

The Sentinel

August 2023

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

Calling a Pastor of Community Care

Meet-and-greet on Saturday, August 12

**Congregational Meeting and Vote on Sunday, August 13
after worship**

I am very thrilled to share with all of you that we are ready to move forward with a congregational vote to issue a call to a candidate to serve as our Pastor of Community Care! This candidate was the unanimous recommendation of the Call Committee to the Council; and Council unanimously voted to approve that recommendation. Now it's time for all of us to gather together and vote on extending a call.

In this season, we have been exploring the fruits of the Spirit during children's sermons. One of the fruits of the Spirit is patience. And let me tell you, I have seen this fruit ripening among us by the Spirit as we have waited, and wondered, and prepared, and prayed for this pastor to join us in ministry.

I pray that the Spirit would continue to help that fruit of patience grow and ripen during this exciting time. We aren't quite ready to share the name of the candidate, and we are taking direction from the synod on when the right time is for that. There will be a time to meet the candidate in person the day before the vote; we will host a meet-and-greet at Our Saviour's on Saturday, August 12 (time TBD).

As our church constitution requires, we will mail out a letter to members letting them know about the vote on Sunday, August 13. We will also announce the meeting over the next two Sundays during announcements in worship.

Thanks be to God for the patience, goodness, love, joy, peace, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control of this community of faith (Galatians 5:22-23).

The Spirit keeps doing Her thing.

Praise!

Pastor Martha



Worship in August – 2 unique Sundays

Pastor Martha

On August 6, we will share in a **Care of Creation** service using Bret Hesla and Richard Bruxvoort Colligan's songbook, *Singing Prayers for the Earth*. There will be no holy communion; it will be a shorter service of song, readings, and prayer. Pastor Martha and several others from Our Saviour's will be up North at Wilderness Canoe Base. Worship will be at 10:30 in the sanctuary and on Youtube as usual.

On August 20, we worship outside at Peavey Park at 10am (NOT 10:30) for a special joint worship service with neighboring churches, Augustana Lutheran Church and Messiah Lutheran Church. Bring your own chair/blanket and sun protection. Kids may want to wear swim suits to go in the wading pool before or after worship. We are still figuring out livestreaming options for this service.

After worship on Sunday August 20, make your way over to [Open Streets Cedar-Riverside](https://www.openstreetsmpls.org) (<https://www.openstreetsmpls.org>)

We and OSCS have tables at this powerful community event, which goes from 11am – 5pm. Outreach Table is coordinating our presence there; if you'd like to be involved, please email Aneesa Parks (aneesamparks@gmail.com).



Property Work Day - Saturday, August 12th

Join the Property Committee for our August work day on Saturday Aug 12th.

We'll meet from 9 until noon – come for part or all of the time.

We'll do our usual garbage pick up and weeding of the garden beds.

We also have a special request for that day.

We need to paint two of the offices and would like to try and get those painted that day.

If you'd be willing to help paint that day, please contact the church office (612-871-2967)

or email Nancy at n2j2@comcast.net ahead of time.

We will likely need to do some pre-work ahead of the 12th,

so if you could help with that at a time that works for you, let us know that too.

Let's get the office ready for our new Pastor and for Mary's move to a different office.

OSLC Summer Read *The Great Escape* by Saket Soni

Discussion on Monday, August 14

Join Grant Stevensen and other members to discuss this riveting true story about hundreds of Indian immigrants who seek freedom from exploitative working conditions in the US. We will discuss the book on Monday, August 14 at Our Saviour's from 6:30 - 8pm.

A note from Mary

Dear friends in Christ,

I am taking a sabbatical this fall! I believe it will be my first in 30 years at Our Saviour's, although I have been gone many times for various trips here and there. This time I will be gone for six weeks, starting September 8. I am going to Krakow, Poland (home of our office manager, Marcin!) with Tom Witt for the 13th Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation.

