

Parish Voice



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Our Savior's and Skogdalen Lutheran Church

306 S. Main. St. Westby, WI 54667

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**OUR SAVIOR'S AND SKOGDALEN
306 S. MAIN ST.
WESTBY, WI 54667**

What's Inside.....

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² Pastoral Perspectives

It's been a great first summer in Westby for us. Georgi is busy settling into our new home, I had a ball at Bible camp. We've spent time with family and friends, camped with the grandkids, and met so many wonderful people. We are truly blest to be here!

It's also been a summer for reflection and learning. I spent a week with some Pastors who have been involved in rural/small town ministry for many years. I listened to their stories of the joys and struggles of ministry, I read some books/material that focused on rural ministry and spent some quiet time reflecting upon ministry in general.

Ministry is Ministry no matter what the location.
It is Jesus' ministry and we have the privilege and responsibility to be a part of it.

Ministry is about connecting people to Jesus.
In a rural setting there is a need for listening, leading and drinking a lot of coffee!

Ministry is comforting and challenging.
It's vital to feel the support and love of Jesus and the congregation and equaling important to continue to grow as a Christ-Follower by being open to the work of the Holy Spirit that may lead us into new and exciting ministries.

As fantastic as the summer has been, I look forward to the cool months of autumn and the multitude of Jesus' ministry at OSLC/Skogdalen Lutheran Parish.

In God's Surprising Grace,

John



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OSLC July Council Highlights

Accepted the secretary and treasurer reports

Discussed the results of the survey that was taken at the last day of Sunday school, the food tent on Syttende Mai and two worship services in July. The top three responses were: earlier worship time, change in worship style and an additional worship service on a different day. Discussion was held leading to developing a task force to evaluate and make recommendations in regards to worship.

Discussed the joint worship service with Skogdalen at Our Saviors on August 11) at 10am

Stewardship group is working on a creating a caring card ministry project

Discussed this year's stewardship pledge drive. Karen Traastad will take the leadership in this ministry called Consecration Sunday.

Discussed and accepted the addition to our web site that would allow for on-line giving.

Discussed the building needs including doors, roof, foundation, windows, electrical and cement. Accepted the recommendation to use an engineering firm to do a complete building analysis.

Discussed the upcoming 125 Year Anniversary of OSLC. A task force will be established to organize the celebration.

Complete minutes available in the church office



NOW AVAILABLE: ONLINE GIVING!!!

Our Savior's has enrolled in a new program with Vanco Services to allow you to give on line using a debit or credit card, in addition to the current automatic recurring giving program. Simply go to our website www.oursav-skogdalen.org and click on the "Giving" link or from your mobile device, scan the QR code below to get started. There is also a demo available on our website for you to check out. You can make online contributions at any time and/or you can set up recurring payments at your convenience. If you are already participating in the Simply Giving Program, please contact the church office to verify the e-mail address on file with Vanco Services before setting up a new profile. Check out the website today for this new feature and consider "Going Green". If you have any questions regarding this new option, please contact the church office at 634-4871 or Jayne Anderson, Treasurer, at janderson@oursav-skogdalen.org.



And the Survey Says.....



To assist people in connecting with Jesus' ministry at OSLC a survey was created to give to parents on the last day of Sunday school in May. The same survey was handed out at the food tent at Syttende Mai and also at two worship services in July. The primary question was "What changes could be made to make Our Savior's your destination on Sunday morning?" There were eight general areas listed along with space to write comments. The overall results provide us with important insights as we grow our ministry at OSLC. The church council has appointed a task force to process the results and explore the next steps. Complete results are available at the church office.

Sunday school May 12

30 responses

Top three: Early Worship Time, different worship style, shorter worship

Syttende Mai

61 responses

Top three: Different worship style, relevant content, different day

Sunday Worship July 7 and 14

24 responses

Top three: Early Worship Time, different day, different worship style, relevant content



OS USHERS FOR AUGUST

Head Usher: Howard Langhus
Balcony: Peter Leum

Monte Tewalt, Craig Johnson &
Marlowe Nelson

ALTAR CARE: Janet Dunnum
COMMUNION CARE: Joan Anderson & Jayne Anderson



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Memorials

Darlene & Leo Ostrem Youth Activities



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LAST MONTH’S OFFERINGS:

	Offerings, Memorials	Other Income	Attendance
June 2	\$ 2291.50 (*\$ 250.00)		132
June 9	\$ 3340.00 (*\$1490.00)	\$1500.00	87
June 16	\$ 1638.55 (*\$ 250.00)	\$ 14.00	73
June 23	\$ 3614.00 (*\$ 2080.00)	\$3174.00	63
June 30	\$ 1001.00 (*\$ 250.00)	\$ 808.72	60
July 7	\$3372.00 (*\$1490.00)	\$1500.00	89
July 14	\$1525.00 (*\$250.00)	\$ 150.00	—
July 21	\$4238.00 (*\$2080.00)	\$ 50.00	88
July 28			

*Auto Giving included in Total



SKOGDALEN WELCA

The Skogdalen WELCA met on Saturday, July 13th at 10 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Secretary, Rhonda Berg. We sang “In Christ There is No East Or West” Hymn #197 Devotions were given by Emy and she had a reading about “Uff Da”.

