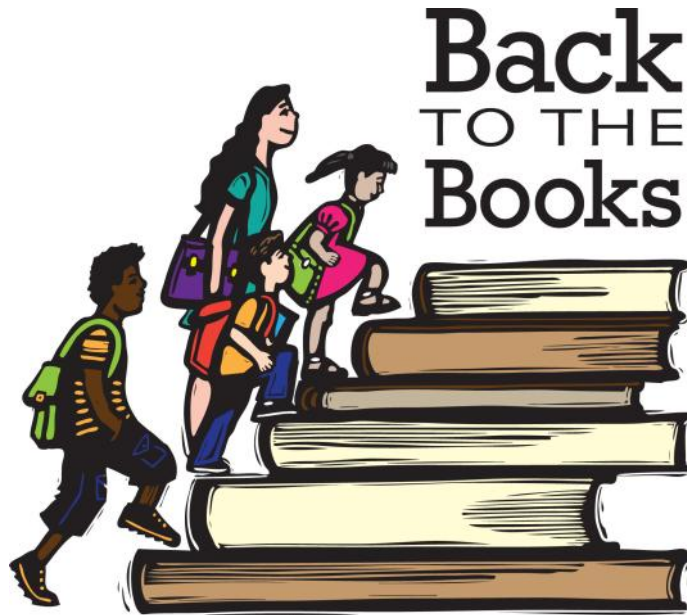


Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd Street Northwest
Valley City, ND 58072

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Valley City, ND

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

August 2025



Summer Worship Services
9:30 am
Coffee and Fellowship
at 8:45 am

Church Building Hours

Monday – Thursday
9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Friday
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

(701) 845-1328

oursaviorsvc@outlook.com

Ann Ripplinger

Office Manager/Financial Secretary

Pastor Nicholas Rohde

Cell - (507)696-1492

rohndni01@gmail.com

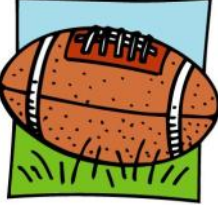



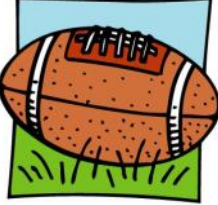

Interim Pastor Rich Kramer

(701)612-3465

Kramerr2846@gmail.com

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 11:00 Sack Lunch Pastors' Sabbath	2 7:30 am Men's Bible Fellowship White/McGough Wedding
3 8:45 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Facebook Live 11:00 am Radio Broadcast	4	5 9:00 am Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 pm Text Study	6 9:30am Bible Study	7 2:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 11:30—6:00 Blood Drive	8 11:00 Sack Lunch Pastors' Sabbath	9 7:30 am Men's Bible Fellowship
10 8:45 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Facebook Live 11:00 am Radio Broadcast	11	12 9:00 am Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 pm Text Study	13 9:30am Bible Study 7:00 pm Council	14 2:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry	15 11:00 Sack Lunch Pastors' Sabbath	16 7:30 am Men's Bible Fellowship
17 8:45 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Facebook Live 11:00 am Radio Broadcast 5:30 pm Viking Football Meal	18 6:30 pm PEO	19 9:00 am Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 pm Text Study 1st Day of School	20 9:30 am Bible Study	21 2:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry	22 Pastors' Sabbath	23 7:30 am Men's Bible Fellowship
24 8:45 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Facebook Live 11:00 am Radio Broadcast 6:00 pm Community Closet Set up	25 5:00—7:00 Community Closet	26 9:00 am Quilters 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 pm Text Study	27 9:30 am Bible Study	28 2:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry	29 Pastors' Sabbath	30 7:30 am Men's Bible Fellowship
31 8:45 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Facebook Live 11:00 am Radio Broadcast						

"Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."

"And when you pray, say this: Father, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread."

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."

These are all examples found in the Bible of times when Jesus prayed, or instructed about prayer. Prayer is a central part of our Christian life in faith. When we pray, we give thanks for the things that we have in this life. When we pray, we ask God for guidance, or we ask that God intercede in the world, especially where there is pain or injustice. When we pray, we seek God's movement in, among and through us.

