

The Sentinel

August 2019



*Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is a dynamic community,
centered in Christ, called, nurtured and sent--
to celebrate, serve and do justice.*



OUR SAVIOUR'S
Lutheran Church

Prayer List

Shayne, Sequoya, and Matias Knutson

Zoebon Daidii

Steve Lindley's step-mother, Meredith

Sophia Stout's father, Jerry

Dan Lattu's father, Brian

Linda Lindert, aunt of Liz Lewis and
Ken Lewis

Hannah Bolt's grandmother, Arline Brat-
vold

Sequoya Knutson's grandmother, Denise
Renee Arcoren

Pastor Laurie's son, Sam

Jack Hauer

Sunday Worship Service 10:30am

The Sentinel Vol. LVII, No. 8
is published by
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.
2315 Chicago Ave
Minneapolis MN 55404

150th Anniversary Outdoor Worship Celebration

Summers in Minnesota are glorious so why not take advantage of this amazing weather and head outside for a 150th Celebratory Outdoor Worship.

Well ok then- on August 18th, we will! We will move our worship from 2315 Chicago Avenue up the street to Peavey Park at the southwest corner of Chicago and Franklin. There we can enjoy the great outdoors and appreciate the renovations that have been made to the park. Ushers will help people navigate their way from the church building to the park and rides will be available for those who need it. Parking is available along Chicago Ave or along Park Ave and there is a drop off circle on 22nd St from Park Ave that has easy access to the park.

We'll meet in the new picnic area under the fancy roof. Picnic tables are there, but if you are able and so desire, please bring a lawn chair for yourself. Come early and sing! Celebrate many years in the neighborhood and give God all the praise.

Sunday, August 18 at Peavey Park

Schedule

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
10:00 Gathering Songs
10:30 Outdoor Worship
11:30 Outdoor Hospitality

Help is needed to haul stuff from church and set up at the park starting as early as 8am. Please contact Nancy Nygaard Johnson or Mary Preus, or sign up at church, to volunteer.

We look forward to celebrating with you on this wonderful summer morning. Show our Our Saviour's pride and wear your new Our Saviour's T-Shirt!!



150th Anniversary Singing– Come, Sing in the choir

150th Anniversary Committee

All former choir members, visitors, first-timers and current choir members are invited to join in the singing of some old choir chestnuts, PLUS newly composed Anniversary songs!!

Outdoor Worship

Sunday, August 18, 2019

Rehearse at 9:30am at Our Saviour's
Worship outdoors at 10:30am

Anniversary Worship

Sunday, December 8, 2019

Rehearse at 9:45am
Worship at 10:30am
Open House is noon to 3pm

Annual Summer Altar Guild Potluck

Inviting all **Altar Guild members, significant others, and any potential Altar Guild joiners** to the Annual Summer Potluck on August 14, 2019 at 5:30 PM. Elaine Degelau is once again hosting this special event at the Augustana Senior Living Party Room, located at 1425 10th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. Bring a favorite appetizer, main dish or dessert along with serving utensils (Plates, napkins, cups, silverware will be provided.) Also, if you would like to share flowers, bring a bouquet to adorn the center of the tables. If you find you can come but can't bring food, don't worry! There's always plenty to go around. We hope to see you there! Any questions, feel free to contact Jaimie Bennett or Susan Erickson.

LVC Welcome Dinner

Believe it or not a new set of LVC volunteers will be arriving in the Twin Cities in a couple weeks and we want to welcome the new volunteers to make them feel comfortable in their new home. One of the many ways we do this is by hosting a welcome dinner. This year, it will take place on Wednesday, August 14 at 6pm. Sarah Barrett will be coordinating the menu and RSVPs. Please let her know that you plan attend and she will follow up with a sign-up list for items that we need. If you can only stop by for short time to say Hi on the August 14, we are sure there will have plenty of food. Yes...like the State Fair, this heralds the end of summer.

