

The Sentinel

October 2023

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

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4-7

Update on Our Property Visioning work

Hear more in person at our 9am adult forum on October 15

Pastor Martha

I am excited to share with all of you a report on where we're at in our ongoing work to re-imagine our campus jointly with Our Saviour's Community Services. Our initial steps have been guided by a couple of our core commitments as a congregation – 1. To continue in partnership with OSCS and claim shared responsibility for this work on a property plan and 2. To engage deeply with our neighbors. So far, these have been the main steps in our journey:

- January 2022 – Joint Property Committee formed
Folks who serve or have served on this committee include: Pastor Martha, Mike Huffman, Rico Morales, Renate Willer, Robin Stramp, Qually Neal, and Nate Blumenshine, with help from Jim Johnson and Grant Stevensen on special projects
- Spring 2022 – Existing properties assessed to learn what condition they are in
- Summer 2022 – Forum with OSLC and meeting with OSCS staff to surface hopes, dreams and guiding values for our property
- Fall 2022 – 3 members of the OSCS/OSLC joint property committee attend a series on Community Engagement by Nexus Community Partners
- Winter 2022 – Begin connecting with Normandale Housing, who own a house on Chicago Ave. between our properties
- Spring 2023 – 20 people participate in a community engagement process of having 1:1 conversations with neighbors to both build relationships and learn about their dreams for the neighborhood
- Summer 2023 – Joint Property committee identifies five key themes that emerged from our 1:1 conversations and invites further community input at Open Streets Cedar/Riverside, OSCS program participant gathering, and EPNI Fundraiser

The five key themes that we identified through our neighborhood listening campaign include:

1. Everyone deserves a safe and dignified place to live.
2. Everyone deserves culturally relevant, attainable treatment to address mental, physical and chemical wellness.
3. Our communities need wealth building opportunities for BIPOC community members.
4. We need spaces and places where the community can access basic needs and build community.
5. We need to improve connection and collaboration between organizations in the neighborhood.

We are excited for next steps in this journey. Our next steps will include:

- A forum on October 15 at 9am at OSLC
- Continue conversations with organizations that we view as potential key strategic partners

It would be wonderful to have strong attendance at the forum on October 15. We will welcome Mike Huffman, executive director of OSCS, to discuss our journey so far and the next steps we are getting ready for. We will also talk about OSLC Council's decision to recommend that OSLC officially transfer ownership of the shelter to OSCS. We are planning a congregational meeting and vote on the shelter property transfer for the adult forum on Sunday, October 29.



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church October 2023

Adult forums in October

Adult forums are at 9am in the hospitality center and on Zoom. The **October 22** forum will not be on Zoom since it is an informal gathering. Here is the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86297261334>

You can watch Adult Forum from Sept 24th “Summary of LWF Conference in Poland” here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RjhiliMYpec>

October 1 – ISAIAH forum – See article by Marki on this great opportunity to reflect on the last legislative session in MN and share what we are hoping to work on next as we participate in co-creating a multiracial democracy and caring economy in our state.

October 8 – Reparations forum – The reparations team will lead a conversation about our reparations journey so far. We will consider a proposal for how to distribute our reparations budget line amount of \$12,000 and learn more about the organizations we hope to support as we contribute to healing and repair.

October 15 – Property forum with Mike Huffman – Pastor Martha and Mike Huffman (OSCS Executive Director) will share about where we are at with our property reimagining work. We will also discuss OSLC council’s motion recommending we transfer ownership of the shelter to OSCS. We will have a congregational meeting on October 29 to vote on this.

October 22 – Coffee and Conversation; Read the Alley Newspaper – We will have open conversation time with some Alley Newspapers scattered around. Learn about what is happening in the Phillips community!

October 29 – Congregational Meeting – We will take up OSLC council’s recommendation to transfer property ownership to OSCS. It is required in our constitution to have a congregational vote about property acquisition and transfers.

Our Saviour’s ISAIAH Core Team will be hosting the adult forum at 9am, Sunday October 1

Marki Wogstad-Hansen

ISAIAH is a multi-faith, multi-racial organization of congregations, barbershops, childcare centers, mosques, college age youth, and neighbors working on racial and economic justice together.

