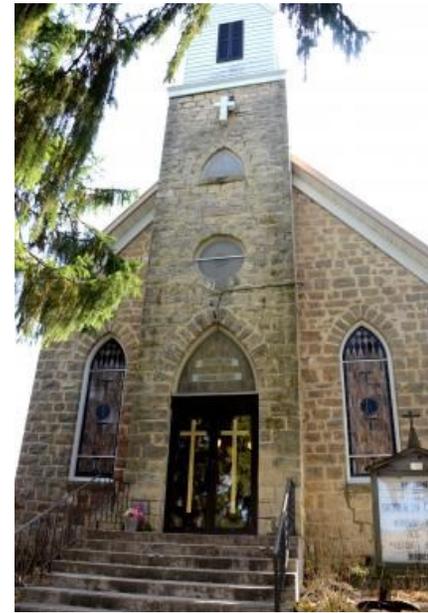


Parish Voice



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

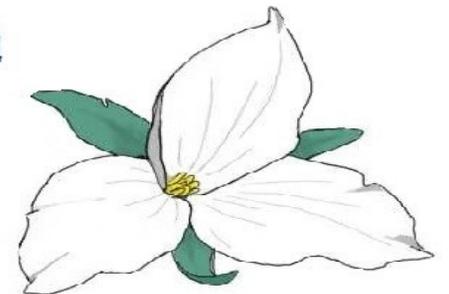


Our Savior's Skogdalen Parish

306 S. Main St.
Westby, WI 54667

608.634.4871
oursav@mwt.net
oursav-skogdalen.org

Pastor John Dumke



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

What's Inside.....

**Pastor's Perspective
Council Highlights
WELCA Minutes
Youth Ministries**

At the last Personnel Committee meeting we engaged in a meaningful conversation concerning the expectations of a pastor. It began with a question of how often a Pastor should visit “shut-ins” and those in a nursing home or hospital. It really was a discussion about where a Pastor should focus his time, in other words, what are the Pastors priorities in ministry.

My hunch is that if you asked a dozen people where a Pastor should spend her time you would receive twelve different responses and that’s the way it should be! We each have different perspectives of the role of the Pastor in ministry.

I think one of the reasons that there are so many different ideas of a Pastors job is that there are only two verses in the Bible that speak of the role or purpose of a Pastor. Ephesians 4:10-12 *So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up*

Seems to me that according to the apostle Paul the function or job description of a Pastor is to equip people to build up the body of Christ. Or to put it another way to help, train, guide, lead, challenge people to Be the Church! So what does that mean for us when we talk about where to spend my time in ministry?

First – It’s not my ministry it is Jesus’ ministry

Second – It is about the Body of Christ (which is all of us) being involved in Jesus’ Ministry

Third – It is about the reality that we each have gifts and talents that we have been entrusted with to build the body of Christ for Jesus’ sake

So does this answer the original question of a Pastor make visits?

Yes! When a part of the Body of Christ (someone in distress) is hurting a Pastor makes a visit to that person. Just as important the Pastor encourages and equips others to visit and care for people.

No! It doesn’t tell us how often and for how long or who should make the visits.

So now what?



OSLC August Council Highlights

Accepted the secretary and treasurer reports

Approved the recommendation that Pastor John spend one entire Sunday morning a month at OSLC and one entire Sunday every other month at Skogdalen to lead the Faith Stepping Stones ministry during the education hour.

Approved the recommendation to purchase new Sunday School Curriculum with the cost being split between the existing Sunday School checking account and the budgeted education line item.

Discussed providing first communion instruction for 5th graders with first communion celebrated Palm Sunday of the 5th grade year. This would also include our current 6th and 7th graders who have not received communion instruction.

Discussed Vanessa’s resignation as choir director effective November 1. Wally will write an article for the next newsletter seeking a replacement. Vanessa will continue to play organ.

Discussed how WCP and OSLC can collaborate – right now they need their space – still in mourning. Can do “soft activities” such as pumpkin carving, camping, sledding. Want to do what’s best for both churches and the community.

Received an update from Jay concerning the 3 engineers – structural, mechanical and electrical – that will be coming this week to overview what our church needs to do in the next 10 years. They will prioritize what needs to be done first and will give us a full blown report so we can make a presentation to the congregation later this fall.

Received a report from worship and music concerning the need to set up a month in advance the ushers, readers, greeters and communion helpers. Received report that Joy and Marilyn are heading up the Caring Card Party Program planned for August 24th from 9:00 to 12:00 in the Leum Lounge. Cards to be used for ministry – initial mailing will be to college students and military members. Received report that Karen Traastad is leading the Stewardship Campaign – Plan is to launch campaign end of October and end 6 weeks later – November 17.

