Greetings to all:

If you were to come and sit down in my office, I am not sure where I would begin with what to say in terms of a short visit.

Briefly, my wife had some unexpected eye surgery and received a very good report today for which we give thanks to the Lord our God. We live in quite an age where people benefit from years of study and progress through the use of various advancements. That they can look into your eye and detect small tears in your retina and have a procedure to fix it. No doubt years ago, people suffered with blindness. I think of how that statement is made of Isaac and Eli the Priest in the Old Testament. From what I have read, the original function of an acolyte in church was not only to light the candles but to read the scriptures because they were young and their eyes were still good.

School will draw to a close for all kinds of people this month. Living Savior is blessed with a wonderful Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten program. I want to publicly give thanks for our Director Denice Hornberger and all of our teachers. You will hear her report at our Voters’ Meeting that will take place on June 11th following the second service.

We will have our annual election of Church Council Board Chairpersons at this meeting. This is a good time to also give thanks for all who have served, giving of their time and abilities for the work of the church. There will also be a report on the worship survey. We want to give thanks for widespread participation. There are numerous suggestions that give guidance to many aspects of our worship planning for both services. Of course, as is the case with a survey, sometimes we heard opinions from opposite ends of the spectrum. Still, there was a great deal of encouragement and worthy suggestions that will help us in the weeks and months to come. Perhaps the greatest thing to remember in speaking of worship is that the Lord our God has promised His presence as even two or three of us gather together in His name. He comes to us in His Word and Sacraments. We as His children are able to be in His presence without fear. He hears our prayers and blesses us with His love.

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My wife and I will be hard at work on Vacation Bible School this month. Her eye surgery has set us back a little, but it will come together. Martin Luther pointed people to Christ some 500 years ago and we can do no other. Without summer Bible Class and Sunday School – this is a wonderful Christian education event in our congregation that is meant for all ages. Please consider joining us for those evening gatherings from July 9 – 13.

We will also resurrect our Theology and Brew with a session on Thursday, June 22 at 7:00pm. More information will be available in the Parish Notes.

Pastor Brandt
JUNE Devotion

Are you in a waiting place? We’ve all been in the position of waiting for someone or something at one time or another. There are many things for which we must wait: the pain to stop, the traffic light to change, the end of the school year, the arrival of a baby, our child to return from deployment, or a child to find the right job to gain independence. Have you been in the hospital waiting room or in the stopped car waiting for flaggers during road construction? At railroad tracks behind a school bus? The list would be endless, each with our own needs expressed.

Have you been told to just be patient while you wait?

I recently read in a devotion that patience is not waiting. It is how we behave while we are waiting. What a profound thought. This makes us think about how we are waiting. Are we tapping our foot? Checking our watch? Marking the days on a calendar? Networking? Praying for an answer? Sometimes prayer is “all we can do.” This may be a common expression, but it is may not be true. It depends on the faith of the one praying. Prayer is the best thing we can do in all circumstances.

Have you considered praying for the children on the bus you are behind while you wait? Or offering prayers of thanksgiving for our laws which make our country run smoothly while you wait? Or offering prayers of thanksgiving to our children on the bus who are behind while you wait? Or offering prayers of thanksgiving for teachers who spend their time teaching your children? Or offering prayers of thanksgiving for the crossing guard who makes our child’s path safe? Or offering prayers of thanksgiving for the police officer who protects you and your family? Or offering prayers of thanksgiving for God’s love, unseen, surrounds your life?

Our Scriptures are full of admonitions and advice regarding how we behave while we are waiting. The following verses speak of the blessings, admonitions or benefits of patience while waiting:

Psalm 40:1-3 tells us
Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Psalm 46:1-4 proclaims (Think A mighty fortress is Our God)
Verse 1 God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.

