



FROM THE PASTOR

As we prepare for transition at Our Saviors, the gospel lessons of Mark seem timely and insightful. During our first Sunday together, September 1st, we will read from the 7th chapter of Mark: Jesus confronting the Pharisees and scribes about their obsession with rituals and traditions. Their fixation was not on the substance of the law but on the outward signs that they believed would make them righteous before God. They had elevated human traditions over divine commandments, missing the heart of what it means to truly worship and follow God.

Jesus reminds us that it's not the external acts but the internal condition of our hearts that matters. This teaching challenges us to look beyond the surface and consider what truly defines our relationship with God and with one another.

Our Mission Statement: Living Out the Heart of Faith

Our mission at Our Savior's Lutheran Church is clear: we are called by the Holy Spirit to share the Gospel through Word and Sacrament, to serve those in need, and to offer enriching opportunities for spiritual growth and exploration. These core activities—Education, Worship, and Service—reflect the heart of faith.

Education: Transforming Hearts

Education is not just about imparting knowledge; it's about transforming hearts. When we engage in learning, we are called to delve into the Scriptures and grow in our understanding of God's will. This growth helps us to align our hearts with God's commands rather than sticking to human traditions. Education equips us to live out our faith genuinely and authentically, as we discern the truth and apply it to our lives.

Worship: Heartfelt Connection

Worship is where we come together to honor God, not just with our lips but with our hearts. True worship involves more than ritualistic practices; it requires us to be fully present and engaged, allowing our hearts to be touched and transformed by God's grace. In worship, we open ourselves to the transformative power of the Holy Spirit, fostering a deeper connection with God and with one another.

Service: Manifesting Faith

Service is the tangible expression of our faith. It's not about performing acts to be seen by others but about serving with a heart full of love and compassion. Jesus teaches us that the essence of defilement comes from within, and so our service flows from a heart that is renewed and transformed by God's love. By serving those in need, we embody the Gospel and extend God's grace into the world.

We pray: We come before You with hearts full of gratitude for the mission You have entrusted to us at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. We thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who guides us in our calling to share the Gospel through Word and Sacrament. Help us to be faithful witnesses of Your love and grace, always seeking to proclaim Your truth with clarity and compassion.

We entrust this mission to Your care, knowing that it is by Your strength and grace that we can fulfill it. Empower us with Your Spirit and lead us to be a beacon of Your light in the world.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen

Pastor Bunny Dillard



Meet Pastor Bunny

We invite you to join us in getting to know Pastor Bunny at the church or in the comfort of your home. These gatherings are a wonderful chance to share your stories, learn more about Pastor Bunny, and welcome her to our community. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board across from Therese's office. You can just write down your name and phone number and then Pastor Bunny will contact you to set up a time and place. Pastor Bunny is excited to spend time with you. Pastor Bunny's cell: 337-368-2781 and email: Pastor@crsavivors.org

Supporting the Strottmans

We recently found out that the Benevity Portal is not going to work for us as we had hoped. They will not match the funds we donate for the Strottmans. We are sorry for any confusion. The Strottmans have received all donations made for them at this time and it has been greatly appreciated. If anyone would still like to offer monetary support, it would still benefit them as medical costs do continue for Leslie though she is now in the maintenance phase of her treatment. You can give donations directly to them, give thru your church offering designating amount for the Strottmans or go to their GO FUND ME page. Here is the link for that

<https://gofund.me/b5ca610a>

You're Invited to this Special Event!

Please feel free to share this information with others.



World Hunger Month

At the Synod Assembly in May a resolution was passed that stated – “Congregations are encouraged to designate a Sunday or month in 2024 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of ELCA World Hunger by encouraging congregations, households, and/or individuals to make a gift of \$50 or more to ELCA World Hunger.”

The Council has approved the suggested motion that September be the month that Our Savior's will encourage donations to ELCA World Hunger. We will accept any contributions from individuals, use funds collected in the Noisy Offering on September 22nd and use \$50 from the Love Fund to send to ELCA World Hunger in October.

If you have any interest in helping to celebrate the 50 years ELCA has supported World Hunger, please add your donations to your offering during September. Or you may also just contribute to the Noisy Offering on September 22nd, knowing that those funds collected will be sent to the ELCA for World Hunger.

Phil and Andy's Pantry - September is Canned Vegetable Month!



We are entering the fall months, and it is a good time to collect canned vegetables for our local food pantry's. We all love autumn favorites like chili, vegetable soups and casseroles when the weather starts to be a bit cooler. Please don't forget to pick up a few extra cans when you are at the grocery store – help us fill up our shopping cart!!

