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# OUR SAVIOR'S QUARTERLY

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SUMMER  
2023

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# Message from Pastor Sarah

## A SUMMER OF NOTICING

**You are invited** to join us in worship this summer as we practice the spiritual discipline of noticing God's activity. You probably "notice" lots of things during your day—the weather, chatter on social media, texts from friends, the traffic, or people's level of stress at work. That's good, but there's another kind of noticing too. Alongside the things we do - or don't - pay attention to every day, we are invited to take notice of God's activity underneath and above it all.

**Learning to notice God  
is the core of our spiritual life.**

One way people have sought to notice God is through spiritual disciplines. These are things we do—or practice—in order to create space in our lives for God's spirit to work. Disciplines are the patterns or habits we form to open ourselves to notice God. We will explore these this summer.

**Learning to notice God  
is the building block of faith.**

Jesus identifies us as his witnesses to the world. We can only witness what we see and know. Practices and disciplines we do on our own or with others can help us grow in our awareness of God's presence and power.

**Learning to notice God  
is the fundamental action of evangelism.**

Noticing God's activity in our daily lives is key to our spiritual growth and evangelism. By learning to notice God, we become witnesses to the world and share our experiences with others.



## SOUL SUMMER

We are excited for this summer and the opportunities God has given us to connect to Jesus and each other. We are grateful for the moments we can slow down, share with family and friends, and be surrounded by the healing power of God's creation.

## LOOK FOR OSLC

Keep an eye out for OSLC at concerts and lake walks, at outdoor worship with lemonade and pet blessing, and serving in the community. Let's come together this summer for church without walls!

## YOU'RE INVITED TO SOUL SUMMER FEST!

WHEN: AUGUST 20 @ 10:30 AM

WHERE: OSLC BACKYARD

WHAT: MUSIC, FELLOWSHIP, AND FOOD

WHO: YOU!



# Are you ready for **OUTDOOR WORSHIP?**



- ✓ LAWN CHAIR
- ✓ LEMONADE
- ✓ SUN SCREEN
- ✓ GREAT VIEW
- ✓ WELCOME & PRAISE!



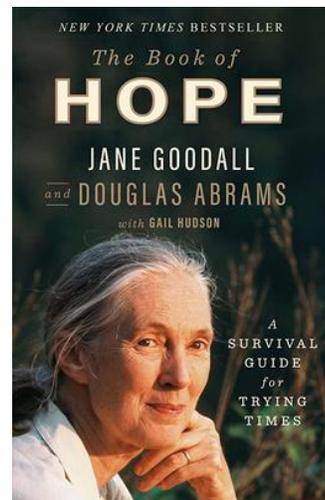
Sundays at 9:30 AM, starting May 28th

*We can't wait to see you there!*

## *coming this summer...*

### ONE BOOK, ONE CHURCH

This summer, we're inviting you to *read*. Read in the sunshine... read in the rain... read with your church! Everyone is invited to One Book, One Church this summer as we gather to read a book together and grow in relationships, understanding, and faith. We will be reading "The Book of Hope" by Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams, which seeks to answer the question: "in a world that seems so troubled, how do we hold on to hope?" Get connected to the discussion groups by contacting Karen Kjensrud at [kjensrud@hotmail.com](mailto:kjensrud@hotmail.com).



# Our Savior's serves with...

## FEEDING AMERICA



Our Savior's began serving with Feeding America and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in 2014, distributing free food to around 200-250 families on the third Friday of every month. Anyone can come get food, whether for themselves or for a neighbor in need. Together, we serve by showing up and working to bless our community.

For over 40 years, Feeding America has responded to the hunger crisis in America by providing food to people through a nationwide network of food banks, food pantries, and meal programs. Last year, the Feeding America network served 5.2 billion meals reaching 40 million people, in every community in the United States including Oconomowoc.

## HEAR FROM VOLUNTEERS

### **"It's about serving the people.**

They recognize us and we recognize them. We have connections with these families now. We have gotten closer with other OLSC members and with the members of the community... I end up loading the cars with the high school kids and I have gotten to know the students—that's so awesome. It's a multi-generational service activity."

**-Ken and Jan Gorgen**

### **"The first time I showed up to volunteer,**

I was absolutely floored by the number of vehicles that were waiting for distribution in our little community of Oconomowoc that we tend to think of being privileged; that there were that many families needing a little extra help."

**-Rich Larson**



## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

### **Volunteer to help with distribution!**

Join us on the third Friday of every month.  
Work begins between 2 - 2:30 PM - just show up!  
April - October: Champion Field at 425 W. Jefferson Street  
November - March: 45 Capitol Drive  
Questions or want to get connected?  
Contact Dale Kjensrud at [dkjensrud@hotmail.com](mailto:dkjensrud@hotmail.com).

