



# Steeple Talk

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
204 East Caledonia Ave  
Hillsboro, ND 58045

Volume 44; Issue 4

APRIL 2024

## MATTHEW 25: 14-30

### The Parable of the Talents

<sup>14</sup> "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup> to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once <sup>16</sup> the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup> In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup> But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup> After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup> His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup> And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup> His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup> Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, <sup>25</sup> so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup> But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup> Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup> So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup> For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup> As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

\*The **Matthew 25 Marketplace** on Sunday, March 24 was busy and fun! So many great items and creative people!

\*There are still a few Marketplace items in the courtyard to purchase in support of the youth missions trip this summer.

\*Plan to attend the Country Concert this Sunday, April 7th at 6:30pm!

## Country Concert

APRIL 7TH 6:30 PM

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Hillsboro  
A fun night of music, snacks, and community!

Free will donations accepted.

Proceeds go to the annual OSLC youth summer trip.

 Our Savior's Lutheran Church

# YOUTH NEWS

## UPCOMING:

**APRIL 7**

6:30pm Country Concert Youth Fundraiser

**Wednesday, April 17**

Last day of Confirmation

**Wednesday, April 24**

Last day of Youth Group

**APRIL 28**

Last day of Sunday School

## Maundy Thursday FIRST COMMUNION PARTICIPANTS:

Bergen Beach, Logan Burger, Charleigh Ferguson, Abigail Haisley, Jace Heck, Paxton Hinkle, Brea Hovey, Aislin Myers, Parker Redland, Lilah Sandberg, Trygg Torgerson, Lydia Tweten, and Andrew Axness



## Sunday Acolytes in April:

Apr. 7 - 8:30am: Ethan D., Jacob F.  
10:30am: ?

Apr. 14 - 8:30am: Cayden O., Mason O.  
10:30am: Max B., Lyla B.

Apr. 21 - 8:30am: Ryan H., Ethan K.  
10:30am: Wyatt M., Hayden R.

Apr. 28 - 8:30am: Kate S., Claire T.  
10:30am: Ava T., Mia T.

## 5:30pm Wednesday Meal Servers:

Apr. 3 - Kittelson Family

Apr. 10 - Hatlestad Family

Apr. 17 - Fitzner Family

Done after April 17th



We Are  
God's Masterpiece  
Ephesians 2:10

Vacation Bible School!  
July 29, 30, 31  
ages 3 years-7th grade  
To Register Call OSLC 701-636-5701

Registration Forms  
available at the church.

Register by  
JUNE 1, 2024

Our Savior's  
Lutheran Church

# OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



## Council Minutes

March 17, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.



**Members Present** – Barb Hultin, Daniel Nelson, Jason Lovas, Teresa Forseth, Mike Tweten, Michael Bare, Eric Johnson, Beth Christianson-Melby, and Pastor Joe Johnson.

1. **Call to Order** – Noting a quorum, President Barb Hultin called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m.
2. **Devotions** – Based on Hebrews 12 lead by Pastor Joe Johnson.
3. **Confirmation of Agenda** – Jason Lovas moved to accept the agenda as presented. Mike Tweten seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
4. **Old Business** – none
5. **New Business**
  - a. Staff and Mission Descriptions. Committee members and mission descriptions were presented for review. Council will review and approve at the April meeting.
6. **Pastor Joe's Report** –

