

**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
1524 WEST MAIN, DURANT, OK 74701**



OUR SAVIOUR'S NEWS

APRIL, 2018

PASTOR'S CORNER

John 19:30 "...it is finished..."

*Mark 16:6 "...Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been **RAISED**; He is not here..."*

As I sit here at the computer to write this monthly note to you folks who are friends and members of the Our Saviour's community I am looking at the weather in Baltimore. Maryland. I am seeing that Baltimore is getting hammered with snow right now, and as a father of a person who lives in Baltimore, I pay attention to the weather ways there every now and then. This got me to thinking about the weather here in good ole Durant, Oklahoma. I do not check it as closely as I used to but we are entering into the tornado season and being in Oklahoma it is not a bad idea to have a general idea of what is coming down the pike for us in our neck of the woods. So I switched the website I was viewing over to Durant and hit the ten day report and come to find out that for us starting basically Palm/Passion Sunday morning until a few days after Easter we are in for a weather pattern of rain and thunderstorms. (If they are correct in their predictions of course.)

I happen to think this is the perfect metaphor for us to think about Holy Week. The chaos and storms of the last supper, the arrest and the trial before Pilate, and Jesus marching to his death at the hands of the religious leaders under the auspices of the state of Rome can be unsettling. We have been journeying through Lent and taking stock of our own spiritual disciplines both personally and as a community and hopefully we are slowly being pushed by God through our disciplines and reflections to be more fully engaged in the ministry of those on the outside of our comfort zones. A process like this can be stormy and anxiety producing, but oh my, what a gift it is to us when we emerge as the people of God bearing the good news of **Christ in Easter** and bring hope in our context.

The weather site I was visiting did not have the weather report/forecast for the week after Easter so I do not know if the resurrection and Easter season will fulfill the weather metaphor I am using and be sunny and nice outside. It will be April however, and the weather will be getting nicer, and the trees will be leafed out, and the fishing will be great, as we metaphorically emerge from the grave of winter and begin to see EASTER new life all around us.

Some of you know that I have been working on learning ten short pieces for the classical guitar as my personal Lenten discipline. I have been picking them for a technical difficulty that each presents to me. I have seven under my hands and of course still need to work on the dynamics. However, even though there is really not much a technical challenge, I came across an old simple arrangement of "What a Wonderful World" and think I will learn and memorize this and add it to my list of ten. I will leave you with the text from this piece of music by George David Weiss and Bob Thiele and famously recorded by Louis Armstrong as an Easter vision for us at Our Saviour's;

I see trees of green, red roses too
I see them bloom for me and you
And I think to myself what a wonderful world

(continued on page 3 Pastor's Corner)



CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
Sunday, March 11, 2018

In attendance: Robin Bell, Brandon Burnette, Gary Hicks, Paige Poppe, Rade Radasinovich, Sarah Weissenbuehler, Pastor Jeff Corson, Kathleen Burnette (guest). Absent: Martha Landua

President Rade Radasinovich called the meeting to order at 12:09 pm. Pastor Corson opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the February 11, 2018 regular meeting of the Council and the February 28, 2018 financial reports were presented. **Brandon moved to approve the minutes and financial report as presented; second by Gary; motion passed.**

Committee Reports were presented by the following representatives:

Brandon (Fellowship) – The Fellowship team met briefly before the council meeting this date to discuss plans for the upcoming year. Mary & John Slice will be hosting a “Game Night” at OSLC on Friday, April 13, 2018.

Martha (Secretary) – Message was sent with Paige that a decision needs to be made to designate the April's 5th Sunday Noisy Offering. After discussion the Council decided to present this offering to Washington Irving Elementary School to assist with end-of-school needs (field trips, etc.). **Robin moved to present the April Noisy Offering to Washington Irving Elementary School; second by Paige; motion passed.**

Sarah (Education) – The next Family Faith Formation will be held Sunday, March 18, with the theme of “Stories of Healing.” Health kits will be made for Pastor's Pantry. Joanna Nannestad will give a brief presentation about worship during Holy Week. There are two more FFF on schedule for the remainder of the 2017-18 year. Adult Christian Education meets on Sunday mornings with Sarah leading the study of the Gospel of Mark.