This forum will be a time for a conversation about what was passed at the state legislature this year and how we can set the agenda for what gets done next. After years of organizing, ISAIAH has been able influence our elected officials to pass things like paid family leave, clean energy, expanded voting rights, expanding healthcare, funding childcare, and more.

We will be discussing in more detail what was passed at the legislature, and how ISAIAH was able to influence what was passed.

We’re interested in hearing how these wins impact you and the people you love and we know it doesn’t address all the needs in our state!

Together we can decide what is still missing, what could be better, and ultimately what kind of future we want to live in.

By joining this conversation, you can shape the priorities of what Minnesota does next for our community.

Mission of the Month - Support Rising Interest in English Classes at the English Learning Center

Did you know that the English Learning Center – situated in the basement of 2315 Chicago Avenue – accepts adult students year-round, without any wait lists? Students can walk in for registration and baseline testing anytime the school is open. This flexibility is a huge strength of our program, and it keeps us on our toes in busy seasons of student enrollment.

This year, the English Learning Center has witnessed a notable rise in adult learners. During the month of May 2023, for example, we observed more than twice the number of student registrations and assessments as in May 2022. With 299 students participating from January - June 2023, in fact, we have already surpassed the number of students served by the ELC in all of 2022!

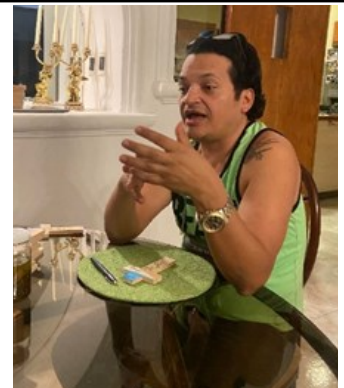
Your September and October Mission of the Month contributions help the English Learning Center respond to rising student interest.

Thank you for giving!

Robin Stramp

Salvadoran Artist Christian Chavarria visiting OSLC ***Save the Date! Wednesday, October 4, 5:30 – 7:30pm***

Christian Chavarria is an artist and pastor in the Salvadoran Lutheran Church. Because his family was attacked during the Salvadoran civil war, he lived in a refugee camp from ages 4-12, then was forced to flee to Sweden as a child refugee. His beautiful artwork has been featured in over 115 countries.



Come to OSLC on October 4 to meet Christian, learn more about his art, and hear something of his inspiring life story. You may even get to paint a small cross with Christian to take home as a memento.

There will be a special evening meal provided – perhaps from the pizza oven – from 5:30 – 6:30, followed by time learning from Christian.



Get this on your calendar. You won't want to miss this opportunity!

OSLC Fall Book Study:

The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Path to a Shared American Future, by Robert Jones

Paul and LaVonne Batalden

This book explores the roots of White Supremacy, particularly how the church enabled the notion and how we might move forward.

Many have written reviews of the book confirming its importance. Robert Jones writes well. He will also join us in one of our sessions.

The book will be published on Sept 5, 2023. It will be available as a hard cover book (\$27.89) and in a Kindle e-book edition (\$14.99). For those who need help in getting a copy, contact Pr. Martha.

We will meet by zoom approximately every two weeks, except if the author comes to town and is available to meet us in person. We will take only one week between #5-6 and #6-7 to accommodate Thanksgiving and Christmas.

All sessions will meet on a Thursday evening from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

The schedule for our consideration of the book:

Session number, date	Pages to read before session
1 (October 5)	1-31
2 (October 19)	31-81
3 (November 2)	81-142
4 (November 16)	142-183
5 (November 30)	183-228
6 (December 7)	228-283
7 (December 14)	283-311

If interested, please let us have your preferred e-mail address.

LaVonne and Paul Batalden

lavonnemb@gmail.com (603-290-1939)

paul.batalden@gmail.com (603-290-1939)

Property Work days – Sat Oct 14th and Sat Nov 11th

Mark your calendar for our next two Property work days! We'll work from 10am to noon on Saturday Oct 14th and Nov 11th. We'll be doing outside and inside work both dates.

There will be donuts! Many hands make light work.

Nancy



Update on Pastor Esther Sianipar - Ordination date *November 18 at 10am!*

Pastor Esther Sianipar is so excited to start with us as Pastor of Community Care. Her call is clear and she has accepted! However, we are waiting for her visa to come through so that she can officially start work with us as a pastor. This may take some time, until November or December. We ask your patience as we wait for the happy day when we can fully welcome her gifts.

