A Note from Pastor Alexander . . .

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1)
For anyone who remembers the Byrds – a rock and roll band from the 1960’s – you are probably singing to yourself “turn, turn, turn, turn”. (So sorry - you will be humming that song for the rest of the day just as I am.)

A commentary note on this verse from Ecclesiastes states that the scope of the Bible verse is to show 1, “1. That we live in a world of changes, that the several events of time, and conditions of human life, are vastly different from one another, and yet occur rather promiscuously – indiscriminately. We are continually passing and repassing between them, as in the passing of each day, sunrise to sunset. Sometimes one spoke is upper-most and by and by the contrary; there is a constant ebbing and flowing, waxing and waning; from one extreme to the other.” (i.e. Fashions: Wide tie or narrow; Long skirts or short skirts) “It also touches on time: the time and season is unalterably fixed and determined by a supreme power; and we must take things as they come, for it is not in our power to change what is appointed for us….. when we are in prosperity, we should be easy, and yet not secure. (Ecc. 2:24) Because we live in a world of change and therefore have no reason to say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit’— 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.’ ” (James 4)

I am going to step away from ministry at Living Savior for a “season” because of a physical health issue that I need to responsibly address in order to care for this physical body that the Lord has given me to live in for a season. (Think resurrection and perfected bodies!) In addition to the physical, I am falling behind in the Pastoral care level that I feel is necessary. It is with these thoughts in mind that I have asked for temporary release for a season. For now, that season will include July and August; with a prayerful review at that point. In the meantime, Living Savior has been blessed with another man to immediately jump into action covering the needs of the church: Pastor Jim Pressnell. I am confident of his desire and abilities to serve just as I am confident in the Lord’s blessing of his service to all. Thank you Jim for your willingness to help us all.

Pray for Pastor Pressnell; pray also for me. Continue to pray for each other. Soon, the Lord will introduce to us the Pastor He has selected for us to Call to serve at Living Savior. While we wait – “Turn, Turn, Turn, Turn” - to Our Heavenly Father and give thanks for His Son Jesus Christ and the blessing of His Holy Spirit.

Love you all – Pastor Phil

1 Matthew Henry’s Complete Commentary. Logos Bible Software.
During the past month we received word from Rev. Engelhardt, Oceanside, CA that he desired to withdraw himself from consideration of our Call because of concerns for his congregation, possible incompatibility between his ministry style and our needs, and family concerns. Additionally, an associate pastor in Belleville, IL, who committee members had an interest in also withdrew because his congregation’s senior pastor recently developed serious health issues and he simply cannot presently consider a Call.

In mid June, members of the PCC and Church Council had the opportunity to personally meet with Rev. Kevin Fenster and his wife. We gave them a tour of our facility and shared an hour of enlightening conversation while adhering to the state wide COVID-19 guidelines for physical distancing. He continues to demonstrate a calm, confident presence and a true heart for Lutheran worship. After consideration, we are now taking a pause in our deliberations for a few weeks, a pause agreeable with Rev. Fenster. We hope to arrange a congregational Meet & Greet when it is allowed by pandemic restrictions.

Jon Hoppert
PCC Chair

FROM THE SPIRITUAL LIFE BOARD . . .

Return to Worship News

The Spiritual Life Board (SLB), Church Council, and the Planning and Implementation team are working on the plans for our eventual return worship at Living Savior. We are making great progress in planning a safe environment to worship in, but have many critical steps to complete before we are ready. As you know, much of this is dependent upon the rules issued by the State of Oregon, and we will follow those guidelines. We will not begin in-person services until we can do so safely, and no date has been set to begin in-person services at this time. We will be offering an online option for worship into the future to meet the needs of everyone at LSLC. If you are looking for a way to help and have sewing capabilities; you can make masks or face coverings for us to hand out to those who don’t have them. Please watch your email for updates as we move closer to a return to services in the sanctuary of Living Savior.

Planning and Implementation Team purpose:

To create clear Living Savior Lutheran Church return to on-site worship protocols, in a way that is consistent with LCMS theology and adheres to government mandates, so that a majority of church members and guests feel safe and welcomed to worship at Living Savior.

God bless you all.

Josh Wolfe
Spiritual Life Board Chair

Even though we cannot be purchasing scrip at church these days, there is still the option of Benefit Mobile

This is an app that you use on your phone for pre-purchase, at the check out purchase or you can send them as gifts via email. This is a great option for those who didn’t like to have plastic cards to maneuver, or only use a credit card to purchase things.

- Just load the app on your phone.
- Set up an account and choose Living Savior as the benefactor.
- Set up payment option - either direct withdrawal from bank account for full % profit - or credit card for reduced % profit.
- Start shopping!

https://www.benefit-mobile.com/causes/living-savior-lutheran-church
Contributions through June 26, 2020 are as follows:

General Fund:

Received: $250,558
Budget: $281,250
Variance: $-30,692

Building Fund Contributions: $13,911

Thank you for your faithful giving!