English Learning Center Teachers needed

The English Learning Center is in need of Volunteer Teachers. Classes are Monday through Thursday mornings and evenings and you can volunteer once a week or more. They are accepting applications on a rolling basis and no previous teaching experience is necessary. For more information, check out www.ocsc-mn.org or email volunteer@englishlc.org. Fall Semester begins September 9

Mission of the Month: Sheridan's Story

Laura Kehrberg

OSLC has chosen to support The Sheridan Story as part of its Outreach for the 2019-2020 school year and we are making it our Mission of the Month for August. This program provides weekend food for kids who are food insecure. We have been paired with Hope Academy across the street from us and have provided food in lockers for around 25-30 children at the school during the 2018-2019 school year. As we prepare for the fall, please consider contributing and/or volunteering to help us so we can continue this outreach. A donation of any amount is appreciated but as a reference a \$215 donation supports one child for the year. You can contribute directly but putting a check in any amount in the collection plate with "Sheridan Story" in the memo line. If you want to pledge your support and pay later, please fill out a Sheridan Story pledge card available in the narthex and turn it into an usher or place in the collection plate. If you have questions or want to volunteer please see Laura Kehrberg.

Another Historic Anniversary

Pastor Laurie Eaton

In August of 2009, the ELCA in Assembly voted to allow LGBTQIA+ persons in committed relationships to serve openly in the ministry of Word and Sacrament. This August marks the 10th Anniversary of this historic decision. Our siblings in Christ at St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church are hosting a celebration and commemoration of this milestone, and a recommitment to the continued work of full inclusion. **All are invited to St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church on Sunday, August 18th at 5:00pm for worship, followed by a reception.** St. Paul Area Synod Bishop Patricia Lull will be preaching. Our Saviour's has a particular association with St. Paul-Ref. The late Pastor Emerita Janet Tidemann was married to the Reverend Paul Tidemann, (also deceased) who was pastor of that congregation when they made their commitment known by ordaining the Reverend Anita Hill in violation of the expectations of the ELCA. Much of Paul Tidemann's ministry was devoted to working for full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in the life of the church.

Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation! Please Support the Food Shelf

Maryellen Skan

Summer is here with all its activities, vacations, family time and fun. Most of us don't think about hunger or other needs! However, our neighbors served by CES often do not have enough money for food and hygiene items. Summer tends to be one of the busiest times for the food shelf with school kids at home without school lunch programs to help. The food shelf needs the following:

Food-

100% fruit juice, Canned goods - fruit, tuna (in water), Chili, Meat soups, vegetables, Jelly/jam, peanut butter, Whole grain cereals, instant oatmeal packets, Rice

Hygiene-

Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Bar soap, Shampoo, conditioner, Deodorant, Razors and shaving cream, Feminine products, Toilet paper, facial tissues, Dish soap - small bottles, Laundry soap

Drop off donations (including **brown paper grocery bags**) in the coat room.

Shelter Donation Needs High priority

New Items

Men's white undershirts (all sizes), Razors, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Lotion

Gently Used Items (free of holes, stains, rust, and pre-cleaned)

Wash cloths, hand and bath towels, Twin size sheets and pillow cases, Reusable water bottles, Swiffer wet jet with starter materials, Fans and Bikes

Find a [full list of donation needs here](#).

To make a donation, please contact Tamara at volunteer@oshousing.org or 612.872.4193x2.

Examining the Consequences of War

Amy Blumenshine

Thanks to all who participated July 14 in the pilot of a conversational tool intended to promote moral deliberation about war. The substantial turnout –even while many members were at Holden Village- demonstrated that concerns of war are indeed concerns of this congregation.

It is difficult to address a topic so complex as the ethics of US war-making. Our session focused on the question of military intervention against Iran. We sought to apply principles of conscience as defined by our church. First, we reviewed the three distinct positions adopted by our church in relation to participation in the military: conscientious objection to military killing, selective conscientious objection to a particular war or means of waging war, and in conscience participation in war. The group also identified additional values that needed to be part of a decision of such import, particularly patience, compassion, respecting the sovereignty of another country, protection of the vulnerable, and sensitivity to the impact on children including their likely traumatization. We affirmed the ethics of public discourse: we need to be civil but serious and respectful in conducting discourse on war.

We found that participants had much to say about the issue of war. Many had personal and familial experiences to share – all of them disturbing. Many spoke of long-term hurt to relatives and friends who had been in previous wars. Along with PTSD and other injuries, some loved ones were never able to be a good parent or became involved in substance abuse and crime. “He was never the same again” was the refrain. There were many stories of negative and traumatic impacts, including from relatives who were just witnesses to war’s destruction and death. War is not over when it’s over.

