



Our Savior Lutheran Church

July 2020

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FROM PASTOR ANNE

Dear children of God,

In these tumultuous times, it seems we are hearing a lot of people speak about rights. Often the statements begin with the preposition “I”: “I have the right to.....” (fill in the blank).

The protection of rights has been a worthy concern of many governments, including our own, in the interest of dignity, liberty, justice and peace. The Declaration of Independence, which we remember each 4th of July, includes this phrase: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—” The various civil rights acts and voting rights acts passed by Congress throughout our history are other examples of recognition and protection of rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, passed by the United Nations in the wake of the second World War, is another example of thoughtful reason regarding the rights of all humans.

Interestingly, Holy Scripture seems to have very little interest in ‘rights.’ There are a few isolated verses supporting the notion that ‘the laborer deserves to be paid,’ (e.g. Luke 10:7, 1 Timothy 5:18), but Holy Scripture seems much more interested in our ‘responsibilities’ than our rights. Our responsibilities are toward others; our rights have to do with ourselves. Deuteronomy 24:4 says: “You shall not withhold the wages of poor and needy laborers, whether other Israelites or aliens who reside in your land in one of your towns.” One can conclude from this that laborers do have rights; however, the verse is not addressing the laborers, but rather the person in charge, about his or her (probably his) responsibility to deal fairly with the poor and needy. One of the clearest examples of Jesus’ seeming indifference to our ‘rights’ is the parable found in the 20th chapter of Matthew’s Gospel (Mt. 20:1-16), which we’ll examine on September 20.

I am interested in exploring Scripture more deeply with you regarding the question of rights and responsibilities.... Share with me your thoughts!

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Meanwhile, God calls us to be outwardly focused. Recognition of universal rights of all humans is important, since all humans are created in God’s image. When we focus too much on our own rights and neglect our responsibility to protect the rights of others, we sin. All of our rights are conditioned by and limited by the love of neighbor that God commands.

“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” (Matthew 22:36-40)

Pastor Anne Palma +

LUTHERAN MUSIC

Lutheran Christians don’t have to agree with one another on everything, but one thing that most of us agree on is the glory of music and its ability to lift our souls toward God. St. Olaf College, a Lutheran college in Northfield, Minnesota offers a regular program of sacred music for each week of the church year, as well as monthly newsletters through its website. Thanks to the Nelsons for recommending this resource! <https://www.stolaf.edu/singforjoy/>

WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

Weekly worship and daily (Monday-Thursday) reflections and updates from the parish will be presented online until it is safer for us to meet again. The congregation’s website has links to the videos – www.oursaviorlutherantf.org. You may also find links on the congregation’s Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/OurSaviorLutheranChurchTwinFalls/> and our YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCySVH-RHc3_J39dGcawC5EQ?view_as=subscriber. Finally, the link is mailed to all members and friends of the congregation IF we have your e-mail address.



ALL CREATION SINGS – NEW SONGS FROM AUGSBURG FORTRESS

“More than two years in the preparation, *All Creation Sings* — the new liturgy and song supplement to *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* — is nearing completion. We invite you to explore what is coming by viewing the digital preview edition available from [Augsburg Fortress](#). You will see highlights of two new Holy Communion settings and a contemplative Service of Word and Prayer. You can view the themes that are addressed in a section of prayers, thanksgivings and laments. Here, too, are just a few of the 200 hymns and songs that *All Creation Sings* will include.

The title, *All Creation Sings*, evokes a recurring scriptural theme. In the Psalms and in Revelation we are invited into a vision where earth and sky and sea and all their creatures—including human beings—sing the glory of God. Yet the song of creation and our song with it includes also words and melodies of lament, of indignation, of pleading and ultimately of hope in God’s presence and mercy. These prayers and songs concern not only the health of our planetary home and its various creatures but also the health of human beings in community. *All Creation Sings*, hand in hand with *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, invites us to expand our sung prayer with new and timely attention to the world our Creator so marvelously made and to our common life as creatures within it.”

If you would like a personal copy of the new supplemental hymnal, contact the church office. We will arrange a group order to save on shipping costs.

“And always, always, it is worth it to sing alleluia in defiance of the devil, who surely hates the sound of it.” - **Nadia Bolz-Weber, Pastrix: The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint**

“Music is the art of the prophets and the gift of God.”

—**Martin Luther**

“God is the Poet, and we are the verses or songs He writes.”

