

# *Learn Live Share*

Summer 2019



8th Grade Class Trip to Ark Encounter

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School Quarterly Newsletter

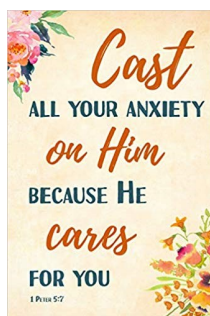
## Who Cares?

by Pastor Bill Wangelin



This is less of a question and more of a statement that reflects the attitude of much of our world today. Apathy, a lack of love and compassion, and the selfish nature of humanity can lead to a world where the answer is - *no one*. When it comes to religion and saving faith in Christ or the truths of God's Word, some may respond with "who cares"? On an individual level, many people wonder at times, "Who cares about me?" "Does God care?"

As Christians, we can answer the question "Who Cares?" in a number of ways. First of all, God cares. He cares about us and our lives. 1 Peter 5:7 says, "Cast all your anxiety on Him, for He cares for you." We can also answer the question with "We care!" As children of God, we care about each other, our church family, our community, and the world. We reflect God's love and care in our daily lives. We care for the people God has placed in our path.



Our Savior Lutheran Church and School is a very caring place, and we see God's love demonstrated in the ways we support, teach, and encourage each other as we do life together. We care for our neighbors and the community as we reach out with the love of Christ. In this issue of **Learn Live Share**, you will see the

ways in which we care for others, because God cares.

Our preaching series this summer will look at the ways we care for each other, and the ways God cares for us. This is intended to correspond with the launch of Stephen Ministry, in which people are trained for a specialized Christian care. Whether you become a Stephen Minister or not, there are plenty of opportunities to care for each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. This summer, may you know the love and care of God, and the love and care of the body of Christ as **Together, we Learn, Live and Share Christ!**

In Joyful Service to Jesus,

Pastor Bill Wangelin <><

## South Africa Mission Trip

by Matthew Couser, Principal



I am very excited to be teaming with Our Savior staff, students, and families on the Our Savior ambassador mission trip to St. Peter Lutheran Church and College June 20-July 2. This will be my first mission trip to South Africa! As a child, I remember learning this African hymn in Sunday School taught by my parents:

*Siyahamba, hamba,  
Siyahamba, hamba,  
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwen-  
Khanyen' kwenkhos'.*

*We are marching, marching  
We are marching, marching  
We are marching in the light of  
The light of God.*

Funny, when I first learned this song, it sounded like we were singing, "See your mama cooking my french toast" 😊. Our mission team will be flying, we will be singing, we will be marching, we will be encouraging, and we will be praying with our brothers and sisters in Middelburg, South Africa.



This ambassador trip is intended to continue our relationship building with the school and ministries led by Pastor Mandla Khumalo. I look forward to sharing with school leaders and teachers. I can't wait to worship for four hours at two different South African churches with our mission team. I anticipate the many God sightings we will see and experience as we Join Jesus on His mission.

May God bless our team through the work of the Holy Spirit with safe flight and travels, amazing experiences, and new friends in Christ. I look forward to sharing the many stories with my Our Savior family.





## A Lot Happens in a Year

By Tammy Mazur, 2nd Grade Teacher



"I can't believe it's the end of the school year already!"

I know that you have heard this phrase before, but never have I ever truly felt that until this year. What a whirlwind this year has been! You might think that moving to a new school while still teaching the same grade level would be easier, but it's been a challenge – and I have loved it every step of the way!

It's hard to believe that a year ago I had wrapped up ministry at my previous school and was embarking on a whole new adventure here at Our Savior. It certainly wasn't in my plan! However, from the very beginning of the process, I could see God's hand in it. The faculty and staff have been so wonderful and welcoming. There's a great sense of teamwork here & I'm so happy to be a part of it!

There's just so much that I've been privileged to participate in this year, but there are a few that stick out in my mind. First, I was able to join the choir. John Horak has an amazing group of singers, and I've been so blessed to be a part of it. From church services to special concerts – it's just wonderful! Next, I had an opportunity to lead a crochet class during our after school clubs this year. It was such a great way to get to know those students beyond 2nd grade. OSL is certainly blessed to have wonderful



students. Finally, I loved being a part of the Easter Egg Hunt this year. What a wonderful community outreach! It was fun to have students work together to share the Easter Story to those in the community. I'm already looking forward to next year!

