

PRAY!



For the church, the world, and all those in need



FAST!

From cruelty, injustice and self-indulgence



GIVE!

Your self, your time and your possessions

THE DISCIPLINES OF LENT

The Messenger

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Warrenton, VA March 2023

WORSHIP

WEEKEND WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- **Saturday Night** (5:30pm): A relaxed and joyful celebration of God's presence among us.
- **First Light** (Sunday at 8:00am): Our Saviour's early morning service is short and meditative.
- **Sunday School for ALL AGES** (Sunday at 9:00am).
- **Organ & Choir** (Sunday at 10:30am): Vintage Lutheranism: liturgical but not stuffy, with a constant focus on God's love, communicated through the Word and Sacraments.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SPRING:

Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22): services at Noon and 7pm.

First Sunday in Lent (Feb. 29): the Great Litany.

Wednesdays in March: Holden Evening Prayer at 7, preceded by a Soup Supper.

Palm Sunday (April 2): Holy Week begins! Bells ring, palms wave, and the children enter in joyful procession.

Maundy Thursday (April 6): We remember the Last Supper, and welcome children to the Communion table.

Good Friday: (April 7): The Passion of Christ, remembered with spoken prayers at noon and Tenebrae at 7pm.

The Great Vigil of Easter (April 8): From Creation to the Cross – and beyond!

Easter Sunday (April 9): Sunrise service at 6:30am and one Communion service at 10:30am.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

...followed by Holden Evening Prayer

On Wednesday nights in March, we will gather at 6pm to share a simple meal of bread and soup in the Fellowship Hall. (The Confirmation Class and Senior Youth Group will meet as usual.)

After eating, we will decamp to the nave, and join in singing Marty Haugen's beautiful setting of Evening Prayer.

It makes for a joyful and uplifting night at church. Don't miss out!



LET YOUR STRINGS SING

... at our Spring String-Along!

Bring your acoustic guitar, banjo, mandolin, ukulele, auto-harp, bass, violin, cello, harp or other stringed instrument to



worship at **5:30 on Saturday, March 11th** and play along with Voices of Praise as we lift up our music in worship.

Music lead sheets and chord sheets will be available for everyone

who wants to strum, pick, bow or pluck along.

For more information or if you want to get the music early, contact Rhoda Thompson through the church office. VoP is looking forward to this big string thing!

SPIRITUALITY

BROKEN AND MADE WHOLE

By Pastor Michael Church

Adam. Abram. Moses. David. Ezekiel. What do these six Biblical men have in common? At first glance, it is hard to say. Their stories are quite different from one another. But they are the key figures in our Old Testament readings during the Saturday and Sunday services of Lent, and that is no accident.

All of them had a close, even intimate relationship with God. Yet every one of the, in a different way, is a witness to how that relationship can be broken. Adam famously disobeyed God's command; so did David. The others are more subtle – Abram was so faithful, until with Hagar he doubted God's promise. Moses committed murder, and (perhaps worse) hesitated when called by God. And Ezekiel stood in a valley of dry bones, a symbol of the death and desolation that come to a people who turn from God's ways.

Yet for all the sadness and failure that are part of their stories, each of these figures reveals God's love and forgiveness. Abram's descendants are proof that the promise is sure; Moses found the Land of Promise; David cried out for mercy, and was answered. Elijah saw those dry bones given new life, as all God's people are given new life by the Word. And Adam, why, Adam's story of sin is a bookend to the tale of Jesus, who by the Cross and empty tomb ushered in an age of grace and forgiveness.

Their stories are all about people and relationships that are broken – and about God heals them.

In other words, their stories are about your life, and mine.

Join us in worship this month, to hear how God turns our wailing into praise, and our defeat into his own eternal victory.

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LEARNING

Our Saviour offers opportunities for people of every age to deepen their faith and understanding of God's Word at work in the world.

TUESDAY

The **Ladies' Bible Study** meets at 10am in the church library.

WEDNESDAY

CONFIRMATION CLASS for 7th and 8th graders begins at 6pm sharp. This is the Catechism Year, a look at the history and teaching of the Church. Contact Pastor Michael for details.



THURSDAY MORNING

At 10am, **Dave Raecke's class** meets in Room 6 and by Zoom. Meeting ID = 324 473 7047

THURSDAY EVENING

Join Pastor Michael for a close look at the Biblical basis of **next week's sermon**. 5pm by Zoom. Meeting ID = 895 0940 7035

SUNDAY

Adults: Grab some coffee at 8:45 and join us at 9am in Room 6.

In person AND by Zoom: Meeting ID = 837 8450 0891;
Passcode = 285077

Children: Gather at 9am in the worship space for Singing with Miss Sally, and then break out into classes to learn the story of God's love.

Youth: Grab a snack and head to Room 7.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN

SUMMER CAMP!

As you are making family plans for summer 2023, consider Caroline Furnace Camp and Retreat Center in Fort Valley, VA!

They have a variety of faith building, outdoor summer camps for kids of all ages.

Information and registration can be found at this link:

<https://www.carolinefurnace.org/summer-camp-details>

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Our Saviour is back with an all-new VBS program. It will be held June 19-23. Mark your calendars!

This is one of OSLC's biggest community outreach events of the year, and a rare chance to touch young lives with the word of hope. Please take a moment to ask yourself whether you can help as a room decorator, craft teacher, group leader, musician, lunch server or in some other way – and then let Debbie Henson know.

JUNIOR HIGH SERVANT EVENT

Our 7th & 8th graders are invited to Virginia Beach on July 23-28 for an adventurous and eye-opening opportunity to Participants of the Junior High Servant Event have the opportunity to worship and serve with organizations that aid those impacted by homelessness, poverty, and hunger, as well as to learn about some of the root causes of these issues. Of course, they group have some downtime for fun cooling off at the water's edge as well!

