

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

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August 2020



Our Mission:

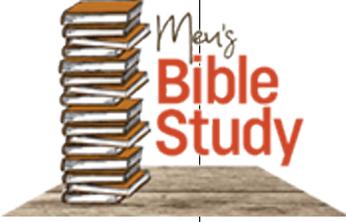
We, Our Savior's family of believers, welcome all to share Christ's love, to grow in faith, and to live a life of service glorifying God.

Our Values:

- All Generations
- Neighbors – Near & Far
- Sharing Generously
- Rejoicing & Weeping Together

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
2 8:30am Worship at Home w/Facebook Live 10:00am In Person worship-Communion 11:00am Radio Broadcast	3 	4 9:30am Text Study	5 6:30pm Outdoor Worship with Communion at Pastor Kyle's	6	7	8 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
9 8:30am Worship at Home w/Facebook live 10:00am In Person Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	10 Vacation Bible School 9:00-11:30am 1st-3rd graders 12:00-2:30pm 4th- 6th graders 5:00-7:00pm Community Closet-opening	11 9:30am Text Study Vacation Bible School 9:00-11:30am 1st-3rd graders 12:00-2:00pm 4th- 6th graders	12 9:30am Outdoor-Bible Study - Pastor Emmy's 12:15pm-6:00pm Blood Drive 7:00pm Council	13 	14 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal Synod Assembly	15 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship 4:00pm Quick & Olson Wedding Synod Assembly
16 8:30am Worship at Home w/Facebook live No In Person Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast Synod Assembly	17	18 9:30am Text Study	19 6:30pm Outdoor Worship with Communion at Pastor Kyle's	20	21	22 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
23 8:30am Worship at Home w/Facebook live 10:00am In Person Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	24 	25 9:30am Text Study	26 9:30am Outdoor-Bible Study at Pastor Emmy's	27 	28	29 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
30 8:30am Worship at Home w/Facebook live 10:00am In Person Worship-Communion 11:00 am Radio Broadcast	31		September 2 6:30pm Outdoor Worship with Communion at Pastor Kyle's			

**YOUTH DIRECTOR AND
YOUTH ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Family Faith Walk Week 9	3	4 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	5 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	6	7	8
9 Family Faith Walk Week 10	10 VBS! Grades 1-3 Registration @ 8:45am VBS 9:00-11:30am Grades 4-6 Registration @ 11:45am VBS 12:00-2:30pm	11 VBS! Grades 1-3 Registration @ 8:45am VBS 9:00-11:30am Grades 4-6 Registration @ 11:45am VBS 12:00-2:30pm	12 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	13	14	15
16 Family Faith Walk Week 11	17 Family Bingo Night! OSLC Parking Lot 6:30-7:30pm Bring your own chair, all other materials will be provided. Join us for fun and prizes!	18 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	19 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am Outdoor Worship with Student/Teacher Blessing in Pastor Kyle's backyard at 6:30pm	20	21	22
23 Family Faith Walk Week 12	24	25 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	26 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	27	28	29
30	31 First Day of School!					

Youth Summer Fun!

- **VBS is set for August 10th and 11th!** Youth entering grades 1-3 will attend from 9:00-11:30am and youth entering grades 4-6 will attend from 11:30am-2:00pm. Registration for this event is complete, but a few spots are still available!
- **Family Bingo Night August 17th!** All families are invited to join Kyla for a Bingo Night in the OSLC parking lot from 6:30-7:30pm! All Bingo materials will be provided as well as hand sanitizer. Please bring your own chairs. Join us for a fun night of fellowship, fun, and of course, prizes!
- **Outdoor Worship with a Student/Teacher Blessing August 19th!** All are invited to outdoor worship in Pastor Kyle's backyard on Wednesday, August 19th at 6:30pm. During this worship service there will be a blessing on all youth and teachers as they prepare for the 2020-2021 school year. We hope you will join us!
- **2021 ELCA Youth Gathering** This event has been postponed until July 24-28, 2022.
- **Family Faith Walks** Join us four more Sundays in August as we wrap up our Family Faith Walk summer series! Watch for a Family Faith Walk Facebook video each Sunday as well as youth Facebook devotions on Monday and Thursday!