—**Martin Luther**

CHURCH TRIVIA

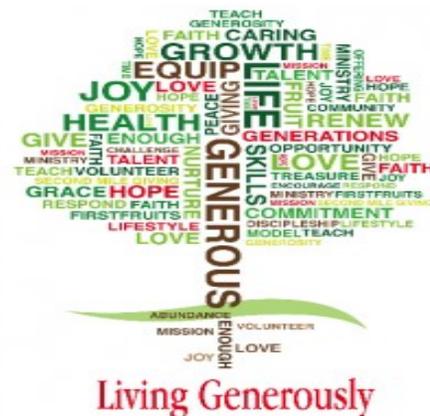
1. What mythical creature is named in Numbers 3:22 in the King James Version of the Bible?
 - A. Bigfoot
 - B. Phoenix
 - C. Unicorn
 - D. Dragon
2. Which statement about ELW Hymn 841, Lift Every Voice and Sing, is not true?
 - A. It was first written as a poem and recited publicly in 1900 in honor of President Abraham Lincoln's birthday.
 - B. It has been called the Black National Anthem
 - C. It was written by a formerly enslaved man
 - D. Its lyrics form the basis for a communion prayer in the ELCA
3. On July 4, we will observe the 244th anniversary of this nation's founding. On July 3, our state of Idaho will turn 130 years old. Where is the oldest Lutheran church in Idaho?
 - A. Near Boise
 - B. Near Idaho Falls
 - C. Near American Falls
 - D. Near Moscow

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, **generosity**, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things." (Galatians 5:22-23 NRSV)

The Spirit has been bearing fruit in the lives of our members and friends. Despite the economic challenges posed by the pandemic, generous giving has remained faithful, allowing God's work to continue through this congregation. Thank you!

Your offerings are welcome, and they can be sent *through the mail*. The mailbox is checked each weekday and checks are deposited regularly). If you already participate in *on-line bill paying* for other expenses, you may choose to arrange a regular donation to OSLC through your bank. Finally, secure donations can be given *through PayPal* – click the link on the home page of the congregation's website, www.oursaviorlutherantf.org. Thank you. Thank you. Thank God for the Spirit who inspires generosity in you.



READ THE BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

This new year, 2020, may be the year that you read God's word in its entirety. Are you up for the challenge?

If you read three or four chapters daily, you can finish the Bible by the end of this year!

Here is a list of suggested readings for the month of July:

July 1 - Proverbs 8-11	July 16 - Isaiah 9-11
July 2 - Proverbs 12-14	July 17 - Isaiah 12-14
July 3 - Proverbs 15-17	July 18 - Isaiah 15-19
July 4 - Proverbs 18-20	July 19 - Isaiah 20-24
July 5 - Proverbs 21-23	July 20 - Isaiah 25-28
July 6 - Proverbs 24-26	July 21 - Isaiah 29-31
July 7 - Proverbs 27-29	July 22 - Isaiah 32-34
July 8 - Proverbs 30-31	July 23 - Isaiah 35-37
July 9 - Ecclesiastes 1-4	July 24 - Isaiah 38-40
July 10 - Ecclesiastes 5-8	July 25 - Isaiah 41-43
July 11 - Ecclesiastes 9-12	July 26 - Isaiah 44-46
July 12 - Song of Solomon 1-4	July 27 - Isaiah 47-49
July 13 - Song of Solomon 5-8	July 28 - Isaiah 50-52
July 14 - Isaiah 1-3	July 29 - Isaiah 53-56
July 15 - Isaiah 4-8	July 30 - Isaiah 57-59
	July 31 - Isaiah 60-63

OOPS! Names and addresses to add to your directory.

Pat Bremer

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From the Secretary's Desk:

Also found in one of those old dusty boxes from the basement, an OSL Worship Committee Feedback for the New Facility.

Here are some of the ideas for the new church:

1. Sanctuary seating for 500 (NO balcony). Choir space for 30 persons. Seating in front (altar area for 4 adults and 2 children)
2. Good lighting and light controlling options (dimmers) and good system for changing of light bulbs. (How do they do it now? Those ceilings are high.)
1. Handicapped accessible seating built into the middle part of the sanctuary (pew cutouts).
2. Vaulted or arched sanctuary with sloped floors or back 1/3 of sanctuary pews elevated one step.
3. 4- section wedge shaped sanctuary permitting a good sized central aisle.
6. Good sized, two step elevated altar area. Altar furnishings should be moveable .
7. Moveable baptismal font.
8. Padded Pews
9. Industrially carpeted floors.

