

Dear Friends in Christ,

There is the story of a sea captain who was famous for his abilities. He had lead warships while in the military, now he captained a luxury liner. This captain always carried a small card that he referred to frequently. For years people wondered what that card said. The thought was that it had to have some great piece of seafaring wisdom.

One afternoon the captain left his card on his desk. An assistant was in the office and saw the card. The assistant realized this was his chance to see once and for all what it said. The assistant picked up the card and read – “Starboard means right and Port means left.”

I think the message of that story is keep clear on the basics. There are certain fundamental things in life we need to keep in focus. When we do, we can safely move onward and things fall into place.

That is particularly true for the Church. There is one basic thing for us to keep clear. That is – Jesus is Lord! When we keep that in focus, when we live in that and for that, we will safely proceed onward and things will fall into place.

Our Saviour's is entering a time of transition. My hope and prayer is that it is a rich time, a time of seeking and growing and expanding in faith. God is at work among you. Keep your eyes on Jesus, and rejoice that He is Lord!

God Bless,  
Pastor Mark

**P.S. – Thank You Congregation**

Let me share a deeply felt word of gratitude for all that you have shared with me. These years at OSLC have been very special years for me. I am grateful to God and to you for having served as your pastor. You have shared with me your love and support and kindness. You have deepened my life and enriched my faith. I am realizing anew how blessed I have been to have shared with you in these years of ministry. Thank you.

**P.S.P.S. – Thank You Karen**

Let me also take this opportunity to say thank you to my wife Karen for all her support and work over my years of ministry, and particularly our ministry at Our Saviour's. It is often the case in congregational ministry that the pastor gets the credit for work that his wife does, and I think I've been the recipient of that. Karen has served in so many ways that have enriched my work and our congregational ministry together.

Here is a partial list – ran the high school youth program for 10 years, including weekly meetings, activities, meals, and summer trips to Kentucky, Colorado, and New Mexico; taught Sunday School and served as Superintendent for years; helped with Vacation Bible School, including hosting the Lutherhill staff a few summers; ran a half dozen congregational garage sales with the proceeds used either for youth ministry or needs in the congregation; cooked lots of pots of chicken noodle soup for Lent and Advent suppers; organized and lead a women's study; organized and ran Easter Breakfast for 10 years; helped with countless children's sermons. I know there is more that I'm overlooking.

Thank you for all that you have done. I couldn't have done it without you!

### **Send off Celebration**

Send off celebration for Pastor Mark on Saturday November 14th from 4-6pm.

Socially distanced- outside. (Pray for NO rain)

BBQ dinner

Please contact Kristin Blaise for help with sides, desserts and drinks (regular and alcoholic varieties).

Call or text 903.521.7158 or blazenpink@yahoo.com

There is a sign up sheet in the narthex.

### **Request for Sunday, November 15**

We are thinking that we will probably have a large crowd for worship on Sunday, Nov. 15 as that is Pastor Mark's final Sunday. We are looking forward to a special day, but we are also concerned to continue to keep worship as safe as we possibility can. Given that we have a request. For those who are willing and able, please consider attending the 9:00 outdoor worship service on that day. We have plenty of room for social distancing outside, we can handle a big crowd very safely. That will help to keep the 10:30 indoor service smaller, so that we can stay within the COVID guidelines we have set.

Also, for those at the indoor service, please wear a mask while in the building and try to maintain a social distance. After the indoor service on the 15th we will try to be visiting outside. We are looking forward to a great day and we want to be sure to keep everyone safe!

Thank you for your help!

### **Live Streaming of Worship Service Each Week**

Remember each Sunday we livestream our worship service at 10:30. Please do watch. You can watch right at 10:30 or anytime thereafter. To find the livestream, just go to our congregation's website. The link is on the first page.

### **Socializing Caution Requested**

With attendance for the indoor service increasing, socializing in the Narthex has increased also. Please help Our Saviour's remain COVID free and allow others to navigate freely to the exits by taking socializing out of the Narthex.

### **Christmas Shoeboxes**

Thank you to all who are participating in the Christmas Shoebox drive. Please return the shoeboxes this Sunday.

*For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.*

*Colossians 1:19-20*