

THE PARISH VOICE

Our Savior's

Skogdalen

**306 South Main
Westby, WI**

**4315 Oakdale Ave.
Westby, WI**

e-mail address: oursav@mwt.net

Web site address: oursav-skogdalen.org

JOHN DUMKE, PASTOR

RHONDA BERG, SECRETARY

Pastoral Perspectives

I'm really looking forward to experiencing my first spring in Westby, the transition from snow and slush. I can't wait to be able to hike in the woods, watch as the fields are tilled and planted, and share in the joy of graduations and other celebrations.

I'm also excited about a number of things that are on the horizon at OSLC/Skogdalen.

- The Synod assembly and servant events the last weekend of April. I highly recommend attending the celebration on Friday April 26 in LaCrosse. Tony Campolo is one of the finest speakers I have ever heard as he is able to engage both adults and youth. Tickets are available in the church office.
- Sunday April 28 will be a great day as we worship at Westby Coon Prairie at 9:30. I will be preaching at WCP and Pastor Dennis will be preaching at Skogdalen. After worship we will work on a number of servant events in the area, followed by a meal.
- I look forward to confirmation on May 5. My hope is that these remarkable young people see this as not "graduating" from church but rather a pivotal point in their faith journey.
- On Syttende Mai May 19 there will be a joint worship with WCP held at OSLC at 8am. Pastor Dennis will be preaching at that service and I will be preaching at Skogdalen.
- Confirmation Camp, Sonshine Festival, Mission trip and more!

It truly is an exciting time to be the church!

In God's Surprising Grace,
John

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## HOLY HILARITY

The wife of a preacher was talking with a parishioner a few years ago about a new car that the parishioner had just purchased. The parishioner was going on and on about all the options the car had, including safety features. "The car even has those new-fangled air bags!" the parishioner exclaimed. "That's nothing new," the wife of the preacher scoffed. "I've been riding with an air bag for years."

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OS USHERS FOR APRIL

Head Usher: Howard Langhus
Balcony: Peter Leum



Dave Maxwell, Ernie Peterson,
Eric Nottestad, & Jay Hankee

ALTAR CARE: Vickie Peterson

COMMUNION CARE: Mary Lium & Linda Huebner

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### MEMORIALS



**Harlan Johnson**  
**Carol Swiggum**  
**Thelma Berger**  
**Leo & Darlene Ostrem**

**General**  
**Bulletins**  
**Organ Fund**  
**Youth**

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WEB SITE UPDATE:

Our new website address is as follows:

www.oursav-skogdalen.org

We have now added the newsletter as well as the church calendar.
Make sure to check it out.

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**LAST MONTH'S OFFERINGS:**



|          | <b>Offerings,<br/>Memorials</b> | <b>Other<br/>Income</b> | <b>Attendance</b> |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| March 3  | \$ 4,197.00 (*\$1440)           | \$ 3.00                 | 161               |
| March 6  | \$ 572.00                       |                         | 16/65             |
| March 10 | \$ 1,901.00 (*\$300)            | \$ 1,642.25             | 129               |
| March 13 | \$ 409.00                       |                         | 16/62             |
| March 17 | \$ 3,808.00 (*\$1930)           | \$ 87.77                | 130               |
| March 20 | \$ 427.00                       |                         | 16/70             |
| March 24 | \$ 1,963.50 (*250)              | \$ 1,597.00             | 182               |

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Friday 9:00 to 4:00

**TYPICAL OFFICE HOURS FOR PASTOR JOHN**

- Monday: Available in the morning and afternoon
- Tuesday: Bible Study in morning, available most afternoons
- Wednesday: Office in the morning, available most afternoons
- Thursday: Office in the morning, available most afternoons
- Friday: Sabbath/Day Off

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Grief Recovery Support Group

Every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. continuing through June 11th at Viroqua Church of Christ, this group will meet. Any questions, call 606-3353.

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**Taking Care Of You!**

A program designed for family caregivers. They meet every Monday from 1:30- 4:00 at the Maplewood Terrace – 637-5201

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PAPERLESS NEWSLETTERS

As a reminder, if you would like to receive your newsletter electronically rather than by paper copy, please call the church office or send an e-mail to oursav@mwt.net , letting us know your wishes, and providing your e-mail address.