Paige (Worship) – Holy Week services will consist of Palm Sunday on March 25, Maundy Thursday on March 29, Good Friday on March 30, and Easter Sunday on April 1. Joanna, music coordinator, may possibly have an instrumental ensemble from Southeastern to play special music during the Easter Sunday morning worship.

Gary (Stewardship) – nothing to report

Robin (Ministries) – Had a meeting with Evelyn Engel to discuss responsibilities of the Ministries position. Robin discussed the possibility for us to tour the Southern Oklahoma Nutrition Program and the Senior Center located on 16th Avenue.

Pastor Jeff – Pastor presented his February report. He explained that one of the people taking the New Members class is a minor, so he has spoken with the parents as they have to give approval for their minor child to be able to join OSLC. He also said that each church congregation was asked to mail a 12x12 piece of cloth/fabric to be added to a quilt that will be made and be on display at the Synod Assembly in April. Marilyn Comer took on this task and it has been sent to the Synod. We will take a photo of the quilt at the Assembly to share with the congregation.

Other Business:

· Language to change Bylaw C11.01.03 was presented to reflect that the vice-president would be appointed by the elected council members (see attached). **Sarah moved that Bylaw C11.01.01 be so changed and submitted to the Congregation for a vote; second by Robin; motion passed.**

New Business:

· A Council Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, April 21 from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm at OSLC. Rade will provide Billy Sims barbecue. It was decided to hold our April Council meeting during the retreat. *(continued on next page, council minutes)*

COUNCIL MINUTES CONTINUED

The May Council meeting will be held immediately following Worship on Sunday, May 6. There will be no Council meeting in July. The June and August meetings will be scheduled at a later date.

· ALICE (Alert Lockdown Inform Counter Evacuate) training will be scheduled. Pastor will make a contact to get this going. We could also invite other churches, as this type of training will be “church specific.”

Brandon moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:43 pm; second by Gary; motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Poppe for Martha Landua, Secretary

The next meeting of the Church Council will be April 21, 2018 during the Council Retreat.

PASTOR’S CORNER CONTINUED

I see skies of blue and clouds of white
The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night
And I think to myself what a wonderful world

The colors of the rainbow so pretty in the sky
Are also on the faces of people going by
I see friends shaking hands saying how do you do
They're really saying I love you

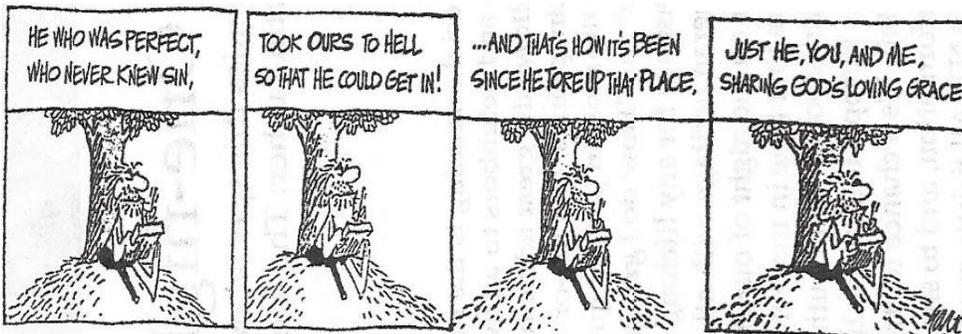
I hear babies crying, I watch them grow
They'll learn much more than I'll never know
And I think to myself what a wonderful world
Yes, I think to myself what a wonderful world

See you in Church,

Pastor Jeff

B.C.

