



Volume 9, Issue 2	
<i>CONTENTS</i>	
PASTORS NOTES	1
INTERN NOTES	2
LIBRARY CORNER	2
YOUNG AT HEART	3
BOARD NEWS	3
COMING EVENTS	5
YOUTH EVENTS	6
CONFIRMATION CORNER	6
PRAYERS	7
WELCA CIRCLES	7
WORSHIP LEADERS	C
CALENDAR	E
	N
	T
	E
	R

So, have you ever been stuck? I remember once when I was hunting with a friend of mine in eastern Montana. We had spent the day chasing the elusive white tail and decided to give it one more shot. We were in a nice big 4x4 and saw a muddy little road that looked like it led into a great place for deer to bed down. So down the road we went, sort of. We started down the road, which was narrow and had a creek on both sides of it, and the truck started to slip. We threw it into 4x4 and kept going, and the truck slipped even more. After about 5 minutes of this we hopped out of the truck and saw that the rear half of the truck was starting to slide down the embankment. At this point we finally got smart and hiked a couple of miles to the nearest farm house and found a wonderful farmer who pulled his John Deere tractor and came to our rescue. I have no doubt he was laughing at us to himself most of the time.

So yes, I have been stuck, but that is not the kind of stuck I am thinking about today. Today I am thinking about getting stuck in our minds. Getting stuck in the past. Getting stuck in what has happened and not being able to move into the future. I have been there before, too. Sometimes I live in my mind way too much and I get stuck. So the question is: how do we get unstuck?

Going back to my initial story, sometimes we need that gracious farmer to come and give us hand. A person who has a different perspective, who has worked that land before and knows some tricks to help get us moving. These people are wonderfully helpful in getting us on another track.

Another thing that I do is get out and do something totally different. I put myself in a different place with a different focus. Then when I come back to where I am. Then I have a new view of things.

Of course, there is the calling out to God for help. With my times of prayer and devotions, when I am stuck, I often am asking for guidance and support. I am asking for my eyes to be opened to a way to get unstuck in life.

As we prepare ourselves to enter in to the Lenten Season at the end of the month, I invite you to think about ways you may get stuck in life and how you can use the Lenten season to help find ways to get unstuck and celebrate the blessings you have in your life.

INTERN NOTES

As we make our way through seminary and preparing for ordained ministry we find ourselves moving a lot and at times unsure of where home is, or where we are even currently living. Shortly after moving to Beloit, Sandy and I went on a date to the movies. Upon leaving the movie theatre, we looked at each other and asked, “What city are we in again?” It took a moment for us to remember, oh, yeah, we’re in Beloit.

With moving a lot, we meet many new wonderful people who will impact the rest of our lives. We also say a goodbye to a lot of people as we make our journey. At times we live close to family and spend a lot of time with them. At other times we live hours away and don’t see them for months. With it there comes many joys and sorrows.

However, with all the changes we go through there is one constant that does not change, and that is that God is with us through all of it. God does not leave our side. God dwells in our heart, and is always with us. As we continue in the season of Epiphany, we remember that God is with us. God has revealed God’s self to us in Jesus Christ to all nations, and does not come and go from our lives, but is the one constant that does not change.

Blessings, Intern Jeremy

LIBRARY CORNER ... During these cold and snowy days, it is fun to sit down with a warm cup of coffee/tea and a good book. The following books have been in our library for some time, but they are worth checking out if you want a good chuckle. Look for them in the 641.5 & 642 nonfiction section.

Lutheran Church Basement Women, by Janet Martin and Allen Todnem, is a collection of recipes and little gems of information. There is a section on proper etiquette for Lutheran women, instructions on the proper way to tie a dish towel, and a list of twenty statements heard by proper, cheerful Lutheran women. But my favorite is a recipe called:

Jello For a Crowd

4 boxes of Jello, 4 c. hot water, 4 c cold water

Dissolve Jello in hot water. Be careful to get everything dissolved. Add cold water and refrigerate. When partially set, carefully slice 1 good sized banana or 2 small. This will feed about 30 people and is good for funerals or other doings. (This recipe was used for the 75 anniversary of the Trinity Lutheran Church).

The Last Word on Lefse, by Gary Legwold is a collection of stories about lefsa makers and their lefsa recipes. I was fascinated to read about lefsa makers from my hometown of Decorah, Iowa. Funny songs, stories, poems also are also included in this tribute to lefsa and its makers.

The Library Volunteers

HANDS OF FAITH

Hands of Faith is an emergency shelter service for homeless families in Beloit. The program relies on local Houses of Worship (including Our Savior's) to provide the meals and overnight accommodations for enrolled homeless families. The number of families in the program can vary; yet, whether we have a full house or just one family, our church opens the doors and our hearts to become their home for the week. Our Savior's could not provide this essential service without the help of the wonderful church staff and our dedicated volunteers.