If you'd like to read more about the Assembly, here's a link: <https://2023.lwfassembly.org/>

The theme for this Assembly is: One Body, One Spirit, One Hope.

Tom has been working for the last couple of years as the coordinator of worship for the Assembly, so he will be hard at work during these September days in Krakow. I will also be doing some song leading for the several worship experiences that will be part of daily life. Gathering with the Lutheran church around the world is a life-changing experience, and one that I have missed since being part of several global mission events that the ELCA hosted here in the U.S. and also part of a few international gatherings in my role as song leader.

After the Assembly in Poland, Tom and I will meet a couple of friends in Rome! With them we look forward to enjoying the wonders of Italy, visiting Rome, Florence, Umbria and a few other central spots. I will be back at Our Saviour's on Sunday, October 22.

Please keep us in your prayers. You will be in mine and I will miss you.

God's peace - and ciao!

Mary Preus

Calvary Emergency Food Shelf

Maryellen Skan

Food shelf visits remain at an all-time high this summer. You can help Calvary's food shelf by donating items that are in high demand: *salt, *peanut butter (creamy), *cooking oil (24-48 oz), *black-eyed peas (dry), *tuna and *flour. Thank you for your on-going support. Donations can be dropped off in the coat room at church.

The 50th Women's Wilderness Adventure

Linda Thorson

The 50th Women's Wilderness Adventure will be gathering at Wilderness Canoe Base on September 7-10. Please join us for this special event. For more information talk to Linda Thorson or Shar Hauer. Registration link under this QR code:



September 10 – Celebration, Pizza Party and EPNI Fundraiser Auction after worship

What gifts might you have to offer?

Pastor Martha

For several years, we have held fundraiser auctions in the Fall to fill a hole in our budget. These events, often called a “Celebration of Community and Commitment,” became wildly successful, not only because we raised money, but also because we built community with one another while doing so! Folks have offered items like handknit ornaments, quilts, funky pants, game nights, poetry nights, spaghetti dinners, cookie and soup subscriptions, and more to raise funds and raise spirits at the same time.

Recently, Council has been wondering – “Could we do the same event, but give all the money away instead? How might we use a reparations lens for this? Might we do an auction in a spirit of Jubilee?”

Well, we are going to answer those questions with a big YES together, on Sunday, September 10 after worship, giving a fresh purpose to “God’s work, our hands” Sunday.

The OSLC Reparations Team allocated part of our reparations budget in 2022 to support the East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm and community center, a vision of East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI). To learn more, read here: <https://www.epnifarm.org/>

EPNI fought hard for a decade against environmental racism and finally won an agreement with the city that centers the community's needs. That huge win required legislative intervention at the State Capitol and negotiations with the city of Minneapolis. The vision is still precarious. EPNI needs to raise \$3.7 million before Sept 30. The organization has some big donors lined up, but still needs to raise \$500,000 from community partners like us. The church council voted to hold a pizza party fundraiser to contribute towards this goal. Tireless advocate and former state rep Karen Clark will be joining us as a speaker.

I wonder – how might you join in the YES of this event? What do you have to offer? How might God use your hands, in contributing gifts, in rolling out pizza dough, in giving money to support EPNI? If you have an item or event (etc.) to offer for the fundraiser auction please fill out the Google Form under this QR code:



From Awe to Awful

Amy Blumenshine

As the movie Oppenheimer grabs attention, campaigners promoting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons want your attention, too. Please consider attending the very peaceful local ceremonies commemorating the 1945 bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with their “never again” emphasis.

The Lyndale Peace Garden near Lake Harriet is the site for a Tea Ceremony at 7 p.m. Saturday, August 5, and a “prior to church” 7:30 am Ceremony of the Cranes, Sunday, August 6. The latter features speaker John La-Forge, a Wisconsinite international activist/leader of NukeWatch.

