

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

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September 2021



BACK TO WORSHIP




Worship Together in Person at 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Facebook Live at 8:30 AM

Radio Broadcast at 11:00 AM on KOVC 1490

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
September 12th 			1 9:30am Bible Study 	2	3	4 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
5 8:30am Worship 8:30am Facebook Live 11:00am Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	6 Labor Day Building Closed	7 9:00am Ministerial 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans-Quilting	8 9:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Focus Group 7:00pm Committees 8:00pm Council	9 1:30pm Focus Group	10	11 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
12 Rally Sunday 8:30am Worship 8:30am Facebook Live 9:30am Pancake Breakfast 9:45am Sunday School, Choir 11:00am Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast 5:00pm Messenger Training 7:00pm Capital Appeal Orientation	13 1:00pm Messenger Training 5:00pm Messenger Training	14 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans-Quilting	15 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Rudolph Square 6:30pm Parents & Confirmation Students meet 7:30pm Youth Group	16	17	18 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
19 8:30am Worship 8:30am Facebook Live 9:45am Sunday School, Choir 11:00am Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	20	21 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans-Quilting 9:30am Text Study 3:00pm Bible Book Club	22 9:30am Bible Study 3:00pm Kids for Christ 6:30pm Confirmation	23 	24	25 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
26 8:30am Worship 8:30am Facebook Live 9:45am Sunday School, Choir 11:00am Worship 11:00am Radio Broadcast	27	28 9:00-1:00pm Good Samaritans-Quilting 9:30am Text Study	29 9:30am Bible Study 3:00pm Kids for Christ 6:30pm Confirmation	30		

YOUTH DIRECTOR AND YOUTH ACTIVITY CALENDAR

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Youth Director Office Hours 1:00-3:00pm	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day No School	7 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	9 Youth Director Office Hours 1:00-3:00pm	9	10	11
12 Rally Sunday! First Day of Sunday School 9:45-10:45am	13 Senior High Lunch 12:15-12:45pm	14 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	15 Youth Director Office Hours 1:00-3:00pm Confirmation Student / Parent Meeting 6:30pm Senior High Youth Group 7:30-8:30pm	16	17	18
19 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am	20 Senior High Lunch 12:15-12:45pm	21 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	22 Youth Director Office Hours 1:00-3:00pm Kids for Christ After school—5pm Confirmation Parking Lot Party! 6:00-8:00pm	23	24	25
26 Sunday School 9:45-10:45am	27 Senior High Lunch 12:15-12:45pm	28 Youth Director Office Hours 9:00-11:00am	29 Youth Director Office Hours 1:00-3:00pm Kids for Christ After school—5pm Confirmation Supper 6:00-6:30pm Class 6:30-8:00pm	30		

Pre K - 6th Grade

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** Sunday School starts Sunday, September 12th and will run from 9:45-10:45am each week. Sunday School is open to students grades Pre-K through 6th grade. Pre-K students must be entering Kindergarten in the 2022-2023 school year. Registration is currently open online, and the link is on the OSLC website under the Youth Ministries link. Please contact Katie Sather with any questions at oslcsundayschool@outlook.com.
- **KIDS FOR CHRIST** We are getting ready for another fun year of Kids for Christ! Any youth who will be entering grades K-6 this fall are welcome and invited to attend. The first day will be September 22nd. We meet after school each Wednesday until 5pm. An afterschool snack is always provided. You are responsible for transportation. To sign up, or for more information, please contact Kyla at kylaoslc@outlook.com.

Jr & Sr High

- **CONFIRMATION FOR 7-9TH GRADERS** A Confirmation Family Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 15th at 6:30pm**. All 7-9th graders and at least one adult should plan to attend. There is A LOT of information given out at this meeting so please do your very best to be in attendance. You will also be getting information regarding the Remind app which is an app we use a lot for communication with both the youth and the parents so please bring any devices that you would like to receive updates and notifications on. If you have any questions regarding our confirmation program, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Emmy or Pastor Kyle.
- **CONFIRMATION FOR 10TH GRADERS** 10th graders should be wrapping up their four conversation sessions with their mentors to complete this part of their confirmation expectations. Please save the following dates!
 - **Sunday, October 17th**—Rehearsal for Confirmation Sunday at 5pm and a Celebration Banquet for our Confirmands to follow at 6pm. This banquet is for all Confirmands, their families, and their mentors.
 - **Sunday, October 31st**—Confirmation Sunday during worship at 11am. There will be a reception and program for all Confirmands at 9:45am in the large dining room. Please arrive by 9:30am.
- **SENIOR HIGH LUNCH** Senior High Lunch is back starting Monday, September 13th! I have sure missed cooking for our 9th-12th graders and look forward to seeing them again this year! Come on over and join me in the small dining room for lunch, a prayer and devotion, and fellowship with friends. All are welcome!
- **SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP** Senior High Youth Group for youth in grades 10-12 will begin regular meeting times again on September 15th! Friends are welcome! We meet in the youth room at OSLC on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 7:30-8:30pm. We enjoy conversation together, play games, eat snacks, and just enjoy having some down time together with friends. Contact Kyla for more information!