Prayer centers us, as it centers our lives. Prayer can focus and direct us. Prayer can clear away some of the noise of distracting thoughts. Prayer orients our lives towards what is good, what is holy. Prayer is conversation we have with God, both as individuals and as community.

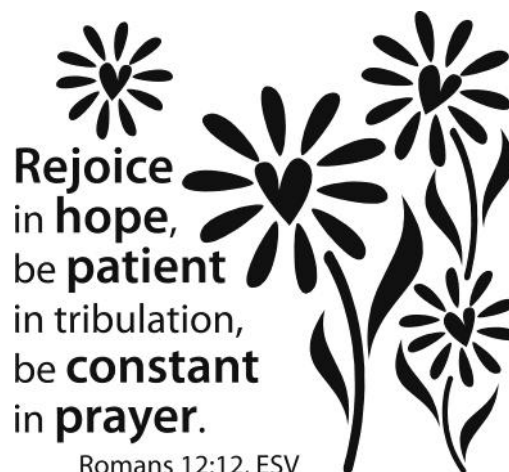
Prayer involves action. Yes, God's action, but more specifically God's action through us, God's willing and faithful. God is not a grand puppet master or some cosmic micro-manager of each individual little thing that goes on in the world. Rather, God faithfulness towards us and creation inspires us who believe to move and speak in ways that are in alignment with our faithful in God and what we believe to be God's redemptive and restorative work in the world. It is God's work done through us. When we pray, we are continually asking to be reminded and to be reinstated into the work that God calls us towards among and for the world.

Let us pray,

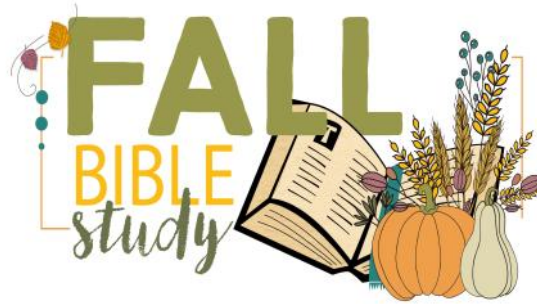
Good and gracious God, we give you thanks for this day. We give you thanks for this community of faith within and beyond Valley City. Help us to be centered in you always. Teach us to love as you love. In all that we do, may it be to the benefit of all that is yours. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen

Prayerfully,

Pr Nicholas



Wednesday Bible Study |
9:30 a.m. in the Gathering
Room – We gather for
 study, reflection, ques-
 tions, and laughter each
 week in the Gathering
 Room. Join us for conversa-
 tion and community!



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 relation-
 ships. All are welcome.



PRAYER SHAWL GROUP NEWS

Over the past six months, members of the Prayer Shawl Group have completed over 20 shawls, to be distributed to those in need of a warm hug, prayers, and the tangible comfort of knowing we are "there" for them during challenging times. Please contact the church office if you know someone in need of this kind of support.

In addition, last month the group crocheted 100 coasters for WELCA to use as table/tray favors at Legacy Place and Bridgeview. Now we are starting to work on baby blankets and caps for Lutheran World Relief layettes.

We welcome others to join us! If you've ever picked up a crochet hook or a knitting needle, this is your chance to hone or relearn that skill; if you'd like to learn how to crochet, we'd be glad to help you get started. Remember—learning a new skill helps keep the mind young.



Reminder: We return to regular
worship time of 9:00 am on
Sunday, September 7th.

Coffee and Fellowship follow
at 10:00 am

During July, the OSLC Care Team delivered five prayer shawls to members of Our Savior's currently living at Legacy Place or the Care Center, with more deliveries planned over the next few months. Do you know someone who needs the comfort and "hug" of our prayers and a shawl to support them during a time of illness, grief, or loss? Please call the office with details, and someone from the Care Team will take time to visit and deliver a shawl.

If you would like to be involved with the OSLC Care Team, we are looking for a couple more people to assist with monthly visits. We visit with a partner, offer communion, prayers, conversation, and treats. Please contact Pr. Rich or one of the Care Team members if you're interested in joining in this work. Care Team members include LouVay White, Janet Brown, Rhonda Knodle, and Margaret Dahlberg.



