

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 688

68160 South George Street

Iron River, WI 54847

E-mail – osl@cheqnet.net Pastor

oslsec@cheqnet.net Secretary



I walked slowly down the hall to Vera's room. It was the day before Easter and I had spent much of Holy Week bringing Communion to my church's shut-ins. But I had not yet crossed Vera off of my list. Vera was in our local hospital, and Vera was dying. Perhaps this is why I waited to see her last. Pastors aren't supposed to have favorites, but I always have, and Vera was one of my favorites. I didn't want her to die.

As I sat by Vera's hospital bed, I confessed that I didn't have my Easter sermon done yet, and even worse I told her, I really didn't like writing Easter sermons. "Everybody knows the story," I told her as I held onto her withered fingers, "and I never know what else to say."

It was time for Vera to become her pastor's pastor. "You have to tell them the story, because some of them have never heard it." Her tired eyes shone and her face began to smile. "Pastor, so many people need to hear that story. Just tell them what happened on Easter."

And then she closed those shining eyes. She was tired and I was just sad. I watched and listened as her breathing grew deeper. How long will she sleep I wondered, and should I stay until she wakes? I continued to hold on to those worn down hands. And then her eyes opened.

"Pastor, promise me you'll tell them the story." I wanted to say yes, but I could only nod, because the words caught in my throat as tears ran from my eyes. "You'll do fine," she said. "You always do."

Vera died a few days later, and as I sat with her family I remember asking if we could sing a song at her funeral that I thought they knew. They thought it would be nice. "Mom liked that song."

And so we sang,

*I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.*

It's a good story. Have a blessed Easter.

Bishop Rick Hoyme,
Northwest Synod of Wisconsin -ELCA



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING- MARCH 19, 2015

Present Howard Lehman, Doug Thyberg, Peggy Hipsher, Cindy Knapp, Rozie Maki, Tammy Sipsas, Lynette Kesler, Sandy Rau, Ken Tanula excused; Pastor is excused

President Howard Lehman called the meeting to order and led us in a Bible Study based on Matthew 4:8. He talked about the need for forgiveness.

Secretary's report was approved by a motion by Cindy, seconded by Lynette and approved by all.

Treasurer's report was presented by Doug and Peggy. We have a balance of -\$62.75 in the checking account at the end of February. Not all bills are being paid on time. Sandy made a motion that the Offering from the Soup and Bread Lenten service be divided half going to the food shelf and half going to Malawi flood relief, All other Lent offerings will go into our general fund. Seconded by Tammy, motion approved by all. Rosie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Cindy and approved by all.

Pastors report: No Report for February or March

Committee reports

Finance committee-Peggy reported on the graph she is using to better explain the finances compared to the budget based on need.

Memorial/Honorariums Committee-Will be combined with the finance committee.

Outreach and Evangelism, Cindy reported the nursery update is to install a speaker and shelving. Hearts for Malawi flood relief has a balance of \$734.00. Looking into a Habitat for Humanity project. Snowbird welcome Back Party is planned.

Mutual Ministry Committee is continuing to work with Bridgebuilders.

Education Committee- Tammy had no report

Property Committee-Doug reported contact with property members. They will be working on the Spring Clean-up

Stewardship committee-Rosie reported that they continue to work with Bridgebuilders.

Worship Committee met on March 2. Hymns were selected for services through Easter, April 5.

Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter services were planned. We will use Setting 5 from WOV for Easter Sunday and setting 8 during the rest of Easter Season. Ushers will be instructed to do Acolyte duties when no youth acolyte is available.

Landscape committee will combine with the Property Committee.

Cindy made a motion to approve the committee reports, seconded by Lynette and approved by all.

