believe that true justice, authentic dignity and holistic peace cannot be imposed. LWR works everyday to proclaim the love of God and make the world a better place.

Lutheran World Relief is usually the first to respond to all of the world disasters, most recently working in Haiti and Japan following the earthquakes and the tsunami in Indonesia and the South Pacific, to name just a few.

How can I help?

There are many ways members of OSLC can donate to LWR; there are school bag kits and supplies, layettes, aids kits, refugee kits, baby caps and birthing kits. But the most well-known and popular donation is that of quilts. Quilts have been sent to practically every country in the world. These quilts are not the beautiful, awesome quilts that the quilters make for the graduation seniors. These are quilts easy enough for any one to make. You can have a quilting experience in October when the OSLC women sponsor a "day of comfort" where women cut, sew and tie the quilts. Last year about 15 quilts were made. Women are invited from the valley, other Lutheran churches and friends who like to quilt.

As members of OSLC you have given from your offerings to support LWR's work throughout the world. LWR and the Mission and Outreach committee thank you.

Mission and Outreach Committee Mission Statement: *Supporting the causes of Christ and demonstrating Christ's love in our community and beyond through charitable giving on behalf of the congregation of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.*



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Supper Seven by Gwen Johnson and Judy Goldstrand

What is Supper Seven? It is a casual evening in someone's home making new friends over a meal. This new fellowship group began last year. It was a great success with 61 people participating. We are now signing up for a new season. The sign up will take place on Sundays September 11th and 18th. Look for the Supper Seven table in the gathering area.



Groups are established after the sign up process. Each group will consist of 5 to 7 people. It is suggested the groups meet two or three times between the months of October and June.

To become a part of the group please sign up on September 11th or 18th or fill in the CONTACT ME box under Supper Seven in the YELLOW PAGES found in the Sunday Bulletin. If you have any questions please contact Judy Goldstrand jdgstrand@gmail.com or 651-439-3267.

Sharing Blessings of Gratitude

by Nancy Healey

Since February of 2009, women of all ages from Our Savior's, including visitors, have taken the BOLD step to take home a Gratitude Box with the intent that each time she felt gratitude for blessings throughout her day, a few coins would be placed in the box. Then in November of each year, the Gratitude Boxes are collected on a Sunday morning and the women choose where their donations are sent.

Each year, the choices for charities have included local, national and international organizations. In 2009, the donation collected was \$565.35 and was distributed to the following organizations: Valley Outreach (local) \$165.26; Community Lutheran Partners (national) Appalachian area \$202.54; and Guatemala Lutheran Church (international) \$197.55. In 2010, a total of \$557.70 was distributed to the following places: YoungLives, Teen Moms (local) \$197.42; ELCA Disaster Response (national) \$175.77 and The Lutheran Malaria Initiative, Nothing but Nets (international) \$184.51.

Collection of Gratitude Boxes will take place in November, 2011. This year's choices for designating donations are the following: Locally to Thyme for Grace Kitchen Ministry, a program at Our Savior's that provides meals for individuals and families during times of difficulty or transition; Nationally to Minot, North Dakota, to assist in the flood relief; and/or Internationally to The Lutheran World Relief, for Somalia. *Please watch for an announcement in a future Sunday Bulletin as to the specific date in November when collecting the boxes will take place.*

At first glance, the Gratitude Boxes may look too small to hold all the thankfulness one feels throughout the months from February to November, however, the outcome of collecting coins generosity spills over and brings abundant joy to so many women across the world. Sharing blessings of gratitude benefits all women.

CALLED TO CARE — LAURIE GRAU

Hello everyone! My name is Laurie Grau and I am honored to be your new parish nurse. For nine years I have been a member at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. I am excited and looking forward to the opportunity to serve you in this ministry for many years to come.



I'm an Iowa girl, born and raised in Iowa City. Go Hawkeyes! In 1996 I received my B.A. in nursing at the University of Iowa. Since graduating, I have worked as an RN in a variety of different settings, primarily med-surg and intensive care units. Currently I am enrolled at the University of Minnesota as a non-degree graduate student so I can pursue my interest in integrative and women's health.

My husband, Matt and I moved to Stillwater in 2001. Since then I have been a busy mom at home raising my three incredible boys: Owen, 7, Austin, 9, and Evan, 11. Outside the home I volunteer at public schools and various non-profit organizations in the community. I also work part-time for a specialty dental office.

As I embark on this part of my spiritual and professional journey, the OSLC purpose statement "Grounded in faith, gathered in love, and sent with a purpose so that others may gain the kingdom" resonates in my mind and heart. Truthfully, it is why I remain a part of this community. Our Savior's is family: committed to love, forgiveness and serving others. I look forward to sharing this ministry with you and doing my part to make OSLC the best it can be.

With Gratitude,
Laurie

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

Tuesday, September 6th: Bethlehem Lutheran
PEP will not be serving at Bethlehem Lutheran on Labor Day, September 5th. On Tuesday, we can help package a large shipment of food at Bethlehem Lutheran. Please check the bulletin board for details and to sign up.

**Monday, September 12th: PEP Annual Picnic**

Join us at Boutwell's Picnic Area beginning at 12 noon. Rides will be leaving from church at 11:45 am. Please sign up on the PEP bulletin board.

