



---

A publication of

## Our Savior Lutheran Church

6770 Marlette Street ▪ Marlette, Michigan

989-635-7994 ▪ ChurchOffice@OSLMarlette.com

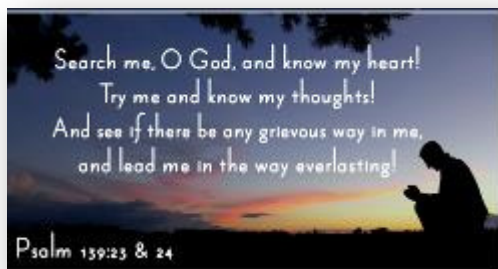
www.OSLMarlette.com ▪ www.facebook.com/OSLMarlette

Rev. Timothy Kern, Pastor ▪ Timothy.Kern@OSLMarlette.com

---

### In this issue —

A message from Pastor .....	Pages 2 & 3
Our Prayer Concerns .....	Page 4
Serving at Our Savior in February .....	Page 5
Church Council Report .....	Pages 6-8
Lenten Theme and Schedule .....	Page 9
New and Notable .....	Pages 10-11
Staff and Boards .....	Page 12



# February 2026



## A Message from Pastor

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, we will again enter into the penitential season of Lent. At this time, the Holy Spirit calls us to an honest self-examination and humble repentance before God. We do this in preparation to hear the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ in Holy Week and the joyous celebration of His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. This year, to aid us on our journey, the Lenten theme at Our Savior Lutheran is ***Search Me, O God: A Spiritual Diagnosis***. This theme is drawn from the prayer of Psalm 139. *"Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!"* God knows our hearts even better than we do. He knows our thoughts, and He knows our desires and inclinations.



Each week, we will use one of the seven deadly sins as a diagnostic tool to help us examine our hearts and recognize the ways sin still clings to us. We will take an honest look at how often we say "my will be done" rather than "Thy will be done." For example, Pride makes us think that we deserve more respect, honor, control, recognition, and comfort. It wants to be seen and praised. In envy, we constantly compare ourselves to others. We are happy when others are humbled and sad when they are exalted. Anger makes us explode and overreact. We turn to wrath and vengeance. Sloth is more than laziness. It is distraction from the things that truly matter and the blessings that God desires to give. Greed is the love of money, which is the root of all evil. It is an idol for wealthy and poor alike. Gluttony and lust are task masters that enslave us to the passions of the flesh. We are ruled by our bellies and urges. As God warned Cain who was overcome by anger,

"Sin is crouching at your door. You must rule over it!" The Lord has searched us. He knows us. He has formed our inward parts and knit us together in our mother's womb. He knows where we stumble and fall. God already knows our sin. Lent is a good and necessary time for us to consider our own lives, to reflect on where we give in to temptation, and to confess the ways we fall short of keeping God's holy commandments. Lent is a time when we can search and examine ourselves.

Yet this examination is never meant to lead us into despair. At our Lenten midweek services, we are not going to wallow in the guilt and shame of our sin. Far from it! Jesus Christ has laid down His life for us all. In His death and resurrection, He has freed us from our bondage to sin. We are no longer slaves in Egypt, but we are a holy nation and a people belonging to God's own possession. We have passed through the baptismal waters of the Red Sea. God be

At our Lenten midweek services,  
we are not going to wallow in the  
guilt and shame of our sin.  
Far from it!

praised! But still, the deadly sins reveal how easily we continue to live as though we were enslaved. We yearn for the cucumbers and leeks in Egypt. We submit to the rule of our gluttonous and lustful appetites, by

pride, greed, anger, and sloth. Lent invites us to repent, to turn away from these sinful patterns, and to strive and walk again in the freedom Christ has won for us. As we do, we are called not merely to reject vice, but to pursue virtue and righteousness, trusting the promise of our Lord: *"Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."* The goal of confronting our pride is not only to destroy our pride. It is to walk in humility, in faith toward God and fervent love toward one another. The goal of confronting gluttony is not simply to eat less and lose weight. It is actually to learn to rejoice in the good gifts of God without being enslaved by a desire for them. So come and join us this Lent. Bask in the freedom God gives you, and learn to receive His great blessings! Beginning February 18<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wednesday), we will meet every Wednesday at 5pm. I hope to see you there. I'm praying for you.

