



A publication of

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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June 2025

THE LOGOS

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Christ, the Perfect Steward

Then God said, "Let us make man in our Image, after our Likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So, God created man in His own Image, in the Image of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:26-28)

God made us to be like Him. He made us in His Image and Likeness. As God is the Sovereign Creator of the Universe, so He has also given dominion over the earth to mankind. But what is this dominion? How are we to exercise the dominion that God has given us? First and foremost, as we learned last month, we are to learn that we are not the owners of this world, but rather its caretakers. We are stewards of the blessings that God has given us, even of the entire world. *The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, and all those who dwell therein. (Psalm 24)* So as stewards and managers of God's world (or at least of the corner of the world in which God has placed us today), we should reflect the care and management of God. After all, we are made in His Image and Likeness. But what does this mean? What does this look like? The Bible tells us. *The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. (Genesis 2:15)*

For starters, "working" and "keeping" is not just gardening language. In English, when we think of the word for "work", especially in relation to a garden, we think of plowing or tilling, planting and fertilizing. We think of

all the ‘work’ that goes into starting a garden. However, the Hebrew word for “work” ‘עָבַד Avad’ is more literally translated as “serve”. Likewise, in English when we read the word “keep”, we think of tending the garden, weeding it, watering it, and generally doing the continuous work of helping the plants to grow. But the Hebrew word for “keep” ‘שָׁמַר Shamar’ is more literally translated as either “guard/protect” or “observe/take heed”. So, in the working and keeping of God’s creation, we are not only to care for it, to serve it, to ensure that it has everything that it needs, but we are also to guard and protect it from danger and anything that would do it harm.

So, concerning our first parents, Adam and Eve, we can see that their fall into sin is actually a failure of stewardship. Eve failed to serve the husband that God had entrusted to her when she gave the fruit to him and he ate it. She failed to observe and take heed of God’s Word which told her not to eat of the fruit of the tree in the midst of the garden. Adam failed to protect the wife that God had entrusted to his keeping. He failed to guard and keep God’s Word when the murderous serpent began speaking venomous lies and twisting God’s Word. Ultimately, Adam should have crushed the serpent’s head right then and there in the garden of Eden. He failed to steward every blessing that God had placed in His care.



In our lives, God has placed so much of His creation into our keeping so that we may serve it, care for it, nurture it, guard, and protect it. First and foremost, God has given us His Word. This is the most precious gift of God. Do we hear it and keep it? Do we take heed unto it? Do we conform our lives according to it? When we hear false teaching and lies, do we defend God’s Word against the assaults of the devil? God has also given us our families and friends and all our loved ones. Do we share our most precious gift (God’s Word) with them? To withhold this treasure from them is to fail in our stewardship of these relationships. God has given us our bodies. What do we put into our bodies? Enjoying a piece of candy, an ice cream, an adult beverage, or any other kind of treat certainly has its place. God does want us to enjoy the wonders of His creation. And yet, over indulgence in these things is not good stewardship of the bodies God has placed into our care and keeping. God has also given us our house and home, land, animals, and all that we have. He daily and richly provides for

all that we need to support our bodies and lives. How do we steward these things? Are we faithful in this stewardship? Do we keep accurate records of our finances? Do we keep track of the Lord's income and assets that He has given us to steward? If He asked for an accounting today, would you be able to tell Him what you have done with His wealth and with His possessions? Would you be proud of your management?

Finally, God has also given us a church. That church has many members. You are one of them. When one member is hurting, do you reach out to comfort them? Do you pray for your brothers and sisters in Christ? Do you volunteer and help out with the various missions and ministries at Our Savior? Do you attend the Divine Service every week? Frequently? More often than not? That church also has a building that requires maintenance, cleaning, updates, and repairs. It has a pastor, a secretary, a treasurer, and a janitorial staff that needs to be compensated for their work in God's Kingdom. The church at large has missionaries sent all over the world who need to be supported so that God's Kingdom may grow and expand. The church has ministries of mercy like hospitals, food kitchens, nursing homes, and more. It has educational institutions like seminaries, colleges, and high schools that many congregations support together because we can accomplish more together than we can individually. The church locally, nationally, and globally has physical and financial needs. Are you stewarding what God has given to you in order to the care and keeping of Christ's bride, the Church?

If you are anything like me, then I know that as you read through these questions, you were convicted. You have failed in your stewardship as I have. Adam and Eve failed in their stewardship. Adam should have crushed the serpent's head in the garden. He didn't. That is why God the Father sent His Son into the world. He crushed the serpent's head even as He paid the wages of our sin. He is the perfect Steward of all whom God has placed into His care and keeping. He has lost not one. We are saved. We are forgiven. And even now, we are being conformed to the Image of Christ, the perfect Steward. We are given a new life in Him, and we can rejoice to reflect the Image and Likeness of God once again.

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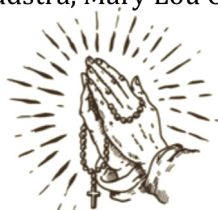
JUNE'S HYMN OF THE MONTH

"Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared",
LSB #622, from "The Lord's Supper" section of the hymnal.
The message of this hymn is excellent!

