

The OSWLC Experience

September 8, 2019

exploreGod SERIES—WEEK ONE

We all have questions about God, faith, and purpose. What if there was a safe place to ask? There is now! It's called "exploreGod." You can participate by listening to the sermon series or joining the *exploreGod* discussion group, led by church member Jonathan Halls, a professional facilitator, beginning today at 9:30 am in the Great Room.

For 7 weeks we'll explore these questions: Does life have a purpose? Is there a God? Why does God allow pain and suffering? Is Christianity too narrow? Is Jesus really God? Is the Bible reliable? Can I know God personally? Each week is an independent discussion so feel free to attend every session or come as you are able.

Take an exploreGod postcard and invite a friend or neighbor to join us for the sermon series, discussion group, or both. Postcards are located in the Narthex and at the Welcome Desk.

We are excited about this new series and hope you will consider participating.

WELCOME!

We are excited that God has brought you here to worship with us today!

We invite all first-time visitors to stop by the Welcome Center in the Lobby for more information about our church and a small gift.

Baked goods are available at the kitchen window, courtesy of Panera Bread, before and after all worship services. Please help yourself!

CHURCHWIDE EVENT

Rise Against Hunger Event October 6th

Set-up at 8:00 am, Meal Packing 9:30 am and 11:00 am, Clean-up 12:15 pm

Rise Against Hunger provides a hands-on opportunity for the congregation, friends, and neighbors to serve by packing needed meals for distribution in third world countries. Volunteers are needed to unload the truck, pack meals, and clean-up after the event. We also will be raising \$6,500 to pay for the 25,000 meals we will be packing.

How Do I Register or Donate?

Online: You can register for the event and/or donate funds for meals by clicking on events.riseagainsthunger.org/OSW. Online registration and giving will close on September 30th.

At Church: You can sign up in the Narthex during September or provide donations through envelopes provided in the bulletin or Narthex. Donations can be made via check to Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church with "Rise Against Hunger" listed in the memo line.

Questions? Contact Gwen Kennedy at (703)347-2862 or Kennedgm@gmail.com.

GET CONNECTED

Please fill out the pew pad when it is passed during the service to let us know of your presence today. We would love to get you connected to our congregation. We offer a Discipleship Series class especially for those new to our church. A list of our classes and groups is available at the Welcome Center. If you are interested in membership, please contact Pastor Peterson:

Pastor.Peterson@oswlc.org.

HOLY COMMUNION

We celebrate Communion at every Sunday worship service. We invite all baptized Christians who recognize the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion to join us at the Lord's Table. If you have a wheat, dairy, or corn allergy, wafers made from rice and potato flour are available from the elder in the center. For expectant mothers and others sensitive to alcohol, white grape juice is available in the center of the tray of individual glasses.

CHILDREN WELCOME

If you have children, we have a nurse available for children age 3 and under. The nursery is at the bottom of the ramp to the left of the sanctuary. Nursery is available weekly during the 9:30 and 11:00 am services, and at the 8:00 am service upon request. Grace Place, our Sunday School, is available for ages 2 to 18 during the 9:30 am service during the school year. See an usher for directions.

YOUTH @ OSWLC

Grace Place “Rally Day” is Today

For ages 2 through 6th grade

Not just for Rally Day, but new this year, we will start our time together with a large group opening with fun music, a message, and activities in the Fellowship Hall. Teachers and youth helpers will take kids to their classes after the opening. Please be sure to sign-in each week; parents will still sign kids out from their classroom.

Each family needs to fill out a new registration form. Pick up a form at our sign-in table or download it from the church website and return it via email or in person next week. We need a form from each family to ensure we have up to date contact information, any allergies, and other helpful information about your kids.

2019 High School Fall Retreat

November 1st through 3rd, 2019

Mar-Lu-Ridge Retreat Center

Registration Deadline: September 29th

This High School fall retreat will be a Quake-style retreat with other churches from the Northern Virginia Area. It will be an event you don't want to miss! To register, submit the registration form with your payment to Ray Dubert.

Cost: \$125—Covers food and lodging for the weekend.

For additional details and to register, please go to www.oswlc.org/2019HSRetreat.

Questions? Contact Raymond Dubert at (703) 858-9254 or Raymond@oswlc.org.



