



The Evangel

Vol. 40, Edition 2

February 2023

***Our Saviour
Lutheran Church***
*is a congregation of the
Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America.*

*We welcome all
to share in life with Christ
as a community
of faith in mission.*

OSLC's Vision & Mission

*God calls us to be a community of
discipleship for all, making Christ's
love real in our daily lives.*

*Grow in faith and Christian calling
Love and serve God and neighbor
Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

Worship on Sundays

9:00 A.M. (Online and in-person)

11:30 A.M. (in-person)

Join the Zoom Meeting or watch
live on OSLC's facebook page.

Email OSLC (info@osluth.org) and Teo will
send you a bulletin and a Zoom invite.



Randy Schroeder, Pastor



Welcome Pastor Kristin

Wonderful people of OSLC and PLM, thank you so much for your kindness and generosity in welcoming me into the community. I'm excited to try out many local fares and explore the area more purposefully.

I thank our God in my prayers, just like the apostle Paul, whenever I think of you and the work you are doing in faith; and what a privilege it is to join you in ministry with and for the Purdue community and beyond.

Feel free to stop by the PLM house anytime!

in peace and love,

Pastor Kristin

Pastor's Letter

I am very thankful for you. I am grateful for everything you do for and your commitment to the ministry of OSLC and PLM. Together we carry on our mission before us: Grow in faith and Christian calling; Love and serve God and neighbor; Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Each year we discern how God's love will be shown through you (OSLC and PLM) to the community and the world. In this discernment we will discover new ways to show God's love we have not yet dreamed of.



As we journey through the season of Epiphany, a season of discovery, I pray we continue to support and hold each other in prayer. May we see God's presence in finding new ways to: Grow in faith and Christian calling, Love and serve God and neighbor, and Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Some of you have noticed that I have asked you to "Dream" about new ways God is showing us to use the Fowler Properties to fulfill our mission. This 'dreaming' is a part of our discernment for the coming future. And I do mean future...

At the present time, we are using the income from these properties to pay for the loans we have through MIF and ourselves (OLSC). For the time being, we cannot financially make ends meet without the income produced by the rental property. Yet, we can dream about what the Fowler property may become in the future, so that when we are able to 'make ends meet,' we will be in position to act.

The Holy Spirit has blessed us with some incredible opportunities for ministry. In late summer of 2020, God called Pr. Mike Vinson away from PLM, and we all felt the loss. And now, God has called Pr. Kristin Rice, who brings life and creativity to PLM. - Last Summer we were unexpectedly approached to purchase the Fowler Properties. We frantically and successfully found a way to acquire them. - This past fall I was unexpectedly nominated to participate in the Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program (WPLP). The WPLP is a two year program where I will meet with civic leaders to build sustainable relationships and learn the challenges and needs of the community. The timing of these totally non-related events seems to be nothing less than the work of the Holy Spirit. Because, now we are in position to learn more about the community and it's needs, dream of what can be, and plan to move in a direction that fulfills our mission: Grow in faith and Christian calling, Love and serve God and neighbor, and Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

So, when I ask you to dream about what the Fowler Property may become in the future, it is an invitation to learn more about ourselves and our community. We will never know the opportunities or the needs of the community if we don't ask or get to know those in our area, city, and state. Ask yourself, "What could be done with these properties that would be helpful or meaningful for OSLC and the community in which it is found?" We are the community. This will take time. Over the next coming years, the Spirit will guide us and use us to show God's love in ways we may not expect. And as we are open to learn and dream, God can ... God will, exceed all our expectations.

May God bless and keep you safe now and always. 😊

Pastor Randy

News & Notes

Council Highlights

- Pastor Randy will be traveling for the following dates:
- July for the National Rostered Leaders Gathering
- October 3-10th for the Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program.
- Appointing nominating committee to replace council members

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Randy will be away for the Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program on the following dates:

- **March 13th-15th**
- **May 15-17th**
- **August 7th-9th**
- **October 3rd-10th**
- **December 4th-6th**

Save these Dates

- **February 3rd** | Pacers Family Night
- **February 5th** | Putting together meals for Souper Bowl of Caring for LUM
- **February 18th at 2 PM** | Pastor Kristin's Installation Service
- **February 21st** | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- **February 23rd** | Ash Wednesday

Stewardship Article

Zig Ziglars tell this joke about communication.