Youth News:

Backpack Blessing There was great participation for our Back Pack Blessing on Sunday, August 25th. All ages were in attendance and everyone got a “backpack blessing tag” to attach to their backpack so they can remember that even when the days are long and the studies hard God is with them in all that they do.

Sundae Sunday Sunday School starts Sunday, September 29th at 9:00 AM with Sundae Sunday!! Bring your parents, family and friends for an ice cream sundae as we kick off the 2024-2025 Sunday School year! We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Please let Hannah know if you have questions.

Confirmation Class We are so excited to bring back a confirmation class to the OSLC youth!! If you know a middle school student who is interested in furthering their Christian education as they transition into an adult within the church, please let Hannah, Natalie, or Rachel know - we would love to get them involved! There will be an informational meeting at some point later this fall. Please reach out with any questions.

First Communion Class Do you know an elementary aged kiddo that would like to graduate from goldfish to communion wafers? We are planning to have a first communion class this upcoming fall. Plans are still being made but if you know a child that is interested, please let Hannah know!!

Fellowship Hour after Sunday Service

In September we will again start our Fellowship time after Sunday Service. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board across from Therese's office. Pat and Diane have graciously agreed to continue to make coffee so all that needs to be provided is treats. Our Fellowship hour is a very special time where we can catch up with our Christian family and is enjoyed by so many. Please don't forget to sign up.

Polka Service

Please join us again this year for Our Savior's Polka Service on October 13 at our regular 10:00 time. Following the service, we will have a German themed meal for everyone. Invite your friends and family. Come one come all. Stay tuned for more detail as we get closer.



POLKA MUSIC



Shoe Update - The Final Step

Tom Zuber got his monthly newsletter from "His Hands" and they had this article about their shoe collection.

Over 50 volunteers showed up at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Friday, August 16 to move 21,700 pairs of shoes from two rooms in the church onto a semi destined for Orlando, Florida and then to people in need in 3rd world countries overseas. This was the final step in His Hands Clinic's quest to raise funds, keep shoes out of our landfill, and help the less fortunate - a win, win, win scenario! It took just over 3 hours as they utilized a "bucket brigade line" and got it done! HUGE THANKS to Hope CDA, a bunch of Kennedy football players, and numerous others for showing up. Mission Accomplished!

**Note: We collected a total of 24k+ pairs of shoes, however, many are staying in our community to help those in need of quality shoes.

New Church Directory

The Geuder girls (Sheryl Payton and Sue Clapp) have offered to develop a new church directory with potential financial support from memorial funds or individual donations. Sheryl works as a graphic designer and has experience with assembling programs and booklets.

In the next few months, they will be asking for your information such as names, address, phone numbers and email addresses – basically anything you wish to be published for our church members only. There will also be opportunities to have your family pictures taken at church. You may choose to send in your own family picture – either one recently taken professionally or just from a phone camera. If you prefer, you may submit your contact information and not have a picture included.

More details will be coming but this is the perfect time to get a new directory. The last one was done in 2014 and now we have a new Pastor, along with many congregation changes.

Feel free to contact Sue with any questions or concerns.

Sueclapp73@gmail.com or 319-360-9021

Assisting Ministers Needed!!

Have you ever thought about being an Assisting Minister but didn't think it was possible because you didn't (or couldn't) sing the liturgy?? There are other options. . . the liturgy does NOT have to be sung – it can be read!! Parish & Staff is looking for volunteers to join the Assisting Minister Ministry. If you have any interest at all – do not be shy!! You can contact any of our current assisting ministers - Hannah, Jeremiah, or Nancy - they would be happy to give you any details or feel free to talk to Marcia Adix or Ann Larson from Parish & Staff. Thank you!

Save the Date - God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday, September 8, 2024

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Sept. 8, when congregations of the ELCA will join together for our annual day of service, “God’s work. Our hands.” Participating in service projects is one way to celebrate who we are as the ELCA — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Laurie Strottman suggested that “God’s Work Our Hands” be a campaign for the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital this year. They have BINGO on Sunday afternoon for the patients and give out prizes for winners. They are lacking on prizes for preteens and teens (see below for a list of ideas). Please bring your donations to church by Sunday, September 8th. Strottman’s will deliver our donations to the hospital for us!! This project is so very near and dear to our hearts since Leslie has spent so much time at the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital this past year and we know they have been so influential in Leslie’s recovery!



