

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd Street Northwest
Valley City, ND 58072

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NOVEMBER 2019

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd Street Northwest, Valley City, ND 58072
(701) 845-1328
Email oslcvalleycity@msn.com
Website: www.oursaviorsvc.org

Our Savior's Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Pastors	Emmy Swedlund & Kyle Symanski
Youth Ministry	Kyla Fetsch
Office Coordinator	Brenda Skramstad
Custodian	Sandi Ley
Contemporary Worship Coordinators	Al & Sherri Adams
Council President	Rich Schueneman
Treasurer	Janet Brown
Ministers	All members of Our Savior's

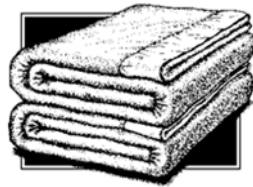
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
3 All Saints Sunday Food Pantry 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School, Choir 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Potluck 12:45pm Congregational Meeting	4 9:30am Prayer 12:10pm Sr. High Lunch	5 9:00am Ministerial Meeting 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans	6 9:30am Bible Study 3:15pm Kids for Christ 6:00pm Supper 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	7 10:00am Bridgeview Worship	8	9 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
10 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School, Choir 11:00am Contemporary Worship-Prek-3rd grade Sunday School sing	11 9:30am Prayer No Sr. High Lunch	12 9:00am Text Study 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans 1:00pm Bible Book Club-1 John, 2 John, 3 John	13 9:30am Bible Study 3:15pm Kids for Christ 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Committees 8:00pm Council	14 12:15-12:40pm Youth Dinner & Devotions	15	16 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
17 Abused Persons Outreach Collection 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship	18 9:30am Prayer 12:10pm Sr. High Lunch	19 9:00am Text Study 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans	20 9:30am Bible Study 3:15pm Kids for Christ 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Sarah Circle 7:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	21 8:00am Lefse Making 9:30am Pastor's Conference 2:00pm Hannah Circle	22	23 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship 8:30- 11:00am Bake,Lefse & Quilt Sale
24 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45am Choir 11:00am Worship 4:00pm Community Thanksgiving Service- Congregational United Church of Christ	25 9:30am Prayer 12:10pm Sr. High Lunch 	26 9:00am Text Study 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans	27 9:30am Bible Study	28 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	29 Office Closed Building Closed	30 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship



Newborns



Luther World Relief Baby Kits

The following donations are appreciated to complete LWR Baby Care Kits: New or gently used items for infants 6-24 months including cotton T-shirts (onesies work), socks, long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers, receiving blankets (36" sq. min.), heavier blankets, sweaters or sweatshirts with hoods, baby caps, hand towels, ivory bar soap and cloth diapers or flannel sheets to make diapers. There is a baby bassinet available to receive items during the months of November and December. Monetary donations are also appreciated to buy items and to pay for shipping. (Enclose in an envelope & label WELCA)



This month, we are reading First, Second, and Third Letters of John. It may be 3 books, but it's only a total of 7 chapters.

We'll meet in the Gathering Room for conversation on Tuesday, November 12 at 1:00 pm.

A reading guide is available on the information counter.

Free Parent Workshop

iBrain:

What Science Tells Us About Growing Up Digital

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

VCHS Hi-Liner Activity Center
493 Central Ave. N, Valley City, ND



Erin Walsh, of Spark & Stitch Institute, will connect the dots between the latest discoveries in brain science and the emerging challenges and opportunities related to "growing up digital" including the relationship between screen time and physical health and fitness. Using brain science, stories, and humor, Erin will help families understand strategies to ensure that children grow up happy and healthy in the digital age.

Free of Charge. Call Barnes County Extension @ 845-8528 with questions.

Sponsored by:

NDSU

EXTENSION



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Highlights from the October Congregation Council Meeting

Constitution Update: Ruth Larson reported she incorporated the changes we approved at the Sept Council Meeting. A copy of the updated draft of the Constitution and reviewed those changes. Council favored the additional changes. Ruth and Jakelle will present the revised Constitution at the Special Congregational Meeting on November 3rd. Ratification would take place at the Annual Meeting.

