

OUR SAVIOURS LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPT, OCT, NOV 2019

THE SIGNAL



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REGULAR WEEKLY WORSHIP

SATURDAY

5:30 PM

SUNDAY

8:30 am & 10:30 am

FROM THE PASTORS

“If something comes toward you with grace and can pass through you and toward others with grace, you can trust it as the voice of God.”

— **Richard Rohr, *The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For and Believe***

There are many times that I wonder if I have heard the voice of God--I may think, “oh was that God... or was that just in my head... or was it the dog barking ...?” So this summer when I read The Universal Christ by Richard Rohr and specifically when I read this quote, it struck me and has stuck with me. Grace coming towards and through us sounds like something that may just happen once in awhile, but as I paid attention to this one thought, it became real that grace flowing towards and through us is a constant. It is in our heads, in our hearts, in the sounds of dogs and in the drifting smell of the summer flowers. It is in the quick smiles and the long heart-to-heart conversations. It is in the material things we give and in the words we say. The voice of God is not just one sound or one thought or one type of vibration we may or may not feel, it is in the everything and in the specific.

There are some old and new ways to engage through our congregational community this fall that may be ways for you to practice holding this thought of flowing grace. Worship and education on Sundays, Bible study throughout the week, teaching peers or children or youth, hearing sermons, all can serve as the many ways that connect you to the flow of grace. There are new ways as well. Trying out yoga on a Thursday afternoon, enjoying time together in gatherings like women’s retreat and congregational potlucks or book discussions and enneagram study, serving in new ways through faith and action teams, learning more about refugees and immigration and how our witness matters. We invite you into the spaces and the opportunities this fall and we invite you to open up space for vision and engagement in how you hear grace and let it flow through you.

As you walk through your fall days, trust in this voice to come towards you and through you. Trust in the moments that you can hear it and in the moments that you cannot. Trust in the promise that God’s Holy Spirit is alive and well and is a part of you.

Pastor Leta Arndt Behrens



Jon Fry—
Intern Pastor

MEET THE Staff

Jon Fry is grew up in Bondurant, Iowa and lived in Iowa for 28 years. He earned his bachelors degree in Accounting & Management Information Systems from the University of Northern Iowa, and is enrolled at Wartburg Seminary for his Masters of Divinity. When he's not working, Jon enjoys playing board games, playing guitar, enjoying nature, and spending time with friends and family.

One word to describe me: Reliable

If I could have dinner with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?

Gordon Ramsey. I'm not sure how the conversation would go, but it would be an outstanding dinner!

Karyn Eddins—Administrative Assistant

Karyn is a Colorado State alum, and has diverse work experience in non-profits including Hospice, churches and dog rescue. When she is not at church she can be found organizing, dog rescuing, reading, gardening and hanging out with her favorite person, her husband Jeff.



Up the Mountain

“I feel like I’m over packing” I kept telling Megan as I was preparing to spend my first days employed by Our Saviour’s up at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp.

I needed bedding to stay in the lodge, clothes for Summerfest (and the whole week!), hiking boots, a small cooler for Pub Theology, and my backpack with books to read for the week. It seemed like too much, but I needed to be prepared for EVERYTHING!



I packed up the car and headed to Pr. Leta’s house to catch a ride. It was about halfway up the Poudre Canyon that I started to regret not taking Dramamine and worrying about Lola, Pr. Leta’s dog, in the backseat who was panting and drooling over my shoulder. As long as the dog didn’t get sick, I was pretty sure I could make it.

We arrived at camp and I was amazed at the view of the mountains, and the breath-taking view from the deck of the lodge. Growing up, I spent many summers at Lutheran Lakeside Camp in Okoboji, Iowa which will always hold a special place in my heart, but the cool weather and backdrop of Sky Ranch instantly became a close second.

After I dropped my stuff off and was given a quick tour by Rob Behrens, I was taken around to meet the families who were camping or “RV-ing” for Summerfest. I tried to repeat names, remember which kids belonged to which parents, and make mental notes of any details that would help me remember names.

It wasn’t until the next day when we started playing 9 Square in the Air that the names started to come together. The constant apologies as taller humans “accidentally” spiked the ball on smaller humans really helped me put faces with names, and the next step was to match the kids up with the parents as we all came together for dinner at the Chuckwagon.

It was that night sharing a meal with some of the youth that I got a glimpse of their love for each other and learned what they like to do for fun. At the campfire people of all ages joined voices in praising God together with the camp staff, in that way that you can really only experience at Camp. Then, at Pub Theology, adults had the opportunity to share stories of being bullies or being bullied, and talk about how these experiences have affected our faith and our lives as a whole.

Summerfest Weekend gave me a glimpse into the authentic community that exists at Our Saviour’s and brought me down the mountain excited and energized to learn and grow in this place for the next 4 years.

Grace + Peace,
Jon Fry
OSLC Intern Pastor

adult bible study

Wednesdays 5:45 pm Conference Room

Thursdays 9:30 am East Meeting Room

HOLY
BIBLE

This fall (till the end of the year) we will spend our time connecting with the book of Isaiah. Isaiah has a complicated history and is cherished by both Hebrews and Christians. Come explore with us as we wrestle with a book that still challenges theologians today. A basic syllabus is available to stay up to date. - Pastor Michael

NAVIGATING CHANGE



ADULT EDUCATION

East Meeting Room off Fellowship Hall 9:45 am

September 15

Churchless Christians

Can you be a devout, faithful, fulfilled Christian without belonging to an organized church?

Peter Jacobs, Leader

September 29

What Must a Christian Believe?

How much can Christians of today mentally chip away at their acceptance of basic Christian doctrines and still remain Christian?

