

OUR SAVIOR'S VOICE MAY 2023

A COMMUNITY TRANSFORMED BY CHRIST TO BE CHRIST IN THE WORLD

WORSHIP WITH US

Join us on Sundays at 9:00am
Wednesdays of Lent at 5:30 for Soup
Supper and 6:30 for Lenten service
Our services are live-streamed on
Facebook and available for replay at any
time on YouTube

Hibbing Public Access TV Chanel 805
6:00pm Tuesdays
8:00am Wednesdays

Radio Broadcast 1240AM WMFG
10:30am Sundays

CONNECT WITH US

(218) 263-7422 olchibbing.org
oslchibb@mchsi.com

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8am-4:30pm



Follow us on Facebook at:
OurSaviorsLutheran – Hibbing
And OSLCHibbing



Youtube Channel: OSLCHibbing

COME FIND OUT ABOUT

Local and Global Missions
Opportunities: Temple Choir, Worship
Band, Handbells, Quilting, Adult Bible
Study, 1st Communion, Confirmation,
Assist with Worship, VLM Bible Camp,
Vacation Bible School White Elephant
Sale, & MORE!

OSLC Children's Clothes Closet:
By Appointment
OSLC Food Shelf: Wednesdays & Fridays,
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, AND PASTORAL CARE

Please contact the church office to
schedule a Baptism or Wedding in
advance. If you are seeking pastoral care
for yourself or a loved one, please contact
the church office to set up an
appointment.

Transitioning to Sabbatical...

The month of May for me has always been a *transitional* month in the rhythm and life of parish ministry. Confirmation, Sunday School, and choir practices all follow suit with the school calendar taking a break for the summer months.

During the month of May we celebrate the completion of yet another *White Elephant Sale*, we honor our Mothers on Mother's Day, we honor our graduating seniors on Senior Recognition, and the fishing opener reminds us that we will soon be spending a lot more time at the lake – if the weather ever completely warms up!

Yes, the month of May is transitional, hopefully measuring time by the quality of moments spent in the blossoming of spring, and the bloom of summer, rather than meeting fall and winter's deadlines and responsibilities.

And for me - in this season of my life - I am grateful to you folks as the month of May will transition me with the beginning of a sabbatical leave that will start on **Monday, May 22nd** and conclude on **Monday, August 14th**.

Hopefully as you read this *Voice* article about my sabbatical leave it *does not* come as a surprise to you! We, myself and the leadership of Our Savior's, have tried to be very intentional about the process as the sabbatical leave was approved by the Church Council last October, a Sabbatical Policy has been written, and a Sabbatical Steering Committee has been meeting to: *"assure a smooth running of the congregation during the sabbatical leave and to see that the goals of the sabbatical leave are being met."*

And just what are the goals of a sabbatical leave? Quoting directly from OSLC Sabbatical Policy we read: *"A sabbatical is understood to be a time of release from normal duties in order that a rostered leader [Pastor] may devote time to renewal and study. Communication pertaining to official church business between the rostered leader [Pastor] and the congregation shall discontinue during the sabbatical.*

A sabbatical is understood as an integral and important part of an overall strategy for enhancing the mission of the congregation through renewal, development, and growth for the rostered leader. A sabbatical is for the benefit of the rostered leader and the congregation."

When I am asked "what do you plan to do while you're on sabbatical?" The short answer is: "a lot of things that begin with letter 'R'!" I hope to: *rest, renew, read, re-create (physical fitness and other outdoor pursuits), restore (better management of my diabetes and my physical and mental health), re-connect (in relationships with family and friends), re-evaluate (What might the final years of my ministry look like at Our Savior's? When and what might a responsible retirement look like?).* You get the picture!

With respect to how Our Savior's might directly benefit from my sabbatical leave? One goal is to envision where the Holy Spirit might be calling OSLC to grow and serve in the next 5 to 15 years, and what might be the paradigm shifts, or put more bluntly, "the growing pains" needed to get there? This is a topic that can be explored through many books, zoom, and web seminars.