Building Project Report: Rich Schueneman reported that they have signed a contract with Hepper Olson Architects. Main focus areas are: front of sanctuary, kitchen, and youth room/offices/conference room. An update on this process will be given at the November 3rd meeting.

Christmas Worship Services: OSLC currently has services at 3:00, 4:30, and 10:00pm on Christmas Eve, and also one service on Christmas day morning. Do we want to continue the 10:00pm service on Christmas Eve or do we want to change the time? The Council will think on this and visit with other congregation members for feedback, and we will make a decision at the November Council Meeting.

Deaths: Graveside service for: Alexander Kelm; Menzo Regnerus

Weddings: McKenzie Nordland & Sara Stanley

Baptisms: Mack Daniel Marthaler

New Members: Diane Wood, John & Arlene Andrus

A copy of unapproved meeting minutes are posted near the information counter.

Community Service of Remembrance

Sunday, December 1 at 2:00p.m.

Epworth United Methodist Church
680 8th Ave. SW

Together, we give thanks and remember the lives of those family, friends, and loved ones who have joined the great company of saints this past year. All are welcome, especially those who have mourned losses within the past year. All are welcome, especially those who have mourned losses within the past year, to surround themselves in prayer and the comforting embrace of God's love and peace.

Special MEETING

On Sunday, November 3rd at 12:45 p.m. there will be a special meeting of the congregation for the purpose of discussing two items: holding the first reading of a proposed update to the constitution and providing an update on the planning team/committee's building and visioning prioritization process. All are encouraged to attend and have their voices heard as we make important decisions about the future of the church.

Prior to the meeting, you are invited to a potluck lunch at 12:00 p.m. in the large dining room.

For your convenience, copies of the proposed update to the constitution can be found on our website and paper copies are at the church information center.

Community Thanksgiving Service with special music by the Valley Troubadours

Sunday, November 24th at 4:00 p.m.
Congregational United Church of Christ
217 4th St. NW

All are invited to a service of Thanksgiving and celebration on Sunday, November 24th at 4:00 p.m. hosted by the Barnes County Ministerial Association. Join us for an intentional time of prayer, reflection, and thanksgiving, with special music by the Valley Troubadours. Light refreshments and a time of fellowship to follow.

For Your Information

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00am-3:00pm

Church Building Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am-3:00 pm

Saturday-Sunday 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Phone Numbers

Church Office 845-1328

Pastor Emmy Swedlund Cell-(701)552-2419

Pastor Kyle Symanski Cell-(708)476-8712

If we do not answer, please leave a message so that we can get back to you.



Free Electric Organ

Find some able bodied people to move it and it's yours.

The transformation of the chapel is underway! Thank you to all who made donations and offered time, couches, labor, and so much more to make our new youth space so inviting!

But there is still some opportunity to have a piece of the chapel right in your very own home. Free to a good (and not necessarily musical home) is the electric organ from our old chapel space. Find some able bodied people to move it and it's yours. Feel free to stop into the youth room to take a closer look or give the office a call at 845-1328 for more information.



Members of the December Our Savior' Servants



John & Bobbie Jo Hurlimann
James & Rebecca Verwey

Don & Sandy Bauer	Jerry & Kelly Bennefeld
Dallas & Kirsten Dockter	Garland & Patricia Hansen
Estelle Hanson	Lois Hovel
Rick & Joyce Huseby	Ron & Debbie King
Almira Klein	Terry & Lenore Lebahn
Leslie Manstrom	Sharon McCarriar
Rodney & Kathy Nelson	Sheila Nelson
Chad & Kristin Petersen	Olga Pinke
Kenneth & Diane Rasmusson	Mark & Ronda Reimers
Vivan Rensby	Linda Skramstad
Larry & Carmen Svenningsen	James & LouVay White
Kevin & Brenda White	

Thank you to the October Servants and their Coordinators:

Jan Stowman, Burton & Jean Vrem & Ruth Larson

Altar Committee: Vi Egan and Tweety Bellmore

Flower Committee:

Jan Stowman and Jean Vrem

Thank you to our faithful ushers and greeters and coffee hosts who assist every Sunday morning.