Bill Brown, Leader

October 13

Spirituality

Restful, Restive, or Both?

Beth DeHaven, Leader

September 22

Faith as a Life Changing Force

Living in Constant Awareness of God's Faithfulness to us.

Robin Ferree, Leader

October 6

Relevance

Tradition, Faith, and the Role of Church in a complex & changing world.

Dick Yahnke, Leader

October 20

Leadership for the Future

Servant Leadership

Larry Dunn, Leader

EL PASO



19 youth and 4 adults set out on an adventure this summer to go to the border. We went to serve and to learn. Our serving was leading a VBS for Peace Lutheran and our learning was through Cristo Rey Iglesia, both in El Paso. The leadership shown by the youth and the engagement that they were able to give

was remarkable and inspiring for their pastor. I wish I could bottle up every comment, every moment, every mental picture I have (well, maybe not *EVERY* moment...) to show you so you could experience it as well. As our youth shared in worship it was another reminder of the impact that it has on them, their faith, and their engagement in the world. The baptismal promise, to engage the world with eyes and hearts for justice and peace in the world is a promise that does not leave us to keep our faith separate or to let it remain sitting in a pew. It is a promise that we as a congregation make to show, to experience, to live, to ask questions, to go deeper, and to integrate into all aspects of our lives. Thank you for your part in keeping this promise to these youth and for all your prayers, contributions and support.



ROLES OF THE PASTORS

As we welcome Jon Fry as our Intern Pastor we had a time to collaborate and define role areas for each of us on the team. We have created a bullet point list of areas of key responsibility. This is not an exhaustive list of every ministry, but we hope it helps to see the variety of key areas. These are the areas in which we will be the point persons as we also remain flexible and seek to engage fully with the life of the congregation.

Pastor Michael:

- Preaching, Teaching, Pastoral Care
- Adult Ministries (Young, Mid, and Senior)
- Finance & Stewardship
- New Members & Welcome
- Property
- Worship & Music

Pastor Leta:

- Preaching, Teaching, Pastoral Care
- Administration
- Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
- Confirmation
- Our Saviour's Preschool
- Staff & Personnel
- Social Justice ministries (OOW, Faith/Justice teams)

Intern Pastor Jon: (½ time)

- High School Youth Ministry
- Young Adult Ministry
- Children, Youth and Family events

OUTSIDE OUR WALLS PRESENTS

Tool & Blanket Weekends



Be a **partner**
in the heavy lifting.

• CWSTOOLS.ORG •



SEPTEMBER 21/22 & SEPTEMBER 28/29

Visit the OOW Table

MUSIC HEALS...

A STORY FROM KISS

Jackie is one classy lady. She arrives ten minutes early for the KISS music program dressed in a beautiful silk patterned blouse, makeup perfect, hair washed and styled, beautiful jewelry, and ready to sing. You can see the joy in her eyes. She still has a lot of life to live. You see, Jackie has used her musical gifts all her life dating back to when she was 17 years old and serving as a nurse's assistant in a World War II hospital in California. One day, after a program, Jackie took me aside. She wanted to share a story with me. "I experienced World War II," she said. "I did not go overseas but served right here in the United States. I grew up near Santa Barbara. I was 17 when I volunteered at a hospital for soldiers wounded in the war. They were coming back from frightening, horrific experiences that left them disabled; physically, mentally, and spiritually. At times there was no consoling them. They were broken, life would never be the same for them because of their memories and physically wounded bodies. I was a nursing assistant. I tried to take care of their physical needs but I knew that wasn't enough to start the healing process from war. I always enjoyed singing. It lifted me up when I was down. I would sing for my family, friends, and whoever would listen. I wanted to share my love of music. I knew these wounded soldiers were suffering in more ways than I could imagine. What could I do? Suddenly, I remembered how music always helped me see life in a different way. It lifted me up. Maybe I could use my voice to help others. So I sang. The reason I am telling you this is because I sang the songs we sang today during the program. Those songs brought back so many good memories. I went up and down the rows of beds in the hospital singing songs that gave the soldiers encouragement. I sang hymns, I sang patriotic songs, I sang Broadway numbers, I wanted to lift their spirits. Once I started singing, the patients would start singing with me. We lifted each other up through the power of music. Today, you reminded me of those times and how music is so therapeutic, powerful, and universal. Keep doing what you are doing. I feel I made a difference all my life through music and now you are making a difference, too. I'll see you next month." With that, Jackie turned to go, but not before I gave her a hug and told her how much I appreciated her story and her words of encouragement. Our seniors have so many stories to tell and so many things to teach us and share with us through all they have lived. We need to appreciate their wisdom, their courage, and their strength. We need to learn from their experiences and respect what they have to offer us with their life stories and their advice. They are gems that have been polished by living on this earth for so long. They are a blessing and a treasure to all of us.



Voting members of Churchwide Assembly voted to endorse and support the Thursdays in Black Campaign of the World Council of Churches.

The campaign is simple but profound. **Wear black on Thursdays.** Wear a pin to declare you are part of the global movement resisting attitudes and practices that permit rape and violence. Show your respect for women who are resilient in the face of injustice and violence. Encourage others to join you.

World Council of Churches (WCC) moderator Dr. Agnes Abuom addressed the assembly: "This and every Thursday we join with thousands of others who dare to be counted as part of the global church's move to resist all forms of sexual and gender-based violence," she said. "Indeed Thursdays in Black is a movement that invites men and women, boys and girls to join as pilgrims of a world free of rape, free of gender-based violence, and in pursuit of a society, church, and family marked by justice and peace."



From the Aspen Viewing at Sky Ranch!

Have a story you'd like to share? Please email it to office@our-saviours.org