

March 2019

# Martin Luther Adult Day Programs

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**From dining to dancing to drinking,  
our clubs have the most fun!**

**Celebrating March**

**Irish-American Heritage  
Month**

**Optimism Month**

**Craft Month**

**Celebrate Your Name Week**  
*March 3–9*

**Mardi Gras**  
*March 5*

**International Women's Day**  
*March 8*

**Pi Day**  
*March 14*

**St. Patrick's Day**  
*March 17*

**Make Up Your Own Holiday  
Day**  
*March 26*



You can never have TOO much fun!



## Person of the Month-Steve Olson

**Steve Olson was born on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945 in Baltimore, Maryland, to Milton and Marvyle Olson. He has a brother, David, from St. Paul who is 5 years older. Steve's family moved from Maryland to Hayward, MN. Steve's Dad ran the hardware store in town and Steve remembers helping his Dad with inventory, which meant he counted nuts, bolt and nails. They later moved to Albert Lea, MN.**



**Steve attended Albert Lea schools through high school, graduating in 1964. After high school, he attended Waldorf College in Iowa for two years, taking general courses.**

**Steve joined the Navy in 1968, going to San Diego for basic training. He worked on two ships, the**

**Denver and the Dubueque, which were Troop Carriers. He also served as a Hospital Corpsman. Later, he joined the Marines and was in Viet Nam during the TET, the offensive in 1968 which claimed heavy casualties on both sides. Thank you, Steve, for giving of your service to the United States.**

**After serving, Steve became a postal carrier for three years and then became a mail handler at the Bulk Mail Center in Eagan. He enjoyed his job and retired after 32 years and is now enjoying retirement.**

**Steve met Liz at Central Lutheran Church where they were members of a single's group. They were married on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1974. They have one son, Jason, who is a sport's writer for the Sun Current Newspaper. They have two grandchildren, Britta and Jonas. They all live in Bloomington.**

**Steve has had many interests during his lifetime....he has always loved music! He has played the alto-sax in the Postal Band and plays in the Worship Band at Christ the King Lutheran Church. Steve is a member of the American Legion, volunteers for VEAP, has had a vegetable garden, he loves animals and sports, especially the Twins, Vikings and hockey. Steve attends Campus Club two days a week and has many friends....good life, Steve!**

## Night Owls

The International Festival of Owls, a celebration of these mysterious nighttime creatures, will occur during the first three days of March. Is it the owl's nocturnal nature, their swift silence, their chilling calls of "who," or their bizarre rotating necks that make them so fascinating? These birds have figured prominently in our imaginations for millennia. In ancient Greece, the owl was the symbol of Athena, goddess of wisdom. It was believed that an "inner light" gave the owl its superb night vision, and it was considered a good omen if an owl was spied overhead watching you. Because an owl is a bird of darkness, it has often been associated with death. During the Middle Ages, owls were thought to be witches or witches' helpers. American Indians, too, held many beliefs about owls and death. To some, owls were the spirits of the dead. To others, owls were guides of the recently deceased to the underworld. During the Festival of Owls, take the time to encounter one of these magnificent

animals up close and you, too, may begin to think they are more than just birds.



## The Birth of Rock 'n' Roll



The very first rock 'n' roll concert was staged on March 21, 1952, in Cleveland, Ohio. It was called the Moondog Coronation Ball and featured guitarist Tiny Grimes and His Rocking Highlanders, saxophonist Paul Williams and His

Hucklebuckers, Billy Ward and His Dominoes, singer Varetta Dillard, and Danny Cobb. The concert was the idea of local radio DJ Alan Freed, the same man who popularized the phrase *rock 'n' roll*. On the night of the show, 20,000 people showed up with tickets, but the venue held only half the number. Tickets had been counterfeited. Afraid of a riot, the fire department stopped the concert after only one performance.

## The Patterns of Life



The third Saturday in March has been designated Worldwide Quilting Day, a global celebration of quilters and their fabulous creations. Quilts began not as the intricately patterned blankets we often use today, but as

padded clothing. The first evidence we have of humans wearing quilted clothing comes from ancient Egypt. Quilted clothes were uncovered at the Temple of Osiris dating back 5,000 years. Modern quilting of clothes dates back to the Middle Ages in Europe when these soft garments were worn over and under chain mail armor. The first evidence we find of quilted blankets comes from 15th-century England, but all this evidence is merely written about; few, if any, blankets from that era have survived.

English immigrants brought their sewing and quilting skills with them to America, where quilting grew into more than a practical skill—it became an art form. Patterns grew into symbols and stories. When President Lincoln signed the Homestead Act of 1862, which opened up the West for settlement, families prepared for their westward journeys by sewing quilts. These quilts have become records of history.

One of the earliest patterns, known as the Nine Patch, was simply nine squares in a three-by-three pattern. This was the quickest quilt to sew and a great and thrifty use of leftover scraps of fabric. Often, girls as young as age three or four could be taught to sew the Nine Patch pattern. A more elaborate pattern was known as the Log Cabin. This pattern was symbolic of the home. The center square was always red, to symbolize the hearth at the heart of the home. Narrow strips of fabric, like logs used to build frontier cabins, radiated from the center square in stacks. Light fabrics representing the light of day were sewn on one side of the quilt. Dark fabrics representing night were sewn on the opposite side. This pattern was also known as the Sunshine and Shadow. Patterns depicting pinwheels, stars, flowers, animals, crops, biblical stories, and even schoolhouses followed. Women sewed as

## March Birthdays

In astrology, those born March 1–20 are the slippery Fish of Pisces. Selfless Pisces are very wise and empathetic, making them always willing to help others. These deep emotions also make Pisces talented artists and good friends. Those born March 21–31 are Rams of Aries. Like rams, Aries charge forward with courage, confidence, and enthusiasm. They embrace action, take risks, and will fight for their goals

Ron Howard (actor/director) – March 1, 1954

**Paul O - Creekside friend – March 2nd**

Dr. Seuss (author) – March 2, 1904

Elizabeth Barrett Browning (poet) – March 6, 1806

**Nancy – Creekside staff – March 8th**

Bobby Fischer (chess champ) – March 9, 1943

Liza Minnelli (entertainer) – March 12, 1946

**Larry W – Creekside friend – March 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Joan Z – Creekside friend – March 13th**

Albert Einstein (scientist) – March 14, 1879

**Joyce T – Campus friend – March 19th**

Fannie Farmer (culinary expert) – March 23, 1857

Sam Walton (businessman) – March 29, 1918

**Dick L – Campus friend – March 28th**

Liz Claiborne (designer) – March 31, 1929

## The March of Women's History



The month of March is Women's History Month, in recognition of women and their impact on culture and society all around the world. The movement to establish recognition of women's history began in Sonoma, California, in the

1970s. A group of women formed the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women. Their goal was to include women's history in the local school curriculum. For too long, men had dominated the study while women's contributions had nary a mention. The movement in Sonoma was such a success that it gained traction nationwide. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter established the first Women's History Week, and then in 1987, Congress declared the entire month of March as Women's History Month. Politicians, writers, freedom fighters, scientists, soldiers, athletes—women have made contributions in virtually every field. Honor them this March.

