



Our Savior's Good News

Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Scripture Alone



Our Savior Lutheran Church

14344 Jamison Way
Fort Charlotte, FL 33953

Volume II Issue III
Summer 2016

Ponderings from the Pastor.....

Looking For God?

When was the last time you actually saw the Almighty? I know it is a bit of an outlandish question, but I ask it to draw our collective attention closer to the point of many lines from Scripture. Often, God surrounds us without our knowledge and perhaps, if we can be so bold, God is at work in our lives making events work to our advantage, and maybe in miraculous ways we never even thought about.

On the way home from the store this evening I passed three car wrecks, where several cars were tossed into each other quite badly. It makes me wonder by taking the extra moment or two in the store to look at something else, was that a "divine moment?" Was I distracted long enough to be kept clear of the accident? Hmmm, it makes me wonder.

I have told this story before, that on our way home one day, we encountered a blow-out and lost our rear tire. It really got tore up badly and so we had to stop in the next major town to get it replaced. While there, we checked ahead on our route only to find that a major tornado had crossed the highway about the same time, and as best as I could tell, that we would have crossed its path. Coincidence?

This past week we missed two storms. One, in New York, went a slightly different direction that it was heading according to the weather forecasters. On our flight home, on the day after Tropical Storm Collin had crossed Florida, you could not even tell that the atmosphere was full of tropical storm conditions. We had an incredibly smooth flight. It makes one wonder...

I happen to believe God is actively involved in our lives

through the power of the Holy Spirit to make things work to our advantage. We were created in His image, and I believe that God actively participates in my life, making some amazing things happen along the way to let me behold His glory.

Now just before you think I am



some sort of strange person, I have had my fair share of problems and other "storms" in my life that clobbered me completely with the force that just about knocked me over. Those are normal in the way of anyone's life, and I'm really no different. Stuff happens. To me as well as you!

Yet I do see God active in resolving issues that we could not possibly have expected. And it is only with the hindsight of our faith do we recognize the power at work. As I reflect upon this past year, my first as your pastor, I am amazed to see God working in my life and in your lives as well for a distinct purpose. There were moments you told me that you worried for the congregation's very existence. But look at us a year later. Good people, doing good work, in the name of Jesus, in a great community. We have a strong leadership team in our Council. We have good people doing jobs week after week

with joy for their Lord and Savior. We are blessed!

Make no mistake-we are where we are today as a congregation because of the work of many hands that wait upon the Holy Spirit and the guidance He provides. Will we face challeng-

es? Absolutely! Will we be overcome by them? Only if we lose sight of the one who makes all things new-Jesus Christ! Our faith can show us and tell us that God is working to make things smooth for us when we need it most, and difficult for us when we need to learn to lean on Him more. We are blessed!

Enjoy God's presence! We are blessed!

*Pastor
Jonathon Kosec*

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Council Highlights

- **No meetings in July & August unless emergency**
- **Discussed special events**
- **State of the Finances**
- **Fall Picnic**
- **Growing the church**
- **Spaghetti Dinners.**
- **Thanks to all volunteers who help make this church function**

. . . from the President's pen

Welcome to the dog days of summer. I'm not sure why they call it that. Even my dog tries to get back into the house when he goes out.

Congratulations go out to Pastor Jon, who has been (as of June 28) with us for one year. I'm sure we can agree that when the Congregation voted to call this candidate, they made a fine choice. We have all enjoyed and been guided by his Sermons and his wisdom of the Bible. His Bible Studies have been enlightening and, there is always a bit of humor thrown in to his Sermons and lessons.

Pastor Tony has done a fine job filling in for Pastor Jon when he is away. He is preaching with authority and confidence. And Priscilla is doing a wonderful job of keeping the Bulletin Board updated and interesting.

We have been slowly but surely growing. We can pick up the pace by inviting our

neighbors and friends to a service. Once you bring a person into the Church, stand back and watch the Holy Spirit take over! It's HUGE!

