

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

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OCTOBER 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

October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00am Ministerial 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans	2 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Kitchen Conversation 12:30pm Kids for Christ 6:00pm Supper 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Youth Group	3 	4 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	5 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship 4:00pm Sarah Stanley & McKenzie Nordland Wedding
6 Food Pantry Sunday 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School, Choir 11:00pm Worship	7 9:30am Prayer 12:10pm Sr. High Lunch	8 9:00am Text Study 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans	9 9:30am Bible Study 3:15pm Kids for Christ 6:00pm Supper 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Committees 8:00pm Council	10	11	12 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
13 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School, Choir 9:45-10:45am Flue Shots 11:00am Contemporary Worship	14 9:30am Prayer 12:10pm Sr. High Lunch	15 9:00am Text Study 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans 1pm Book Club	16 9:30am Bible Study 3:15pm Kids for Christ 6:00pm Supper 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Sarah Circle 7:30pm Youth Group	17 2:00pm Hannah Circle	18	19 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
20 Abused Persons Outreach Collection Sunday 8:30am Worship 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship-4 yrs old & 3rd graders 1st Bibles 2:00pm Worship at the Legacy 3:00pm Worship at Sheyenne Care Center 5:00pm Confirmation Pictures and Rehearsal 6:00pm Banquet	21 9:30am Prayer 12:10pm Sr. High Lunch	22 9:00am Text Study 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans	9:30am Bible Study 3:15pm Kids for Christ 6:00pm Supper 6:30pm Confirmation 	24 9:30am Pastor's Conference-Kathryn-Nome-Fingal	25	26 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
27 Reformation Sunday 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School, Choir 9:45am Confirmation recognition 11:00am Worship/Affirmation of Baptism	28 9:30am Prayer 12:10pm Sr. High Lunch	29 9:00am Text Study 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans	30 9:30am Bible Study 3:15pm Kids for Christ 6:00pm Supper 6:30pm Confirmation	31		



Want a Pastoral Visit? Let us know!

Whether you're at home, in the hospital, or anywhere in between, Pr. Emmy and Pr. Kyle are always willing to provide care through pastoral visitation and the sharing of holy communion. If you or a loved one would like a visit from one of the pastors, please let us know. Give the office a call at 845 – 1328 or reach out to Pr. Emmy or Pr. Kyle.



Contemporary Service Music Leaders

Contemporary Worship happens each 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month at the 11:00 a.m. service. New and traditional music, led by amazing music leaders, come together to create a vibrant worship time for all generations to enjoy. **But we need you!**

Our Contemporary worship team is looking for new people to be a part of our leadership group. **If you love to sing – this is for you! If you love to play an instrument – this is for you! If you love to stand up in the front of church with a microphone – this is for you!** All levels of experience are invited to take part in making our worship experience truly special.

If you are interested in becoming a music leader at contemporary worship, or have more questions, please reach out to Pr. Emmy or Pr. Kyle, or give the church office a call at 845 – 1328.

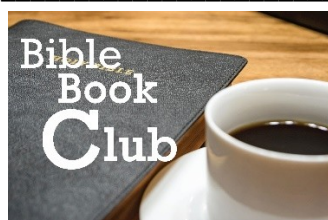


Flu Shots will be offered on October 13th from 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Watch for updated announcements.



Monday Morning Prayer Group

Monday Morning Prayer Group will return from their "September Sabbatical" on Monday, October 7th. We meet at 9:30 a.m. in the library (next to the overflow room at the back of the sanctuary) to pray for members of this congregation and various other prayer concerns. You are always welcome to join us as we pray and pause to start our weeks. If you have a prayer concern that you would like lifted up on Monday mornings and throughout the week, please fill out a connection card in worship or call the church office at 845 – 1328.



Tuesday, October 15th at 1:00 pm

Gathering Room

Come to discuss the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes

What's the book about?

According to this book, living only for one's work (workaholism), or to accumulate more and more knowledge (intellectualism), or to find more and more exotic, pleasure-producing thrills (hedonism) will ultimately not be satisfying. The book is also in touch with reality, recognizing that earthly existence is marked by problems of injustice, evil-doing, and chance accidents. There are many questions that we have about God, about what God is doing, and about death. We will have to learn to live with these questions. In the meantime, the book counsels us to enjoy one another's company and to enjoy the day-by-day good gifts that God gives us. From enterthebible.org

Radio broadcast of the 8:30 a.m. worship is on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on KOVC 1490 AM. To sponsor a broadcast, please contact the church office. The cost is \$100 and may be gifted in memory or in honor of someone or a significant event. Your gift to this ministry is appreciated.