A woman meets with an attorney and says "I want to divorce my husband!" "OK" the attorney responds, "let's start with a few questions first." "Like what?" she asks. "Well, do you have any grounds?" the attorney asks. "Yes, we have about 5 acres out in the country." she replies. "No, I mean do you have a grudge?" asks the attorney. The wife answers, "No, but we have a nice, wide carport and a storage shed." Flustered the attorneys asks, "Let me ask this a different way. Do you have any complaints about him?" She responds, "Like what?" The attorney asks, "Well, does he beat you up?" She replies, "No, I'm up at least an hour before him every day." The attorney inquires, "Well, what about your role here? Do you ever wake up grouchy?" She doesn't miss a beat and says, "No, when he's in a bad mood I just let him sleep." Exasperated, the attorney finally asks, "Why exactly do you want to get a divorce?" "Well," she replies, "the guy just can't communicate!"

It is very important to properly communicate the message you wish to deliver. This is why it is better to work with a team to help communicate the aspects of ministry. I invite you to be part of the OSLC Stewardship Team.

Your stewardship is outstanding! And sometimes this pastor gets nervous about asking an 'already very generous' congregation to do more. You are very generous with your time, talents, and treasures. Your stewardship is strong. So, you might think, 'why do we need a new Stewardship Team?' Even though the message is clear to you, what about new members and visitors, in-person and on Zoom? How can we properly communicate our message of Stewardship and educate them on the several ministries we collaborate with inside and outside of our building? How might we better educate ourselves and others to become better stewards of what God provides?

I am inviting those of you who have a sense of humor, those of you who like a challenge, those of you 'forward thinkers'-- to join me in envisioning a new kind of Stewardship Team. The Stewardship of this congregation is remarkable! This new Stewardship Team should properly communicate the work being done as well as invite others to join in. By meeting three or four times a year, this team could accomplish what needs to be done. Please discern this role and consider contacting me, Pastor Randy with questions or clarification.

Thank you for all you do and your continued support of loving and serving God and neighbor. You are appreciated and loved.

Peace,
Pastor Randy

**Our
Saviour's
Love we
Celebrate**

FEBRUARY UPDATES



What's the invitation?

I used to think of January as being a slower month. A time when things settle down after Christmas and we can pause for a bit and settle into a slower pace. I am realizing that is not the case in this time of my life. I have been busy the past 30 days, planning, dreaming, wondering, and coordinating plans for the upcoming year. To tell you the truth it has been a bit daunting, when I get caught up in all the excitement in brainstorming, and idea-making and the wonderment of it all. I begin to feel anxious and overwhelmed and then I am reminded to stop, take a breath, and take some time to sit and listen to the One who knows we cannot and were not made to do it all. It makes me ask, what is God inviting us into? Is God inviting us into a life filled with frantic activity of do more, be more, have more or a life of connection with God, one another, and wholeness?

As Lent approaches and we prepare to journey with Jesus, I look at his example. He developed close relationships, ate meals with others, took time to get away and encouraged his friends to do likewise. He did literally pour himself into his ministry yet set boundaries and the Son of God stopped. He did not heal everyone or do everything. He empowered his followers to do the ministry and when it was time he let us, with the help of the Holy Spirit take over the work. Not even the Son of God wanted or tried to do it all. Why do we think we have to? What is the invitation for us in this moment? How are we invited into relationship, community, and wholeness? What needs to be released so that there space for listening, presence and rest?

Here are some resources that may be helpful during your Lenten journey if you are interested.

[A Different Kind of Fast: Lent Retreat 2023](#) Abby of the Arts
[Broken and New: A Lenten Journey](#) Pathways Retreat (In person and online)
[Rest, Reflect, Renew- Lent](#) Pathways Retreat (In Person)

Living Well Through Lent 2023 -Practicing Compassion with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind. Living Compass <https://www.livingcompass.org/> (These will be available in print, If you would like me to email you a PDF let me know at <mailto:missy@osluth.org>)

[ELCA 40 Days of Giving](#) ELCA

Resources:

- **Facebook**-“Like” OSLC’s page for Sunday Worship streamed live, updates and upcoming events: <https://www.facebook.com/osluth/>
- **RightNow Media** (bible studies, devotions, video resources for individuals & families)-**FREE** OSLC membership: <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/account/invite/OurSaviour>



rightnow MEDIA

Adult Forum

February 5th - Servant Sunday no AF

February 12th - Jane Krause & Purdue students - Opioid Crisis

February 19th - TBD

February 26th - Grace Paton-Gateway to Hope, Narcan training

Sunday School Schedule

January 29th – No Sunday School-Congregational meeting

February 5th - Packing LUM Sacked Meals during Sunday School

February 12th – Jesus Goes to Nazareth (Luke 4:14-30)