Every interaction with the faculty, staff, and families here at OSL has showed me that this was exactly where I needed to be and exactly where God was calling me. I'm so thankful for this past year and looking forward to the years to come!



## Starting the Day Right

By Vicar Brandon Wittig



Proverbs 27:17 says: *"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."* At Our Savior we summarize the mission of God as seeking to "learn, live, and share Christ" to all people. Men at Our Savior can live this out by coming to morning devotions and breakfast at Spud's Restaurant on Waverly. Anyone is welcome to join us as we walk through a scripture passage or devotion together every 1st, 3rd, or 5th Friday morning before work. In Proverbs, Solomon talks about the value of walking with other people in order to become "sharper." A different way to think about it is that as we share God's Word, advice, and as

we challenge one another, we chisel each other closer and closer to the image of Christ. It's always a blessing to spend time with these men talking about God's Word and hearing advice about being a Christian man in today's world. The food's great and the comradery is even better, so join us at Spud's on Waverly Road every 1st, 3rd, and 5th Friday of the month at 6:30am for a time of discussion, fellowship, and prayer. We'd love for you to join us as we walk together through God's Word!



## Early Childhood Program & Summer Camp

By Windy Carroll



As we wrap up the 2018-19 school year, the Early Childhood staff are reflecting on all of the awesome blessings we have received this year. We participated in the Great Start to Quality rating process and finished with a 5-star rating, which is the highest possible rating. The teachers and staff worked very hard on reflective practices and policies to support high-quality early education, and their efforts did not go unrecognized.

There is no doubt that Our Savior is blessed with exceptional teachers and staff! The Early Childhood students also recently enjoyed a field trip to the Delta Township Fire Department and Horrock's, which was a fun and enriching experience for all. We extend a special thank you to the fire department for hosting our group and giving us a special tour of the facilities and emergency vehicles, and to Horrock's for providing a complimentary scoop of gelato for each of our children! We praise and thank God for bringing us through another safe and exciting school year!

While our school year may be winding down, our Panther Camp program is just revving up. Camp is set to begin on Monday, June 10th with our current enrollment standing at 231 campers! Camp will operate for ten weeks, ending the season on Thursday, August 15th. Each of our ten weeks are themed with a multitude of exciting activities planned, along with special events, guests, and field trips. This year, we expect to employ approximately 40 camp counselors, who are all looking forward to meeting our brand new campers and reuniting with our returning campers! We still have a few seats available for camp, so if you or someone you know have a child aged 3-13 years who might be interested in joining us for some fun in the sun this summer, please visit [panthercamp.weebly.com](http://panthercamp.weebly.com) to find more information and register! Questions about summer camp may also be emailed to Windy Carroll, Panther Camp Director, at [wcarroll@oursaviorlansing.org](mailto:wcarroll@oursaviorlansing.org). Please join us in praying for a safe and blessed summer rich with meaningful, spiritual, and of course fun experiences for all our campers, families, and staff!



## Our Savior Welcomes New Middle School Social Studies Teacher



We are pleased to announce that Mr. Lloyd Conway has accepted a part-time contract for the 2019-20 school year. Mr. Conway has taught at various age levels and is a military

veteran having served in the Army and National Guard. His vast experiences in government will provide wonderful commentary to Social Studies instruction. He is eager to integrate the Christian faith within all Michigan Social Studies Standards while inspiring good citizenship.

## Raising Up Leaders Youth Ministry



We are excited to announce that Mark List has expressed interest in doing more with high school teen ministry, and will be serving as our part-time youth director. He will be responsible for the ministries that impact our high school teens, starting August 1. Mark attended Our

Savior Lutheran School and his parents are still active members. He is married to our 5th grade teacher, Kate List, works for Two Men and a Truck, and coaches track at Lansing Christian High School. He is excited to help teens connect with Christ through worship, relationships, and God's Word.



## Stephen Ministry

by David Wright, Minister of Family Life



Jesus promises us that trouble will come our way. *"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

John 16:33b NIV The first part of that does not sound like one of the more encouraging and uplifting statements. However, the latter part of the verse is a tremendous comfort – especially to those of us who have endured trials and grief. Because Jesus has overcome the world, we have hope. One of the ways we experience hope is when we are surrounded by people who care. That is the essence of Stephen ministry.

