

Life together

April 2021

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...

Broken! We need the healing power of God!

We are about to enter that very sacred time of the year when we recall the story which brings us hope and healing in the midst of the brokenness of our world and our lives.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem that first Palm Sunday, he took on our brokenness. His body became broken with pain and suffering. He experienced broken relationships as trusted disciples and friends betrayed him and denied him and ran away, leaving him all alone on the cross. He endured the brokenness of a justice system which executed an innocent man. His spirit was broken as he cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" He then gave up his spirit and breathed his last before being fully and completely broken by death.

If the story ended there, in a grave, there would be no hope or healing for us. But the story didn't end there. On Easter morning Jesus broke the powers of sin and death when he rose from the dead! On Easter morning Jesus burst forth from the grave, alive and well! Therein lies our hope and the source of our healing.

During this season of Lent we have been talking about our brokenness and the healing which God brings to

us through Jesus Christ. Holy Week and Easter is when we pause from our daily routines and sometimes rather hectic schedules to meditate upon the story which gives us hope for the healing of our brokenness and the brokenness of our world.

A year ago we didn't get to come together to hear this story. The COVID-19 pandemic was just beginning and we were starting to see brokenness on a scale we seldom see. A year ago we were just beginning to experience social distancing, the wearing of masks, the work of schools being disrupted, businesses closing, record numbers of people unemployed, and ultimately a staggering number of deaths.

A lot has happened in the past year, much of which we would like to forget. We have learned a lot about brokenness. We have also learned a lot about God, our faithful God, a God of hope and healing, a God who hangs in there with us and who never gives up on us. Throughout this year we have kept the faith. We have loved God. We have loved others. We have continued to live as the people of God.

Now it is time to hear the story of our hope, the story which leads to the healing of our brokenness.

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Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday - March 28

Follow Jesus as he enters Jerusalem and takes on our brokenness and prepares to die for you. What a Lord! What grace! This service prepares us for the week ahead, a week that is truly Holy!

Maundy Thursday - April 1

On this night Jesus gave his followers the command to love one another and prepared a special meal called Holy Communion. We gather at 7:00 pm at Olsburg to remember the events of that night and to break bread with our Lord and with one another.

Good Friday - April 2

On this Friday we call Good we gather at 7:00 pm at Walsburg to tell the story which is at the heart and center of our faith. Because of Good Friday, there is healing for our brokenness. Do not hurry by the cross on your way to Easter joy, for we know the Risen Lord only through the Crucified Christ.

Festival of Easter - April 4

The Easter season begins with the news that Jesus has risen from the dead! Come, share the joy and exhilaration of Easter! The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! We have hope! The Easter SonRise service begins at 7:00 am at Walsburg. The Festival Service of Worship at Olsburg begins at 9:00 am. The Festival Service of Worship at Walsburg begins at 11:00 am.

Please pray with me. "Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service, and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen."

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Keith

Words of Wisdom

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen!" - Luke 24:5

If any person is devout and loves God, let him come to this radiant triumphant feast.

If any person is a wise follower, let him enter into the joy of his Lord, rejoicing.

Rich and poor together, hold high festival.

Diligent and heedless, honor this day.

Both you who have fasted, and you who did not fast, rejoice together today.

The table is full; all of you, feast sumptuously.

Enjoy the feast of faith; receive the riches of God's mercy.

Let no one weep for his iniquities, for forgiveness shines forth from the grave.

Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free.

He who was held prisoner by death has annihilated it.

By descending into death, he made death captive.

O Death, where is your sting?

O Grave, where is your victory?

Christ is risen and you are overthrown.

Christ is risen and the devils have fallen.

Christ is risen and the angels rejoice.

Christ is risen and life reigns.

Christ is risen and not one dead remains in the grave.

For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep, and to him be glory and honor, even to eternity. Amen.

- John Chrysostom (344-407)

"But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power." Peter, in Acts 2:24

Our Offerings to the Lord

If you can't make it to our worship gatherings, you may mail your offering to your respective congregation. You may mail it to the church directly or to the financial secretary at your church. The financial secretary at Olsburg is Alice Gibson (113 S. 1st St., Olsburg, KS 66520) and the financial secretary at Walsburg is Lynne Berry (14180 Crooked Creek Rd., Leonardville, KS 66449). Our work as the church continues! Your financial support is needed and valued.

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 Kasselman (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 sorrow with the family and friends of former Walsburg member, Maurice Berggren, who joined the saints in the Kingdom of Heaven on January 2, 2021.

† We sorrow with the family and friends of Olsburg member, Bee Erickson, who joined the saints in the Kingdom of Heaven on March 6, 2021.

† We rejoice with Walsburg member Lindsay Shorter and her husband, Morgan, on the birth of their daughter, Savannah Lynne, on January 22, 2021. Savannah's grandfather is Vern Bulk of Walsburg.