We are scheduled to host on the weeks of *February 12-19, 2012*. Please look at your calendar and consider volunteering. A sign-up sheet will be posted a few weeks prior to our host weeks. If you have any questions about the program, feel free to contact me at 295-0158 or you can visit the website at www.handsofffaith.net. Again, your time and dedication are greatly appreciated.
-Katie Karow, Our Savior's HoF Coordinator

BOY SCOUT PANCAKE SUPPER

Come to our 49 Annual Boy Scout Pancake Supper! Please remember to mark your calendar for Monday, March 5, 2012 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Costs for adults are \$3.00 and children under 11 years of age are \$1.50. Tickets are available before and after church services. Proceeds will be used for Summer Camp, Troop Leader Training, and High Adventure. See you there!



OSLC BOARD ... The Board will meet on Thursday, February 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome to attend. Finance will meet on Sunday, February 5 at 9:00 a.m.

<h3>ATTENDANCE & OFFERING</h3>

Please see our Annual Report for the numbers for 2011. Thank you.

YOUNG AT HEART

Young at Heart will meet on Tuesday, February 14, at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a program from the City of Beloit on Snow Removal Policies and other facts. Lunch will be by Dan Montgomery. Sign up in the Commons, or please call the church office at 362-0716 by 10:00 a.m., on Monday, February 13, so we can prepare accordingly. If you don't make lunch reservations, please come join us for the program at 12:45 p.m. Thank you. Are you interested in cooking or being a host/hostess for Young at Heart, please contact Jackie Larson at 364-1097.

LENT



ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday signifies the start of our Lenten journey. This year Ash Wednesday is on February 22. We will have a joint ELCA service at St. Paul at 10:00 a.m. and an evening service at OSLC at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to come and join us as enter into the Lenten season.

LENT WORSHIP

Lent begins this month on February 22, Ash Wednesday. We invite you to join us as we're reminded of our need for a forgiving, saving God. Each of the following 5 Wednesdays, we will worship together as well. There's worship in the morning at 11:30 a.m. and in the evening at 7:00 p.m. Since we share these services with St. Paul Lutheran Church, please keep an eye on the schedule to know where worship will be held. The morning services will feature monologs by several of the disciples. The evening services will feature a drama series called, "Tales of Trees," which will feature dramas about various trees in the Bible. We hope you will join us for midweek worship during Lent.

THE LUTHERAN COURSE

During the season of Lent, we will be hosting the Lutheran Course on Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. from February 28 to March 27. The Lutheran Course is a dynamic, fun, and interactive course that gets back to the basics of what it means to be a Lutheran. We will lightheartedly engage in the significance of the Lutheran Reformation, baptism, communion, the Bible, and sharing our faith with others. Come and join Jeremy and Sandy Johnson as they guide our way through this exciting course! Great for the new Lutherans, old Lutherans and anyone in between!

WANT TO SERVE? ... We're currently looking for more people to serve communion and to serve as Assisting Ministers at all of our four services. It's helpful if Assisting Ministers can sing, but it's not essential. If you're interested in becoming a Communion Server or Assisting Minister at any of the services, please contact one of the pastors or Chrissy Mason.

PASTORAL ACTS FOR JANUARY 2012

BAPTISMS

BURIALS

MARRIAGES

Lorraine Bringman Roecker

COMING EVENTS

BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY ... Are you a morning person? Do you want to find a Bible study to fit your schedule? Then join us on Wednesday mornings at the Beloit Family Restaurant at 6:45 a.m. Each week, we read over the bible texts that you'll be hearing that coming Sunday. It's a fun way to start your day, and to help you hear those worship texts in a new way. Coffee, pancakes, and God's Word – a great way to wake up.

WEEKEND OF WHYS AND WONDERINGS

It's Back! Last year we had our first "Weekend of Why's and Wonderings." It went over so well that it is back again this year. Do you have any questions about God? We all do. We have questions about why things happen or don't happen. We have questions about heaven, or an interpretation of scripture, or we have doubts... and the list goes on and on. Throughout February we invite you to bring your questions to us.

The weekend of February 18-19 will be the Weekend of Whys and Wonderings. Instead of a traditional sermon that weekend, the pastors and Intern Jeremy will try to answer your questions in worship. If you've got questions you'd like to ask, please write them down and put them in the box available in the sanctuary before February 15. They'll answer as many questions as they can. So bring us your questions, and if you want more information on the Weekend of Whys and Wonderings please talk with Pastor Erik , Pastor Jennifer, or Intern Jeremy.

SOCK HOP

Hey cool cats! Friday, February 10 the Fellowship Team is hosting a Sock Hop at OSLC from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Luther's Diner will be serving hamburgers and fries, hot dogs, milk shakes. We'll have a DJ, hula hoop contest, Limbo, and other activities. Cost is \$5 per person to cover the cost of food. So get out your poodle skirt, dust off your leather jacket and let's rock and roll!

NEW DISCIPLES CLASS

We will be offering a New Disciples Class on Sunday, February 19, at 3:00 p.m. This is for anyone who is interested in learning more about Our Savior's and possibly joining. Please contact the church office and let us know if you plan on attending.