Ash Wednesday worship service was well attended again this year. Amanda and I played music and our high school seniors imposed ashes. We continue with our worship theme through Lent: "Rooted & Reaching". We have Wednesday Lenten services at 6:30 p.m. with a meal available from 5:30-6:30 p.m. During these services we have used the "Rooted & Reaching" imagery with the tree of life and bring leaves to the tree each week. We have been busy fundraising for the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans. These fundraisers include community meals and the Matthew 25 Project. We had a fundraising meeting with parents to inform, empower & equip. Since our last council meeting, I have attended the Mayville conference pastor's meeting. I also attended the conference "Pizza & Possibilities" meeting to explore what God might be doing in our synod.
7. **Treasurer's Report** – Jason Lovas presented the Treasurer's Report. As of February 29, 2024, income exceeded expenses by \$20,240. Jason reported the balance of the media fund is \$7,840. Daniel Nelson moved to accept the treasurer's report. Michael Bare seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Jason Lovas moved to strike all previous signatures from bank records at Goose River Bank, and add Jason Lovas, Barb Hultin, Daniel Nelson, and Beth Christianson-Melby as signators. Daniel Nelson seconded. All in favor, motioned carried.
8. **Deacons' Report**- Teresa Forseth reported that deacons have made updates to the bathrooms. They are looking for bread options for communion. Communion will be held Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday in addition to regular communion services. They are looking at new signage for inside the church. The Deacons will research doing a new church directory.
9. **Trustees' Report**- Mike Tweten gave a report on projects Trustees are working on currently. The Trustees are also going to replace the rope for the bell in the tower.
10. **Committee Reports**
  - a. **Adult Ed**
  - b. **Board of Christian Ed**
  - c. **Endowment Fund** – Set short and long term goals. They will organize a meeting with Keith Pearson of the ELCA.
  - d. **Media** – Researching updates for the organ
  - e. **New Member**
  - f. **Nominating**
  - g. **Parish Nurse**
  - h. **Personnel**

- i. Property
- j. Stewardship
- k. World Missions
- l. Worship
- m. Youth and Family
- n. WELCA

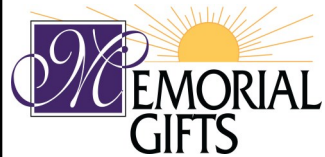
**11. Secretary's Report –**

- a. **Minutes for February 11, 2024** – Jason Lovas moved to approve the minutes as presented. Teresa Forseth seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
- b. **Minutes for March 17, 2024** – Daniel Nelson moved to approved the minutes as presented. Jason Lovas seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**Next Meeting** – Sunday, April 7th at 11:30 am. **(Rescheduled for Thursday, April 4 at 6:00pm)**

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Beth Christianson-Melby



**MARCH MEMORIAL REPORT**

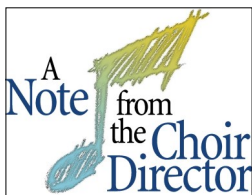
*Thank You to all who gave memorials—Tammy Nelson, Memorial Secretary*

**Dedicated Memorial Accounts:** General Account, Media Ministry (radio broadcast, etc.), Global Missions, Building and Grounds, Capital Improvements, Youth Activities, National Youth Gathering/Mission Trips, Christian Education (Sunday School, etc.), OSLC Choir, OSLC Bell Choir, OSLC Bands, Parish Nurse, WELCA / WELCA: Altar, Library or Kitchen, Scholarships (Bible Camps, etc.), OSLC Endowment Fund, and Blanchard Endowment Fund

**GENERAL FUND** - In memory of Ruth Siegert, given by M/M David Ferguson

**WELCA** – In memory of Olaf Flaten, given by Merle Haisley; in memory of Ruth Siegert, given by M/M David Ferguson

**WELCA KITCHEN PROJECT** – In memory of Ruth Siegert, given by M/M Tim Leshuk and M/M Miles Evenson



**OSLC Senior Choir**

OSLC Choir practices every Monday evening from 6:30 – 7:15 pm downstairs just off the dining room. We have one more song to share in April before we start our summer break and there is still time for you to join us at practice. Choir is a time to share in the joy of music and fellowship with kindred hearts while singing your love and praise to Jesus, your Lord and Savior!

“And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.”  
*Psalm 40:3 (KJV)*

**GosBELLS**

The GosBELLS practice Monday evenings from 7:30 – 8:30 pm in the Sanctuary. We have one more song for April and would love to have you join us if you have ever wanted to try ringing the bells! It's a fun way to share music and fellowship with others while being involved in the church service.

“Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.”  
*Psalm 43:4 (KJV)*



**NOTE:** WELCA has **Meal Delivery- April 22-26** (Sarah Workgroup)

Our Savior's WELCA met **Thursday, March 7, 2024** with President Sylvia Hansen presiding.