In the meantime, Esther and her son Jonah will attend OSLC on Sunday mornings. Please understand - she will not be working as a pastor yet. Please do introduce yourself and extend a warm welcome!

And, save the date! Esther's ordination will be at OSLC on November 18 at 10am. The early time is so that family and friends in Indonesia can watch from home via our livestream.





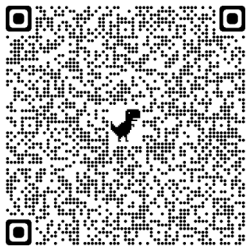
The 4th Quarter Christ in Our Home devotional is now available at church.

Pick one up from the Narthex.

Art Therapy Free session – October 25, 12-1pm Online Creatively Expressing your Prayers

Cari Libby, who has been attending OSLC and is an art therapy intern, shared this opportunity with us.

Please use the QR Code to read more.



Shelter meal coming up *Monday , 10/30* - Help will be needed!

Call Kathy Furey to pitch in with food and/ or serving, shlepping help except for dessert which will be bright orange Rice Krispie bar pumpkins complete w tootsie roll stems.

A hearty thanks to everyone who contributed to the shelter meal& a shout out to Lucy who came through to help at the last minute.

Thanks in advance!

Kathy 651-703-7166

Lectionary Text for Home Devotions

October 1

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

October 8

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:7-15
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

October 15

Isaiah 25:1-9
Psalm 23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

October 22

Isaiah 45:1-7
Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

October 29

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Psalm 1
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

The Sentinel Vol. LXII, No. 10
is published by
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.
2315 Chicago Ave
Minneapolis MN 55404

Prayer List

- Jim Erickson, recovering from shoulder replacement surgery on August 29
- Emily, Jeanne Heer's niece, diagnosed with cancer
- Noah, Bruce Pederson's son, diagnosed with prostate cancer
- Glenn, Linnea Peterson's grandfather, recovering from surgery
- Paul Rogers, in palliative care for cancer
- Anton Moore, undergoing physical therapy
- Kristie Hennig's niece, Sarah
- Peace in Ukraine and in the world

How to Reach Us

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**Deadline for the November 2023 Sentinel
is Sunday, October 29**

October 2023 at Our Saviour's

Sunday October 1	9:00am –10:30am	Sunday school, Godly Play, Nursery and Adult Forum
	10:00am	Choir and Hospitality
	10:30am	Worship in Sanctuary and Online
Tuesday, October 3	12:45am-2:00pm	Staff Meeting (CR)
Wednesday, October 4	10:15am-12:00pm	Online Bible Study
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Artist Christian Chavarria visiting OSLC
Friday, October 6	7:00am-	Men's Breakfast at Butter
Sunday, October 8	9:00am –10:30am	Sunday school, Godly Play, Nursery and Adult Forum
	10:00am	Choir and Hospitality
	10:30am	Worship in Sanctuary and Online
Tuesday, October 10	12:45am-2:00pm	Staff Meeting (CR)
Wednesday, October 11	10:15am-12:00pm	Online Bible Study
	7:00pm	Choir
Saturday, October 14	10:00am –NOON	Property Work Day
Sunday October 15	9:00am –10:30am	Sunday school, Godly Play, Nursery and Adult Forum
	10:00am	Choir and Hospitality
	10:30am	Worship in Sanctuary and Online
Tuesday, October 17	12:45am-2:00pm	Staff Meeting (CR)
Wednesday, October 18	10:15am-12:00pm	Online Bible Study on Zoom
	7:00pm	Choir
Sunday October 22	9:00am –10:30am	Sunday school, Godly Play, Nursery and Adult Forum
	10:00am	Choir and Hospitality
	10:30am	Worship in Sanctuary and Online
	NOON	Worship Table Meeting
Tuesday, October 24	12:45am-2:00pm	Staff Meeting (CR)
Wednesday, October 25	10:15am-12:00pm	Online Bible Study
	7:00pm	Choir
Sunday October 29	9:00am –10:30am	Sunday school, Godly Play, Nursery and Adult Forum
	10:00am	Choir and Hospitality
	10:30am	Worship in Sanctuary and Online
Tuesday, October 3	12:45am-2:00pm	Staff Meeting (CR) Halloween

