

APRIL 2023

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
4102 N. BEN JORDAN, VICTORIA, TX 77901
PHONE (361) 575-4305 FAX (361) 575-8679

www.oslcvtoria.com

Sunday worship 8:00 & 10:30 am
Pastor Lalahery "La" Andriamihaja
Saints: YOU!

Children/Youth Sunday School 9:15 am
Adult Sunday School 9:15 am



OUR SAVIOUR'S MESSAGE



Beloveds of Our Saviour's,

So, did you? Did you **"do something"** as part of your Lenten practice and discipline last month? If you did, how was it? Did you experience God, in any way, either personally or as a group? Did the person(s) you served experience God through you and/or your group's action(s)? And if you didn't, what prevented you from doing something that would have impacted the lives of others and glorify God?

I realize these are a lot of questions. But I fear I'd fail you as your pastor if I don't ask and follow up with you. As you ponder the answers to the questions above, I do want to give thanks for the blessings of testimonies and stories that I've heard about what some of you did and what you experienced when the Holy Spirit led y'all to "do something." It is my hope and prayers that we will always be at the ready, as individuals, small groups, and as a congregation to "do something" that will bless those in our communities and experience for themselves God's presence and love through us. Friends, feel free to come up to me, and to others, and share your "do something" experiences. It's not bragging when you tell and share what the Lord has done in your life, it's a testimony. And Spirit-led testimonies will always bless and enrich the lives of others and glorify God.

Therefore, I invite, encourage, and urge you and/or your group to continue to "do something", even well after the Lenten season. You'll be blessed beyond measures and the impact in the lives of others in our communities will testify and give glory to our Father in heaven, just as Jesus promised in Matthew 5:16.

Happy Easter, Y'all! When I was a child, one of my Sunday School teachers asked me which was my favorite church holidays of all, "Christmas or Easter?" Of course, as a child my answer was decisively, Christmas, because I'd receive actual presents and gifts on that holiday unlike I did on Easter. Today, as I ponder and consider the same question of my Sunday School teacher, I'm more inclined to say, Easter. Why? Because without Easter there would be no reconciliation between us miserable sinners and a righteous God.

So, as Easter once again dawns upon us, I pray you look forward with me to remembering, to rejoicing, and to celebrating the good news that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has made it possible for a wrathful God to look at us with compassion, mercy and unfathomable love. Yes, Jesus did so by destroying the powers and grips of Satan, sin and death over us as he rose from the dead and reigns eternally at the right hand of God, the Father.

For us, this joy-filled Easter celebration will begin on April 9th, at 6:30 am with a Sunrise/Sonrise worship service in the Prayer Garden, followed by the 8:00 am traditional liturgy service, and the 10:30 am contemporary service, both in the main sanctuary. Come and count on our risen and victorious Lord Jesus to be present and among us "in, with and under the bread and wine" at His Table. And not only will the risen Lord be among us at his Table, but all those who've gone before and believed in him, will also be there with us in spirit. How do I know? Because Jesus promised, saying, "I...will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:3a).

"He is risen! He is risen, indeed. Hallelujah!" Let us go, tell it on the mountains, and invite a friend to "come and see!"

Easter blessings and joy to all.

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If you would like to place a lily in the church please fill in the order form at the Welcome Desk or the church office. The cost is \$10 each. Deadline to place your order is **Monday, April 3rd**. Completed order forms & payment can be placed in the wooden box at the Welcome Desk or turned into the church office.

EASTER GARDEN - We will once again be decorating the Narthex with an Easter Garden.

If you would like to help contribute to the purchase of the plants needed, please put your donation in an envelope marked "Easter Garden" and place it in the wooden box on the Welcome Desk.



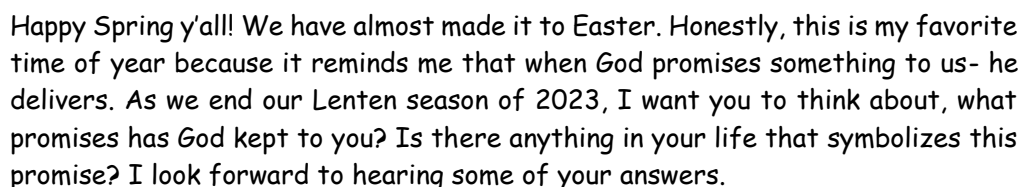
Good Friday April 7th - 7:00 pm Service



Sunrise Service 6:30 am in Prayer Garden
8:00 am Traditional & 10:30 am Contemporary
Holy Communion offered at all services



OSL youth will be serving breakfast on Easter Sunday, beginning at 7:00 am in the MPR. A free will offering will be accepted, all proceeds collected will help defray the cost of camp for our campers.