Retired Pastor Brian Birk (no stranger to OSLC!) will be replacing me while I am gone on sabbatical leave. Pastor Brian will have "quarter time" status while he serves us. The two scheduled days of the week that Pastor Brian will be in residence at OSLC will be Wednesdays and Sundays. In the event of a death in the congregation, Pastor Brian will be available to plan and conduct a funeral, and he will also be available for a pastoral emergency should the need arise. As is the case in getting a hold of me, please call the church office to get a hold of Pastor Brian. The church office phone number is (218) 263-7422.

With respect to filling the leadership void while I am away on my sabbatical, all *pastoral concerns* (death, hospital visits, Sunday morning worship, etc.) will get brought to Pastor Brian's attention. If there is an *administrative concern* within the congregation (bills, budget, the building, etc.) please bring that to the Executive Board of the Church Council which includes our Church Council President, John Law, who can be reached at (218) 260-1778; our Church Council Vice President, Kathy Anderson, who can be reached at (218) 929-1291; and our Church Council Secretary, Heather Lubben who can be reached at (218) 966-7835.

We close with some wise words from the Gospel of Mark chapter six, where within the rush and crush of ministry our Lord Jesus acknowledges the need for his servants to: "*Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.*" (Mark 6:31)

God bless and be well!

Pastor Kevin

Musical Notes



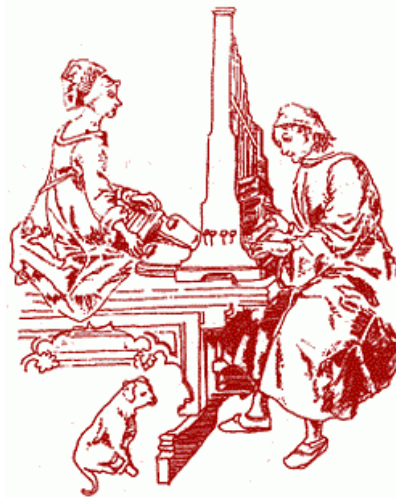
I am writing this article after seeing 7 inches of snow grace our terrain. Minnesota can be such a very confusing place to live. Suddenly, I am writing for the May 'Voice' article. The Handbell Choir will play their final time on April 30th. We will play a fine arrangement of "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" arranged by Douglas Wagner. We have had such an exciting year with having enough ringers for a 3-octave choir. Thanks to all of the participants!

The Temple Choir will finish the year singing the first and third Sunday in May. On May 7th, the choir will sing "O Praise God in His Holiness." The text is from Psalm 150 sung to music written by John Wilson. Can any statement be more powerful than the final text, "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord." Sounds pretty inclusive, doesn't it?

Finally, on May 21st, we will perform the anthem, "O God, I Offer Thanks to Thee." This music composed by Beethoven is arranged by T. Charles Lee. Beethoven's music offers a strong backdrop to support the text of thanks and praise. I think that it offers a fitting finale to a season filled with numerous selections celebrating our faith! The dedication of these singers is greatly appreciated! -Roy

INTRODUCTION TO THE ORGAN

To play most early pipe organs, one needed an assistant to pump the bellows. It was handy to have a family member willing to do this boring job. From the beginning pipe organs were made in all different sizes. Large organs were built in churches from at least 1100. These instruments had many pipes and required several huge bellows to provide their wind. The job of a calcant, or bellows-pumper, was quite taxing. One got to rest during the sermon, but then would be wakened by a bell rung by the organist when it was time to start pumping again



2022 Missionary for a Day Calendar

To date the Missionary for a Day Calendar has received \$340.

During April the Missionary for a Day Calendar received gifts:

Given by Sharon & Mitch Cook in celebration of the birthdays of Jeri H,
Mitch's sister Wendy, and great granddaughter Annie

In honor of Family by Dan & Julie Jordan

Thank you everyone for your generous support of our missionary, Dr. Friberg in Tanzania. Any time is a good time to sign up and contribute to the Missionary for a Day Calendar. A gift of \$10 in memory or honor of a special friend or loved one will support our missionary for one day.