Amanda Johnson led the Bible Study on Mark 12:28-34 - looking at the first commandment. A review of Jews' spiritual laws. Reminded Jesus was Jewish, but isn't quoting a Jewish concept. He is having a conversation with the Jewish about their religion. Reminded Jewish faithfully pray twice a day. Our responses to our twice a day prayer ritual: daily prayer, table prayers, thankful prayers, responsive prayers, intentional prayers. Jesus is lifting up the marginalized. We had some discussion of what some give up during the Lenten season.

Sylvia opened the business meeting with prayer. The Purpose Statement was said. The Secretary's minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- The Pine Sol smell problem has been addressed and OK'd.
- The Kitchen remodel is on hold. A statement was made about a water heater under the North sink.
- The Church Council is taking care of replacing the cabinet under the coffeepot.
- Sylvia said there was not much interest by the Nursing Home residents for a coffee party. We will wait to hear of more information later.
- Not much interest for a Spring Brunch.
- The Spring Cluster Meeting will be at Valley City

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- The quilting group will finish up in March. Approximately 70 quilts have been made. They will still accept items for quilting and people to make quilts at home.
- The WELCA Spring Roundup will be April 20, 2024 from 10am-3pm at Riverbend Farm. Each synod received \$1,000 - to help with leadership costs. Those interested need to sign up before the end of March. It was mentioned it may be possible to use a small bus for transportation to Valley City. Nancy Bedard-Olson volunteered to drive the bus.

Thank you's were read.

Sylvia announced the following serving schedule:

- ◆ Sarah Workgroup has the April WELCA Meeting and Nursing Home Birthday Party
- ◆ Dorcas Workgroup has Meal Delivery in March (March 25-28)
- ◆ Sarah Workgroup has the next funeral

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

**The next WELCA Meeting is April 4, 2024 at 10 AM.**

#### **New Books gifted to the OSLC Library:**

- "Angels Walking" by Karen Kingsbury
- "Vicious Cycle" by Terri Blackstock
- "The Book of Lost Names" by Kristin Harmel
- "Kelly's Chance" by Wanda Brunstetter



# Women of the ELCA SPRING ROUNDUP



**RIVERBEND FARM, VALLEY CITY, ND  
4.20.24 SATURDAY 10-3 PM**

Encouraging women of all ages to attend this  
free, fun, and inspirational event.



## Speakers

- Jess Gulseth - RWM/PBNC Camp Dir.
- Bethany Krepela - LP Global Ministry
- Sawyer Anderson - WaterWorks
- Interview with Katie Luther

- Triplcity Trio



- Urban Couture - Quilting March
- Eagles Nest - Pride of Dakota
- White Dragon - Holistic Raindrops
- Color Street Nails
- Thirty-One Totes
- WaterWorks books and bags
- Joceyln J Boutique - Jewelry, Home Decor & Clothing



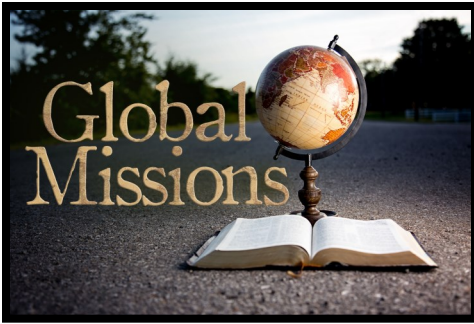
- Free Registration
- Free Food
- First 50 Favor Bags
- Quilting Fun and Demonstrations



**Deadline 3.23.24**

**RSVP**

**[jbhuso@hotmail.com](mailto:jbhuso@hotmail.com)**



*Have not had much news from CAR and none about the visit possible by people from CAR. The last I knew they were trying to get visas for this summer. A zoom meeting for the Synod Global Mission committee was called for earlier in March. Only two of us responded, so the meeting was postponed to next month. During my visit with Phil last month, I did learn a few things about what is happening there. The schools that were started some years ago are mostly still operating when possible. When violence erupts, they flee into the bush until things quiet down. The government is not participating in the schools, at this time. The Mary Martha Center is being used for educational programs for women and the Center housed the visitors from North Dakota last fall for the Centennial Celebration.*

*The program teaching women and girls to read and write is just beginning, so we do not have updates on that yet, it will likely be a while. Phil believes that some congregation to congregation contact between churches here and in CAR, would be a great help in getting involvement in both countries. The language issue does make it a bit difficult. He has initiated a program in his home church with youth groups using videos and feels it is a good program.*

