



"In religious buildings, such as churches and synagogues, donors gave gifts to their community. But when they gave, they made it clear that they gave also – indeed primarily – to God. In [the years] 244-245 the leaders of the Jewish community at Dura Europos (on the Euphrates in modern Syria) placed their names on a row of tile on the ceiling of their great, newly frescoed synagogue. Over twenty feet above the floor, they could barely read by the congregation. Rather, these inscriptions were intended for the eyes of God alone."

- Peter Brown, *Through the Eye of a Needle*

As we come upon the midpoint of our three year "Growing in Grace" Capital Appeal, I found myself struck by this line in Peter Brown's *Through the Eye of a Needle* (found above) and returning to the foundational purpose of this appeal – to grow in grace, gratitude, and generosity, not for our own glory, but for the glory of God.

We have already accomplished so much because of your faithfulness, generosity, and trust. Following the replacement of the sanctuary roof and the updated paint and carpet throughout the building, we have been able to confidently and boldly step into the next phases of our dream for Our Savior's Lutheran Church. If you haven't seen all the work that has been going on, I'd encourage you to watch the update videos on our Facebook or take a stroll through the church on a Sunday morning.

I am excited to enter the back-half of this three year Appeal process with you, knowing full well that there still are challenges and unforeseen hurdles yet to come. Our original case statement read in part: *"The task before us may seem great, but we are up for the challenge. God, in Jesus, has freed us to be a church that operates not out of fear or anxiety, but in good courage and certain hope. Together with those generations before who met the challenges of their time, we are called to continue being a living hope for generations today and those still to come."*

God has a dream for Our Savior's and Valley City to be a center for mission and ministry for generations to come, and *together* we are working to make that dream a reality. Thank you for all the ways you continue to grow in grace, gratitude, and generosity for the glory of God.

WORSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

Below is an overview of our 2023 worship survey results as presented to the church council on May 10th.

Total Respondents: 102 (Answers and Comments were anonymous)

Q: How long have you been a member at OSLC? A: 10+ yrs. (79.6%), 4-9 yrs. (13.3%), 1-3 yrs. (6.1%), <1 yr. (1%)

Q: Typically attended service? A: 8:30a (48%), 10:30a (29.6%), Both (18.4%), Online/Digital (22.4%)

Q: I like having more than one service option? A: All the Time (27.4%), Most of the Time (21.1%), Some of the Time (22.1%), Rarely (25.3%), Never (6.3%)

Q: Prefer Traditional Worship? A: All the Time (22.9%), Most of the Time (40.6%), Some of the Time (29.2%)

Q: Prefer Contemporary Worship? A: All the Time (12.5%), Most of the Time (13.5%), Some of the Time (49%), Rarely or Never (27.1%)

Q: I wish we could have a blended service? A: All the Time (23.7%), Most of the Time (22.7%), Some of the Time (37.1%)

Q: I'd attend on a day other than Sunday? A: Some of the Time, Rarely, or Never (83.3%)

Q: I wish we only had 1 service on Sunday? A: All the Time (17.4%), Most of the Time (15.1%), Some of the Time (23.3%), Rarely (19.8%), Never (24.4%)

OUR SAVIOR'S COUNCIL UPDATES

Growing in Grace Projects: Updates on ongoing and upcoming projects were given. Approval for the completion of the west steps project were given. During the July meeting, the council will do a mid-appeal review of ongoing projects and the Growing in Grace Fund.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: 7 people participated in the "Building an Inclusive Church" Training held 5/6. Plans are in the works for monthly learning events shared between multiple VC churches this summer.

Worship Survey: Pr. Kyle shared the results from 102 completed worship surveys. An overview of survey results can be found in this newsletter.

Deaths: Leslie Manstrom; June Parker.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 15th @ 7:00 p.m.



CALL COMMITTEE

Your OSLC Call Committee is comprised of eleven members: Brenda White, Judy Karch, Ross Powell, Dennis Gumke, Karen Kringlie, Pat Edinger, Travis Peterson, Janna Kohler, Kyle Gregerson, Pat Johnson, and Kyla Fetsch. The Call Committee has officially submitted Our Savior's Ministry Site Profile (MSP) to the Synod and is waiting to receive and interview candidates.