Donation ideas for BINGO prizes

<u>B</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>O</u>
Quality Sleep Eye Mask	Star Wars Legos	Cozy Slippers in Adult size: S,M,L	Face Masks and Eye Masks	Legos
Heating Pad	Gamer Tumbler for teens/men	Key Chains	Bluetooth Headphones	Sketch Pad
Bluetooth Speaker	Medication Basket for Parents: Tums, Tylenol, & Etc.	Deluxe Colored Pencil Set	Cutesy Photo Frames	Eyeshadow Kits
Card Games	Halloween Barn Legos	Blackout Curtains	Trendy Water Bottles	Plush Bath Towel
Squishmallows	Super Soft Blankets	Gamer’s Happy Place Pillow/Socks	Wallets	Flower Legos

Emotions of the patients and families.

<u>B</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>O</u>
Strength	Fear	Endurance	Faith	Goals
Counseling	Respect	Healing	Isolation	Compassion
Pain	Independence	Freedom	Wisdom	Excitement
Courage	Joy	Hope	Family	Trust
Patience	Reflection	Blessed	Despair	Friends

Readers

September 1 – Dale Hovden
September 8 – Rachael Sindelar
September 15 – Derick Sindelar
September 22 – Laurene Case
September 29 – Korver Sindelar

**Readers can pick up their reading in the
“Reader” mailbox located between the
offices in the back hallway

Assisting Ministers

September 1 – Hannah Plummer
September 8 – Nancy Greer
September 15 – Jeremiah Miller
September 22 – Hannah Plummer/Pastor Dan?
September 29 – Nancy Greer

Acolytes

September 1 – Jeremiah Miller
September 8 – Eric Strottman
September 15 – Parker Zein
September 22 – Korver Sindelar
September 29 – Hailey Clapp
October 1 – Evy Fiester

Prayer for Pastor

September 1 – Ardy Erickson
September 8 – Therese Plumer
September 15 – Diana Emig
September 22 – Arnold Strottman
September 29 – Natalie Fiester
October 1 – Ann Larson

Ushers/Greeters

September 1 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg,
Tom Zuber
September 8 – Fiester’s
September 15 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson
September 22 – Mark & Suzanne Schmitt,
Ann Larson
September 29 – Strottman’s

Children’s Sermon

September 1 – Hannah Plummer
September 8 – JoAnn Kohl
September 15 – JoAnn Kohl
September 22 – Hannah Plummer
September 29 – JoAnn Kohl

Sunday School Teaching Schedule

September 29 – Sundae Sunday
October 6 – Hannah Plummer
October 13 – Rachael Sindelar
October 20 – Natalie Fiester & Jeremiah Miller
October 27 – Hannah Plummer

Serving Our Congregation

Bunny Dillard – Head Pastor
Sue Clapp– Congregation President
David Sampson – Treasurer
Therese Plummer – Parish/Financial Secretary
Forrest Green – Music Director
Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director
Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth
Ministries Director

Farewell to Pastor Cindy

Sunday August 25th was Pastor Cindy’s last Sunday with us at Our Savior’s. It is amazing that she has been with us for almost two years! She has been a blessing as she put all of us at ease and helped us through the transition as we assembled our Call Committee and went through the steps to get us where we are today in looking forward to our first Sunday and next journey with Pastor Bunny. We wish her the best in all of her future endeavors!! Thank you for all you have done for Our Savior’s Pastor Cindy!!

Images from Pastor Cindy's Farewell reception



Image from "Blessing of the Backpacks"



2024 Our Savior's Council Members



Our Savior's Council (names in red are new 2024 members)

POSITION	NAME	TERM
Head Pastor	Bunny Dillard	
Youth Director	Hannah Plummer	
President	Sue Clapp	June 2023 – June 2026
VP	Laurie Strottman	June 2022 - June 2025
VP	Therese Plummer	June 2023 – June 2026
Treasurer	Dave Sampson	Appointed
Secretary	Nancy Trout	June 2024-June 2027
Secretary	Jennifer Ayers	June 2024-June 2025
Education/Youth	Natalie Fiester *	June 2024 -June 2027
	Rachel Sindelar	June 2023 – June 2026
Fellowship	Al Johnson	June 2024 –June 2027
	Nancy Trout	June 2023 – June 2026
Property	Rick Rogness *	June 2022 – June 2025
	Mark Schmitt	June 2023 – June 2026
Parish/Staff	Marcia Adix	June 2022 – June 2025
	Ann Larson	June 2024 –June 2027
Stewardship/Social	Dorothy <u>Medlang</u>	June 2023 – June 2026
	Arnold Strottman	June 2022 – June 2025
Evangelism/PR	Hannah Plummer	June 2024- June 2027
	Therese Plummer	June 2023 – June 2026

*not in photo above