Congregational Care

Blood Drive



VALLEY CITY BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, August 7th, 11:30 to 6:00 pm

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Giving blood can save lives: one pint of donated blood can help as many as three people in need, according to the American Red Cross. While giving blood may not be an option for everyone, as donors must meet eligibility requirements and feel comfortable around needles, anyone can help the cause as a Blood Drive Volunteer. Blood Donors are in great demand, but also volunteers are needed for (a) checking in donors the day of the drive, and (b) providing refreshments post donation. If you would like to help in any of these ways, please call **Ruth Larson at 845-4257.**

Donors are welcome to self register by going online to **donors.vitalant.org** or call Ruth Larson and she will register you.



Faith Lutheran Church

309 4th St NE
Valley City, ND 58072

**Join us from
1 PM - 3 PM**

EVENTS



Thursday, August 28
Driving Safety for Seniors



We are still looking for the following items for the Lutheran World Relief Backpacks:

- Pencils, #2 unsharpened
- Pens (not gel)
- Erasers
- Crayons, #24 pack

Please contact Robert Loken with questions or to donate money towards this project. When you donate money, items can be purchased in bulk at a lower price.



Church PROPERTY

Property Committee News

With a large church, two apartments, and two parsonages, there seem to be weekly needs somewhere! The fascia on the west and north sides of the church which were in poor shape are being replaced. This is a continuation of the project that was started last fall and is part of the Capital Campaign project. It is looking very nice! There is still painting to be done on the west side trim that will commence shortly. Work has resumed on the youth room with the flooring and cupboards in the kitchenette installed, giving us a glimpse of what this space will look like when completed. There is still a beam to install

in the ceiling before other work begins. The storm split a tree on the boulevard on the west side of the church and blew the top off the new tree that was planted last summer after construction work. Thanks to Tony Zarbono (the lift and chain saw man), Bill Poukka and Paul Dahlberg for getting the tree down and hauled away in just a few hours. Tony's boys helped pick up branches and got a lift ride as a reward after everything was cleaned up! The storm also blew the rooftop A/C and heater unit for the Gathering Room off its raised mount. The gas line was damaged along with some other rooftop issues but everything is back to it's original condition now. One of the parsonages is waiting on professionals to remove a damaged tree. Many thanks to Paul Dahlberg, president of the Property Committee, who is the point person when leaks appear, windstorms cause mayhem, or anything else in our buildings has needs. The grates on the outside basement windows all had to be replaced or refurbished. When Bobby Koeplin picked them up in Jamestown, he was told there was no charge. So MANY THANKS to whoever paid for this \$2,000 project for OSLC!

LouVay White, Secretary



At its May meeting, the Congregational Council decided that the radio broadcast of the Sunday worship still fills a need for people in the community and should continue, provided we can cover the cost. We pay \$100 per broadcast, adding up to about \$6,000 per year including special services at Christmas and Easter. Please consider a donation to help us maintain this ministry opportunity.

Connect with us:



@OurSaviorsValleyCity



@oursaviorsvcnd

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: Facebook, @OurSaviorsValleyCity, and now on TikTok, @oursaviorsvcnd.



Notes From Your Treasurer

Greetings from your appreciative treasurer!

August! Just the word makes me think the end of summer is near. As promised, your church council reviewed the first six months of our budget planning/expenditures etc. We are maintaining our budget in most areas. I was worried about our utility billing after the June storm that affected our roof-mounted air conditioner and the MDU gas leak. In visiting with MDU, we find that it was not a financial disaster at all! Thank you for the many ways you support Our Savior's, both financially and physically.

I decided to start cleaning out my home of 45 years of collecting things and stashing things away for when I retired or just thinking that I might use something someday or wear something that got placed in a closet and forgotten. Perhaps some of you can relate to my situation. It was daunting when I took every item out of my clothes closet. I knew I wasn't going to get to bed that night until every last piece of clothing and accessories were checked over. My car was filled twice with items to be given away. While I still have a few drawers to visit, I decided to move on to my office. I have four 4-drawer files that are holding treasures and memories.

