

Our Saviour's Atonement Lutheran Church

Spring
2006

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www.osa-nyc.org

*We are striving to express God's love
in our lives and in our community.*

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OSA Newsletter Spring 2006 came about thanks to:
Lily Ann Evans, Madeline Hill, Pastor J. Barrie Lawless,
Nancy Lustenring, Jim Noyes & Anna Svahn

Pastor's Greetings

Why not "Take Up" something for Lent?

Dear Members and Friends of OSA,

As I write this, yesterday was Ash Wednesday and in New York City, it is always a remarkable day. St. Patrick's Cathedral reported an estimate of between forty and fifty thousand people showing up to receive ashes. We couldn't match that but those who attended worship service in the morning or evening seemed to find it a positive experience.

For most of my life the idea of putting ashes on one's head was for Catholics, Anglicans, and others who did unintelligent and outmoded rituals like that—not for the likes of me! I'm sure many of our congregation find it strange, too. It serves to underline what an astonishing diversity of folk come to OSA. Such diversity is a GREAT strength.

continued on page 7

MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
MOSA Music at Our Saviour's Atonement Sunday concert at 3 pm. WORDS! Local writers read from their works.			1 Ash Wed.	2	3	4	2 WS	3	4	5	6 LS TSKC	7 LS FNML	1 8
5 WS	6	7	8	9 LS TSKC	10 LS FNML	11	9 Palm Sunday MOSA	10	11	12	13 Maundy Thursday	14 Good Friday	15 Egg Decorating
12 WS MOSA	13	14	15	16 LS TSKC	17 LS FNML	18	16 Easter Breakfast Egg Hunt Easter Service	17	18	19	20	21	22
19 WS	20	21	22	23 LS TSKC	24 LS FNML	25	23 WS	24	25	26	27	28	29 Spring Cleaning (date subject to change)
26 WS WORDS!	27	28	29	30 LS TSKC	31 LS FNML		30 WS	LS indicates Lenten Suppers; TSKC, Thursday Suppers & Kitchen Conversation; FNML, Friday Nights with Martin Luther; WS, 11 am Worship Service. See also Egg Decorating & Egg Hunt on 4/16.					

Lenten Suppers

Thursday Suppers & Kitchen Conversation

Continuing a long tradition of adult education at OSA, the *Thursday Night Lenten Suppers & Conversation in the Kitchen* this season will use a video and small-group discussion format called "Living the Questions" that explores some essential questions facing Christianity in the modern world. Everyone is encouraged to "bring your questions...share your thoughts." (See **Committee Reports** on page 3.)

Evil and A God of Love: The Place of Suffering	3/9
Jesus in History	3/16
Compassion: The Heart of Jesus' Ministry	3/23
A Passion for Christ: Paul the Apostle	3/30
Out Into the World: Challenges Facing Progressive Christianity	4/6

Supper **6:30** pm

Discussion **7:15** pm

Friday Nights With Martin Luther

These end-of-week meetings will be led by Pastor Barrie in the Parsonage, starting with a simple meal in the kitchen followed by a discussion upstairs in the Parsonage living room. "[At] our first meeting," the Pastor says, "we'll look at ELCA video which outlines Luther and his historic context. Remaining Friday night studies will concentrate on the great 'Words' of the Reformation."

3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/7

Supper **6:30** pm

Discussion **7:15** pm

Look for sign-up sheets after worship service to volunteer to act as hosts and leaders for the Thursday nights suppers, or to prepare a simple meal of bread and soup for either Thursday or Friday night suppers.

Visit www.osa-nyc.org for more information (click on "Lenten Suppers").

Children's Easter Events

Egg Decorating

Easter Saturday, 1:20 pm – 3:30 pm in the Kitchen

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, 10:00 am in the Garden

What is Lent?

By Lily Ann Evans, 11

What is Lent? Do I have to give anything up? Both of those questions and many more zip through the minds of millions of people this time of year.

Lent can mean many things. Lent can be the time leading up to Jesus' death or the time leading up to when He went to heaven; it's a personal choice.

According to Pastor Barrie, Lutherans in the ELCA don't have to give anything up for Lent, but many people still do.

I think you don't have to give something up, but you can start something up! For example, pray every day instead of giving something up for Lent.

Don't Give Something Up, Start Something Up!

And even if you aren't a Christian, Lent is the time before spring, a time of rebirth. When Jesus is reborn in heaven, the earth is reborn in His light. Lent is a time for thinking, a time for preparing for spring and for new life.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

Worship Service 11 am

Maundy Thursday

Worship Service 7:30 pm

Good Friday

Worship Service 7:30 pm

Easter Saturday

Egg Decorating 1:30 pm

Easter Sunday

Easter Breakfast 9 am

Egg Hunt 10 am

Worship Service 11 am

Volunteering At OSA

Committee Reports

With more than 10 active committees, several ad hoc committees and an active and vibrant congregation, there are many ways for people to become involved in church life at OSA. Open committee chair positions include the Healthy Church, Mutual Ministries and Personnel Committees. Please speak with Pastor Barrie to learn more about the new ministries, Healthy Church and Mutual Ministries. Speak with Council President Karol Wollenburg or the Committee Chair with interest in working with any OSA committee.