In Christ,

Pastor Kern

# Prayer Concerns

## Church Members

Bob Stoick, Bob Gaiser, Lela Gilroy, Everlynn Hurley,  
Carter Schank, Brian Westover, Ashton Jones, Carmen Kinney, Jerry Priebe,  
Neil & Geraldine Schaudt, Ellen Romosier, Gus & Barb Schumacher,  
Kathy Tallieu, Earl & Gwen Hulett, Mike & Karen Wettstein,  
Virginia Woudstra, John Hollenbeck, and Fran Clemens



## Extended Family and Friends

Steve Shaw—a friend of Lee & Glenda Deering  
Brad Cummings—friend of Mike & Karen Wettstein  
Unborn baby fighting an illness—friends of Mike Janiszewski  
Friend looking to relocate—friend of Mike Janiszewski  
Lori Spencer—Randy Haas' mother  
David Johnson—Wendy (Priebe) Johnson's father-in-law  
Nancy Higgins—Bob Stoick's sister  
Jack Stoick—Bob's cousin  
Deborah Durham—Chris' step-mother  
Dennis Ondrajka—Adam's father  
Donna Ferguson—Adam Ondrajka's grandmother  
Mary Mitchell—sister of Lela Gilroy  
Linda Fraley—Lela Gilroy's daughter  
Danica Willis —a friend of Mary Brief  
Joan Kuhne—Mary Brief's mother  
Randy Kasdorf—Shauna Lester's Baptismal Sponsor  
Ken and Pam Wood—parents of Kelly Ondrajka  
Harvey Kaltz—Debie's husband  
Alan Dorman—member of the community who is battling cancer  
Family & Friends of Virginia Woudstra: Dennis Davis,  
Robbie Kuechenmeister, Richard, Russel & Terri Strauchman,  
and Dalton Randall

*Please keep all of these brothers and sisters in your prayers.. If you have a family member or friend listed here who is no longer in need of special prayer, please call the church office at 989-635-7994 so the list can be updated.*

# Serving the Lord in Gladness



## February Elders

2/1 Craig Storm  
 2/8 Chris Durham  
 2/15 Don Schank  
 2/22 Chris Durham

## Altar Guild

Pat Hurttgam

## Service Music

February 1, 8, & 22—Caleb Storm/Sam Schank

February 15th—Renea Lambert

Lenten Services—Renea Lambert (or other volunteers)



## Sunday Morning Greeters

2/1 Volunteers appreciated  
 2/8 Volunteers appreciated  
 2/15 Randy & Brianna Haas  
 2/22 Adam & Kelly Ondrajka

## Acolytes

2/1 Jacob Laur  
 2/8 Carter Schank  
 2/15 Jayson Schank  
 2/22 Max Haas



---

## **Church Council Report—January 15, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Vice President Tim Forys. Present were Pastor Kern, Caleb Storm, Chris Durham, Randy Haas, Karrie Forys, Tim Forys, Karen Forys, Katie Laur, Kathy Tallieu, Don Schank, Renea Lambert, and Adam Ondrajka (arrived at 8:00).

Pastor opened with a devotion from John, chapter 2, the wedding at Cana.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed and reviewed.

- The report showed income for the month of December of \$15,350.62 with expenses for that same period of \$16,920.85 for a loss of -\$1,615.23.
- A motion to accept was made by Katie Laur and seconded by Chris Durham. Motion carried.

### **Pastor's Report (covering two months)**

#### *Pastoral duties:*

- One Baptism at OSL, three at Peace ▪ One wedding at Peace
- No Confirmations or funerals ▪ Twenty-five worship services held during the two-month period ▪ Thirteen home/institutional visits
- Bible Studies (OSL and Peace), "Creationism vs. Evolution"
- One transfer to OSL: Ryan Tabar, and four transfers out (Chris, Leslie, Keira, and Grace McGarvie to New Life in Christ – North Branch)

#### *Other duties:*

- Homeschool Co-Op Chapel every Wednesday, Peace Pre-School Chapel every week on Tuesday or Wednesday.
- Three Adult Instruction Classes started ▪ Confirmation classes ongoing at OSL and Peace.

#### *Future planning:*

- Hope Lutheran on Juhl Road is working to join the LCMS. MI District President Rev. David Davis and Circuit Visitor, Rev. Matthew Durance, will meet with members of Hope on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Peace Lutheran will extend their first Call for a new pastor soon. After deliberating the Call, if that pastor accepts, it would be a few months before he would be in place.
- On January 25<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Knea (from the Saginaw area) will be filling in for Pastor Kern.
- This year's Lenten Theme will be, "Search Me, O God", based on Psalm 139.

---

## **Council, page 2**

### **Schedule for Lent:**

- Mid-Week Services begin with Ash Wednesday on February 18<sup>th</sup>. All Wednesday Services will be at 5:00 p.m. (Peace mid-week will be at 7:00)
- Maundy Thursday – April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Service at 5:00 p.m.
- Good Friday – April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Chief Service at 1:00 p.m. (There will not be a Tenebrae Service at OSL but all would be welcome to attend that Service at Peace at 7:00)
- Easter Vigil – Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Vigil begins at 7:00 p.m. at Our Savior. Peace members are invited to attend at OSL.
- Easter Sunday – April 5<sup>th</sup> – One Service only at 8:00 a.m. with Easter Breakfast following the Service. (Schedule for Peace: Breakfast before the Easter morning Service which will be at 10:00 a.m.)