The ad for the church rummage sale was sent to Terry for the WELCA. We discussed whether the bill should go to the WELCA or the church should pay it. It was decided that the church should pay this bill. Terry will give this to Lisa at the next council meeting.

The Bethel Home newsletter and the South Conference Summer Event sheet was sent around for everyone to review.

Old Business: Emy had a list of things to discuss. She has talked to Archie and he has everything for the cupboard but still needs some plywood for it. Emy will call Archie regarding getting the materials for this. Also the mice issue was discussed. Jack had offered to help Archie so Emy will talk to Archie and Jack and see what can be done.

New Business: On August 6th, the Skogdalen WELCA will be presenting the program and serving for the Auxiliary Meeting at the Bethel Home. The program was discussed. We are in need of anyone who would like to help for the program. Shirley will check with the Choir and see if they would like to sing.

We sang Hymn #198 God Bless Our Native Land.

Thank you to Amy, Lisa and Mira for serving today. The officers will serve with Darlene for the August meeting. The Lord’s Prayer was said and the Table Prayer was sung.





OS WELCA

On July 11, 2013 the WELCA ladies met in the church basement at 1p.m. when President Joan Anderson read the Purpose Statement. Our pianist was Mary Haas substituting for Betty Homstad. She played Hymn # 90 “Beautiful Savior” as our opening hymn.

Hildur Devine gave devotions titled ‘The American Dream’. She talked about how as mortals we can have material things but something would still be missing. Jesus answers that missing item by saying ‘Take Me’. The Secretary’s Report was given by Lynette Johnson and it was accepted as read. The Treasurer’s Report was given by Hildur Devine and it was accepted as read. The bills have been paid in full for the new island and the lower cupboards are ready to be filled up as the heavy duty pull out drawers are installed. That brought the topic of when the cupboards should be filled with the items that have been sitting out in containers since the start of May. After some discussion, it was agreed on that Saturday, July 20th at 9a.m. would be timely. So any help is appreciated.

New Business: The church will be having a church celebration starting in November so it was asked that any old memorabilia would be appreciated.

The meeting was then turned over to the Sarah Circle and the ladies were treated to old history of what the importance of Lutheran ladies were concerning the wearing of bonnets during the heated part of the summer was.

Mary Haas played some music while the collection was taken and we then sang the Table Grace and said the Lord’s Prayer.

The Officers have the program for the month of August and the Serving Hostesses are Hildur Devine, Eileen Knitt, and Barb Nelson.

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.

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.

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

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

Summer Splash and Bash

End of Summer Bash!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 FROM NOON-4 PM

FREE Community Event for EVERYONE!

Sponsored By

WESTBY ELCA LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Our Saviors & Westby Coon Prairie



Inflatables!



**Swim in the Westby Pool!
and
Use the Wading Pool for
small children!**



WACKY, SPLASHY, BASHY BIBLE STORIES

Games, Euchre, Karaoke, Food, Fellowship

**Tables will be set up for card games & board game
bring your own lawn chair**

Trinity Lutheran Church, Cashton, Annual Fall Festival Pie Sale

Pre-ordered unbaked pies \$10.00/pie

Double crust or crumb topping pies available

Order by September 1, 2013

Call 654-5478 or 654-7861 to order

Pick-up at Trinity Thursday, Sept. 6
between 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Baked pies on sale \$10.00/pie

Saturday, Sept. 7 8:30-10:30 a.m.
outside Trinity

Sunday, Sept. 8 11:00 –after parade outside Trinity

Also available Sunday only: pies slices/ala mode
before and during parade



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## CARING CARDS MINISTRY

The Stewardship Committee is hosting our first card party on Saturday, August 24th from 9:00 to 12:00 in the church basement. Anna Wendorf, Viroqua, will be leading us in making 5 cards that morning. COST per person: \$5.00. (That's right--\$1.00 per card!) You can take all 5 cards home with you or donate some or all to our Caring Cards Ministry. RSVP needed by August 14th so Anna will come with enough supplies. Please call the church office if you will be able to attend.

Caring Card Ministry is a new program to stay connected and show caring to our members! Our first focus will be with our college students and our member serving in the military. WE NEED CURRENT ADDRESSES so please call or email the church office with those details.



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CAN RECYCLING

As we continue to explore ways to collaborate in ministry with Westby Coon Prairie, OSLC will no longer be collecting cans for recycling. Please drop off your cans at WCP to support ministries that touch the lives of people in rural South Dakota.