HAVE A FOR JESUS AND KIDS?

We are in need of more Grace Place teachers for the fall. If you are called to serve our young ones by sharing your faith and Jesus with them, please contact Barb Yarbrough at Barb@oswlc.org.

Classroom teachers are supplied with materials.

Please consider volunteering!

*Grace Place
classes,
Confirmation
classes, and
High School
Youth Group all
resume today!*

HAPPENING TODAY

Door Offering for Hurricane Dorian Victims/Opportunities to Serve in Other Relief Efforts

OSWLC will be collecting a door offering today for victims and relief efforts associated with Hurricane Dorian which has devastated the Bahamas and, as of this writing, is threatening lives and property throughout the Eastern seaboard. Additionally, there is ongoing rebuilding in the Carolinas as a result of last year's Hurricane Florence. The Carolina activities are being coordinated by our LCMS Southeastern District Office and trips are planned in September and November of this year.

Checks should be made out to OSWLC with Hurricane Dorian in the memo line and placed in the offering plate. Checks and cash may also be placed in the baskets at the rear of the sanctuary.

Questions? Please contact Penny Payne at PennyKPayne@gmail.com or Bill Pfancuff at WPfancuff@gmail.com.

Stephen Leader Commissioning

Chuck Banks is being commissioned as a Stephen Leader this morning. Chuck has been a Stephen Minister at OSWLC for the past two years. He recently attended a week long Stephen Leadership training course in Dallas, Texas and he will be assuming additional responsibilities for the program.

Our Savior's Way has a very active Stephen Ministry program. Over the last four years we have trained 30 Stephen Ministers and provided Christian care to more than 35 individuals. Chuck brings valuable skills that will help keep our program growing and strong.

Please visit with Tom and Kay Lewis today in the narthex after the church services. We will be standing beside the Stephen Minister Banner. We would like to share more about the program and answer any questions that you may have.

Questions? Contact Tom and Kay Lewis at (540)338-8259 or email at StephenMinistry@oswlc.org.

News Moves Fast!

In order to keep up with all the fast-moving news here at OSW, we have revamped the weekly Sunday bulletin, combined it with the monthly newsletter, and renamed it “The OSWLC Experience.” Moving forward, we will be sharing information via the new weekly newsletter: The OSWLC Experience!

Why the Change? In the past, by the time the monthly newsletter reached church members' homes, there was no actual “new” news to read. The information had already been communicated via the Wednesday mid-week email and Sunday bulletin, and was posted on the website too! Weekly archives will be posted online, so you can always get a copy if you miss one.

What about homebound members? If you or a family member would like a printed copy of the OSWLC Experience and sermon notes to be mailed to them, just contact the church office by phone at 703-858-9245, or by sending an email to churchoffice@oswlc.org.

We hope everyone will benefit from this enhanced weekly communication and take one home!

Over the next seven weeks we will be discussing seven big questions about God. Today's big question is "Does Life Have A Purpose?" We all have something within us that yearns for value and meaning in life. Exploring our purpose is key to any faith journey. -Pastor Mann

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Sunday Morning Bible Studies at 9:30 am

Bible Study in the library with Louis Schaffer (Louisschafer@yahoo.com) - In-depth Bible study where we feed on God's Word to empower our faith, life, and love. This class will decide what book they will study.

Lead Like Jesus in room #5 with Caroline Broemmer (Caroline.broemmer@gmail.com) - Dr. John Townsend, psychologist, leadership expert and co-author of the New York Times bestselling *Boundaries*, shows you how we need the fuel of "Relational Nutrients" from others, and, in turn, we can then provide them to others. *People Fuel* outlines the twenty-two relational nutrients we all need to cultivate good relationships that provide energy, focus, and the support you need to succeed.

Discussions in Family Life in room #4b with Ben Scarboro (Bensfaith@gmail.com) and Luanne Flom (Luanneflom@gmail.com) *Back to Basics: The ABC's of Christian Living* by John MacArthur. This class will be focusing on. This is a timeless six-week survey of the bedrock principles of Christianity-and how to anchor our life to them.