### **Elder's Report**

- Elders discussed plans as reported by Pastor.

### **Board of Christian Education Report – given by Randy Haas**

The Board met on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Discussed were:

- Request from the Homeschool Co-op parents to hold a “Mom to Mom” sale, using the Fellowship Hall. This would likely be held sometime in March. Funds raised would help support the Co-op’s plans for Field Trips, etc.
- A Mother-Daughter Tea is in the planning stages, pending approval from Council. This would be similar to the Mother-Daughter Banquets held in the past but on a smaller scale. Currently looking at this to be held in May. To cover costs, tickets would be sold for the event. Ticket price yet to be determined; this would not be a fundraiser.
- A motion to approve both requests was made by Karrie Forys and seconded by Chris Durham. Motion carried.

### **Facilities Trustees Report – given by Chris Durham and Kathy Tallieu**

- A spotlight was installed at the back of the Sanctuary which will illuminate the stained glass cross at night. (Note: the light will need to be unplugged on Wednesday evenings during Service)
- The lightbulb in the office Exit sign was replaced.
- A reminder to everyone to make sure all lights are turned OFF as the last person leaves either the Church or School building.
- Also, the last person leaving the building(s) should check to be sure bathroom faucets are off and toilets are flushed.

---

## **Council, page 3**

A motion to accept all Board reports was made by Karrie Forys and seconded by Katie Laur. Motion carried.

There was no **Old Business**.

### **New Business**

Voters' Meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

- Election of Officers:
  - Three Trustees up for election. Chris Durham, Ian Conley, and Olivia Conley will allow their names to be placed into nomination.
  - BOCE – two positions open. Caleb Storm is eligible for another term. Ian Conley will have his name placed into nomination.
  - Council President – Adam Ondrajka is not eligible for another term. At the time of this meeting, no Candidates have been secured. All are encouraged to pray about this important position.

Other business:

- Adam will compose a letter addressed to all employees about budget concerns and possible payroll shortfalls.

**The Secretary's Report** from this meeting was read to Council. A motion to approve was made by Kathy Tallieu and seconded by Tim Forys. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tim Forys and seconded by Katie Laur. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded by  
Renea Lambert, Secretary

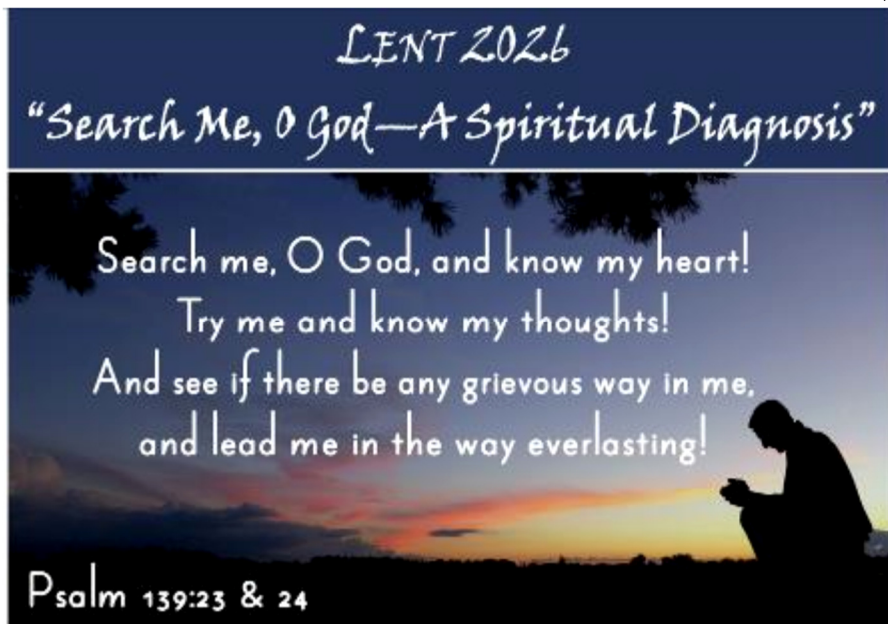


### **♪ February's Hymn of the Month ♪**

*LSB #694, "Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"*  
*This lovely hymn is found in the Sanctification section of our hymnal*

---



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

- † 5:00 p.m., Ash Wednesday Divine Service
- † (7:00 p.m., Ash Wednesday Service at Peace Lutheran in Sandusky)

WEDNESDAYS IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH (2/25 THROUGH 3/25)