**YOUTH DIRECTOR AND
YOUTH ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am	4 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Senior High Lunch 12:15-12:35pm	5	6 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Kids for Christ 3:15-5pm Confirmation Supper 6:00 Confirmation Class 6:30-8pm Senior High Youth Group 7:30-8:30pm	7	8 No School	9
10 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am	11 No School No Youth Director Hours No Senior High Lunch	12 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	13 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Kids for Christ 3:15-5pm Confirmation Supper 6:00 Confirmation Class 6:30-8pm	14 Dinner and Devotions for Youth in Grades 11&12	15	16
17 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am Honey Sunday! Order a bottle of honey 9:30-11:00am and support the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch!	18 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Senior High Lunch 12:15-12:35pm	19	20 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Kids for Christ 3:15-5pm Confirmation Supper 6:00 Confirmation Class 6:30-8pm Senior High Youth Group 7:30-8:30pm	21	22	23
24 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am	25 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Senior High Lunch 12:15-12:35pm	26	27 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am No Kids for Christ No Confirmation	28 Happy Thanks- giving!	29	30



November Weekly Donation Opportunities

First Sunday, November 3 – Donate to the Barnes County Food Pantry. Especially needed are peanut butter, jelly, and canned fruits or vegetables.

Second Sunday, November 10 – Donate to the Hi-Liner Pantry, a resources to students at the Valley City Public Junior and Senior High Schools. This month bring juice boxes.

Third Sunday, November 17 – Donate to the Abused Person's Outreach Center. Especially needed are personal care items, paper towels, diapers, and wipes.

Community Thanksgiving Baskets

Again this year Our Savior's will be partnering with Faith and Trinity Lutheran Churches for the Community Thanksgiving Baskets program. The distribution of the baskets will take place on Saturday, November 23 from 10 to 11 a.m. at Faith Lutheran, and members from Our Savior's are asked to help that morning. Volunteers will be needed to help at the church for those picking up baskets or driving for those baskets that need to be delivered, which will take place between 9 to 11:30 a.m.

The evening before, on November 22, the baskets will be filled starting at 7 p.m. at Faith Lutheran, and again your help is needed and will be appreciated.

There is another way you can help with the Community Thanksgiving Baskets program if you can't share your time and that is with your financial help. Each Sunday there will be a basket at the back of the church for your check or cash donation, or you can bring your donation to the church office during the week. Checks should be made out to Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

All food in the Thanksgiving Baskets is purchased locally and this year the goal is to distribute 125 baskets.

Social Services is unable to give us names, but we have a poster at their front counter letting people know to contact Faith Lutheran if they need a basket. We also receive names from Skyline Villa, the Rudolf Square and the Headstart program. If you or someone you know would like to receive a Thanksgiving basket please call the Faith Lutheran office at 845-4390 to get on the list. The deadline to sign up is Friday, November 8th. We are setting a goal of 125 baskets for this year and hope we can make that happen with your donations.

Please join in any way you can to make this Thanksgiving a Blessed Day for those in need.

Operation Christmas Child

Would you like to share God's love with a child in need this Christmas?

1. Pick up a shoebox at Our Saviors.
2. Fill it with a gift, hygiene items, and school supplies for a child.
3. Return the shoebox to Our Saviors by November 17.

Watch for an information table at Our Saviors starting October 27th. Collection week will be November 11th-17th. For information about Operation Christmas Child and great ideas on what items are most appreciated by gender/age, go to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> and click on the picture for How to Pack a Shoebox. Or contact Andrea Jensen or a member of the Evangelism committee.

You can also "build a shoebox" online through the Operation Christmas Child website:

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/>



WOMEN OF OUR SAVIORS

BAKE, QUILT AND LEFSE SALE

The recent wintry weather makes me think of Thanksgiving, Christmas and the Women of Our Saviors Bake, Quilt and Lefse Sale. This event will be held on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 from 8:30 —11:00.