<p>Family Faith Walk—Week 9 “Shifting Sand”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a walk along a sandy beach, in a sand box, or remember a time when you have walked in the sand. What happens to the sand when waves or water crash in on it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus said, “But everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.” Matthew 7:26 • Find some flat rocks and paint the word “faith” on them. Place them around your house or out in your yard, and let them be a reminder that putting your faith in Christ is like building on a foundation of rock. 	<p>Family Faith Walk—Week 10 “Sunrise Splendor”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take an early morning walk to the top of a hill or other spot where you can see the sunrise. How is God like the sunrise? How would you describe God? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His splendor was like the sunrise; rays flashed from His hand, where His power was hidden.—Habakkuk 3:4 • Have a sunrise breakfast picnic and ponder God’s presence in the sunrise. Retell the story of creation. Listen silently to the early morning birds. How is their singing like a song of praise to God?
<p>Family Faith Walk—Week 11 “Sunsets and Seasons”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take an evening walk to a place where you can watch the sunset. Notice the various ways the colors in the sky change as the sun sets closer and closer to the horizon. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate day from night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years.” — Genesis 1:14 • God created a world with seasons and cycles, patterns and rhythms. What rhythms do you see in the world around you? Think of a time when the rhythm of your world was broken with pain and suffering. What role did God play in restoring rhythm during that time in your life? 	<p>Family Faith Walk—Week 12 “Heat Wave”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go on a long walk on a hot day. As a safety measure, take along some water to drink. What does it feel like to be walking in the hot sun? What does it feel like to be spiritually hot or cold? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot.—Revelation 3:15a • Make a list of ways you can stay connected to God’s Word. Make a list of the people who lead you to God’s Word, helping to keep the fire of your faith burning. Write a prayer asking God’s Spirit to be alive and active in your church and that your church be on fire for God. Share this prayer with others!

I hope this finds all of you doing well and enjoying the beautiful summer weather. My office hours in August will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9-11am, but feel free to reach out anytime by email at kylaoslc@outlook.com.

Blessings, Kyla Fetsch—Director of Youth Ministries



Highlights from the July Congregation Council Meeting

The Council met in person and via electronic means.

Capital Campaign/Flat Room Project: Due to the contractor running behind schedule, the roof project is now expected to be completed in August. As of June 30, the Capital Campaign Account was at \$29,000. Additional donations have come in already in July.

Sunday School & Confirmation: The Education Committee has started to have conversation about Sunday School this fall. At this time, they anticipate postponing the start date to October 4th. Registration will be done online. Plan for Confirmation Classes will be talked about, as plans for school are released.

Synod Assembly: The assembly will be held this year on August 14-16 in an all virtual format. Included in the business of this year's assembly is electing a new bishop. Voting members from Our Savior's include Paul & Margaret Dahlberg, John Thompson, Kara Kramin, Pastor Kyle, and Pastor Emmy. Due to synod assembly, there will be no 10:00 am in person worship opportunity on August 16th.

Transitions in the Congregation:

Deaths: Beverly Johnson-member; Emogene Carol Pfaff-non member.

A draft of the full meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board outside of the pastors offices or can be requested by emailing oslcvalleycity@msn.com.



Flat Roof Project

Completion date is now expected to be August 2020. The project includes the flat roof over the Gathering Room and Office Areas. Costs are estimated to be about \$105,000. Financing has been secured for this project, on an as needed basis. Leaking in conjunction with recent rains have made it clear that we need to do this project. We are "fetching" money for this special project now. **Gifts above and beyond your contributions to our general offering fund are needed.**

Please earmark gifts for the Capital Campaign – Roof Project.

Send to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 138 3rd St. NW, Valley City, ND or give online at www.oursaviorsvc.org and click the blue "give online" button. Be sure to designate your gift to "Capital Campaign-Roof." If you give online, also please consider offsetting the service fees, but clicking the box at checkout.

Thanks to all who have already contributed to this project. You are "paw-some"! We've already collected 4 out of 10 paws towards this project.



Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday | 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
Please enter through the West door. If you need a handicap accessible entrance, please call the church, so that we can have the North doors open for you.

