

# Life *together*

April 2020

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

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*Next newsletter items and  
articles will be due April 24*

***Life Together** is published  
bi-monthly by the Olsburg-  
Walsburg Lutheran Parish.  
Deadline for calendar and  
other items is the last  
Monday of each month.*

## Reflections by Pastor Keith...

I wake up in the morning and hear the birds singing their praises of God. All around us the grass is turning green, trees are blossoming, flowers are blooming. Signs of spring. Signs of new life. It is time for Easter!

Yet, there is a cloud hanging over us these days, a dark, inhospitable, threatening cloud. There are reminders all around us. Social distancing. Wearing masks. Schools and stores and restaurants are closed. Worship services suspended. Record numbers of people now unemployed. Daily statistics of people testing positive with the coronavirus. Number of deaths due to Covid-19.

How can we possibly celebrate Easter under these circumstances? We won't get to celebrate with family and friends and neighbors. We won't be able to gather together for worship. We won't get to sing the great Easter hymns, at least not now. We won't get to eat the Bread of Life nor drink the Cup of Salvation.

But remember - Easter is not just worship on Easter Sunday. It is not just getting up early and going to a sunrise service. It is not just Easter egg hunts and family gatherings. We do all those things because of Easter. Easter, though, is more than that. Much more!

Easter is the new reality created by

the resurrection of Jesus Christ! And this new reality happens even when communal worship is suspended. This new reality happens when our lives are disrupted and turned upside down by the coronavirus. This new reality is true, it is real, and it is happening now.

For you see, our ultimate hope for new life comes not from the arrival of spring or a day on the calendar called Easter. We dare to hope for new life, life without decay and sickness and death, because Jesus rose from the dead! The resurrection of Jesus changes everything. It gives us assurance that Jesus is with us. It gives us a future with hope. It gives us joy and confidence and courage and faith and love for others.

The event of Christ's resurrection is such an earth-shattering, life-changing event that we must celebrate it - whether alone or together. We give thanks to God for Christ's victory over sin and death. Each day we seek to share Christ's love with others. Each day we pray that we may more fully experience the new life of Easter. Easter is our new reality!

The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Keith

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## Words of Wisdom

"The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:56-57.

"Death closes doors and Easter opens them."  
Pastor Ron Roschke

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3

"Jesus had outgrown his tomb, which was too small a focus for the resurrection. The Risen One had people to see and things to do. Every time he came to his friends they became stronger, wiser, kinder, more daring. Every time he came to them, they became more like him." Pastor Barbara Brown Taylor.

## A Reminder

Don't forget to mail your offerings to the church. Our work goes on in many ways.

Olsburg people may send their offerings to the financial secretary at:

Alice Gibson, 113 S. 1st St, Olsburg, KS 66520

Walsburg people may send their offerings to the financial secretary at:

Lynne Berry, 14180 Crooked Creek Rd.,  
Leonardville, KS 66449.

## Walsburg Lutheran Church Council Meeting Highlights

The Walsburg Council met on March 5, 2020. Below are some highlights from the meeting.

- The Council is looking for volunteers to attend Synod Assembly in St. Louis on June 4-6.
- Jeremy Dick has resigned from Council as his family will be moving from the area. Council will be appointing a member to take over the 3 years remaining of his term.
- The Calling Tree updates are being finalized. Thank you to those who have helped with this project.
- Easter Sunrise service will be at 6:45 am. Please plan to attend breakfast and fellowship afterwards.
- Mowing Schedule for 2020 is up in the narthex and we are looking for members of the congregation to help.
- The Council will be purchasing hand sanitizers for each pew for members to use during flu season and to help protect against the Coronavirus.
- The Council is looking to purchase a new ladder for the bell tower.
- A company will be coming in March to look at the foundation at the parsonage.
- The pasta supper scheduled in April has been cancelled due to the window restoration beginning around that time.