Note from the Financial Secretary

All contributions have been recorded for the first fiscal quarter of the year.

Feel free to check on your giving record by speaking with Cindy. All gifts are very much appreciated.

God's Richest Blessings to All!

Happy Birthday and have a great day!

| | | |
|-----|----|----------------|
| May | 5 | Elaine Bexell |
| | 15 | Fred Fawkes |
| | 15 | Audrey Hill |
| | 15 | Penni Tingstad |
| | 21 | Carol Boben |
| | 29 | Janet Broten |
| | 29 | Arnold Ronne |

Happy
Anniversary

Best wishes to Tom and Nancy Sampson who will be celebrating their 61st Wedding Anniversary on May 5th.

Best wishes to Glenn & Connie Harle who will be celebrating their 45th Wedding Anniversary on May 13th.

Best wishes to Bill and Lloydine Pietila who will be celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary on May 17th.

Lenten Soup Supper Kudos!

Our deep appreciation to Lisa Pastika who assumed head chef duties in preparing such delicious soups for our Lenten Soup Suppers. She was ably assisted by Pam Rundell, Nadine Berg, Carol Lee, Jennifer Lipke, and so many volunteers who set tables, smiled as they served soups, cleaned up and washed pots and pans. The success of the suppers can be attributed to our generous and talented cooks and servers. We thank you all for your participation and hope the soups were enjoyed by all.

Thank
you



Please note: that the Women's Gather Bible study will be held this Thursday, May 11th at 10am. Extra copies are available. All are welcome!

The Women of Our Savior's will continue to meet throughout the Summer months. The Gather Bible study will be available for anyone who might like to join the 2nd Thursday of each month meeting at 10. Previous Bible exposure or study is not needed. We meet to learn what Scripture has to teach and guide us in our daily lives. Our members will be most happy to welcome anyone interested.



Just a friendly reminder that the radio broadcast changes on May 28th to 9:00 a.m. for the Summer months.

Council Meeting Highlights (April 11,2023)

- We added a Sabbatical Policy to the policy manual. We approved a contract for Pastor Bryan Birk for 25% coverage during Pastor Kevin's sabbatical. We hired you, started a sabbatical committee and we are currently back in the positive for our budget.
- WES committee reconvened and planning for the 2023 White Elephant Sale is moving forward!
- We will need all kinds of help the week of the sale!



The Columbarium at Our Savior's offers perpetually endowed care for the remains of those who choose cremation. It is a place of peace, solitude, and prayer restoring the ancient practice of church burial. Our Columbarium is located in the Pilgrims Chapel entry. Both single and double niches are available. Price of niche includes the niche, urn and engraving. If you would like to learn more about the columbarium, please make an appointment with Cindy in the church office. 218-263-7422. Also, a note to niche owners please call to select your keyless entry code.

White Elephant Sale Update

God's Work Our Hands, the White Elephant Sale is truly an example of this! Those working the day of the sale are asked to wear these shirts so we are easy to identify as workers that can help shoppers. Unless you are working the lunch counter! Those workers will be wearing Thrivent t-shirts to recognize all the support we receive from them. If you don't have a yellow (goldenrod) God's Work Our Hands shirt they will be for sale (\$10) at the church prior to the sale and at the worker's entrance the day of the sale.



White Elephant Sale Donations accepted on:
Wednesday, May 4th and Thursday 5th from 10-6 pm at the Memorial Building South Door.