These are just a very few ideas that were proposed in 1998 for the new church. How many of these have been implemented?

Also found—a thank you card from G5 Insulation, lots of empty envelopes, a water bill for the Heyburn facility and last but not least a Deed of Trust dated May 20, 2004.

See next month's Newsletter for further updates.

Also on the Secretary's agenda is to update, cleanout and re-arrange names on the mailboxes in the hallway. We have had some mailboxes that have had papers and items in them for over two years without being picked up.

If you would like to continue to keep a mailbox, please let the secretary know so that she can keep your name on a mailbox (not necessarily in the same place it was before). You can call the office between 8:30 am and 10:30 am, or leave a message on the answering machine if no one is available or e-mail the office at oslctfid@gmail.com.

Hopefully the cleaned out, re-arranged mailboxes will be done by August.

GRATITUDE, GRATITUDE

Thanks are due to Ann-Pell Rongen for donating a pickup and snowplow to the congregation for those blustery winter days when walking into the sanctuary can be soggy and hazardous.

Members and friends of this congregation continue a long tradition of in-kind (that is, not cash) donations, from food and drink to cleaning supplies, from dishwashers and hot water heaters to lawnmowers and fuel, from paraments and communion chalices to televisions and printed devotionals – not to mention the countless hours of volunteer labor given humbly and mostly invisibly.

For all you do, thank you!

Odds and Ends:

The devotionals, *Christ in Our Home* is now available in the foyer of the church. Stop by and pick one up during our abbreviated office hours—8:30 to 10:30, Monday through Fridays.

We also have the 2020 Member Directory's available in the foyer.

HELP WANTED

The Erickson family seeks a responsible teenager to perform yard work. The pay offered is \$10. /hour for an average of 2 hours a week. If you or someone you know is able and willing to do this work, please contact Donna Erickson.

SACRED HAIKU—AN INVITATION

One way the Spirit of God can work through us is with words of prayer. You are invited to join in the creative discipline of sacred haiku. Write a simple three-line prayer poem, with five syllables in the first line, seven in the second, and five on the third. Rhyming is neither required or expected. What is your prayer today? Is it one of praise, or lament, or intercession, or confession?

Share what the Spirit produces through you if you wish, and with your permission we may publish it in next months' newsletter.

Here is one example:

Lord, Jesus, you took
Hell's fire into live water.
You extinguished it!

Remember In Prayer.....Donna Erickson, Steven Erickson, Jack Harding, Tamra Helms, Dorothy Kerbs, Pattie Mattlin, Marge Mayer, Connie Miller, Joan Stokesberry, Julie Allen, Marilyn Backstrom, Wayne Hawkins ,Brian Conrad, Greg Heidemann, the family of Raymond Dey, all those affected by Covid-19, all the care providers and first responders.

HOLY COMMUNION AND SPIRITUAL CARE

As your council deliberates on recommending a date for our re-gathering, and the re-gathering group works on details (provision of masks, proper distancing, how to continue an on-line version of worship for those who cannot join us yet), many of us are missing the sacrament.

A service of evening prayer with Holy Communion will be offered again by ZOOM on Tuesday, July 14, at 7 PM.

Pastor Anne is also available to preside at communion at your home upon your request, so long as our state (or county) remains in Stage 4 of Governor Little’s Rebound Idaho plan.

Pastor is also available, as always, for spiritual care support, including holy conversation, listening and prayer – including just catching up on your experience of life in pandemic. You may contact her by text, by phone, by e-mail or through the church office.

SCRIPTURE TEXTS FOR JULY

	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 28
First Reading	Zechariah 9:9-12	Isaiah 55:10-13	Isaiah 44:6-8	1 Kings 3:5-12
Psalm	Psalm 145:8-14	Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13	Psalm 86:11-17	Psalm 119:129-136
Second Reading	Romans 7:15-25a	Romans 8:1-11	Romans 8:12-25	Romans 8:26-39
Gospel	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Liturgical Color	Green	Green	Green	Green

GARDEN BOUNTY



One silver lining of this pandemic may be the increased attention some of us are able to devote to our backyard gardens. May we continue to look in wonder on the everyday miracle of the earth yielding its produce for our well-being and life. One thing members are missing is the chance to give and receive this bounty on our sharing tables after worship. If you have garden gifts you are able to share, please let Pastor Anne know and she can forward this information to the congregation's members and friends. Let her know also if you are able to deliver the gifts or if the recipient needs to come and pick them up!

