A Note from the Pastor...

Camping – A Crisis in the Making

We are hoping to leave today at noon to go camping with the grandchildren.

Gary Smalley cites Family Camping Trips the “one activity” that is identified by more people than anything else as the activity that engenders a sense of family closeness. He claims to have interviewed over 30,000 people.

And for all of those who hate camping this would appear to be very bad news in that it seems like you have to go camping in order to achieve family closeness. For some people that would be torture. Which, after examining the responses more closely, is what Smalley discovered, “Camping is torture,” or at least a mild form of suffering. But therein lies the key. It turns out that family closeness occurs when a family faces a shared crisis together. What is camping? It is virtually a crisis waiting to happen.

You can’t just go to the sink and turn on the water. You have to get the water, heat the water, and then you can use the water but then you have to dispose of the water. But to heat the water you have to gather the wood and light the fire. And when you are camping you can’t just walk in the door, turn on the light and turn back the covers and crawl into bed (unless you own one of those giant motorhomes – but well, let’s talk... is that really camping?) First you have to set up the tent, roll out your sleeping bag. But when you get in the sleeping bag you all of the sudden realize that you stood too close to the fire and you are going to smell that smoke all night and that you didn’t check the ground close enough and your sleeping bag is right on top of a pine cone or worse, a rock. I don’t know that I have been camping anywhere where I slept good the first night. And this isn’t the half of it. I’ve been camping already where I had to scrape the ice off of the picnic table in the morning. Or on another occasion in Wisconsin, our two older children we were wondering what that bulge was in the ceiling of the tent after it had rained all night and before I could tell them not to touch it, one of them touched it and the water started running right on to them.

Now the good news is that you really don’t have to camp to achieve all of this. Life has a way of giving us any number of crises which are never very much “fun” when we are in the middle of them. They are hard and sometimes painful. It is a good time to be compassionate, circle the wagons and help one another. Think Stephen Ministry, St. Luke’s Circle, Visitation Group, AA, Al Anon, Grief therapy groups and just being a close friend to someone at church.

Are we having fun yet? I’ve almost talked myself into staying home. And yet we do this – we hurl ourselves headlong into this intentional suffering and call it fun. But here is where stories have their birth and memories are made. Here is where we learn things about one another and learn to depend on one another. In the end, the great thing about camping is that it’s finally over.

Now the good news is that you really don’t have to have a crisis to achieve all of this. Life has a way of giving us any number of crises which are never very much “fun” when we are in the middle of them. They are hard and sometimes painful. It is a good time to be compassionate, circle the wagons and help one another. Think Stephen Ministry, St. Luke’s Circle, Visitation Group, AA, Al Anon, Grief therapy groups and just being a close friend to someone at church.

Happy Camping!

Pastor Brandt
**Update**

Our committee met on June 28th and decided it was appropriate to notify the LCMS Circuit Visitor, Pastor Jeff S. of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Aloha (newly installed, takes over position that Pastor Brandt has held for a number of years), that we have a vacancy and are working toward calling someone to fill the position. Jon L. and Pastor Brandt are currently drafting and will submit the notification. The next step will be to notify our district president Paul L. of our vacancy.

Thank you,
Living Savior Call Committee

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**Ministry Opportunity**

A volunteer is needed to take over the Cradle Roll ministry of Living Savior. This person would send out cards and other materials to infants and the very young children in the congregation. It requires no meetings, and it is greatly appreciated by the families who are touched by these gifts. Contact the church office for more information or to volunteer.

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**Stewardship Update**

**Year to Date Contributions, as of 07/09/2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fund</th>
<th>Received: $334,257</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget: $309,615</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variance: $ +24,642</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Building Fund Contributions: $33,582

Thank you for your faithful giving!

**Debt Update:**

The current balance on the Building Loan is $1,259,112.

The interest rate on the building loan was recently increased from 3.875% to 4.00%. This has been the second increase in the interest rate (originally 3.75%) since the construction loans were combined in 2015. We have been fortunate enough to have maintained a low rate despite a steady increase in interest rates. The interest rate on our floating rate loan is not determined by a spread over LIBOR or the Fed Funds rate, but rather the cost of funds for the Lutheran Church Extension Fund.