Contact Information

Church Office
845-1328
oslcvalleycity@msn.com

Pastor Emmy Swedlund
Cell – (701)552-2419
rev.emmy@gmail.com

Pastor Kyle Symanski
Cell - (708)476-8712 (YES! It's 708)
klsymanski@gmail.com

Youth Director, Kyla Festch
kylaoslc@outlook.com

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



We want to be in contact with you!

Each Wednesday the church sends out a weekly email. If you aren't getting it, check your junk or spam mail. And – make sure to get your email to the church office at oslcvalleycity@msn.com



Like us on Facebook at “Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Valley City, ND” for ongoing ministry updates, reflections, and worship opportunities.

Subscribe to the “OSLC Valley City” for weekly devotions and Sunday Worship posted by Sunday afternoons.



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A BIG THANK YOU to all who have shared offerings through mail, dropping them off, and online giving. Even when we are unable to meet in person for worship, our ministry continues to happen. Your ongoing financial and prayer support is so appreciated. Thank you!

MAIL

Offering can be sent to the church at 138 3rd St, NW, Valley City, ND 58072

GIVE ONLINE

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church is now able to accept gifts to our ministry online through Credit or Debit Card.

There are two ways:

1. Visit our website www.oursaviorsvc.org and click on “Give Online.” You can make a one-time gift or create an account to set up on going giving.
2. Apps make life easier. With the GivePlus Mobile app, you can use your smartphone to give anywhere, anytime. Make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations. Set up an account or give as a guest. Securely and conveniently manage donations from your phone. To give through our mobile app, download the free GivePlus app from the App Store or Google Play.

Please note: You’ll be given the option to add small percentage to your gift to offset the service fees. Please consider selecting this option. Consider it the small fee of convenience!

WORSHIP

An offering plate will be set out at indoor and outdoor worship gatherings.

The 2020 Missionary Calendar is located above the information counter. Claim your 2020 dates. Donations of \$25 a day support our missionaries, Willie and Anne Langdji, serving as ELCA Representatives in Western Africa. They provide support to churches, schools, and medical centers in that region, including our partner synod in the Central African Republic. Donations also support Global Health Ministries, a Twin Cities based organization that supports medical centers around the world, through shipping supplies, sharing expertise.

August WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship From Home

Each week, continue to worship from home at 8:30 am on "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Valley City, ND" Facebook, at 11:00 am Radio Broadcast on KOVC 1490 AM, or Sunday after noon on "OSLC Valley City" YouTube.

Sunday In Person Worship

Sunday at 10:00 am, join a modified Service of Word & Prayer in the Sanctuary. Masks encouraged and social distancing is followed. Holy Communion is shared on August 2 and 30.

No Sunday In Person Worship on August 16, because of Synod Assembly.

Wednesday Outdoor In Person Worship

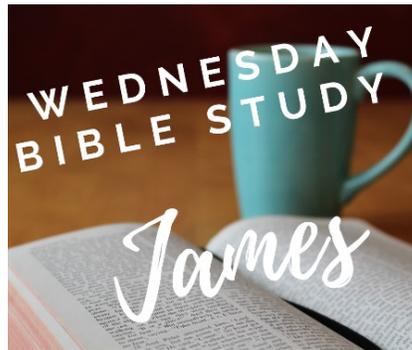
6:30 pm at Pr. Kyle's Backyard (1305 Chautauqua Blvd.)
Worship includes Holy Communion.

August 5 – We'll gather around the theme of "Abundance."

August 19 – Our worship service will include a "Back to School" Blessing for students and teachers.

September 2 – Our worship service will include a Blessing for the Changing of Seasons.

Please bring your own chair. Masks encouraged. Social distancing expected.



During August, we'll be exploring the book of James. Weekly Bible Study guides will continue to be sent out by email. If you wish to be added to the email list, please email rev.emmy@gmail.com.

Gatherings for study and conversation will be held at the Valley View Parsonage (340 15th St. NE) on Wednesdays August 12 and 26 at 9:30 am. Please bring your own cup for coffee/tea.



