



Welcome!



*Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
celebrates the 500th Anniversary
of the Lutheran Reformation*

**The Mission of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is...
Making Christ known through worship, education,
and witness, we invite and serve the community and beyond.**

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July 2017 Newsletter



Two opportunities to serve others in the community and in the world

The **first community service opportunity** is to help build a home for a family in Grove area of Williamsburg through Thrivent Financial who is partnering with Habitat for Humanity. The groundbreaking for the home will be on Tuesday, 18 July at 10:30 a.m. at 122 Howard Drive, Williamsburg, Virginia. Thrivent and Habitat for Humanity are seeking not only volunteers to help build the home, but also financial support to purchase the resources to build the home. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the passageway leading to the hall. For information, contact Pastor Jim Nickols at 757.564.3745 or e-mail (jx4nick@cox.net).

The **second opportunity** is to assemble meals on Saturday, 28 October, for Raise Against Hunger (<http://www.riseagainsthunger.org/>). We are seeking between 40 and 50 volunteers. The community effort is being coordinated by three local churches: King of Glory Lutheran Church, St. Stephen Lutheran Church and Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. The goal is to make 10,152 meals (about 2 hours with 40 to 50 volunteers). King of Glory, on Longhill Road, will be the site for assembling the meals. To help make this event possible, we need to raise \$1,500. A five hundred dollar matching grant is being offered by OSLC's or Our Saviour's Social Ministry Committee. For every dollar donated, the Social Ministry Committee will match with a dollar. The event will begin with a prayer service at 1 p.m. Assembling the meals will commence at 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. While the meals are being assembled, young people and others will make cards to send to our deployed military members. The event will conclude with a hymn sing and closing prayer service at 4 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the passageway leading to the hall. For information, contact Pastor Jim Nickols at 757.564.3745 or e-mail (jx4nick@cox.net).

Congratulations!

*Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
celebrates the achievements of these members,
and wishes them God's blessings in the next chapter of their lives!*



BRANDON LYONS

Brandon graduated May 2017 from James Madison University with a Masters in Exercise Physiology/Kinesiology and will be heading for Alabama A&M in July for a 10-month Internship in Athletic Training.



LINDSAY ELLA VENABLE

Lindsay graduated Warhill High School in June 2017. This summer she is working with WJCC Parks and Recreation as a Rec Leader with elementary-age youth. She plans to attend Radford University in the fall.



REV. JANELL NICKOLS

Janell turned in her badge after 25 years of teaching and shepherding some 600 students (from California to Virginia) throughout those years! Well done!



Adam, Avery and Michelle Priestley, Michelle's brother, Douglas, and his wife Laura.



Front row: Peggy (Michelle's mother) Michelle, grandmother Alice, Aunt Patty, Uncle Bob. Top row: Richard (Michelle's father), Laura, Avery, and Douglas.

Smaller Can Be Better

How Visiting a "Mega church" Made Me Appreciate Our Saviour's
from Brandon Tate

Last Saturday I attended the college graduation of a friend in Hampton. I figured it would be held at the Coliseum as several graduation events are. I was surprised to learn it was to be held at a church instead. I assumed that it must be a small group of graduates and thus was being held in the fellowship hall of a church. Boy was I wrong.

It was held at a "Mega church" that was probably five times the size of my tiny church. The church had multiple floors with an ornate oak staircase. There was a welcome desk, a gym, a coffee shop, even a kid's play area that could accommodate probably a hundred kids with no problem. It was impressive.

Then we proceeded into the sanctuary which was built for five thousand people. There was a stage and large television monitors. Guests were seated in what was basically an auditorium of the variety where I wouldn't have been surprised to see Beyonce or Lady Gaga pop out. Okay, I might have been a little surprised....

As I sat there waiting for the throngs of graduates to pass I started thinking. I thought that, yes this church was big and well furnished, but I prefer my home church.

I mentioned this to my sister in the hallway as strains of Justin Timberlake sent us on our way. She made a good point and a joke. She said, " Yeah, there's no sense of community here. It's like the Wal-Mart of churches. Your church is like the Family Dollar." I laughed and saw she had a point.

With a church of thousands of members there's no way you could know them all. One thing I love about Our Saviour's is that I know just about everyone. Each time I'm there I get greeted by name. At a big church I would feel like just one of the masses. At our church I feel like part of a family.

