

#### OSLC Epistle, January 14, 2020

1 message

Our Savior's Lutheran Church <mail@flocknote.com>

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Reply-To: Our Savior's Lutheran Church <5636096.6kumwlpjtwl4ibfi5qjwvrzizgxfwa4bz8f09umhwh2xh86ghx@reply.flocknote.com> To: Burris.Merry@gmail.com



Here is the latest news for Our Saviour's Lutheran Church!



#### Giving Away Money for Stewardship on January 19

Be sure to come Sunday, Jan. 19. We will be beginning our winter stewardship focus and we will be giving out money! Our stewardship this year will focus on Jesus' parable in Matthew 25, where a master entrusts 3 servants with different sums of money. We will live out this parable, give you money, and ask you to use the money in helpful way. In the process, we will focus on what stewardship means.



# **High School Retreat at Lutherhill**

High School youth, we are going to Lutherhill for a retreat again in 2020. The annual High School retreat will be Feb. 7 - 9. We will leave Friday evening and return late Sunday afternoon. This is a great time of worship, small groups, ultimate frisbee, and all sorts of fun. The cost for the gathering is going to be \$80. Please register with Courtney if you plan to attend.



## **Congregational Meeting**

Our annual meeting of the congregation will be on Sunday, January 26 at 11:15 a.m. The meeting will be followed by a congregational polluck dinner. 2019 has been an incredible year of ministry for OSLC; we want our congregational meeting to be a time of celebrating and thanking God for all He is doing!



Adult Forums on Sunday, Jan. 19

Our church council is hosting an adult forum this Sunday immediately after worship. The council will share with the congregation the proposed budget for 2020 and all the items on the agenda for the annual meeting. We've learned in past years that it is most important to have the congregation informed of all of this before the annual meeting. That gives people a chance to pray and reflect ahead of the meeting. Please come to this forum and share your input and thoughts.



#### The North American Lutheran Church

We at Our Saviour's are members of the North American Lutheran Church, or the NALC. The NALC was formed in 2010, we were one of 17 original congregations, we are now close to 450 congregations. We are having a marvelous time sharing with the NALC!

One of the emphases of the NALC is to hold organizational bureaucracy to a minimum. The church body that we had been involved with was very hierarchical and bureaucratic. A lot of focus and money was placed on the hierarchy. When the NALC was formed we decided the focus was better put on congregations. Congregations are the center of the work we do, congregations are where the real work of the church happens. Or as our Executive Secretary, Rev. Mark Chavez like to say, "God does some of His best work in congregation!" Given that, we have a very lean national structure. Our hope is to have enough organization to support and enable congregations, without the national organization becoming a focus. Our national staff consists of our presiding Bishop, the Rev. Dr. Dan Selbo. He has 4 associates who work with him, and a number of secretaries and financial people.

Thus far this has worked well for us. One of our challenges moving forward is the question of do we need more national staff. We as a denomination have grown much faster than we had anticipated, so we may need more staffing at the national level. But we are convinced that the focus on congregations is the right way to go.



## Congregation-Wide Garage Sale this Spring – March 7

We are planning to do another congregation-wide garage sale this spring, on Saturday March 7. We are sharing this news with you early so you can start setting aside items to donate for the sale. As you do your winter leaning and find items you would like to move on, please donate them to the church and we will again have a huge garage sale. These have been most successful and fun in the past.

All proceeds from the sale will be used for our fund which provides financial support for our senior members and other members in need. Come share in the garage sale and also help to minister to our members!



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