Your pastors are available to bring communion to your home. We can meet in your driveway or front stoop for a physically distant communion service. We'll wear a mask and bring wafers and wine that are packaged in advance to try to ensure a safe experience. If you'd like a visit, please call the church office at 845-1328 to set up a time.





God Is with you...

Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota, in partnership with North Dakota's Behavioral Health Division, is offering **FREE** anonymous phone-in support, education and referrals to anyone dealing with COVID-related stress or concerns.

Project Renew services include supporting people in understanding physical and emotional reactions to COVID-19, developing and improving coping strategies and connecting with those who can provide assistance.

Concerns may range from simply needing someone to talk to or to more serious mental health issues. Counseling is confidential and available to anyone affected physically, financially or emotionally by this pandemic.

Project Renew helpline: 701-223-1510 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

www.renew@lssnd.org



Our Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly is August 14-16th. This year's assembly will dwell in the theme Living Well, based on the story of Jesus and a Samaritan woman at the well in John 4. We're excited to be joined by Presiding Elizabeth Eaton who will share more about the work of our church, preside over the bishop election process, and preach for our All-Synod Worship on Sunday Morning at 9:00 am.

Since it is a virtual assembly this year, anyone can watch. More information at <http://www.eandsynod.org/events/synod-assembly> or like "Eastern North Dakota Synod ELCA" on Facebook.

Have you heard about...

There's an App for that.



Check out the d365 App.

Available in your smartphone app/google play store.

Our devotions are written by ministers, professors, students, teachers, missionaries, denominational leaders, and others who work with and care for students. Typically, an author writes on a single theme for one week. In these devotions, you will read honest struggles and questions, all in the context of real faith.

As you read the thoughts of the writers, think about your own response to the scripture for the day. Let the writer's words serve as background for your own conversation with God.

Check it out online at <https://d365.org/>

VALLEY CITY BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, August 12

12:15pm-6:00pm

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Sponsored By: Our Savior's Lutheran Church

To schedule an appointment, contact Ruth Larson @ 701-845-4257 or go to vitalant.org and us sponsor code: valleycity



S P A C E

It's obvious. This pandemic is changing the way we interact with one another. Signs are up all over town, reminding us to keep our distance. "Practice Social Distancing: Always keep 6 feet apart from anyone outside of your group." We've been asked to leave a little more space between each other, whether it's waiting in line or sitting down at a restaurant. I often have to remind myself, if there's not space for a llama between me and someone else, I'm too close.

This pandemic not only affects the physical space, between us and a neighbor, but it's created other kinds of space in our lives as well. For many months, my calendar had a lot more empty space on it. Many events and gatherings which normally fill our days have been cancelled, leaving empty space in our days.

Rather than feeling grumpy about the space that the pandemic has brought, I'm trying to embrace this space as allowing room for the Holy Spirit. When standing 6 feet apart from one another, we have to listen a little more carefully to hear one another. I find that I choose my words a little more carefully, as I try to be more efficient in my communication. When we have more space in our days, it's an opportunity to slow down and to reflect on glimpses of grace God gives us in our lives. There's maybe more space for prayer or mulling on a Bible verse or the words of a hymn.

In our in-person worship gatherings, when as a precaution we refrain from singing, we leave more space for silence. In the silence, we can listen for the still small voice of God, that reminds us that we are enough, that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

To be sure, the space that the pandemic has brought, has its challenges. We want to hug our family. It's frustrating to not be able to understand speaking from behind a mask. We just want to "get back to normal." We are tired of being patient.

The cross of Jesus, reminds us though, that it's in spaces of struggle and suffering that God meets us. On the cross, Jesus found himself that space between life and death. God's fullness came to fill that space. We can be assured, in Jesus, God continues to meet us in the space of this time.

A Prayer for Living Day by Day © Traci Smith 2020, all rights reserved, <http://www.traci-smith.com/>

When our world is changing day by day, sometimes we worry about the future

Sometimes our plans change

Sometimes we don't know what will happen later

Sometimes we are disappointed

God, please be near to us when we are disappointed, or worried, or in a time of change

Help us to live day by day, and to be thankful for what each day brings

Help us not to worry about tomorrow

This is the day that you have made, God, let us be present and joyful today

Grace and peace to you, Pastor Emmy Swedlund