Members in service

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

Walsburg

Ushers and Greeters: Don & June Campbell; Vern Bulk; Ruthie Stone

Communion Ushers: Don Campbell & Jeremy Hinkle

Lay Assistants: 4/4 Don Nelson; 4/11 Jennifer Byarlay ; 4/18 Carol Wiens; 4/25 Becky Nelson

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.**

Lay Readers: 4/1: Karl Kasselman; 4/2 Gregg Gibson; 4/4 Becky Avery; 4/11 Deb Lowry; 4/18 Tom Nelson; 4/25 April Brenner

Acolytes: 4/4 Landry Zoeller; Ida Kasselman, Jace Ricketts; 4/11 Creed Kasselman; 4/18 Witten Ricketts; 4/25 Addison Gutsch

Ushers: Kraig Kasselman; Tom Nelson; Dan Holt; Blake Vargo

Assist Pastor during Communion: 4/4: John Lowry; 4/18: Karl Kasselman

April Altar Committee: Kathy Monser; Kristi Fronce

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Walsburg 293-5367

If you use email, we would greatly like to add you to our church's email list. In this way you would receive the weekly bulletin, "Pastor Keith's Reflections," the monthly newsletter, and other congregational announcements.

If you are not currently on this list and would like to be added, or if you know someone who would like to be on the list, give the email address to our parish coordinator, Shelly Burkland. Her email address is sburklun@ksu.edu.

Walsburg Sunday School News

The Walsburg Sunday School children and staff are very happy to be back in person for Sunday School after having Zoom virtual Sunday School for over three months! Our Bible stories for April are as follows:

April 4 (Easter) – Resurrection

April 11 – Emmaus Disciples

April 18 – The Early Church

April 25 – Philip and the Ethiopian

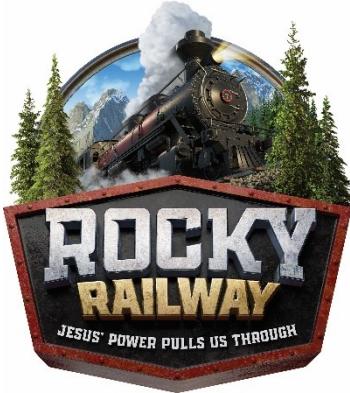
On Easter Sunday, the children will enjoy an Easter Egg hunt at 10:00 a.m. on the church grounds as part of their Sunday School activities!

Walsburg Lutheran Church March Council Highlights

The Walsburg Council met on March 3, 2021, with the following highlights:

- Bids are being obtained for a new sound system in the church.
- New windows and storm door will be installed in the kitchen this spring.
- A new Wi-Fi booster has been installed.
- Parsonage repairs include garage door, obtaining guttering cover bids and continue evaluation of drainage issues.
- Easter Sunrise Service will be held April 4 at 7:00 a.m., with no breakfast this year.
- Congregation members will be asked to volunteer for mowing at the church.
- Two volunteers are needed to participate online for the Synod Assembly June 4-5.

WALSBURG VBS – “Rocky Railway”



All Aboard the 2021 “Rocky Railway”! All of our lives are unpredictable, (for children and adults), filled with ups and downs, drops and dips, and twists and turns. (We have certainly experienced this over the last year). Life can sometimes feel out of control and off track. Kids are still learning to process all the changes that life can throw at us. In fact, we all are. Rocky Railway VBS is intentionally designed to show kids the power of Jesus—something they can count on to pull them through when life does not feel so fun or adventurous. At Rock Railway, kids will deepen their friendship with Jesus, who empowers them to boldly face life’s challenges!

So, mark your calendars for Walsburg’s 2021 Vacation Bible School! Invite children of your family, friends, and neighbors!

Date: June 21-25, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Where: Walsburg Lutheran Church

Cost: No Charge

Ages: 3 years (must be potty trained) thru 6th Grade

Volunteers Needed:

Teachers, Helpers, Outdoor Activities, Music, Snacks, Crafts, Picture Taking

Online registration will begin May 1.

To volunteer, contact Education Committee (Alicia Scofield, Amber Befort, Sheri Storer).



CAMP TOMAH SHINGA ANNUAL AUCTION

WHAT?

QUILTS, HANDMADE
DECOR/FURNITURE,
GAME TICKETS,
PAINTINGS, CABIN TRIPS

FOR?

FUND FOR CAMPER
SCHOLARSHIPS

WHEN?

APRIL 17TH
10:30A - EXPLORE
11:30A - FOOD & DRINKS
1:00 P - AUCTION!

Masks are appreciated!

Plant Sale

May 1

8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

at Olsburg Lutheran Church

Nice selection of bedding plants and hanging baskets

Just in time for Mother's
Day and Memorial Day!

Proceeds benefit
charitable projects



Thanks to Thrivent for supporting this project