Judy Halvorson noted how refugees from war frequent our church on a daily basis as they attend the English Learning Center. Mike Troutman noted the continuing legacy of injury evident in Nicaragua when he was in mission there years after the US sponsored Contra war. Not only were individuals and families left suffering but also a pattern of official corruption had been set. Rico Morales and Anton Moore spoke to the particular experience of people of color who have felt under a system of war-like persecution in domestic circumstances, where violence, including lethal force, is administered by the powerful against those less powerful. Anton was particularly appreciative of this part of the description of selective conscientious objection: “Many military personnel are aware that the virtue of soldiers has been exploited for unworthy efforts and greedy agendas through history. Violating laws of the heart, taking precious life, has grave and lasting consequences.”

One part of the exercise asked what other information would be necessary before deciding. Answers included the following. What is the actual truth in why we’re going to war? What events have occurred to justify war? What is the goal? What other weapons or means could be used, especially if deterrence is the aim? For instance, wasn’t the treaty with Iran working? What will war itself cause?

Participants seemed eager to express their diverse opinions. “This is just the U.S. being nosy in other people’s business again – nobody is picking on us.” Some raised the issue of whether use of military force might be justified if we sought to defend the vulnerable, like the persecuted Rohingya in Myanmar. What kind of intervention might be best to prevent atrocities?

Paul Batalden pointed out that the moral frame we were using had been inherited from medieval ancestors, where war was substantially different. He explained that the world of today is incredibly interdependent and there are many ways of impacting each other apart from bullets. In actuality, we have many possible ways of dealing with differences, disagreements and conflict. “Meanwhile, our country is inadequately funding teachers so we have kids who can’t add or subtract. That’s a national defense issue. It’s just stupid to have dumb kids,” Paul said. In other words, security is more than blowing stuff up.

Pastor Laurie and Deacon Amy Blumenshine serve on a synod task force that is developing this exercise for wider use in the church. We sought to shift the question from one of strategy --“Will this work?”-- to a moral frame that asks “Is this right?” We look forward to using this OSLC experience with the experience of some other pilots of the conversation tool to design better ways for us to talk about these fearful and fateful issues.

Drink Beer, and you can support the English Learning Center!

Wednesday, August 21, 2019 from 3pm to 11pm

[Indeed Brewing Company](#)

711 NE 15th Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55413

Giving back to their community is as fundamental to Indeed Brewing Company as brewing delicious beer. Every Wednesday night, they host Indeed We Can, when they open their taproom to a nonprofit of employees' choice, and the nonprofit receives 100% of the proceeds from that night!

The English Learning Center is thrilled to once again be a nonprofit of choice for the third year running! Last year, we packed the house, and this year more than ever we all need the positive energy of community coming together. So bring your friends out on August 21 to share a cold beer and some warm fuzzies.

The English Learning Center is a learning community of refugees, immigrants, and advocates. Our mission is building knowledge for better lives and livelihoods. Representing more than 25 countries and speaking at least 17 languages, our students reflect the incredible diversity that makes our Twin Cities community stronger.

See you there!

Hiroshima & Nagasaki Commemorations & Nuclear Awareness

Amy Blumenshine

August marks the 74th anniversary of the dropping of nuclear bombs and the start of the nuclear arms race. Free public events are planned to commemorate and raise awareness of the continuing nuclear peril. Monday, August 5th at 6pm will be a tea ceremony at the Lyndale Peace Garden, 4124 Roseway Road (Lake Harriet), Minneapolis. At the same garden, Tuesday, August 6th at 7:30 am, the stories from Hiroshima will be told. On Thursday, August 8, St. Paul which is a sister city to Nagasaki, commemorates the Nagasaki bombing at 7 pm at the Global Harmony Labyrinth in Como Park (across the street from the Pavilion and within sight of the pedestrian bridge, not far from the glass conservatory.)

Meanwhile, US taxpayers are committed to spending over \$10 million **an hour** for the next 30 years to upgrade the nuclear weapons. The current federal budget cuts spending for clean up of radioactive contamination, however.

A recent study has disclosed that the first deaths from the US nuclear bombs were babies in New Mexico near where the first bomb was tested in explosion, July 16, 1945. There was an otherwise unexplained spike in infant mortality. In apparent imitation of God-like power, the bomb was named Trinity. <https://thebulletin.org/2019/07/trinity-the-most-significant-hazard-of-the-entire-manhattan-project> Luckily, the test blast did not set the Earth's whole atmosphere on fire, which some scientists working on the bomb thought was possible.