Wednesday, September 14th: Youth Burger Bash

Members of PEP will be helping with the Burger Bash at OSLC. Details and sign up on the PEP bulletin board.

Saturday, September 17th: PEP Small Group

Our small group begins meeting again at 9:30 am at Gorman's Café in Lake Elmo. We will continue our study of "The Gift of Years" authored by Joan Chittister. New members are welcome. We share brunch and discussion together.

Upcoming dates: October 15th, November 19th

Monday, September 19th: Feed My Starving Children

Join us for an opportunity to package meals from 9:30 - 11:30 am in Eagan. Meet at the church at 8:30 am to carpool. After packing, we will have lunch together and return by 2:00 pm. Please sign up for this important ministry on the PEP bulletin board.

October 3rd: Bethlehem Lutheran at 9:15 am

Five people needed to help prepare, serve and clean-up for a meal at Bethlehem Lutheran In-the-Midway. Meet at the church to carpool, leaving at 9:15 am and return by 3:15 pm. Sign-up sheet is posted on the PEP bulletin board.

Upcoming dates: November 7

The PEP bulletin board is located by the Welcome Desk. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Pastor Keith Lentz or Jean Schad.

When It Pays to be Older

by Nancy Appel

With uncertainty in the financial markets and continued low returns on certificates of deposit, members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church who are 65 and older might consider making a gift that creates a steady, dependable, and perhaps even increased stream of lifetime income for themselves. A charitable gift annuity does just that, and provides a gift for the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Endowment that will serve the needs of people in Christ's name in the community, the nation and around the world.

An Example

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are both 78 years old. They have a \$50,000 certificate of deposit coming due on October 1st. They can reinvest the CD at a 2% return, or they can gift \$50,000 in exchange for a charitable gift annuity. The charitable gift annuity rate for their combined ages happens to be 6.0%, which means they will receive \$3,000 every year and triple the income they would have otherwise received from a CD. (Note: The rates vary, depending on one's age and the current recommendations of the American Council on Gift Annuities.)

The Johnsons will receive fixed payments for the rest of their lives. When one of them dies, the surviving spouse will continue to receive the same fixed payments for the rest of his or her life. If they itemize on their income taxes, they will enjoy the added benefit of a charitable deduction in the year the gift is given. If they instead gift appreciated stock, they will also avoid paying capital gains tax. Upon the second death, the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Endowment receives a gift that it can use in perpetuity for ministry.

Easy to Do

To learn more, we invite you to make contact with one of the following persons who can provide you with an easy-to-read gift illustration.

Nancy Appel, OSLC Endowment Fund member
info@oslcstillwater.org or 651-439-5704

Brenda J. Moore, ELCA Foundation Gift Planner
brenda.moore@elca.org or (507) 934-4614

The Art of Giving

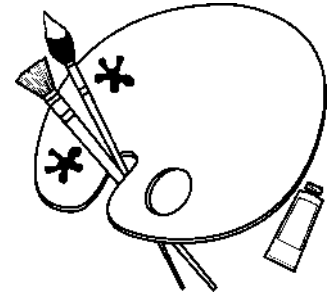
Your friend and my friend, Pastor Keith Lentz, is an artist. Did you know that? He's not boastful about it, of course, but I have seen several of the drawings and paintings Keith has done and I am somewhat amazed. Oh, I'm not amazed that Keith can do these things; I'm amazed that, at 74 years of age and already an accomplished artist, Keith would sign up for art classes under Cami Polzin's tutelage. But I think it get it: Art is a gift that must continually be developed.

I asked Keith if I could share that story because I believe it parallels our path of stewardship. Most of us come into this world not being very generous. Some of the first words we utter in the sandbox are "Mine! Mine!" Some of the greatest concerns that trouble us in adolescence are "Will there be enough for me?" Left unchecked, this concern for self can morph into a spirit of selfishness and a refusal to share anything. And yet, most of us have had the gratification of sharing a cold drink with a thirsty person, a meal with a hungry person, or a gift with a needy child.

The art of giving needs to be developed! We need to understand why we share; we need to consider why it is that we have much while others have little. And when we give, and discover that we have enough, we might be compelled to give more, and realize that still we have enough. But if we choose to ignore developing this gift, we run the risk of becoming miserly and, might I add, miserable people, who never learned the joy of giving.

This autumn's stewardship emphasis is entitled "The Art of Giving." Through sermons, temple talks, letters and legends, each of us will be challenged to develop our gift. And not just gifts of money; we will also focus on sharing our talents and abilities within the church and beyond, and share some of the 168 hours that are given to us each week. The focus begins on Sunday, October 2nd and concludes on Sunday, November 20th. During this time, someone will bring to your home "A Giving Bag." It will contain all that you need to know about sharing your gifts – time, talent and treasure – with Our Savior's Lutheran Church. It is my prayer that you will consider this as an opportunity to grow in faith, grow in love, and grow in giving. I believe there is an artist within each of us; the canvas awaits our response!

Pastor Steve



Join Pastor Steve in The Art of Giving Task Force!

Steve needs four people to join him in this two month endeavor. We'll be drawing others in to help us, but we need four willing "artists" to come along side Steve to lead the way. If you can do this, contact Steve at steve@oslccstillwater.org

If you have questions, or simply want to talk before you decide, call Steve at 439-5704, ext. 14. Thanks!