And encourages us with verse 10:
Be still, and know that I am God, I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!
Women’s Retreat

The Oregon District LWML will host a women’s retreat this fall. Mark your calendar for September 29-October 1. The theme is “Above All Else, Guard Your Heart” and will be held at the Macleay Christian Retreat Center just east of Salem. More information will follow, or check out the Oregon Leaguer in the tract rack.

The cost is $150 for two nights lodging and five meals. Scholarships will be available if needed. Contact the Church office for more information.

MIGHTY MITES AND BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS

This biennium our mites have completed six Oregon District LWML (Lutheran Women in Mission) Mission Grants and partially funded two others since June 2016. We are a little over half way to the adopted grant goal of $71,250. Thank you!

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PASTORAL EDUCATION OF AFRICAN STUDENTS AT WESTFIELD HOUSE

$6,500 Fully Funded!
Westfield House is a House of Theological Studies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England, a partner church of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Students travel from several countries in Africa to England. After obtaining their University of Bachelor of Divinity Degree or completing further studies they return to their homes to teach or be ordained in the Lutheran Church. The growth of the Lutheran Church in Africa is bringing a great need for trained pastors.

CARRYING CHRIST INTO THE HEART OF THE HISPANIC HOME

$6,500 Fully Funded!
This grant will support the ongoing evangelism work of Deaconess Marta Luna. The mission of this grant is to share the message of Christ’s love through personal visits with Hispanic families in communities in the Portland and Woodburn areas. Her visits include Bible study, prayer and an invitation to attend worship. Connecting people with resources to support them in times of need is part of Marta’s ministry. A number of families have become active church members through her work and friendship.

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LETS CELEBRATE!

The Living Savior Choir invites you to our annual concert on Sunday, June 4, at 7:00pm. We will be singing anthems that we have sung for Sunday services through this last year plus some surprises. We will also feature several other musicians who will join us. The concert is free however a donation will be taken to benefit Tualatin School House Pantry.

I am thrilled to direct this group of almost 40 singers whose aim is to touch your heart with a message that you can take home for the following week. So - mark your calendars. Please support your fellow members on June 4 at 7:00pm. Refreshments will be served.

-Dorothy H.
SUPPORT GROUP AT LIVING SAVIOR

We invite you to connect with others at Living Savior who are giving care or have given care to a loved one. Those who are in the midst of care giving could greatly benefit from those who have gone before them. We meet the third Saturday of the month, 9:00am to share resources, encourage one another and fill our spiritual cup. Please join us! Friends of Living Savior Lutheran are welcome to join us as well. You may know someone in the workplace or community who would benefit from our group. Questions? Contact the Church office.

Saturday, June 17, 9:00am
Library
Living Savior Lutheran

This Truth That’s Changing Me

Vacation Bible School – Summer 2017

Save the dates! July 9-13, 2017 – 6:00-8:00pm

In anticipation of our summer VBS, pick up “Flat Martin.” Color him. Cut him out. Take selfies with Flat Martin at all the places you visit between now and July 9th. Share your selfies on Living Savior’s Facebook Page.

Have you met a prince? Have you made pretzels? Have you traveled to Germany? Have you ridden in an ox cart? Learn the arts and crafts of the times of Martin Luther.

Travel back 500 years with us at our VBS this summer to the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of the year 1517 and discover the truth that is still changing. Registration forms are available in the church Narthex and on the Living Savior website.

BOOK CLUB

There are no Book Club meetings from June through August. We will resume our regular 2nd Saturday schedule on September 9, at 10am with a discussion of “Mornings on Horseback” by David McCullough. This is a historical novel about Teddy Roosevelt and written by the author of the Wright Brothers which we enjoyed reading this past year.