Another factor that makes me love our small church is tradition. We sit in pews and not theatre seats. Our music can be lively but it's never like a Def Leppard for Christ show. I don't enjoy the "worshiptainment" as Janell so aptly put it. If people do, that's great, but it's not for me. I prefer our more sedate worship style. We aren't focused on how hip or cool we can be or how many seats we fill. Our church family is concerned about hearing the Gospel and thanking God for his many tender mercies.

I have always loved Our Saviour's since the day I set foot in it almost three years ago. Since then I have found a source of love, support, kindness, and humor. But it took a trip to a big church to make me appreciate the wonderful things about our smaller church.

We may be the "Family Dollar of churches" but as the song says, "Sometimes you wanna go where everybody knows your name and they're always glad you came," and praise be to God we have that at Our Saviour's. It is a blessing and I am forever grateful and thank you all for letting me be a part of the family.

2017 Virginia Synod Assembly Update Forwarding Faith

Synod Assembly is our annual opportunity for the 150 congregations of the Virginia Synod to come together and be reminded what it means to be a part of the wider church. Our theme during our June 9-11, 2017 gathering was “Ambassadors for Christ: Forwarding Faith”.

During the weekend, **The Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla**, the Executive Director of the Global Mission program, represented the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, bringing good news from the wider church.

The Rev. Malpica Padilla, also served as election representative for the Virginia Synod Bishop Election. **The Rev. Robert Humphrey** pastor of Muhlenberg in Harrisonburg was elected on June 11th to serve a six-year term as bishop. Humphrey was elected on the fifth ballot with 217 votes to 167 votes for **The Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick**, associate pastor of St. Philip Lutheran Church of Roanoke.

Testimonials from campaign leadership, **Stephanie Hamlett** of Epiphany Richmond, **The Rev. Jean Bozeman** of First Lutheran in Norfolk, **Jonathan Hornbaker** of Grace in Winchester, and Bishop James F. Mauney were given in support of the ForwardingFaith campaign and the many ministries this endowment aims to support. The campaign has raised over \$2.2 million thus far. The congregational phase is when we welcome and provide the opportunity for our congregations to come together and support faith formation in the Virginia Synod.

One resolution was passed with a standing ovation, recognizing the great work in the life of our synod by Bishop Mauney, naming him Bishop Emeritus at his retirement on August 31st.

Elections for Synod Council also took place over the weekend. We welcome newly elected lay member **Judy Castele** of Good Shepherd in Lexington. **The Rev. Paul Pingel** pastor of Grace Waynesboro was elected to continue his appointment to serve. **The Rev. Meredith Williams**, pastor of Ascension Lutheran in Danville, **The Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick**, **The Rev. Chris Carr** pastor of Christ the King in Richmond were all reelected to serve as Ministers of Word and Sacrament on Synod Council.

The Committee of Discipline and the **Consultation Committee** were also elected over the weekend. Both were elected by acclamation.

The Rev. Alex Zuber was ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA during Saturday evening liturgy at St. Andrew’s in Roanoke. He will serve as pastor in the **Stony Man Lutheran Parish** made up of **Beth Eden** and **Grace Lutheran** in Luray, Virginia.

One young woman was commissioned for Young Adults in Global Mission. **Samantha DiBiasco** of First Lutheran in Norfolk has accepted a one-year appointment as a YAGM to Southern Africa.

Michaela Loving of Mt. Zion in New Market, president of the Lutheran Youth Organization, presented the Youth Assembly report, centered on the Youth Assembly theme of “To Faith and Beyond”. She spoke to the immeasurable value of youth events, and also expressed the gathered youths’ vision for the new bishop of the Virginia Synod. The next LYO Board president will be **Isaac Wilson** of Christ Lutheran in Fredericksburg.

Chapter 13 "Kindness reviews the play *The Elephant Man*"

It's about a grotesque and monstrously deformed man who lived in London in the late 1800s. Abandoned by his mother (who couldn't bear to look at him), he made a living as a child in the workhouse where he was abused. A schemer comes along and sees the potential as a sideshow freak and capitalized on the theory people would pay to see him because it would make them feel so much better about themselves. His patron abandons him after he becomes ill and no longer draws in the crowd and moves onto another freak for his sideshow. The Elephant Man spends his final years in the hospital where a young doctor befriends him. Even the doctor who meant to help him was insensitive to his deepest needs. His most poignant line in the play: "*Your mercy is so cruel. What do you have for justice?*" Genuine mercy is not cruel. Kindness, mercy and justice are inseparable and very much in our lives, if we are true followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus opens His Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes, a series of statements describing the blessed life. The fifth Beatitude states "*Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy*" **Matthew 5:7** I as a child of God reflect His mercy and then I choose to be merciful with my interactions with all around me. The merciful in this world are blessed in the sense we know God's joy. Thanks, be to God!