**Stay up to date on Facebook!**

[facebook.com/FeedingAmericaOconomowoc](https://facebook.com/FeedingAmericaOconomowoc)

# YOUTH & FAMILY



## HIGH SCHOOLERS TRAVEL TO NASHVILLE, TN

Every year, OSLC high schoolers go on a summer mission trip. Recent years have led them to Bethpage Village in Nebraska to work with severely disabled adults, and to St. Louis for ramp building for homeowners in need.

This year, the 8-12 graders will have the opportunity to do community work in Nashville, TN. Joining the youth and Bethany on this trip will be Casey Krueger, Molly Neumann and Pastor John, and they are scheduled to hit the road July 23-27. They will be doing 3 days' worth of work, from helping in community gardens and food banks to sorting and packing medical supplies.

One of the highlights of the week will be working at the Soles 4 Souls warehouse, where they will sort

thousands of donated shoes. The work will start, however, with our own OSLC shoe drive in May and June—watch for more information on that! The shoes donated to Soles 4 Souls go into micro-enterprise programs in developing countries around the world. These programs serve as long-term opportunities to break the cycle of poverty for those in need.

It is so important to provide the opportunity of mission work for our youth. These trips, where the focus is to volunteer and help others, give them a sense of belonging and connection. They make new friends and learn new skills. And, of course, there are plenty of opportunities to have fun, try new foods, see new places, and discover all things Nashville!

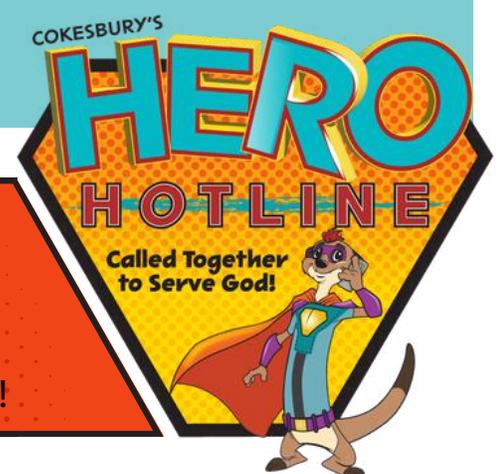
## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING SOON!

*We're looking forward to...*

Games, crafts, science, and more!

Learning all about the HEROES of the Bible!

Working together to bring peace and build each other up!



June 12-15 from 9-11:30 AM

LEARN MORE AT [OSLC-WI.ORG/VACATION-BIBLE-SCHOOL](https://OSLC-WI.ORG/VACATION-BIBLE-SCHOOL)



## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

*The presence of God is experienced in:*

WORSHIP

FAITH CONVERSATIONS

SMALL GROUPS

BIBLE STUDIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

YOUTH MINISTRY

COFFEE HOUR

CONGREGATIONAL MEALS

CARING CONVERSATIONS

PRAYER

ENCOURAGEMENT

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

DREAMS AND NEW  
IDEAS FOR WHERE GOD IS  
CALLING US NEXT

*Let's invest in this together!*

Martin Luther wrote, "If I knew the world were ending tomorrow, I'd plant a tree today." This is a profound message of hope and trust that God will be present to bring growth and new life into our lives. At Our Savior's, we have entered into a season of rebuilding, renewal, and investing in the mission God has given: "Sharing the Love of Christ to Transform Lives."

Living into this mission requires the investment of the whole congregation – time and energy, skills and passions, and money. Investing in our church is important because we care about our mission as a congregation and because generosity helps us to grow in our own relationship with Jesus.

At the Annual Congregational Meeting in February, the congregation passed a budget with a deficit of \$183,494. A significant gap, but an amount that can be covered by reserves in the short term. Longer term, to maintain and grow in ministry, this level of deficit will need to be addressed. However, passing this year's budget was a sign of hope, as the congregation planted a proverbial tree.

In order to reduce the deficit, the Church Council is inviting all members and friends of the congregation to grow their investment in Our Savior's. The goal is to receive \$100,000 in gifts and commitments, which represents over half of the budgeted deficit. Not everyone is able to make an additional gift, but many can.

Opportunities to make a commitment or an immediate gift are available now, including the envelope enclosed in this mailing. Council members will be sharing updates during worship in the weeks ahead. This is an exciting time for Our Savior's!

Thank you for joining in the mission and ministry God has given!

**5** GIVE ONLINE AT [OSLC-WI.CHURCHCENTER.COM/GIVING](https://OSLC-WI.CHURCHCENTER.COM/GIVING)

# Our Council



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MAINTENANCE

# FOLLOW US ONLINE



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Our Savior's Lutheran  
Church Oconomowoc



oslc-wi.org

# WORSHIP WITH US

SUMMER SCHEDULE - BEGINNING MAY 28

## Sundays

8 AM Traditional Indoor

9:30 AM Praise Outdoor

## Saturdays

5 PM Traditional Indoor

**BYOLC** - Bring your own lawn chair  
for outdoor summer worship!

Chairs are available if needed - learn about accessibility  
options at (262) 567-8349



# OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

145 E Lisbon Rd  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

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Members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church support Feeding America's mission monthly. Interested in learning more and volunteering? Turn to page 3 to read all about it.