Highlights from the September Congregation Council Meeting

Constitution Update: A draft of the constitution with proposed changes was distributed. Jakelle Hoffman, from the Eastern North Dakota Synod Staff, guided Council through the Constitution, explaining there are two main parts: pieces entrusted to the Churchwide Assembly, and pieces entrusted to our Congregation. Chapters 10-14 are those regarding our church and items we should focus on. Ruth Larson led a discussion of each proposed change. A draft will again be looked at by the council on October 9th. noted. Ruth will make those updates agreed upon by Council and bring a revised draft to the Oct 9 Council Meeting for review. After Council approves a final draft, the next step will be to determine a date to bring that final draft of the Constitution before the congregation at a Special Congregation Meeting for the first reading.

Building Project Report: Rich Schueneman reported that the Sub-Committee met with the Architect, they have received a contract proposal from the Architect, will review it and continue to move forward with drawings for the kitchen, front of the sanctuary, and youth room/your director office area.

Deaths: Hulda Pierce – burial, Eugene Pederson, Richard Thum

Weddings: Molly Sepiol & Bojan Buzakovic, Chelsea Johnson & Lance Straabe

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



Thank you to all who participated in God's Work. Our Hand's Sunday Projects.

Letters were sent to show support for feeding hungry people around the world.

42 boxes were packed for Lutheran World Relief including 133 school kits, 60 personal care kits, and 35 baby kits.

Local neighbors had some "get ready for fall" help completed around their homes.

Our hands shared the love of Jesus in concrete, practical ways with neighbors near and far!

YOUTH DIRECTOR AND YOUTH ACTIVITY CALENDAR

October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Ext Kids for Christ 12:30-5pm Confirmation Supper 6:00 Confirmation Class 6:30-8pm Senior High Youth Group 7:30-8:30pm	3	4	5
6 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am	7 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Senior High Lunch 12:10-12:40pm	8	9 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Kids for Christ 3:15-5pm Confirmation Supper 6:00 Confirmation Class 6:30-8pm	10	11	12
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20 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am Bible Sunday Pre-K and 3rd graders will receive a bible during 11am worship Trick or Can Food Collection 3-4pm	21 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Senior High Lunch 12:10-12:40pm	22	23 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Kids for Christ 3:15-5pm Confirmation Supper 6:00 Confirmation Class 6:30-8pm	24	25	26
27 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am 9:45am Confirmation Reception Confirmation Sunday during 11am worship	28 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Senior High Lunch 12:10-12:40pm	29	30 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Kids for Christ 3:15-5pm Confirmation Supper 6:00 Confirmation Class 6:30-8pm	31		

Pre K - 6th Grade News!

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** is underway and what a group of kiddos we have! Rally Sunday had a wonderful turnout and we look forward to learning with you this year! Thank you to all those who volunteer to make our Sunday School program a success!
- **KIDS FOR CHRIST** kicked off in September and we are having a blast! All youth grades K-6 are welcome to join us after school each Wednesday until 5pm. Parents are responsible for transportation. There are still a few spots open if anyone else would like 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! The first "Extended Kids for Christ" day will be Wednesday, October 2nd. School will be dismissed after lunch and Kids for Christ will take place after dismissal until 5pm. Please RSVP if your child plans to attend.
- **BIBLE SUNDAY** We will recognize our Pre-K and 3rd Grade Sunday School students and gift them with Bibles and bookmarks on Sunday, October 20th at the 11am worship service.

Jr & Sr High Update!

- **TRICK OR CAN COLLECTION** Our 7-12th graders are invited to join in on this opportunity to help stock the Barnes County Food Pantry! On Sunday, October 20th from 3:00-4:00 we will meet at the church and then break into groups to go around Valley City to collect non perishable food items for the food pantry. Confirmation students, this can count as your one required servant activity! Parents, if you are willing to be a driver for a group of kids, please let Kyla know. Hope to see lots of you there!
- **CONFIRMATION** Confirmation classes are in full swing on Wednesday nights! We enjoy supper together at 6:00pm and class from 6:30-8:00pm. If you have any questions regarding confirmation, please contact the church office or Pastor Emmy.
- **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** Confirmation Sunday will be held on Sunday, October 27th at the 11am worship service. A reception for our youth being confirmed will be held that morning at 9:45am. Confirmation pictures, rehearsal, and banquet for those being confirmed will be held on Sunday, October 20th starting at 5:00pm.
- **SENIOR HIGH LUNCH** is 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 45 kids a week! So awesome! Friends are always welcome!
- **SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP** We have had our first couple of gatherings together and I'm excited to continue meeting 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 October are the 2nd and 16th. We spend time together in a manner similar to "small group time" in confirmation. If you don't know what this means, ask a 10th, 11th, or 12th grader! They know! :) We have some great discussion, time to relax and hang out together, 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.