Most countries in the world are party to a UN ban on nuclear weapons (which is in the process of being confirmed) but there are indications that the US is selling nuclear arms capability to additional countries <http://www.nuclearban.us> The US is the world's largest manufacturer of all weapons, including those sold to other countries. In the recent OSLC conversation regarding the morality of war-making, Diana St. Denis noted that the US bears responsibility for the harm done by the weapons we sell, including those weapons turned against US citizens and allies.

Sin, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation

Pastor Laurie Eaton

In 2015 our brother in Christ, George Kpingbah, was arrested and convicted of criminal sexual assault and sentenced to 60 months in prison. George was a longtime member of Our Saviour's, known and loved by many. This disturbing series of events was traumatic for the whole congregation as we tried to reconcile the relationships we had experienced with George and the seriousness of his crime. Before his sentencing hearing George stood before the congregation and admitted to his crime and asked for our forgiveness. At his announcement, the congregation sat in holy and stunned silence as they tried to assimilate the news. While his confession didn't go far enough in the eyes of many, I have never witnessed such a profound experience of public confession and the wrestling of a faith community to hold the tension between sin and mercy.

It is now 2019, and George has completed over half of his sentence at Moose Lake Correctional Facility. He communicates with me and a few others via letters, phone calls, and very occasional visits. Each time I communicate with him he extends his greeting to the congregation and expresses his gratitude for the support he has received. Below is a letter that George has written to all of you.

June 28, 2019

My sisters and Brothers of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

I am grateful to God for giving me the opportunity to write at this time. I hope this letter will meet you all in good health.

After going through the stressful condition since my imprisonment in November of 2015, I can now look back and wonder how I got over. I am so thankful for your inspiring letters and visitations. I feel revived and connected when I read these letters and think about the distance you covered just to come see me. I really appreciate your conscience for me. I can't thank you all enough for your efforts.

Pastor Laurie Eaton has always been in touch with me and trying to come for a visit. Finally, she was able to visit me in March this year. I feel so blessed and comforted by her presence in my spiritual life.

My best greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

May the Lord bless our congregation as you continue to call, nurture and send to celebrate, serve and do justice.

With God all above, I remain faithfully yours,

George S.Kpingbah

We much prefer to identify others as "good" or "bad" but the older I get the more I witness the depth and complexity of the contradictions that live together in the hearts and minds of ordinary humans. Our brother, George, is a kind man with a deep faith. And he is guilty of a heinous crime. He will complete his legal penalty, and then he will need to rebuild relationships of trust and care – whether he returns to Our Saviour's or chooses to move to Texas to be with his family. The God we worship is merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. God calls us to welcome others as we ourselves have been welcomed by God in Christ. As Martin Luther observed, we truly are *Simul Justus et Peccator* – saint and sinner – for as long as we live. Please prayerfully ponder with me the wonder and mystery of our God, and our call to be bearers of the Divine Image.