My September office hours will be Tuesdays from 9:00-11:00am and Wednesdays from 1:00-3:00pm. 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 Socktember !

Donations of NEW Socks & Underwear of ALL SIZES for the Community Closet will be collected in a bin in the back of our worship space in September. The items are shared with people in our local community.

Pancake Breakfast

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
SERVED FROM 9:30-10:30 PM**



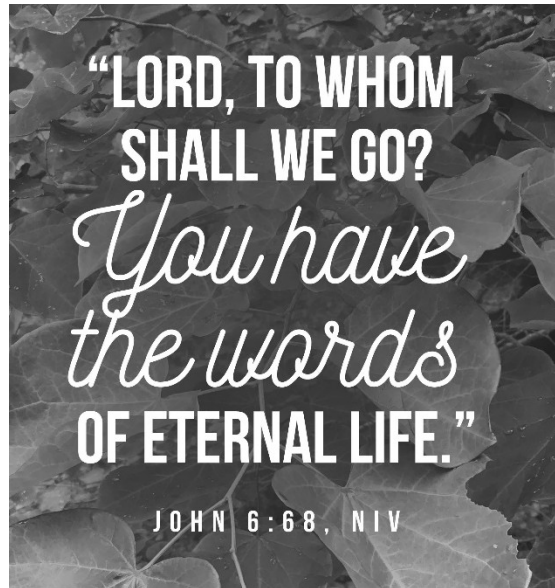
**Free Will
Donation
for Our Savior's
Sunday School
& Disaster
Recovery in Haiti**

Hosted by the Middle-Age Men's Group
Contact Pr. Emmy if you'd like to join in volunteering.



**You are invited to be a part of a
prayer team for our
congregation's Capital Appeal
this Fall?**

Kick off Meeting is
Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 10:30 am
at the church.



September Bible Reading Challenge

Read the book of 1 Peter. This letter is one of the most hope-filled books in the New Testament. Its purpose is to encourage Christian converts living in the midst of a hostile society. It does this by emphasizing their new life and salvation in the risen Christ.

Bible Book Club

You are welcome to join us as we discuss the book of 1 Peter. We'll meet on Tuesday, September 21 at 3:00 pm in the Gathering Room.

Wednesday Bible Study

We continue to explore the story of King David's life from the book of 2 Samuel. Come for learning and fun on Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the Gathering Room.

Men's Bible Fellowship

Meets Saturday mornings at 7:30 am in the Gathering Room. The group is currently studying the book of Matthew. Come for conversation, prayer, and encouragement.

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday | 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Please note: Please use the North Parking Lot Door to enter the church during the week. The stairs at the West Entrance by the church office are unsafe at this time.

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

Cell – 840-4540

kylaoslc@outlook.com

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



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

Missionary Sponsorship dates for 2021 are available.

Claim a date on the calendar above the information counter. A donation of \$25 per day shows your support of Global Health Ministries and our ELCA Missionaries, Willie and Anne Langdji who serve as Regional Representatives in Western Africa. Donations may be made online or clearly earmarked in your offering.

Radio Broadcast Dates for 2021 are available. Sponsor a broadcast in honor or memory of someone or just because. Broadcast is \$100. Contact the church office at 845-1328 to reserve a date.



Lutheran World Relief School Kits!

The need is always great, but this year the pandemic affected the normal process for collection and delivery, plus the explosion in Beirut destroyed some of the parcels already on the way to those in need.

WELCA is again asking for your support by donating supplies to fill school bags.

Each school kit consists of:

- four 70-sheet notebooks
- 1 box of 16 or 24 ct. crayons
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 ruler
- 1 pair of blunt scissors
- 5 unsharpened pencils
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens
- one 2 1/2” eraser



School supplies go on sale about this time of year, so it is a wonderful time to get the best deals. There is a drop-off in the hallway for your donations.