By Johnny Hart



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY APRIL

- 6 Chad Gray
- 7 Gavin Gray
- 8 Lori Gray
- 11 Colton Bacu
- 12 Nancy Sullivan
- 12 Austen Gray
- 13 Denton Comer
- 14 Paige Poppe
- 16 Adam Corson
- 19 Owen Bacu
- 26 Sophia Corson
- 27 Brandon Burnette

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY APRIL

- 18 Lori & Chad Gray
- 24 Jessica & Sean

THE BACK DOOR

WHEN: April 5, 2018
WHERE: Our Saviour’s Fellowship Hall
TIME: 7 p.m.

You are invited to join us for an evening of musical entertainment as Our Saviour’s Fellowship Hall is turned into a musical venue. A variety of artists will be performing for your listening pleasure.

Invite your friends to join you for this unique evening of relaxation and fun.

Coffee and cookies will be available.



***"BAD LUCK PARTY" AWAITS YOU
 AT THE SLICE HOME,
 1208 FOUR SEASONS DRIVE,
 DURANT, OK
 BEGINNING AT 7 P.M.
 COME ONE, COME ALL, TAKE YOUR CHANCES!
 MAYBE YOUR LUCK WON'T BE SO BAD
 AFTER ALL!***

MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Robin Bell reports that one of the ideas she is considering for our members is a tour and tutorial of how Meals on Wheels and Hot Meals, (two separately funded programs) are put together and how it is beneficial to our community. The church council discussed this for future ministry projects for Our Saviour's.

If you are interested in touring this facility located just north of Our Saviour's at 16th and Beech, please contact Robin. Robin currently works part-time with preparing the hot meals for the elderly in our area.

*As a history side note from your editor, the RSVP (retired senior volunteer program) facility, in which the Meals on Wheels and Hot Meals program that exist today, began from a grant received that **Dwight Landua, former OSLC member and late husband of Martha Landua,** wrote and acquired as a member of the RSVP Board of Directors. RSVP was a vision that started on January 3, 1977. This grant eventually allowed the board to erect the current building in the late 1980's. Once the facility was opened, Dwight initially directed the program and hired the staff until a permanent director was hired. He reapplied for a grant each year and in due time the nutrition programs were added to the center's services. Dwight continued to serve on the RSVP Board of Directors for many years.*

**BRANDON BURNETTE
OSLC COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT
AND REPRESENTATIVE
FOR EVANGELISM THROUGH FELLOWSHIP**

As editor of Our Saviour's News, I recently asked Brandon Burnette to tell us a little about himself that we may—or may not—know. The following is what he has shared with us about himself.

Originally I am from Evansville, Indiana and grew up in Dallas. I am a graduate of Texas Christian University (TCU) in Fort Worth with a background in Political Science and Radio-TV Film. I have a Master's degree in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. I work at Southeastern Oklahoma State University as the Government Document/Reference Librarian. I've been working there for over 17 years and I have presented presentations and published articles on Native American government documents. I'm also a history buff.

My wife, Kathleen, and I have been married for over four years. She also has a degree in Library Science. We both enjoy reading, traveling, hiking, playing miniature golf, going to museums, zoos, aquariums, the movies and the theatre.

I have an older brother who lives in Maine. He is a speech pathologist. My parents are snowbirds. They live in Evansville, Indiana in the summer time and spend the winters in Port Charlotte, Florida.

**PAPER AND HYGEINE PRODUCT DRIVE FOR
NEW LIFE HOUSE**

New Life House is a sober living family for women. New Life House is a nonprofit organization that provides a healthy, positive environment to help residents abstain from drugs and alcohol while practicing life skills. It is funded through grants, donations, and fund-raisers. Our Saviour's has partnered with New Life House on several occasions as part of our Ministry Outreach. Once again we are asking for your help. We would like to provide the following items through your donations:

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Laundry Detergent

Fabric Softener Sheets

Feminine Hygiene Products

If you would like to donate, please bring your items to church by Sunday, April 8. We will then deliver the items to the house the following week. If you have questions, please see Rhonda Collier. Thank you for your donations and support of this worthy cause.

