



St. Olaf Lutheran Church - THE CALLER - May 2024



From Pastor Tom:

St. Olaf Mission Team to Belize UPDATE *Short-term mission trips change people's lives.*

Imagine God doing something IN you and THROUGH you like you've never experienced before. The Holy Spirit does a transforming work inside those who are willing to take the bold step, and in this case, go overseas to another country quite different from our own. When you see the world through Jesus' eyes, there grows in your heart a deeper compassion and curiosity to learn more about people, their uncommon faith and trust in God that perhaps we, as folks from the U.S., don't quite understand. Curious? Talk to me, Pastor Tom

Tentative Dates: December 6-11, 2024

Approximate cost: \$2,000- \$2,300

(Fundraisers and funds will trim this cost considerably. Don't let this price hinder you)



Belize- land mass= Massachusetts;
383,000 people; bigger than Madison,
smaller than Milwaukee



It's all about the CHILDREN!



Tuesday/Wednesday: Arrive

Thursday: Serve at CarePoint & Community/
Home Visits

Friday: Serve at CarePoint & Community;
Celebrate Staff+

Saturday: Christmas Party at Pasadita Carepoint

Sunday: Snorkeling Excursion on Ocean and
Church in the Evening

Monday: Fly Home



MAY LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Date	Asst. Minister	Musicians
Sat., May 4 5:00 p.m.	Mary Hershoff	Clara Birkel Steve Stretz
Sun., May 5 9:00 a.m.	Mary Hershoff	Clara Birkel Steve Stretz
Sat., May 11 5:00 p.m.	Cindy Schlieve	Cathy Paquette Steve Stretz
Sun., May 12 9:00 a.m.	Lynn Christenson	Clara Birkel Steve Stretz
Sat., May 18 5:00 p.m.	Scott Siegrist	Clara Birkel
Sun., May 19 9:00 a.m.	Scott Siegrist	Clara Birkel Steve Stretz
Sat., May 25 5:00 p.m.	Lynn Christenson	Clara Birkel Steve Stretz
Sun., May 26 9:00 a.m.	Mary Hershoff	Clara Birkel Steve Stretz

May Altar Guild: Heather Cummins, Kari Weber
May Counters: Rob Howell, Ron Egelseer

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Tito & Justine Cadena (43)
- 3 Thomas Ziebell & Chris Welnak (27)
- 5 Roger & Lyn Johnson (51)
- 6 Luke & Sharon Otto (24)
- 7 Robert & Kathleen Howell (36)
- 13 Todd & Cynthia Birkel (29)
- 14 Mark & Laura Savatski (36)
- 15 Karl & Kathy Monis (20)
- 19 Richard & Peggy Jorgenson (45)
- 27 Brian & Dorothy Solveson (35)



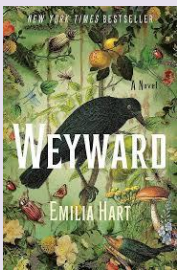
MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Sara Smeaton
- 4 Norman Lange
- 5 Charlotte Sexton
- 7 Terry Borden, Tiffany Brewer,
Ava Homulos, Gregory Homulos
- 8 Dawson Walter
- 9 Heidi Sikkema
- 12 Kim Meier
- 17 Douglas Morrissey
- 20 Gavin Gies, Gavin Monis
- 21 Linda Schuett
- 24 Sue Mullins, Judy Stevens
- 30 Ella Smithyman



ST. OLAF BOOK CLUB FOR MAY NEXT MEETING DATE

SOAR Book Club meets Thursday, May 9th at noon at St. Olaf's. If the weather permits, we will meet outside on the patio, so please bring a chair. May's book selection is *Weyward* by Emilia Hart. This is a debut historical fiction novel that weaves together the stories of three extraordinary women across five centuries. All are welcome!



ST. OLAF OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP

SAVE THE DATE! Outdoor clean-up day at church will be done on Saturday, May 4, 2024, beginning at 8:00 a.m. We need to clean up the gardens on the East, South, and West sides. If you have your own gloves, wheel barrow, etc., please bring them along. All are welcome!



CALLING ALL GRADUATES!



If you or your family member is graduating (or did graduate this school year) from high school, technical school or college, please email Amy at stolafyouthcoordinator@gmail.com to be recognized during the June 9th church service!



