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OSLC/Skogdalen
Parish Paper
October 2016



*Our Savior's/Skogdalen
Parish Paper*

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306 S. Main St.
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What
"Stewardship" is
All About



Stewardship is about more than money. But it is about money.

Your use of money and your other possessions are an important part of your discipleship as followers of Jesus. The word “steward” comes from the Anglo-Saxon term “sty warden,” the person who took care of the pig sty! The term has evolved to describe anyone who is the keeper of another person’s possessions. We’re the keepers of God’s possessions – that is of God’s creation.

Steward describes your relationship with God the creator. It helps you to see that God has “created me and all that exists” (Luther’s Small Catechism, Apostles’ Creed, explanation of the First Article). **And all that we are and all that we have, come from God as blessing.** It is your responsibility to take care of and use wisely these blessings. They include your time, attention, physical health, energy, talents, possessions, attitudes, relationships, and money. That includes the sharing of your financial resources to support the ministry of the church.

Stewardship is about the abundance of God.

In many congregations thinking has become focused only on the congregation’s budget. And so there can be a sense of not having enough to pay the bills. What this leads to is conversation about meeting the budget. It is based upon sacristy. When your use of language about stewardship is centered on the need to meet the budget of the congregation—the need to raise sufficient funds to cover the bills—you can lose sight of what it means to be good stewards. You might begin to think more about the total needed and “How much is my fair share?” You might find yourself wrestling with what you think you can afford to give in light of the rising costs of everything else in your life and how much you have left over. **This way of very stewardship is based upon sacristy, rather than the abundance of God.**

Stewardship as a Disciple of Jesus

Stewardship is an important daily activity in the life of a disciple of Jesus. He spoke throughout the Gospels about money and possessions. (See Luke 12 as an example.) Mostly he warned about the power and ability of possessions to separate you from your relationship with God. Your possessions have the power to get in the way of your relationship with God. You might look to them for security, put your trust in them, and therefore treat them as idols worthy of worship. **When we focus on our possessions they begin to possess us.**



As a disciple of Jesus, you can find a broader role for stewardship in your daily life. You are called to be the body of Christ in the world—to do God’s work, share your blessings received from God, do God’s will. That understanding of stewardship is both about the congregation and the individual. How do you take care of all that God has blessed you with? How do you use those blessings to accomplish God’s will for the world? This might mean tending to your health, your relationships, your work, your possessions, your finances, your recreation, God’s creation, your congregation, your community, or your faith life. Pastor John

9th Annual Lasagna Dinner



**OUR SAVIOR’S LUTHERAN
CHURCH, WESTBY**
Saturday, October 29th
Tickets \$10.00

Social Hour from 5:00 PM- 6:00 PM
with dinner to follow.

Silent Auction - Live Music - Live Pie Auction

High School Ministry

Wednesday Nights 5:30-7:30

Join Cassandra (Kaplanda) Christianson and others to eat, talk, and “be”. It’s a safe, comfortable place and time were people are accepted for who they are.

wednesday
night **LIVE!**



Friday, October 14th for the high school ministry. The high school ministry will also be going to a Haunted House that day.

There will also be a Big Buck Contest for all hunters. Take a picture of your big buck and we will put it on the bulletin board downstairs in the basement. This is for the whole congregation for both bow hunters and gun hunters. Put your name and phone number on the back of your picture. Youth in grades 12 and under are eligible for prizes.



FALL CLEAN UP HELP

If anyone is in need of help with yard work or flooding issues, please contact the church office at 634-4871. The high school ministry has volunteered to help.

Building Renovation Update

Stained Glass Windows - Reinarts Stained Glass Studios will be working on some portions of our beautiful windows this fall and winter. They will be removing some of the bulges and re-sizing glass in a number of the windows in the sanctuary. Mark has completed the work on the exterior window frames.

Our Landscaping project is underway.

Tiffany Cade from Deep Rooted is designing the front landscaping to ensure proper drainage and the selection of low maintenance and attractive plants. The major portion of the project will be completed this fall with the remainder in the spring.