Faith Connect in room #3 with Pastor Mike Delancy (Mdelancy@usa.net) - This is a six-week membership class that **begins on September 29th** for those new to OSWLC and for anyone who wishes to review the basic teachings of the Christian faith. Faith connect will help you connect to God, to Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church, and to new friends.

exploreGod in room #9 with Jonathan Halls and Pastor Peterson (Pastor.Peterson@oswlc.org) - This is a seven-week class and the goal is to provide a safe environment where members can seek credible answers to challenging spiritual questions. Questions include: Does life have a purpose? Is there a God? Why does God allow pain and suffering?

New Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study - "It's Not Supposed to Be This Way!" Beginning Tuesday, September 10, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, in the Library

What do you do when your reality is so different from the vision you had for yourself. Join Pastor Mann as he leads this 6-session video Bible study with Lysa TerKeurst. She offers fresh biblical insight to get you through painful situations and life-giving perspectives for living in between Eden and eternity.

New Ladies' Tuesday Evening Bible Study—September 12th

The ladies' Tuesday evening Bible study meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month and they will be studying *The Faithful - Heroes of the Old Testament*. A new session will be starting on September 10th! Questions? Contact Ramona Meese at Ramona.meese@gmail.com.

New Crossways Class—Genesis through Revelation

Beginning Thursday, September 12th, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, in the Library

Ever wish you had a better grasp of the message of the Bible and how the message relates to you and your family? Crossways is a faith enriching, life-changing course that will offer you a road map for an unforgettable journey through the entire Bible. Crossways focuses on God's clear message of salvation in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Students will have a chance to read the whole bible, see how the different books are connected to God's message of hope and salvation, and understand how Jesus fulfilled the scriptures and God's plan to bless all generations with God's redeeming love.

To register or to get more information contact Pastor Mike Delancy at Mdelancy@usa.net.

*Join a
Bible study
and/or a
DLT Group
today!*

How Happiness Happens- New Monday Evening Bible Study

Beginning September 16th, this class meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays each month in the Music Room from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

How long has it been since you felt a level of contagious, infectious, unstoppable happiness? In a recent survey, only 1/3 of Americans said they were happy. How can this be? Education is accessible to most. We've advanced in everything from medicine to technology. In this 6-session study, taught by Pastor Mann, based on a book by Max Lucado, we will discover an unexpected path to a lasting happiness that produces reliable joy in any season of life. *How Happiness Happens* is based on the teachings of Jesus and backed by modern research. It presents a surprising but practical way of living that will change you from the inside out.

We hope you will attend!

MAKING CONNECTIONS (CONTINUED)

Men's Breakfast

Calling all men of OSWLC - please plan to attend the monthly men's breakfast on Saturday, September 14th, from 8:00 to 9:00 am. Matt Diener, the Loudoun Area FCA Director, will give us an update on the great ministry that FCA provides for students in our area. It is a great topic to discuss as kids are heading back to school.

We eat whatever people bring for breakfast. Bring a friend and we look forward to seeing you!

Questions? Contact Michael Meese at (571)388-8777 or Michael.j.meese@gmail.com.

Social Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30 pm
Pastor Mann's Office

The Social Ministry group will be holding a fall planning meeting on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30 pm in Pastor Mann's office. All members of OSWLC are welcome to attend. Questions? Contact Andie Wessell at SocialMinistry@oswlc.org.

DLT Groups

Below are the DLT groups that are beginning this week. If you have not already signed up and wish to do so, please contact the DLT group leader below.

Purcellville area— Led by Jonathan and Sharon Halls. The day and time have yet to be determined. Contact Sharon at Onecrazyrunner@hotmail.com.

Youth Parent DLT - 4:30 pm Sundays at Starbucks at Broadlands Center Plaza - Led by Kristi Newton. Contact Kristi at Knewton1207@gmail.com.

Multi-generational group in Ashburn - Wednesday Evening at 7:00 pm.
Led by Daney Carlin. This group will meet for dinner.
Contact Daney Carlin at Daney.carlin@gmail.com.

Multi-generational group in Ashburn - Wednesday Evening at 6:30 pm.
Led by Emily Sonstroem. Contact Emily Sonstroem at Emily@oswlc.org.

Sterling area - Saturday afternoons or evenings. Led by Gilbert and Cecilia Kajuna. Contact Gilbert and Cecilia at Kajunag@gmail.com.