Our reading list for 2017-2018 is:

Sept. 9  Mornings on Horseback  David McCullough
Oct. 14  Luther and Katharina  Jody Hedlund
Nov. 11  The Return of the Prodigal Son  Henri Nouwen
December (no meeting)

Jan. 13  Anne of Green Gables  L.M. Montgomery
Feb. 10  Astoria  Peter Stark
Mar. 10  The Secrets of Mary Bower  Lois Leveen
Apr. 14  The Girl Who Wrote Silk  Kelli Estes
May 12  Rise of the Rocket Girls  Nathalia Holt

Summer Reading Suggestions:

- The Benedict Option by Rob Dreher
- Bridge of the Gods by Frederic Homer Balch
- Lab Girls by Hope Jahren
- Prague Winter by Madeleine Albright
- More Than a Carpenter by Josh McDowell
- Bear Town by Fredrik Backman
- Psalm 23: A Shepherd Looks at... by Phillip Keller
- The Rent Collector by Cameron Wright
- The Mother of the Reformation by Ernst Kroker

REMINDER TO RETURN DVDs

As many of you know, a Sunday Worship service and Educational Hour and some other events usually get video recorded and are made available to check out. To maintain an archive and availability to others, it is very important to please return these "master DVD recordings".

It has come to our attention that some DVD recordings have been checked out from Church but not returned for others to view. There is a project underway to make easier access to older archived DVD videos. Please support the Church’s effort by returning checked out DVDs, thanks.

SHUT IN MINISTRY

“You are those who have stood by me in my trials.”


Living Savior has an active team of people who have a heart for those who are unable to attend church because of illness or disabilities. As a visitor to shut ins, they have an opportunity to make a positive difference in someone’s life by visiting and bringing to them fellowship and love from the congregation.

- WOULD YOU LIKE TO VISIT SHUT INS?
Volunteers are trained for this ministry. If you would like to be a part of this ministry or have questions, please contact the Church office.

- DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WE CAN VISIT?
Contact the Church office.

- MINISTRY MEETING
Thursday, June 1, 12:00pm in the Board Room
Notes from Bethesda Lutheran Communities

Auxiliary News
At the annual celebration in May, the ministry consultant shared information and concerns with us. We have approximately 200 clients living in homes or apartment in the Portland metro area. Most of the facilities operate in the red financially. The clients attend day programs in Hillsboro and Portland. Some have been trained to look for work for Nike and Intel.

Ninety percent of the clients don’t know Jesus. There is a need for volunteers to lead Bible studies in their homes on a regular schedule. Even though communication is difficult, these people do need to learn they are loved by Jesus just as we are and that Jesus is their Savior. Could you help by the guidance of the Holy Spirit?

During the business meeting, the group voted to pledge to raise $32,000 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. A garage sale is planned for July 7-8 in Hillsboro. If you have items to donate, bring them to the church and I’ll store them in my garage.

-Sylvia S.

Community Warehouse
Fifteen years ago, Community Warehouse began with a clear intention: to provide household goods and furnishings to local families in need, so they could turn empty homes into homes. With each day, it is better understood how significant furnishings are in the lives of families and children. Community Warehouse helps people create homes that nourish dignity and encourage empowered, self-sufficient community members.

Furniture is their currency, but what Community Warehouse really provides is happiness, housing security, stress relief, and improved quality of life for our neighbors in need.

Community Warehouse uses resources that already exist in our community. The answer to the problem of empty housing is here, circulating through our homes. They can redistribute furnishings and housewares that each of us have in our own homes.

If you have useable used items in your home that you would like to donate, please drop them into the blue Community Warehouse drop bag in the entrance into the fellowship hall or drop off your item at:

Community Warehouse
8380 SW Nyberg St., Tualatin
503-612-0020
M-F, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Sat-Sun, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

For more information about Community Warehouse go to: communitywarehouse.org

Most needed items, no missing parts:

- Pots & Pans Clear, no excessive wear
- Baking Pans & Dishes Clear, no chips, cracks or broken parts
- Toaster/Toaster Ovens Working condition
- Can Openers
- Dressers Good condition, 6 foot or smaller
- Mattresses 15 yr. or newer, stain free
- Kitchen Tables/Chairs Good condition, St. or smaller
- Sleeping Pillows Free from stains & tears
- Blankets No electric, no stains & tears
- Alarm Clocks Working condition

Looking forward. On June 15 we will journey to the Oswego Heritage House and Museum, 398 10th St. More information and a sign up sheet are located on the poster in the Narthex. The exhibit covers the history of Lake Oswego from the earliest Native American settlement to the 1960s. Meet at church at 9:45am to carpool. Our tour starts at 10:00am with an historical guide. Lunch afterwards is to be determined. Contact the Church for more info.