Stephen ministry is bringing together someone who is hurting with someone who will walk with them and provide Christian care. The hurting may come from a long term illness, a job loss, a divorce, loss of a loved one, or other life challenges. It is not a sign of weakness or shame to accept emotional and spiritual support for a period of time until the hurting subsides or the issue is resolved. No one should ever have to walk alone through a time of suffering.



Again, it is not if trouble comes our way, but when. And when we find ourselves going through a difficult time in life, it can be a tremendous blessing to receive a Stephen minister – someone who cares; someone who listens; someone who prays with and for us; someone who supports and encourages us.

Stephen ministry at Our Savior Lutheran Church will provide care for suffering individuals. It will allow for times of restoration and healing. It will enable individuals of our congregation to utilize their gifts of empathy, patience, listening skills, care, and concern to serve others. That is why we want people to carefully consider becoming a Stephen minister.

Being a part of this ministry will assist our pastor by allowing lay ministers to provide more individual one on one care than any one pastor or even two or three pastors could ever provide.

If you feel led to be a part of this ministry, please watch for Stephen ministry information throughout the summer via an informational table in the church lobby, OSL Facebook postings, News & Announcements, OSL web site, and pre-service announcements on the worship screens. Or contact our church office. As a Stephen minister, you will receive 50 hours of classroom instruction, be paired with a care receiver (of the same sex) for weekly meetings, be involved in monthly peer supervision groups, and receive continuing education throughout your time as a Stephen minister.

Please pray for this new and very necessary ministry at Our Savior.



*Christ caring for people through people*

# STEPHEN MINISTRY

## Text to Give. It's Easy!

You can now give with a simple text message. It's really simple to set up!

Here's how to make your first "Text to Give" gift:

1. Using any smart phone, text any amount to (517) 268-8220.
2. You'll receive a response with a link to set up a secure account. Click on that link to fill in the required information. Then click "Submit".
3. You'll receive a text once your gift is complete.

After your first gift is complete, to make another donation, simply text the amount you want to give to the same number. The gift will automatically be charged to the previously used method.

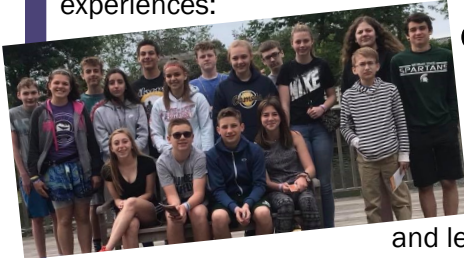
We encourage you to save this number to your phone as "OSL Giving" (or something you'll recognize) so that you'll have this number handy for next time!

*For more information, go to [oursaviorlansing.org/giving](http://oursaviorlansing.org/giving)*



## School Update

As the 2018-19 school year comes to a close, we share with you a few of the latest school ministry experiences:



### Congratulations to our 8th Grade Graduates!

Seventeen students have grown in faith and learning while

attending Our Savior Lutheran School. Many have been attending Our Savior since they were in prekindergarten and kindergarten. We are proud of their accomplishments and we enjoyed being a part of their faith journey with their family. May God continue to work through these students as they Learn, Live, and Share Christ in their upcoming endeavors! Shine on!

### Did you know Our Savior offers after-school clubs for students?



We have wonderful students who grow in faith and knowledge.

Our faculty and staff truly work with the best students ever! Recently the school held after-school clubs. In March and May, over ninety students

participated in clubs. Special encounters of teachers, staff, and volunteers sharing similar interests and gifts is what school community is all about. Mrs. Engelbrecht and Mrs. Walworth were active in recruiting the clubs to offer a variety of choices including: photography, archery, chess club, painting, gardening, euchre, bocce, robotics with Martin Luther High School, science, jewelry making and glass painting

### Our Savior Track Team competes at regional and state meets with Michigan Lutheran Schools.

Thirty-three students ran track for Coach Julie Conway.

They had a terrific season in the races, relays, and field events. School families and friends are on-hand and so supportive with team spirit as they cheer on the tracksters.

Coach Ryan Cummins, and Our Savior Alums Daniel Wagner and Caleb Johnson assisted Coach Conway. Always a blessing to see our former students pass along their love of faith and competition. Best wishes to the many state track participants.