Monday, May 27th
St. Olaf Office will be closed
for the Memorial Day Holiday

HYGIENE KIT DONATIONS NEEDED

We received a large quantity of personal soap, shampoo, conditioner, and body lotion. We are going to have Sunday School students assemble hygiene kits to share with our outreach ministries. We are looking for donations of **small toothpaste, wrapped toothbrushes**, (could be the free samples from your dentist) **deodorant, or any other small hygiene items** to include in our kits. There will be a container in the gathering area for drop off beginning April 7th. We would appreciate all donations by May 5th.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU,

I would like to thank everyone that has made this Soup Ministry a success, from helping with the shopping of the supplies, getting the jars prepared for soup, cutting of the vegetables, cooking of the meat, making of the bread, and most importantly sowing the seeds in delivering and visiting with the recipients of the soup and bread. I am truly blessed to be able to work with these amazing people. Your dedication and devotion to this ministry brings joy to my heart.

I don't say it enough, so thank you one and all of the Soup troopers again, for all you do.

Shalom, Shalom,
Susie Grulke
Bible verse: Corinthians 9:11
"You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God."



ADULT GAME NIGHT AT ST. OLAF

Due to a lack of interest, table game nights have been canceled.



Thank you for your support of Family Promise.

Thank you to all of you who donated homemade meals, and food, and supplies, and money, and gift cards, and transportation for our week in April! Our next opportunity to serve Family Promise is July 8 – 14, 2024.

Scholarship
guidelines &
application are
found at
www.st-olaf.org.

ST. OLAF EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

**Apply
Now**



APPLICATIONS DUE
OR MUST BE
POSTMARKED
BY MAY 1, 2024



The Meal at St. Ben's

The meal will be held on **Tuesday, June 18, 2024**. The preparation dates for the stew will be on June 17 and 18, 2024. More information as to the times for everything as well as a sign-up sheet will be available mid-to-late May. I have spoken with one of the coordinators of this meal program and he gave me some very useful information on what the duties of our volunteers will be as well as some protocols that must be followed. I have listed them below.

- We will need 11 volunteers to help serve the meal on June 18th.
- Volunteers will be allowed to have interactions with the guests of the meal. That means that the guests will walk through the food line, our volunteers will give each person a tray, then our other volunteers will serve the various foods for the meal. St. Ben's has other people who will handle taking beverages to the guests.
- Youth are allowed (and encouraged) to volunteer; however, they must be 12 years of age or older and must have a permission form that is signed by a parent or guardian.
- All volunteers must wear either a hairnet or a cap (such as a baseball style cap) in order to follow proper protocols for serving food. If a cap is not worn, hairnets will be supplied at St. Ben's.
- Masks may be worn but are **OPTIONAL**.
- We will be planning to serve approximately 160 people this year.

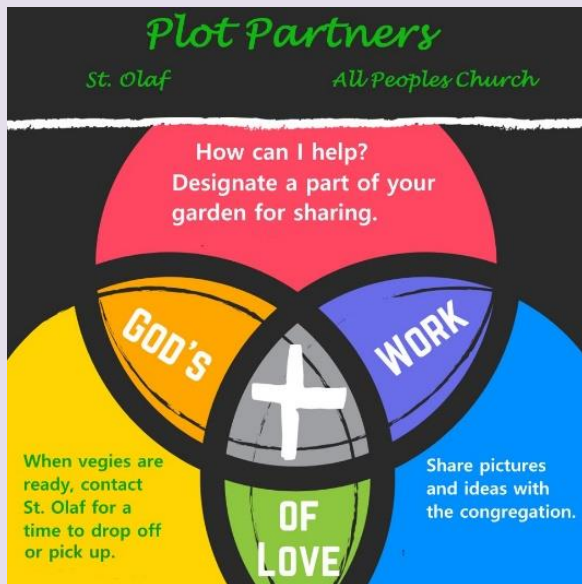
As in the past several years, we will be asking for monetary donations to help in purchasing the food needed for the stew and salad that is served. By purchasing all the food at one location and at one time, we can usually get a better price for what we need.

Again, as in past years, we would like to request cookies to be donated. We will need 14 dozen three-inch sized cookies. It would be great if several people donated 2 or 3 dozen each so as not to burden one or two people with making all the cookies. The **home-made** cookies are greatly appreciated by all those who attend this meal.

We are blessed to be able to help others in this way and it has been a long-standing tradition for St. Olaf. I hope you will consider making a contribution or volunteering for this very important project.