July 2019 at Our Saviour's

Thur, Aug 1	7-9am	Women's Breakfast at The Birchwood Cafe	Tues, Aug 20	12:30-2pm	Staff Meeting (CR)
Fri, Aug 2	OFFICE CLOSED		Wed, Aug 21	10:15-12pm	Bible Study (CR)
	7-8AM	Men's Breakfast at Butter Bakery Café		All day	Indeed Brewing ELC Fund-raiser at Indeed Brewing
Sun, Aug 4	9-10am	Outreach Table Mtg (HC)	Thur, Aug 22	7-9am	Women's Breakfast at The Birchwood Café
	10-10:30am	Hospitality (HC)			
	10:30	Worship (S)	Sun, Aug 25	10-10:30am	Hospitality (HC)
	11:30-12pm	Hospitality (HC)		10:30	Worship (S)
	12-1pm	Worship Table Meeting		11:30-12pm	Hospitality (HC)
Mon, Aug 5	10-11am	Anniversary Committee Meeting (CR)	Mon, Aug 26		Sentinel Deadline
	7:10pm	Lutheran Night at Target Field		9-11am	Archive Committee Meeting (Basement)
Tues, Aug 6	12:30-2pm	Staff Meeting (CR)	Tues, Aug 27	12:30-2pm	Staff Meeting (CR)
Wed, Aug 7	10:15-12pm	Bible Study (CR)		6-7pm	OSCS Exec Comm Mtg (CR)
Thurs, Aug 8	7-9am	Women's Breakfast at The Birchwood Cafe	Wed, Aug 28	10:15-12pm	Bible Study (CR)
Fri, Aug 9	OFFICE CLOSED		Thur, Aug 29	7-9am	Women's Breakfast at The Birchwood Café
Sun, Aug 11	10-10:30am	Hospitality (HC)		9-5pm	Kitchen Reserved for Jaimie Bennett
	10:30	Worship (S)	Fri, Aug 30	9-5pm	Kitchen Reserved for Jaimie Bennett
	11:30-12pm	Hospitality (HC)			
Mon, Aug 12	6-7:30pm	OSCS Board Meeting (CR)			
Tues, Aug 13	LVC Move In Date				
	12:30-2pm	Staff Meeting (CR)			
Wed, Aug 14	10:15-12pm	Bible Study (CR)			
	5:30-7:30pm	Annual Altar Guild Summer Potluck at Augustana			
	6:00pm	LVC Welcome Dinner at the Winona House			
Thur, Aug 15	7-9am	Women's Breakfast at The Birchwood Café			
Fri, Aug 16	OFFICE CLOSED				
Sun, Aug 18	9:30	Outdoor Worship Choir Rehearsal			
	10:00	Singing Begins			
	10:30	Outdoor Worship at Peavey Park			
	11:30-12pm	Outdoor Hospitality at Peavey Park			

Climate Changed: Facing Our Future - coming in September

Save the date! We have an opportunity to learn together this fall. Nobel Conference 55 at Gustavus Adolphus College is entitled "Climate Changed: Facing Our Future". Seven experts including Sheila Watt-Cloutien, Canadian Inuit activist and political representative who wrote "The Right to be Cold" will present at Gustavus September 24 and 25, 2019. High school students tickets are free. Go to Gustavus College website for more information and/or contact either Pastor Martha or Elaine Johnson if interested.

Deadline for the September Sentinel is Mon, Aug 26 at 9am

Send your submissions to alex@oursavioursmpls.org

Lectionary Text for Home Devotions

August 4	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 Psalm 49:1-12 Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21
August 11	Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm 33:12-22 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40
August 18	Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm 82 Hebrews 11:29--12:2 Luke 12:49-56
August 25	Isaiah 58:9b-14 Psalm 103:1-8 Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17

How to Reach Us

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Pastors:

Laurie A. Eaton option 3
Martha Schwehn Bardwell option 4

Music Director:

Mary Preus option 6

Bookkeeper:

Diane Palmer option 5

Office Manager:

Alexander Farino option 7

OSCS 612-871-5900

Executive Director:

Sandra Aslaksen, Deacon option 1

Change of Date!!

When you're 150 years old, some things are bound to change. You've received notice about our culminating Anniversary celebration on Sunday, December 8, 2019, including Festival Worship and an Open House. Because of the significance of that celebration and the need of many volunteers to make that a successful event **PLEASE NOTE that our Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser will be held at an earlier date.**

For many years we've held our Silent Auction on the last Sunday of the liturgical calendar as we celebrated Community and Commitment on Reign of Christ Sunday. This year the Silent Auction will occur earlier in the fall. **Council has tentatively set October 13 as the new date**, pending confirmation by the volunteers that will coordinate that event (Maybe you?). In any case, it's not too early to begin thinking about the time, talents, and treasures you might share in support of our 2019 budget. While the auction is in fact a fundraiser, it has become a genuine celebration of the many gifts held within this congregation, and a wonderful way to get to know each other in creative and fun ways. What unexpected talent can you offer?

Provide Dinner for Our Saviour's Shelter Residents

We still have 29 dinner dates open for the remainder of the year.

August 3, 28, 30

September 2, 4, 9, 11, 18, 26

October 5, 14, 16, 19, 24, 27, 30

November 4, 6, 13, 20, 29

December 4, 7, 9, 18, 22, 23, 26, 27

Just visit <http://bit.ly/DinnerGroupSignUp> to sign up for one or more dates! Contact Tamara at volunteer@oshousing.org or 612.872.4193 x2 with any questions.

CES Volunteer Opportunity!

Saturday, August 3. Volunteer at CES from 9 – 11. Pack groceries for future delivery. All ages welcome. Contact Maryellen with questions and to sign up. (skan@umn.edu or 612-623-7805)