Ron Lang continues to amaze us with his musical abilities. He seems to be able to turn a lethargic hymn into a lively polka! A number of the Congregation have watched him and his group singing oldies at various venues around Port Charlotte. Rumor has it that he will bring at least one of his group to Church to praise the Lord one Sunday.

Your Council has been working on a number of ideas for interesting things to do. One of these things will be a spaghetti dinner with homemade gravy (tomato sauce for those who don't understand Italian). If you have any ideas of opportunity for fellowship, bring them forward, and we will see what can be done!

Well, it's time for me to get back to my

outdoors chores. It's 90+ degrees (feels like 100), and the humidity is over 70%. I look forward to the Fall! Enjoy your Summer meanwhile. Blessings to all,

Dean

..... **Dean**



Treasurer's Report \$\$\$\$



Our Heavenly Father has blessed our people with a strong Stewardship faith !

As of May 31, 2016

Savings Account	\$ 37,723.33
Checking Account	\$ 26,349.83
Building Fund	\$ 29,969.94



On the Funny Side! (who said church has to be boring?)

A young boy had just gotten his driving permit. He asked his father, who was a minister, if they could discuss the use of the car. His father took him into his study and said to him, "I'll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut and we'll talk about it. After about a month the boy came back and again asked his father if they could discuss the use of the car. They again went to the father's study where his father said, "Son, I've been real proud of you. You have brought your grades up, you've studied your Bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut!!"

The young man waited a moment and replied, " You know Dad, I've been thinking about that. You know Samson had long hair, Moses had long hair, Noah had long hair, and EVEN Jesus had long hair..."

To which his father replied.... "yes, and they WALKED everywhere they went!"

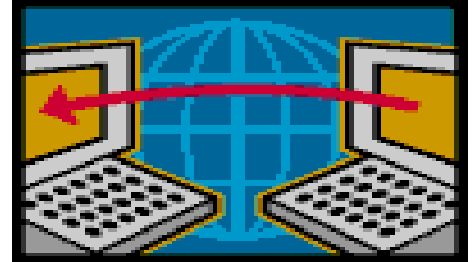




CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE WWW.OSLC-LCMC.COM

If you haven't visited our new web site, check it out! Dean Carson, our new web master, has done a fabulous job creating and fabricating our new site. Need to know times of our services, special events, or who to call for information? Or how about Biography's of our staff? Do you know we have a Mis-

sion Statement and a Statement of Faith? Missed Church service on Sunday? Now you can get caught up on the sermons !Yes its all there in our web site.
THANK YOU DEAN!



******* Upcoming Events *******

Bible Study

Wednesday morning 10 am

Check Bulletin for dates

Fall Picnic for returning Snow Birds
Is in the planning stages. Date to be determined.

Pot Luck Sunday July 3rd

Ice Cream (YUM!) Social— Date to be determined.

Council Meetings

July & August Council is in recess unless there is an emergency. During the recess the various committees will have an opportunity to meet and plan activities for the remainder of 2016 and beyond. If you have any questions and/or suggestions for the council, please speak to Dean Carson or any of the Council Members.

Did You Know.....

The El Jobean Community League [EJCL] has a paper recycling container? You can drop off old phone books, magazines, clean cardboard newspaper and that endless supply of junk mail. No plastic bags please. This is a fund raiser for the EJCL and if you have questions call or speak to Jeff or Bev Cisco.

PLEASE HELP!

It is Building and Grounds job to ensure that the Church is set up according to the directions of the Worship Committee. If you could volunteer an hour or two during the month to help with set up or other areas please contact Bev or Bob Wilgus 941-698-0886.

Always remember, "Jesus wants you for a sunbeam to shine on Him each day".



CHURCH LIFE AT OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN

Outreach members are: Jeri Hope, Gerd Fagerholm, Bev Cisco and Bev Wilgus

The Outreach committee is very happy to report that it had a successful and uplifting endeavor feeding the needy in Port Charlotte!

The Jesus Loves You Ministries were delighted with all the brown bagged lunches that were made by the generosity of the members of the congregation and we were blessed to have a donation from a restaurant in Englewood.