Received report that the high school Breakfast Club will meet every Friday morning at Borgens during the school year – Laurie Feller is the adult advisor –.

Accepted the recommendation that pictures of past pastors in back of church be moved to new location by church secretary office. New bulletin boards would be located in back of church to keep everyone posted on upcoming events.

Received information that confirmation will begin September 4



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.



³ Now we all get down to the work of Being the Church!

For me that means continuing to find a balance in Pastoral ministry that changes from week to week but is always focused upon equipping people to use their gifts for Jesus' ministry.

For you that means being open to being an active participant in the Body of Christ. "Be the Church". Be receptive to becoming involved in ministries or activities. Trust that you have something to offer Jesus.

Be the Church

There are a wide variety of ways for each of us to "Be the Church" at OSLC/Skogdalen. Some areas are new and others have been around for a long time.

Caring Ministries

We are launching a new ministry this fall that will equip people to be reach out to people who are in the midst of life's transitions. A kind word, a visit, or a card can ease the pain of an uncertain time in our life. Caring ministries is about equipping and encouraging people to "Be the Church" by writing a card, making a call or paying a visit to someone.

CARING MINISTRIES



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 members serving in the military. WE NEED CURRENT ADDRESSES so please call or email the church office with those details.

Caring Friends

The goal is to equip a team of people who make regular visits to people who are in care centers, home bound or just need a caring friend to spend some time with. Pastor John will be offering two identical introductory sessions on this ministry on Wednesday September 18 at 6:30pm at OSLC or Sunday September 22 at 11:30am at OSLC. Prayerfully consider participating in this ministry!

OS USHERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Head Usher: Howard Langhus
Balcony: Peter Leum

Greg Daines, Jerry Johnson,
Morris Engh & Eric Lovstad



ALTAR CARE: Marlene Olson

COMMUNION CARE: Carolyn Eness & Marilyn Leum

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Memorials



Rudolph Berger	Undesignated
Rudolph Berger	Building/Maintenance
Darlene & Leo Ostrem	Undesignated

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

LAST MONTH'S OFFERINGS:

	<u>Offerings,</u>	<u>Other</u>	
	<u>Memorials</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Aug 4	\$ 2578.00 (*\$1470.00)	\$ 354.56	63
Aug 11	\$ 1717.00 (*\$ 300.00)	\$1371.00	83
Aug 18	\$ 4118.00 (*\$ 2080.00)	\$1610.50	78
Aug 25	\$ 1,274.00 \$ 250.00)	\$ 0.00	84

*Auto Giving included in Total



SKOGDALEN WELCA

The Skogdalen WELCA met on Saturday, August 3rd at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Shirley. We sang Hymn #75 "Breathe on Me, Breathe Of God". Marie gave devotions "Time For A Time Out".

The secretary's report was given. Treasurer's report was given. Shirley passed the Bethel Home Newsletter around and also information from Sugar Creek Bible Camp.

We had a discussion on the cabinet, the mice problem and who has keys for the church.

We also discussed Bible School and decided we would go ahead and have. Bible school will be at the end of August. We decided on August 25th through August 28th. We will use material from the past called "Crocodile Dock".

We discussed a couple of fundraisers. Kay made a smaller baby quilt that was so cute and we will donate that one to the Brown Baby Fundraiser. We also discussed quilts for Sugar Creek.

We discussed the Auxiliary meeting on Tuesday the 6th. Rhonda will do devotions and a reading and Shirley will have a reading. We need 5 dozen cookies or bars. Shirley and Rhonda will bring bars and Marie will bring Pizelle's.

We discussed the meatball dinner and making lefse. We sang Hymn #130 "O That The Lord Wound Guide My Ways". Thank you to Darlene for providing the lunch today. Gwen and Karn are servers for the next meeting. The next meeting will be September 14th. The Lord's Prayer was said and the Table Prayer was sung.





OS WELCA

On August 8, 2013 President Joan Anderson read the Purpose Statement as she invited the WELCA meeting to order at 1p.m. in the church basement. Our pianist Delaine Jefson played the opening Hymn #141 'Jesus, Lover of My Soul' as Pastor John got the bugs worked out on the projector using some high tech computer skills. The talented man that he is he gave a mini devotion from the Book of Luke talking about the sheep in the field.