A Blank Canvas for You

Imagine a sunny Sunday afternoon this fall, colors turning, kids playing, football game on in the background...and then the doorbell rings! "Here's your stewardship bag from Our Savior's!" Hmmm, never had one of these before; what's a stewardship bag?

Inside, you'll find a couple of chocolates, a small brochure, and papers with "blanks." Blanks for you and all the members of your household to fill in for themselves. Some of the blanks have to do with the financial gifts you plan to share with Our Savior's in the coming year. Other blanks represent which talents and abilities you will prayerfully invest in your church in 2012. Blanks that only you can fill in.

If "giving is an art" then the best artists will tell you that they always start with a blank canvas, and when they are finished, a beautiful work of art is created. Please receive your doorstep visitors warmly, fill in the blanks prayerfully, and return your artwork promptly...for the sake of the Kingdom in this place!



Financial Box Score

July Budget Giving	\$ 50,906
July Budget Expense	\$ -57,236
July Budget Total	\$ -6,330
July Building Contributions	\$ 7,750
July Mortgage Expenses	\$ -10,932
July Building Net	\$ -3,182
July Mortgage Amount	\$ 10,932
Current Mortgage Amount (as of July 31, 2011)	\$1,109,611
YTD Giving	\$ 424,889
YTD Expenses	\$ -451,988
YTD Total	\$ -27,099
YTD Building Contributions	\$ 66,582
YTD Building Expenses	\$ -76,526
YTD Building Net	\$ -9,944

What is Faith Formation? Who are all these new people? And what does a cow have to do with all of this? Read on to find out more!

Chad Larson

Youth & Family Director

StrengthsFinder Top 5: maximize * ideation * strategic * positivity * adaptability. I can bring a new perspective to youth ministry with new ideas, while honoring the past. It will be a journey and it will be my joy!

Favorite toothpaste: Colgate. That's what my wife buys so I don't have much of a choice!

Favorite Bible verse: Philippians 2.1-7
"Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded," This verse encourages us to be in community with each other. It is about equality and treating everyone with love, respect, and humility simply because they are children of God. This is at the heart of who I am and my ministry with youth and families.

Courtney Hawkins

Early Childhood & Family Coordinator

StrengthsFinder Top 5: woo (winning others over) * self-assurance * responsibility * positivity * relator. I am a very positive person. I love working with children and I find joy in both the little and big things that I can do for the people around me.

Favorite toothpaste: Colgate. It tastes the best and keeps my teeth white!

Favorite Bible verse: Proverbs 3.5-6
"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." A reminder that God is present to help; we are not on our own when making decisions.

Why a cow?

Just like the cow in our front yard, Faith Formation is fun and can be spontaneous. A cow needs water and food to survive. In the same way we need the knowledge of scripture and the guidance of the Holy Spirit to be alive in Christ. Holy cow!!! C-O-W: Christians Of the World!

Dawn Alitz

Minister of Faith Formation

StrengthsFinder Top 5: input * connectedness * adaptability * intellection * arranger. I see myself as someone who works to connect the web of our congregation, helping people serve and learn while using their strengths, passions and abilities, allowing them to grow and shine!

Favorite toothpaste: I'm a plain and minty sort of gal. I like the pretty color of most gels, but am not interested in sparkles, stripes, or unexpected chemical reactions.

Favorite Bible verse: Matthew 9.36-38
"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." This verse pulled on my heartstrings and called me into ministry. I find this on my mind each September as I look for teachers and leaders for Children Youth and Family (CYF) ministries!



Faith Formation Team: Pastor Linda VanEaton, Chad Larson, Courtney Hawkins, Dawn Alitz, and Kayla Billings.

Kayla Billings

Children & Family Coordinator

StrengthsFinder Top 5: achiever * learner * consistency * focus * arranger. My strengths push me to achieve and learn. While I am planning curriculum, activities and fun, I will take that opportunity to learn myself, creating a great experience for our children and families. I can take big ideas and make them understandable.

Favorite toothpaste: Colgate. It leaves a good taste and minty smell.

Favorite Bible verse: Psalm 136.1
"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever."

Not only should we give thanks because God is good, but that we are always loved is even more reason to give thanks! The song: Forever by Chris Tomlin reflects the idea of this verse. Listen to it!!

What is Faith Formation?

All of us are born with a God-seed (faith!) that will grow and form according to what surrounds us. This growing lasts a lifetime. **Faith formation is spending time with God's people (community) and God's story (Bible) so that we recognize God's work in our daily lives.** The Holy Spirit does the forming, but when we work, learn, play and talk with each other while claiming God's presence in our midst, we can more clearly see what it means to be a Child of God, to claim this, and then take it out into the world.

Grounded in faith, gathered in love, sent with a purpose so that others may gain the kingdom.

Thanks be to God!!