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**If there is anyone in need of pastoral care or visits, please contact the church office at 634-4871.**

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*Auto Giving included in Total

**Tony Campolo will be at the La Crosse Center
on Friday, April 26h at 7 p.m.**

Tony is one of the most engaging speakers in the world! This is a good event for all ages and is free.

The theme of this event is Generous Love + Generous Lives

2013 LaCrosse Area Synod Assembly

The 2013 Synod Assembly will be held in LaCrosse this year on April 26-27 and conclude on April 28 with local community service projects in our community. Pastor John, along with Barb Christenson and Jayne Anderson, delegates from Our Savior's, and Matt Euler, delegate from Skogdalen, will be attending the event in LaCrosse. The theme is "Generous Love-Generous Lives". On Friday evening, Tony Campolo will be speaking at a public event in the LaCrosse Center, North Hall. If you are interested in attending, contact Pastor John or the church office for your free ticket. Each church is asked to bring a congregational offering for Saturday morning that will be divided among ELCA Malaria Campaign, Sembrando Project in Peru (provides healthy meals for school children, along with tutoring and health and faith education), and Synod budget. Our Savior's will be taking up a special offering on Sunday, April 21, at the 10:30 service to support this assembly request. On Sunday, April 28th, there will be various community projects in the Westby community in conjunction with Westby Coon Prairie Lutheran Church and Vang Lutheran Church.

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**SKOGDALEN COUNCIL MEETING**

Present: Annette, Jan, Lisa, Bob, Gary, Terry, Richard, Marilyn, Rhonda and Pastor John.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Annette McHenry. Secretary's report was given by Jan and Treasurer's report was given by Lisa. She noted a balance at the end of February of \$11,257.51. Motion was made and carried to approve both reports as presented.

Church insurance comes due in mid-April. Cost is \$1,675.00. A couple

of other companies were looked into but their rates were considerably higher. Mark Anderson is working with Acuity, our present carrier, to see if there are any ways to lower the cost.

Offering envelopes were discussed. Do we continue to order for everyone even though many people don't use their envelopes? It was decided to continue doing so. Lisa will order them right away as there is a 10% discount if ordered by March 29<sup>th</sup>. She also asked for and received permission to start paying Archie and Jan quarterly instead of semi-annually. Question was raised whether there was an increase in giving after the letter went out. Mostly no, with the exception of one giving unit.

Regarding the molding, Richard had looked at two different prices of pine and two of oak. Motion was carried to go with the oak and cost not to exceed \$200.00. Richard will purchase the molding and he and Bob will do the work.

Synod Assembly will be April 26<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>. OS and WCP will have a joint service that day with clergy exchanges so that Pastor Dennis Hallemeier will lead worship here that day. In the afternoon, there will be some joint community service projects. It was suggested that we could have our spring clean-up day at that time. Our next meeting will be Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> after church with the balcony clean-up. Meeting adjourned.

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OUR SAVIOR'S BAKE SALE

We will be having another bake sale on Sunday, April 14th and currently proceeds from the bake sale are going to youth programming/camp scholarships.

If you would like to help or contribute, please contact Barb Christenson at 608-632-0993 or bring goodies on March 10th. Thanks.

Souper Bread Night

Our first Souper Bread Night was great fun, and though we didn't have a large turnout, between Saturday night & after Church on Sunday we took in over \$300.00. We learned that Rommegrot cups aren't just for Rommegrot, they make excellent cups when you want to sample several soups. There are already plans to expand our evening next year to include games & make it a family event. Again funds from this will go to increase our youth programming budget.

SYTTENDE MAI

Before we know it Syttende Mai will be here. Last year the youth were in charge of the food stand behind the Church. It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child, well I believe that Our Saviors is the village and of course all of our youth are the children. So even if you don't have children (or if you do) but you have an extra hour or two to spare we would love to have you spend some of that time helping out with the food booth. This can be a very fun project and of course many willing hands make things more fun & usually they go smoother if we can all work together. Please contact Our Saviors office if you are willing & able to give of some of your time. We will also be contacting you so please consider saying yes with joy in your heart.