OLD BUSINESS

Check with Bridge builders to make sure one of the groups is working on a procedure to follow concerning non-attending members.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Committee Annual Reports are due to Evelyn by May 1
2. Spring clean-up date is Saturday, March 28 at 10 AM.
3. Pastor and Secretary review dates will be made at a later date.
4. The council is in support of Howard working on planning a "Youth" service.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30 PM

Sandy Rau, Secretary

Bridge Builders Update

The Bridge Builders Planning Action Team has continued to meet every Sunday during the month of March. As spring arrives on our doorstep we are encouraged by the warmer weather and promises of new growth and vitality. So too has there been signs of growth in the Planning Action Team. As reported in the previous newsletters, the congregational input has been great. Those inputs described to us to 102 items that served as a launch point for creating Action Statements, Success Criteria and then Goals with strategies on how to meet the Goals. The Congregational inputs overlapped in subject content, often giving the team several views of the same subject matter. Our process has been able to render these subjects into 15 Goals that the team regards as Key areas for adjustment in how OSLC conducts itself as an organization and/or where we might focus our activities in the future.

The Team has been getting great support from several congregational members some of whom are sitting and contributing during the team meetings, they are Doug Thyberg, Peg Hipsher and Cheri Erickson. heartfelt thanks is in order. The official members on the Team remain the same as last month and the Subcommittees they are assigned to are as follows:

- Communications: Pastor Christina, Karen Moran, Kathy Rewalt and Karlan Williams
- Finance/Budget/Stewardship: Cindy Knapp, Rozie Maki, Dick Rewalt, John Schrock
- Planning: Mary Berube, Shirley Saker, Nancy Thyberg
- Staff Guidance: Howard Lehman, Patty Lehman, Sandy Rau, Himma Santikko

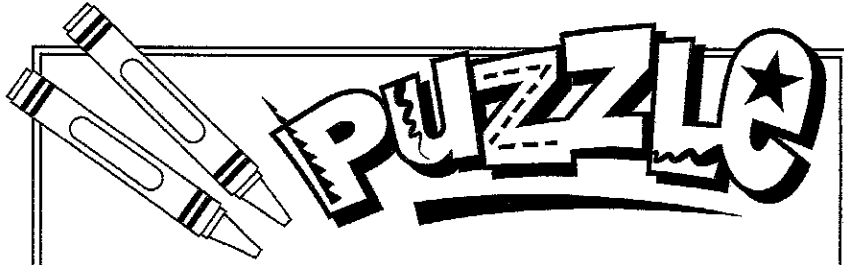
As we move into the Easter Holy week the Team is going to continue our prayers for guidance, insight, ideas and humbleness. We are going to take a break from meeting from Palm Sunday through Easter. It is good that we pause to concentrate on the "Passion" of our Savior, the reason he came and his gospel of Love. Oh, how we still need that bright holy light of Peace and Love. It is everything that our lives can't find for themselves.

After Easter we will be finishing/polishing up our Goals and Strategies and then presenting them to you for your review and input. The presentations will take place in a series of Focus Group meetings. We think there will be 2 to 3 of these. They will be relatively short meetings meant to concentrate (focus) on specific grouping of the Goals. Thus the subjects in the agenda for each meeting will be different. Please plan on attending all meetings to get a full picture of our planning. Input received during these Focus meetings will be carried back into the final planning document.

Have an Easter of prayerful reflection and Joy

Dick Rewalt

Bridge Builders Action Planning Team Lead



OUR HOPE

Romans 8:34 tells about our risen Lord, who gives us hope.

Directions: Write the phrases on the correct numbered lines below. Then, on the final row of blanks, write the bold capital letters in order from top to bottom, left to right, to spell the word that sums up this verse.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 5 who was R aised | 8 R ight hand | 6 T o life |
| 3 d iEd | 4 m o R e than that | 7 I s at the |
| 2 J e S us who | 11 i nt E rceding | 9 O f God |
| 12 f or U s | 1 C hrist | 10 a nd is also |

... 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

4 _____, 5 _____

_____ 6 _____ 7 _____

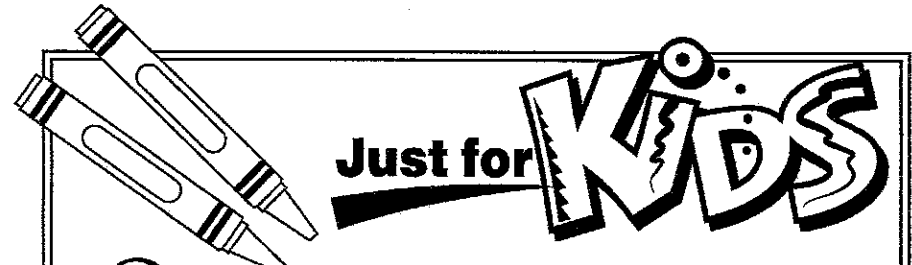
_____ 8 _____

6 _____ 10 _____

11 _____ 12 _____ *Romans 8:34, NIV*

RESURRECTION

Answers: ... Christ Jesus who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Romans 8:34, NIV