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**Call Committee**

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 work place or community who would benefit from our group. Questions? Call Karen H. at the church office.

Saturday, August 18, 9:00 am
Library
Living Savior Lutheran

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**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!

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**August Devotion - Judy C.**

You shall teach them diligently to your children... Deuteronomy 6:7a

How times have changed. We’ve been going through pictures, documents, books, cards, scrapbooks and other boxes of “stuff” that we brought home after my husband’s parents died. We thought it would be kind of us to sort through and organize this memorabilia so our children don’t have to. His mom was a collector of many things and fortunately she documented much of what she kept which includes all of the letters she and Dad wrote to each other while he was serving overseas, every card he gave to her, all of the letters received from her sons (thankfully, there were only two boys) and probably 60 plus years of pictures. It has been a walk through their history which has given me even more insight into who the parents were as young people—from high school (autograph books), through courtship, their wedding and life in Germany and Austria as well as several places in the United States before they settled down and built their house in Eugene.

I’ve only gone through three banker boxes so far—mostly of pictures and Dad’s military years. It is a daunting task to think of the remaining 12 cigar boxes with 8mm movies and many more boxes of slides. Then we have to decide if the kids want any of this after we are gone. We have thrown out tons of stuff that were their grandparents memories, but there will still be a lot for the boys to decide if they want to keep in the future.

But, back to how times have changed. One of the greeting cards I enjoyed the most was on a one cent stamp. My parents were originally from Germany and Dad’s parents were from Austria. My parents met in Oberammergau, Germany and (you) will likely continue to call on her for occasional assistance. Thank you again Lynette!

The in-house greeting cards I enjoyed the most was on a one cent stamp. My parents were originally from Germany and Dad’s parents were from Austria. My parents met in Oberammergau, Germany and (you) will likely continue to call on her for occasional assistance. Thank you again Lynette!

When you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up.

This is such good advice to all parents, grandparents, godparents, teachers, even friends and neighbors — anyone who is privileged to know a child or children. In this day of keeping pictures on our phones and using electronic devices which contains our Bible, we may be missing the opportunity to walk and talk and interact with one another. (As I walked into the building to pick up my granddaughter from gymnastics class recently, all five of the adults waiting were intent on something on their phone. No one spoke a word. So sad.)

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The congregation gives thanks to Lynette W. for her five years of service as Stewardship Chair. Effective this month, I have taken over those responsibilities, though will likely continue to call on her for occasional assistance. Thank you again Lynette!

If you have questions, please contact me at the church office.

Thank you.
Adam W.
Scrip is a simple way to raise funds to bring down the church’s mortgage. They are just gift cards that we are able to purchase at a discount that can range from 1.5% to 41%. You buy a gift card to your regular grocery store, department store, restaurant or many other vendors at full value, and the discount associated with the merchant goes to the church.

**Summer Scrip Dates:**
- August 5
- August 19 and then every Sunday after that.

**Questions:** Call Holly at the church office. Give it a try or stop by the Scrip counter for more information.

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**THEOLOGY AND BREW**

The next Theology and Brew gathering will be on August 8 at 7:00pm.

If you would like to have some input as to the subject matter of these evening gatherings, please submit your ideas in the Theology and Brew suggestion box located in the narthex. Watch the Parish Notes and look for more announcements. Weather permitting, we will gather outside. As in the past, you are encouraged to bring your favorite beverage (brew or otherwise). It is an informal gathering.

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**CHOIR ROUNDUP - SEPTEMBER 5, 2018**

It is time to think about returning to our choir schedule. In the past I have shared the information that I have found about the healthy value of singing with a group. I now have gathered some more ways that music is a benefit to you.

1. Music decreases levels of stress the same as a massage.
3. Music causes the brain to release dopamine, the same as eating chocolate.
4. Music has been used for healing for centuries.
5. Music that brings you joy expands blood vessels and improves your cardiac health.

Every Wednesday the Living Savior Choir meets in the balcony from 7 to 8:30pm to join together in singing the wonderful anthems – some new and some old – that we share with the congregation at our regular services. Please consider joining us. No one is too young or too old! It is helpful if you have a little music background. I am excited about seeing all of you old timers and hope to see some new folks too. We work hard but have fun.