Thanks from the Syttende Mai Food Booth committee.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped and donated for the Lenten suppers, Souper Bread Night and Easter breakfast. Your participation and donations are **greatly** appreciated!

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WHAT WE DO TOGETHER AS SYNOD AND ELCA

As Lutherans, we have a strong tradition of joining hands to do God's work in ways that none of us individually, as a congregation, as a single synod, or as a denomination can do alone.

"They voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry." 2 Corinthians 8:3-4

Thank you to the people of Our Savior's Lutheran Church-Westby Congregation. Your generous 2012 contribution of \$2,400.00 to ELCA/Synod Mission Support helped fund the following ministries:

La Crosse Area Synod:

Synod, Staff, Programs and Facilities	\$964.80
ELCA Colleges and Seminaries	\$112.80
Lutheran Campus Ministries in La Crosse	\$79.20
Partnership Ministries	\$43.20

Congregational & Synodical Mission Unit	\$528.00
Global Mission Unit	\$237.60
Mission Advancement Unit	\$105.60
3 ELCA Offices:	\$336.00

Office of the Presiding Bishop, Office of the Secretary, Office of the Treasurer.

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OUR SAVIOR'S COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

OSLC Council March Highlights (Complete minutes available in the church office)

Received and accepted the secretaries and treasure's reports

Discussed the article "Six Suggestions for Church Leadership" which focused on need to rethink how we do ministry in the 21st century.

Discussed the retreat for council members on March 16th at WCP. Pastor John asked that members bring 4 hats. The retreat will focus on the mission, ministry, and structure of Jesus' ministry at OSLC

Wally, Melissa, Pastor John and Georgi attended Bethel Home Annual Meeting. They reported that they are financially stable.

The MOOS club will be compensating the youth who helped with Lutefisk dinner.

Synod Assembly weekend is April 26, 27 & 28. Pastor John has tickets available for the Friday night event. Jayne and Barb will be our representatives on Saturday.

There will be a joint service with WCP at 8:00 am held at Our Savior's on Syttende Mai Sunday May 19th

Stewardship Committee members are reading the book "The Great Permission" which looks at stewardship as more than money. They are also looking into ways to attract younger adults to come to church.

The decorating committee is authorized to use the Lillian Leum memorial fund to furnish the office area.

Worship and Evangelism Committee reminded us that there will be a guest pastor from Food for the Poor leading worship the first Sunday in April.

Property Committee

Monte has been working with Geary Electric who is a certified electrician to do an electrical system review of our church building. Jay gave written report of building issues for prioritizing to members.

Youth and Education

Confirmation to be May 5 with the banquet on May 1.

High School Youth breakfast has begun at Borger's and is led by students.

A video projector bid was presented and accepted to purchase a portable system with the moneys from the education fund. A new computer system will be purchased which will include networking and productive software

The food tent outside in the back of the church during Syttende Mai will be operated by the youth. This is mainly a fund raiser for high school youth for mission trips.

Wally presented report on our Synod giving listing where our gifts went too. There will be a special offering taken prior to the Synod assembly with the funds designated for the synod Anti-Malaria campaign and other special ministries.

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## SKOGDALEN WELCA

The Skogdalen WELCA met on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Shirley. We sang "Were You There" #54. Emy gave devotions. Shirley read the Mission Statement.

The secretary's report was read. The treasurer's report was read.

The March Newsletter from the Bethel Home was sent around for everyone to read.

Archie is going to work on the kitchen chairs. Emy made a motion and seconded by Lisa that if Archie needs supplies for the cupboard that he can get them.

Gwen was the delegate for the Bethel Home Annual Meeting. Terry will take the packet to the next council meeting.

Emy was wondering whose responsibility it was to have paper plates and things available. Discussion was had.

We will still make our cookbook but we will aim for next year. We ran out of time. We have added bars to the cookbook also.

Emy made a motion and Marie seconded it that we purchase lefse this year. Terry will purchase two dozen lefse for the salad luncheon. We will still charge \$5.00 for the salad luncheon. We went over the sheet with all the salads on and made changes as needed.