Many Blessings, Mrs. Susan

This month's question: How many days was Jesus on earth between his resurrection and ascension? The first two students to answer correctly will receive a \$10 gift card.

ASPIRE WOMEN'S EVENT
SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023 5:00PM
AT OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



1 NIGHT • 3 HOURS • 3 NATIONAL SPEAKERS/COMEDY/WORSHIP
FOR TICKETS OR MORE INFO. CONTACT PAT DEDEAR AT 361-676-5087

SPRINGFEST - APRIL 23, 2023

FROM 10:30 AM UNTIL 2:00 PM

We will be selling \$12 BBQ chicken plates with all the trimmings. We will also have a Live Auction, Silent Auction, Raffle, Country Store, Cake Walk and Children's Activities. Raffle tickets are available to buy and sale for \$10 donation/ticket. Pre-sell meal tickets are available in the Narthex. If you would like to help sell tickets, please contact Michael or Dena Buchhorn.

To make Springfest a successful event, we need lots of help. There are numerous ways to contribute.

ALL ITEMS DONATED MUST BE NEW

- Monetary Donations (help to purchase food and other supplies)
- Live Auction Items
- Gift Cards
- Country Store Items - homemade baked goods, canned/pickled goods, and handcrafted items
- Silent Auction Items
- Cakes for Cake Walk and Dessert Table

We also need many, many volunteers. There are various positions available. Check out the Springfest table in the Narthex to find your spot. For more information or any questions, contact Bruce Jank or John Hersey.

The proceeds from this Springfest will be divided between:

Bethlehem Maternity Home, Christ's Kitchen, Teens Grounded, & OSLC Ministries

SPRINGFEST MEETINGS - Tuesday, April 4th, 11th & 18th at 5:30 pm in the High School Room. Anyone interested in helping is encouraged to attend. Please join us!



WOMEN OF THE WORD

W.O.W. - Will meet on Monday, April 17th at 6:00 pm in the MPR. All ladies of OSL are welcome to attend. There is always a time of great fellowship, food, meaningful devotion and these meetings are always purposeful.



OSL MINISTRY LEADERS/TEAM MEETINGS
ON THE 1ST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Tuesday, April 4th at 5:30 pm in the Christian Ed Building.



HELPING HANDS OFFERING SUNDAY – April 2nd

The purpose of this fund is for individuals or families in the congregation who may at one time, or another need a little help. Please use the envelopes in the pew racks for your contribution.



BAPTISM AT OUR SAVIOUR'S - Baptism is the first of the two sacraments. There is a list of guidelines to follow. If you desire more information about baptism here at Our Saviour's, please contact the church office at 575-4305.



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH TABITHA QUILTING MINISTRY



Meets every Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Christian Ed Building

For more information about Tabitha Quilting Ministry contact Dorothy Waltersdorff at 576-1465
or Jean Gisler at 676-0484 or jeangislerp@gmail.com.



Life After Loss Support Group - Meets on the second Saturday of each month in the Christian Education wing of Our Saviour's. This month they will meet on Saturday, April 8th at 10:00 am. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to Pastor La or Stephen Fuhrman.

APRIL 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>  PLEASE NOTE </div> <div> CHURCH EVENTS, DATES AND DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE </div>						
2 Palm Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HELPING HANDS 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study 5:00 pm - W.O.W. Aspire Event	3 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting	4 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 5:30 pm - Ministry Leaders/Team Meeting 5:30 pm - Springfest Meeting	5 There will be no Wednesday night activities during Holy Week	6 <i>Maudy Thursday</i> 5:00 pm - Youth Service Project 7:00 pm Maudy Thursday Service with Holy Communion	7 <i>Good Friday</i> OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 pm - Good Friday Service	8 9 am - Easter Caroling at Twin Pines North 10:00 am - Life After Loss Support Group 10:30 am - CYF Set-up for Easter Breakfast
9 Easter Sunday 6:30 am - Sunrise Service in Prayer Garden 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION No Sunday School 7:00 am - 10:00 am - Easter Breakfast 12 noon - Easter Egg Hunt in Prayer Garden 	10 OFFICE CLOSED 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep	11 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 4:00 pm - Pantry 5:00 pm - Executive Council Meeting 5:30 pm - Springfest Meeting 6:30 pm - Worship Meeting Chapel Rented	12 5:00 pm - Confirmation Class 5:30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Pastor La's Bible Study 6:30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal	13 5:00 pm - Confirmation Class 5:30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Pastor La's Bible Study 6:30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15 9:00 am - CST "Monitor" Training Session 1
16 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study	17 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 6:00 pm - Women of the Word MPR Unavailable	18 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 5:30 pm - Springfest Meeting 6:30 pm - Council Meeting MPR Unavailable	19 5:00 pm - Confirmation Class 5:30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Pastor La's Bible Study 6:30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal MPR Unavailable	20 MPR Unavailable	21 OFFICE CLOSED 9:30 am - Springfest Set-Up	22 SPRINGFEST PREP DAY MPR Unavailable
23 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study SPRINGFEST	24 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep	25 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 4:00 pm - Pantry	26 5:00 pm - Confirmation Class 5:30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Pastor La's Bible Study 6:30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal	27 MPR Unavailable	28 OFFICE CLOSED MPR Rented	29
30 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Sunday School for All						