Chapter 14 "Forgiveness: What is forgiveness?"

If we insist the other person admit they are wrong, if they will say they are sorry, if you will confirm I am right and you were wrong, I will forgive you. Technically, maybe, but it is not the type of forgiveness Christ was talking about. Jesus didn't demand a condition on forgiveness in his prayer "*Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.*" Christ did not preface it with, "If you'll take these nails out of my hands, take me down off this cross, admit you were bad boys in hanging me up here and say you're sorry, I'll ask God to forgive you, and I'll forgive you too." What do you think Jesus would say to those who did realize what they were doing, who knew in their hearts that they were nailing the Son of God to the cross? Sin, Jesus said, is "*that light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light*" **John 3:19** So what do we do? Well, what I do is ask the Lord in prayer to help me get past my feeling of being wronged. You see, in all honesty I have been wronged and I can't forgive, I won't forgive until the person admits they are wrong and takes the steps to make it right. But the real me is saying that I do forgive. Please accept that as the real me. Please, God, be the active agent of forgiveness. I can't do it alone. I think that's all we can do. I am a work in progress. Forgive me Lord, a miserable sinner.

Chapter 15 "The Great Liberator"

Bill writes of Paul Tournier's book "***Guilt and Grace.***" "*Living means choosing, and choosing means running the risk of making mistakes, and accepting the risk of being guilty of making mistakes.*" What is this fear of failure? Bill says it seems that willingness to accept mistakes, if they come, is a great liberating force. How freeing to be able to say, "So what if I fail!" Or most liberating, "So what if I fail, there's someone (**Christ**) who will pick me up if I do!" As parents, siblings, spouses, friends, and work relationships come and go, we all know guilt. Guilt for the "would-a, could-a, should-a." It's taken me a long time to work through the guilt and accept Christ's grace. Well, honestly, I'm still a work in progress. We do the best we can. Do we? Jesus does not awaken guilt in order to condemn, but to save, for grace is given to him who humbles himself and becomes aware of his guilt. That grace is the true liberator that allows us to have the healthy and freeing attitude of "*So what if I fail, there's someone who will pick me up if I do.*" **Romans 8:28** "*All things work together for good to them that love God*" We all make mistakes and will continue to do so. Christ can work them into a pattern for good. This comes with experience. We fail, we live through the awful agony of our human weakness and sin. Then, when we accept Christ, our lives can be transformed by the grace of God.

I hope you will continue to enjoy the telling of Bill's walk in faith and mine! Next month we'll dive into

“Judging, A Change in Attitude” and “We Should Be Ashamed.” We join in prayer for the ministers in our church, our members, our community, the earth, and all of those who are in need. We will walk with you and let the Holy Spirit be our guide. May you through our Lord Jesus Christ receive what God has promised all of us, grace, mercy, and peace.

Evie Braukhoff
Stephen Minister Leader

Counting the offering



“Many hands make for light work.” There are few hands that count the offering following the worship service. There are only four people who pitch in to do this important task. According to best audit practices, the treasurer should not be counting the money, people who are related to one another (husband and wife, brother and sister, etc.) should not count the money together, and the same people should not be counting the money Sunday after Sunday. Help OSLC abide by sound fiscal practices. Volunteer to be a teller. The council has stepped up to the plate by approving a resolution requiring council members to serve as tellers. That’s nine people. Add your name to the list on the sheet posted on the bulletin board at the back of the church. More hands means less Sundays to serve as a teller.

Capital improvement giving

There are many on-going capital improvement projects at OSLC. Some are:

- Replace awning at back of church and windows in church and basement
- Install awning over handicap entrance to church and over door to kitchen
- Repair handicap ramp, repair and repaint church steeple and front doors
- Paint door frame and stained-glass window frame



Please consider making a special gift, and if possible, a substantial one, to support these important projects to maintain the appearance and functionality of our facilities not only for our own use, but also for all of those to whom we provide ministry.