**Family FaithMarkers for Fall 2011-12:
Families Learning Together**



Age	FaithMarker Event	Teaching Date/Time
2 year olds	God's Story in My Life- Welcome to Faith Formation	Sunday, September 18, 2011 during regular class time
3 year olds	My Church Family	Sunday, September 25, 2011 during regular class time
4 year olds	Prayer	Sunday, October 2, 2011 during regular class time
Birth	Baptism- Walking Wet	Monday, October 3, 2011 from 6-7 pm
Kindergartners	The Lord's Prayer	Sunday, October 9, 2011 during regular class times
3rd Grade	Bible	Monday, October 17, 2011 from 6-7pm
2nd Grade	Gifts and Abilities	Monday, November 14, 2011 from 6-7pm

Lake Area Discovery Center at Our Savior's

September:

Tuesday, Sept. 6 Back to School
 Saturday, Sept. 24 LADC Bike-a-thon at Trinity Lutheran Church, Stillwater
 Wednesday, Sept. 28 and Thursday, Sept. 29 OSLC LADC Children's Picture Day



October:

Monday, Oct. 10 No School. Staff in-service day.
 Thursday, Oct. 20 and Friday Oct. 21 No School. MEA Break
 Monday Oct. 31 and Tuesday, Nov. 1 Harvest Parties

November:

Thursday, Nov. 10 and Friday Nov. 11 LADC Fall Conferences
 Monday, Nov. 21 and Tuesday, Nov 22. LADC Grandparent's Day
 Wed, Nov. 23 through Friday, Nov. 25 No School. Thanksgiving Break

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

★ Sr. High Youth Group - Sunday Nights!

Hey Y'all! I just wanted to let you know that we are trying something new that you might like! Instead of meeting on Sunday mornings, we are going to try meeting on Sunday Nights from 6:30 to 8:00 pm starting in the fall. This will be your own youth group time! Of course there will be plenty of food and activities each night but more importantly we are going to discuss and experience an active faith in God and how that applies to our lives today. Please feel free to contact me at 651-439-5704 or shoot me an email at chad@oslcstillwater.org if you have any questions! See you soon!

★ Jr. High Youth Group - Worth Waking Up For!

What's up Jr. High School youth! Starting in the fall we will be meeting on Sunday Mornings at 9:15 am in the youth room for youth group. There will be games, snacks, and faith discussions based off current events! Trust me, this will be worth waking up for! If you have any questions or need more information please contact me at 651-439-5704 or by email at chad@oslcstillwater.org.

★ Wash and Worship Was a Huge Success!

Thank you so much to all who contributed towards our Wash and Worship and Donut Sale Fundraisers! Because you had the desire to get your car washed and/or had a taste for the amazing donuts made by David and Laverna Scholz, we raised over \$1,000 for our mission trip to Jamaica! A big thank you to the Scholz' for preparing and making the donuts and a big thank you to all the adult volunteers who helped with the wash. Finally, great job High School Youth! Way to make this happen! You are Awesome!

★ MEA Getaway is Only 2 Months Away!

On October 20th-23rd we will be heading to Camp Castaway for a crazy fun weekend! There are only 30 spots available for the weekend so make sure to sign up with Chad (new youth director) if you want to go!

★ Jamaica Mission Trip Parent and Youth Meeting!

Hello Jamaica Mission trip parents and youth. On September 18th following our 9:15 am service, there will be a mandatory mission trip meeting in the Sanctuary. At this meeting we will be discussing very important details that you will have to know for our trip. If you have any questions or need more information please contact Chad Larson at chad@oslcstillwater.org or by phone at 439-5704. See you there!

★ Calling all 7th-10th grade students!

Confirmation kicks off on Wednesday, Sept. 14 from 6:00-8:00 pm with a Burger Bash dinner followed by a parent and student meeting! Calendars will be handed out, expectations detailed, important retreat information explained, and small groups announced. **All parents and students, please plan to attend!** Call the church office at 651-439-5704 to RSVP. If you have not been a part of confirmation thus far, but would like to sign up your child, contact the church office or register online at www.oslcstillwater.org.



Make Music a Part of Your Life - Join the Choir!

God has given us the glorious gift of music. He has given us voices to sing and instruments to play and it is our duty and pleasure to use our God-given talents for His praise. This is a witness of the gospel through the power of music ministry. Our church has many ministry opportunities, including its music program with several choral and instrumental groups to choose from.

Joshua W. Rau, the new Choral Director at OSLC, invites you to be a part of the Kingdom Choir and Liturgical Singers and the OSLC Orchestra.



Welcome Joshua!

Practice begins August 31st. Practice times are Wednesdays from 7-8 pm for Kingdom Choir, bi-weekly Wednesdays from 8-9 pm for Liturgical Singers, and a weekly rehearsal with time to be determined for the OSLC Orchestra.

Please take time as you plan your fall ministry activities to include one of these groups. For more information or to join, contact Joshua at joshua@oslcstillwater.org or 715-760-1001. May God fill your hearts with music!

Thank you to all who blessed summer worship with musical offerings!

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Nancy Appel | Jennifer & Holly Newton |
| John, Susan, & Matthew Bragstad | Helen Olson |
| Laurie Burns | Mark Olson |
| Sara & Seth Cattanach | David Plante |
| Croix Chordsman | Joshua Rau |
| Andy Colburn | Joe & Barb Rosell |
| Sharon Eichten | Greg Schell |
| Sue Hedlund | Evelyn Teitelbaum |
| Gwen Johnson | SummerSong Musicians |
| Keith and Marlene Lentz | "The Crossing" Worship Singers and Instrumentalists |
| Liturgical Singers | Vallee de Croix Chorus |
| Dale Lundgren | Andrea Valley |
| Jean MacDonald | Ann Zastrow |
| Marilyn Meier | |

News from Composer-in-Residence, William Beckstrand

First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater and Our Savior's have been blessed with Bill's time with us! Arriving soon:

- a congregational setting of the OSLC Mission Statement
- a piece for our children
- a handbell piece
- a Christmas anthem

A thousand thanks, Bill!