I also started to think about cleaning out "my time." I made a list of all the things I have been doing, and started scratching things off this list that I had been doing from habit, not because I needed to do them or enjoyed them. Life is starting to feel less complicated and more thankful!

In reading last year's August message I realized it's been a year since the Orange Streak started visiting my house. Now that he's been captured on camera, I've named him George. He doesn't answer to that, of course, and he still makes his middle-of-the-night visits. MacArthur hissed him out of the house once last week, but that didn't stop him from returning later. I was trying to think of something profound to say here about giving Our Savior's another visit. I realize many of you use technology to hear God's word on Sundays, but I miss seeing you in person. Come for the coffee and treats and stay for worship together.

Blessings to all of you!





The Congregational Council met on July 9, 2025. As you may recall, last January when we approved the budget for 2025, we agreed that the Council would review the budget progress in July and provide a report to the congregation, along with any recommendations that seemed appropriate.

We appreciate the efforts of the congregation to support the proposed 2025 budget. As of June 30, we have spent \$184,229.67 from the General Fund, which is pretty much on target (50.2% of the proposed budget). During this same period we have received \$183,088.54 for the General Fund. So financially we're doing OK, thanks to your support!

On July 9, council members completed a visioning activity to help us understand where our budget and our aspirations for OSLC may not line up. Council determined that

- Our current budget does not adequately allow for community outreach, committee activities, and efforts to build community within the church.
- Our mission outreach is too heavily dependent on the Farm Fund, which is currently funding 100% of the mission \$\$ formerly included in the General Budget.
- The Building Maintenance fund requires additional funding, as we are currently spending part of the reserve in that fund.

You may recall that we committed 74% of our 2025 budget to support a staff of 2 full time pastors and 5 part time lay people (music, custodian, office support). In order to better fund our various areas of service and make certain we have funds for unexpected maintenance issues, **the Council unanimously agreed that we need to reconsider our staffing model.**

At our August meeting, we will review various staffing models, based on advice from the Synod, the experience of our pastors, and the ideas/concerns of our members. **The Council will then formulate a recommendation to the Congregation, for discussion and a possible vote at a Congregational Meeting in September.**

This is a significant conversation and potential change for our church. **Please pray for our congregation and council, so we engage in Spirit--informed conversation and make a decision that will best support the work of Christ through OSLC.** If you have ideas, concerns, or thoughts you'd like to share, please contact one of the Council members, or give me a call at 701-840-1206, preferably before August 13 (the next Council meeting).

Council Members: Katie Sather, Amelia Belgard, Lacie Maresh, Kyla Fetsch, Nathan Johnson, LouVay White, Sara Wangrud, Tara Anderson, Margaret Dahlberg, Janet Brown, Pr. Rich and Pr. Nicholas.

Submitted by Margaret Dahlberg, Council President

Did You Know???

The first mention of a Radio Broadcast at OSLC is in the 1933 Pastor's annual report, where he indicates that the church is supporting both a radio broadcast of OSLC services and also the broadcast of the services in Norwegian from a church in Kathryn.

When KOVC began broadcasting in 1936, OSLC began regular support for weekly broadcasts, as indicated in the 1936 annual report that shows receipt of donations/payments for this purpose. **This means we have a 92-year history of supporting radio broadcasts of OSLC services!**

Currently we have 22 "unsponsored" weekly broadcasts for 2025. **Please help us keep this ministry alive with your donation of \$100 to sponsor a service.**



OSLC YOUTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School meets each week from 10:00-10:45 am and is open to students Pre-K through 6th grade. Contact Superintendent, Katie Sather, with any questions at oslcsundayschool@outlook.com

2025-2026 classes will begin September 7th. Watch the bulletin and next month's newsletter for more details.



CONFIRMATION FOR 7th – 9th GRADERS: Confirmation classes will also begin in September. Make sure you are following through with your worship leadership opportunities and worship note expectations. Be in touch with Pr. Nicholas with questions. Classes will begin the year at Faith Lutheran Church.



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.