



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

March 27, 2022

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 3/27-4/2



SUNDAY- 2 Chronicles 6:1-11
MONDAY- 2 Chronicles 6:12-21
TUESDAY- 2 Chronicles 6:22-42
WEDNESDAY- 2 Chronicles 7:1-10
THURSDAY- Job 42:1-17
FRIDAY- Psalm 33
SATURDAY- Psalm 42

Church email: oscelca@wcta.net
Office#: 218-837-5831
Pastor Email: pastor.eric.clapp@gmail.com
Pastor Eric Cell: 701-261-2394
Church Website: www.oslcsebekka.org
Facebook: [oursaviourssebekka](https://www.facebook.com/oursaviourssebekka)

3/27 Fourth Sunday in Lent

9am Fellowship
9am Sunday School
10am Worship

3/30 Wednesday

9am Quilters
5:30pm Lent Soup & Sandwich Supper
6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Service

4/3 Fifth Sunday in Lent

9am Fellowship
9am Sunday School
10am Worship/Holy Communion/Steinke Baptism

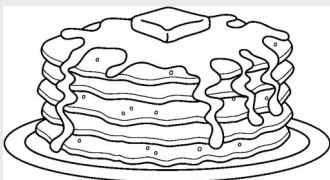
Balsamlund Announcements :

- Confirmation is every 4th Wednesday of the month.
- Lenten 'Thursday' Services remaining are: March 24th, March 31st & April 7th.

5:30pm Lent Soup/Sandwich Supper
6:00pm Holden Evening Prayer Service



Join us for a Pancake Breakfast...



...on Palm Sunday, April 10th, after worship.

Proceeds for kids to go to camp.

Free-will offering.

OSLC Announcements:

* We are looking for someone to head up the Adult Vocal Choir and the Bell Choir. If you are interested in helping out with one or both of these groups please contact Pastor Eric for more info.

- * **A special "Thank You" to the Youth Group** for hosting last Wednesday's Lenten Soup & Supper meal. The meal was fantastic. View our Sundays & Lent Services via Facebook (past & LIVE views available).
- * **If you are interested** in being on the church council as the **Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper**, contact Council President Richard Gronlund and/or the office.
- * **WELCA Spring Gathering, April 26th.** 8am registration/9am Program @ Immanuel Lutheran Church, 403 2nd St SE Wadena. "BE JUST AND KIND" theme. All are welcome to attend.
- * **EASTER FLOWERS** The Youth Group will be selling flowers again this year. Order forms are available in bulletins and on the table in the fellowship hall. We will be offering Easter Lilies in 6" pots, Tulips in 6" pots, Mums in 6" pots and Gerber Daisy's in 4" pots. **Order deadline is April 4th.** Please return the order form & payment to the church office.
- * **Want to serve as Altar Guild?** Sign-up sheet is on the Fellowship table and/or contact the church office. Months open are: June, July, August, September, & November.
- * **Please note: Fellowship Hall Reservations** — April 3rd (after worship), April 30th, May 1st (11am-2pm)

Wednesday's—March 30, & April 6 , join us...

Lent Soup & Sandwich Supper @ 5:30pm

Holden Evening Prayer Service @ 6:30pm.

Everyone is welcome!



"Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand." - Philippians 2:3-4

Paul's letter to the Philippian church -- particularly the second chapter -- might be one of my very favorites in the entire Bible. In it, Paul reminds us of the power of Jesus in our lives and what kind of discipleship he calls us toward.

I had this part of the letter in my head as I was reading about stingrays this past week, particularly the manta rays.

One thing I learned about manta rays is that they don't actually have anything to sting you with on the end of their tails. They don't have sharp teeth. They're not a fierce predator really in any way. They have filters in their mouth that help them eat plankton off the ocean floor while letting everything else back into the ocean.

The powerful thing about manta rays is that their rituals for feeding mean that they never feed themselves. They gather in a circle and flap their watery wings to stir up as much of the ocean floor as they can while swimming in a circle. This allows plankton living on the ocean floor to be swept up in the water and lets the manta ray eat.

Because they're flapping their wings while swimming in a circle, that means that plankton that one ray's wings stir up is eaten by the ray next to them. They swim in a circle so they can eat the plankton their neighbor stirs up.

This is such a powerful example of what Paul talks about in his letter to the Philippians -- "forgetting ourselves long enough to lend a helping hand." Maybe for rays it's a helping wing instead.

What would it look like for the church -- for us, for you and me -- to look for ways we can stir up our community for the sake of others? How can we use our energy and resources to help strengthen and care for others?

These are questions that overlap when we look at the manta rays and we read Paul's letter to the church. What a powerful example and witness it is!

Grace + Peace,

Pastor Eric