- † 5:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Divine Service
- † (7:00 p.m. Mid-Week Services at Peace Lutheran in Sandusky)

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH

- † 9:00 a.m., Divine Service

THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND

- † 5:00 p.m., Maundy Thursday Divine Service
- † (7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service at Peace Lutheran)

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD

- † 1:00 p.m., Chief Service with Holy Communion
- † (7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service at Peace Lutheran)

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH

- † 7:00 p.m., Easter Vigil Service (Members of Peace invited to attend)

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH

- † 8:00 a.m., Easter Morning Service at Our Savior
- † Easter Breakfast follows the Service
- † (Peace Lutheran will serve breakfast prior to their 10:00 a.m. Easter Morning Service)



# New and Notable

Following the Voters' Meeting held last month, we have **new** members serving terms on the Church Council. Our new President is Bob Gaiser, and new Trustees are Ian Conley, Chris Durham, and Don Schank. Ian Conley is new to the BOCE as well. Caleb Storm and Renea Lambert are returning to their positions to serve a second term.

Words of thanks go to those Board members who have served our congregation faithfully for the maximum two-term limit. Adam Ondrajka, Karrie Forsys, Katie Laur, and Randy Haas—we are all grateful for your leadership and for the care you've shown over the years. God bless you!

You might notice a **new** spotlight installed above the double doors in the church Sanctuary. This new light shines very brightly to illuminate the stained glass cross so it's visible from outside the building. *"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5)*



Our youngest group of Sunday School children (Nursery through Grade 1) will soon be getting some **new** curriculum. Yay! Some new materials will be appreciated by the children and their teacher, Mrs. Gaiser!

A **new** set of banners has been created to grace the side walls of the Sanctuary. These banners are based on Galatians 5:22 & 23, "The Fruits of the Spirit". Each banner notes one of the nine Fruits: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control".

The banners will give us one more option to decorate our church, joining the crosses and wreaths which will continue to be placed seasonally.



---

# **New and Notable**

Please join in welcoming **new** member Ryan Tabar, coming to us from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Linkville. Ryan, we're overjoyed to have you as part of the OSL family!

---

**News**: Don't forget to check your church mailbox. The 2025 Contribution Statements have been printed and placed in the boxes.

---

**News** regarding Peace Lutheran Church in Sandusky: The congregation is extending their first Call for a new Pastor. When that man receives the Call, he will deliberate on it and respond. In the meantime, we join the members of Peace in praying that the Lord will bless this process.

**News** regarding Hope Lutheran Church, Marlette: Members of Hope are meeting with the LCMS Michigan District President, Rev. David Davis along with our Circuit Visitor, Rev. Matthew Durance to discuss the next steps to potentially form a dual parish. As more information becomes available, we'll share that with you.

---

These ideas are **notable**!

- ☺ Plans are in the works for a **Mom-to-Mom Sale** to be held at Our Savior sometime early this spring. Much more to come on this in the weeks ahead.



- ☺ Preliminary planning has begun to hold the first-ever "**Mother-Daughter Tea**" at OSL this year—probably in May. The Tea will be similar in format to the Mother-Daughter Banquets that were held a number of years ago, with tickets being sold (to cover costs only; this is not a fundraiser), and reservations will need to be made to limit capacity. The Tea would follow the pattern of a traditional English Afternoon Tea with tiny sandwiches, delicate cakes, and of course—tea! Please watch for more to come on this soon. If you're willing to help, please let Renea Lambert know. A Mother-Daughter Tea Planning Committee will be forming soon.

# Serving the Lord and our Congregation

## Staff Directory and Board Members

Rev. Timothy Kern, Pastor  
Timothy.Kern@OSLMarlette.com

Kelsey Justin, Secretary  
ChurchOffice@OSLMarlette.com

Office Phone: 989-635-7994 | [www.OSLMarlette.com](http://www.OSLMarlette.com)  
[www.facebook.com/OSLMarlette](http://www.facebook.com/OSLMarlette)

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bob Gaiser, President  
Tim Forsys, Vice-President  
Karen Forsys, Treasurer  
Renea Lambert, Secretary  
Bridget Storm, Financial Secretary

### BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Randy Haas  
Chris Durham  
Caleb Storm  
Kathy Tallieu  
Ian Conley

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Christopher Durham  
Tim Forsys  
Caleb Storm  
Kathy Tallieu  
Don Schank  
Ian Conley

### SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP

Hanna Kern, Superintendent  
Nursery-Grade 1—Erica Gaiser  
Grades 2-6—Debie Kaltz  
Youth Leader—Hannah Schank

### BOARD OF ELDERS

Marty Brandt, Head Elder  
John Hollenbeck  
Jerry Priebe  
Bob Stoick  
Craig Storm  
Chris Durham  
Don Schank  
Gus Schumacher