Thank you to the servers today who were Emily and Tina. Next month it will be Ericka & Nancy.

We sang Happy Birthday to the March birthdays which included Linda, Shirley, Marie, Evelyn, Heidi, Emily and Connie.

We have two benefits this weekend. We will donate a quilt to the Evers Benefit and the Kinserdahl Benefit.

The Lord's Prayer was said and the Table Prayer was sung. Today we all brought our t-shirts and we made lovely scarves out of them.

## **OSLC WELCA**

On March 14, 2013, the WELCA ladies meeting at 1pm in the church basement. President Joan Anderson read the Purpose Statement before pianist Betty Homstad played the opening Hymn#54 'Were You There'. Lynette Johnson read the devotions from the book of Isaiah concerning the journey that many take during this time of Lent. We need to follow the Leader Jesus and trust in His guidance.

The Secretaries Report was read by Lynette Johnson and it was accepted as read. Hildur Devine then gave the Treasurers Report and it was accepted as read.

New Business: Karen Hankee was invited to share the estimates that she had gotten concerning the kitchen island remodeling. There was much discussion after the estimates were presented and voting followed after what was available for funds and what would be feasible. The designated kitchen funds from the WELCA account totaled \$2755.00, the cookbook account has \$2754.07 totaling \$5509. Breaking down the bill by way of electrical, plumbing, and carpentry meant using different contractors. The final bids went to Mike Geary for electrical totaling \$500.00, plumbing went to Y-tri for \$1200, and carpentry went to Hall Construction for the cabinets and moving of sink positions for the amount of \$2700 because the existing framework could be used. All this work will be accomplished in a four day time frame over the weekend of April 5<sup>th</sup> to April 8<sup>th</sup>. Adding up the figures bring the total cost to \$4400. The daycare has been informed of the project for meal planning. The Rachel Circle had a program planned but due to the time factor discussing the remodeling project Lynette Johnson abbreviated her sharing of the history behind Daylight Saving Time and St. Patrick's Day. While the collection was taken Betty Homstad played some familiar music and the Table Grace was sung before The Lord's Prayer was said. The month of April has the Sarah Circle doing the program and Norma Bekkum and Shirley Aarness are the Serving Hostesses.

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WELCA KITCHEN PROJECT

Our Savior's WELCA has taken on a project in the kitchen. Due to water damage under the sinks, the island cupboard base and countertop will be replaced, new plumbing and faucets installed and the electricity outlets brought up to code. This is a needed repair and the ladies are funding the project. Anticipated completion date is April 10th. We want to thank everyone for their cooperation during this time.



Grade School

This summer OSLC will be coordinating with Westby Coon Prairie to provide events/programs for grade school kids and families. We need your input, ideas and energy to make this a reality. A planning session is scheduled for Thursday April 11 at 5:30pm at WCP. Contact Pastor John if you are interested.

Confirmation

The first Sunday in May our 8th graders will be celebrating their Affirmation of Baptism. That morning they will be saying YES to the promises that were made in Baptism by confirming their faith. The rest of their life they will continue to say YES by their involvement in church and personal growth in their relationship with Jesus Christ. It is vital that we support them in the faith journey by providing ministries that matter.

High School

Breakfast at Borgens! -7am on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month.
BEGINS FRIDAY MARCH 1
A time for eating (\$2 gets you a big sticky roll)
A time for talking (youth will be leading topical conversations)

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### SUMMER EVENTS

(For those entering high school to 99)

### SONSHINE CONCERT

**Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**

Join 20,000 others for a fantastic weekend of great music, and so much more! Check it out at <http://sonshinefestival.com>

Cost will be around \$100 bucks which will include admission, transportation and most meals. **Registration deposit due May 15**

Adult chaperones and drivers needed. Earplugs will be provided!

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MISSION NASHVILLE

Sunday, July 28 to Friday, August 2

Cost – Around \$175 includes transportation, food, programming, and some surprises. (depending upon transportation costs)

Registration deposit due May 15

Spend the best week of your summer working up a sweat as you serve Jesus by serving others in the Nashville area. We will be staying and working with Mercy House, a Lutheran social ministry center that focuses on providing a “hand-up” for people in need.