**SAVE THIS DATE: SEPTEMBER 5th**

Dorothy H., Director
“Pull yourself together!”

You’ve heard it a million times. Others may have said it to you or you may have said it to yourself. But things just aren’t coming together. You’re still hurting. You still feel like things are falling apart.

Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who will walk with you, listen to you, and provide confidential one-to-one care, as you search through the pieces and find what is truly in your heart.

News from Bethesda — Group Homes

The Spring Fling this Year was a lot of fun for all who attended. Thank you to all the Senior Youth and parents who helped plan and attended. We started with some dancing, had some really fun entertainment and then everyone enjoyed snacks, bingo and prizes.

This past year we added several new programs to support our Group Home Friends. Shirley D. came to our church with her son Paul and started a Sunday morning program at 11:15 called Open Hearts Sunday School. A program called Bethesda Connection was started. Pastor spends time with a lesson and then we had lunch and social time—usually some type of fun activity to get everyone moving and then a craft. There is more information on this program on the bulletin facing you as you enter the fellowship hall.

If you are new to our church, we have supported our Group Home friends for over 30 years. There are four homes in Tualatin. It is a mission where you can meet the different people and share our Lord’s love. It is very fulfilling and you are able to Love your Neighbor as Christ has loved you.

We have had various activities dinners, bible lessons, Christmas Luncheon, picnics and the Spring Fling. Thank you to people who have been part of this ministry. We are looking for people who have a heart for a loving ministry. Shirley and I, Kathye Greene, have been doing this for a very long time and over 30 years.

We would like to have a committee which meets every three months and people to support the activities with new ideas and energy. Please pray about this and join us in this wonderful ministry. In the September logos we will have a date for the first meeting and sign up sheets on the message board.

-Kathye G.

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

In Ephesians 4 (RSV) Paul talks about pastors and other leaders as gifts God has given the church “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” Stephen Ministry has given us an organized way to equip those gifted for caring ministry so that they can build up the body of Christ by providing Christian care and support to those experiencing a difficult time. If you would like more information on our Stephen Ministry, please call:

Karen H. 503-694-8773
Valorie W. 503-740-6734
Andrew W. 503-593-4613
Pastor B. 503-692-3490

In Ephesians 4 (NRSV) Paul talks about pastors and other leaders as gifts God has given the church “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” Stephen Ministry has given us an organized way to equip those gifted for caring ministry so that they can build up the body of Christ by providing Christian care and support to those experiencing a difficult time. If you would like more information on our Stephen Ministry, please call:

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Come Check Us Out!

In addition to the regular library material,

DID YOU KNOW?...........

• That we have a book shelf dedicated for books that the Book Club at Living Savior has read.
• That we have a book shelf of puzzles for you to check out.
• That we have reference material, Bible studies, children’s craft & learning idea books.
• That we have devotions that you may take home and use for as long as needed.

The library is located on the second floor, next to the Upper Room (arched entries). There is self-check out.

Shut In Ministry

“You are those who have stood by me in my trials.” -Luke 22:28

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, contact Peggy H. or Lola E. at the church office.

Do you know of someone we can visit?

Contact Peggy H. or Lola E.

PUZZLES!

The church library is offering puzzles for lending. We use the honor system so please return a borrowed puzzle in a timely fashion so others may use them. If you have quality puzzles, no pieces missing, that you would like to share with others, place them in the plastic tub to the right of the puzzle shelf in the library.

A sermon on Legs

I’d rather see a sermon than hear one any day; I’d rather one would walk with me than merely tell the way.

The eye’s a better pupil, and more willing than the ear. Fine council is confusing, but example’s always clear.

—Edgar A. Guest

BOOK CLUB

We have put together a list of books for next year that bring variety into our usual reading choices. You are not expected to come every time. Select the books that you find interesting and that you have time to read and please join us next year.

We meet the second Saturday of each month, 10:00-11:30 am, September-May. This time affords a lively discussion of the book, fellowship and delicious refreshments, coffee and tea.

Sept. 8 Island of Saints: A Story of the One Principle That Frees the Human Spirit by Andy Andrews

Oct. 13 The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson

Nov. 10 The Present by Spencer Johnson

Annual Phil Fribley Memorial Golf Tournament

WHEN: September 9, 2018, 1:30pm, trophy presentation to follow play
WHERE: Charbonneau Country Club, Wilsonville
WHAT: Nine holes of play, scramble format

Four person teams (sign up with three friends) or – coming as a single? We will assign you to a team.