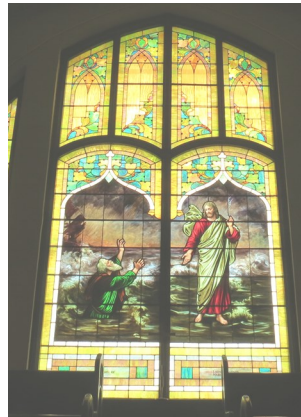
Parking Lot/Dumpster Relocation. We will be relocating the dumpsters to an enclosed area near the kitchen door. The parking lot will be resurfaced this fall and depending upon the weather be stripped to allow for 21 parking spaces! No more blocking people in! We will be building a fence around the HVAC equipment on the south side later this fall or in the spring.

Front Step Railings - Work is still progressing on addressing the issues with the railings. Unfortunately there were a number of areas on the railings that were not properly treated.



THANK YOU!

We would like to thank everyone who helped with the Rededication Dinner. We would especially like to thank Eric Nottestad for cooking the pig for the Hog Roast. It was delicious. It was an enjoyable day! Thank you to everyone who helped on Saturday to get the church cleaned up for Sunday.



FLOOD DAMAGE

On September 21-22, Sugar Creek experienced significant flooding throughout the camp.

Damage occurred to the front pasture fence, the new road coming into the camp, numerous large round bales of hay, gravel and road work, destruction of the cement floor in the shop, and water damage to some of the camp residences across the road.

Additionally, there were numerous tree and log debris from the creek spread throughout the camp.

The damage estimate from this flooding is between \$20,000 and \$22,000 at this time. This will include fencing, gravel, cement work, and water mitigation and equipment rentals (excavator, dozer work).

Our confirmation kids and adults went and helped out at the camp as part of their servant project. We will be taking a special offering for Sugar Creek on Sunday, October 9th. You can also send donations directly to camp or volunteer to help with the recovery process. If you can help, please call Don or Sheila at the camp phone number or email above. Don's direct email is don@sgrcreek.org.

Thank-You and God bless!



Be a part of our new family directory program. We need YOU to make our new family directory complete!

We will partner with Lifetouch for professional photography that will connect our families and tell our story.

Thursday—Saturday October 13-15
Thursday—Saturday November 17 - 19

Hours: **Weekdays 2:00 –9:00 p.m.**
 Saturdays 9:00 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.



**WE NEED
YOU**
to make our new
family directory
complete

Lifetouch will photograph at Our Saviors. In your one-hour session you will:

- Be professionally photographed
- Immediately view your portraits
- Have an opportunity to purchase portrait gifts

Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait & directory for participating.

There are a number of ways to sign up:

1. Go to our website www.oursav-skogdalen.org and click on the Church Directory link—this will take you to the registration page. Go to our facebook page at Our Saviors-Skogdalen churches
2. Beginning Sunday September 25th you can sign up at church before or after worship
3. Call the church office

We are looking for a number of people to serve as Host/Hostesses when the pictures are being taken

It’s easy, it’s fun and it’s a good way to meet people. Duties include:

- Greeting people
- Putting address labels on cards.
- Feeling good because you helped the church and met new people

Church Directory

Devi Stoffregen is heading to India!



As many of you know, adoption is a big part of my life. My parents adopted my brother and me both at a young age. So many people asked if I remembered anything, or if I knew my biological parents. My response was always, " I don't remember" or "I don't know. “It was never something I was ashamed of, just had no interest to look for answers. It wasn't until recently I found out more of my story. It has always been my dream to visit India someday and see the culture.

Now I have that opportunity to go back. What better way to spend this adventure than volunteering at the orphanage I was from, Grace Kennett Foundation! Grace Kennett Foundation is a non-profit organization that has sheltered and cared for over thousands of abandoned or injured children for the past 60 years. Their mission is to incorporate competence, compassion, and commitment into caring for these children. They have also brought together hundreds of families worldwide through adoption. Even for families in Coon Valley WI!

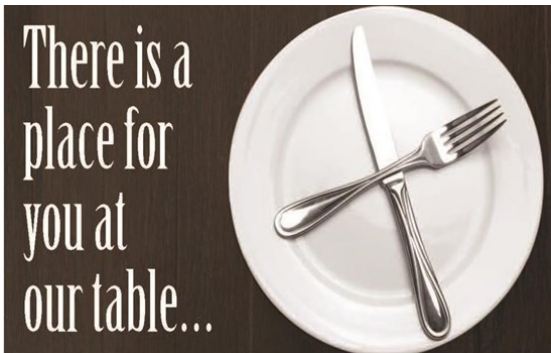
Since being in contact with the orphanage my mind and heart have never been so clear. This is an experience I truly believe is one I need to have. As believers, we are called to actively spread God's words and love to make a positive difference in the world, whether it be our loved ones, or strangers from another country. However, this journey is something I can't do alone. Your support is greatly appreciated whether it's motivation, financial, spiritual, or emotional. Anything will help!