Brambleton area - Fridays 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Led by Ray and Emily Dubert at their home. Contact Ray and Emily at Raymond@oswlc.org.

Gainesville area - Tuesday evenings. Led by Jim Burgess and his wife, Nancy Rector. Contact Jim and Nancy at Neortao2@gmail.com.

OSW Music Groups Start Back Up!

All of our regular music groups are about to start back up following summer break. Take a look and see if there is a group that you are interested in joining.

JC'S KIDS

Practices begin today! 1st-5th grade

BELL GROUPS

Practices begin on September 11th
Chimes - Children's chime group for 2nd grade & above; Wednesdays at 4:00 pm
Joy Ringers - Adult beginner handbell group; Wednesdays at 4:45 pm
Celebration Ringers - Adult advanced handbell group; Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

SINGING GROUPS

Exaltation Singers - Adult choir for 9th grade and up; practice begins September 11th at 7:30 pm
JC's Kids -1st-5th grade; practice begins September 8th. Meets the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays of the month at 5:00 pm

To learn more about music opportunities, visit the Music Bulletin Board located between the Sanctuary and the Music Room. For more information or to sign up for any of our groups, please email the contact person listed.

We look forward to seeing many new faces!

Missed a Sunday at Church?

Listen to the Lutheran Hour if you can't come to church. It is broadcast on WFX 100.7 at 11:00 am or 10:00 pm. Or listen to it as part of your devotional life. Every Sunday brings a new Gospel message.

Looking for the sermon notes and text? Go to the OSWLC website, under the "Connect" tab to find them. The Sunday publications are also on the website under the "Member" tab.

Church Nominating Committee

OSWLC is holding elections for church officers and members of the Mission and Ministry Servant Leaders' Group (MMSLG) and the Open Arms Board of Governance at the November Voter's Assembly. In preparation for that election, we are forming a Nominating Committee to identify individuals to be candidates for these very important positions.

If you would like to serve on the Nominating Committee or have suggestions for candidates, please contact Congregation Vice President, Michael Meese, at (571) 388-8777 or email him at Michael.j.meese@gmail.com.

HEART HEALTH HAPPENING TODAY

Do You Know Your Numbers? Stop in This Sunday and Find Out!

Did you know that 1 in 3 people, about 103 million adult Americans, have high blood pressure also known as Hypertension, but only about half of them have their blood pressure under control? High blood pressure is the leading independent risk factor for heart and kidney diseases as well as strokes, heart attacks, and heart failure. Knowledge and self-care are critical to managing high blood pressure and improving health outcomes.



We are looking for volunteers to participate in a project titled “The Effect of Hypertension Education on Knowledge, Lifestyle Behavior and Blood Pressure in a Faith-Based Setting.” The purpose of this project is to determine if an evidence-based, self-management education program would improve knowledge and self-care activities related to the management of high blood pressure among parishioners. To be eligible to participate in the project, parishioners must be age 40 and over AND have a self-report diagnosis of Hypertension/High Blood Pressure, OR taking blood pressure medicines OR have a blood pressure of 130/80 or over when taken at a screening session. Participation in this project is voluntary and involves attending one screening session, attending 2 educational classes, attending one follow-up session, filling out surveys and getting your blood pressures taken.

This project will be led by Lynda Goodfriend, RN, MSN, a member of OSWLC and a Doctorate of Nursing Practice student at George Washington University and in collaboration with Pastor Peterson, OSWLC member and nurse, Marie Pfancuff, and Dr. Pearl Zhou, Professor at GWU.

Project schedule details:

Blood pressure screening/enrollment: Today, and Sunday, September 15th, 22nd and 29th after each service in Pastor Justin’s old office.

Two 1-hour educational classes:

First class: Sunday, October 13th at 10:30 am or 12:30 pm

Second class: Sunday, October 20th at 10:30 am or 12:30 pm

Follow-up session:

Sunday, November 3rd at 10:30 am or 12:30 pm

All classes and follow-up sessions will be held in Room 9 at OSWLC. A healthy lunch will be provided at the educational classes. Questions about this project can be directed to Lynda Goodfriend at (703)727-8831 or lgoodfri@gwu.edu.

“Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.” - 3 John 2.