OSLC YOUTH

Pre-K - 6th

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Thank you to students, parents, volunteers, and teachers who made our 2022/23 OSLC Sunday School so amazing. We look forward to gathering for our 2023/24 year beginning in September. Contact Sunday School Superintendent, Katie Sather, with any questions at oslcsundayschool@outlook.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS): From June 28th – 30th, VBS is back! **VBS is FREE** for all kids because of your amazing congregational support and through our partnerships with Faith Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, and Red Willow Bible Camp! Grab a registration form outside the church office or on the youth bulletin board, and return them in person or via mail (138 3rd St. NW) if you haven't already. **Registrations cannot be accepted past Monday, June 12th.**



**RED WILLOW
BIBLE CAMP**

BIBLE CAMP REGISTRATION: Registration for all ages is now open for summer camp at Red Willow. **Our Savior's has a special code for registration, so be in touch with Pr. Kyle before you register.** For more information or to register, visit redwillowministries.com

CONFIRMATION FOR 7th – 9th GRADERS: Thank you to parents, students, small group leaders, and volunteers who made our 2022/23 Confirmation such a success. We look forward to gathering again in September and welcoming new 7th graders. Reach out to Pr. Kyle at klsymanski@gmail.com with questions.

CONFIRMATION FOR 10th GRADERS: Students entering 10th grade who will be confirmed in October are expected to be meeting four times with a faith mentor this summer. Letters detailing full expectations were distributed at our meeting on April 26th. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to join us on these dates below. Reach out to Pr. Kyle at klsymanski@gmail.com with questions.

Sunday, October 22nd, 2023 – Confirmation Rehearsal and Photos – Time TBA

Sunday, October 29th, 2023 - Confirmation Sunday – Banquet @ 9:30 a.m., Worship @ 10:30 a.m.

SENIOR HIGH LUNCH: Senior High Lunch wrapped up its 2022/2023 School Year on Monday, April 24th. Thank you to those who participate in and support this amazing ministry. We'll be back in September for our 2023/2024 run!

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP (10th – 12th Grade): Senior High Youth Group for grades 10th – 12th will generally gather on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 8:00 p.m. in the OSLC Youth Room. To stay connected, join our Remind App group by texting @oslcsyhg to the number 81010. By signing up, you'll get reminders about when we're meeting and the fun planned for that night.

Lutheran

World

Relief



School Kits

Include the following
Items in each School kits:

- ☐ **Four 70-80 sheet SPIRAL notebooks (200-300 sheets total) of wide-or college-ruled paper approximately 8"X10^{1/2}; no loose-leaf paper**
- ☐ One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ☐ One pencil sharpener
- ☐ One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- ☐ **Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band**
- ☐ Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- ☐ **One box of 16 or 24 crayons**
- ☐ **One 2^{1/2}" eraser**
- ☐ One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14"X17".

Baby Care Kits

Include the following items in each
Baby Care Kit:

- ☐ **Two lightweight cotton T-shirts**
- ☐ **Onesies are altered**
- ☐ **Two long-or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers .**
- ☐ **Two swaddling blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with light-weight yarn, 36" to 52" square**
- ☐ **Four cloth diapers made from flannel sheets**
- ☐ **One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap**
- ☐ **Two pairs of socks**
- ☐ **One hand towel, dark color recommended**
- ☐ **Two or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars.**
- ☐ **Two diaper pins or large safety pins**

Personal Care Kits

Include the following items in each
Personal Care Kit:

- ☐ **One light-weight bath-size towel (20"X40" to 52"X27"), dark color recommended**
- ☐ **Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 or 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars**
- ☐ **One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging***
- ☐ One sturdy comb. There are many different types of hair texture, so no picks or fine-toothed combs; remove packaging
- ☐ One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap.

GOD'S LOVE...IN ACTION!

A recent report of the United Nations indicated the number of people needing humanitarian assistance in 2023 will grow by 25% to 339 million people. That's roughly the size of the United States. Prayers for those who receive LWR Kits and Quilts are always needed.

Our Savior's Lutheran is doing our part by making a difference with Lutheran World Relief Kits and Quilts. Spring Shipment included: 43 Baby Care Kits, 42 Personal Care Kits and 76 Quilts. Thank you to all who brought items for the Kits and who helped assemble, pack, and who took the 30 boxes to Fargo for shipping.

Now its time to start working on the fall shipment which happens in November. Items in bold print are things we start collecting now. Needed; flannel sheets to make diapers and blankets and sewers to hem blankets and make school bags. Thrivent Cards can be used be purchase items. Cash donations always appreciated.

VBS 2023

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) – June 28th – 30th

Save June 28th – 30th on your calendars for our 2023 VBS!