Thank you for all that you do.
Cindy J. Schlieve, president
St. Olaf Women of Grace

HELPING OUR PARTNERS



As many of you know we partner with All Peoples Gathering Lutheran Church in Milwaukee to provide food, clothing, prayers, and comfort to many in need. We help supply their food pantry, we provide fresh produce during the growing season, we join them in the work that they do, pray for them, and even provide communion bread for them (Thanks Dennis). Someone from St. Olaf's visits them most weeks. Together we can do SO much more than we can individually. I often get questions regarding how to help with this effort. So, I put my thoughts together in the following list to help all of us "Share God's Love and Care for Community. **NOTE: Brian Bolling from All Peoples will be at St. Olaf Sunday, May 5th to talk to us. Come and say hi and learn more.**

Provide healthy food for the food pantry

- ♥ Look for sales on canned fruits and vegetables or popular items from the list in the entry way at St. Olaf (under \$1 per can, I've found them for \$.49 and \$.79) and let Steve Stretz know. We received a donation from one of St. Olaf's members that can be used to purchase food for their food pantry.
- ♥ Purchase an extra food item when shopping. Again, a list of the most popular items can be found in the entry way of the church.
- ♥ Some of you go to Ruby's Pantry. Donate extra healthy food items that you don't need or want. Put them on the shelves in the entry way of St. Olaf and they will be delivered.
- ♥ Make a donation to help pay for gas and purchase items.
- ♥ Come down to All Peoples and help distribute the food or help older folks carry things up the stairs
- ♥ You can help with the Thanksgiving and Christmas food bags

Provide healthy food for the food pantry

- ♥ Plant some extra plants in your garden and harvest a few items to bring to St. Olaf.
- ♥ Look for fresh produce bargains at grocery stores. Woodmans, for example, packages items they take off the shelves to make room for new items at a deep discount, like \$1.00 per bag. Purchase them or let Steve know.
- ♥ Look out for friends that have extra produce from their gardens.
- ♥ Buy some items at local farmers' markets. Help them and help All Peoples!!
- ♥ Help Steve or one of the other gardeners pick produce.
- ♥ Come to All Peoples and help at the *Gathering Table Garden* or help distribute the produce that they receive (the normal St. Olaf day is Wednesday).
- ♥ Donate to help purchase seeds and supplies for St. Olaf gardeners or to purchase produce

Clothes: Childrens winter coats are collected but they don't have storage for clothes. Ask Steve

Prayers and encouragement are always welcome. You are always welcome at All Peoples to join them in worship. From St Olaf it takes a while but is an easy and safe trip

News from St. Olaf Women of Grace May 2024

Women of Grace Meeting

The next meeting of the Women of Grace (WOG) will be on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All women of St. Olaf, and guests, are welcome to attend our meetings and offer suggestions and/or help for the projects that may be coming up. This meeting will include a special informational discussion via Zoom with Bryan and Desiree Camp who will explain their involvement in the Wycliffe Bible Translators. Pastor Tom has been able to connect with them and is very interested in the possibility of the Women of Grace helping to support these two missionaries in their work of helping to translate Bibles into other languages “so that every man, woman, and child will be able to have God’s Word in a language and form they clearly understand.” **Anyone interested in hearing about this very vital work is welcome to attend this program.** We will hold the program portion of the meeting at the very beginning of our meeting (so very close to 3:00 p.m.).

Other discussions will include the St. Ben’s meal and preparations needed for this important event in June as well as other topics that may come up. Refreshments will be available.

Searchers

The Searchers Bible study group meets every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m., most usually at the home of Jane Christenson. Various Bible studies are utilized for our discussions. We have the opportunity to pray for the people and things on our hearts, and then to learn something new and enlightening from each of the studies.

The *Gather* Magazine study will be used on May 14 2024. This is a stand-alone Bible study. It is entitled “Compassionate Companions: Congregations can play a role in mental health ministry”. It is described on the “Gather” Magazine website as follows: “As long as humans have existed, there has been mental illness. By some estimates, as many as 20% of all adults live with a mental health issue. In biblical times, mental illness was often misunderstood and thought to be caused by demonic possession. In modern times, we have learned much more about brain chemistry. Although the stigma around mental illnesses has decreased, we still have a long way to go, and our faith communities can help. Looking particularly at biblical people and passages that relate to living with mental illness, the May 2024 devotional reminds us of Jesus’ compassionate care for those who struggle. Together, we’ll learn how congregations can become “stigma-free” zones, welcome and support those with mental health issues and their loved ones and provide opportunities for all ages to learn more about a topic that affects us all.”