Our Savior's Lutheran Church Music Ministry

You are invited to participate in the worship life of Our Savior's by joining one or more of the many groups that praise God with voice or instrument!

Cherub Choir Age 4 through First Grade

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 21, 6:30 – 6:55 pm
Director: Shannon Goldstein, shannongoldstein@ladcfamilies.org

Joyful Noise Choir Second through Eighth Grade

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 21, 6:30 – 6:55 pm
Director: Sarah Stivland, 651-430-3326, tsstivland5@msn.com

Kingdom Choir Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, August 31, 7:00 – 8:00 pm
Director: Joshua Rau, 715-760-1001, joshua@oslcstillwater.org

KINGSmEN Men's Vocal Ensemble

Biweekly rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 7, 6:30 – 7:00 pm
Director: Joel Ortman, 612-719-7160, joelortman@msn.com

Liturgical Singers Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass Small Ensemble

Biweekly rehearsals begin Wednesday, August 31, 8:00 pm
Director: Joshua Rau, 715-760-1001, joshua@oslcstillwater.org

Proclaim! Women's Vocal Ensemble

Biweekly rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 7, 8:00 pm
Director: Gwen Johnson, 651-439-9743, 651-303-0097, glskyberg42@msn.com

The Tenors

Rehearsals to be arranged
Director: Pastor Keith Lentz, 651-275-0815, klentzlot@aol.com

PEP Choir Singing Seniors

Rehearsals to be arranged
Director: Pastor Keith Lentz, 651-275-0815, klentzlot@aol.com

JuBellate Adult Handbell Choir

Rehearsals begin Tuesday, September 6, 7:00 pm
Director: Marlene Lentz, 651-275-0815, klentzlot@aol.com

Beginning Handbell Choir Grade Four through Adults

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 14, 4:30 – 5:15 pm
Director: Nichole Miller, 651-351-5014, nichi_nichole@yahoo.com

OSLC Orchestra

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, August 31, 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Director: Joshua Rau, 715-760-1001, joshua@oslcstillwater.org



Sunday Morning Magazine

Sunday Morning Magazine—an Adult Faith Formation opportunity for you at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary, beginning on September 18th! Our topics vary from Mission to Bible Study, local authors and experts. Learning is a life-long process!

September 18, 25, October 9, 23: Mission & Outreach

Join our Mission & Outreach Committee and learn about the many places and people that 14% of our giving supports!

October 2: Stewardship

Join Pastor Steve and Board members to look at stewardship and financial updates at OSLC.

November 3, 10, 16: A Biblical Worldview

Join Katie Smith, Doctor of Ministry, Northwestern College associate dean and adjunct professor, as she facilitates a discussion on what a biblical worldview looks like and means in our world today, and what happens when worldviews collide.

Questions? Contact Pastor Linda: linda@oslcstillwater.org

OSLC Book of the Month Club

It's simple! Read the book during the month and then come and discuss. Join us! Invite a friend!



September's Theme: Best Seller

September's Book: "Heaven is for Real" by Todd Burpo

September's Discussion: Monday, Sept. 19th at 1:00 or 7:00 pm (note new evening time!) Meet in the family room at church.

Vicariously share four-year-old Colton's short trip to Heaven and back.

Additional Book Selections for Fall:

October/Leader's Choice: Riding the Bus with my Sister by Rachel Simon; Discussion on October 17th at 1:00 or 7:00 pm.

November/Holiday Favorite: The Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens; Discussion on November 28th at 1:00 or 7:00 pm.

Book Suggestions from the July Book Chat:

- Skeletons at the Feast by Chris Bohjalian
- Little Bee and Incendiary by Chris Cleave
- The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
- The Accidental Tourist by Anne Tyler
- Midnight Cowboy by James Leo Herlihy
- The Case for Christ by Lee Strobel
- Chronicles of the King series by Lynn Austin
- The Book of Hours by T. Davis Bunn
- The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society by Mary Ann Shaffer, Annie Barrows
- The Meeting Place by T. Davis Bunn and Janette Oke

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 at Perkins** on Hwy 36. Join us any time!

Upcoming dates:

October 3rd, November 7th, December 5th

Questions? Contact Pastor Linda: linda@oslcstillwater.org

Join Us in the Word!

All women are invited to join us for Bible study beginning in October. Currently there are two groups meeting twice a month. We are small group gatherings, use dvd presentations, encouraging discussions with shared experiences. These groups have shared a sisterhood and we would love to have you join us. We're a mix of first time Bible study gals and some in the Word for awhile. One thing we know is we come to trust our God as we get to know Him better, and enjoy the friendship and sisterhood of other women. Look forward to meeting you in this way!