See Pastor John for more information. Adult chaperones and drivers needed.


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# Our Savior's

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### GREETINGS FROM OS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you for your continued support of the Sunday School. Just a reminder that the kids will be singing on April 14th.

Also, the last day of Sunday School will be Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. The entire family is invited to Sunday School at 9:15 for donuts and coffee and we will also have a program.

God Bless!  
Janessa, Kelly & Eileen

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Nursery

Kathy Volden is our nursery coordinator and looking for adults to staff the nursery. The goal is to have 4 or 5 "teams" who will rotate Sundays. Give Kathy a call at 637.2559 One of the most important things for visitors and members who have infants and young children is to provide the option of a Sunday Morning nursery. Children are always welcomed in worship yet sometimes there is the need to worship without worrying about the needs of a young one. For this to become a reality at OSLC we need a number of people to assist in coordinating a nursery.

Daycare Contract Update

There have been many questions that have surfaced in the last few months regarding the daycare (WDCLC) at OSLC. Over the past year and a half, OSLC and WDCLC have worked together to write a new

contract, since the last signed contract was over 10 years old. A daycare committee consisting of OSLC members was created.

After reviewing the old contract, the committee quickly realized that there were many items that were out of date and needed attention. The committee talked to many different groups in the church to see what their needs and concerns were, regarding space and use of the church. We also worked closely with WDCLC to see what their needs and concerns were. The main concern with OSLC members was the lack of space for the different church groups that use the church. Another concern was that the amount of money paid to OSLC by WDCLC was not sufficient considering the amount of space that was being used. After much consideration, a new contract was written and eventually approved by both OSLC and WDCLC. This new contract started on January 1st of 2013 and is in effect for 12 months. At that time it will be reviewed again and if both sides agree, will be signed for another 12 months. Below are a few of the major differences between the old and new contracts.

WDCLC no longer uses any of the space in the upstairs of the church. Because of this, WDCLC did have to reduce the maximum students they can enroll.

WDCLC now has use of two classrooms, an office, the old food pantry room for storage and the closet under the stairs, all located in the basement of the church. They also have use of the north side of the fellowship hall from the women's bathroom to the wall. They no longer have storage space anywhere else in the church. They also have use of the kitchen as well as limited cupboard and refrigerator space in the kitchen.

Sunday school has access to all the classrooms in the basement for Sunday school classes.

Even with the reduced space, their rent was increased from \$950/month to \$1500/month. The daycare committee and WDCLC will meet quarterly to discuss the relationship and work out problems or concerns.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding WDCLC please feel free to contact the daycare committee members. They are: Hildur Devine, Melissa Breuer, Andrea Miller, Janessa Anderson and Georgi Dumke.

April 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Pastor John on vacation April 1st – April 10th	1 7:00 Seas Branch 4-H	2	3 7:00 Men's Breakfast 1:00 OS Quilting 3:30 Confirmation 5:30 Personnel Com	4 6:30 Skogdalen Choir	5	6 10:00 WELCA - Skogdalen
7 9:00 Skog w/comm 9:15 OS SS & Choir 10:15 Skogdalen SS 10:30 OS w/comm	8	9	10 7:00 Men's Breakfast 3:30 Confirmation 6:30 Council- OS	11 1:00 OS WELCA	12	13
14 9:00 Skog w/comm 9:15 OS SS & Choir 10:15 Skogdalen SS 10:30 OS w/comm	15	16 Newsletter Deadline	17 7:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Bothne House Devotions 1:00 Quilting 3:30 Confirmation	18 6:30 Skogdalen Choir	19 10:00 Rachel Circle	20
21 8:15 Council Meeting - Skogdalen 9:00 Family worship 9:15 SS & OS Choir 10:15 Skogdalen SS 10:30 Worship OS	22	23	24 7:00 Men's Breakfast 3:30 Confirmation 6:30 Committees Meet	25	26	27
28 9:00 Family Worship 9:15 SS & OS Choir 10:15 Skogdalen- SS 10:30 OS Worship	29	30 2:00 Old Times Devotions				