Women of Our Saviors holds two fund raisers a year. The Spring event includes the Treasure Sale besides the Bake and Quilt Sale. The Fall event includes the very important Lefse Sale!! A lot of lefse makers are needed to provide enough for everyone who has to have it to complete their Thanksgiving dinner! Lefse making will take place on Thursday, November 21 from 8:30 to noon and from 1:00 til done. There will be a sign up sheet on the information counter for willing workers. There are plenty of jobs besides rolling the lefse, so there is a job for every skill level!! It's a fun day! Treats of all kinds are requested for the Bake Sale. Some say they don't bake anymore—I understand that but how about giving a donation for what some baked items would cost? That can be called a "Bakeless Bake Sale Item" and would be most appreciated. Dollars raised at Women of Our Saviors fundraisers are used to support many local, state and worldwide projects and organizations and also are used to purchase some needed items for our church. All women of the church are encouraged to participate in some way. Come join church friends and neighbors for morning coffee and rolls and pick up some treats for your Holiday.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS AND QUILTS

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed items for Lutheran World Relief Kits. Our 62 boxes traveled to Fargo on October 15. From Fargo they go to a Minneapolis distribution center and then are shipped all around the world where they are most needed. Included in this shipment were: 39 Baby Care Kits; 133 School Kits; 90 Personal Care Kits. Also included in this shipment were 70 Quilts. There are two LWR shipping times a year. Now we look forward to the Spring Shipment that will take place in May. We will concentrate on the assembly of Baby Care Kits (see list of needed items for these) and Personal Care Kits. Bath towels, soap, and toothbrushes are some of the items requested to complete this kit. If you have Thrivent Insurance you are eligible to apply for a grant that can be used to purchase items for Lutheran World Relief kits.

The total number of LWR kits for 2019 was 360 and 140 Quilts. Good Job!!

Good Samaritan Quilters meet every Tuesday except in December. This hard-working group does an amazing job of spreading God's Love through their gift of beautiful quilts. Quilts are not only sent to Lutheran World Relief but are given to many local organizations that care for those in need. Included in this group are 3 ladies who are now in their 90's and have been volunteering in this important mission for years. Thank you Ethel Gusaas, Delores Ust and Lila Bemis and all of you Quilters. Some of these quilts will be sold at the Sale and proceeds are used to buy more materials. A beautiful quilt would make a wonderful Christmas gift. Prayer shawls are given to residents of Sheyenne Care Center and others who need to be wrapped in love and warmth. They are lovingly knitted by Sandy Bauer.

Women of Our Saviors is a busy group. Your participation in one or several of these activities is always welcomed. If you would like more information or would like to be a part of one of the WELCA Circles, please contact me, Jan Stowman ([701-840-1808](tel:701-840-1808)) President of Women of Our Saviors (WELCA).

Pre K - 6th Grade News!

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** Students are having a great year and are currently gearing up for the annual Christmas program on Sunday, December 15th. Thank you to all those who volunteer to make our Sunday School program a success!
- **KIDS FOR CHRIST** Students in grades K-6 gather after school each Wednesday until 5pm. New students are welcome to join us! We're having a great time growing together in faith all while learning how to be an amazing contributor to our community! Please note, there will be no Kids for Christ on Wednesday, November 27th to allow families to travel for the Thanksgiving weekend.

Jr & Sr High Update!