1st and 3rd Thursday evenings 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Esther It's Tough Being a Woman by Beth Moore

Contact:

Barb Schlosser, 651-439-8432 or barbieschlosser@yahoo.com

1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoons 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Mocha on the Mount by Sandra Glahn

Prayer by Philip Yancey

Contact:

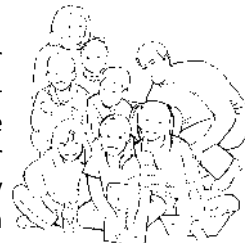
Nancy Robertson, 651-430-2006 or ncrteach@hotmail.com

Watch for more details and sign up on Rally Sunday, or call one of the contacts above.

Stillwater Cares for Kids

Would you like to make a difference in the life of an elementary-aged child?

Consider joining our Stillwater Cares for Kids tutoring team, a community partnership with Lily Lake Elementary. We tutor in math and/or reading (your choice) one-on-one with students at Lily Lake one morning per week beginning in October.



Training and materials are provided. You bring a smile and a willingness to share and care. More details to follow.

Contact Pastor Linda: linda@oslcstillwater.org

A Walk with the Anuak

By Jean MacDonald

Massacres, random killings, government-sponsored genocide, gang rapes, scorched earth raids, persecution, torture, tribal wars. It's impossible for those of us who live in Stillwater to even imagine what life is like for the Anuak people of western Ethiopia and southeastern Sudan.

The Anuak have lived in their remote land for centuries, the indigenous people of that area like the American Indians in the United States, content with their farming, fishing and hunting lifestyle. But, in the two years following the takeover of the new Ethiopian government in 1991, the government sent troops into the Anuak fertile and oil rich territory to take control. Random killings and massacres have ensued. Anuak farmers have been forced off their land by the government, who is resettling Chinese companies to grow rice for China. Many have died trying to defend their property.

Most of the massacres are targeting educated men, the leaders of the villages. In 2003, several hundred uniformed soldiers dragged more than 400 male leaders from their homes and shot them. Other raids have seen women and children killed, Anuak homes and fields burned and gang rapes of dozens of women.

Fleeing the ethnic cleansing, more than 10,000 of the population of 100,000 Anuak have escaped to refugee camps in Kenya and around 2000 of those refugees have immigrated to the United States and then to Minnesota since the early 1990's.

We are fortunate to have two of those brave families as members of Our Savior's. Ajulu and Ojulu Ajak were the first to come to the United States. After a series of moves they ended up in Stillwater to live in the home of Tom and Karen Loome, a couple from St. Michael's Catholic Church. Tom and Karen have been instrumental in spearheading the founding of three homes for people in need.



The Madho/Akway family: Abang, Kathleen, Omot, Mara, Gillo

Then, in 1993 Gillo Madho escaped from Ethiopia, leaving behind his wife and one year old son, Omot. He spent over two years in refugee camps and finally arrived in the United States in 1995, living first in Arizona, then South Dakota and then St. Cloud, going where he could find

work. After an eight year separation, Gillo, Abang and Omot were reunited and were soon led to Stillwater by her cousin, Ajulu.

You might be wondering by now, how they ended up at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Well, here's how God worked it out. Kathy Johnson, longtime Our Savior's member, stopped at the Food & Fuel on North Owens one day to pick up a few groceries. While there she engaged in conversation with a young African woman. Keep in mind that Abang spoke little English. Kathy, being Kathy, asked Abang if she needed help or if she had any friends or if she needed a ride. The answer was no on all counts. They exchanged telephone numbers, however, and a few months later, Kathy called and invited her to a Circle meeting at her home. Abang had never gone to church but had heard the gospel about Jesus' love from missionaries while still in Ethiopia. She was pleased that Kathy and her friends were studying the Bible and she took Kathy up on her offer to visit Our Savior's. Soon after, she became a regular member of a Bible study group with Kathy and two other Our Savior's women, Abang using her Anuak Bible and the others using their English Bibles. Then Abang made an important decision. She wanted to be baptized, along with Omot and Mara. Kathy rounded up two young couples to be godparents to the children and she and Orv sponsored Abang. During the ensuing years a strong relationship developed between Kathy and Orv and the Madho/Akway family. When a new baby was born to Gillo and Abang in 2007 she was named – guess what? – Kathleen!

Because of Gillo and Abang's experience at Our Savior's, Ajulu and Ojulu

and their children joined the church as well. The two families have played an active role at Our Savior's, Gillo, Abang and Kathleen even playing the Holy Family in the live nativity scene during Christmas Eve worship, with Kathleen as the baby Jesus. And you might have often seen Ojulu at the 10:30 am contemporary service playing the African drums.

Ojulu and Ajulu's five children range in age from 18 year old Daniel, a freshman at NDU, to little one year old Chippajawocky. Ojulu is a full time custodian at Transfiguration Catholic Church and Ajulu works at Boutwell's Landing in assisted living. They



Kathy Johnson and Kathleen

are presently looking to buy a home of their own.

It should be noted that no one from either of these families spoke English when they arrived. They have learned in a variety of ways, starting with English as a Second Language classes in Stillwater and moving on to more ESL at Century College. Gillo, who only finished 8th grade in Africa, now has a two year degree in Criminal Justice from Century College. He works part time as a custodian at Our Savior's and is currently looking for another job to supplement his income. Abang is working on her Associate's Degree at Century now and is also working part time at Cub Foods. Their son, Omot, a former Pony football player, is now a sophomore student and football player at Eau Claire. Mara is ten years old now and Kathleen is four.