OUR LIVING HOPE

Easter is a time to rejoice because of what God did for us in sending his Son. Jesus is our living hope. Read 1 Peter 1:3-4 (NIV) below. Then find the bold words in the crossword search.

"Praise be to the **God** and **Father** of our **Lord Jesus Christ!** In his great **mercy** he has given us **new birth** into a **living hope** through the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an **inheritance** that can **never perish, spoil** or **fade** — **kept** in heaven for you"

P	R	A	I	S	E
P	E	R	I	S	H
B	I	R	T	H	A
K	E	P	T	U	S
L	O	R	F	A	D
E	V	E	A	R	G

R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	J	E	S	U
H	E	A	V	E	N	I	N	H	A	D	L	I	V	I	N
I	G	S	P	O	I	N	H	E	R	I	T	A	N	C	E
C	H	R	I	S	T	L	O	R	D	P	R	A	I	S	W

H	O	P	N	S	E
H	O	P	E	P	L
L	I	V	V	O	I
J	E	S	E	I	V
E	V	E	R	L	I
S	U	F	F	E	N
U	T	A	S	I	G
S	O	D	O	E	T
A	M	E	R	C	Y

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

April 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 9:30 Bible Study	2 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday service 6:30 Choir	3 7:00 pm Good Friday service	4 Holy Saturday 12:00 Yoga
5 Easter Sunday 7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service @ Iron River Cemetery 8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast @OSLC 9:00 a.m. Worship Food Shelf Item — Cereal	6 9:00 Community Quilting Group 5:00 Worship 7:00 Al-Anon	7 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga	8 9:30 Bible Study	9 6:30 Choir	10	11 12:00 Yoga
12 9:00 a.m. Worship 5:00 WELCA Bible Study Food Shelf Item — Canned vegetables	13 9:00 Community Quilting Group 7:00 Al-Anon	14 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga 6:30 Council	15 9:30 Bible Study	16 Pastor at Conference meeting 5:00 WELCA 7:00 Choir	17	18 Food Shelf 9:00-11:00 12:00 Yoga
19 9:00 a.m. Worship Food Shelf Item — Canned soup	20 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 Community Quilting Group 7:00 Al-Anon	21 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga	22 9:30 Bible Study	23 10:30 Food Shelf Produce Distribution 6:30 Choir	24	25 12:00 Yoga
26 9:00 a.m. Worship Food Shelf Item — Canned fruit	27 9:00 Community Quilting Group 7:00 Al-Anon	28 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga	29 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Kathy Broadwell recital	30 6:30 Choir	May 1 Scholarship Deadline	May 2 12:00 Yoga



Volunteer Schedule April 2015

Prayer for Families

We will continue this year to include three families or individuals in our Sunday morning prayers. I know there are many of you that pray for individuals and the needs that we know of, but there are many times we don't know when someone is in need of a prayer. This is one more way for us to care for each other placing them in God's hands.

April 5

Lori Anderson
Janelle Armbruster
Daniel Atkinson

April 12

Ramona Baltscheit
Fred Baue
Eileen Bentzen

April 19

Dick & Evie Berge
Bob Berube
Charlene Billingsley

April 26

Tom & Karen Boggess
Dan & Nancy Bourassa
Robert Bowker

Date	Coffee	Lector
April 5	Easter Breakfast	Cindy Knapp
April 12	K & L Watters with Carrie DeRosia	Mark Santikko
April 19	Dick & Evie Berge	Rozie Maki
April 26	Mark & Himma Santikko	Linda Pepping