VBS is FREE for all kids because of your amazing congregational support and because of our partners at Faith Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, and Red Willow Bible Camp! Registration and information forms are available outside the church office and on the youth bulletin board. **No registrations can be accepted after Monday, June 12th**. With questions, be in touch with Pr. Kyle



"Welcoming Neighbors Better"

Thursday, June 22nd + 6:30-8:00pm

Hosted at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

You are invited to an evening of conversation and learning on how we as individuals and as a congregation might *welcome neighbors better*. Gathering with people from multiple churches, we will wonder about how bias impacts our relationships with each other and how we might grow in our capacity to welcome people into our communities. We are excited to partner in this opportunity with our neighbors from multiple VC church, and encourage you to invite your friends to the table for conversation.

\$\$Notes from your Treasurer

I had been pondering what to write about for the June newsletter, and nothing terrific came to mind, so I decided to share what I've been doing as I was preparing for the annual spring cleanup in Valley City by cleaning up my garage. I don't know about your garages, but in mine during the cold months, boxes etc. get stockpiled here and there until the weather is warm enough for me to do some serious cleaning.

I found three boxes labeled OSLC which contained partial financial records from 2020-2022, and I dragged them back into the house to sort through them. I spent parts of two days scanning bank statements and other documents before getting the boxes ready for the Archives Committee.

Then I bought a 5 or 6 inch binder for the Capital Campaign documents. We have outgrown the 3-inch binder. This should be large enough to hold all the bank statements and copies of the checks and invoices for the Capital Campaign. By this weekend I should have transferred all that information to the new binder. I am also checking the Capital Campaign spreadsheet we have for all the different projects to be sure everything is categorized correctly. A full Capital Campaign Financial report will be coming soon.

My garage: It looks a lot like it looked before -- minus three boxes! Happy Spring-Happy Summer!!

Janet Brown
Treasurer

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday | 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Contact Information

Pastor Kyle Symanski

Cell - (708)476-8712

klsymanski@gmail.com

Church Office

845-1328

oursaviorsvc@outlook.com

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

Connect with us:



Be sure to stay up to date with all the most current OSLC information and updates by connecting with us on our website, oursaviorsvc.org, and by following us on our social media pages. On Facebook, @OurSaviorsValleyCity, and on now on TikTok, @oursaviorsvcnd.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JUNE + JULY + AUGUST

During the months of June, July, and August, we will shift to a single worship service at 9:30 a.m. This service will be livestreamed on our Facebook (@OurSaviorsValleyCity) and continue to be broadcast on KOVC 1490AM/96.3FM at 11:00 a.m. Coffee and fellowship will be held before the service beginning at 8:30 a.m.



MISSIONARY CALENDAR

The 2023 Missionary Calendar is up! For \$25 a day you can show your support of our Missionaries Willie and Anne Langdji, who support the work of the Lutheran Church in Western Africa. They walk alongside of medical centers, schools, churches, food ministries to support and encourage local efforts. The calendar also supports the work of Global Health Ministries that ships medical supplies and supports medical facilities all over the globe.

Sign up on the calendar and earmark your donation for "Missionary Calendar."

Please considering holding Willie & Anne, Global Health Ministries, and our partner church in the Central African Republic in regular prayer. We are church TOGETHER!






June Bible Study Opportunities

Wednesday Bible Study | 9:30 a.m. in the Gathering Room – We gather for study, reflection, questions, and laughter each week in the Gathering Room. This month, we continue our journey through the book of Acts from start to finish! Come for the conversation and stay for the coffee and treats!

Men's Bible Fellowship | Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. in the Gathering Room – Walk through the bible one book at a time, grow in your faith, and develop deep and meaningful relationships. All are welcome.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

JUNE 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly
4 Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly 8:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30am Worship 9:30am Facebook Live 11:00am Radio Broadcast	5	6 9:00am Quilters 1:30pm Text Study	7 9:30am Bible Study	8	9	10 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
11 8:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30am Worship 9:30am Facebook Live 11:00am Radio Broadcast	12	13 9:00am Quilters 1:30pm Text Study	14 9:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Committees	15 7:00pm Council	16	17 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
18 8:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30am Worship 9:30am Facebook Live 11:00am Radio Broadcast	19	20  9:00am Quilters 1:30pm Text	21 9:30am Bible Study	22	23 Loving Neighbors Better 6:30-8:00	24 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
25 8:30am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30am Worship 9:30am Facebook Live 11:00am Radio Broadcast	26	27 9:00am Quilters 1:30pm Text Study 	28 9:30am Bible Study 9:00am-3:00pm Vacation Bible School	29 9:00am-3:00pm Vacation Bible School	30 9:00-12:00pm VBS	

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

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June 2023



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Summer Worship Schedule: June-August

8:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

9:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Facebook Live

11:00 a.m. Radio Broadcast