Pastor Gilo Gora

The latest relative, Pastor Gilo Gora, (they are all related and they are all royalty, but that's another story) arrived in Stillwater last January. He will be working to bring his wife and five children to join him here since, as an Anuak leader, he is in danger if he returns to Ethiopia.

He has recently been accepted at Dubuque Theological Seminary. Another cousin, Akuthi Okoth and her two children have been

attending Our Savior's as well.

Because these families are here and relatively comfortable, doesn't mean that life is easy for them. Gillo's father numbered among the leaders murdered in 2000 and Ajulu's father was murdered a year ago. They worry about other family members. They send back what little money they can spare and they meet weekly with other members of the Anuak community to talk about how they can get the word out about what's happening in their homeland. The group has launched a letter writing campaign to the United States government and various human rights groups to encourage the United States, who donates millions of dollars each year to the persecuting Ethiopian government, to intervene and save their families back in Ethiopia. And, unlike most immigrants, their hope is to go back some day to live in their tribal lands so that they can help their people. Until that time, they want to see their children get a good education and become strong leaders.

It's not difficult to spot our African friends at Our Savior's. When you see them, just bow (they're royalty, you know!) and say hello. They would love to talk to you. We have a lot to learn from them and are blessed to have them in our congregation.



Jean MacDonald has been a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church for more than 25 years.

Excerpt from Mr. Obang O. Metho, Director of International Advocacy, Anuak Justice Council (AJC) in Testimony to the United States House Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations on March 28, 2006

My name is Obang Metho. I am an Anuak. I grew up in Gambella.

Who are the Anuak?

The Anuak are part of a small indigenous ethnic group numbering about 100,000 worldwide, including me who is before you today. We have lived in the Upper Nile region of southwestern Ethiopia and southeastern Sudan for hundreds of years. Our name means, "people who share."

The Anuak and others, who live in the area, are considered different from other Ethiopians. They are black Africans as opposed to most other Ethiopians, called "highlanders", who were of lighter color. The Anuak are ethnically, culturally, linguistically, historically and religiously different from most other Ethiopians. Their indigenous land is totally different from anywhere else in the country in both climate and geography. The Gambella region is hot and tropical with rich, fertile, well-watered soil coming from the rivers originating in the mountains of the highlands where there is a much cooler, dryer climate. The difference in geography has separated Ethiopians into distinctive categories of "lowlanders", such as the Anuak and other indigenous groups in the area, as opposed to the "highlanders" who comprise the vast majority of the population of Ethiopia, such as Amharas, Oromos, Tigrayans and others.

It is believed that the central government does not consider the Anuaks to be "true Ethiopians", but does value the vast resources that exist in the area. As a result, the Anuak and other indigenous people from this area have significantly less access to basic services such as clean water, health care and education. Historically, this area has always been marginalized since the British leased this area to Ethiopia on October 15, 1956. During the time of Mengistu, the Anuak were mainly valued as fighters, resulting in hundreds of young men being forcibly taken from their school classrooms in order to fight in a war against Eritrea. Most never returned. Meles repeated this during the war with Eritrea in 1998. The Anuak became convinced that their only value to this government was to be exploited as a commodity of war. Now the ruling government has taken it further. They are killing Anuak in order to gain access to their land, oil and untapped resources.



Mark Your Calendar

Rally Sunday	September 11
Blood Mobile at OSLC	September 13
Sunday Faith Formation begins	September 18
Youth Jamaica Mission Trip Meeting	September 18
Wednesday Faith Formation begins	September 21
Stillwater Cares for Kids	October (start date TBD)
The Art of Giving	October 2 - November 20
Spice Up Your Life	October 6
MEA Getaway for Youth	October 20-23
Advent Teas	December 4-10

Coming: All-Worship Sundays!

All-Worship Sundays are days when we remove the extra programming of the morning and gather together - the whole body of Christ - to worship and have fellowship together.

- **September 11th is New Beginnings Sunday:** Meet new staff and celebrate with an all-church potluck after the 10:30 service!
- **October 30th is Reformation Sunday:** Martin Luther was an incredible advocate for children in his day, so we need their presence and energy as we celebrate his work in the church! Our 3rd Grade Faith Marker will also be celebrated that day with students receiving their Bibles.



Wednesday, Nov. 23rd, 7:00 p.m.
Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social

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
Fall	Aug. 15	Aug. 27	Sept - Nov
Winter	Nov. 1	Nov. 15	Dec - Feb
Spring	Feb. 1	Feb. 15	Mar - May
Summer	May 1	May 15	June - Aug

Coming
October 6th

Spice Up Your Life: Heart Health

An evening of celebrating creative ways to add spice to nutritional meals was kicked off last October by 'girls' ages 12 to 100 gathering at Our Savior's to sample delicious food, peruse local vendor displays, listen to informative speakers on Spices and Nutrition and interact during the breakout sessions on Cooking for One or Two or Cooking for Families, which generated lots of discussion on recipes and helpful tips.

The evening concluded with a numerous prize drawings; many donated by local shops in Stillwater. In addition, the dessert, prepared by two of the younger attendees, was quite a treat!