February 19th – The Disciples (Luke 5:1-11; 8:1-13)

February 26th - Four Friends (Luke 5:17-26)

Hearts & Crafts



FEBRUARY 19TH 1:00-4:00 *Only on Sunday in February because of Ash Wednesday*

Come one, come all! All are welcome at the new "Hearts & Crafts" groups that will begin meeting in January. Social Justice and Faith Formation are "teaming up" to offer opportunities for fellowship, creating, sharing, and spiritual growth. Whether you're a knitter, a quilter, a scrapbooker, a card maker, or any other kind of crafter, come and share your skills with others. If you're looking to learn a new skill, here's your chance. We will share our creations as blessings for those in need. There will be a time of spiritual practice, some goodies to eat, and plenty of time to hone your skills. We'll offer Hearts & Crafts on two different days and times, in order to accommodate as many schedules as possible. You can come to both days if you want. Also, you can come to all or part of each meeting. Talk to Missy S, Sandra V, or Carol G if you want more info. All are welcome!

2023 Souper Bowl of Caring



Thank you for your generous donations for the purchase groceries for making 40 simple sacked meals for LUM's Winter Warming Station & Annex Day Shelter! The kids had a great time collecting the money. You are invited to help us on February 5th in between services to assemble the sack lunches. Missy will deliver them on February 6th to LUM. Please help us as we help feed our community. If you have any questions, contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477. We will update you on our grand total that was donated in March!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Benefit for Mission Guatemala



Tuesday, February 21st from 5:30 to 7:30 OSLC is hosting an all you can eat community Shrove Tuesday Pancake and Sausage dinner and benefit to raise funds for Mission Guatemala. Of course, there will be plenty of pancakes and sausage so invites your friends, family, and any hungry students you see or know! Marsha Daehler is donating 10 of Dwayne's crosses to be auctioned off for the Mission Guatemala trip and free will donations will be collected as well. There will be a Sign-Genius sent out so you can volunteer to help with set-up, serving or clean up. We are excited to host this event again and need many volunteers to make this a success! If you have any questions please contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477.

Upcoming Events

FAITH NIGHT

POST-GAME CONCERT FEATURING



VS



FRIDAY,
FEB. 3
@ 7 PM

You're Invited!

Here's your official invitation to join a group of folks at OSLC to explore and implement Social Justice activities. While it's true that Social Justice has always been an integral part of OSLC, the past few years of COVID have forced us to *maintain* our activities rather than envision even more possibilities. As we are (we hope!) heading into a Post COVID era, it's time to dream about other Social Justice activities.

For more information please contact Sandra Vana (phone 219-207-0231 or email: donklady3@gmail.com).



Souper Bowl of Caring

You are invited to help us on February 5th in between services to assemble the sack lunches. Missy will deliver them on February 6th to LUM. Please help us as we help feed our community. If you have any questions, contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477. We will update you on our grand total that was donated in March!



Callout for Men's Breakfast Group:

Many years ago a younger group of OSLC men started to meet for breakfast once a month and had a topic for discussion or a book review. Everything changed so that now we are much older and we have no topic or book review. We just enjoy whatever comes up. Attendance ranges from five to nine and we meet at Literato at 8:30 am for an hour or so on the first Saturday of the month. We welcome newcomers and guests. There is plenty of space. Each orders their own food and drink and heads for our table.

Please consider joining us.
Dick Rahdert



Tippecanoe ACTS Invites You to a

WINTER SOUP SUPPER

TOPIC: Building Coalitions for a Safer, More
Welcoming Community

Soup and bread provided
Carry-in desserts or free-will donations welcomed
R.S.V.P. by Feb. 13 tippecanoeacts@gmail.com

Tuesday, February 21, 6:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church,
1700 W. State Street, West Lafayette



HEARTS & CRAFTS

BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2023



YOU ARE INVITED TO A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP, SPIRITUAL GROWTH
AND CRAFTING THE THIRD SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY
MONTH.

(SUNDAY 1-4 PM -WEDNESDAY 11-2 PM)

IF YOU ARE AN EXPERINCED CRAFTER OR A BEGINNER~ WE WELCOME
ALL! IN BRING YOUR CRAFTING SUPPLIES AND CURIOSITY AND
LET'S MAKE SOME GOOD FOR THOSE IN NEED.



