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## Pastor Sorensen's September First of the Month Letter

Greetings Our Savior's Lutheran Church Community,

You might be asking yourself, 'Why am I getting another email from OSLC? Did I sign-up for something I didn't mean to? And what in the world is a First of the Month Letter?' Keep reading and all will be revealed.

One outcome of serving in several different congregations, across different states and regions of the country is that I experience a number of ways of doing and being a congregation. I then like to apply the copyright principle, that is, to copy the right ideas from one congregation to another. One such idea is a First of the Month Letter.

The days of monthly church newsletters, filled with announcements, calendars, articles, birthdays, anniversaries, and schedules, are past. Instead, almost all congregations have morphed into weekly email communications. However, a downside to those weekly emails, filled with any number of announcements, is there is no longer a space or a place for something a bit more in depth. There is no place for the pastor to share either visions, updates, or even contemporary commentary. As a remedy to that drawback, a wise congregation introduced a First of the Month Letter for the Pastor to share a one-page update on important matters. I have just filled half of my one-page monthly missive explaining the why, not let me get to the what.

I have had the privilege of serving with you here at OSLC for three months. I continue to learn about the giftedness of this congregation, its unparalleled commitment to the community, and its passions for environmental justice, social justice, and Christ-like love of neighbor. I have discovered passionate congregational leaders. I daily experience the joy of working with an outstanding staff. I consider myself richly blessed to have this opportunity to walk with you in this liminal time of discernment and discovery.

In the coming months I will share updates about the work of the Call Committee – which you will elect at a Special Congregational Meeting after worship on Sunday, September 15. I will also share with you some thoughts about discernment and decision making, as well as being a missional church in the 21st century. That will all come in the months ahead.

For today, this September 1, I just want to introduce you to these monthly letters, to tell you how blessed I am to be with you, and how confident I am that God has a preferred and promised future for Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

See you in worship,  
Pastor Scot

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