AMAZING GRAYS
Join us for our regular meeting on Thursday, June 1 at 1:00pm. You have to be neither Amazing nor Gray to enjoy the company of other Christian folk at our gatherings. Refreshments are served. The meeting will be preceded with an Executive committee meeting at 11:30am to plan September and balance of the year activities.

Oswego Heritage Council
Preserving Our Past, Enriching Our Future

COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE
USED GOODS TO GOOD USE

Taking THE PULSE
Thank you to the many members of the congregation for the amazing level of participation in the recent “Sunday Morning Worship Survey.”

The Spiritual Life Board will present a summary of the survey results at the June 11th Voter’s Meeting which begins at 11:30, immediately after the second worship service.
Okay, admit it. Stephen Ministry has crossed your mind a few times. You might even have picked up a brochure or talked with someone about it. But now you want to take a closer look at the idea of becoming a Stephen Minister. You’re wondering: Is this right for me? The following are some guidelines that might help you in your decision making.

GIFTS - A Stephen Minister is a person with the gift of mercy, who shows compassion and gives encouragement to and intercedes for those he or she cares for. Many Stephen Ministers say that they receive much more from the caring relationship with their care receiver than they give.

COMMITMENT - A Stephen Minister devotes time, energy, and resources to this ministry. In return, a Stephen Minister has the chance to participate in meaningful ministry, make a major difference in another person’s life, and grow as a joyous child of God.

TRAINING - A Stephen Minister competes 50 hours of training before ever meeting with a care receiver. He or she learns about listening, assertiveness, confidentiality, and many other aspects of caregiving. After completing the initial training, there is continuing education. Stephen Ministers find that their relationships become richer and deeper at home, church, work and with friends.

DEDICATED SERVICE - A Stephen Minister serves wholeheartedly. This isn’t a casual ministry. It involves prayer, thought, consideration, study, and commitment. In return, the Stephen Minister receives grateful thanks from his or her care receiver, our Stephen Leaders, the congregation, and our Lord.

ACCOUNTABILITY - A Stephen Minister is accountable to God, the congregation, the Stephen Leaders, the other Stephen Ministers, and the care receiver. In return, he or she receives support, encouragement, and guidance in Small Group Peer Supervision.

CONTINUOUS LEARNING - A Stephen Minister is open to adjusting and adapting his or her caregiving to fit the needs of the care receiver. He or she learns more about caregiving at each meeting with a care receiver and at each supervision session. Stephen Ministry is an experience of continuous learning, growth, and joy.

A new training class for Stephen Ministers is starting September 7, 2017. The Holy Spirit may be calling you to the joy, commitment, growth, meaning, training, service, and care of being a Stephen Minister. Pray for God’s guidance as you consider this opportunity. For more information contact the Church office.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU
DVD’s and books are plentiful in our church library. Please take a minute to browse through our inventory. The library is located on the second floor, next to the Upper Room (arched entries). There is self-check out.

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Living Savior’s Men’s Retreat
June 2-4
Black Butte Ranch
All Men Are Invited
$60 covers all meals and program
Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.
For more information contact the Church office.

Greeting Card Ministry, Senders Needed!
Thank you to Randi B. for sending out greeting cards for special anniversaries and birthdays, births, get well and sympathy from Living Savior over the last 8 years. She is ready to pass this privilege and ministry on to someone else. Maybe there are several of you who would like to share this task. Please the Church office if you would like to know more about this ministry.