As evident in the listings below, there are numerous volunteering opportunities, some more demanding than others, and all equally rewarding. The Thursday Night Lenten Suppers, Holy Week Services, Easter Sunday Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt and the Spring Cleaning weekend are some of the spring OSA events that need the help of volunteers to bring them to life. Why not volunteer for a specific event or join an committee to help plan future ones?

Building

Updates Landmark grant's projects completed, work to South Entrance finished, committee formed for Lorenz Chapel, Parsonage renovation completed

Future meeting dates Future planning dates to be announced

Volunteer opportunities Cleaning Weekends, Informal Building Repairs, and more

Lisa Holsberg, co-chair, peteandlisa@earthlink.com

David Zimmerman, co-chair, david.zimmerman@earthlink.net

Communications

Updates OSA Directory completed in 2005. We have a new logo designed by OSA member, Jeffrey Cooper. Newsletter will be six times yearly with new features; fundraising cookbook planning phase continues; website continues to be excellent internet first impression with many exciting features

Future meeting dates Sunday, 3/5 – Newsletter Mailing; Sunday, 4/23 - Summer Newsletter Planning

Volunteer opportunities Collating & Mailings, Researching Articles

Anna Svahn, chair, anna_svahn@yahoo.com, 212-923-2457

Education

Updates Adult Lenten education begins in March; Children's Sunday school program continues, three levels of classes preceded by weekly pancake breakfasts; Children's Choir development continues

Future meeting dates Future planning dates to be announced. We're expanding our Sunday School and Christian Education program to include as many children as possible and welcome everyone's participation

Volunteer opportunities Easter Egg Hunt on 4/16 with egg dying on Easter Saturday in addition to weekly Children's Sermons, Sunday School, and Children's Sunday Morning Breakfasts. Volunteer hosts and leaders are still needed for the *Thursday Night Lenten Suppers & Conversation in the Kitchen*. Please see the sign-up sheet at the back of the Sanctuary after worship service

Gabe Hakvaag & Donna LeSchander-Hakvaag, co-chairs, frugalbaby@aol.com

Hospitality

Updates Planning is under way for Holy Week and the Easter Sunday Breakfast

Future meeting dates Planning primarily via email and phone; everyone's welcome to bring in a favorite recipe

Volunteer opportunities Monthly Birthday Coffee hours, Special Seasonal Potluck Coffee hours, Set-up, Clean-up

Joanna Caldas, chair, zydecojc@hotmail.com, 212-942-4571 / 917-834-1734

Social Ministry

Updates Ministry work has focused on teen youth groups (LGBT Homeless Youth, Girl Scouts), buying Fair Exchange Coffee, writing letters to support hunger programs, financially supporting missionaries working in Tanzania and Argentina, and other work done outside the church addressing the needs of others

Future meeting dates Future meeting dates to be announced

Volunteer opportunities On an as-needed basis

Lisa Heelan-Fancher, chair, lh95@columbia.edu

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MOSA in March: OONY's *Souvenirs*

The Music at Our Saviour's Atonement concert series continues with *Souvenirs of OONY's Glorious Past* on Sunday, March 12, 2006 at 3 pm. Presenting highlights from 35 seasons of rare operatic performances at Carnegie Hall, the MOSA concert will feature current and graduate members of the Opera Orchestra of New York *Young Artists Program* directed by OONY's legendary music director, Eve Queler.

The first half of the concert's program is a tribute to Mozart's 250th birthday, with much loved arias from *Don Giovanni*, *Così fan tutti*, and *Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute)*. In the second half, the singers will revisit a variety of arias and ensembles taken from the OONY's more than 100 performances of rare repertoire that have made it the country's foremost presenter of concert opera.

Volunteering at MOSA events provides several ways for music-loving congregation members to support musical events in Washington Heights as well as music at OSA. Contact assistant music director Brent Ness to volunteer for MOSA events.

"Horse junkies have the Kentucky Derby, voice junkies have the Opera Orchestra of New York." Charles Michener, *The New York Observer*

MOSA Firsts

In January, MOSA had two firsts: a performance by the Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, Aaron Jay Kernis, drew the largest crowd ever in the music program's four-year history. Kernis' music was performed by the Grammy-nominated Contrasts Quartet. And in February, despite the largest snowfall in New York City-recorded history, flutist Laura Thompson and the Bacchanalia Baroque Ensemble attracted a brave and enthusiastic audience with rare pieces performed on period instruments.