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

Members of the November Our Savior's Servants

Monte & Pat Johnson
Todd & Kristi Kohler

Daniel & Judy Anderson	Bob & Rosalyn Bruhschwein
Robert & Bonnie Burchill	Paul & Margaret Dahlberg
Robert & Inez Eggert	Diane Hatcher
Jordyn & Jill Heck	Sonja Hefty
Deb Hochhalter	Marcella Jensen
Terry & Lori Justesen	Derek Kohler
Patricia Loven	David Maasjo
Marlys Maasjo	Michael & Cindy Malsam
James & Georgia Manstrom	Darrin & Jodi Orner
Andy & Katie Sather	Clayton Sather
Jon & Sue Strang	James & Jean Swanberg
Bud Thum	Rich & Eileen Winning
Grant Zwick	

Thank you

Flower Committee Member:

Cheryl Olson

Thank you to the September **Our Savior's Servants** and their

Coordinators:

Karen & Rich Schueneman, Susan Jorissen

Thank you to our faithful **ushers**, who assist us every Sunday



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.



Abused Person's Outreach Center Donations

Bring your donations on Sunday, October 20

And the 3rd Sunday of every month

Donations needed include

- Women's Deodorant
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Garbage bags
- 1. Dish soap (for the sink)
- Adult Socks



Food Pantry Sunday-October 6

There are many items that the Food Pantry is in need of each month. Some examples are: Diapers, soap, shampoo, paper products and snack foods and canned food. These items along with your generous donations each month are greatly appreciated.

OUR COMMON WITNESS

By ELCA Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton



One of the distinct privileges of this call as presiding bishop is seeing the church at work at home and around the world. The Lutheran movement is alive and well, speaking the gospel in a distinctive voice. Sunday after Sunday the good news is proclaimed in accordance with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. In hundreds of languages and dialects, God's promise of grace, reconciliation and freedom is received and celebrated in places Martin Luther never knew existed. We are part of a worldwide family.

In many ways, and in the most important ways, we are alike. The cross is our center. Faith, grace and Scripture alone are our guides. A clear understanding of human brokenness and our inability to save ourselves sets us apart from societal and even some theological pressures that would try to draw us away from the source of our life and freedom. A world built on works and individualism promises salvation based on our own effort and denies salvation if we fail. The Lutheran movement points to another way. This is our common witness.

There are also glorious expressions particular to regions, countries and history: governance; organization; the role of laity, deacons, pastors and bishops; and the age for first communion, to name a few. And that's just the ELCA! Around the world the expression of Lutheranism takes on many different flavors—literally and figuratively.

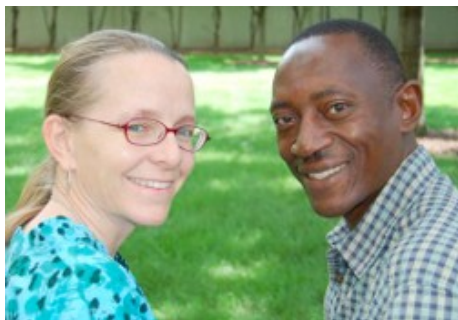
In the Northern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, porridge is a staple at all meals, so they pray, "Give us today our daily porridge." Spiritual healers are an important part of the life and ministry in the Lutheran church in Madagascar. Lutherans in Mexico celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which falls just a day away from the Swedish celebration of Santa Lucia. Lutherans around the world hold fast to the core and adapt to make the gospel accessible.

Part of Luther's genius was to make Scripture, preaching and worship available in the language of the people. All these variations make the Lutheran movement richer, especially when we share across borders and cultures.

Just two years ago we commemorated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. It was interesting to see the different ways congregations and synods marked the event. Luther roses sprang up everywhere, even on an *NCIS* episode. There were Luther movies and Luther seminars. Ecumenical worship services were held, notably with Roman Catholics. I think the Small Catechism made the best-seller list. I can almost imagine a Lutheran Y2K-like montage of celebrations as the sun rose on Oct. 31, 2017, across the globe. If Lutherans are allowed to be proud, we were.