More than a weeks worth of sandwich making items were given to the J.L.Y.M. for them to feed the homeless that go to the Ministry for bible classes and other meal times that are held during the week.

Also, the outreach program were able to help with their request of men's socks and men's shorts that were also donated.

Currently, there is a need for bug spray, toiletries, baby wipes, AA batteries and pillow cases, which do not need to be new.....just clean.

Respectfully Submitted



Geri McGary and Nancy Nordell gathering food for the Jesus Loves You Ministries

El Jobean Celebrates Memorial Day

The Invocation at a recent Memorial Day ceremony was given by our wonderful Pastor Jonathan Kosec. The event paying tribute to the fallen, was well attended. Members of the Rotonda Veterans Honor Guard, rendered a final salute to those who died in service to our country. Many local veteran's living in the area, came to remember friends lost during the Vietnam War. Also witnessing the event., were County Commissioner Stephen R Deutsch and our own Charlotte County Firefighters and paramedics.

Members from Our Savior Lutheran Church, Army Vet Ron Tessmer, his wife Sharon joined friends Betty O'Brien and former Marine Tom Dunn enjoyed the event.

And of course our own hero, World War II Veteran Warren Hope and his wife Jeri were in attendance. What a wonderful ceremony!!



WWII Vet Warren Hope, who served in the Navy with the Seabees, attended the Memorial Day ceremony with his lovely wife, Jeri.

CHURCH LIFE AT OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

DO BANANAS MAKE YOU FAT?

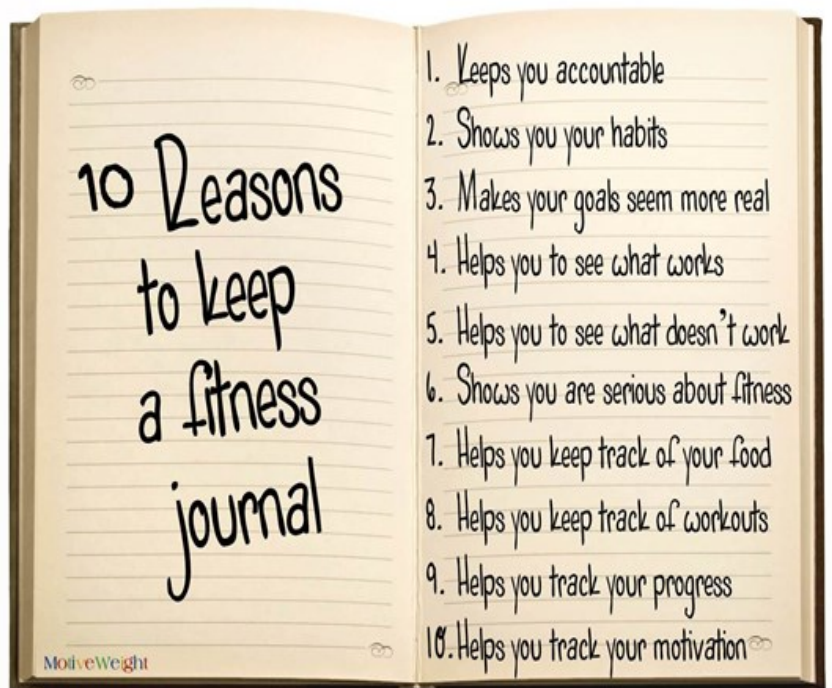
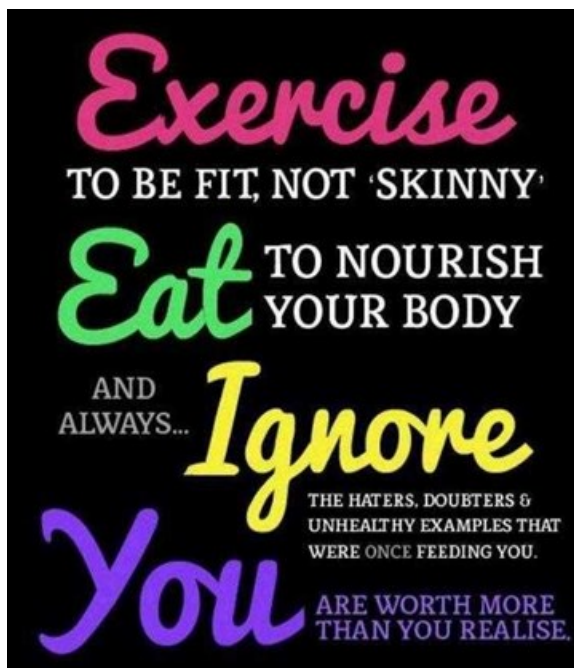
You most likely have seen the ads with a banana and a statement by it saying "DON'T EAT THIS!" You may hear that you don't have to worry about sugar in fruit, because it is natural to the fruit. The truth is this..."it depends". Certainly, fruits contain many nutrients, and if you're going to be eating sugar it's much better to have some great nutrients to go with it! On the other hand, **some bodies handle sugars better than others**, and if you are someone who responds well to a low-carb diet, it pays to be careful. If possible, check your blood glucose to see how the fruit (or any food) affects it.