# April birthdays, anniversaries, joys and sorrows

## Birthdays

### April

- 6 Lee Hartford (W)
- 7 Roger Bohnenblust (W)  
Travis Hageman (W)  
Jarin Brenner (O)
- 8 Irene Johnson (O)  
Roger Sundgren (W)
- 9 Aneta Hagenmaier (W)  
Hunter Gibson (O)  
Hayden Gibson (O)
- 11 Kelsey Nelson (W)  
Christopher Hubbard (O)
- 13 Brian Johnson (O)
- 15 Ida Kasselmann (O)
- 19 Russell Peterson (W)
- 20 Trenton Hargrave (W)
- 28 Kevin Burklund (O)  
Kirby Burklund (O)

- Jacob Nelson (O)
- Rob Scofield (W)
- 30 Ann Ingham (W)

## April Anniversaries

- 11 Kevin and Barbara Burklund (O)
- 18 Ray and Jennifer Miller (W)
- 21 Steve and Peggy Johnson (O)

## Joys and sorrows

- ✠ We rejoice with Tori Brenner, Addison Lee, and Brooklyn Rice who received their first Communion at Olsburg on March 15.
- ✠ We rejoice with Ryker Befort, Macy Berry, Kade Campbell, Trinity Meader, and Teske Nelson who received their first Communion at

Walsburg on March 15.

- ✠ We sorrow with the family and friends of Raymond Nelson who joined the saints in the Kingdom of Heaven on March 27. Raymond was a member of Walsburg Lutheran Church.

## Members in service

Thank you to these members for their service to the parish during April.

### Walsburg

**Ushers and Greeters:** June Campbell; Vern Bulk; Sandy McCool; Ruthie Stone

**Communion Ushers:** Gary Hargrave & Jeremy Dick

**Lay Assistants:** 4/5 Janet Neilson; 4/12 Jerry Baer; 4/19 Alicia Scofield; 4/26 Diana Hargrave

### Acolytes:

**April Altar Committee:** Janice Johnson; Janet Neilson

**\*If you are unable to be present for your assignment, please find a replacement and contact the church office so the correct name will appear in the bulletin.**

### Olsburg

**Lay Readers:** 4/5 Karl Kasselmann; 4/9 Bill Monser; 4/12 Coleen Esping; 4/19 Ashley Rice; 4/26 Jooyce Cantrell

**Acolytes:** 4/5 Emma, & Ida Kasselmann. Jace Ricketts, 4/12 Laandry & Skyler Zoeller, Kylea Ricketts; 4/19 Tori Brenner; 4/26 Addison Gutsch

**Ushers:** Kraig Kasselmann; Tom Nelson; Dan Holt; Blake Vargo

**Assist Pastor during Communion:** 4/5 Gregg Gibson; 4/12 Kristi Fronce; 4/26 Coleen Esping

**April Altar Committee:** Kathy Monser; Kristi Fronce

### Editor/Parish Coordinator

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## Receive The Newsletter

We want you to get the newsletter - either by email or by postal mail. If you want to receive the newsletter by email, send your email address to Shelly at [sburklun@ksu.edu](mailto:sburklun@ksu.edu). If we already have your email address, but you want to receive the email by postal mail, please inform Shelly.

## Thank you!!

I would like to send out a special thank you to Pastor Keith for reaching out to us during this time of social distancing. His daily emails have been very comforting. Thank you to everyone who has reached out to me to provide me with email addresses to add to the list. I look forward to worshipping inside the church again! Until then, stay safe!



**ROAR RAILWAY**  
*Where Jesus Power Pulls Us Through*  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**May 26<sup>th</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**  
**Olsburg Lutheran Church**

**ALL CHIRDREN ARE WELCOME**  
3 years old (and potty trained)  
to those who completed the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

*Register your child by May 1<sup>st</sup> on line 1<sup>st</sup> to receive a  
FREE ROAR t-shirt.*

REGISTER on-line at:  
**<https://www.myvbs.org/olsburglutheran>**

***Volunteers may also receive a FREE Roar t-shirt  
by registering at the above address***

Questions - call Luellen Kasselman at 565-1240