We are introducing a new web and mobile based method of making your offering contributions, Give+. This feature makes it possible for either one-time or recurring offering from either your checking or savings account. A link to Give+ is on the church homepage, and you can also download the app on your mobile device.

One giving option that may help you reduce your tax burden is a “Qualified Charitable Distribution”. For those that are over age 70 ½ and have an IRA with a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), you can bypass paying taxes on any proceeds that are gifted to a charity/religious organization/501c3. Instead of receiving the RMD, paying the full tax, and then making your regular offering contribution, you can instead have some portion of your RMD transfer directly from your IRA to a 501c3 organization (like Living Savior) and avoid paying taxes on that income. If you would like more general information about this, please contact Adam Wilkie. For anything more specific or detailed, please consult your tax advisor.

If you have questions, please contact me at awilkiecfa@gmail.com

Thank you,
Stewardship Board
Adam Wilkie, Chair

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 or know of someone we can visit? Volunteers are trained for this ministry. If you would like to be a part of this ministry or have questions, contact:

Peggy Hefflin, 503-263-1886 or Lola Erickson, 503-625-6025.

Greeting cards are the next best thing to being there......

The Shut In ministry has collected cards to place in two assisted living facilities, Marquis and Riverwood in Tualatin. These cards enable the residents to not have to shop for cards or pay for them. However, we have an abundance of cards that you have generously donated and we would like to share some of them with the congregation. They are in clear plastic containers with blue lids, located in the Library, upstairs next to the arched room. Please help yourself to cards and connect with someone who would benefit by being remembered during this quarantine.

The Amazing Grays are on summer break and will resume in the fall.
Stephen Ministers Offer Support

What People are saying about having had a Stephen Minister:

- I thank God every day for my Stephen Minister as I do not know how I would have made it through the past year without her by my side.
- I was ready to give up. But my Stephen Minister would not let me and he kept encouraging me and gave me the motivation to keep going.
- Having a Stephen Minister really made a difference for me. I would encourage anyone going through a tough time to consider getting support through the Stephen Ministry Program.
- As a man, it was difficult and awkward reaching out for help. But I am glad I did. I possibly could have made it alone, but it was a lot easier having a Stephen Minister to talk with each week.

Our Stephen Ministers

Stephen Ministers are members of Living Savior who have gone through fifty hours of training on how to provide high-quality Christian care to individuals (Care Receivers) who are experiencing a crisis or challenge in their lives. They could need support for any number of life’s challenges, such as divorce, grief, medical issues, relocation, job loss, or loneliness. Stephen Ministers are paired with a Care Receiver and they will typically meet for one hour on a weekly basis for as long as the Care Receiver needs support. There are currently eighteen Living Savior members trained to be Stephen Ministers:

Cheryl Alexander  Brad Alsterberg  Pat Bladen  Brent Blake  Flavia Carlson
Gea Clausier  Terry Dicken  Karen Hoppert  Mike McCullaugh  Brian Moons
Susan Moons  Pete Pedersen  Stephanie Spath  Marc Thompson  Andrew Westlund
Valorie Westlund  Chris Wilson  Michelle Wolfe

*Stephen Ministry Leaders*

Andrew Westlund  503-593-4613
Valorie Westlund  503-740-6734
Karen Hoppert  503-936-3661
Pastor Phil Alexander  978-514-3231

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 a caring ministry so they can build up the body of Christ by providing Christian care and support to those experiencing a difficult time.
In 1990 Joanne Petrie co-wrote a book on grief after the death of her husband and has been teaching grief classes ever since. It is her mission and her passion. She currently works as a bereavement chaplain for Bristol Hospice. Numerous people from Living Savior Lutheran have taken the class through the years. If you would like to speak to one of them, please let me know and I will connect you.

**Grief Release** encourages unhurried healing to bring life back into focus from the blur of pain, confusion, and bewilderment caused by loss. **Grief Release** provides practical step-by-step support – a road to restoration.

**There are two opportunities to take this class**

**The closest opportunity:**

**Dates**
July 9, 16, 23, 30, August 6, Thursdays

**Class Time**
6:30 to 8:30 pm
Attending the first class is mandatory.

**Class Location**
Rolling Hills Church
3550 SW Borland Rd., Tualatin, OR 97062
503-638-5900

**Registration**
There is a website that gives more detail about the class that you can explore and register either online or by calling Rolling Hills:

Online: Rollinghills.org
   Click on “care”
   Click on “grief”

**Second opportunity:**

**Dates**
July 8, 15, 2, 29, August 5, Wednesdays

**Class Time**
10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Attending the first class is mandatory.

**Class Location**
Living Hope Church
19691 S. Meyers Rd.
Oregon City, OR 97045

**Registration**
Call Joanne Petrie – 971-263-1016

Joanne describes grief as...*the process of putting back together the pieces of a broken heart. A hole so deep in the middle of your heart that it aches and hurts. You think you’ll never stop hurting.*

This class helps begin that process! Please share this information with someone who would greatly benefit from a class such as this.