Sign-up sheet in the narthex. Questions, contact Jon H. at the church office.

Memorial Golf Tournament

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Four person teams (sign up with three friends) or – coming as a single? We will assign you to a team.

Sign-up sheet in the narthex. Questions, contact Jon H. at the church office.

Most needed items, no missing parts:

- Pots & Pans Clean; no excessive wear
- Baking Pans & Dishes Clean; no chips, cracks or broken parts
- Toasters/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, 5ft. or smaller
- Sleeping Pillows Free from stains & tears
- Blankets: No electric, no stains & tears
- Alarm Clocks Working condition

For information about Community Warehouse go to:

www.communitywarehouse.org

Serving Opportunity

Would you like to help with worship services?

The Altar Guild is looking for more volunteers to serve on a regular basis. Training will be provided. Please contact Margaret H. for more information.

The Amazing Grays are on Summer Break.

We will meet again on Sept. 6 at 1:00pm at the church.

Have a great Summer.

-Dave C.

The Present

The Warmth of Other Suns

Island of Saints: A Story of the One Principle That Frees the Human Spirit

by Andy Andrews

by Isabel Wilkerson

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Military Ministry:

Thanks you all for your generous support. We will have shipped 32 boxes by the end of August. We are looking for Micah’s return home at the end of September, and we continue to support our guys in Afghanistan through February 2019. Everything we have sent has been much appreciated and we will continue to ship those items. If you’re not sure about shopping, you are welcome to contribute by check and add Military Ministry to the memo line. The cost of shipping is $17.40 a box and I pick up needed items to complete the box and your contributions are used to cover those costs also.

Items needed: Top ramen, protein bars (Cliff, Kind etc), EmergenC, antifungal cream and powder and socks. Please no liquids, aerosols or pork products. Questions? Please contact Shari at the church office.

Thank you to all those who have donated time, items, or postage money to support Micah and his fellow soldiers in Syria and with those serving in other parts of the world.

Prison Fellowship Ministries: Angel Tree

The time has come to start making contact and organizing the Christmas shopping list for the children we are supporting. We need your help. If your interested in getting involved please contact Shari at the church office.

The next meeting for the Mission & Service Board is Thursday, August 2, at 7:00pm.

Mission Opportunity

From Jim P., Executive Director at These Numbers Have Faces

October Accelerate Summit in Rwanda

Do you have experience as a business leader or entrepreneur? Would you like to use your skills and experience to impact 150 young entrepreneurs growing their businesses in Rwanda? Then join Jim Pressnell in Rwanda October 21-28 for our Accelerate Academy Summit. For more information and to register, please go to our These Numbers Have Faces website: http://thenumbers.org/accelerate-summit/.

Oregon District LWML

Do you know what can happen when you drop a quarter into your Mite Box? That 25 cents can buy a meal for a child attending a school in Haiti which is probably the only meal that child will have for the day. The delegates at the Oregon District Convention met in July and voted for a $5,000 grant for Trinity HOPE Haitian Feeding Program. We found out that 60% of Haitian people practice an extremely violent form voodoo; however the children of these families who attend the Christian schools there, receive lunch every day and also hear about the love of Jesus for them and their families. These meals have a far-reaching impact on the country.

By a facetime encounter, we heard directly from the school administrator who indicated that our $5,000 grant matched with grants from other organizations will feed 23,000 children for each of the 187 days while school is in session.

Remember to pray for Haiti and for other mission projects as you put your coins into your Mite Box. New boxes are available on the bookshelf by the front doors of the building. Empty filled boxes into the large box or just put the entire box into the larger one and take a new Mite Box. Living Savior just sent a check for $165 thanks to many who donate from our congregation.

A list of the new Oregon District grant projects for the 2018-2020 Biennium is posted on the top of the bookshelf.

Looking Ahead —

In lieu of other events happening at Living Savior in October of this year, the Men’s Club will not be hosting an Oktoberfest dinner.

Watch for details regarding a special 40th anniversary celebration of Living Savior’s first service held on Reformation Sunday.