<p>LOOSE OFFERING FOR FEBRUARY: SCHOLARSHIP</p>
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YOUTH EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

KID'S CLUB ... Happy Leap Year Month! Don't forget we have an extra day this month to celebrate God's love for us. Kid's Club is flying through Super Heroes this month! We will not be meeting on Ash Wednesday, February 22, then only once in March during Lent. There is an up-dated schedule on Amy's door, or call or email with any questions.

DAUGHTER'S EYES ... will be meeting on Saturday, February 11 at 10:00 a.m. at church to proceed to Madison for the annual Girl's Shopping Day at West Towne Mall. RSVP to Amy by February 8 if you and any of your friends are going. We will meet again on March 11 to make Dresses for Africa at Jane Lang's house.

HIGH SCHOOL ... I have an opportunity for all of you to come to Kid's Club at 5:30 p.m. on February 29 and March 28 for our Pizza Party Night. Come help out with fun and games, and stay until 8:00 p.m. to plan for fundraisers and more fun activities. Best Blessings, Amy

CONFIRMATION CORNER

Confirmation class continues this month, studying Jesus' life. Ash Wednesday is February 22, with worship at 7:00 p.m. During Lent, there is no Confirmation class, but all students should attend the Wednesday night Lenten services at 7:00 p.m. Since we share the services with St. Paul Lutheran Church, please make sure to check the worship schedule, to know where the services will be each week. Lent is a wonderful time to make up sermon notes! When at St. Paul, just make sure to find one of the pastors to pick up your sermon/drama notes.

KNIT WITS ... Do you knit or crochet? Did you know we have a group called, "Knit Wits" that meets on the first and third Wednesday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. of each month? We understand if you cannot commit to a particular time. How about an, "at home" project? Knit Wits are making a plea for a group of absentee Knit Wits to become involved. Join the Wednesday crochet lessons from 5:15-7:00 p.m. We can share suggested patterns for caps, afghans or shawls. Please call Diane Riesen at 365-4033 for more information on either active or at-home involvement.

INK CARTRIDGES FOR REBATES ... How do you dispose of your expended printer ink cartridges? Don't throw them in the garbage. They can be worth **money**. Bring any of your expended printer cartridges to the church. We will exchange them for Staples Rebates, which will be used to purchase office supplies. Recently two cases of paper, (\$46.00 per case) were purchased, using some rebates, and only cost \$8.00 for the total purchase. OSLC uses a great deal of paper for bulletins and messenger. Recycling **Does** pay off. Bring your expended ink cartridges to the box by the bulletin board in the Commons. Thank you.

RADIO SHOW ... Pastors Erik and Jennifer are broadcasting a weekly Internet Radio Show. You can access the show on our website www.oursaviorsbeloit.org. Every week they look at a different part of the Bible and are working their way through the entire Bible in a chronological way. Please join us and bring any questions you have to the pastors.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

At Our Savior's Lutheran Church we are given the privilege of praying for members of our congregation. This time of prayer for the members of the Church is a blessing for us because it gives us an opportunity to lift up to God all the people to whom we have been called to serve.

Starting earlier this year, we have asked the members that are in our weekly prayers to answer two simple questions so that we, as a congregation, can get to know each member of bit better.

This month we are praying for:.....

Janet Walkey;

Brad and Maggie Walters;

Brian, Ashley, and Brielle Walters;

Bridget Walters;

Jean Ward, Joshua and Mindy Warden;

and Jean Warn



W/ELCA CIRCLES FOR FEBRUARY 2012

Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Rebekah Circle, Wilma Dotter, 1643 Grant St.

Thursday, Feb. 9 at 1:00 p.m.

Leah Circle, TBD

Monday, Feb. 13 at

6:30 p.m. Anna Circle, OSLC

7:00 p.m. Rachel Circle, Marcia Lee, 1701 Morgan Ter.

Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 9:00 a.m.

Shalom Circle, Shirley Tester, 2087 Regal Oaks

Monday, Feb. 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Circle, Sharon Larson, 83 Thicket Ln.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church ELCA



749 Bluff Street, Beloit, WI 53511

oslc1@sbcglobal.net, www.oursaviorsbeloit.org

OUR SAVIOR'S STAFF

Pastors Erik & Jennifer Jelinek

Barb Lansbery - Administrative Assistant

Paulette Christensen - Bookkeeper

Cheryl Licary - Organist & Choir Director

Richard Larson - Handbell Choir Director

John Smith, David Fuller - Custodians

Jeremy Johnson - Intern

Sandy Kazubowski - Housekeeper

Amy Lang - Director of Youth & Family Life

Chrissy Mason - Ministry Coordinator

PERIODICALS

POSTAGE PAID

AT BELOIT, WI



MIDWEEK LENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE

February 22 – 10:00 a.m. at St. Paul, 7:00 p.m. at Our Savior's

February 29 – 11:30 a.m. at OSLC, 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul

March 7 – 11:30 a.m. at OSLC, 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul

March 14 – 11:30 a.m. at St. Paul, 7:00 p.m. at OSLC

March 21 – 11:30 a.m. at St. Paul, 7:00 p.m. at OSLC

March 28 – 11:30 a.m. at St. Paul, 7:00 p.m. at OSLC



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