The Ron & Marjorie Lorenz Chapel

Through a generous gift of the Lorenz estate, on July 3, 2005 OSA was presented with a check for \$10,000 to be used to memorialize Ron and Marjorie, long-time congregation members who passed away within months of each other in 2004. After thoughtful deliberation of many other options, the OSA Church Council approved a plan to use the funds to build a chapel, the Ron & Marjorie Lorenz Chapel at Our Saviour's Atonement Lutheran Church. A companion gift of books from Ron Lorenz's personal library will find a home in the second floor conference room, which will be made into a memorial library.

In Late Summer 2005, the Lorenz Chapel & Library Committee was formed to oversee the two projects. Congregation member Kathy Graley is committee chair, Lisa Holsberg is church council representative, and Nancy Lusterling is project manager with Eric Scott Kincaid, Jim Noyes and Pastor Barrie rounding out the Chapel Committee.

Architectural drawings for the chapel were formalized earlier this year and after soliciting bids, construction has been scheduled to begin this spring. A Lenten deadline proved to be too ambitious understandable with a design that includes the sacristy being replaced by the new chapel and expanding to twice its current size, removing the partition between the current sacristy and the adjoining space, and creating a new wall with a building-appropriate window extending the wall parallel to Bennett Avenue while retaining easterly light. A dedication ceremony will celebrate the consecration of the new chapel in this June (2006).



Credit: M. Waldron

In a photograph taken standing just in front of what will be the Ron & Marjorie Lorenz Chapel, Pastor Barrie conducts the OSA Musical Festival Choir in several traditional Christmas Carols. The harp at right was used another portion of the evening service's program.



Credit: M. Waldron

In a photograph taken from the back left, the Sanctuary during the 2005 Musical Festival Service was a beautiful space glowing with white lights from all the hand-held candles and the many strings of holiday lights.

Wacky Words

Rearrange the letters below to spell these words associated with worship service at OSA in the spring.

STEREA

□□□□□□

UMNOMNOCI

□□□□□□□□

RIEKY

□□□□□

CYTESLOA

□□□□□□□□

PLUNEREPETNESS

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LINTUBLE

□□□□□□□□

WHEELKOY

□□□□ □□□□

Turn to page 7 for answers.

Su Doku*

		7		5		6		
	5	6	7				3	
					9		4	
7	1							5
	4	2				7	6	
3							1	8
	3		5					
	8				6	1	9	
		9		8		3		

Solution will be included in the next OSA newsletter.

* Editor's Note: Is Su Doku appropriate in the games section of a church newsletter? Yes! The religious history of the 9x9 grid is documented in ancient Kaballah texts, and the solving of a grid is thought by some to assist in achieving a type of meditative space. So enjoy!

Complete the Verse

Complete these Bible verses, which were readings from Old and New Testaments from recent worship services.

Hint: Look to past worship service bulletins for future Complete-the-Verse puzzles.

And Jesus said to them,
"Follow me and I will make you fish..."

_____."

January 22, 2006; Gospel Reading; Mark 1:18

"I say to you, stand up, take your mat and..."

_____."

February 19, 2006; Gospel Reading; Mark 2:12

"For it is the God who said, "Let light shine..."

_____."

Transfiguration Sunday; February 26, 2006; 2 Corinthians 4:6

Turn to page 7 for answers.

Drawing Corner

What will the garden at OSA look like filled with hidden Easter eggs? Draw a picture in the space below.

OSA Recipe Box

Sharing food is a large part of congregation life at OSA. Whether it's the monthly Birthday Coffeeshours or the Vesper and Lenten Suppers in their respective seasons, the members of OSA like to feed each another. The Free Trade coffee that welcomes first-time visitors to OSA also fuels kitchen conversations. It is in these times too that OSA fellowship and community is created and celebrated.

Look to the **OSA Recipe Box** for recipes from recent events. The Black Bean Soup reprinted at right was served with cornmeal muffins at a Vespers Supper in December 2005. Future recipes will include the refreshing Three-Bean Salad from the incredible spread everyone enjoyed at the "Domingo Gordo" celebration during Mardi Gras in February 2006.

The Communications Committee is gathering together recipes from the many memorable meals that have been shared at OSA. A favorite Summer Barbeque dish or Christmas cookie recipe for the Annual Cookie Exchange (see **Hospitality Committee Report** on page 3) would be a wonderful addition to a proposed long-term fundraising project, a collectible church community cookbook. Consider adding your personal favorites! Contact Anna Svahn at 212-923-2457.

Luther Seminary's Communion Bread

Sift together:

- 2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 cup white flour
- ¼ tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp salt

Stir in 4 tsp oil. Set aside.