Monthly

Ushers: Doug & Nancy Thyberg

Greeters: Nan & Jim Olson

Altar Guild: Sandy Rau & Sherry Tanula



BIRTHDAYS this month

Jens Gregerson Jr. -1st
John Kramolis -5th
Dick Berge -5th
John LaBelle -5th

Rita Collins -12th
Jonathan Jensen -14th
Charles Johnson -20th
Karen Wicklund -26th



Sam & Katie Bradley— 4th
Darren & Laurie Hanson— 18th
Jim & Carrie DeRosia— 23rd
John & Tammy O'Brien— 23rd
Tim & Debbie Landgreen— 27th



Please keep the following men and women serving our country in your prayers:

Continue to watch over Mike Hope, Tlegen Brickson, David Doherty, Kyle Thyberg, Ryan Glau, Peter Bracket, D.J. Bourassa, David Fierner, Darek and Charlotte Reijo, Craig Danula.

Be with their families and those who have returned. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Please pray for the following in need of God's care:

Amy Frostman and family, Robby Maron, Jerry Tapani, Leroy Lahti, Scott Rickaby, Ken Watters, Vanessa Lawson, Bonnie Mahocker, Jonathan Jensen, Shirley Welty, Jennifer Anderson, Connie Sorenson, Ginger Weyandt, Marge Johnson, Pam Hawk family, Jeri Ogren, Myron Knapp, John Hoffman, Doris Perala, Jason Moreau, Al Buhler, Cheryl Clark, Jean Sucha, Herb Buran, Darren Forsythe, and Darrel Ciskie.

Email Evelyn if you would like to add or (joyfully) remove someone from our prayers.

Not receiving a newsletter? Either by email or regular mailings? Let the church secretary know that you would like to be added to either the email list or the regular mailing list and one will be sent right to you. You can also access our newsletters and other church information on our website ironriverlutherans.org

"Called to Worship, Sent Forth to Serve." Why are these words found in our bulletin every Sunday? This is the mission statement for our church. It was established in 1997 by a Mission Committee that included Pastor Friedrich, Shirley Saker, Evie Berge, Ann Klinge and Mary Berube, among others. So when the question arises, "Why are we here?"- we know the answer because we are " Called to Worship, Sent Forth to Serve."

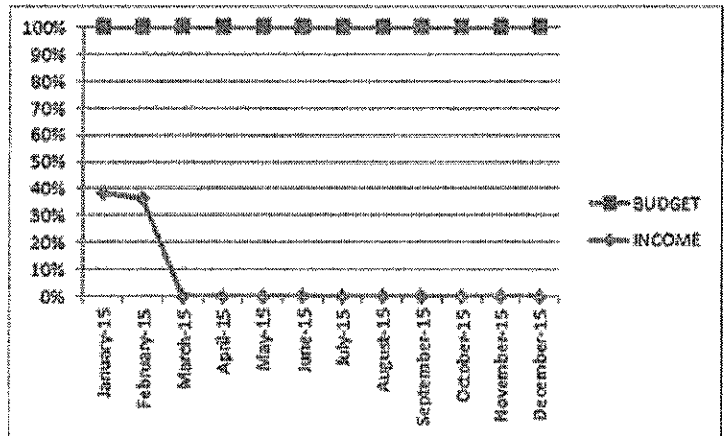
Thank you- to everyone who participated in my fundraising activities for the band trip to New Orleans. We have raised enough money and are leaving next week. We all appreciate your help. ~Zach Hipsher

Holy Week Schedule

April 2 Maundy Thursday: Service 7:00pm
 April 3 Good Friday: Service 7:00pm
 April 5 Easter Sunday: Sunrise Service at the Iron River Cemetery 7:30am
 Easter Breakfast 8:00am at OSLC
 9:00am Sunday Worship

Attention High School Seniors-Pick up your application now for the Merv Lindelof Our Savior's Lutheran Scholarship. Forms are available on the bulletin board near the kitchen. Deadline is May 1, 2015. The winner will be announced in May.

2015OSL Income through February



Mission Covenant Church Senior Adult Ministry Presents- 6 time Southern Gospel Musician of the year, Pianist Jeff Stice and The Chancellors, a Southern Gospel Quartet. Saturday, May 2nd at 2:00. All ages invited to stay afterward for dessert and coffee in the fellowship Hall.