Youth Led Service Sunday, April 30th at 8:00 am & 10:30 am



SPRING WORKDAY SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST AT 8:00 AM

Come & help us get things ready for Easter!

There will be plenty to do, projects include: raking, weeding flower beds, pruning bushes, and loading junk to be hauled off.

Please bring any lawn/garden type tools, pick-up trucks, and trailers that you might have.



Thank you so much for your faithfulness and support of Mission Mexico. We value your prayers and gifts.

Thank you so much for your generous donation to VCAM. Your gift allows us to help community members who are in need. We truly appreciate your support of our ministry.

On behalf of the staff of Lutheran World Relief, our partners, and the communities we serve with your support, thank you for your gift and may God continue to bless you.

Thank you for giving so generously to the Lutheran Disaster Response. Your support helps our church continue its effective and efficient response to disasters.

Thank you for your donation to Christ's Kitchen it will help us to continue serving a hot meal at no charge to the people in need.

On behalf of Promise Pointe, thank you so much for your kind donation. Our promise to you is to use it wisely to help as many people as we possibly can. Sister Rebecca Janacek

The Genie Fuhrman Legacy Music Scholarship committee would like to thank everyone who participated in our first "Make a Joyful Noise" Sunday. It was a privilege and a blessing to glorify God in the Sanctuary with hymns, songs, scripture, and much joy! This was truly a unified church effort. The Scholarship committee would like to acknowledge Gina Eliot, David Means, Amanda Christian and the OSLC Praise Band, and Susan Woodson and the OSLC Children & Youth for sharing their unique gifts and talents with us all. There was \$577.00 generously donated toward the Scholarship fund. May God's blessings and peace be with you all. Praise the LORD!



Texas District

Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



HARVEST WORKERS

How Deep the Father's Love for You and... On Sunday, February 26 at 3:28 p.m. I got the kind of phone call that every parent dreads. My youngest son was calling for a second time. I was in Zoom meeting and had ignored his first call. In our family, we have a code: if the first call goes unanswered and it is an emergency, call back a second time.

"Dad, I'm pretty sure my car is totaled. I'm really sorry." My heart stopped. "Are you okay?" I asked. He replied, "I'm okay, but I'm pretty sure the car is totaled!" I responded, "I don't even care about that right now, as long as you are okay!" He later was able to describe what happened, that another car lost control around a curve and came into his lane and collided with him head-on.

Oh, how it could have been so much more tragic! I *really* love cars, and I loved my son's car, but I would much rather mourn a car than my son! Even though he faces lingering challenges of whiplash and the hassles of replacing his car, the main thing is that he was alive...and he was loved and cared for by his mother and father!

My wife and I are far from perfect parents. If you don't believe me, just ask our college-age sons! Despite our imperfections, we deeply love both boys and would gladly suffer in their place rather than to see them suffer or struggle. But sometimes in life we cannot take away the pain of their trouble. And in our sin, sometimes our expressions of love, care, and concern are not perfect.

This brings to mind what Jesus taught about our Heavenly Father's love in Matthew 7: *"Who among you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him."*

In Christ Jesus we are adopted children of the Heavenly Father whose love is perfect and knows no bounds. He weeps when we weep, laughs when we laugh, suffers when we suffer, and rejoices when we rejoice. Why? Because he loves us perfectly as sons and daughters. This is Good News! And this Good News is for us! And this Good News is for the world, too! Jesus was not only sent as a gift to the righteous, but as a gift to the world, even those who do not know it.

Whether my son knows how much we love him I do not know. His recognition of our love does not change the depth of it! But for our son to receive the full benefit of our love, it is incumbent upon him to receive the gift of our love and engage in an active relationship (which is not natural for teenagers)! This helps me understand God's love for you, me, and all people. God loves us so perfectly and deeply that it is beyond our understanding. But it is only in relationship that we experience the fullness of his love and grace.