- **HONEY SUNDAY** Our 7-12th graders invite you to join in on an opportunity to support the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch! On Sunday, November 17th from 9:30-11:00am we will have a table set up where you can purchase bottles of honey and have them mailed directly to anyone in the US! Confirmation students, this can count as your one required servant activity! We were blown away by the support for this last year and look forward to seeing you all again this year!
- **CONFIRMATION** Confirmation classes are in full swing on Wednesday nights! We enjoy supper together at 6:00pm and class from 6:30-8:00pm. Please note, there will be no confirmation class on Wednesday, November 27th to allow families to travel for the Thanksgiving weekend. If you have any questions regarding confirmation, please contact the church office or Pastor Emmy.
- **SENIOR HIGH LUNCH** We are seeing some awesome kids and having a BLAST every week! We enjoy lunch, prayer, and devotion each Monday that there is school during the school year. As of right now we are seeing about 55 kids a week! So awesome! Friends are always welcome! Please note, there will be no Senior High Lunch on Monday, November 11th as there is no school that day.
- **SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP** We are having a blast with our new youth group for grades 10-12! This group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 7:30-8:30pm in the new youth room. The dates for November are the 6th and 20th. We have some great discussion, time to relax and hang out together, play games, and enjoy some yummy snacks! Friends are always welcome to attend as well. No RSVP needed, just come as you are and enjoy some time together. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kyla.
- **DINNER AND DEVOTIONS** On the Mondays that we don't have school, we do not have Senior High Lunch. However, on those weeks, I offer a Dinner and Devotions lunch on that Thursday for any juniors and seniors who would like to attend. The first Dinner and Devotions will be held on Thursday, November 14th at 12:15pm in the Gathering Room. The youth who attend get to help plan the meal! So please let me know if you plan to attend! RSVP is required for this event.

My office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-11am. However, please feel free to contact me anytime at kylaoslc@outlook.com or 840-4540.

God's Blessings, Kyla Fetsch, Director of Youth Ministry



It's that time of year again when the nights are longer than the days, when those warm summer evenings seem like a distant memory, and we turn our attention to getting ready for holidays and snow days. But before we arrive at the celebratory waiting season of Advent and following right after the celebration of Reformation Sunday, there is for a brief moment, a day of celebration known as All Saints in the life of the church.

All Saints is one of those church holidays that doesn't get much attention; it's not surrounded with the pomp and circumstance of Easter or Christmas, nor does it have the same elongated intentionality of Advent, Lent, or even Ordinary time. And yet, as each year passes, and as I get older and my hairline recedes a few more inches, the more and more convinced I am that it should be.

All Saints has quickly risen up my list of favorite church festival days – right to the top, in fact. It's a day that perhaps in our minds is defined by death, as often congregations read the names of those members and loved one who have died in the past year, sometimes accompanying them with the ringing of bells or ritual silence. Somehow, it seems to pair nicely with the somber gray and cold weather. One of my professors from seminary in Chicago, Ben Stewart, sums it up nicely:

“All Saints is commemorated when much of the North American landscape appears to be dying down. Days are shorter, tree branches are becoming bare, the air is colder and fields have been stripped of their harvest. November begins a cycle of readings extending through Advent in which the themes of death and danger are in dialogue with our deepest hopes. As the sun sinks lower in the sky each day, our Scripture texts help us seek answers to a searing question: “How can we live in hope and integrity when it looks like the end of the world?” All Saints begins a season in which we contemplate the hopes and fears of all creation, watching and waiting for signs of a new day dawning for all of us.”

All Saints may be a day that is shrouded in death, but dear people, it is a celebration that is defined by life – not only the lives of our friends, family, and dear loved ones, but also the life eternal that we are promised by God.

It is this promise of life that we lift up throughout the life of the church. We call to mind every Sunday the great company of saints as “we join their unending hymn” around the communion table. We bear witness to new saints being born from the baptismal waters, and affirm that life when we celebrate Confirmation on Reformation Sunday. The prayers of intercession during church often include a giving of thanks for the lives of saints who have gone before. And every time we see the sign of the cross, have it marked on our heads, or cross ourselves during rituals and prayers we remember the one whose death and resurrection has made us part of the great cloud of witnesses, and gives us life even in the midst of death.

All of this comes to a head each first Sunday in November on All Saints Sunday, when we proclaim that good news that even in death, God is making all things new. So as we remember this year all those who have gone before, we look ahead to the day when we too will join that great company of saints. And that's a promise worth celebrating, maybe even with a little pomp and circumstance, or at the very least, with joy in our hearts. Put another way: *Oh when the saints go marching in...I can't wait to be in that number, on that hallelujah day!*

Pastor Kyle