## Tech Person for a Day

By Josh Wyatt, Technology Manager



Each year at the auction there has been an item called tech person for a day. It involves a student of the family or families that win the bid to spend the day as OSL's tech person. The first half of the day is heavily concentrated on work,

doing projects like video editing and going to classrooms when a fellow student or teacher requires assistance. Then the acting tech person for the day gets to pick where they would like lunch picked up from in the area. After lunch is usually the part the kids look forward to the most. Mr. Josh brings in a bunch of fun tech toys, VR headset, hover board and Nintendo Switch to name a few.

This year we asked the two students, 7th grader Liam and 4th grader Claire, three questions about Tech Person for a day.



### Why did you want to be tech person for the day?

Liam: *I enjoy dealing with technology & learning about it.*

Claire: *Because it's fun and I got a day off from school.*

### What was your favorite part?

Liam: *Being able to help with the tech.*

Claire: *Video Games in the afternoon.*

### Why do you think your parents got tech person for a day at the auction?

Liam: *I asked them if they could.*

Claire: *Because they love me.*



## Confirmation

By Rylie Schmitzer



Confirmation Day had arrived! The sun was shining, people gathered from all over, and my fellow confirmands had a contagious excitement. My Confirmation Day was truly special to me because I finally had the chance to declare my faith and promise my commitment to Jesus Christ, my Savior. The prayers and blessings from the church made the day even more heartening. I felt the presence of the Lord with me on that day because of all of my family and friends who came to support me that day, as well as my church family, who greeted us and prayed for us. I'm also so grateful for my sponsors who are wonderful people and a great example of God's servants.

Throughout my two years of Confirmation class, I learned a lot of awe inspiring information a Christian should know. We studied Biblical stories, where we learned from Scripture, and we discussed Luther's Small Catechism. My favorite part of Confirmation class was that I learned something new at each class. I have always been interested in learning about Christ and stories of the Bible, but Confirmation class has boosted my desire to learn more. The process also strengthened my faith. It has made me excited to share God's Word and the Good News.



I continue to feel God at work in me even after Confirmation. As Pastor said, Confirmation Day is not a graduation, but rather a start to your adult Christian life. I feel inspired by the Holy Spirit to continue growing my faith in life and spreading the Word. I want to strive to be my very best and to continue to be kind, use my talents, and share my faith and let the light of the Holy Spirit shine. Part of the gifts God has given me is the love of singing and art. That is why I was drawn to my Confirmation verse, Zephaniah 3:17, which reminds us to glorify God by singing because He did the same for us.

I wish all my fellow confirmands the best and inspire them to continue into their high school years filled with the Holy Spirit and to spread the love of Jesus no matter where they go or what they do.

*Together*  
With Christ, in Hope,  
for Future Generations

On Sunday, May 19, our congregation voted to move forward with the **TOGETHER** capital campaign. God has blessed Our Savior Lutheran with an amazing opportunity to *Learn, Live and Share Christ* with the greater Lansing area and in the heart of Delta Township. In order to lay a solid foundation for the future, the **TOGETHER** campaign will address three key items:

1. Debt Reduction,
2. Facility Maintenance Fund
3. Mission Partners.

**TOGETHER** will kick off in October. Stay tuned for ways that you can participate as we *Learn, Live and Share Christ TOGETHER*.



## Summer Events at Our Savior

### June

- 5 Last Day of School
- 9 Graduation Sunday
- 16 9:30am Summer Worship Begins
- 17 7pm Monday Summer  
Worship Begins
- 23-28 BackYard Mission

### July

- 6 Foodbank Community Share Event
- 7 Freedom Appreciation Service
- 15-18 VBS 6:30-8pm
- 22-25 Summer Basketball Camp
- 27 CityServe

### August

- 18 Teacher Dedication & Blessing
- 19 School Meet & Greet
- 21 First Day of School
- 25 Resume Regular Worship Times

## Learn Live Share

Quarterly Newsletter • Summer 2019



**Our Savior Lutheran  
Church and School**

7910 E. St. Joe Hwy, Lansing, MI 48917

[OurSaviorLansing.org](http://OurSaviorLansing.org)

517-882-8665

### Summer Worship Times

(Begins June 16th)

Sunday: 9:30am & Monday: 7:00pm

*Hmong Worship: Sundays at 10:45am*

### Regular Worship Times

(Begins August 25th)

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:45am

*Hmong Worship: Sundays at 10:45am*

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