OSLCW

REFLECTING GOD'S LIGHT IN THE WORLD.
WELCA SYNOD ASSEMBLY THEME

To all confirmed women and girls of our congregation you are considered to be a woman of the ELCA Women's organization. We meet in small groups at local churches, then in larger groups on our conference level. Our conference is the Laurentian Conference and is on the larger scale, we are members of the North Eastern Synod of ELCA. This year our Synod Convention will be in Grand Rapids, MN at Zion Lutheran Church. It is Monday and Tuesday (June 12th & 13th). We are allowed one delegate and also usually pay for one alternate. Any lady/girl can attend. Our local group will cover the cost on one delegate and one alternate for food and registration. Since the event location is so close, we will not be making hotel reservations but will be traveling back and forth both days.

There is Worship Service with Communion, a Bible Study time, a market place with both silent auction and buy it now, prayer room, delegate business sessions, and a chance to meet old and make new friends from other churches of the ELCA.

We will be bringing down school kits and quilts to the Lutheran World Relief truck and also some items for the Global Health Missions.

First time attendees are more than welcome. There is a discount for new attendees. This is a mask optional event.

We need to know how many will be attending by May 22nd for reasons of meal orders. Meals are being catered have to be ordered by May 22nd.

Contact Sue Schock ([218-929-1892](tel:218-929-1892)) or Sue Stanisich ([218-262-3644](tel:218-262-3644)) for more information.

Congratulations on Your Graduation!

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
would like to recognize and honor you
and your fellow graduates

Sunday, May 21, 2023
at 9:00 a.m. during worship service
&

during the coffee fellowship following worship.
Hope you and your family can attend!



Confirmation News:

3rd grade - If you were not able to pick up your Bible in the Fall, please contact Cindy.

4th grade - Let Cindy know if you are willing to help keep your church sanctuary tidy. Your help is appreciated.

5th grade - We are delighted to welcome to the Lord's Table the following students that completed instruction during Lent:

Taylor Norman
Edie Lubben
Annika Mousseau
Aveya Hoover



6th grade- Please let Cindy know if you're willing to acolyte, [218-263-7422](tel:218-263-7422)

7th , 8th & 9th grades- - Wednesday classes: May 3, 10, 17 - 7:00 p.m.
Any time is a great time to complete sermon notes and service hours. Your help setting up for the White Elephant Sale Wednesday and Thursday, May 3 and May 4 and/or at the sale Saturday, May 6th would be greatly appreciated.

10th grade- As you prepare for **Confirmation on Sunday, October 29th** be sure to take sermon notes, complete service hours and meet with your mentor throughout the summer. Helping set up and/or clerk at the **White Elephant Sale** is a fun way to complete service hours. Hope to see you at the Memorial Building **Saturday, May 6th.**

11th grade- Hoping you will join the fun at the White Elephant Sale.

12th grade - Your energy and enthusiasm would be appreciated at the **WES**. Mark your calendars: **Sunday, May 21st** the congregation will be honoring your graduating class at worship and during the coffee hour.
Please submit a grad picture to oslchibb@mchsi.com to be used for the live stream service. Submit by May 12. Congratulations!

Welcome

Megan Hoertsch

Megan joins the OSLC staff as our new Administrative Assistant!

Megan comes to us with several degrees in administration and legal studies. This brings a decade of office experience. She is excited for getting involved in her community and fostering friendships with the congregation. Additionally, she is looking forward to serving this amazing community.

Megan and her husband Andy live in Hibbing with their teenage daughter Gretchen and 3 year old son Peter. They moved to Hibbing in 2020. In her free time, if it is ever there 😊 she enjoys reading, family walks/biking and painting.

Register for Camp Vermilion & Camp Hiawatha this Summer

OSLC will pay for your camp experience!
Register online using transfer code: **OSLC501**
Go to: VLMcamps.org



Mother's Day Poem

God took the fragrance of a flower...
The majesty of a tree...
The gentleness of morning dew...
The calm of a quiet sea...
The beauty of the twilight hour...
The soul of a starry night...
The laughter of a rippling brook...
The grace of a bird in flight...
Then God fashioned from these things
A creation like no other,
And when his masterpiece was through
He called it simply - Mother.

~Herbert Farnham