Contact Pastor Terri for details.

SERVICE

SOCIAL MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

January & February 2023

OSLC On-Site Ministry:

- Bags of Food: 18 (Jan); 22 (Feb)
- Bags of Cleaning & Personal Items: 23 (Jan); 18 (Feb)
- Gas Gift Cards: 22 (Jan); 19 (Feb)

People Helping People:

The Board of Directors and all volunteers would like to thank Our Saviour for your generous donation of \$3,475.84 during 2022. We rely totally on donations from businesses and churches of the community.

During the 2022 Northern Piedmont Community Foundation's "Give Local" campaign, we raised \$4,786.05 for People Helping People. We also received grants from the Northern Piedmont and PATH Foundations.

During 2022, requests for rental assistance increased. Some of our clients lost their jobs, or had to work reduced hours. Some had already been evicted and had to be accommodated either in a shelter or motel. We also provided gas vouchers to local shelter occupants looking for jobs.

In 2022, we assisted 517 individuals, including 432 children and 34 people over 65 years of age.

NATIONAL QUILTING DAY

March 18, 2023

The Quilt Ministry will hold a fundraiser before/after services March 18 & 19. Two quilts will be displayed and be raffled off.

SUPPORT THE QUILT MINISTRY

With Fabric Donations

Primarily, we are seeking cotton and cotton blends in quantities that allow us to cut multiple 11" x11" inch squares. Fabric may be brought to the church office (preferably in a box/bag marked "For Quilt Ministry") or arrangements can be made for pick up. Please spread the word to family and friends! Thank you!

HURLEY VIRGINIA MISSION TRIP

Planning Meeting in April

If you haven't been to Hurley, you are missing out! What's more, they are missing out on you!

Hurley is a small mining town in southwest Virginia. There are many servant projects waiting for us; you could find yourself rebuilding a floor, listening to stories, distributing food, sharing your faith, or tearing out drywall. All skill levels are needed, anyone can make a difference, and you are guaranteed to come away filled with joy!

We will be traveling to Hurley on Sunday, July 9 and returning on Saturday, July 15.

The next planning meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 22. Come share your own experiences, get specific information for this year, and become part of the 2023 Hurley team!

Would you like to be contacted as further information becomes available? Sign up on this link.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdq5Up2Xr_WZqCdOfINcPyvlllhAODb_A0B1poCISNYp9pk1A/viewform?usp=share_link

CONNECTIONS

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 4 from 7:30 am-9:00 am.

Dean Kolb and Jim Lowell will be cooking and looking forward to seeing our community of men join us.

Jim will offer a chat about his old workplace – “Pentagon 101.”

MINISTRY FAIRE IS COMING

Share Your Ministry on Friday, May 5.

If you would like to inform the congregation about your ministry and invite others to participate in your ministry, please preparing to share your story and recruit new participants.



It promises to be a fun and interesting day for the congregation! Lots of information will be forthcoming.

Meanwhile, in preparation, there are workshops planned for Saturday, March 11 from 9-10 am, and Sunday, March 12 for leaders of the various ministries of OSLC. Be sure your group or committee is represented there! A volunteer recruitment session

will also be held on April 16. Watch for further details!

Questions? Contact Tom Bartkiewicz at TomB@sand-dollar.com or 540-270-8120.

TRIP TO HISTORIC FREDERICKSBURG

Coming in May—Save your seat!

It's time for a fun ECHO trip. We are going to Fredericksburg for a trolley tour and lunch on Thursday May 18.

We would leave the church parking lot at 8:30 AM and carpool to Fredericksburg. We have a discount price of \$20 per person for the 11 AM trolley ride of about 75 minutes. We would then go out to lunch in at Sedona Taphouse and return to Warrenton about 3:30. You will pay for your own lunch. The trolley has a lift for wheelchairs.

Lets see if we can fill the trolley with all OSLC friends! Let Marian Rognlien know if you are at all interested. (A firm RSVP will be required closer to the date of the trip.)

SAVE THE DATE!

March 19 – Fundraiser Concert

Our own Colin Ashby is riding with the USA Quad Tandem Bike team across British Columbia this summer to raise funds and awareness for mental health. We will be holding a fundraising event at OSLC to support the team.

Come out, enjoy the great Bluegrass music, and support mental health!

Watch for further details!

FINANCE CORNER

Prior 3 Months Income and Expenses
(General Operating Budget)

	TOTAL OFFERING	TOTAL EXPENDITURES
NOVEMBER 2022	\$ 28,663	\$ 34,748
DECEMBER 2022	\$ 54,733	\$ 37,963
2022 TOTAL	\$410,076	\$423,647
JANUARY 2023	\$ 33,452	\$ 35,893

I have heard it said that 30 years ago - and more, congregations never had to worry about expenses exceeding Income. (That explains how Melvin Giles – our Treasurer for 35 years – was able to do that job without a gray hair appearing!) But those were different times so we will deal with the present!

If you attended the latest Congregational Meeting last month, the numbers for 2022 were explained and the Finance Committee is cautiously optimistic that our Income and Expense ratios are drawing closer – and with the hope that they may be EVEN by the end of 2023. So, much thanks to everyone for your contributions.

Another very nice surprise was the congregation’s contributions to the new roof, before Finance even put out a request for help. The roof project was approved at our February Congregation Meeting – and what a great feeling that the funds are already available!

Looking forward to 2023.

OUR SAVIOUR

Lutheran Church

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www.oslc-warrenton.org

WORSHIP WITH US – ONLINE!

www.facebook.com/oslcwarrenton

WORSHIP WITH US – IN PERSON!

Saturday Casual Service 5:30pm

Sunday First Light Service 8:00am

Sunday Choir Service 10:30am