Karen Hoppert
Stephen Ministry
kchoppert@comcast.net
503-936-3661

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**Living Savior’s Website**

Have you ever gone to the LSLC website to read the Parish Notes, or the Living Logos or the check out our YouTube devotional and worship service videos? If so, how often do you go there? Did you know there is a different Bible verse at the bottom of the home page every day? Don’t miss out on this valuable resource for our congregation.

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**Tualatin School House Pantry**

Most needed items requested:
- canned hearty soups, chili, pasta, fruit, corn, mixed veggies, mac & cheese and hot or cold cereal.

Bring donations to the church and place them in the bin in the Narthex.
**Mission and Service**

**Quilt for Military Ministry**

Don’t forget to check out the YouTube video on our website to watch the Quilt of Valor presentation of the beautiful quilt which was recently awarded to **Dennis Emmons**.

Although the event would normally have been happened during a church service in the sanctuary, it was recorded at the home of Alan and Marilyn Grobe. Dennis is their nephew.

**Community Warehouse**

Community Warehouse is like a food bank – only they focus on household goods and furnishings. They are located in Tualatin at 8380 SW Nyberg Street. 503-612-0020. Hours are: M-F, 10am – 4pm + Sat.-Sun. 10:30am – 4pm

We will continue to collect smaller items that will fit in or next to the purple bag in the fellowship hall. If you are looking for a worthwhile organization to donate furniture that truly serves needy people in our community, this is a great place. You can either drop it off yourself or they will pick up large items at your house for $30.

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

**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*

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**From Wes Tanac, Family Promise Coordinator**

To members of Living Savior:

I would like to thank you for your past volunteer service to the Family Promise Program. Due to Covid-19 we did not host in April and our next hosting of families would have been the week of July 5-12. We are not hosting on site, but we have a new opportunity to become involved with Family Promise. Family Promise of Tualatin Valley is involved with the Washington County Emergency Motel Shelter Program which is at Tigard Extended Stay (13009 SW 68th Pkwy). Our task is to provide food support for the families or individuals. We could have 5 families and 5 singles that may need support.

It is my understanding that food needs will be sent to me for the families. We will then need to purchase the food and then deliver the food boxes on Wednesday, July 8. This will become clearer as I get more information.

What I need from you at this point:

Would you be willing to purchase food for a family or team up with someone in purchasing food? (A list will be provided when available.)

Would you be willing to help transport the food boxes to the Extended Stay in Tigard?

Would you be willing to help organize the food that has been purchased? (This may not be needed depending on the number of families and how we organize the food.)

Would you be able to pick up food support at Food Banks?

If you are able to help or are interested in more information, please call the church office.
Your Mites in Action
Reaching Visually Impaired Inmates with God’s Love
$6,000 / Paid

Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) will purchase equipment for a work center to produce specialized, large print, English Standard Version (ESV) Bibles. This new product will enable inmates to read God’s Word. The current large print Bible is not acceptable in most correctional institutions because of its size and metal spiral binding. LBW regularly receives requests from visually impaired inmates and, as far as they know, no one else is providing incarcerated, visually impaired people with God’s Word in specialized large print, and free of charge. The grant funds will be used to help with the start-up costs of producing this large print Bible, and through the Holy Spirit, people will “see” Jesus and live with Him forever.

Oregon District 2018-2020 Mite Goal met!

Planning a trip in 2021?
Think about the LWML convention which will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, June 24-27.

National LWML
2019-2021 Mission Grant #12
Women’s Witness and Mercy Asia $100,000 -- paid

Asia is a harvest field ripe for the gospel. Asia is predominately secular with Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu and other false religions. Throughout Taiwan, Thailand, Hong Kong, Macau and Southeast Asia, ten women do various mission works such as teaching, acts of mercy and witnessing the gospel. Some have husbands and families working alongside of them while others work with a team or alone. One missionary teaches 242 students about Jesus in Taiwan while another has served for 10 years planting seeds of mercy and witnessing in Southeast Asia. Whether teaching English as a Second Language in Thailand or building relationships to open doors for sharing the gospel, each woman in the mission field helps in the growth God’s Kingdom. This grant will help support these women in their unique mission setting in Asia.
Enjoy a summer of reading books that feed your soul and entertain as well. We hope that you include reading God's word through a Bible study or daily devotion.