Copies of the study will be available for anyone who does not subscribe to the magazine. Please feel free to join us for this very important and timely study.

Wishing you Peace, Love, Joy, and Good Health,
Cindy J. Schlieve, President

**“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.”**

Ephesians 6:17-18 (NIV)

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

MAY

DATES TO NOTE:

MAY 1

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE

Scholarship guidelines and application are available on the St. Olaf website for any member continuing their education.

MAY 19

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION!

Sunday School & Youth families will celebrate the closing of another school year with some food & games. More details will follow but youth will have an outing for mini golf after activities at St. Olaf.

Scholarship guidelines & application are found at www.st-olaf.org.

ST. OLAF EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Apply Now



APPLICATIONS DUE OR MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MAY 1, 2024

JUNE 9

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Graduates will be recognized during service.

Please email Amy with the graduate's (high school, technical school or college) information & if they will be attending the June 9 service.



Save the Date!

VBS is August 3,
2024

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

Sign up [HERE](#)

REGISTER FOR SON SPARK VBS [HERE!](#)

YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM

SUNDAY SCHOOL - KRIS PIETZ, STOLAFCHILDREN@GMAIL.COM

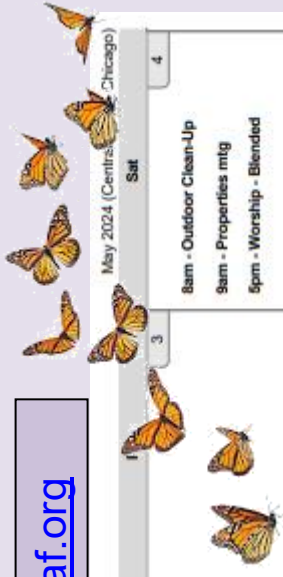
CONFIRMATION YOUTH - PASTOR TOM PIETZ, PIETZTOM1@GMAIL.COM

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH - SCOTT SIEGRIST, STOLAFYOUTHLEADER@GMAIL.COM

YOUTH COORDINATOR - AMY HOFFMANN, STOLAFYOUTHCOORDINATOR@GMAIL.COM



To view the entire (larger print) calendar, go to our website www.st-olaf.org



Public Calendar

May 2024 (Centennial - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Sat
28 Family Promise 9am - Sunday School during 9am - Worship - Blended	29	30 6:30am - Men's Life Group 9am - Searchers @ Jane 3pm - Weekly Prayer Group	1 DEU TODAY - SCHOLARSHIP 8:30am - Wednesday Morning 5pm - Mission Team Meeting 6:30pm - "The Chosen" Season 4	2	3 8am - Outdoor Clean-Up 9am - Properties mtg 5pm - Worship - Blended
5 9am - Sunday School during 9am - Worship - Blended 10am - Sunday School Project,	6 3pm - Women of Grace Meeting	7 6:30am - Men's Life Group 9am - Searchers @ Jane 3pm - Weekly Prayer Group	8 8:30am - Wednesday Morning 6:30pm - "The Chosen" Season 4	9 12pm - Book Club 4:30pm - Music, Worship, Arts mtg 5:30pm - Council Meeting	10 5pm - Worship - Healing Service
12 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY 9am - Sunday School during 9am - Worship - Healing Service	13 3pm - Women of Grace Meeting	14 6:30am - Men's Life Group 9am - Searchers @ Jane 3pm - Weekly Prayer Group	15 8:30am - Wednesday Morning	16 9am - Soup Troop	17 Fr. Tom off 5pm - Worship - Classic
19 Sunday School Celebration 9am - Sunday School during 9am - Worship - NO Praise	20 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY	21 6:30am - Men's Life Group 9am - Searchers @ Jane 3pm - Weekly Prayer Group	22 8:00am - CALLER ARTICLES DUE 8:30am - Wednesday Morning 9am - HUHS Day of Service	23 8am - Fellowship Hall	24 Fr. Tom off 5pm - Worship - Blended
26 Worship held in Fellowship Hall Fr. Tom off 9am - Properties mtg 5pm - Worship - Blended	27 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY	28 6:30am - Men's Life Group 9am - Searchers @ Jane 3pm - Weekly Prayer Group	29 8:30am - Wednesday Morning 4pm - Ashippun Food Pantry	30 Worship held in Fellowship Hall 9am - Properties mtg 5pm - Worship - Blended	31