*Thank you to all of you faithful partners, who have contributed to the Global Mission during lent. Remember that you can make contributions any time, by putting it in the offering plate and marking the envelope for Global Missions. Keep the people of CAR in your prayers.*

*In His Service,*

*Sylvia Hansen  
Global Mission Committee*



**GLOBAL REFUGE**

**Lenten Devotional**

### **WEEK 3: Transfigure Us to Be**

#### **Lectionary Text: Mark 9:2-9**

*Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.*

#### **A Reflection by Karla Leitzman (Philanthropic Advisor and ELCA Seminarian - Global Refuge)**

There is a lot to think about in Mark's Transfiguration story. The direct command, "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Jesus transforms before the eyes of his disciples, his clothes becoming dazzling white. What an astounding moment this must have been—and then, seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses, which serves as a reminder that what is ancient is always made new, that everything is connected.

Our call to welcome the strangers and the travelers is not new. Throughout the Old Testament, dozens of commandments are repeated to welcome the foreigners, the visitors, the immigrants. We hear Jesus' call to serve and to love.

Sometimes I wish that, as Christians, we went out of our way to celebrate the life of Jesus more. Don't get me wrong, thanks be to God that we celebrate His death and resurrection. And yet, I think we must celebrate the ministry He shared during His short life. Jesus begins His life as a refugee, born to a Palestinian teen mom, in a time of intense Roman imperialism.

Forced to flee to Egypt, Jesus begins His life as a foreigner with His parents, leaving all that is familiar to travel to a new land in hopes for safety and prosperity. Sending Jesus to Earth is the embodiment of God's love. Throughout the Old Testament, God commands that the strangers be welcomed, and with the birth of Jesus, God affirms that God's Son not only comes to Earth to be with refugees, but as a refugee himself.

During this season of Lent, as we make our journey to the cross with Jesus Christ, we do so together in community. We are not the first to make this journey, nor will we be the last, binding us together in Christian community across time and space. As we travel this road, may we continue to affirm that we are saved so that we might in turn serve and love those the world pushes to the margins.

At Global Refuge, the old is continually made new. For 85 years and continuing today and far beyond, we celebrate our Lutheran roots in accompanying and welcoming the stranger, of living out our vocational calling to celebrate Christ's sacrifice for us so that we may in turn give that care and welcome to those who need it most.

God of all that is new and all that is ancient, transfigure us to be your beloved community, convicting us to make real your kingdom of justice, peace, mercy, love, joy, and abounding welcome here on Earth. As you worked through Elijah, Moses, and Jesus before us, work too through us.



**Children of a recently arrived refugee family from the Democratic Republic of the Congo are welcomed to St. John's Lutheran Church in Fargo, N.D.**



**Community members, along with friends and families welcomed from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan, join one another in the community garden as part of Global Refuge's Refugee Agricultural Partnership Program (RAPP) in Fargo, N.D**

### **A SURPRISE WELCOME**

What began as an error turned out to be a blessing for one Congolese refugee family. When a clerical mistake caused Abigail and her two children to be redirected to Fargo instead of Ohio last spring, our LIRS team sprang into action. Led by case manager Dola, who also came to Fargo as a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, we welcomed the family and helped them settle into a nearby hotel for the evening.

With only a few bags and no connections or support in Fargo, Abigail had no initial plans to stay - she still wanted to reach her intended destination in Ohio. Unfortunately, no funding was available to fly the family there. But with Dola's guidance, having shared a similar journey, Abigail and her family were encouraged to stay.

Dola also connected Abigail to Claude, a member of her church, who gladly volunteered to pick her up and bring her to church on the first Sunday, where Abigail was welcomed with open arms into the church family. By Sunday evening, Abigail knew that she was meant to be in Fargo. This is her home.

Thanks to the support of her church community and Dola, Abigail found employment within a month of her family's arrival. And today, the family continues to thrive in Fargo. Her children are now settled in school and Abigail is learning English with the help of a volunteer. The family has even purchased a vehicle and renewed their rental lease. Fargo, once an unintended stop, has transformed into a home - a place of self-sufficiency and belonging.