Summer Hymn Singing

- Summer Hymn Sings are scheduled the first Sundays of June, July, and August. Al Glindemann will lead us in singing our favorite hymns, starting at 10:15 a.m.
- Summer Hymn Requests - you are invited to submit favorite hymns to Gigi for placement during worship services throughout the summer. Please include your reason for your selection/s. Forms at Music mail box.



Making a Difference Workshop

Sunday, 30 July, 11:30 am-1:00 pm - “Making a Difference: Sharing your Time, Talents and Treasures”. Spend a few minutes identifying your values; exploring ways to share time, talent, and treasures; discover what is meaningful for you; and create a generosity plan. Also learn about the Thrivent ABC’s: Action Teams, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity, and Thrivent Choice Dollars. Workshop limited to 60 minutes with light brunch and beverage. Presented by Ron Adolphi, Thrivent Representative, in OSLC Parish Hall.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Thekla Metcalf
- 3 Ellen Picard
- 8 Nancy Gulden
- 11 Carlyle Ford
- 13 Ann Gautreaux
- 16 Janell Nickols
- 17 Barbara Shaal
- 23 Jason Geisler
- 31 Richard Hartman



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Noblin
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. Roger Picard
- 30 Mr. & Mrs. Larry Daily

NOTE: If you have not seen your birthday or anniversary listed, and would like it included, please contact the office at 757-564-3745 or email oslcnorge@verizon.net.

Cum Christi in Pacem

A Service of Resurrection for Donald Broady, Barbara's husband who passed away 15 June, will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, 8 July at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

5th Sunday Ministry

30 July, the 5th Sunday collection will go to Social Ministry & Missions to enable them to do more outreach since they are a non-budgeted committee of the church.



Lifting in Prayer



Church family: Wanita Auer, Carlyle Ford, Janet Forgrave, Jeanne Fullman, Ann Gautreaux, Thelma Lee, Janice Leonard, Liesa McGhee, Teena Opheim, William Rorer, III, and Bruce Wildenberger.

Family and Friends: Debra Allen, Joan Beck, Donna Benson, Margaret Blair, Raymond Bowles, Kira Braukhoff, Baby Zadie Loretta Brown, Bill Carpenter, Frank Clarkson, Ellen Cobb, Jon Cuper, Nancy Curtis, Pastor John S. Damm, Janette DeNezzo, Carol Duke, Pastor Einarsen, Frank Feeser, Larry Felts, Pastor Lou Florio, Bonnie Forman, Donna Garrett, Glenda, Kelly Gray, Matthew Hafer, Leah Hoffman, Helen Hyatt, Allen Jenson, Annette Johnson, Cynthia Jones, Evelyn Kirby, Mary Klaburner, Rachel Lawson, Lindsay, Lloyd, Katherine Martin, Vivian Matthews, Richard McQuigg, Ray Minor, Randolph Musmann, Donna Phillips, John Phillips, Bruce Pierce, Desiree Porter, Jack Ramsey, Bill Ridenour, Rosemary Slayton, Pastor Darrell Stuehrenberg, Bob & Judy Tubbs, Louis Turnage, Sr., and Shelton Whitehurst.

NOTE: To add or remove a person's name from the Prayer List, please contact the church office at 757-564-3745 or email oslcnorge@verizon.net.



On behalf of the congregation, Pastor Jim presents recent Warhill High School graduate, Lindsay Venable, with an Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Hymnal. Lindsay will attend Radford University. Her major will be interior design.

AMERICANA

OUR BATTLEFIELDS ARE TRANQUIL NOW
ACROSS THE U. S. A.
ONLY SOMBER MEMORIES REMAIN
AND GHOSTS OF YESTERDAY.
BLOODSTAINS HAVE LONG SINCE WASHED AWAY;
CANNONS NO LONGER ROAR.
OUR UNNAMED DEAD IN UNMARKED GRAVES
ARE SILENT EVERMORE.

FROM YORKTOWN TO THE ALAMO,
GETTYSBURG AND BULL RUN...
FROM SHILOH TO LITTLE BIG HORN,
THE WEBS OF WAR WERE SPUN.
BLOOD HAS BEEN SHED FROM COAST TO COAST
ACROSS THE U. S. A.
OUR HISTORY IS ETCHED IN BLOOD
AND HAUNTS US STILL TODAY.