If you enjoyed last year's event or if you missed it but heard the great reviews, mark your calendar for October 6, 2011.

This year's event will focus on 'Heart Health', the raising up healthy women and girls.

Watch for upcoming announcements in the Sunday Bulletins, Yellow Pages and/or E-mail Blasts for volunteer opportunities and for the invitation to this year's event.

Coming
December 4-10th

Advent Teas: Fellowship and a Story

Since December 2009 women of Our Savior's have been gathering during the week of Advent in homes around the area. Each year around ten women offer to host a tea in their home and ten women volunteer to lead the discussion for each tea. The teas occur at various times throughout the week, so there are many opportunities to choose a date and time that works with your schedule.

Each year an awesome book is chosen to be shared and discussed during the tea. The books have been beautifully illustrated and have an inspirational message to take with you into the Christmas season. Guests can take turns reading the pages or just relax and listen as the story unfolds.

It is an opportunity to take a breath during the busy holiday season, relax in a simple and peaceful setting, and reflect on the real reason for the celebration.

The hostess serves a beverage and treat of her choosing. The attendance averages around 10 - 12 women at each home.

Women return year after year to enjoy this event, experiencing fellowship with women they may only see in the church halls, however, now have an opportunity to discover shared interests with each other and/or put a name to a face. This year, the Advent Teas will take place during the week of December 4 - 10.

Please watch for the sign-up sheets beginning in November in the Gathering Area and the Yellow Pages for volunteering to host or lead a tea at your home this year.



Thank you, OSLC Gardeners!

Perhaps you have noticed the various containers and plantings around the church property this summer. A faithful group of people have been involved in planting, tending and watering the flowers all summer. Ken and Charlene Oberman, Kathy Johnson, Karen Miller, Audrey Reed, Betty Rem, Valerie Kubal, Sue Hedlund, Cindy Gackle, Sue Amundson, Chris Peterson, Donna Peterson, Ellie Zaniewski and Ron and Jean Schad have all been involved in the planting and tending of the gardens. The beautiful pots by the entrance doors and the contents were donated by Betty Rem. Thanks to all who helped in this effort!



Play an Instrument?

OSLC needs your talent. Members, friends, friends of friends, high school to adult are welcome! Orchestra members needed for the following worship services:

October 30, 2011- Reformation Sunday

Flute/Piccolo 2 Trumpets Snare Drum

December 11, 2011- Christmas Cantata

Flute 1 & 2	Oboe	Clarinet in B-flat
Bassoon	Horn 1 & 2	Trumpet 1, 2, 3
Trombone 1 & 2	Bass Trombone	Percussion (multiple)
Violin 1 & 2	Viola	Cello Bass

Rehearsal will be based on those able to play. If you are able to help with the orchestra please let Joshua Rau, Choral Director, know. He can be contacted at joshua@oslctillwater.org or talk with him after worship.



Want to serve at worship?

Altar Guild

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

Contact:
Susan Bragstad
bragstad2@frontiernet.net
651.351.7027

Communion Servers

Leader Valerie Kubal writes: "This ministry has a low level of time commitment. You are asked to assist during the service you regularly attend for dates of your choosing."

Contact:
Valerie Kubal
vkk1009@hotmail.com
651.998.3973

Greeters

A Greeter welcomes worshippers as they arrive for worship or bids them farewell as they leave

Contact:
Kathleen Johnson
bkjohns@comcast.net
651.439.7804

Readers

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

Contact:
Darcy DeMars
Darcy.DeMars@target.com
651.430.9866

Ushers

Leader Cameron Kelly writes: "If you are looking for a great way to volunteer at OSLC while attending a service, consider signing up to usher. Sign-ups are flexible. Ushering is a great way to meet people!"

Contact: Cameron Kelly
ckelly@cameronkellylaw.com
651.705.6277

The Final Word

Carol Whitcomb

When my husband, Jay, and I felt the necessity to give up our home and live in a different type of setting, the first requirement we had (number one) was that we would not have to leave Our Savior's.

Here is a place where the Gospel is proclaimed.

Here is a place where "Welcome!" just shouts as you walk in the door.

The warmth, the concern, the responsiveness, the graciousness, are all a part of what makes up OSLC.

It was the first House of Worship our family visited when we moved to Stillwater. It was also the last. There was no need for us to look elsewhere. It felt like home.

Thank you, OSLC, for the friendships that have been formed.

Thank you for the opportunity to grow in grace.

Thank you for living the Word of God.



Carol Whitcomb became a member of Our Savior's with her family in 1975 after moving from California to Stillwater.



1616 W. Olive St., Stillwater, MN 55082

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*The
Stream*

The Stream — Fall 2011 (Pentecost B)

A publication of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Stillwater, Minnesota | www.oslcstillwater.org

new beginnings

Visit our
new website
at
www.oslcstillwater.org

Rally Sunday September 11

Worship at 8:00 am,
9:15 am and 10:30 am

All church potluck with
pulled pork sandwiches
will be served after the
10:30 service.

Bring a salad or dessert to
share!!

NEW WAY TO *gather*



We gather together to be reminded, equipped and supported in our ministry of care and service of the world!

NEW WAY TO *learn*



We learn together in order to connect to God and each other in our mission to carry His light out into the world!

Join us on September 11 for Rally Sunday!

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