WIKLUND BEQUEST

Your council has been hard at work making plans for the administration of the generous bequest left by God's servant, Toby Wiklund.

The council has recommended a first-fruits tithe of the bequest. This means giving 10% of the gift to ministries outside the walls of our congregation. Please pray about what ministries OSLC may support, and share your suggestions with any council member.

The council also invites you to join us in a follow up discussion with Beth Adams, regional gift planner for the ELCA, via ZOOM, on Monday July 6 at 7 PM. We will proceed with review of the council's recommendations (tithe, emergency reserve fund, pre-payment of mortgage principal, and establishment of an endowment fund), and we may discuss other recommendations such as establishment of a gift policy. The ZOOM link will be sent out to all members and friends of the congregation soon.

ONLINE DAILY DEVOTIONALS

In January 2017, Bishop Martin Wells invited clergy in our synod to subscribe to this daily devotional. Father Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest, and his colleagues invite us into both contemplation and action. <https://cac.org/category/daily-meditations/>

Donna Erickson has found blessing in this daily devotional, and she recommends it to you: devotionals@seniorlivingministries.org

This daily devotional, called God Pause, based on the lectionary texts for the upcoming week or on related hymns, is published by faculty and alumni of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN, Pastor Anne's alma mater: <https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/>

Do you have a devotional you wish to share with the congregation? If so, send the link to Pastor Anne, along with a short note about what inspires you.

SAINTS IN SERVICE

Sunday Worship is posted on-line at www.oursaviorlutheran.org. You will be notified about a return-to-worship date as soon as a decision is made.

CHURCH TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. C. Numbers 3:22 (KJV) says: "God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn." The unicorn is mentioned nine times in the King James Version of the Bible. All mentions are in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament).
2. C. James W. Johnson, who composed the lyrics to Lift Every Voice and Sing, was born in 1871, after slavery had been abolished in the United States. The Great Thanksgiving portion of the Eucharistic liturgy takes many forms in the ELCA. One of these, form VIII, begins with these words: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. These words are from stanza 3 of Lift Every Voice and Sing. This is the prayer form we used when we celebrated Holy Communion by ZOOM on June 16 in remembrance of the Emanuel Nine.
3. D. Cordelia Lutheran Church (near Moscow), dedicated on December 15, 1883, is the oldest standing Lutheran Church in Idaho. It remains open for weddings and an annual Easter sunrise service, and it is on the National Register of Historic Places. Its deed has passed into the care of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Moscow (ELCA) in 1992.



July

*Dates of Lesser Festivals and Commemorations

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:30 am Bible Study via Zoom *Catherine Winkworth, 1878; John Ma-son Neale, 1866; hymn translators	2 1:30 pm Clergy Text Study 7:00 pm Anti-Racism Discussion via Zoom	3 *Thomas, Apostle	4 
5 9:30 am Worship by You Tube 11:00 am Coffee Hour via Zoom	6 *Jan Hus, martyr, 1415 7:00 pm Bequest Planning Meeting via Zoom	7	8 9:30 am Bible Study via Zoom	9 9:30 am Worship Committee Mtg 1:30 pm Clergy Text Study	10	11 *Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, c. .540
12 9:30 Worship by You Tube 11:00 am Coffee Hour via Zoom *Nathan Soderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, 1931	13	14 10:30 am Calendar Planning Meeting 7:00 pm Evening Prayer and Eucharist via Zoom	15 9:30 am Bible Study via Zoom 7:00 pm Council via Zoom	16 1:30 pm Clergy Text Study	17 *Bartolome de Las Casas, missionary to the Indies, 1566	18
19 9:30 am Worship by You Tube 11:00 am Coffee Hour via Zoom	20	21 NEWSLETTER 	22 9:30 am Bible Study via Zoom *Mary Magdalene, Apostle	23 1:30 pm Clergy Text Study *Birgitta of Sweden, re-nower of the church, 1373	24	25 *James, Apostle
26 9:30 am Worship by You Tube 11:00 am Coffee Hour via Zoom	27	28 *Johann Sebastian Bach, 1750; Heinrich Schutz, 1672; George Frederick Handel, 1759; musicians	29 9:30 am Bible Study via Zoom *Mary, Ma rtha, and Lazarus of Bethany; Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, 1030	30 1:30 pm Clergy Text Study	31	



Worship is Celebrated

Every Sunday

At

9:30 AM

Via You Tube

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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