So, we have a calling to share this Good News with others. Not only do we delight in the goodness of being children of the Heavenly Father, we long for friends, family, neighbors, strangers, and even enemies to experience it too! As Paul testifies in Romans 5:8, *God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

PASTOR LA'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Pastor La's Wednesday Bible study will resume on Wednesday, April 12th at 6:30 pm.

faith and finances

Honor the Lord with your wealth
and with the best part of everything you produce.
Then he will fill your barns with grain,
and your vats will overflow with good wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCE GENERAL FUND MONTHLY BREAKDOWN

BEGINNING BALANCE: February 1, 2023	\$286,491.78
TOTAL GF RECEIPTS:	\$32,439.91
OPERATING EXPENSES FOR MONTH:	
Benevolence	3,077.87
Outreach	303.68
Youth & Children Ministry	141.21
Ministry Support	287.27
Worship Support	88.02
Office Support	1,912.05
Utilities	3,783.36
Supplies, Equip., Maintenance	6,674.39
Insurance	2,944.32
Miscellaneous Support	1,089.65
Staffing	26,401.47
TOTAL GF EXPENSES FOR MONTH:	\$46,703.29
ENDING BALANCE: February 28, 2023	\$272,228.40

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS FEBRUARY BALANCES

Building Maintenance Fund	20,181.42
Children's Ministry Fund	10,945.34
Helping Hands Fund	3,691.01
Youth Ministry Fund	9,042.90
Memorial Fund	9,515.05
OSLC Ministry Fund **	45,429.23
Springfest Fund	2,801.11
OSLC Mission Fund	1,389.57
Spiritual Formation Fund	2,573.86
OSLC Disaster Fund	4,578.53
Genie Fuhrman Legacy Scholarship	4,216.00
Total Misc. Accts.	\$114,364.02

** This fund consists of several small funds including:
Tabitha Quilting Ministry, Kitchen, ILT, Choir, Prayer
Garden, Grant activity & Food Pantry.

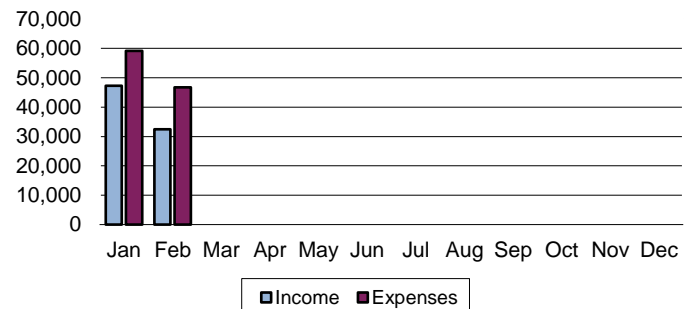
Attendance

Our average weekly attendance for March is 174.



<i>March Attendance</i>	
March 5 th	167
March 12 th	170
March 19 th	186

General Fund 2023 Income vs. Expenses



AROUND THE CHURCH FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND PRAYERS

If you have any information for AROUND THE CHURCH please call the church office.



We extend our deepest sympathy to...

...the family of Martha Pakebusch
...Art Schomburg & family on the loss of his brother
...Louis Willeke & family on the loss of his brother
...Brenda Waltersdorff & family on the loss of her brother



Funeral services were held for:
Martha Pakebusch



We welcome our newest members:

Russel, Amy, Brittany & Ashley Hempel
Donnie & Patty Kurtz



Special Concerns:

All those we hold dear in our hearts
that are facing a battle for good
health, mind and spirit.



Thanks be to God these folks have
returned home from the hospital:

Ada Stange Marie Stenseth
Anna Prukop Jason Price



Change of address:

Steve & Brenda Bolle
PO Box 4670
Victoria, TX 77903

Prayer is a strong wall and fortress of the church; it is a goodly Christian weapon. ~ Martin Luther

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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2023 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President – Gerald Merks
Vice President – Janine Rothmann
Secretary – Sharon Kacir
Treasurer – Lynna Briggs

361-920-6267
361-571-0593
361-575-8719
361-550-4477

FYI - CHURCH CONTACTS

Pastor – Lalahery "La" Andriamihaja
Music Director – David Means
Music Director – Amanda Christian
CYF Director – Susan Woodson
Financial Administrator – Sally Hersey
Office Administrator – Gina Eliot
Maintenance Custodian – Duane Hill
Housekeeping Custodian – Holly Pogue

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