As St. Paul is a Sister City with Nagasaki, that bombing is commemorated at the Global Harmony Labyrinth in Como Park (across the foot bridge from the Lake Como pavilion) at 7 pm, Tuesday, August 8. Bring your own chair to all of the events. (More info <https://glockenspiel-sepia-yxn7.squarespace.com>)

This piece related to nuclear weapons and the Oppenheimer movie was prompted by an early review I read. The review focused on seeing the movie with a screen that best emphasized the explosion shown. Apparently it’s quite a blast.

As a spiritual apprentice of early childhood, I’m quite aware of the appeal of things that go Vroom and Boom. Understanding the consequences of our behavior is quite a learning curve and we are all saints and sinners. As church kin, however, we share the goal of cultivating our societal evolution to one that promotes care-giving rather than death dealing – quite a work in progress!

Among what’s not shown in the movie are the ongoing lethal legacies of the bomb’s creation, nuclear waste/radiation still killing people decades later. And the abuse of the land/people near the testing sites. The first victims of the Oppenheimer bomb were the not yet babies miscarried downwind of the Trinity test. The religious name of that bomb, in particular, identifies the hubris of those creating it --- taking over from God the dealing of death.

Among the appalling factors is that those scientists knew that such a blast carried the theoretical possibility of inflaming the atmosphere of the globe, yet they felt entitled to risk the test. The bombs available now are much more destructive. Some of us know that even a limited exchange of nuclear explosions would cause lasting global devastation; but clearly some of us are acting under different assumptions.

A callous disregard for the lives of others appears not just an occupational hazard but practically a job requirement for a career related to war. Any moral qualms individuals might have related to the horrendous impact of their actions can be papered over by lies. For instance, the scientists working on the bomb were told that the Nazis were on the cusp of “doing it to us.” Then they were told that the bomb would be used only in demonstration or only on military targets. The lies have continued in the history taught in our schools.

As we educate ourselves, I recommend <https://worldbeyondwar.org/facing-factsenheimer> for learning more about the circumstances of the 1945 bombings. Historian Greg Mitchell's interviews on Oppenheimer give additional background as well.

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/7/24/oppenheimer_greg_mitchell

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/7/24/could_oppenheimer_help_inspire_a_new

For action, see <https://preventnuclearwar.org/oppenheimer/>

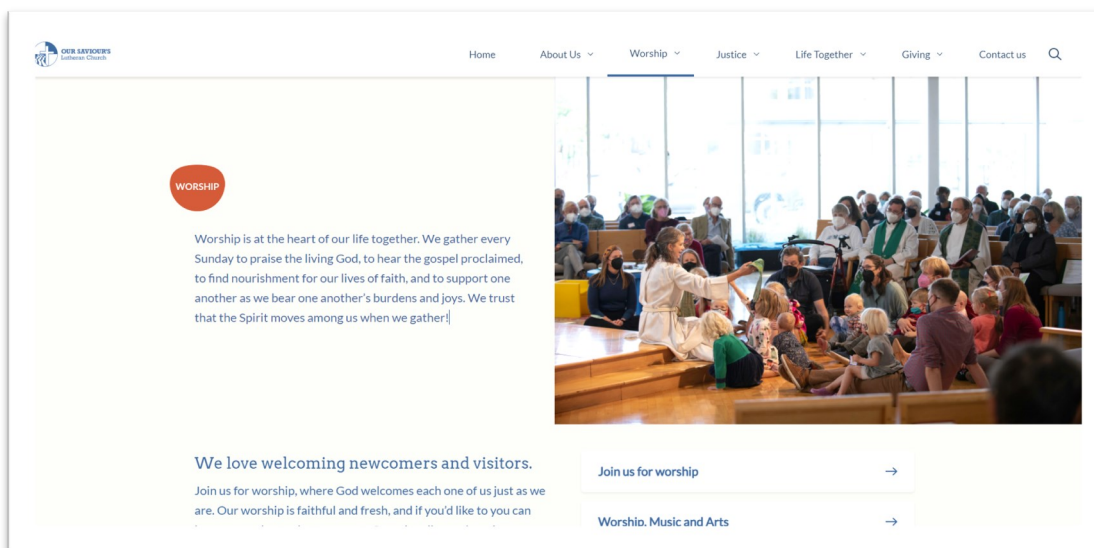
In conclusion, I quote the recent Star Tribune LTE of local Veteran for Peace chapter president, Dave Logsdon: "I was born in 1945 and have lived my entire life under the dark cloud of 'the bomb.' As the Hiroshima survivor Kenji Kitagawa beautifully stated about being a seed that someday can be the crop, so must we all be seeds of peace before it is too late for our planet. We owe it to our children and grandchildren."

