

Lifetogether

January 2024

Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish

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*Next newsletter items and
articles will be due Jan 28*

*Olsburg-Walsburg Lutheran Parish.
Deadline for calendar and other items is
the last Monday of each month.*

Editor/Parish Coordinator
Shelly Burklund
Cell 785-532-9853
Home 785-468-3370
sburklun@ksu.edu

Pastor
Kaylie Ines
Cell phone: 316-650-9225
E-mail: pastorkaylieines@gmail.com

Parish Information
olc@olsburglutheran.org
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Olsburg-Lutheran-Church>
<http://www.olsburglutheran.org>

Walsburg 293-5367
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Walsburg-Lutheran-Church>

From the Desk of Pastor Kaylie

Dear Beloveds,

As we approach the close of 2023, it's a moment of reflection and anticipation, akin to standing at the threshold of a new chapter. The year has been a journey filled with challenges, triumphs, and unexpected turns, but as we gather together in the spirit of Christmas, we find solace in the timeless gift of God's unexpected grace.

In the tapestry of our lives, the threads of grace are woven intricately, creating a fabric that sustains us through the highs and lows. The grace of God has been our constant companion, offering comfort and strength when we needed it most. As we look back on the year, let's acknowledge the moments when grace turned adversity into opportunity, reminding us that even in the darkest times, there is a glimmer of divine light.

Shocking hope, a beacon that pierces through despair, has been our guiding star. In the face of uncertainty, hope has whispered that a brighter tomorrow awaits. The challenges of 2023 have not extinguished this flame; rather, they have fanned its embers, propelling us forward with the belief that the best is yet to come. God is *still* with us.

Fierce joy, not easily subdued by circumstance, has been our companion on this journey. It's the joy that bubbles up from within, rooted in gratitude for the simple pleasures and the enduring bonds that make life rich. As we celebrate the holiday season, let's revel in the joy that radiates from shared laughter, heartfelt conversations, and the warmth of togetherness.

Just peace, a peace that transcends understanding, has been sought after in a world often marked by turmoil. In moments of chaos, we've yearned for a peace that settles the storms within and around us. Let the Christmas season be a reminder that true peace begins in the quiet corners of our hearts and extends outward, creating ripples of peace in our communities and beyond.

Transformational love, the kind that changes lives and builds bridges, has been our North Star. This love compels us to reach out to one another, fostering connections that withstand the test of time. As we turn the page to 2024, may we carry this love forward, sowing seeds of compassion, understanding, and unity.

As we bid farewell to 2023 and welcome the promise of 2024, let the spirit of

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Christmas be our guiding light. May the unexpected grace of God, shocking hope, fierce joy, just peace, and transformational love infuse our hearts and homes with warmth, and may these qualities be the foundation of a new year filled with boundless possibilities.

Wishing you a Christmas season filled with love, joy, and hope, and a New Year brimming with blessings.

With gratitude,
Pastor Kaylie

Walsburg Mitten Tree

Colder weather is approaching so the Mitten Tree is on display in the Narthex waiting for new or gently used child-sized mittens/gloves, scarves, hats, and socks to be hung. Items will be collected on the tree until Sunday, January 21, and then distributed to needy school-aged children in our community. Thank you for your support!

Walsburg Women hold Christmas Luncheon

On Thursday, December 14, Walsburg women gathered for a Christmas luncheon. The luncheon opened with a Swedish table grace followed by delicious food and everyone sharing a favorite holiday memory. A wonderful time was had by all. The luncheon closed with everyone singing, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas!"

Are you ready for Lent?

Our Lenten journey begins February 14 with Ash Wednesday services. Join us at Olsburg at 6:30 p.m. or Walsburg at 7:45 p.m.

Mid-week Lenten service Schedule

Soup supper begins at 6:00 p.m. with worship following at 7:00 p.m.
February 21 at Walsburg
February 28 at Olsburg
March 6 at Walsburg
March 13 at Olsburg
March 20 at Walsburg

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24 regular celebration worship services at Olsburg at 9:00 a.m. and at Walsburg at 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday service at Olsburg at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday service at Walsburg at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Day

Sunrise service at Walsburg time to be announced

Easter Celebration at Olsburg 9:00 a.m.

Easter Celebration at Walsburg 11:00 a.m.

January birthdays and anniversaries

If you know of a member whose birthday is not listed, please contact the church office.

January Birthdays

- 2 Skyler Zoeller (O)
Landry Zoeller (O)
- 3 Darnell Vargo (O)
Tucker Meader (W)
- 4 Matthew Wurtz (W)
- 6 Gary Holt (O)
- 7 Kenneth Neilson (W)
- 8 Julie Strauss (W)
- 9 Jerry Bohnenblust (W)
Emily Nelson (W)
- 10 Marlene Jenkins (W)
- 13 Wyatt Simon (O)
- 15 Jeremiah Brenner (O)
- 16 Ethan Bohenblust (W)

- Witten Ricketts (O)
- 18 Russell Berry (W)
Lacy Brown (W)
Chase Gibbs (O)
- 19 Chris Burnett (W)
Dawson Dick (W)
Shellee Maginness (W)
- 20 Colt Kasselman (O)
- 25 Bailee Howland (O)
Jan Nelson (W)
- 28 Alan Nelson (W)
- 29 Ryker Befort (O)

January Anniversaries:

- 7 Mike & Debbie Hagenmaier (W)

Members in service

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

Olsburg

Olsburg Ushers: Kent Nelson; Bill Monser; John Lowry

Olsburg Communion Assistants:
1/7 Jacob Nelson; 1/21 Kirby Burklund

Olsburg Acolytes: 1/7 Brooklyn Rice;
1/14 Jeremiah Brenner; 1/21 Ida Kasselman; 1/28 Kaden Gutsch

Olsburg Lay Readers: 1/7 April Brenner; 1/14 Kraig Kasselman; 1/21 Jacob Nelson; 1/28 Karl Kasselman

Altar Committee January: Kathy Monser, Becky Avery

Walsburg

Walsburg Ushers and Greeters:
Dennis & Denise Peterson; Trenton & Lynn Hargrave

Walsburg Communion Ushers: Rita Nelson & Lynne Berry

Walsburg Lay Readers: 1/7 Diana Hargrave; 1/14 Mason Scofield; 1/21 Jan Neilson; 1/28 Linda Toomire

Walsburg Acolytes: 1/7 Ryker Befort; 1/14 William Sullivan; 1/21 Macy Berry; 1/28 Trinity Meader

Altar Committee: Denise Peterson

***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.**