We watched a DVD about the importance of ELCA helping in Ethiopia with the malaria problem to heal the sick. ELCA also is important to the people of Africa as they have a higher percentage of Christians than there are in the USA. Interesting note was that the church services can run up to three hours long since the distance traveled takes time from a working day. The Officers had the program that was watched. The Secretaries report was given by Lynette Johnson and it was accepted as read. The Treasurers report was given by Hildur Devine and it was accepted as read. Some new business discussed was how to say 'Thank You' to Karen Hankee for all the work that she has done in the basement. After some discussion it was agreed on to give her a gift certificate for Old Town in the amount of \$25.00. The Sugar Creek program needs pies for the September 7th auction. Any help would be appreciated.

The collection was taken while Delaine played Hymn#177 'O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee'. We then sang the Table Grace and said the Lord's Prayer before closing.

The month of September has the Rachel Circle doing the program and the Serving Hostesses are Barbara Christianson and Janet Dunnum.

Confirmation Begins Wednesday September 4th

An orientation/registration session for parents and youth will follow the regular confirmation class on September 4. It is imperative that both parents and youth attend the session that begins at 6:30.

The schedule for the evening:

Youth	3:30 - 5:00 First class
Chill time	5:00 - 6:00 (home work, prep for supper and orientation program)
PIZZA	6:00 - 6:30 For kids & parents
Orientation/Registration	6:30 - 8: Parents and Youth



Date Night at Borgens!

Saturday September 21 6:00 – 10:00pm
\$40 a couple

Includes a great meal, beverage, entertainment, music and free childcare!

While you're enjoying time together ,your kids will be well taken care of at church.

Where else can you receive a great meal, beverage, entertainment, and music for \$40 a couple?

Reservations are required as space is limited. 634-4003



Breakfast at Borgens begins Friday September 20 7am!

This fall we will meet every Friday.

Call Lori for more information or if you need a ride!

Chili Cook-Off, Come support the OSLC Holy Uff Da Chili Masters!!

The Westby Lion's is hosting their 2nd Annual chili cook-off in downtown Westby on Saturday, October 5th from 11-2. Last year the Lion's had 12 teams and are hoping for 16 teams this year. One new team this year will be a team from OSLC called the "Holy Uff Da Chili Masters". They would love it if you would come out on the 5th to support them and vote their chili as the best.

For \$5 you get a 2oz sample of all the different chili recipes and get the chance to vote for your favorite chili. All of the proceeds from last year's events went to buy an IPAD for a visually impaired student in the Westby Area School District.



If you would like to help and be a member of the "Holy Uff Da Chili Masters", please contact Rhonda in the church office. We hope to see you there!!

Music Coordinator/Choir director needed

For the past two years, Vanessa Mills has done a wonderful job directing the OSLC choir. After taking her busy schedule into consideration, Vanessa has decided that she no longer has time to prepare for and direct the choir. She will however continue her role as organist and has said she will direct the choir through the month of October. The next time you see Vanessa, please take the time to thank her for a job well done! We are going to miss having her direct the choir on Sundays.



If anyone is interested in the position of Music Coordinator/Choir director, please contact myself, Pastor John, Marlene Olson, Ernie Peterson or Bruce Steffrud. You can pick up an application in the church office.

Thank you.
Wally Breuer, Council President



Our Savior's SUNDAY SCHOOL

Rally Sunday will be Sunday,
September 8, 2013
9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.,
Ages 3 thru Grade 8.

Everyone is invited. You do not have to be a member to attend. Also, we can always use more teachers, so if you are interested in becoming one or helping with the Sunday School Program, please contact the church office.



The Children Of Skogdalen say "THANK YOU" to the dedicated leaders of our Bible School and for making it a successful and enjoyable time!!!!

New Member Class

New Members Class at OSLC (Becoming a Christ-Follower at OSLC)
Sunday September 29 11:30 – 1:00pm

If you have been worshipping with us for a brief time or a life-long member join others following worship on September 29 to learn more about Jesus' ministry at OSLC. We begin with a lunch followed by a brief introduction to what it is to be a Christ-follower at OSLC. Child care is provided. Call the church office for more information and sign up. New member Sunday will be October 20

Soup Mission Lunch

Mark your calendars: Sunday, October 27th, Skogdalen will be having a Soup Mission Lunch. Proceeds to go to Hunger Mission, Cashton Cupboard and Bethel Butikk. More details to follow in the October Newsletter.



Thank You

A huge thank you is extended to Corey, Barb and Darcy Christenson for the beautiful fresh flower arrangements they have been sharing with us on Sunday mornings these past several months. They have brightened the altar each and every day. Thank you