February

“In the coldest February, as in every other month in every other year, the best thing to hold on to in this world is each other.”

- Linda Ellerbee

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
10 AM Worship in-person & Zoom		6 PM Pax		8 PM AA	Pacers Family Night 7 PM	8:30 AM Men's Breakfast Group
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9 AM Worship in-person & Zoom 11:30 AM Worship in-person		6PM Pax	6:30 PM Council Meeting	8 PM AA		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9 AM Worship in-person & Zoom 11:30 AM Worship in-person		Valentine's Day 6 PM Pax		8 PM AA		Pastor Kristin's Installation Service 2 PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9 AM Worship in-person & Zoom 11:30 AM Worship in-person	Presidents Day	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	Ash Wednesday	8 PM AA		
26	27	28				
9 AM Worship in-person & Zoom 11:30 AM Worship in-person		6 PM Pax				

9 AM Worship Assistant Schedule for February

Date	Cantor	Assisting Minister	Lector	Usher	Assistant to Mike Williams	Acolyte
February 5	Russell Hillberry	Dick Rahdert	Clara Gearhart	Calvin Gearhart	Jesse Grogan	Matt Ohland
February 12	Mark Hermodson	Matt Ohland	Mary Waltmann	Dick Rahdert	Jesse Grogan	
February 19	Kathy Heise	Marcia Daehler	Mary Waltmann	Dick Rahdert	Ted Heise	
February 22 (Ash Wednesday)	Russell Hillberry			Dick Rahdert		
February 26	Mark Hermodson	Matt Ohland	Clara Gearhart	Calvin Gearhart	Jesse Grogan	

If you would like to serve as a worship assistant for the 9am and 11:30am services in the months of February and March, please contact Teo (teo@osluth.org)

11:30 AM Worship Assistant Schedule for January

Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Usher	Acolyte
February 5	Missy Schroeder	Sandra Vana	Christy O'Brien	
February 12	Christy O'Brien	Sandra Vana	Scott Vana	
February 19	Missy Schroeder	Christy O'Brien	Scott Vana	
February 26	Missy Schroeder	Sandra Vana		

Service Opportunities



eSwatini Mission Trip 2023

GHFP invites you to join our team on a journey to the Kingdom of eSwatini, Africa to learn and dedicate your time, skills, and labor to a community of orphaned children struggling with poverty, HIV/AIDS, and illiteracy. These trips will be tailored to meet the needs of the local Swazi children while remaining cognizant of your skills and expertise including but not limited to: education, engineering, healthcare, nutrition, counseling, and art & design. If you are a student, we will work with your college or university to facilitate you earning independent study college credit for your experience! We at GHFP thank you for your commitment to make a stand, participate on a trip, and actively take part in the global effort to eradicate poverty in Swaziland, curb HIV/AIDS, and empower orphaned children!

We have multiple opportunities summer 2023 and would love to have you join us.

Contact: Annie Todt anniefightspoverty@gmail.com 765-532-2586
www.ifightpoverty.org



Mission Trip 2023

You are invited to make a difference in the lives of the people of Guatemala. Join us on a mission trip June 10-18, 2023. We will partner with Mission Guatemala who has over 12 years of experience serving God and the people of the central highlands of Guatemala. Their focus is on health, education and nutrition. We will work alongside local people on projects determined by the local communities. In the past these have included constructing school desks and furnishings for feeding centers, installing high efficiency wood burning stoves in homes, building restrooms and handwashing stations at schools, assembling water purification buckets, playing with school children, and creating playgrounds in villages.

What you need in order to serve is a servant's heart for working within the culture of Guatemala. Physically you need to be able to walk 200-300 yards without stopping. Financially the cost is between \$1500-\$2000 depending mostly on the cost of airfare. You will need a valid US passport and meet Guatemalan and United States health requirements for entry. Teens (13-17) are welcome when accompanied by a parent or grandparent. We will also have 3-4 team meetings to prepare for our service.

A more in-depth information session will be held soon. If you are interested, contact Pastor Will Peugeot

willp2444@gmail.com

765-426-6251

For more information about Mission Guatemala visit www.missionguatemala.com.



Words of Wisdom

Lenten Signals

Why should we observe Lent? This 40-day season of repentance and reflection that begins on Ash Wednesday has three important purposes. Lent helps us STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN.

We observe Lent because it tells us to STOP and rest awhile-and to stop sinning. Lent tells us to LOOK inward for an honest self-examination, to look upward to see the cross of Jesus while healing and love, and to look forward to the hope of the Resurrection. And we observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN-to the voice of God, the words of Christ and the movement of the Holy Spirit.