Now it's time to move forward. It's good to remember the events of the 16th century, but we shouldn't get stuck there. We need to ask what it means to be Lutheran in the 21st century. What it means for the Lutheran World Federation's 148 member churches, representing over 75.5 million members in 99 countries, that are exploring Lutheran identity. For some member churches with a state church tradition—Sweden, for example—Lutheran identity is a novel concept. The Lutheran church was "The Church," and there was no need to think about identity. Now many churches in Africa and Asia are forging an indigenous expression of what it means to be Lutheran. Yes, they still sing hymns set to German, Swedish and American hymn tunes, but they are also developing music and worship using traditional instruments and styles.

What will our Lutheran identity be in the ELCA? We still treasure our immigrant roots—and we should. But if our ethnic identities become synonymous with Lutheran identity, we are missing the mark. The gospel, and Luther's clear exposition of it, transcends human boundaries. When a single culture's vernacular becomes the established language of the people, we hinder the gospel's free course in the world. We can become an alternative face of Christianity in the culture—one that moves across divisions, is meant for all, and that is a free and liberating gift.



Prayer requests from our Missionaries, Willie and Anne Langdji:

- The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic is facing many internal challenges. The death of Rev. Dr. Antoinette Yindjara, one of the three ordained women in the church and the director of the Lutheran seminary, is a shock that will take time to come to terms with.
- Several countries in the region we cover continue to experience violent conflicts: Cameroon, Nigeria and CAR. The situation in the part of Cameroon where Willie's family is from is particularly worrisome, with increasing violence. Many people have died, been injured, lost their homes or been forced to flee.
- The Ebola crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo is not something we are directly involved with, but we also pray for the people there who are struggling.



2019 Missionary Sponsorship Calendar is on the bulletin board across from the Church Office. For \$25/day you can sponsor a day and faithfully support the work of our ELCA missionaries, Anne and Willie Langdji, who serve as the ELCA Madagascar, West and Central Africa Regional Representatives; and also the work of Global Health Ministries. Thank you for your faithful and generous mission support.

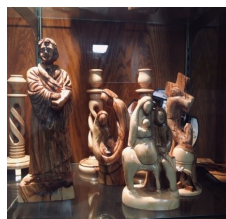
Operation Christmas Child

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/>



Olivewood Carvings made by artists in Bethlehem are located by the information counter. These beautiful items remind us of stories of our faith. If you are interested in purchasing any of the items stop in the church office during the week or visit with a pastor. Purchasing directly support the artists.



Wednesday Bible Study

9:30 am – Gathering Room

During the month of October we will practice "Dwelling in the Word" as we ponder stories of Jesus and their connection in our lives. No previous Bible study experience necessary.



“The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to let dead things go.”

“There is a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away.”

–Ecclesiastes 3:6

A prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi ends by saying, “it is in dying that you are born to eternal life.” It’s a prayer that reflects our belief that at the end of this life there is life to come, but it’s also a prayer for this life. Death is not only what happens after we take our last breath. Little deaths come in all sorts of ways in this life. When we let go of what we have known because something ends or changes it’s a sort of little death. In the midst of the little deaths in this life, it gives the chance for little resurrections, too. In letting go we can be raised up in closer relationship with Jesus. We can experience eternal life (life that really is life) here and now.

As we enter into these days of autumn and the leaves begin to fall, it’s a natural time to reflect:

Is God calling you to let go of things? Are there burdens that you carry that you need to let go of? Are there commitments that you’ve made that need to come to an end? Are there pressures that you put on yourself that could be released? Is there forgiveness that needs to be offered?

Is God calling Our Savior’s Lutheran Church to let go of things? Are there ministries that have served Jesus faithfully in the past, but no longer have energy behind them? Are there expectations about what church is supposed to be that no longer fit for people? Do we have traditions that are no longer meaningful?

Letting go can be hard work. Whether it’s letting go of something emotionally or physically cleaning out a home of 40+ years, grief can come. But perhaps in our letting go – as individuals and as a congregation – we grow closer to Jesus. We learn that life isn’t found in what we do or what we have but it is found in the love of God.

So, this fall, blessed be your letting go. May it make room for Jesus – the one who brings us life that really is life.

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.” –John 11:25-26

-Pastor Emmy Swedlund