We can all look forward to September 12 when we resume our book club. We meet the second Saturday of each month, 10:00-11:30am, September-May. We don’t know what the future looks like concerning meeting in a group, but we will certainly meet via ZOOM if necessary. A lively discussion of the book occurs, fellowship is shared, and we are refreshed with morning goodies, coffee and tea. Please consider joining the group when you can and invite a friend! There is no obligation to attend every month and no pressure to have the right answers because there are NO right answers. The following is a listing of the books that will be read and discussed:

Sept. 12: *Fire Road: The Napalm Girl’s Journey through the Horrors of War to Faith, Forgiveness, and Peace* by Kim Phuc
Oct. 10: *Eiffel’s Tower* by Jill Jonnes
Nov. 14: *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark T. Sullivan
Jan. 9: *Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck
Feb. 13: *The Dressmaker* by Kate Alcott
Apr. 10: *Killing England* by Bill O’Reilly
May 8: *The Book of Troublesome Creek* by Michele Richardson

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Joanne VanSchaik who passed away on Sunday, June 28.

And to Shari Remmick on the death of her father in south Dakota on June 18.

We pray for God’s comfort for all who mourn.

Dear Friends at Living Savior:

Stephanie, Lucas, and I have been overwhelmed with the outpouring of support for Lucas upon his graduation from Madison High this spring. As you know, it has been a tumultuous year for anyone involved in education teachers, staff, and students at all levels, but particularly for our graduates. Thank you for the amazing cards, gifts, and well-wishes which have been arriving regularly in our mailbox. These cards are simply the most recent in a long line of kindnesses which you have done for our whole family throughout our years together. Thank you as well for the many who have recognized my Call to St. Michael’s. You are a gift from God to us!

Phillip, Stephanie, and Lucas Brandt

Birth Announcement

Adrian and Alyssa Colon are excited to announce the birth of their son, Caleb Dean Colon. He was welcomed to the world on April 27, 2020 at 5:40 pm, weighing 4 lbs. 1 oz and was 16.5 inches long. He was born at St. Vincent’s hospital. Caleb surprised us with his early arrival but he’s doing great. Thank you for all the prayers. We feel very blessed with all the love and support we’ve received.
Julie Devotion

The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. Psalm 24:1

It seems as though several families from Living Savior are moving away (to Albany, OR; Plymouth, IN; and some very far away—Switzerland!), and we will miss them. Even though we will not be worshipping together at Living Savior any more, we have the assurance that we will be serving the same Lord of the universe wherever we are.

And distance does not mean that we need to no longer be in contact with our friends. In this day and age we can maintain some contact with people, even though they are on the other side of the world so much easier than in times past. Planes makes visits a matter of hours. Email reduces “letters” from days to minutes. In fact other media outlets make communication so easy that we take it for granted. Our world seems to have become smaller.

It is good to have the scriptures to remind us that God is the Creator, Sustainer, and Possessor of the whole world. Psalm 24 reminds us that this world is the Lord’s and everything that is in it are His. It is attributed to David who implores us to recognize that our God is the King of Glory and we are invited to worship Him. (Verses 7-10)

Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?
The L ORD, strong and mighty, the L ORD, mighty in battle!

Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?
The L ORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!

It is the Lord who gives us direction and focus. He invites us into His presence. And not just us. All the world is invited to worship the King of glory. Even people across the United States or on the other side of the world.

Psalm 24 was written as a processional liturgy, celebrating the Lord’s entrance into Zion. It was probably composed for the occasion when David brought the ark to Jerusalem. It has been used in celebration of Christ’s ascension into the heavenly Jerusalem — and into the sanctuary on high. It celebrates Christ’s universal reign as King over all the nations.

When we are discouraged by the events in our community, our country, or our own lives which seem to indicate that sin has made such inroads into our culture that Christian values are ignored or even mocked, it is helpful to look to the Bible as our encouragement that Christ is King over “all the earth!” (Psalm 47:2)

In the coming days, we can be challenged to look through the scriptures to find verses which proclaim God as King of the earth. It is helpful to write down what we find. Make a list so it can be referenced when times are discouraging. We can even share our lists with someone who needs encouragement. The Psalms are always a good place to begin, but it is helpful to use a concordance to find other passages where God shows Himself as victor over sin and death and as ruler of those who put their trust in Him.

Whether we are saying farewell to those moving away or saying our earthly “goodbye” to those who have passed away, we are confident that they are with our God and King — our King of glory.

Romans 8:38 reminds us that there is nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
The Mission of Living Savior Lutheran Church:

*Alive in Christ, we share the love of Jesus—we serve, care for, support and nourish each other, our community, and the world!*