STOP, LOOK and LISTEN! These commands that are so crucial for travel safety are also important for our journey through Lent.

Amazing Love

If there is one subject more than another upon which I wish ever to speak, it is the love of Christ; but if there is one which quite baffles me, and makes me go back from this platform utterly ashamed of my poor feeble words, and of the tongue which has uttered them, it is this subject. This love of Christ is the most amazing thing under heaven, if not in heaven itself.

—Charles Spurgeon

Love Aces the Test

Author Adele Calhoun describes life as “our ‘open-book’ test on love.” How can we ace it? In *Invitations From God*, she points out that daily decisions are the make-or-break factors: “Day in and day out as we plan, work, produce, commute, and relate, we make life-altering choices to either love or neglect others.”

For another study guide, reflect on St. Augustine’s timeless words: “What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of people. That is what love looks like.”

A Daily Prayer

Since God will be my end

Let him be my beginning,

So that I may now fully live

Instead of falling, straying, sinning.

—Angelus Silesius

Marked by Love

Through the centuries people have displayed many different symbols to show that they are Christians. They have worn crosses in the lapels of their coats, hung chains about their necks, even had special haircuts. Of course, there is nothing intrinsically wrong with any of this, if one feels it is one’s calling. But there is a much better sign, a universal mark that is to last through all the ages of the church until Jesus comes back...

Love-and the unity it attests to-is the mark Christ gave Christians to wear before the world. Only with this mark may the world know that Christians are indeed Christians and that Jesus was sent by the Father.

—Francis Schaeffer

ECCE AGNUS DEI—Latin for “Behold, the Lamb of God,” this is the phrase John the Baptist uses twice to point out Jesus to others. It marks Jesus’ Epiphany as the Anointed One.



ELCA: Why “Created to Be?”



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

January 20, 2023

Dear church,

On Sunday the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) will for the first time ordain a woman into pastoral ministry, Sally Azar. I invite you to join in the celebration by watching this short [documentary](#) about what women's ordination means for the ELCJHL, and the [livestream](#) of the ordination service, which will begin at 7 a.m. Central time.

At the service Lutherans from all over the world will gather at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem to bear witness to the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in that place. I will be honored to participate, along with 18 of our synod bishops and church leaders, in this hopeful occasion in the life of Christ's church.

The ordination of the first woman in Palestine is no accident. It is the result of the prayerful discernment, theological reflection and concerted effort of the ELCJHL — the first member of the Lutheran World Federation to adopt its [Gender Justice Policy](#). This is an example for us all.

In 2020 the ELCA celebrated the [50th anniversary](#) of U.S. Lutheran churches' decision to ordain women. This celebration continues through the work and witness of our church — and of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) — for gender justice and women's empowerment. We give thanks for the LWF's steadfast commitment to the ordination of women into pastoral ministry as a calling of God and a gift to Christ's church.

Let us pause this Sunday to reflect, rejoice and recommit ourselves to accompanying each other in the challenges and joys along the way. Sally, we pray for you especially. Now and always may God bless and keep you — and, through your ministry, all whom you are called to serve.

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Statement of the Lutheran World Federation, Jan. 18, 2023: ["First Palestinian Woman to Be Ordained as Pastor" | The Lutheran World Federation](#)

News items for the February *Evangel* are due to Teo (teo@osluth.org) by 2/23/2023. Please type "Evangel" in the subject line.

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Vice President: Jesse Grogan

Treasurer: Sue Hermodson

Financial Secretary: John Mills

Secretary: Sandra Vana

Congregational Council

Krista Gearhart

Allen "Buz" Grady

Jesse Grogan

Allen Hammer

Kathy Heise

Bob Nielsen

Matt Ohland

Dick Rahdert

Erin Thompson

Ministry Team Contacts

Altar: Vicki Mills

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Evangelism: Scott Vana

Faith Formation: Missy Schroeder

Fellowship Events: Sara Behnke

Finance: Steve Belter & Carl Behnke

Foundation: Vince Guido

Mutual Ministry: Brian Wagner

Operations: Dick Rahdert

Property: Matt Ohland

Social Justice: Sandra Vana

Worship & Music: Mark Hermodson

Outreach

Family Promise: Julie Huetteman

LUM Liaison: Seeking new liaison

PLM Liaison: Matt Ohland

The Evangel

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