New OSLC Website!

Over a year ago when Interim Pastor Ben Masters was with us, we had a website team (Linnea Peterson, Rebekkah Schultz, Nathan Lind, Pastor Ben, Marcin Cienski) begin to imagine what our next website might look like. They researched other church websites and took notes on what they liked. They selected a website developer in Poland to design our new website. They wrote a lot of content with help from Pastor Martha.

It's so exciting to share that the website is now LIVE (or will be, Friday, July 28!)- The url is the same as it has been - oursavioursmpls.org. The web developer has let us know that there could be some glitches in the first couple of weeks, so be patient as we work those out.

A huge thanks especially to our office and communications manager, Marcin, who did all the communications with the Polish web team, and to Linnea Peterson, who wrote a lot of the content and shared their gifted editor eye generously.



Lectionary Text for Home Devotions

August 6

Isaiah 55:1-5
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

August 13

1 Kings 19:9-18
Psalm 85:8-13
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

August 20

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
Psalm 67
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

August 27

Isaiah 51:1-6
Psalm 138
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

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Prayer List

- The Wojta/Mennicke family, grieving Jacob's death
- Emily, Jeanne Heer's niece, diagnosed with cancer
- Julie Abrahamson, having back surgery
- Susan Erickson, suffering from a back injury
- Thanksgiving that a member who was arrested from civil disobedience to Stop Line 3 had their charges dropped
- Gary Simpson, recovering from open heart surgery
- Noah, Bruce Pederson's son, diagnosed with prostate cancer
- Joey, Mary and Lynn Bargaen's grandson, recovering from an infection
- Glenn, Linnea Peterson's grandfather, recovering from surgery
- Paul Rogers, in palliative care for cancer
- Anton Moore, undergoing physical therapy
- Peace in Ukraine and in the world

How to Reach Us

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OSCS 612-871-5900
Executive Director:
Michael Huffman option 1

**Deadline for the September 2023 Sentinel
is Monday, August 28**

August 2023 at Our Saviour's

Tuesday, August 1	12:45am-2:00pm	Staff Meeting (CR) Wilderness Canoe Base-Youth Trip
Wednesday, August 2	10:15am-12:00pm	Online Bible Study
Thursday, August 3		Wilderness Canoe Base-Intergenerational Trip
Sunday, August 6	10:30am	Special Worship in Sanctuary and Online
Monday, August 7	7:00pm-8:30pm	Church Council (CR)
Tuesday, August 8	12:45am-2:00pm	Staff Meeting (CR)
Wednesday, August 9	10:15am-12:00pm	Online Bible Study in Person (HC) and on Zoom
Saturday, August 12	9:00am-12.00pm	Property Work Day
Sunday, August 13	10:30am	Worship in Sanctuary and Online
Tuesday, August 15	12:45am-2:00pm 6:40pm	Staff Meeting (CR) Lutheran Night Out
Wednesday, August 16	10:15am-12:00pm	Online Bible Study
Sunday, August 20	10:00am 11:00am-5:00pm	Special Worship in PeaveyPark Open Streets
Tuesday, August 22	12:45am-2:00pm	Staff Meeting (CR)
Wednesday, August 23	10:15am-12:00pm	Online Bible Study on Zoom
Sunday, August 27	10:30am	Worship in Sanctuary and Online