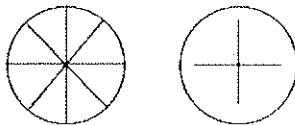
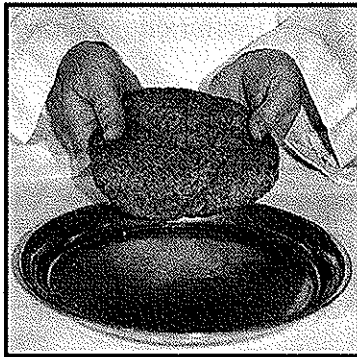
Mix together until dissolved:

- ¾ cup + 2 tbsp very hot water
- 3 tbsp honey
- 3 tbsp molasses

Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and mix well. Dough should be slightly sticky. Do not knead. Divide into four balls and flatten each into a ¼-inch thick disk. With a knife, score the top of each loaf into eight pie-shaped sections, so that the sections can be more easily broken off while serving. Alternatively, you could score a cross onto the loaf. Lay the loaves on a baking sheet. Bake at 350° F for 10 minutes. Remove from oven and lightly brush the tops of the loaves with oil. Bake an additional 5-8 minutes. Let cool.

Makes: four loaves that freeze well. Before placing in a freezer bag, wrap them in wax paper to prevent their absorbing the plastic taste.

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Black Bean Soup With Cumin & Jalapeño

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, coarsely chopped
- 1 carrot, diced
- 4 garlic cloves, crushed
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon chopped jalapeño chile (use latex gloves and don't touch your skin!)
- 2 15- to 16-ounce cans black beans, undrained
- 1 15-ounce can seasoned petite diced tomatoes
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 1 ½ cups low-salt low-fat chicken broth
- Salt & pepper to taste
- Sour cream
- Grated cheddar cheese

Heat oil in heavy large pot over medium-high heat. Add onion, carrot, and garlic; sauté until vegetables begin to soften, about 6 minutes. Mix in cumin and 1 teaspoon chopped jalapeño. Add beans, tomatoes with juice, and broth; bring soup to boil. Reduce heat to medium, cover, and cook until carrots are tender, about 15 minutes. Using a hand blender, puree until smooth. Simmer soup until slightly thickened, about 15 minutes. Season to taste with salt, pepper and additional jalapeño, if desired.

Ladle soup into bowls. Pass sour cream and grated cheddar cheese separately.

Makes four servings.

**Submit a favorite recipe
for an OSA cookbook
celebrating the joy of
Lutheran coffeeshours!**



Pastor's Greetings continued from front cover

But in Lent that diversity fades into insignificance compared with the commonality we share in the need to strengthen our faith and refresh our spirits. "Giving up" for lent is a common feature of this season. That's OK, but I believe it is more important to "take up" something in Lent, too.

I strongly urge everyone to "take up" the opportunity to deepen their faith. There are many ways but our Thursday and Friday night Lenten Supper programs are certainly one way. I think we are very fortunate that Michael Waldron does such good planning for these events. I hope you will give these conversations over supper a priority. If you haven't been to a Lenten Supper before, give it one shot at least. And if you would like to host a Thursday night, let the Education Committee know.

It seems contradictory, but "have a happy Lent!"

Sincerely yours,
Pr. Barrie

Committee Reports continued from page 3

Stewardship & Finance

Updates Capital Campaign begins. Stewardship Sunday (last Sunday in October) planning begins in the fall.

Future meeting dates Thursday, 3/2

Volunteer opportunities Volunteers are welcome

Andy Beck, co-chair, ajbecktravel@hotmail.com

David Zimmerman, co-chair, david.zimmerman@earthlink.net

Worship/Arts/Music (WAM)

Updates A comprehensive written guide for all Sunday Servants roles has been initiated and should be available by the summer. Upcoming items on our agenda include examining the condition of the church organ

Future Meeting Dates Thursday, 3/27

Volunteer Opportunities All Sunday Servant roles - see monthly sign-up sheet; Altar Guild - care and maintenance of altar supplies, candles, paraments; Special Music - share your musical talent on the third Sunday of the month; Sunday Servant Guide - contribute a section detailing the responsibilities of role with which you have had experience; Sanctuary Décor - inspired with an idea to enhance our worship space? Let us know!
Katherine Ness, chair, kharp@hotmail.com, 914-588-4602

OSA Spring 2006 Calendar at a Glance

Lenten Suppers	Thursdays, 3/9 – 4/6 Fridays, 3/10 – 4/7
MOSA Concerts	Sunday, 3/12 Sunday, 4/9
Ash Wednesday	Early Morning Service, 3/1 Evening Service, 3/1
Palm Sunday	4/9
Maundy Thursday	4/13
Good Friday	4/14
Easter Sunday	4/16
Egg Hunt & Easter Breakfast	4/16
Spring Cleaning*	4/29

*Date subject to change.



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