Thank you in advance for your donations and for your ongoing support of Lutheran World Relief.

From time to time the **church sends email updates** to the congregation. If you'd like to add your email to the list, please email the church office at oslcvalleycity@msn.com

REMINDER: Due to damage on the West Entrance steps, please do not use that entrance at this time. During the week, please enter through the North Parking Lot doors. The South doors will be open on Sundays and for funerals.

Good Samaritans-Quilters Update:

Our quilt sale was very successful thank you!

Mission Quilts—3

Quilts for Sale—13

Baby Quilts—3

We welcome donations of fabric and gently used flat sheets. Thank you for your recent donations!

If you are interested in purchasing a quilt at anytime, contact the church office at 845-1328.





Hospitality at Our Savior's

What do you think?

Our Savior's has had a long tradition of using Serving Groups for some of our hospitality events. Over the last couple of years (even before COVID) it became obvious to us that it may be time to re-examine this function and the roles and responsibilities. To that end, you are invited to please complete the online survey document (link appears below). Please complete by September 5th. After assimilating the results, we plan to call a meeting of Serving Group Coordinators as well as any other interested party(ies) to review the results and seek ideas on how best to move forward. Whatever direction is taken, we will, of course, also seek advice from City County Health Department on any additional precautions we may need to employ.

Thank you so very much for your input.
-Congregation and Family Life Committee

Survey Link

<https://form.jotform.com/212276770947162>



Your Voice Matters



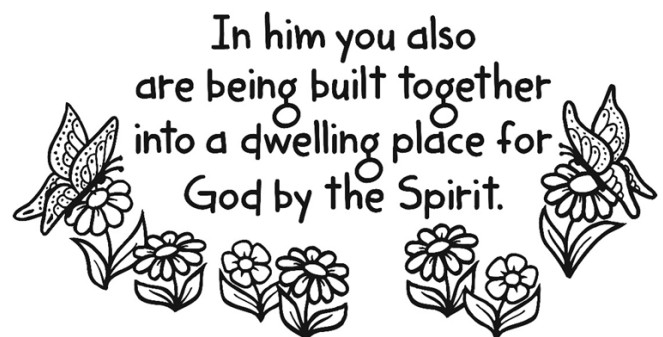
**You are invited to a FOCUS GROUP
as our Capital Appeal Consultant,
Pastor Blair Anderson, listens to
our responses to questions such
as:**

- What are some of your life-changing moments with Our Savior's Lutheran Church?
- What ministry has helped you to serve others?
- How do our buildings facilitate us to carry out our mission to the world?
- How are you feeling about Our Savior's entering into a Capital Appeal? Are we ready for such a challenge? What are our obstacles to success?

No Reservations Required – Just show up

Wednesday, September 8, 7:00–8:30 pm

Thursday, September 9, 1:30–3:00 pm



EPHESIANS 2:22, ESV



Want to learn how you can play an active role in ending violence in our community? **Join Valley City Green Dot on September 27th at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom** for a short virtual overview session on the ways we can work together to end violence in Valley City. In this brief session, you'll practice skills and have questions answered with trained experts about what we can do to create and maintain a safer community. Register online at vcgreendot.com or find them on Facebook [@vcgreendot](https://www.facebook.com/vcgreendot)

Deep peace to you, my child,
deep peace.

Peace in your body.

Peace in your mind.

Peace in your spirit.

As you breathe in deeply,
breathe in peace.

May the worries in your mind
seem far away.

Deep peace to you, my child,
deep peace.

A Blessing for Anxious Moments



A prayer by Traci Smith from "Prayers for Faithful Families"



Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You...

In September, we step back into Mark's gospel, hearing stories of Jesus' ministry as he continues towards Jerusalem and the cross. Here's a glimpse of what's ahead...

Sept 5th – *A conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of Jesus' mission to the Gentiles.*

Sept 12th – *Jesus issues a strong challenge to us by connecting discipleship to the cross.*

Sept 19th – *The world's definition of greatness might be prestige, power, influence, and money, but Jesus' is servanthood.*

Sept 26th - *Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice – not just his, but theirs as well.*

*Worship Together in Person at 8:30 and 11:00am
Facebook Live at 8:30am
Radio Broadcast at 11:00am on KOVC 1490*



September 12th

8:30am Worship

8:30am Facebook Live

9:45am Sunday School, Choir

9:30am Pancake Breakfast

11:00am Worship

11:00am Radio Broadcast



Our Savior's Lutheran Church August Council Meeting Highlights:

Vice President: The Council appointed Diane Hochhalter as Vice President to for the remainder of the year. Former Vice President Mike Strom stepped into the role of President last month.