Prayer Concerns

Church Members

John Hollenbeck, Jeff Eager, Brenda Fifield, Bob Gaiser, Lela Gilroy,
Ashton Jones, Carmen Kinney, Pam Mutschler, Jerry Priebe,
Ellen Romosier, Neil Schaudt, Gus Schumacher, Kathy Tallieu,
Mike Wettstein, Virginia Woudstra, Mary Lou Champion, and Fran Clemens



Extended Family and Friends

Lennie Chronowski—young daughter of Earl & Gwen Hulett's friends
Nancy Higgins—Bob Stoick's sister
Karen Kobylak—a friend of Adam Ondrajka
Jack Stoick—Bob's cousin
Deborah Durham—Chris' step-mother
Scott & Carol McCready—friends of the McGarvie family
Mary Kay Bell—relative of Judy Fischer
Dennis Ondrajka—Adam's father
Donna Ferguson—Adam Ondrajka's grandmother
Mary Mitchell—sister of Lela Gilroy
Linda Fraley—Lela Gilroy's daughter
Meredith Stewart—cousin of Chris McGarvie
Glen Phillips—former employer of Adam Ondrajka
Danica Willis—a friend of Mary Brief
Joan Kuhne—Mary Brief's mother
Cathy Mutschler and Cathy Khoury—Pam Mutschler's sisters in law
Randy Kasdorf—Shauna Lester's Baptismal Sponsor
Ken and Pam Wood—parents of Kelly Ondrajka
Harvey Kaltz—Debie's husband
Family & Friends of Virginia Woudstra: Dennis Davis,
Robbie Kuechenmeister, Richard, Daniel, & David Glover,
Ruth Annn Lober, and Russel & Terri Strauchman;

Please help us keep this list up to date. If you have a family member or friend listed here who is no longer in need of prayer, please call the church office and let us know. Give thanks too, to the Lord who answers prayer!

Serving the Lord in Gladness



June Elders

6/1 Don Schank

6/8 Craig Storm

6/15 Chris Durham

(6/22 and 6/29 have not been assigned)

Altar Guild

Erica Gaiser

Verity & Trinity Ondrajka

Service Music

6/1, 6/8, 6/22, and 6/29—Caleb Storm/Sam Schank

6/15—Renea Lambert

Sunday Morning Greeters

6/1 Bob & Jeannie Stoick

6/8 Randy & Brianna Haas

6/15 John & Janet Hollenbeck

6/22 Craig & Bridget Storm

6/29 John & Pat Hurtgam



Acolytes

Carter and Jayson Schank

Worth noting: The Church Council did not meet in May.
The next meeting is set for June 19th at 7:30 p.m.



Men & Boys Night

Fun for men and boys on the second Friday of each month,
6:00—8:00 p.m. All are welcome!

The next Men & Boys Night: Friday, June 13th



These photos were taken at the first Men & Boys Night on May 9th. That evening, eight men and six boys had a great time exploring and spending some quality time together.

Everyone is welcome at Men & Boys Night, so invite family, friends, and neighbors!



Max caught a frog!



♪ The Co-Op Choir Sings ♪

The boys and girls did very well in singing, "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb".



Children from the Homeschool Co-Op sang for the congregation on May 4th. Their sweet voices were a wonderful addition to our worship service.

Confirmation Day

May 18, 2025



✠ Confirmation Day ✠

*Led by Jayson,
the Confirmands
processed in as
the congregation
sang the hymn,
"Thy Strong
Word".*



*Each Confirmand received a specially
chosen Scripture verse and blessing.*



*Processing out of the
Sanctuary.*



Newly Confirmed
*Carter Schank, Hallie Lester,
Trinity and Verity Ondrajka*



Family!

Vacation Bible School at Our Savior Lutheran



Vacation Bible School

June 16th—19th ★ 9:00—11:30

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
6770 Marlette Street | Marlette
989-635-7994**

*Crafts
Prayer
Bible Lessons
Outdoor Fun
Snacks
Songs*

Open to all children through Grade Six

4TH SUNDAY

B_{RING} Y_{OUR} O_{WN} PICNIC

FAMILY * FELLOWSHIP * FOOD * FUN

On the **FOURTH SUNDAY** of each month, there will be an opportunity to join your church family for a few hours of fun and fellowship.

To keep it all simple and stress-free, this will be a “BYO Picnic” where each family will bring their own lunch to church. After Bible Study, we can join together to eat and enjoy games and pleasant conversation —

- ☺ If you have some easy to bring equipment to share, please do. Frisbee, football, baseball, badminton, croquet, whatever!
- ☺ Card games are always fun too.



COME AND ENJOY!
Sunday, June 22nd
11:30 a.m.

Serving the Lord and our Congregation

Staff Directory and Board Members

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Kelsey Justin, Secretary
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CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Adam Ondrajka, President
Tim Forys, Vice-President
Karen Forys, Treasurer
Renea Lambert, Secretary
Bridget Storm, Financial Secretary

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Randy Haas
Chris Durham
Caleb Storm
Kathy Tallieu
Renea Lambert

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Karrie Forys
Kathy Tallieu
Katie Laur
Christopher Durham *
Tim Forys
Caleb Storm
Randy Haas

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP

Hanna Kern, Superintendent
Nursery-Grade 1—Hanna Kern
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
Chris McGarvie



* Chris Durham is a non-voting Trustee

Note: The School Board is no longer meeting regularly