STAFF UPDATE

OSW Welcomes New Music Staff Member

We are pleased to welcome Kylie Johnson as the new Choir Director of Our Savior’s Way.

Kylie most recently served as Music Director for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Vancouver, Oregon. Kylie has a dual Bachelor’s degree in Piano Performance and Finance from Concordia University and earned her Master’s Degree in Music Theory from Portland State University. She is excited to be here and will be shadowing Sally Mann throughout the fall.



COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

Where is Amos this weekend?

This weekend and part of this week, Amos is traveling to Williamsburg, Virginia for a visit at King of Glory Lutheran Church. They are building a Comfort Dog team, and the best way to get people excited about this new ministry is to meet a comfort dog! We are excited to be able to share this wonderful ministry.

We will also be traveling to Rochester, New York to bring the compassion and love of Jesus to that community after the sudden loss of a beloved firefighter. Please be in prayer for our team as we travel this weekend and pray that the hope, love, and comfort, which we find in Jesus, are felt by all who encounter our team.

Amos’ ministry is funded solely by donations, if you wish to give so that we can continue ministering to those who are suffering and in need, you can write a check and mark it for “Amos comfort dog” and place it in the offering plate, or you can give online through the “Beyond Tithing” link under the “Give” tab at oswlc.org.

Thank you for your support!

Amos and the entire Comfort Dog Team



THIS WEEK @ OSWLC

Sunday, September 8

8:00 am Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am Grace Place Rally Day
9:30 am Bible Study Groups
9:30 am exploreGod Class
9:30 & 11:00 am Praise & Worship Service
12:30 pm Youth Worship Band Practice
3:15 pm MS Faith Conversations
4:30 pm HS Youth Group
4:30 pm Confirmation
5:00 pm JC's Kids Practice

Monday, September 9

8:00 am Men's Group at Panera
9:30 am GriefShare
7:00 pm Stephen Ministry
7:00 pm GriefShare

Tuesday, September 10

10:00 am Ladies' Bible Study
2:00 pm Worship Planning Meeting
6:30 pm Social Ministry Meeting
7:00 pm Ladies' Bible Study

Wednesday, September 11

10:30 am Ministry Group Meeting
10:30 am Golden Girls for God
4:00 pm Chimes/Bells Practice
6:45 pm Music Potluck
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, September 12

6:30 am 4-1-1 Men's Table at Panera
8:00 am Morning Glories
10:00 am Crossways
2:00 pm Lansdowne Wood Bible Study
7:00 pm Crossways
7:00 pm Praise Team Practice

Friday, September 13

7:00 pm Cooking with Spirit
7:00 pm Let the Children Come

Saturday, September 14

8:00 am Men's Breakfast
7:00 pm Recovering Couples Anonymous

Sunday, September 15

8:00 & 9:30 am Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am Bible Study Groups
9:30 am Grace Place
11:00 am Praise & Worship Service
3:15 pm MS Faith Conversations
4:30 pm HS Youth Group
4:30 pm Confirmation
5:00 pm JC's Kids Practice

OUR STAFF

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SERVICES

8:00 am—Traditional
9:30 am—Traditional—9/15
Praise & Worship—9/22
11:00 am—Praise & Worship

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Crescent Project Support Raising Banquet to benefit Metro D.C. Area Coordinator Yvette Moy

Saturday, November 2nd from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
St. John's Lutheran Church, 5952 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310

You are invited to attend the Crescent Project's banquet to support Yvette Moy. Beverly Hill Gaussiran will be the guest speaker. Come see and hear how God is moving globally and locally and support Yvette's mission.

Organ Re-Dedication Concert at St. John's Lutheran Church

September 21st at 5:00 pm

You are cordially invited to a re-dedication of the Wicks pipe organ at St. John's Lutheran Church, 5952 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA, on Saturday, September 21 at 5:00 pm.

For more information, please contact St. John's Church Office at 703-971-2210 or email Church@sjlc.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

9/14—Men's Breakfast
9/21—Organ Re-dedication Concert at St. John's Lutheran Church
9/22—First Connect Lunch
9/29—Faith Connect Classes Begin
10/6—Rise Against Hunger Event
11/2—Crescent Project Banquet

**Our Savior's Way
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