To find more information about Grace Kennett Foundation please like them on Facebook or visit <http://www.gkfmadurai.in>

If you are at all interested in making a donation or for more information call 608-386-3801 or e-mail me.
stoffregend8736@my.uwstout.edu

Thank you all so much for helping me make my dream come true!





"COME FOR SUPPER"

Every Tuesday
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Social Hour 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
Meal Served 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

NO CHARGE "EVER"
EVERYONE WELCOME

Birthday Bags:

If you would like to participate in the Birthday Bags Program again, it would be much appreciated! The children in the Westby & Coon Valley Elementary Schools received a birthday bag last year at the time of their birthday (summer birthdays also received one at some point during the school year). They loved it!

We need all birthday bags to be uniform so that there is no difference in any of the bags. In order to do this, please include **ONLY** the following items:

Basic Cake Mix, frosting, 2 single servings of applesauce (this is a substitute for the eggs & oil), a pan (please go with a shorter pan so that it will fit into the bags better), a "Happy Birthday" banner, and a plain, basic bag.

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE CANDLES OR ANYTHING "EXTRA".

If you are a member of a group / organization and would like to make a donation toward the cost of purchasing items to put these bags together, you can do that too! Please make your check payable to WCP and write "Birthday Bags" on the memo line. Your generosity is felt and appreciated very much!!!



All Parish Weekend at Sugar Creek
January 13-15

Begin the new year by enjoying a weekend away at Sugar Creek Bible Camp. This is for people of all ages and families of all sizes!

Spend time inside – sitting by the fire, reading, playing games, napping, roasting in the Sauna. Spend time outside – hiking, snow shoeing, skiing, sliding, skating, sleigh rides. Spend time eating – 4 fantastic meals. Spend time laughing – Spend time renewing!



We hope to have families, singles, seniors, long time members and newer members spend the weekend together. In other words, we want the Body of Christ at OSLC/Skogdalen to have a great time together.

Cost

Thanks to funds raised at the Lasagna Dinner the cost is \$60 per person, 5 and under free, max of \$175 per family! (regular cost \$ 95 per person) - there are additional scholarships

Schedule

Friday: Arrive and settle in between 6:00-7:00 Pizza and snacks

Saturday : Brunch – Large group fun – snacks, free time to enjoy all that Sugar Creek has to offer – supper—evening fun!



Sunday: Brunch - Large group fun - worship, head home or spend the rest of the day playing at camp!

Sign-up begins September 11.
Plan now to attend and bring friends!

We love to have children and families worship together and really don't mind if the little ones get a little fidgety. We also know that it is hard for parents to fully engage in worship when they are worried about misplacing a pacifier or a crayon falling on the floor.

Our Saviors has a variety of ways to make worship meaningful for families.



- ⇒ We really don't mind if your child is restless!
- ⇒ There are children bulletins and worship bags filled with quiet activities.
- ⇒ Kids of all ages are encouraged to come up for the children's Bible time.
- ⇒ We have "worship grandparents" who are eager to sit with your child
- ⇒ Twice a month Liz Dahlen (a mom of two boys and speech therapist) will be in the lounge to take care of infants to 5-year old's. She will have age appropriate toys and bible activities as well as treats. You can bring your child before or during worship, you just have to make sure to pick them up!

The dates for the "Liz in the Lounge" are October 2nd and 23rd, November 6th and 20th and December 4th.

Confirmation Update

Kids did a great job helping Sugar Creek clean up after the flood damage.

- October 5 - People Forget the Promise
- October 12 - Early Dismissal
- October 19 - Promise to David
- October 26 - The Promise Provides
- Friday 28-Saturday 29 - Sugar Creek



Saturday, October 22
Skogdalen WELCA Fall Bazaar
10:00am—1:00pm



Saturday, October 29
Our Saviors 9th Annual Lasagna Dinner
Social Hour at 5:00 PM- 6:00 PM
with dinner to follow.



Sunday, October 30
Our Savior's Family Fun Day
Afternoon activities, 1-3 p.m.

Wednesday, November 23
Parish Thanksgiving Eve Worship
7pm at OS's