THERE'S NOTHING "CIVIL" ABOUT WAR -
IT'S NEVER WORTH THE COST.
CAN WE EVER RECONCILE THE GAINS
WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE LOST?
WE CONTINUE TO BUILD MONUMENTS,
LAY WREATHS, SAY A PRAYER
THAT PEACE WILL REIGN AND GOD WILL BLESS
AMERICANS EVERYWHERE!

May Harrison
2017

JULY 2017



LECTORS:

2 Bruce Brelsford
 9 Bob Zimmerman
 16 Joanne Weber
 23 Joyce Moore
 30 Pamela Wildenberger

USHERS:

2 Chris & Jennifer Wilkins
 9 Andy & Diane Priestley
 16 Roger & Ellen Picard
 23 Bruce Brelsford & Lynn Edwards
 30 Richard & Janette Kline

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

2 Brandon Tate
 9 Scott Braukhoff
 16 Richard Hartman
 23 Evie Braukhoff
 30 Brandon Tate

ACOLYTES: Rose Paddock 7/2 Nya Hubbard 7/9 Nya Hubbard 7/16 Ashley Youngk 6/23 Lindsay Venable 7/30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:30 - 4:30 PM Piecemakers 12 PM-12 AM Kitchen in use
2 4 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 6:30 PM AA	3 9-5 PM Kit. in use 7 PM Boy Scouts	4 Church Office Closed 9-5 PM Kit. in use 3-5:30 PM Playin' For Fun 7 PM AA	5 9-5 PM Kit. in use 10:30 AM Worship & Music at Au Bon Pain 5:30-9 PM Flute Frenzy	6 Church Office Closed 9-5 PM Kit. in use 7:30-9 PM Gigi Rehearsal	7 Church Office Closed 9-5 PM Kit. in use	8 10:30 AM Donald Broady Service 12 PM-12 AM Kitchen in use 4-8 PM Wedding
9 5 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Parish Life Committee Meeting 6:30 PM AA	10 9-5 PM Kit. in use 9:30-12 PM Family Focus Grp 6 PM BSA Patrol Leaders Conf. 7 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Social Min. & Missions Mtg.	11 9-5 PM Kit. in use 3-5:30 PM Playin' For Fun 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Plan. Mtg. 7 PM BSA Troop Committee Mtg. 7 PM AA	12 9-5 PM Kit. in use 10-2 PM Senior Program 5:30-9 PM Flute Frenzy	13 Power in the Spirit 9-5 PM Kit. in use 9:30-12 PM Family Focus Grp 7 PM Finance Meeting 7:30-9 PM Gigi Rehearsal	14 Church Office Closed Power in the Spirit 9-5 PM Kit. in use	15 Power in the Spirit 10 AM Casserole Caravan 12 PM-12 AM Kitchen in use
16 6 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 12 PM Parish Council Meeting 6:30 PM AA	17 9-5 PM Kit. in use 9:30-12 PM Family Focus Grp 7 PM Boy Scouts	18 9-5 PM Kit. in use 3-5:30 PM Playin' For Fun 7 PM AA	19 9-5 PM Kit. in use 10-2 PM Senior Program 5:30-9 PM Flute Frenzy	20 9-5 PM Kit. in use 9:30-12 PM Family Focus Grp 7:30-9 PM Gigi Rehearsal	21 Church Office Closed 9-5 PM Kit. in use	22 12 PM-12 AM Kitchen in use
23 7 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 6:30 PM AA	24 9-5 PM Kit. in use 9:30-12 PM Family Focus Grp 9:30-12 PM Williamsburg Knitting Guild 7 PM Boy Scouts	25 9-5 PM Kit. in use 3-5:30 PM Playin' For Fun 7 PM AA	26 9-5 PM Kit. in use 10-2 PM Senior Program 5:30-9 PM Flute Frenzy	27 9-5 PM Kit. in use 9:30-12 PM Family Focus Grp 7:30-9 PM Gigi Rehearsal	28 Church Office Closed 9-5 PM Kit. in use 2 PM Motel Ministry 6-9 PM Jay's Jam	29 12 PM-12 AM Kitchen in use 12-5 PM Michael Rodriquez Eagle Scout Ceremony
30 8 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 12-1:30 PM Thrivent Generosity Workshop 6:30 PM AA	31 9-5 PM Kit. in use 9-1 PM Flute Frenzy Summer Camp 9:30-12 PM Family Focus Grp 7 PM Boy Scouts					