Sunday School News

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

During the Easter season, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! What better time to renew a commitment to regular Bible study or to expand your current practice to explore your faith further! As always, there are a variety of opportunities at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

If you would like to attend one of our scheduled educational offerings, here are your options:

- **Sunday morning 9:30 – 10:15 am** Studies from the Gospel of Mark. No previous bible study experience required!
- **Tuesday evening 7:00 – 8:00 pm** Study on the Gospel of John facilitated by Pastor Jeff Corson. This in-depth study of John led by our theologian-in-residence is enlightening and sheds light on this amazing Gospel! Join us for this study which meets in the fellowship hall.

Family Faith Formation Intergenerational Sunday School: Light lunch followed by activities and learning centered around Bible stories. Theme for the year: *Stories of Water and Wonder*. Our next FFF dates for 2018 will be **April 15, and May 20**.

- **April 15: “Well, well. What have we here?”** We will be learning and exploring stories occurring around wells that appear in Biblical texts.
- **May 20: “Baptism”** We will be talking about baptism and have a water party to wrap up our year! We will revisit some favorite activities and remind ourselves what we spent the year learning about! Even if you have not attended in the past, join us for our final FFF of this season!

How joyous to study and learn together as a faith community! Such wonderful and rich conversations! I leave you with a quote from Philip Ruge-Jones (Associate Pastor Grace Lutheran Church Eau Claire, Wis.):

“Entering into the power of God’s coming kingdom, we experience the resurrected Jesus meeting and leading us into newness.”

Indeed we are a resurrection people! May we allow Christ to lead us to newness of life!

May God bless you on your continued faith journey!

Sarah Weissenbuehler

PREGNANCY CENTER OF BRYAN COUNTY is hosting a Baby Shower on Saturday, April 28 from 10 am to 12 noon. More information will follow as to location and will be in the church bulletin.

Diapers and Baby wipes are suggested shower gifts. Baby bottles for the annual Baby Bottle Campaign will be available to pick up that day. We need a volunteer to get the bottles? Can you? Contact Mary Slice if you can attend the shower and pick up OSLC’s baby bottles. Thanks!

Noisy Offering received on April 29th will be given to Washington Irving Elementary School to assist with end-of-school year needs such as field trips, etc. Save your change and bring it with you to church on April 29th. Let’s hear a joyous noise as your coins and bills are dropped in the bucket!

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 April Fool's Day EASTER 9:30 Adult SS 10:30 Worship	2	3 7 pm Pastor's Bible Study	4	5 7 pm The Back Door	6 Happy B'day Chad Gray	7 Happy B'day Gavin Gray
8 9:30 Adult SS 10:30 Worship & Fellowship Happy B'day Lori Gray	9	10 7 pm Pastor's Bible Study	11 Happy B'day Colton Bacu	12 Happy B'day Nancy Sullivan & Austen Gray	13 Happy B'day Denton Comer 7 pm Friday the 13th "Bad Luck Party" - at Slice home, 1208 Four Seasons Drive	14 Happy B'day Paige Poppe
15 9:30 Adult SS 10:30 Worship Noon: Family Faith Formation	16 Happy B'day Adam Corson	17 7 pm Pastor's Bible Study	18 Happy Ann. Lori & Chad Gray	19 Happy B'day Owen Bacu	20	21 11—3 pm Church Council Retreat
22 Earth Day 9:30 Adult SS 10:30 Worship & Fellowship	23	24 Happy Ann. Jessica & Sean Corbin 7 pm Pastor's Bible Study	25	26 Happy B'day Sophia Corson	27 Happy B'day Brandon Burnette NT-NL Synod Assembly in Temple, TX	28 10 – 12 noon Pregnancy Cen- ter of Bryan County Baby Shower NT-NL Synod Assembly in Temple, TX
29 Noisy Offering 9:30 Adult SS 10:30 Worship	30					

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

1524 West Main Street

Durant, OK 74701

APRIL, 2018
OUR SAVIOUR'S NEWS



APRIL 1, 2018
WORSHIP AT OUR SAVIOUR'S
10:30 AM