Capital Campaign: Pastor Blair Anderson from New Horizon Consulting has been reengaged to lead Our Savior's in a Capital Appeal this fall. An Appeal Executive Team including Ross Berg, Rich Schueneman, Katie Sather, Kim Knodle, Rhonda Knodle, LouVay White, and Mike Strom has been put in place and begun their work. The Council reviewed a recommendation from the Property Committee to revise the goals for the Campaign. Most notably, an addition of \$140,000 worth of exterior renovation items have been identified.

Worship Technology: The Evangelism Committee brought a recommendation for a camera and technology to allow for a more permanent solution for streaming worship services. The Council approved their recommendation. This project will move forward, pending installation of updated internet connections that the Property Committee is working on.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Over the past year, the Council has been discussing how issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion might connect with our ministry. A small group of volunteers from the council will work together to consider what small steps we might take as a congregation to grow in these areas. They will especially consider opportunities for education and conversation.

Committee Charters: Each Committee has been asked to review their charters. Suggested updates were collected at the Council Meeting. Information will be compiled and brought to the council for review at a later time.

Fall Worship: Beginning on Sunday, September 5, worship times will again move to 8:30 and 11:00 am. Sunday School will kick off on September 12, resuming their 9:45-10:45 meeting time. Pancakes will also be served that day.

Transitions in the Congregation:

Deaths: Julius Reitan, Jerome Timm

A copy of the previous month's minutes is available on the bulletin board near the church offices.



Dear People of Our Savior's Lutheran Church,

Last fall, I enjoyed hiking the hills at Fort Ransom State Park. Even though I walked the same trail several weeks in a row, there would always be new surprises around the corner. One week, the sight of bright red sumac plant stunned me, each step more beautiful than the last. Encounters with deer, gophers, and snakes (I hate snakes) raised my heart rate. Later in fall, the bare trees reminded me that winter was looming. Each time I left the park, I was grateful to have taken the journey to notice what was before me.

This fall, Our Savior's Lutheran Church is embarking on an exciting journey. Your Congregation Council has asked that the Capital Campaign that was put on hold in March of 2020 be restarted. We are grateful that Pastor Blair Anderson, from New Horizons Consulting will be leading us every step of the way. He brings with him a wealth of wisdom from his time in parish ministry and doing congregation consulting. We are not naïve to the challenges of this time. The pandemic looms. We are in a draught. Many of us are just plain tired. Yet, somehow, the timing of this campaign feels just right.

The theme of our appeal will be "Growing in Grace." Amidst the challenges of our time, we continue to trust that our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. To be a follower of Jesus is to continue to grow deeper in knowing God's love and to grow wider in our love of neighbors near and far. In the now eleven years that I have been privileged to serve as your pastor, I have continued to be inspired by your great faith and spirit of generosity. Together, we have and will continue to "Grow in Grace."

I'm excited about this process for a number of reasons. This appeal allows us to celebrate the ministry we share together as Our Savior's Lutheran Church. It will be an opportunity for us to connect again as a congregation, rebuilding our sense of community and mission. We'll pray together and learn from one another. New leaders will be raised up among us. We will raise funds which will allow us to be good stewards of our facility. As we continue in this time of pandemic, I believe we are standing at the crossroads in our life as a congregation. I pray that this appeal will lead us down a pathway that will allow us to flourish into the future.

Over the coming months, there will be plenty of new discoveries to be made and information to be shared along the way. For now, I'd invite you to place these key dates on your calendar this fall:

- Sunday, September 12 – 7:00 pm Orientation for All Appeal Team Members & Church Council
- Sunday, October 3 – Kick-Off Sunday
- Sunday, November 7 – Congregation-Wide Celebration Banquet
- Thursday, November 11 – Concert of Prayer

The words of Psalm 1 echo in my mind as I pray about this journey of "Growing in Grace" that we will take together this fall:

*Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
Or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
But their delight is in the law of the Lord,
And on his law they meditate day and night,
They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither
In all that they do, they prosper.*

Grace and peace to you, beloved people of God. -Pastor Emmy