

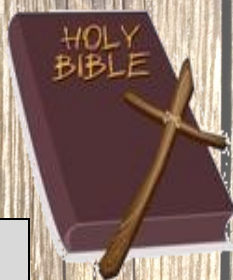
Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News



For January 31, 2021

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 1/31/2021—2/6/21

SUNDAY-Acts 12:1-25
MONDAY- John 13:1-20
TUESDAY- John 13:21-35
WEDNESDAY- John 14:1-14
THURSDAY- John 14:15-31
FRIDAY- John 15:1-17
SATURDAY- John 15:18-16:15



Church email: oslcelca@wcta.net
Office# 218-837-5831
Pastor Eric Email: pastor.eric.clapp@gmail.com
Pastor Eric # 701-261-2394
Church Website: www.oslcsebeka.org

1/31/2021

8:30am Balsamlund Worship
9:30am OSLC Sunday School
10am OSLC Worship

2/1/21

7pm Be the Bridge Zoom Mtg

2/3/21

6:30pm 7th grade confirmation

2/7/2021

8:30am Balsamlund Worship
9:30am OSLC Sunday School
10am OSLC Worship

As a way to stay connected through these winter months, we're going to gather on Zoom for a fellowship and conversation around a book we'll read together. The first book we'll read together is **Be the Bridge** by Latasha Morrison. This is a book about how the church has an opportunity to bridge the divides in our world. We'll meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7pm. Our next meeting will be on February 1st. If you have any questions or interest in joining us, please contact Pastor Eric.

Balsamlund Announcements

****Any items for the annual meeting including reports and letters need to be in the office by February 7th.**

Make-up dates for Balsamlund Milestone Celebrations

February 14 & March 7- First Communion, these are two options for those who wish to celebrate First Communion. If you weren't able to be at the service where the class was taught, there is a link on the Balsamlund Facebook page.

Balsamlund Confirmation Class dates- January 31, February 21, March 14, March 28, April 18, May 2, & May 16.

Balsamlund Annual Meeting will be February 28, Worship will be at 10:15am, with Annual Meeting to follow.

OSLC Announcements

Annual Reports are in your mail boxes. If you would like them sent out please contact the church office.

***OSLC Annual Meeting will Be February 14**, following worship.

***We are looking for a members to fill the following: 3 members for council, 1 youth representative, 6 members for nominating committee, 1 member for financial review committee, 1 member for head usher. If you are interested please contact Roxie Ness or Dawn in the office.**

****2021 offering envelopes are in the mail boxes. If you didn't get any and would like envelopes please let the office know.**

**** Financial statements are in the mail boxes.**

****You'll notice with your 2020 Annual Report, you also received a copy of Holden Evening Prayer. This year, for our Lent season, we'll have an online recording of Holden Evening Prayer as a worship option available each Wednesday. We know this is a meaningful service and these songs help us connect with God. Keep an eye out for more Lent mid-week news in the next couple weeks!**

For Lily's 6th birthday last July, we asked her what she wanted as a gift for her birthday. Immediately she said, "A unicorn." We said, "Well, do you have a backup?" She said, "A castle." We asked, "Does your backup have a backup?"

I thought about this again as we are coming up on our annual meeting and thinking about the things we bring to God and ask of God.

In Mark's gospel, as Jesus is entering Jerusalem for the Passover, he says this: "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it and it will be yours."

Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that it is already yours. Begin to transform your mind, Jesus tells us, so that you see your life as already having that which you seek.

It may not bring a 6-year-old a unicorn or a castle. But I think it could help us with some of the things we bring to God.

One of the traps the Church tends to fall into is that we become so practical that we forget to imagine or dream the things that God could do with us.

I love hanging out with little kids because they don't have that pragmatic filter yet. You ask them what they want, they'll beg for things that don't even exist yet.

I wonder what it would look like if we approached our ministry and our life together in 2021 through the eyes of a child.

If you could ask anything of God for this church, what would it be?

Think big. Think bigger. Think beyond budgets and spreadsheets. Think beyond worship attendance and committees. Those things are all important, but they are intended to be a means by which we do ministry, not the ends of the ministry themselves.

What could God do here?

What would happen if we allowed our imaginations to go wild with the possibility of what God could do in this place?

In the letter to the Ephesians, we hear these words: "I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation that makes God known to you. I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call, what is the richness of God's glorious inheritance among believers, and what is the overwhelming greatness of God's power that is working among us believers. This power is conferred by the energy of God's powerful strength." - Ephesians 1:17-19

This is the prayer I have for us in the new year -- that we would have a spirit of wisdom that makes God known to us, that we will see through the eyes of our heart where the light of God is calling us.

May God bless you with eyes to see where God is calling.

And may God always give us the courage and wisdom to follow.

Grace + Peace,
Pastor Eric