# INFORMATION

**HILLSBORO KIWANIS FOOD PANTRY:** On the first Sunday of the month, it is an Our Savior's tradition to bring donations for the food pantry. Place your items in the wood crate located inside and to the west of the front door of the church.

**Items needed include:** Green Beans, Juice (orange, grape, apple, cranberry), Flour, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Jelly (strawberry, grape), Ketchup, Mustard, Cooking oil, Cooking Spray, Dry Mashed Potatoes, Crunchy Peanut Butter, Paper Towels, Coffee, Cereal, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Crackers.

The Hillsboro Kiwanis Food Pantry is located at the Hillsboro Armory. Open the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month from 4-6 pm. THANK YOU for your generous donations for those in need. If you have any questions please contact Rich G. at 701-436-5777 or Dan C. at 701-430-1595.



**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Watch OSLC worship services and get notified about events on:

**Facebook** at oslchillsboro  
**Twitter** @ OSLCHillsboro  
**Instagram** @ oslchillsboro  
**YouTube** - Our Savior's Lutheran Church Hillsboro ND  
**HTC CHANNEL 34** and our **website: oslchillsboro.com**

**PIANO PLAYERS** are needed for **Saturday, April 13** at the Hillsboro Care Center from 10:15-11:15am. (You do not need to stay for the whole hour.) Perform 1 or 2 songs on our Baby Grand Piano for our residents! Whether you are a Beginner-Advanced or Child-Adult, reserve your spot by calling Susi at 701-636-3232






**Scan here**  


or

**Text \$ amount to:**  
**833-460-2876**

Vanco  
Mobile Faith  
Engagement




OSLC OFFERING STEWARDSHIP 2024 OFFERING RECEIVED		WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
February 4	\$ 4,459.34	8:30am	56
		10:30am	70
February 11	\$ 41,964.78	8:30am	70
		10:30am	92
February 18	\$ 2,305.00	8:30am	75
		10:30am	67
February 25	\$ 1,976.00	8:30pm	79
		10:30pm	68
Feb. Direct Deposit	\$ 9,267.64		
<b>February Total:</b>	<b>\$ 59,972.76</b>		
<b>2024Total:</b>	<b>\$ 87,754.87</b>		

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT:  
OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**INCOME AND EXPENSES:**

2024 Income received through  
February 29: \$89,555.99

2024 Expenses through  
February 29: \$69,315.40

Income Less Expenses: \$20,240.59

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**  
**204 E. Caledonia Ave**  
**Hillsboro, ND 58045**

Address Service Requested



2024

**2024 COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- President:** Barb Hultin 430-0748
- Vice-President:** Daniel Nelson 430-3689
- Secretary:** Beth Christianson-Melby 430-2309
- Treasurer:** Jason Lovas 371-1272
- Deacons:** Krista Longthorne 238-6624  
 Brad Ydstie 739-4171  
 Dawn Paulsrud 218-790-6621  
 Teresa Forseth 430-2037
- Trustees:** Michael Bare 218-790-8222  
 Eric Johnson 701-799-6518  
 Belinda Bye 712-389-2152  
 Mike Tweten 701-238-2073  
 Vicki Buchholz 701-799-9469

**Church Office Manager:** Cindy Doeden  
**Church Office:** 701-636-5701  
**Hours:** M-F 9am-3pm  
**Church Office email address:** oslcalca@rrv.net  
 or cindy@oslchillsboro.com  
**Pastor Joe Johnson:** cell—701-430-3787;  
 pastorjoe@oslchillsboro.com  
**Education Minister:** Amanda Johnson—218-556-8895  
**OSLC Kitchen:** 701-636-5705  
**OSLC Website:** www.oslchillsboro.com  
**Facebook:** oslchillsboro  
**Twitter:** OSLCHillsboro; **Instagram:** oslchillsboro  
**YouTube:** Our Savior's Lutheran Church Hillsboro ND  
 Broadcast live on Sunday mornings on KMSR 1520 AM and  
 KMAV 105.5 FM at 8:30am and **HTC Channel 34** at 8:30am  
 and 10:30am