Fruit is a food group that can be confusing to low-carb eaters and diabetics. There are popular low-carb diet plans that depend more upon glycemic index or glycemic load.

Good news: The fruits lowest in sugars are some of the highest in nutritional value, including antioxidants and other phytonutrients.

Fruits Lowest in Sugar	Fruits Low to Medium in Sugar	Fruits Very High in Sugar
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small Amounts of Lemon or Lime• Rhubarb• Raspberries (more about berries on low carb diets)• Blackberries• Cranberries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strawberries• Casaba Melon• Papaya• Watermelon• Peaches• Nectarines• Blueberries• Cantaloupes• Honeydew melons• Apples• Guavas -- Pineapple Guavas (Feijoa) and Strawberry Guavas are probably similar, but information that directly compares them is not available• Apricots• Grapefruit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tangerines• Cherries• Grapes• Pomegranates• Mangos• Figs• Bananas• Dried Fruit, such as dates, raisins, dried apricots, and prunes

Take care the body GOD gave you !





God Bless America!

I AM AN AMERICAN AND A PATRIOT.
 I AM MY COUNTRY'S KEEPER.
 THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS
 REPORT TO ME.
 AND SO -
 I WILL STAY INFORMED AND INVOLVED.
 IGNORANCE, APATHY, AND
 COMPLACENCY ARE MY ENEMY.
 I WILL MAKE MY VOICE HEARD.
 AND NOT JUST AT ELECTION TIME.
 SILENCE IS THE SAME AS CONSENT IN
 THE FACE OF OPPRESSION.
 I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
 I MATTER.
 I AM AN AMERICAN AND A PATRIOT.



June—August Birthdays

Jeanne Keyser	6/6
Jack Stuber	6/20
Denny Smolar	6/27
Loretta Alt	7/1
Mary Patterson	7/3
Francis Owens	7/15
Willard Wilson	7/26
Reni Seddon	7/27
Cheryl Kosec	7/19
Fay Earle	7/20
Mary Kate Heath	8/3
Lillian GaNun	8/6
Ellie Selk	8/6
Donna Dorr	8/7
Betty O'Brien	8/11
Bob Heath	8/18
Gene Broecker	8/18
Pricilla Alonzo	8/19
Bev Cisco	8/20

Anniversaries

Roger & Reni Seddon	6/7
Bob & Bev Wilgus	6/13
Willard & Janet Wilson	6/25
Dean & Susan Carson	7/8
Jon & Cheryl Kosec	7/17
Ken & Sara Gilbert	7/28
Bob & Mary Kate Heath	8/10

Please Pray for :

- **Victims & families of Orlando shooting**
- **All those who are sick or injured.**
- **Families who lost loved ones**
- **OUR TROOPS here and abroad!**

